

THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

Volume XXXVIII, Number 1

Chicago, Illinois

September 1977

LOWELL REIDENBAUGH ON STONEWALL JACKSON'S VALLEY CAMPAIGN

Stonewall Jackson's spectacular operations in the Shenandoah Valley in the spring of 1862 will be the subject of fellow member Lowell Reidenbaugh's remarks when he addresses the first Round Table meeting of 1977-78 on September 9.

As Lowell will point out, the Valley Campaign, brilliant as it was tactically, was equally as important strategically. It prolonged the conflict by preventing the joining of McDowell's I Corps with McClellan's forces east of Richmond, and created confusion and fear in Washington. Jackson began the Campaign on March 23, 1862 when he attacked a portion of General N. P. Banks' army under General James Shields at Kernstown. At that time, McDowell was concentrating forces on the Rappahannock across from Fredericksburg in preparation for a move on Richmond, and Jackson's attack was intended to prevent Banks from sending him reinforcements. Jackson's force was smaller than Shields' and he suffered defeat. However, he accomplished his purpose as the troops which had left the Valley to join McDowell were recalled.

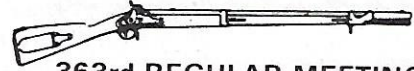


Lowell Reidenbaugh

In early May, to the surprise of Banks who thought Stonewall had started for Richmond, Jackson moved quickly, but in a roundabout way, from his position near Swift Run Gap. Marching west, he defeated the vanguard of General John Fremont's army, under General R. H. Milroy, at McDowell on May 8. Having thus checked Fremont's advance toward the upper Valley, Jackson crossed the Massanutten Mountain ridge and, together with General Richard Ewell, attacked the Federal outpost at Front Royal on May 23. Banks was compelled to evacuate his position at Strasburg and retreat to Winchester where he was defeated on the 25th. Jackson followed Banks to Harper's Ferry and by threatening an attack created such panic in Washington that McDowell was recalled to the north side of the Rappahannock after he had crossed the river and started for Richmond.

Lincoln was determined to prevent Jackson's escape, so Fremont was ordered to Harrisonburg and McDowell to Strasburg to cut him off. Jackson, however, stayed a step ahead of his pursuers, his rear guard clearing Strasburg just as the first Federal patrols entered the town. On June 8, Fremont attacked Ewell at Cross Keys but was repulsed, and the next day Jackson defeated Shields at Port Republic. Both Fremont and Shields retreated toward Winchester, freeing Jackson to leave the Valley and join Lee on the Peninsula.

In his remarks, Lowell will cover the five major engagements of Jackson's Valley Campaign (Kernstown, McDowell, Front Royal-Winchester, Cross Keys, and Port Republic) which



363rd REGULAR MEETING

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LOWELL REIDENBAUGH

on

Stonewall Jackson's Valley Campaign

Friday, September 9, 1977

* * *

Chicago Bar Association,
29 South LaSalle Street

Cocktails at 5:00 p.m.

Dinner at 6:00 p.m.

IMPORTANT NOTICE!

Please take special note of the revised time schedule for the September meeting. For this evening only cocktails will be served at 5:00 P.M. and dinner will be served at 6:00 P.M. The purpose of this is to provide sufficient time during the business portion of the meeting for a full discussion from the floor on the issue of admitting women to membership in The Round Table. The reasons for this discussion and the procedure that will be followed are set forth in the "From The Editor's Pen" column on page 2 of this issue of the Newsletter.

enabled the humble VMI professor to attain international and immortal acclaim as one of the world's foremost military captains. In addition, he will tie together actions in the Valley with those on the Peninsula and in Washington, beginning with the conflict between McClellan and Lincoln over the route of the "On to Richmond" campaign.

Although he has lived in St. Louis for 30 years and is an active member and past president of the Round Table there, Lowell is a long time and popular member of our Round Table and a regular Battlefield Tour participant. He traces his interest in the Civil War, or as he refers to it, the War for Southern Independence, to his boyhood in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. There, he knew veterans of the conflict and listened to their tales of the burning of the Wrightsville-Columbia Bridge by state militia to head off Jubal Early's division during the Gettysburg Campaign.

Since 1962, Lowell has worn the title of managing editor of *The Sporting News*, the international sports weekly that he joined in 1947. Prior to that, he served short stints as a general reporter for the *Lancaster Intelligencer-Journal* and as a sports writer for the *Philadelphia Inquirer*. In addition to providing the introduction to the Morningside Press reprint of the revised edition of *The Memoirs of Stonewall Jackson*, by Anna Jackson, Lowell has written a history of the National League titled *100 Years of National League Baseball*.

THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE



FOUNDED DECEMBER 3, 1940

18 East Chestnut Street
Chicago, Illinois 60611

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The only requirement for membership in The Round Table is a genuine interest in the Civil War and its era. For information, address Ward C. Smidl, 1104 Whippoorwhill Lane, Palatine, Illinois 60067.



The Medal Of Honor has been restored to Civil War Surgeon, Dr. Mary E. Walker, the only woman ever to receive the honor. In the early portion of this century, an army panel withdrew the medal, for various reasons, from approximately 900 persons to whom it had previously been awarded. Dr. Walker's medal was withdrawn allegedly because she was a civilian and not a member of the military. However, the Army has now acknowledged that this was done probably as a result of sex discrimination. The current Secretary of the Army, Clifford Alexander, Jr., in announcing the restoration of the medal to Dr. Walker, noted that she had been a contract surgeon for the Army during the Civil War and therefore was not to be considered a civilian. As a result of her medical services to wounded soldiers, Dr. Walker was captured and held by the Confederates as a prisoner of war for four months. She was recommended for the Medal of Honor by President Lincoln and it was later presented to her by President Johnson.

from the Editor's pen



For the past several years the question of admitting women to membership in The Round Table has been raised at various meetings of the Executive Committee. Not only has there been spirited discussion on the issue itself, but there has also been debate on the best procedure to follow in determining the matter. However, the time has come to resolve the question once and for all and, with this thought foremost in mind, the Executive Committee overwhelmingly passed the following resolution at its Summer Meeting:

"The Civil War Round Table of Chicago shall resolve the issue of admitting women to membership as follows:

1. Announcement shall be placed in the September Newsletter to the effect that a discussion will be had on the floor at the time of the September meeting regarding the admission of women to membership in The Round Table.
2. During the business portion of the September meeting, and within the amount of time available, as determined by the sole discretion of the President, a full discussion of the subject shall be had by and between any and all members present at such meeting.
3. At the close of such discussion, a vote of those present shall be taken as to whether or not women shall be admitted as members in The Round Table. Proxies will not be permitted.
4. If, as a result of such vote, a simple majority of the members present and voting vote against admitting women to membership, the subject of admitting women to membership shall be considered to have been defeated and no further discussion or vote shall occur.
5. If, however, a simple majority of the members present and voting vote in favor of admitting women to membership in The Round Table, such vote shall not be determinative of the question, but, rather, a poll by mail shall be taken of all local members and past officers on the issue of whether to admit women to membership in The Round Table.
6. Such poll, if taken, shall be determinative of the issue and the majority vote of those local members and past officers voting in response to such poll shall determine the outcome of the issue.
7. For the purposes hereof, local members shall be defined to include those whose residence is within 200 miles of Chicago. For the purposes hereof, any honorary life member living within said geographic radius shall be included in the local members."

The purpose of this column is not to discuss the merits of the issue. Certainly there are convincing arguments on either side. Instead, our intent is to advise you of what is to occur and to urge you to attend the September meeting. Pro or con, the outcome of this decision will obviously be of major importance to the future of The Round Table. Rather than determine so vital a question in closed door session, the Executive Committee has properly passed on the decision-making process to the active membership, those whom the result will most seriously affect. It is now up to us to accept that responsibility and to show we care by being present to participate, by discussion and vote, in that process.

Howell Purdue, who joined with us on our recent Battlefield Tour to Middle Tennessee, has advised us that a few recently printed copies of his book "Pat Cleburne: Confederate General" may contain certain binding defects, such as missing or duplicate pages. If any member of The Round Table has one of these defective copies, he may return it to Mr. Purdue at 1121 Stonewall Drive, Nashville, Tennessee 37220 and Mr. Purdue will send him a correct copy.

June Meeting

Movies of battlefield tours past by award recipient Lloyd D. Miller highlighted the fourth annual Nevins-Freeman Award Dinner on June 10 in the Chicago Public Library Cultural Center. One hundred and twenty members and their guests assembled to honor Lloyd, who in addition to showing his movies brought along a violin, bass, and accordion trio to provide the dinner music.

Lloyd's movies, which covered the 1954 Tennessee and 1961 Vicksburg tours, and the 1971 trip to the Valley, were especially popular with long-time members for whom they recalled many pleasant memories. The meeting also featured the installation of officers for 1977-78.

Summer Executive Committee Meeting

Under the leadership of President Myron Cohn, the Executive Committee, at its annual summer meeting, this year held on July 16, debated and acted upon several issues of major importance. Because of constantly rising costs of operations, it was necessary to reluctantly pass a motion to increase the dues of local members (those residing within 200 miles of Chicago) from \$25.00 per year to \$30.00 per year. The dues of national members were not increased and remain at \$15.00 per year. A new category of membership, sustaining member, was created to encompass those who wish to aid the programs and activities of The Round Table by voluntarily paying dues of \$50.00 per year. An active campaign to increase membership will also be embarked upon.

Henry Pomerantz was selected as our delegate to the Third Annual National Congress of Civil War Round Tables. He will carry with him our invitation to the Congress to hold its 1978 session in Chicago.

The next item on the agenda was a discussion of the issue of admitting women to membership in The Round Table. A complete review of the action taken by the Executive Committee will be found in the "From The Editor's Pen" column on page 2 of this issue of the Newsletter. Finally, there was a review of the status of the campaign to raise funds for the Research Center we are establishing in the Chicago Public Library. The Research Center Committee will present a complete report to the membership in the near future.

Several other items were briefly mentioned, but were referred to committees for further action. These included a meeting devoted to an artifacts exhibition, participation in the program of dedication of the Library's remodeled Cultural Center, the sites of 1978 Battlefield Tour, the feasibility of another Civil War tour of Chicago, and a complete review of our By-Laws.

Civil War Round Table Congress

The Third Annual National Congress of Civil War Round Tables will be held in Jackson, Mississippi October 6-8, 1977. Among the items on the agenda of this year's session, whose principal theme will again be battlefield preservation, are a tour of the Vicksburg battlefield conducted by Ed Bearss, a visit to the Old Capitol Museum in Jackson, a reception at the Governor's Mansion, and a screening of a film on the raising of the Cairo. Included on the list of prominent speakers and panelists who will address the delegates are Dr. O.E. Cunningham of Tulane University, Dr. Robert Meinhard of Winona State University, Albert F. Scheller of the National Park Service, and Dr. W. D. McCain and Dr. W. K. Scarborough of the University of Southern Mississippi. Featured speaker at the concluding banquet will be Federal Judge and former Mississippi Governor James P. Coleman. The importance of the goals of the Congress and the accomplishments which can be realized by active support of and participation in its work must be obvious to all who are dedicated to the preservation of our national heritage. Therefore, we strongly urge all who can do so to attend this year's Congress. For further details or registration information, please contact either your Editor or Jerry Russell, P.O. Box 7388, Little Rock, Arkansas 72207.

On June 21, 1977, ninety-four armed Civil War artillery shells were uncovered in a West Frankfort, Kentucky construction site. Research is being conducted by the Kentucky Historical Society to determine the reason why such a large deposit of shells should have been stored at this location.

To The Campfollowers (Ladies)

Our first speaker of the season will be George J. Fleming, Professor and Chairman of the Department of History at Calumet College, Hammond, Indiana. His subject will be "After The War" and he will discuss, among other things, the result of Reconstruction on the women and children of the period. Let's get the year off to a rousing start and have a really good turnout to hear what is certain to be an outstanding presentation. Jackie Cohn, wife of CWRT president Myron Cohn, has invited us to be her guests for refreshments and the talk in her home, Apartment #17-H, 850 North DeWitt Place, Chicago. We will gather at 5 pm, hear the talk at 5:30, and then walk over to Water Tower Place for dinner in the beautiful Pearson Room. Plan to attend and bring a friend. If you have never attended one of our meetings, come, and see what a delightful time you'll have. Reservations (which must be in by September 5) can be added to your husband's card for the men's meeting or you may telephone Margaret H. April, 787-1860.

It is with a deep sense of loss that we must announce the passing within recent months of two past presidents of The Round Table. As noted in the June Newsletter, Past President Arnold Alexander died on May 25, 1977. His devotion and contributions to our organization will serve as an example to all of us for years to come. Ralph Newman, in delivering the eulogy at Arnold's funeral, put our feelings in clear perspective when he said "Just thinking about Arnold Alexander brought a smile to our faces and a warm feeling to our hearts, because he had the knack of bringing an aura of good cheer and laughter to us, no matter how serious our problems or discussion might be. He enriched the lives of many persons and they showed their affection for him in many ways." The same thoughts would certainly apply equally to past President H. George Donovan who passed away on August 3, 1977 at the age of seventy-nine. George, a prominent executive in the petroleum industry, had served The Round Table in numerous capacities and his guidance and counsel insured success for many of our activities. Both of these fine gentlemen will be sorely missed and we extend our sincere sympathies to their families.

Fifteen daguerreotypes, believed to be the earliest known photographs of American slaves, have been discovered in an unused storage cabinet in an attic of a building on the Harvard University campus. The photographs were made in 1850 in Columbia, South Carolina as part of a research project directed by Louis Agassiz, a zoologist who is considered the father of American National Science. Notes found with the photographs identify some of the men and women in the pictures by first names, tribes or regions of birth in Africa, and names of the plantations on which they worked.

Apparently as part of the craze to review presidential assassinations, the FBI has quietly entered the investigation of yet another such incident, the shooting of Abraham Lincoln. This action is a result of a claim by a Massachusetts man that he has discovered the missing pages of John Wilkes Booth's diary. Joseph Lynch found what he believes to be the missing pages while appraising some historical artifacts belonging to the heirs of Edwin Stanton. Booth's diary was allegedly delivered intact to Stanton, but when it was introduced into evidence at the Andrew Johnson impeachment hearings, it was missing the 18 pages. The missing pages, if genuine, detail Booth's account of meetings with several prominent politicians and friends of Lincoln prior to the assassination. The diary itself, minus the missing pages, has been on display at the Ford's Theater Museum in Washington, but has now been turned over to the FBI laboratory for comparison with the pages found by Mr. Lynch. The FBI is attempting to determine not only whether the pages are from the diary, but also to verify that the diary itself is in the handwriting of Booth. Adding fuel to the fire are the claims of several other current researchers who have once again raised the theory that Booth escaped from the burning barn on the Garrett Farm. Among these is an employee of a film company planning a movie on the assassination. This gentleman has supposedly discovered some missing Booth letters and other relevant data.

THE NEW BOOKS



(Compiled by Dick Clark)

Buresh, Lumir F. *October 25th and The Battle of Mine Creek*. Kansas City: The Lowell Press, \$12.95

Courtemanche, Regis A. *No Need of Glory*. Annapolis, Md.: The Naval Institute Press, 1977. \$13.95. On the operation of the North American and West Indies Station during the years 1860-1864.

Crane, Stephen. *The War Dispatches of Stephen Crane*. Edited by R.W. Stallman and E.R. Hagemann. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1977. \$20.00. Original of 1964.

Cross, Frederick C., editor. *Nobly They Served the Union*. Privately printed, 1976. \$4.95. A composite of the letters and diary of Lt. Col. Henry Granville Stratton of the 19th Ohio.

Davis, William C. *Battle at Bull Run. A History of the First Major Campaign of the Civil War*. New York: Doubleday, 1977. \$8.95

Donnelly, Ralph W. *The History of the Confederate States Marine Corps*. Washington, N.C., Donnelly, 1976. Offset from typescript, wraps, 600 copies. \$7.95

Fleming, Berry. *Autobiography of a City in Arms: Augusta, Georgia, 1861-1865*. Augusta: Richmond County Historical Society, 1976. \$14.50

Guernsey, Alfred H. and Henry M. Alden. *Harper's Pictorial History of the Civil War*. Gettysburg: Historical Times Book Service, 1976. 2 vols. Reissue of the famous production of 1868. \$50.00

Hardee's *Infantry Tactics*. Reprint of the 160-page paperback sold by Sutlers. Tucson: Fiddler's Green, 1976. \$5.50

Hoar, Jay S. *New England's Last Civil War Veterans*. Texas: Seacliff Press, 1976. \$7.50

Hoehling, A.A. *Thunder at Hampton Roads*. Englewood Cliffs, N.J.: Prentice-Hall, 1976. \$9.95

Litvin, Martin. *The Young Mary, 1817-1861*. Galesburg, Ill.: Log City Books, 1976. \$9.85. About Mother Bickerdyke.

Longacre, Edward G. *The Man Behind the Guns: A Biography of General Henry Jackson Hunt, Chief of Artillery, Army of the Potomac*. South Brunswick: A.S. Barnes, 1977. \$15.00

McClure, Alexander Kelly. *Colonel Alexander K. McClure's Recollections of Half a Century*. New York: AMS Press, 1976.

Madaus, Howard Michael. *The Battle Flags of the Confederate Army of Tennessee*. Illustrated by Robert D. Needham. Milwaukee: The Milwaukee Public Museum, 1976. \$15.00. Many color plates.

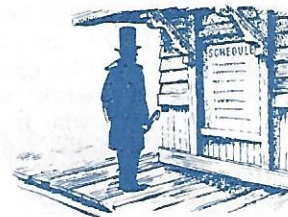
Metzler, William E. *Morgan and his Dixie Cavaliers: A Biography of the Colorful Confederate General*. Columbus, Ohio: Metzler, 1976. \$10.00

Nash, Charles Edward. *Biographical Sketches of Gen. Pat. Cleburne and Gen. T.C. Hindman*. Together with humorous anecdotes and reminiscences of the late Civil War. Dayton, Ohio: Morningside Bookshop, 1977. \$15.00. Reprint of the 1898 publication.

Ostendorf, Lloyd. *Abraham Lincoln: The Boy and the Man*. Illustrated by the author. New York: Lamplight Publishing, Inc., 1977. \$4.50. For younger readers.

Pettit, Ira S. *The Diary of a Dead Man*. Letters and Diary of Private Ira S. Pettit, Wilson, Niagara County, New York, who served in Company B, 2nd Battalion, and Company F, 1st Battalion, 11th Regiment, 2nd Brigade, 2nd Division, 5th Army Corps, United States Army, during the War Between the States. Compiled by Jean P. Ray. Privately printed, 1976. \$6.95

BULLETIN BOARD



FUTURE MEETINGS

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

September 9: Lowell Reidenbaugh on "Stonewall Jackson's Valley Campaign".

October 14: John Hunter on "The Capture and Captivity of Jefferson Davis".

November 15: E. B. "Pete" Long on "A Broader Approach to Civil War Strategy".

December 9: Dr. Lewis H. Croce on "Lincoln and the Federal Bureaucracy".

January 13: To be announced.

February 10: To be announced.

March 10: Dr. James I. Robertson, Jr.—Topic to be announced.

April 14: Marshall D. Krolick on "Brandy Station".

May 3-7: Annual Battlefield Tour to Chancellorsville, Wilderness, Fredericksburg, etc.

May 12: To be announced.

June 9: Ladies' Night, Nevins-Freeman Award Dinner and Installation of Officers.

Every Monday: Informal noon luncheon meetings at Wieboldt's Men's Grill, 9th Floor, State and Madison; all members welcome.

Changes of Address

C. Robert Douglas, 2212 Sherman Avenue, Evanston, Illinois 60201.

Roark, James L. *Masters without Slaves: Southern Planters in the Civil War and Reconstruction*. New York: Norton, 1977. \$12.95

Roddy, Lee. *Robert E. Lee, Christian General and Gentleman*. Edited by Norma Cournow Camp, illus. by A.G. Smith. Milford, Michigan: Mott Media, 1977. Pbk \$3.50. For young readers.

Rose, Willie Lee. *Rehearsal for Reconstruction: The Port Royal Experiment*. London, New York: Oxford University Press, 1976. \$15.00; pbk \$4.95. Originally Bobbs Merrill, 1964.

Stiles, Robert. *Four Years under Marse Robert*. With new index and introduction by Robert K. Krick. Dayton, Ohio: Morningside Bookshop, 1977. \$17.50. Reprint of the 1903 issue by Neale publishers.

Wheeler, Richard. *We Knew Stonewall Jackson*. New York: Crowell, 1977. \$7.95

Whiteman, Maxwell. *Gentlemen in Crisis: The First Century of the Union League of Philadelphia, 1862-1962*. Philadelphia: The Union League of Philadelphia, 1975. \$10.00. The War and Reconstruction are covered in the first 166 pages.

"October 25 and The Battle of Mine Creek" a book by Lumir F. Buresh, a member of both the Kansas City Civil War Round Table and our Round Table, has now been published by Lowell Press, Post Office Box 1877, Kansas City, Missouri 64141. The price is \$12.95. The book describes the cavalry battle which occurred in 1864 as Price's Confederate troops retreated from their defeat at Westport. Lumir is also actively engaged in the development of the Mine Creek Battlefield Park.