



THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

Volume XLV, Number 1

Chicago, Illinois

September, 1984

Richard B. Harwell to Receive Nevins-Freeman Award

Each year since 1974, the Round Table has recognized, with its Nevins-Freeman Award, an individual who has made significant contributions to our knowledge of the history and heritage of the past, and particularly the events of 1861-1865. This year, the Awards Committee has selected Richard Barksdale Harwell, historian, bibliographer, biographer, writer, editor and rare book librarian as the recipient of the 1984 Nevins-Freeman Award. His extensive contributions to our knowledge and appreciation of the literature of the 1860s have been recognized by scholars for many years and the Round Table is proud to honor him at our Assembly on Saturday, September 15, 1984 at the Cultural Center of the Chicago Public Library, Randolph and Michigan, in downtown Chicago.



Richard B. Harwell

The Assembly activities will begin at 9:00 a.m. with coffee and an opportunity to meet other Assembly participants and speakers, as well as view the special exhibits on "Gone With The Wind" in the G. A. R. Room of the Cultural Center. These exhibits will display letters, posters and other memorabilia associated with the South's most enduring epic, "Gone With The Wind", from the collection of our Award winner, 'Rick' Harwell, as well as the collection of Pat and Ralph Newman. At 9:30 a.m. the Auditorium of the Cultural Center will be the setting for short presentations on significant authors of Civil War literature, under the general theme, "20th Century Correspondents Cover the Civil War". John P. Hunter, Associate Editor of *The Capitol Times*, Madison, Wisconsin, will discuss the life and writings of his friend and confidant, William B. Hesseltine. C. Robert Douglas, past president and currently assistant Newsletter editor, will review the life and works of Stanley F. Horn. Elmer Gertz, past president, Round Table founder and prominent Chicago attorney, will deal with the career and writings of his associate of the early days of the Round Table, Otto Eisen-schmi. David L. Wilson, assistant editor of *The Papers of U. S. Grant* and adjunct assistant professor of history at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, will review the life and published works of Lloyd Lewis. Ralph G. Newman, Round Table founder, past president and Nevins-Freeman recipient, will discuss the career and writings of his good friend, Bruce Catton. These talks will be followed by a discussion period.



2nd Annual Nevins-Freeman Assembly

Award Presentation to
Richard B. Harwell
Address: "Margaret Mitchell
as a Historian"

Symposium:
"20th Century Correspondents
Cover the Civil War"

Panel discussion:
"Why Do Civil War Round Tables Exist?"

Saturday, September 15, 1984

Cultural Center of the
Chicago Public Library
Randolph and Michigan
9:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
\$20 per person



Special notice

Special reservation forms for the Nevins-Freeman Assembly are printed on the back of the Assembly announcement enclosed with this newsletter. Please send in your reservation promptly with your check for \$20—remittance must accompany reservations. Please make your reservation by September 5.

At noon the participants will leave the Cultural Center for a short walk one block west to Marshall Field's department store. On the 7th floor, a luncheon will be held in the Wedgewood Room, a private dining room situated alongside the Walnut Room. After the luncheon, participants will return to the Cultural Center. Mr. Harwell will be pre-

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THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE



Founded December 3, 1940
 18 East Chestnut Street
 Chicago, Illinois 60611
 Phone: (312) 944-3085

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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 Whippoorwill Lane, Palatine, Illinois 60007.

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sented with the Nevins-Freeman Award and will present his address, "Margaret Mitchell as a Historian". Mr. Harwell's writings include three of the most useful books published to date on "Gone With The Wind"—Margaret Mitchell's 'Gone With The Wind' Letters, 1936-1949; *Gone With The Wind: The Screenplay* by Widney Howard; and *Gone With The Wind as Book and Film*. Following the address, there will be an opportunity for questions and discussion.

At 3:00 p.m. Ralph Newman will serve as moderator for a discussion of the general subject, "Why Do Civil War Round Tables Exist? The Fascinating, Never-Ending, Incredible Saga of 1861-1865". The discussion will be generated by a panel including the following representatives of mid-western Round Tables: Bill Thomas—Salt Creek; Merlin Sumner—Northern Illinois; Charles Shields—South Suburban; Philip Hohlweck—Milwaukee, Wisconsin; John Hunter—Madison, Wisconsin; and Jim Vlazny—Chicago. The panel discussion is scheduled for an hour, to be following by questions from the audience and adjournment at approximately 4:30 P.M.

'Rick' Harwell made his first appearance before the Chicago Round Table on January 27, 1950, when he delivered an address entitled "Confederal Carrousel: Southern Songs of the Sixties". This essay was a condensation of his book, *Confederate Music*, published that year. This address was reprinted from the Emory University Quarterly and became the sixth publication of the Civil War Round Table of Chicago.

'Rick' was born in Washington, Georgia, and moved back there in the late 1970s. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Emory University in 1937, and a Bachelor of Library Science there in 1938. He served as executive secretary of the Association of College and Research Libraries (1957-1961); associate executive director of the American Library Association (1958-1961); librarian at Bowdoin College (1961-1968); Smith College (1968-1970); director of libraries, Georgia Southern College (1970-1975); curator of rare books and manuscripts, University of Georgia Library (1975-1980); executive secretary of the Southeastern Historical Society (1952-1954); and on the advisory board, Civil War Centennial Commission. He is the author of *Confederate Belles-Lettres*, 1941; *Confederate Music*, 1950; *Songs of the Confederacy*, 1951; *Cornerstones of Confederate Collecting*, 1953; *The Confederate Reader*, 1957; *The Union Reader*, 1958; *The War They Fought*, 1960; *The Confederate Hundred*, 1964; and *Brief Candle: The Confederate Theatre*, 1973. He is the editor of the following works: *Stonewall Jackson and the Old Stonewall Brigade* (John Esten Cooke), 1954; *Destruction and Reconstruction* (Richard Taylor), 1955; *Cities and Camps of the Confederate States* (Fitzgerald Ross), 1958; *Kate: The Journal of a Confederate Nurse* (Kate Cumming), 1959; *Outlines from the Outpost* (John Esten Cooke), 1961; *Hardtack and Coffee* (John D. Billings), 1960; and *Two Views of Gettysburg* (Sir A.J.L. Fremantle and Frank Haskell), 1964. His one-volume abridgements of Douglas Southall Freeman's Pulitzer Prize-winning biographies of George Washington and Robert E. Lee have won him critical acclaim.

The criteria for eligibility for the Nevins-Freeman Award—scholarship, literary achievement and contributions to the study of Civil War history—are certainly fulfilled in the career and writing of Richard B. Harwell and the Round Table is proud to honor him as the 11th recipient of its most prestigious honor.



June meeting

The life of the South's most prestigious partisan ranger, John Singleton Mosby, was the subject of Professor Dan Jordan's talk, illustrated with slides, to members and guests at The Round Table meeting on June 8th. In his remarks, Dr. Jordan expressed two major thoughts about his subject: (1) Mosby was a lifelong maverick; (2) the qualities that made him a great war leader caused him a great deal of trouble after the war.

Mosby was frail and delicate in his youth and his doctor predicted an early demise. He was a study in contrasts—bookish and introspective, he also loved the outdoors. Entering the University of Virginia in 1850, he became a scrapper but lost most of his fights. Mosby shot the school bully and was expelled from the university and thrown in jail. After conviction and being fined \$1,000, the Virginia legislature later annulled the sentence. The state prosecutor became sympathetic with Mosby's plight and helped him begin the practice of law. He went to Bristol, Virginia where he became the town's first attorney. He married Pauline Clarke, the daughter of a prominent Kentucky politician and raised a family. In the election of 1860, Mosby was an outspoken champion of the candidacy of Stephen A. Douglas. Mosby, an avowed Unionist, opposed the act of secession but in April, 1861, Virginia seceded. Mosby stated, "I was swept along with the flood," and became sad and morose about the prospect of war.

Somewhat of a dandy, Mosby volunteered as a private and joined the Washington Rifles of Abingdon. His first commander was William E. "Grumble" Jones, leader of the 1st Virginia cavalry. Mosby came to love Jones and learned much from him. In February, 1862, Mosby was commissioned a first lieutenant and began scouting for 'Jeb' Stuart, guiding him on the famous ride around McClellan in June. Stuart sent him with a letter to Jackson at Gordonsville, but he was captured and sent to Washington. Ten days later he was sent to Fort Monroe and exchanged. While there he gained valuable information about the movement of Federal troops to reinforce Pope's new Army of Virginia. He walked to Lee's headquarters, gained access to Lee himself, who with this information then sent Longstreet's wing to join Jackson for the actions that culminated in the defeat of Pope at Second Bull Run.

In December, 1862, Mosby was driven almost to madness by the relative inactivity after the battle of Fredericksburg. In January, 1863, he asked to be allowed to operate behind enemy lines and was given permission to form the organization that became the 43rd Battalion of Virginia Partisan Rangers. His most famous raid occurred on March 8-9, 1863 when he moved on Fairfax Court House, hoping to bag Colonel Sir Percy Wyndham, an English soldier of fortune who had accused Mosby of being a horse thief. Mosby and 29 men went in to capture Wyndham, but the Englishman had left. However, the raiders did capture Brigadier General Edwin H. Stoughton, some 100 Federal soldiers and horses. The area of his operations became known as 'Mosby's Confederacy'. He had no watch, maintained silence about his plans and only revealed them to his men at the last moment to avoid entrapment. His men were hell-raisers and had a nose for plunder. His command was superb at attacking pickets, laying ambushes, intercepting couriers, conducting raids, reconnoitering and reporting troop movements.

By early 1865, Mosby was at the height of his powers and was the Confederate commander for all of Northern Virginia, with some 800 men organized into eight compan-

ies. When Lee surrendered, it caught Mosby in disbelief. However, he gathered his men together in a final review and told them, 'You are disbanded'. In 1865, Mosby ranked as a saint along with Lee, Jackson and Stuart.

He then settled in Warrenton, Virginia to resume the practice of law. His attitude became one of reconciliation, and he began to have differences with his friends. He then became fast friends with General Grant, and stumped Virginia when Grant ran for the presidency, helping to carry it for the Republicans. With local feelings running against him, Mosby was appointed Consul to Hong Kong by Grant to get him out of the country until hard feelings died out. His *War Reminiscences* were published in 1887 and in them, he defended his idol, 'Jeb' Stuart, for his role in the Gettysburg campaign.

He opposed reunions, and attended only one organized by his battalion in 1894, refusing to attend the later gatherings. In his later years, he experienced money problems, and died on Memorial Day, 1916. Of all the officers commanded by Robert E. Lee, none received more commendations in Lee's reports than Mosby. Dr. Jordan concluded his remarks by stating that no scholarly biography of Mosby exists. Pat Jones' excellent work, 'Ranger Mosby', was written 40 years ago, and the recent work by Siepel is not a full scholarly treatment. In summing up, Jordan said that Mosby's value was psychological; his exploits stood out at a time when the war was going badly for the Confederacy.

Distinguished Lecturers Series

Thanks to members of Round Tables across the nation, the Distinguished Lecturers Series (cassette tapes of previous talks to the Chicago Round Table) has been a tremendous success. Leslie MacDonald, who was responsible for getting the Series established, expresses her appreciation for the response and support she has received.

The following tapes have been added to the list of those available published in previous newsletters.

41. E.B. Long, "The War in the West" (12/10/71)
42. Otto Eisenschiml, "Why the Civil War?" (5/9/58)
43. Frank E. Vandiver, "Toward the Second Centennial" (6/10/66)
44. T. Harry Williams, "Pattern of a Historian" (3/8/54) (a critique of Douglas Southall Freeman)
45. T. Harry Williams, "Grant As President" (4/21/72)

All orders are to be sent to: Pat Sumner, 403 Hatlen, Mt. Prospect, IL 60056. The cost of each tape is \$7.00; add \$2.00 per order for shipping.

If you would like a complete catalog, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to Pat Sumner at the above address.

Editor's Note: The Round Table Executive Committee, at its summer meeting, adopted a resolution commending Leslie for her efforts on behalf of the Distinguished Lecturers Series.

Thousands of Civil War items and other early military memorabilia will be displayed and sold Saturday, September 22, during the Second Midwest Civil War Collectors Show in Wheaton, Illinois. The show will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the DuPage County Fair Grounds, 2015 Manchester Road. General admission is \$2.00 per person. Living history people and reenactors are encouraged to attend in uniform and period costumes. For more information, call Bob Nowak at (312) 539-8432.

THE NEW BOOKS

(compiled by Dick Clark)



Funcken, Liliane and Fred Funcken. *The Uniforms and Weapons of the United States: The American Revolution, Civil War, Mexican War, and the Epic of the West*. New York: Van Nostrand Reinhold, 1983. 2 vols. \$25.00. Translation of *L'uniforme et les armes des soldats des Etats-Unis*.

Hartigan, Richard Shelly. *Lieber's Code and the Law of War*. Chicago: Precedent Publishing, Inc., 1983. 157 p., \$17.95.

Horrocks, James. *My Dear Parents: The Civil War Seen by an English Union Soldier*. Edited by A.S. Lewis. 1st American edition. San Diego: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1982. 188 p., plates, index. \$13.95. New Jersey 5th Arty Batt.

Klein, Frederic S. *Just South of Gettysburg*. Westminster, MD: Historical Society of Carroll County. Reprint of 1963 edition. \$15.00.

Krick, Robert K. *30th Virginia Infantry*. Lynchburg, VA: H.E. Howard, 1983. 143 p., maps, illus., roster, bibliog. \$14.95.

Kruman, Marc W. *Parties and Politics in North Carolina, 1836-1865*. Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1983. 304 p. \$37.50; pbk \$14.95.

Mason, M.E., Jr. and W. Reid McKee. *Civil War Projectiles*. [Updated reprint]. Orange, VA: Moss Publications, 1980. 220 p., illus. \$25.00.

Romero, Sidney J. *Religion in the Rebel Ranks*. Washington, DC: University Press of America, 1983. 131 p., bibliog., index. \$21.50; pbk \$10.75.

Scaife, William R. *Atlas of Atlanta Area Civil War Battles*. Atlanta: The Author, 1983. \$15.00.

Simpson, Harold B. *Hood's Texas Brigade: Lee's Grenadier Guard*. Dallas, TX: Alcor Publishing Co., 1984. Second printing, ltd 1000. \$25.00. Original of 1970.

Thomas, Dean. *Ready! Aim! Fire!* Orange, VA: Moss Publications. pbk \$7.50. 80 p., illus. Small arms ammunition in the battle of Gettysburg.

Tice, George. *Lincoln*. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press, 1984. 50 plates, 12 x 12 inches. \$37.95.

Van Santvoord, Cornelius. *The One Hundred and Twentieth Regiment New York State Volunteers*. Cornwallville, NY: Hope Farm Press, 1983. 328 p., illus. \$12.50. Original of 1894.

Whitman, Thomas Jefferson. *Dear Brother Walt: The Letters of Thomas Jefferson Whitman*. Edited by Dennis Berthold and Kenneth Price. Kent, Ohio: The Kent State University Press, 1984. \$27.50.

An Anniversary Seminar on the Shenandoah Valley Campaign of 1864 will be held in Winchester, Virginia October 4-7, 1984. Among the historians serving as lecturer-panelists will be Kent M. Brown, Millard K. Bushong, William W. Hassler, Robert Krick and Virgil Carrington. The seminar, sponsored by *Virginia Country Magazine*, will also include field trips to Belle Grove Plantation, Culp's Hill, and Winchester. The cost of the seminar is \$250 before September 7 and \$280 thereafter. For further information, contact David Y. Boyce, Seminar Director, Country Publishers, Inc. 3 North Liberty Street, Middleburg, Virginia 22117 (703) 687-6306.

BULLETIN BOARD



Future meetings

Regular meetings are held at the Hotel Continental, 505 N. Michigan, the second Friday in each month, except as noted.

September 15: Second Annual Nevins-Freeman Assembly. Cultural Center of the Chicago Public Library, Michigan and Randolph. 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Recipient of award: Richard B. Harwell.

October 12: To be announced.

November 9: Kent Brown on "Gettysburg."

December 14: David Finney on "The Death of Stonewall Jackson."

January 11, 1985: Merlin Sumner on "Grant's Staff."

February 8: William Sullivan on "The Trans-Mississippi."

March 8: Gary Gallagher on "General Stephen D. Ramseur."

April 12: To be announced.

May 1-5: Annual Battlefield Tour to Richmond/Petersburg/Appomattox.

May 10: Jeffrey D. Wert on "The 1864 Shenandoah Valley Campaign."

Changes of address

Robert Markunas, 6055 S. Merrimac, Chicago, Illinois 60638.

Larry Rines, 1656 Liberty Street, Braintree, Massachusetts 02184.

Round Table Congress

The 10th Annual Congress of Civil War Round Tables will be held October 4-6, 1984 in Jackson, Mississippi. Among the speakers will be Dr. William Parrish on "Union Leadership at Vicksburg;" Al Scheller on "The Yazoo Pass Expedition;" Edwin C. Bearss on "Early Memories of Vicksburg NMP;" and W. C. "Jack" Davis on "The War in the West." There will also be a tour of the Vicksburg National Military Park led by Ed Bearss and Al Scheller.

The registration fee for the Congress is \$150 for Civil War Round Table Associates members and \$170 for non-members (\$10 discount if paid by September 10). To register, or for further information, contact Civil War Round Table Associates, PO Box 7388, Little Rock, Arkansas 72271 (501) 225-3996.

1985 Nevins-Freeman Award

The Executive Committee, at its summer meeting, selected Dr. John Y. Simon as the recipient of the 1985 Nevins-Freeman Award. Dr. Simon is a professor of history at Southern Illinois University and director of the Ulysses S. Grant Association. His award will be presented at the Nevins-Freeman Assembly next fall.

A historical marker honoring Bruce Catton has been erected in Benzonia, Michigan, Catton's boyhood home. A ceremony, dedicating the official State of Michigan Historical Marker was held on June 23. It was sponsored by the Friends of Bruce Catton, an organization "Formed to salute America's Premier Civil War Historian and Author."