



The Bugle Call for April 2022



The Official Publication of
the Northwest Civil War
Council

John Hartman Editor

On the Cover: Cumberland Gap is a fearsome place; the shells go off right in your face. Or at least, that's what the song says. Several Civil War engagements occurred in and around the Cumberland Gap and are known as the Battle of Cumberland Gap. In June 1862, Union General George W. Morgan captured the gap for the Union. In September of that year, Confederate States Army forces under Edmund Kirby Smith occupied the gap during General Braxton Bragg's Kentucky Invasion. The following year, in a bloodless engagement in September 1863, Union Army troops under General Ambrose Burnside forced the surrender of 2,300 Confederates defending the gap, gaining Union control of the gap for the remainder of the war.

In This Issue: the Chair's Column, the Confederate Column, the Union Column, the No-Frills Editorial, Board Meeting Summary, Fun April Dates, Real News, Mail Call, a Medal of Honor Recipient, an Industrialist, Book Review, and other cool stuff.

The View From the Chair

By NCWC Chair Ashley Wendel

We are on the Winds of Change. The weather is getting nicer, Spring is approaching. Our Board and event coordinators have been busy preparing for our first event! And I hope you all can make it. Cheadle Lake in Lebanon will be our first encampment/battle event since Colton 2019. We are all a little rusty I'm sure, but now is the time to get those tents aired out, the weapons cleaned, cartridges made, gear and food prepared, and memberships in. Please be courteous to our membership coordinator, she is brand new to that position, and amazing. But let's help her out and get memberships for the NCWC filled out now online. I would love to see 100% of the Cheadle Lake participants signed up before the end of April. Can you help me make this happen??

You'll notice several new things in this Bugle Call that require some attention.

-Pay to Play is no more, there is a detailed explanation given. However, it essentially means that you must have a membership filled out in order

to participate. We prefer it happens online prior to the event, but if not, you may still fill it out at the event, too.

The 1st MN is hosting a reenactors garage sale in Salem the last Saturday in April. More details are provided below.

We have a new fundraising opportunity. If you use Amazon, you can opt into Amazon Smiles and donate a percentage of many items purchased to the NCWC. This costs you nothing extra, and is a great way to support our hobby.

Please help us to continue and grow. Share the events with the people around you, and help us get our members and the public there alike, because we need both groups to be active in order for us to recover for the 2 years of nothing, and move forward into the years to come.

But before I go, I also want to give recognition to a few people.

Julie Bishop, the previous Treasurer, has done an amazing job for the club, and has been very gracious in helping the new one to learn. Shawn Strutton has been diligently getting the updates posted to the website the same day that we send them to him, and Scott Ingalls has been working extra hard to put the Cheadle Lake event together for us.

I want to thank everyone for their involvement, and support of our hobby.

Ashley Wendel
Chair, NCWC

The Confederate Column

By Col. Matt Bishop

Attention Battalion!

Our club is off to a great start in preparing for this year's return to reenacting. Our first event, Cheadle Lake, Lebanon, OR (May 20-22) is fast approaching. I encourage all members to confirm your attendance with your unit commander. Determining our participation numbers is key to ensuring the needed resources, like porta pots and fire wood, are on hand. I ask everyone to reach out to past unit members, and potential new members, and encourage them to join us at this year's events.

Friday, May 20 is a school day at Cheadle Lake. We need volunteers to present historical

subjects. Please let your unit commander know if you can participate. Presenters can come and setup on Thursday, or arrive early Friday morning. School days typically run 9am to 2pm. Look for more details to be shared in the coming month.

To our unit commanders and their assigned board representatives: Thank you to all those that have been participating in our monthly board meetings. For those unit reps that have not been present, I'd strongly encourage your attendance at our meetings. Your unit is depending on you to participate in the board meetings, particularly casting votes on behalf of your members, and also sharing the issues discussed for the unit's consideration. We are better as a club when

we are all informed and on the same page.

I look forward to seeing everyone at Cheadle Lake.

Colonel Matthew Bishop
Commanding

The Union Column

By Col. John Leaton

It has been reported that Bedford Forrest has cut the wires somewhere between Colonel Leaton's winter quarters and those of The Bugle Call. His column will return next month.

The No-Frills Editorial

Okay, I'll say right off that I have not been the most energetic reenactor this winter. I actually suited up on the 13th of March for a soiree that the 69th New York had, and got to see pards I had not seen in three years. It was worth driving three hours, thirty minutes one way. I had to chuckle because previously I got into my dress uniform to march in the NCWC's unit for the Springfield Christmas parade. It had been so long since I had worn it, I had forgotten that the red NCO sash went on the left side, not the right. Our kindly Chair Gal set me straight before we stepped off on the march. Since then, my feet seem to have expanded enough to properly fill my size 12 boots while wearing wool socks. After the 69th's soiree I stopped off at a coffee chain, walked in to get some caffeine, and saw that the

other customers did not seem to notice that I was wearing a 160 year-old uniform with clacking metal heel guards on ceramic tile.

I am genuinely looking forward to the Cheadle Lake School Day. If you can do a presentation, we can use your help on that one.

In the meantime, keep your heads down out there.

How to Reach Us

You may reach The Bugle Call at our address: buglecallncwc@gmail.com. The Bugle Call is usually sent on the 25th of each month. Sometimes it may be sent sooner, sometimes it may be sent later, depending on critical news.

Board Meeting Summary

The March meeting of the NCWC board took place on the 17th at the Country Cottage restaurant in Woodburn. A quorum was established and the meeting called to order at 7:54 p.m.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as presented. The treasurer's report was approved as presented.

Event planning is progressing, although Oakland still has not established a firm date in June.

Committee chairs who attended gave reports if they had new information.

Annabelle Larson encouraged members to spread the word via Facebook regarding the Cheadle Lake reenactment.

Civilian battalion commander Deb Martin reported that the women doing the quilt project had completed the first quilt, and half the 100 tickets had already been sold. A second quilt will be started.

CSA commander Matt Bishop reported that he is encouraging all unit commanders to get firm numbers counts for Cheadle Lake. Union commander John Leaton reported that a battalkio9n HQ meeting was held with unit commanders. Linn-Benton CC is proceeding with the visitation for Cheadle Lake.

There were no unit reports.

Under Old Business we now have a link to the Amazon Smiles account. (See news) Insurance has been updated for 2022-2023.

The fence rails will be at Cheadle Lake, and the props committee is trying for other props to be ready.

New Business: Last year was a safety test year even though we were on hiatus. All units are urged to have attending members complete safety tests by Cheadle Lake, May 21st.

The soldier's quilt project has completed the first quilt, and raffle tickets are rapidly being sold. When 100 are sold the drawing for the winner will be held.

Rails and Trailer update: After discussion the board approved a measure to allocate \$500 for a new trailer to haul the fence rails.

The pay-to-play issue was discussed. A motion to adopt a \$10 fee was defeated. A motion to eliminate pay-to-play was passed. It will be replaced with member sign-up.

The next board meeting will be April 21st.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Membership Time!

Yes, ladies and gentlemen, it is that happy time again! Membership for 2022 is due, and you can sign up on the NCWC website's convenient membership app. Just go to "membership," and click either single membership at \$25, or family membership for \$50, and complete the information as asked. No fuss, no muss. To quote a famous American, "Git 'er done!"

Black Powder Hard to Get

This year, like last, black powder for muskets and pistols is hard to get, and has a steep price. I checked two places in my area, and found some on the second try. Expect to fork out around thirty-two Yankee dollars for a bottle of Pfff. It can be obtained, but don't put off your purchase if you need it for Cheadle Lake. Start looking now.

Pay-to-Play is Dead

By Captain Ashley Wendel, NCWC Chair

The end of an era; Pay to Play is no more, memberships only.

I know you're going to have a lot of questions. This is going to be a little different, but it's not complicated.

First some back story, for transparency. The NCWC board over the last two years has debated the cost of membership many times. Many hours in discussions, several different proposals brought forward, numerous moments of brain storming, and lots of ideas. People wanted to increase it, charge per event on top of membership, and or reduce it. None of these passed the vote. But last Thursday several board reps thought to just remove it. So after a great discussion we did.

Pay to Play used to be \$25 a person per event. A Single Membership for the year was also \$25.

Membership dues will remain the same amount: Single \$25, Family \$50. We used to require members to sign up 2 weeks prior otherwise they had to pay for Pay to Play and then their Membership.

Now it works this way: we still encourage returning members to pay for their memberships online 2 weeks before an event. This is courteous to our membership coordinator.

If you don't pay before the event you can sign up and pay for your membership at the event. However, this must be done before you participate, and there will be hours of operation for Membership/Registration at the event. It will be available the evening before, during set up, and at set times that are yet to be determined during the event. This way members new and old can sign up on site.

So let's run thru a couple examples just so you can see how this works:

Ex1- You are a returning member; you paid your membership this week in March online. You will get your membership cards and be good to go! Congratulations!! Thank you for being a courteous member, and supporting our club.

Ex2- You are a returning member who forgot until the day before setup. You come to the setup day, and go see Membership to get paid up so you can participate in the event! Congrats, you are now a member, welcome back.

Ex3- You are a returning member who is showing up for one day, and you paid online months before the first event. Just sign in the registration book, and you are good to go.

Ex4- You are a returning member who is just day tripping. And you forgot to pay for your

membership, go see registration during operating hours to pay up, and you're good to go!

Ex5- You are a brand new potential member, you came to the event and loved it. You found a company that you identify with and want to join, participate in this and the following events. Awesome!! -- Fill out the unit's paper work, and then also go see Membership/Registration when they are open, get signed up and you are good to go!!

Ex6- You are a member up in Washington. You have paid your dues up North for the year. Our reciprocal agreement is still in effect. You are good to go, and may register/sign in at our event for your event card. Thank you for coming down to play with us, we appreciate it.

At the end of the day, we hope that this makes membership easier for our coordinator. We also hope that this helps to streamline the process of our members signing up. And we look forward to seeing you, our dedicated members return this year, as well as meeting new recruits too!

I hope this helps to explain it. Any questions, please talk to your board rep.

Reenactor Garage Sale

April 30th @ Gateway Community Church,
922 Hylo Rd. Salem, OR. 97305

The sale will be open from 10:30am - 3pm.

For those selling items, set up will begin at 10am. Break down at 3pm when the sale ends. If you are planning on selling items, please contact Ashley at awshiloh1862@aol.com. - That way I can make sure we have enough table space.

This is open to the whole NCWC for members to come and sell or buy. We did this back in 2019, and it worked out really well.

Free Money For NCWC

It was suggested at the February NCWC board meeting that we create an Amazon Smile account for our members and or supporters to use if they would like to support our club. The nice thing about this is that it doesn't cost anything extra for you to do! Some products on Amazon are marked as "Smile Eligible" those products automatically donate a percentage to our clubs account. The club then receives a check. So if you would like to take advantage of this on your next Amazon

order, follow this link, or set it up under your Amazon account, it will ask you to confirm or change every 6 months. You can share this with your friends and family as well. Below in the link that you can use, you can also find this info on our website, as well as just search for us when it asks you to select an organization to support.

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/93-1174504>

WANTED



Safety Tests!

Last year was an odd year, and safety tests should have been completed. If they weren't you will need them completed and on file with your commander in order to be a combatant. Thank you for your attention to this matter. See you on the field!

NCWC Event Dates 2022

Cheadle Lake in Lebanon, May 20-22

Friday will be a school day. Be prepared.

Oakland Living History, June 11-12 or 18-19

Powerland, July 2-3-4

Clatsop Landing, Sept. 3-4-5

Colton, or TBA, Sept. 17-18

Albany Veterans Day Parade, Nov. 11

WCWA Events

School of Soldier April 23 - 24

Officially at a new location

Questions about Site call Rich at 509-910-4638, about

activities, contact Shane C, Col Beard.

Battle of Cheney WA, May 28-30
Battle at Fulbright Park, June 18- 19
Battle of Chehalis River, July 16- 17
Woodland Tactical Aug27-28,
\$20 per person, Battle for Zumstein Farm
41316 NE 12th Ave. Woodland, WA

Fun Dates in April

3 - Richmond surrenders 1865
6 – Battle of Shiloh 1862
7 – Battle of Shiloh 1862
9 – Lee surrenders at Appomattox Court House 1865
10 – Gen. Leonidas Polk, CS, born 1806
12 – Confederates fire on Fort Sumter 1861
14 – Lincoln assassinated 1865
19 – Battle of South Mills 1862
27 – Gen Ulysses S. Grant, US, born 1822
29 – New Orleans surrenders to Union 1862

Cheadle Lake Info

May 20-22, 2022.

School day on May 20th. Contact Scott Ingalls for more info. Open from 10am-3pm, bring sack lunches.

Battalion commanders in Wednesday evening.

Reenactor set up on Thursday beginning at 10 a.m. for those who wish to set up early, or set up before the School Day.

Reenactor set up also on Friday after 3:30 p.m. post-School Day set up for the weekend event.

Reenactor parking will be in the fenced area. We will have security on site Friday and Saturday night.

Reenactors may stay thru Monday morning if they wish.

Camp locations:

Cav: in the trees.

Civilians: by pumpthouse

Confederates: North end

Union: across the road from them.

Artillery: in the middle.

At the moment we don't have sutlers or food concessions lined up yet.

Fires must be in above-ground stoves or boxes.

We need volunteers to help with the School Day!! Contact Scott Ingalls if you would like to help. All skill levels are welcome.

Volunteer Presenters Needed!

Heidi Davis, the NCWC Education Committee chair, is in great need of presenters for educational presentations in schools. Oregon students usually take U.S. history in grades 8 and 11, but instructors at any grade level can request presentations. If you can do a presentation for impressionable young potential NCWC members, contact Heidi at the NCWC education address, nwcwc.education@gmail.com, or through Facebook messenger.

Mail Call

As always, spelling and punctuation in both letters are strictly those of the authors.

Our first letter comes from a Confederate only known as Henry. His unit is not identified.

I write to you on a Yankee piece of paper taken on the Field of Shiloh.

SC – Our flag is still there!

Corinth Miss April 25/62

Dear Father,

I arrived safely on Wednesday evening and found almost all of the Boys sick with diarhar. My complaint still clings to me although I hope I will soon get well of it. I saw Payne on passing through Enterprise and he tried very hard to persuade me to remain. but I could not and I was indeed sorry that it was not in my power to do so. They are all well. Mrs. McGrory died that day and was to be buried on Wednesday. She had given birth to a child about two weeks ago and could not regain her strength.

Two of our men who had been taken prisoners at the late battle escaped and arrived at camp yesterday, they brought some intelligence which was only communicated to the Commanding Officer. We have however been ordered to provide ourselves with a hundred rounds of Cartridges and I do not know how soon the order will be

issued to march. The prisoners state that while they pretended to sleep in the enemy's camp the party that buried the dead came in and said that they buried ten of their own to our one. So their loss must have been immense. I wish you could get a piece of music that M. Henry left at At-combs store for me and send it by some one coming up. I forgot to get it the day I left. It commenced raining last night and has continued all day and everything is sloppy and muddy which is anything but pleasant.

There is no news that I can write so I will close by wishing you every success in life.

Ever your affectionate

Son

Henry

Our next letter is from Federal Private Samuel Fell, in an unidentified Pennsylvania regiment.

Virginia April 14 Camp Near Yorktown 1862 Dear Mother I recieved yours last nite and was glad to hear that you was well for my part i am as well as ever and in good spirits we are laying a long a river called the worwick (i think) it is not much wider than our river the rebels are on one side and we are on the other we have been exchanging shots with them for the last five days but no body has been hurt as yet the other day lieutenant elis and me was a standing a ways out in the stream on a log they fired two shots at us one went over our heads and the other hit the log we did not stop to see wether they was a going to fire any more or not but got behind a tree as soon as our legs would cary us how long we are going to lay hear be for making an a tack i cant say but I hope it wont be long for i am tired of laying hear I sopose we would have had a fite be fore this time if the roads had not bin to bad to get our artillery hear but they are getting beter now the weather is fine if it only stays so but it will be something new if it dont rain be for a nother weak but we will hope for the best well mother i dont no of eny thing more to rite at present What do you think of our having eals for brekfast thre mornings thread tucker and my self have fished thre nits till a bout ten a clock the first nite we cetched 12 the next 50 and last nite only 7 tell thead he

can ketch as many as he wants if he will make a bob i will tell him how to make it take a bout thre nedels ful of thred and string it ful of worms run the thred through them from one end to the other after he has them all strung take and wind them a round his for fingers and ty the two ends to gether that makes a ring of them then ty his line rite a round ware the two ends come to gether and you have a bob wen you fish let the bob lay on the botom and kepe the line tite and the first bite pul and you will have him give my love to all and ablige your afectnate son Samuel I wrote this as he did and he even drew a fishing rod before his closing Wilkes Barre Pa Mrs Mary Fell from son Samuel Fell

A Medal of Honor Recipient

It is tacky to describe a Medal of Honor recipient as a "winner," because it is not an award that a member of the military can achieve by their own will, or earn by completing a list of requirements. It is received for gallant and meritorious service above and beyond the call of duty in the face of the enemy.

The following story comes from the book *Deeds of Valor*, edited by W.F. Beyer and O.F. Keydel, published in 2000 by Smithmark Publishers.

The story is told by Corporal John G. Palmer, Company F, 21st Connecticut Infantry.

"At the time of Burnside's great battle of Fredericksburg, I was a boy seventeen years of age and a member of Company F, Twenty-first Connecticut Infantry. We were held in reserve in the streets of the city until the last afternoon of the desperate fight. At 4:30 p.m. we received a hurry order to go to the support of the Second Division. Away we went, glad to take an active part, as we had been under fire more or less for two or three days. As soon as we cleared the streets of the city, we were exposed to a perfect shower of bullets and exploding shells from a general attack which was now taking place all along the front. Amidst this terrible fire we formed and moved rapidly forward towards the line of battle, our company marching for two or three blocks through the back yards of houses and dwellings. We had a most lively time pulling

up and scaling numerous fences to keep up with that part of the line which was meeting with less obstructions. We advanced to the scene of operations until the right of the regiment reached the railroad at the depot, the line extending to the left through some brickkilns. A light battery of four pieces situated on a low ridge in front of the left of the regiment was shelling the enemy, whose fronts were near, as fast as they could fire their guns.

We were ordered to lie down, which we did in short order, and settled ourselves into the soft clay of the brickyard, which offered some degree of shelter from the iron and lead which were flying so furiously around and dangerously near our heads.

After a time the fire slackened. Our assault had met with a bloody repulse. Maneuvers were immediately ordered with a view of making one grand final charge and ending the battle.

As the attack ceased and the firing had become desultory I raised up on one of my elbows; the colors of the regiment brushed my face. Pushing the flag aside I glanced up and down the line. Our regiment appeared like two rows of dead men, every one except the colonel, with his head face down in the mud as low as possible.

Presently the captain of a battery came running towards our regiment and hurriedly saluting the colonel, said: 'For God's sake, colonel, give me six men quick, who know something about firing a gun. I haven't men enough left to work my battery in the coming charge.'

Our colonel faced the colors and repeated the call. Though I was the youngest member of the company I had heard and seen enough for several days, and especially during the previous hour, to know the seriousness of the situation, to realize the probable consequences of the act, and to compare the exposure on the knoll with the safety of the shelter in the brickkilns.

It took but a few moments for me to determine what to do. By the time the colonel had pronounced the word 'men,' I stepped from the ranks, followed closely by Comrade Beckwith and four others. We had but a few moments to look over the field and receive instructions from the sergeant, when the captain, reading the signals

from the church belfry, gave the order to stand by the guns ready for action.

The troops that were selected to make the final attack moved forward to the charge.

Suddenly the enemy opened with every gun and musket that could be brought to bear. As we occupied the only rise of ground on our side and were the only battery in action on our left, we found that several of the enemy's batteries were paying us particular attention and that we had to take their concentrated fire. The battle grew more fierce. Twilight came on; twilight passed to darkness. It was a grand and awe-inspiring spectacle – one mighty and thundering roar.



Wallace Beckwith, MOH, in later years.

Around us rained a perfect shower of bullets, which completely riddled a board fence in front of the knoll. They struck the guns and splintered the spokes of the wheels. Shells exploded constantly over and around us and knocked down several of my comrades. Many officers and men were killed, and a great number, including several in my own regiment, were wounded in our immediate rear. We kept our little battery barking. Our commander said that our shells were bursting squarely in the ranks of the enemy, but our army could not accomplish the impossible. The heights were too strong with earthworks, cannon, and

men, and the assault ended the battle for the night.

We lived through the entire attack uninjured. Sunday morning the captain of the battery thanked us heartily for our services and told us to return to our regiment. Our colonel said, as he received us: 'I am proud of my men.'"

Corporal Palmer's comrade, Private Wallace A. Beckwith, is the ancestor of David Beckwith, who reenacts as a private in Company K of the 69th New York. He is a captain in the Army Reserves. If you pass through the civilian street of the 69th at the next reenactment, you might see Private Beckwith with his family. If so, you know that you see the descendent of a Medal of Honor Recipient.

Samuel Griswold: Industrialist

Samuel Griswold was born on December 27, 1790, in Burlington, Connecticut, a member of the prominent Connecticut Griswold family. He was the son of Matthew Griswold and Anna Wolcott Griswold. He moved to Clinton, Georgia, near present-day Gray, with his family in 1818, and in 1820 established the first iron foundry in Georgia.

Griswold created a successful cotton gin factory in 1830, that quickly became the largest producer of cotton gins in the nation, manufacturing 1,000 gins a year. One of his colleagues was Daniel Pratt, who later moved to Alabama and became an important industrial figure and the founder of Prattville, Alabama. Griswold's Clinton factory complex soon expanded to include smithies, foundries, and shops for producing farm implements and carriages. Griswold moved his production facilities in 1849 to Griswoldville, to be on the Georgia Central rail line. Griswoldville was a company town with a steam-powered cotton gin plant, soap and tallow factory, candle factory, sawmill and grist mill, post office and non-denominational church. Griswold's home stood below the tracks, and numerous other houses for family, partners, and operatives dotted the settlement. Griswold's dwellings for enslaved people lay along a stream at the village's southern edge.

As the last station before Macon on the railroad from Savannah, Griswoldville boasted a depot,

water tank, wood pile, and generous length of rail siding. Travelers were impressed by Griswold's creation. One lady pronounced Griswoldville the "prettiest town" on the Central, while a newspaper reporter described it as "a handsome and thrifty little village, lying in ambush among tall graceful pines."



Samuel Griswold, CSA Industrialist

on after the Civil War began, Griswold decided to adapt his factory to produce weaponry. First, he answered the call of Georgia governor Joseph E. Brown for manufacturers to produce pikes: pole arms of medieval appearance, steel-tipped wooden shafts considered as useful anti-cavalry weapons. Then, by the spring of 1862, Griswold teamed with former employee A. N. Gunnison to manufacture firearms for the Confederacy styled after the Colt Navy revolver.



A Griswold & Gunnison .36 cal. pistol Photo: Alloutdoor.com

Gunnison had experience in producing these sidearms; Griswold had the facilities and the workforce, made up almost entirely of trained enslaved mechanics who were given regular wages. Ultimately, nearly 3,700 Griswold and Gunnison revolvers would be produced, a number unsurpassed by any other firm in the Confederacy.

On November 20, 1864, during the March to the Sea, the factory complex, along with much of the rest of Griswoldville, was burned by Captain Frederick S. Ladd of the Ninth Michigan Volunteer Cavalry and "one hundred picked men."

After the Civil War Samuel Griswold sold part of his holdings, and in failing health, retired. He died in September 1867 and is buried in the Clinton Cemetery.

Book Review

No Better Place to Die The Battle of Stones River, by Peter Cozzens, 1990, University of Illinois Press, 218 pgs. with maps, photos, appendix, notes, bibliography, and index.

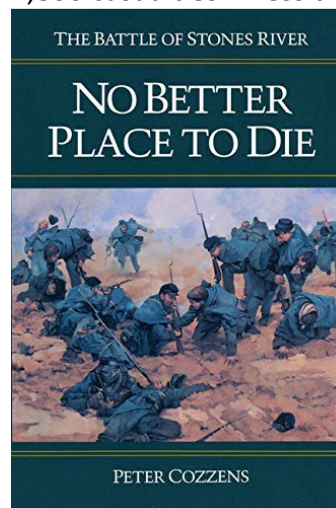
The ol' editor should admit that he has a soft spot for the books of Peter Cozzens, who has specialized in highly professional histories of battles in the Western Theater, including three about the fight for Tennessee. *No Better Place to Die*, while now over thirty years old, remains the best book on the Battle of Stones River, in my humble opinion. Cozzens was a captain in Army intelligence for four years, then spent thirty years in the foreign service, providing himself a good background for writing about the Civil War.

I have spent time at the Stones River National Battlefield, so that its terrain was familiar to me when I walked it with my wife and sister, showing them how CSA Gen. Patrick Cleburne's division swept a right wheel movement supporting John McCown's division to hit the Federal right flank at dawn.

The Federals got precious time with a heroic stand from Phil Sheridan, who had his division up and on the firing line at dawn, just in case. Brigade commander William B. Hazen also stood

his ground just west of the Nashville Pike, in an area later called "Hell's Half Acre."

After the Confederate Army of Tennessee ended the first day's fighting in a position to finish off the Federals after a New Year's Day unofficial truce, commanding General Braxton Bragg senselessly ordered the division of Gen. John C. Breckenridge to attack Beatty's division, which was occupying the hill on the east side of the river. Breckenridge initially protested that the assault would be suicidal but eventually agreed and attacked with determination. General William Rosecrans' Union troops were pushed back across McFadden Ford, but the Confederate charge ran into heavy fire from massed Union artillery across the river, commanded by Crittenden's artillery chief, Capt. John Mendenhall. Mendenhall deployed his guns perfectly—45 arrayed hub-to-hub on the ridge overlooking McFadden's Ford and 12 more guns about a mile to the southwest, which could provide enfilading fire, completely commanding the opposite bank and heights beyond—and saved the day for Rosecrans. The Confederate attack stalled, having suffered over 1,800 casualties in less than an hour.



Stones River had the third highest casualty count of the war. It ended in a tactical stalemate, but Bragg realized that while he would have to break off the fight to regroup, re-load, and resupply, Rosecrans could simply send for more supplies and troops from Nashville, a two-day march to the north. Bragg retreated into winter quarters along the Duck River, and the Lincoln administration hailed the battle as a victory, coming after

two losses at Fredericksburg and Chickasaw Bayou.

Cozzens writes well, and his preface offered an interesting point to consider: it is not a surprise that Rosecrans won, or that Bragg lost. What is surprising is how close Rosecrans came to losing, and how close Bragg came to winning.

No Better Place to Die can be bought new for between fifteen and twenty Yankee dollars, and used for as little as four dollars. It's a great read.

The Chattanooga Gazette

James Rogers Editor

John Hartman Correspondent

April 21, 1863

AFFAIRS AT VICKSBURG

We learn from the Richmond papers that Union forces are being withdrawn from the peninsula, at Vicksburg, that four transports have gone up the river filled with troops, that the levee has been cut through by Union forces and the water turned into our old camping ground. A dispatch from Jackson, Mississippi, says that I Farragut is still above Port Hudson with three vessels. The Confederate stores at Bayou Sara have been destroyed by the flag-ship Hartford. The same authority says that the "lower fleet"—part of Banks's expedition we presume—has opened fire upon the batteries, but that they were out of range. The Petersburg Express of the 8th indicates that some preparations are being made to destroy Farragut's ships, the Hartford and Albattross.

YANKEE STEAMER LOST

The armed transport *George Washington* was destroyed in Coosaw River, near Port Royal, on 8th inst. She remained behind for special service under Colonel Hawley, who was acting as post commandant at Hilton Head while the forces were away. General Saxton, who was in command at Beaufort, sent for the Washington to make a reconnaissance around the island. In company with the gun-boat *Hale* she went up the Coosaw River, was attacked by a Confederate battery, which sent a shot through her magazine and blew her up.

CONFEDERATE CAMP ATTACKED

We learn by dispatches from Nashville, dated on 7th, that General Mitchell, with three hundred and fifty cavalry, went out on the Lebanon pike to Green Hill, and, dashing into a Confederate camp on the sabre charge, took fifteen prisoners, killed

five, and captured all their arms, horses, and equipment.

MORE SHIPS BURNED

The ship *Washington*, lately captured and bonded by the *Alabama*, landed at Southampton, England, about three hundred and fifty men, taken from the American vessels *Golden Little*, *Olive Jane*, and *Palmetto*, by the commander of the *Alabama* before he destroyed them. The masters of the three vessels detail the circumstances attending the captures by Captain Semmes.

CAVALRY SKIRMISH

Eight to ten regiments of Confederate cavalry commanded by Van Dorn and Forrest clashed with a Federal brigade reportedly com-manded by Colonel Hall on March 20. After four hours the Confederates broke contact. Casualties were about equal: seven killed, thirty-one wounded, while Confederates had about forty killed, wounded, or captured.

THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC

Northern newspapers report that general orders have been issued for a grand muster of the troops in the Potomac Army on the 10th inst., after which the muster-rolls of the different regiments will be sent to the Adjutant-General for the use of the Provost-Marshal in drafting men to fill up the regiments and batteries to their legal complement.

THE CONFEDERATE LOAN

Our European files by Canada, dated on the 21st of March, detail the progress of the Confederate loan to its close in London, Liverpool, Paris, Frankfort, and Amsterdam. The bids amounted to fifteen millions of pounds sterling, and the premium averaged fully four and a half all through. The opinion of Sir Hugh Cairns as to the legality of the loan in England is published with the advertisement of the promoters.

PRIVATEER ON THE PACIFIC

A fast schooner was boarded in San Francisco harbor on 15th by the Federal authorities, and detained as a privateer. About twenty Secessionists were found on board, well-armed, together with six brass Dahlgren guns, with carriages suitable for use on shipboard. Correspondence found on the persons of the prisoners will lead to other arrests.

HAMS SELL AD HOCK

The *Abbeville Banner* reported that an auction of fourteen pork hams reached the princely sum of

nine hundred, eighteen dollars and seventy-five cents. The hams were raised by one of Abbeville's oldest and best farmers. These were not the little honey bits of meat one often finds offered around, but well worth the one dollar, twenty-five cents per pound in price. The *Banner* observed that for almost that price one could purchase a prime bull and start a herd.

THE LOCAL SITUATION

The mayor and city council remind all citizens that a 7:30 p.m. curfew remains in effect for all servants. Ladies must have passes to travel downtown. Men of military age must produce deferments on request.

There is currently no available hotel in Chattanooga. The Crutchfield House is now Ford Hospital. Anyone traveling to our city must plan on bringing their own bedding and make arrangements for their own lodging. The women of the Methodist Church have worked hard to provide all wounded soldiers with blankets and a cot. Most merchants and shops in the city are closed temporarily. There is no coffee to be purchased for the time being.

General Joseph E. Johnston left the city yesterday with a detachment of 3,000 men for Mississippi. It is speculated that this is designed to keep Rosecrans from linking up with Grant at Vicksburg.

General Bragg's forces remain spread throughout the area south of Murfreesboro. Conditions of the roads and mountain passes make any troops movements by either army as problematical. Cavalry commanded by Forrest, Wheeler, and Morgan continue to attack the N. & C. R.R. out of Nashville.

CART BEFORE THE HORSE

Mr. Alonzo Gittalong, who lives north of the river, came into town on his wagon Friday last, to conduct business. According to Mr. Gittalong and those acquainted well with him, his horse, Mister Jeff, is quite stubborn. It seems that while Mr. Gittalong was at Sawyer's Mercantile, Mister Jeff managed to become untied from the hitching post, and stubborn equine that he is, also managed to slip his harness. At this point, the stories from those who witnessed events that proceeded become a bit mixed up and confusing.

It seems that Mister Jeff, while not opposed to pulling wagons in general, somehow has developed a grudge against this particular wagon for reasons that only he understands. Whatever his motivations, Mister Jeff calmly and deliberately walked

behind the wagon in question and began to push it. Some said with his front shoulders, while others were certain it was with his head. He pushed first to the left, then to the right, gradually moving the wagon forward a few inches at a time.

Mr. Gittalong, in the mercantile, suddenly began hearing a rhythmic bumping sound, and after concluding his business inside, walked out the door to see the wagon now being pushed repeatedly into the hitching post while Mister Jeff was behind, pushing it in a most determined and vigorous manner. Mister Jeff thereupon repeatedly refused to get back into harness to pull the wagon. Mr. Gittalong was forced to leave the horse at Brown's Livery Stable and borrow a horse to ride back home. After riding the borrowed horse back to the livery, he saddled Mister Jeff, who was perfectly content to carry his owner back home.

This is the first time we have ever reported on putting the cart before the horse.

DISSOLUTION

The firm of Quincy and Robinson of Memphis is this day dissolved by mutual consent. All persons with claims against said firm must present the same to Mr. W.F. Quincy, who is alone authorized to pay, and all persons who are indebted to said firm will make immediate payment to the said Quincy, who has been authorized to settle said firm's business. Signed W.F. Quincy, J.J. Robinson, general partners, H.C. Claghorn, agent. Effective March 18, 1863.

The honorable Mr. Robert Barnwell Rhett in a speech in Congress went on record to say that from now on, Jefferson Davis and imbecility are interchangeable terms.

The Congressional representatives from Alabama are advising their constituents to plant only food crops. The Gazette recommends the same to its readers.

The weather has been singularly freakish the last few days. Chill winds, blasts of snow and hail, with gusts of rain. The prospects for early fruit are not good.

Colonel Thomas M. Alston, for some time connected to the Memphis Appeal, was in the city yesterday. We are pleased to report that he has been appointed the Army News Agent for the Army of Tennessee.

My wife, Lucretia T. McGonagall, having left my bed and board, I will not be responsible for any

debts incurred by her. Eustace McGonagall, March 21st, 1863.

TAKEN UP AND JAILED: Morton Sault, for public intoxication on March 30th, to appear before Judge Lindahl April 21, 9:00 a.m.

TAKEN UP AND JAILED: Miss Lila Ann Tessmacher, for asking gentlemen a direct question and inciting a riot on March 30th, to appear before Judge Lindahl April 22nd, 9:15 a.m.

TAKEN UP AND JAILED: Wallace Ragwort, for displaying a Federal flag March 30th, to appear before Judge Lindahl April 22nd, 9:30 a.m.

TO THE EDITOR: I believe I have found the key to victory for the Confederacy. All we Southerners have to do is get a very large quantity of Jimson weed, either seed or foliage, and see that it is mixed into the fodder for the Yankee armies' horses and mules. They will behave most unpredictably, thereby denying the Federals movement of artillery, cavalry, or supply wagons. The Federal armies will be stuck wherever they are, and be easy marks for the Confederate troops to outflank them and force their surrender.

Most truly, Festus J. Cornpone

The Chattanooga Gazette
428 Market Street

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WANTED

Dept. of East Tenn., Office Ast. Q.M., Knoxville,
April 23, 1863:

50 shoemakers to work in Govm't Factory, this post. None but No. 1 workmen need apply. The applications of enlisted men in this dept. accompanied by the approval of their commanding officers will receive due attention.

Louis Aigle, Assistant Quartermaster General

G.A.Wood

Attorney and Counselor
at Law

Chattanooga, Tenn.

Practice in Civilian and Military
Courts of Law