

THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

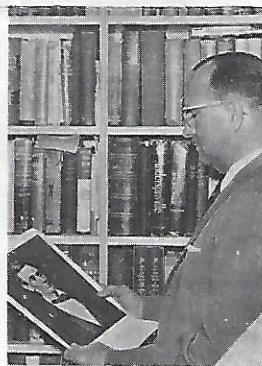
Volume XXXIV, Number 2

Chicago, Illinois

October, 1973

Gerhard Clausius on "Lincoln's Friend, Steve Hurlbut"

Stephen A. Hurlbut was a Civil War general from Illinois; certainly not the greatest produced by our state, but an interesting person, a friend of Abraham Lincoln, and the hero of Hatchie River. Our fellow member Dr. Gerhard P. Clausius, practices his profession in General Hurlbut's home town of Belvidere, and will tell us about him at the Civil War Round Table meeting at the Chicago Bar Association, Friday, October 19, 1973. (Note that this is the third Friday in the month, set a week later because of the Lincoln Country Tour, October 12 to 14).



Dr. Gerhard P. Clausius

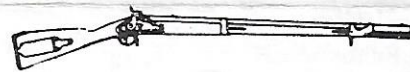
Dr. Clausius has written a brief autobiography, in which he explains how he became interested in the Civil War and eventually in General Hurlbut. It follows:

I was born in Chicago, and received my early education in its schools. My parents were both immigrants, so I have no ancestral connection with the Civil War. I think I first became interested in the Civil War when my parents—who, like many naturalized Americans, were extremely patriotic—took me to the annual "Decoration Day" parades on Michigan Avenue. The sight of the old soldiers, and the music of their fife and drum corps, thrilled me and aroused my curiosity as to what kind of war they had fought in. At first I thought it was called the "Silver War" and had something to do with money, a scarce commodity in our home.

Even in grade school, history fascinated me, and I usually read the history text book from cover to cover within the first week it was issued to the class. I managed to work my way through Optometry College, and although my time was then taken up with learning my profession, I still held the little spark in my mind concerning Lincoln, Grant, Lee, Shiloh, Vicksburg, Gettysburg, Appomattox, and so forth. Whenever I had time to spare from anatomy, physiology, and other scientific subjects, I would sit in some library and lose myself in the period of history I enjoyed most. I owned very few books at the time, and the libraries filled my yearning to gain information on the "great war".

When I came to Belvidere, Illinois, to practice my profession, I soon visited the local library, and mentioned to the librarian my interest in Lincoln and the Civil War. She told me that this town had its own Civil War hero: Major General Stephen A. Hurlbut. This was my first introduction to this man, one of the lesser known generals of the Civil War. I once mentioned his name to Bruce Catton, who said that he "stumbled over him occasionally"!

Hurlbut was born in Charleston, South Carolina, a fact
(continued on page 4)



324th REGULAR MEETING

* * *

Dr. Gerhard P. Clausius

on

Lincoln's Friend Steve Hurlbut,
Hero of Hatchie River

* * *

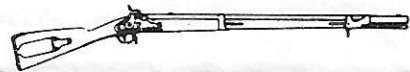
Friday, October 19, 1973

* * *

Chicago Bar Association
29 South LaSalle Street

Cocktails at 5:30 p.m.

Dinner at 6:30 p.m.



MAIL YOUR RESERVATION. Put the card in the envelope, put on a stamp and send it along NOW. The new system is faster BUT you must put it in the mail.

BOOK AUCTIONS

At intervals, beginning later this fall, the Round Table plans to conduct brief auctions prior to meetings. Books, manuscripts, or Civil War artifacts will be offered for sale in this manner. Members are asked to submit material for sale. The owner will receive 50% of the price realized or may, if he so desires, take a tax deduction for the entire amount received, since gifts to the Civil War Round Table qualify under Internal Revenue Service regulations.

Owners are asked to submit descriptions of the items they propose to offer for sale. You will be advised where and when to deliver the material so that it will be available for the sale. Previous auctions held by the Round Table have been fun,
(continued on page 4)

THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE



FOUNDED DECEMBER 3, 1940

18 East Chestnut Street,
Chicago, Illinois 60611
Phone: WHitehall 4-3085

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Founding Newsletter Editor: Gil Twiss, 1954-1968.

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Battlefield Tour	Warren Reeder and Gerald Edelstein
Membership and Hospitality	Donald Sikorski, Brooks Davis, Marshall Krolick, Ward Smidl, Dan Vetter
Fellowship	Arnold Alexander, Lloyd Miller
Fall Tour	Arnold Alexander

Membership requirement is an interest in the Civil War and its era. For information address Donald Sikorski, 41 W. 55th Place, Westmont, Ill. 60559, phone 312 WO9-5604.



*from the
Editor's pen*



Frank E. Vandiver of Rice University and temporarily of West Point, seemed to think he was undertaking an unpopular cause in saying kind words for Jefferson Davis, but he disarmed us at the September meeting by quoting Walter Prescott Webb, "A historian must know when to rise above the facts." Ralph Newman had proposed a bumper sticker, "Nixon never has a nice day," and it would fit Davis, a born loser. Davis was a man who attempted to evade the issue and never quite made it. He was the first American president to lose a war. But he refuses to stay pigeonholed. Both Transylvania and West Point try to forget he was there, but he was human enough to sneak off to Benny Havens' off-limit grogshop, and Davis enough to argue his own courts martial, which he usually won. As soldier, he was distinguished at Buena Vista, where he

re-invented the wheel. He had studied Epaminondas at West Point and he never gave up trying to repeat the strategy. He became President because he was everyone's second choice, but when he accepted the Confederate Constitution as the supreme law of the land, he blew states' rights and slavery. He fought the war for Confederate independence.

He got by with conscription in 1862, but he never solved the treasury problem. Income tax, use tax and other ideas were advanced, but the Congress would not tax land, cotton, or slaves. And it never set up a Supreme Court. The interference of Davis in military affairs was based on lack of confidence in those with whom he interfered. Davis devised the strategy of the offensive-defensive, and the idea of Theater command, but neither worked. Davis grew with his office. He was an exemplary Confederate. He became one of the first Southern pragmatists. He attempted to modernize the South away from its Sir Walter Scott romanticism. And finally he was the man who made Lincoln famous.

For those who worry about such matters, and there are some, this is, indeed, Volume XXXIV, Number 2, of The Civil War Round Table bulletin, and that indicates that we are into our 34th year. There was a foulup that resulted in issues dated from January, 1973, to April being designated XXXIV, but in May we reverted to XXXIII. It may have happened because printers often assume that volume numbers coincide with the calendar year; at all events it was overlooked for four months, for which no excuse can be offered.

Dan Lapinski, former CWRT president, was first speaker at the newly organized Civil War Round Table of Fort Myers, Florida, in August. His subject was Island No. 10. Dean Richmond heads the new group.

Elmer Brinkman spoke on General Sibley's New Mexico Campaign at the May 15, 1973, meeting of Salt Creek Civil War Round Table at Glen Ellyn Public Library.

Malcom Macht writes, asking for reinstatement and volunteering to co-chairman a tour of New Mexico and Colorado. He has just finished a shoe selling swing through this area and found an amazing number of Civil War sites.



THREAT TO MANASSAS PARK

In reply to a letter from Gordon Whitney, CWRT president, Senator Adlai Stevenson forwards correspondence from Charles E. Shedd, Jr., acting director, Virginia State Office, National Park Service, concerning the proposed Marriott development in Prince William County adjacent to Manassas National Battlefield Park. Mr. Shedd expresses concern about the possible effects the proposal but states that National Park Service officials "so far have been unable to learn sufficient details about the plan" to develop a firm position. The site in question was a staging area for Gen. Longstreet's troops during the Second Battle, from which he launched the decisive counterattack on August 30. Gen. J.E.B. Stuart's headquarters was also on this property. It is not a part of the battlefield park, and there is no authority for acquiring it. Problems include a probably tremendous traffic load through Park property, possible pollution and noise pollution and a theme tower up to 350 feet high, details not specified. Federal assistance would be required for construction of an access highway or for sewer construction. However, until plans can be ascertained, only county officials are at present in position to act.

Donald L. Burhans (1919-1973)

Our dear friend, member and battlefield tour companion, Dr. Donald L. Burhans, died at his home in Peoria on Wednesday, June 27., 1973, at the age of 54. The cause of his death was lung and heart disease. Many of us had last seen Don at O'Hare Field prior to the departure of our Gettysburg trip in May. He did not accompany us, but he had flown his wife, Bobette, to Chicago so that she might make the trip. We first met Don and Bobette on our Virginia tour of 1960. Bobette was the "expert" in the family (she even served as president of the Peoria Round Table), and though Don disdained any claim to knowledge in our favorite field of history, he thoroughly enjoyed the fellowship with the Round Table, just as we all appreciated his friendship. Though he might think there was a connection between Drewry's Bluff and Drewry's Beer, the amazing store of "hangover" cures he carried with him, made him indispensable. We suspected that he knew more than he would admit to, as evidenced by his demonstrating his reproduction Navy Colt at Brice's Crossroads. Members of the Charleston-Savannah tour of 1970 remember his bad fall at Fort Pulaski. The broken ribs that resulted troubled him from that time on. Nevertheless, he still had a smile and a pill for everyone and his ailment.

Don was buried in Springdale Cemetery in Peoria. Present to represent the Round Table were Margaret April, Brooks and Betsy Davis, John Hunter, Will and Lou Layman, Lloyd and Lib Miller, Ralph Newman and Warren Reeder. President Gordon Whitney arranged for flowers on behalf of the Round Table. Life will be a bit duller without Don around, but he certainly contributed, professionally and personally, to the better, happier life that is the aspiration of all of us.

The Harry S. Truman Award for meritorious service in the field of Civil War History was presented to John Y. Simon of Carbondale, Ill., by the Civil War Round Table of Kansas City at the March 27, 1973, meeting. Dr. Simon is professor of history at Southern Illinois University.



U.S. Army Photograph
 VISITING CARLISLE BARRACKS. Left to right, Ralph G. Newman of the Civil War Round Table, General of the Army Omar N. Bradley, and Colonel George S. Pappas, director of the U.S. Army Military History Research Collection. During the CWRT Battlefield Tour centering on Gettysburg in May a special trip was made to Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania, to inspect the Army War College and the Military History Research Collection with Colonel Pappas as host. General Bradley was guest of honor for the occasion.



TO THE CAMP FOLLOWERS (LADIES)

The Camp Followers can't be outdone by the Round Table. We demand equal billing and this month we have scored a "first"—a husband and wife speaking team.

Ella Clausius, one of our own Camp Followers and the wife of this month's speaker before the Round Table, Dr. Gerhard Clausius, will be our speaker this month and her topic sounds very romantic and interesting. She will be talking about and reading excerpts from the love letters of Corp. J. A. B. Butterfield who was in the Illinois Cavalry.

Ella has probably seen more battlefields than General Lee and deserves a lot of credit being married to such a staunch Civil War buff for forty years.

We will be meeting at the Book and Bottle at 17 East Chestnut Street and our meeting will be held on the third Friday this month, October 19 at 5:30. For reservations call Margaret April at 787-1860.



FROM AMBLER JOHNSTON

To the dear
 Civil War Round Table of Chicago

This is one of the hardest letters I have ever written, it is intended to cover more than possible to express in words.

The Gettysburg Kit
 Signed Roster
 Copy of C.W.H. on the battle
 The unwritten thoughtfulness and kindness

all of which touch me so deeply.

Please, oh please, each of you take this to yourself as coming from one so proud and grateful to have been remembered by you.

Affectionately,
 J. Ambler Johnston



Sunday, July 1, 1973

Mr dear Ralph,

Your letter of Friday the 24th and then on Sunday came the kit and THE PLAQUE!

It is well for me they came by mail. Had they been delivered at Gettysburg tears would have come to my eyes, my voice would have broken and I could not have found a word to say.

Believe me Ralph when I tell you nothing has touched me so deeply for many a day.

The Round Table of Chicago has meant so much to me in the (and my) last two decades that I feel as though I had known and admired so many for much longer than twenty years.

From my heart let me thank you and EVERY MEMBER.

Affectionately,
 J. Ambler Johnston

THE NEW BOOKS



(Compiled by Dick Clark)

Albaugh, William A., III. *More Confederate Faces: A Pictorial Review*. Privately printed. To be had from N. Flayderman & Co., New Milford, Conn. 1973. \$20.00. Companion volume to the author's earlier *Confederate Faces*.

Angle, Paul M. *A Shelf of Lincoln Books: A Critical, Selective Bibliography of Lincolniana*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1972. Reprint of 1946 edition. \$8.50

Basler, Roy P. *A Touchstone for Greatness: Essays, Addresses, and Occasional Pieces about Abraham Lincoln*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1973. \$9.50

Davis, Edwin Adams and William Ransom Hogan. *The Barber of Natchez*. Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, [c1973]. Paper \$3.95. Hardcover edition 1954.

Delaney, Norman C. *John McIntosh Kell of the Raider Alabama*. University: University of Alabama Press [1973]. \$8.50

De Leeuw, Adele Louise. *Civil War Nurse, Mary Ann Bickerdyke*. New York: Messner [1973]. \$5.25

Flower, Frank Abial. *Edwin McMasters Stanton, the Autocrat of Rebellion, Emancipation, and Reconstruction*. [New York: AMS Press, 1973]. \$18.00. Original of 1905.

Gerteis, Louis S. *From Contraband to Freedman: Federal Policy toward Southern Blacks during the Civil War*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press [1973]. \$11.50

Gilbert, C.E. *Two Presidents: Abraham Lincoln [and] Jefferson Davis*. Introductions, highlights, and explanations by Tom Hudson, editor. San Antonio: Naylor Co. [1973]. Reprint of 1927 edition. \$6.95

Grant, Ulysses S. *General Grant's Letters to a Friend, 1861-1880*. With introduction and notes by James Grant Wilson. [New York: AMS Press, 1973]. Reprint of 1897 printing. \$6.00

Hollis, John Porter. *The Early Period of Reconstruction in South Carolina*. [New York: Johnson Reprint Corp., 1973]. Paper \$7.00. Original printing 1905.

Hyman, Harold M. *A More Perfect Union: The Impact of the Civil War and Reconstruction on the Constitution*. New York: Knopf, 1973. \$15.00

Jaffa, Harry V. *Crisis of the House Divided; an interpretation of the issues in the Lincoln-Douglas Debates*. Seattle: University of Washington Press [1973]. Paper \$4.95. Reprint of the 1959 edition, with new introduction by the author.

Jones, Robert Hugh. *Disrupted Decades; the Civil War and Reconstruction Years...* Cartography by Bernhard H. Wagner. New York: Scribner's [1973]. \$15.00

Kelley, Darwin. *Milligan's Fight against Lincoln*. With a foreword by L.E. Carlson. New York: Exposition Press [1973]. \$5.50

Lewis, Lloyd. *Myths after Lincoln*. With an introduction by Carl Sandburg. Gloucester, Mass.: Peter Smith, 1973. \$5.75. First published 1929.

McManus, Edgar J. *Black Bondage in the North*. [Syracuse, N.Y.] Syracuse University Press, 1973. \$9.95

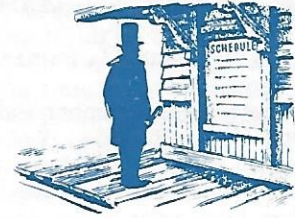
Pitkin, Thomas M. *The Captain Departs: Ulysses S. Grant's Last Campaign*. Carbondale, Ill.: Southern Illinois University Press, 1973. \$6.95. An account of Grant's last year.

Potter, David M. *Division and the Stresses of Reunion, 1845-1876*. Glenview, Ill.: Scott, Foresman [1973]. Paper \$3.95.

Radcliffe, George L.P. *Governor Thomas H. Hicks of Maryland and the Civil War*. [New York: Johnson Reprint Corp., 1973]. Paper \$7.00. Original of 1901.

Reagan, John H. *Memoirs with Special Reference to Secession and the Civil War*. Edited by Walter Flavius McCaleb, with introduction by George P. Garrison. [New York: AMS Press, 1973]. \$15.00. Original issued by Neale in 1906.

BULLETIN BOARD



FUTURE MEETINGS

Regular meetings are held at the Chicago Bar Association, 29 South LaSalle, second Friday in each month except as noted.

October 12, 13, and 14: Fall tour to Springfield, Illinois.

October 19: Dr. Gerhard Clausius on General Hurlbut.

November 9: Dr. Frank Klement on Copperheadism in the Midwest.

December 14: Phil Hohlweck on Berdan's Sharpshooters.

January 11: To be scheduled.

February 8: Ladies Night, Richard Blake program, "A Look at Lincoln."

March 8: Marshall Krolick on Lee and Longstreet at Gettysburg.

April 12: Robert Womack on the Battle of Murfreesboro.

May 2, 3, 4, and 5: Annual Battlefield Tour to Chattanooga and Chickamauga.

May 10: To be scheduled.

June 14: Annual Award Dinner and Installation of Officers; program details to be announced.

Every Monday: Informal noon luncheon meetings at LaSalle Hotel coffee shop; all members invited.

Change of address

Sam Nowinson
2308 W. 111th St., Apt. E
Chicago, Ill. 60643

Val Taylor
3107 N. Nashville
Chicago, Ill. 60634

Edward S. Waterbury
50 Glenbrook Road, Apt. 11 B
Stamford, Conn. 06902



(continued from page 1)

Lincoln's Friend

which added interest in my mind, as of course Charleston was the very epitome of Southern sentiment and the birthplace of secession.

Stephen A. Hurlbut, a lawyer by profession, was an early political supporter of Lincoln and served in the Illinois State Legislature with him. Lincoln said Hurlbut was one of the best stump speakers in the state, and referred to him as "friend Steve".

(continued from page 1)

Book Auctions

interesting, and profitable. Success, however, is dependent on the quantity and quality of the material. Your response to this notice will, in a large measure, determine whether we will or will not hold these auctions. Please send lists of materials with full descriptions, i.e., book titles, author, publisher, date, condition, whether first edition, and any correspondence or comments to Brooks Davis, 18 East Chestnut Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611.