



2021

The Bugle Call for March



The official publication of the
Northwest Civil War Council
John Hartman Editor

On the Cover: A beautiful stretch of bayou leading to Arkansas Post, Arkansas. On January 9, 1863, U.S. Maj. Gen. John McClelland, without orders from Grant, launched a 48-hour battle with three of Admiral David D. Porter's gunboats, McClelland's own corps, and that of Maj. Gen. William T. Sherman, surrounding Fort Hindman, manned by 5,000 Confederates commanded by Brig. Gen. Thomas Churchill. By 4:40 p.m. on January 11 white flags went up on Fort Hindman's ramparts, and McClelland got a victory. Because he won, Grant couldn't really do anything about the violation of orders, and the Confederacy lost one quarter of its troops in Arkansas.

In This Issue: The Chairman's Column, the Confederate Column, the No-Frills Editorial, the Board Meeting Summary, a Chicken, Letters to Home, a Federal Prank, a Stovepipe, the Book Review, and other cool stuff.

The Chairman's Column

By Don Benson
Is On Vacation

The Confederate Column

By Jim Stanovich
Is On Vacation

The No-Frills Editorial

What Happened to February?

Nothing happened to February. The Bugle Call just changed the issue date because it made more sense. When subscribers to monthly print periodicals get a new issue, the date usually reflects the closest month, which is often just about to arrive. After the December 2019 issue was sent, your ol' editor regretted not labeling it as a January publication, and that was gnawing on me ever since. So, since February is a short month anyway, I decided to eliminate it to "get caught up."

Good Intentions go Astray Dept.

I fully intended to get my 2021 membership paid up right after January's board meeting, but one

thing led to another, and it didn't get put in the mail until February 3rd. With the way things are this year, it's not what could be called a Court Martial offense, but punctuality is usually something to be observed. Which reminds me: see the next topic!

Membership 2021

Membership Diva Sharon Stanovich wishes to remind everyone that it is time to renew your membership for 2021. Membership fees remain unchanged for 2021: \$25 for individual membership, and \$50 for a family membership. Renewing your membership is as easy as using the online payment on the NCWC's webpage. Don't delay, do it today!

2021 DATES

Metolius- May 15 & 16

Oakland- June 12-13

Powerland- July 2-4

Clatsop- Sept. 3-5

Colton- Sept. 18-19

Albany Veterans Day Parade

These events are pending no Covid restrictions.

Board Meeting Summary

The NCWC monthly board meeting was held Thursday, February 18th, via Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 7:08. The minutes of the previous meeting were adopted as presented. Treasurer's Report: the treasurer was absent, but Chair Don Benson reported that we received a check for \$375 from Facebook for a recent fundraising activity.

Event Planning: The House on Metolius will be contacted in March. Don Benson, who is event coordinator for Colton, has not been able to contact the BLM this week, due probably to weather issues.

WCWA has posted their event dates on the webpage, and have posted ours as well. It was suggested that we post their dates, as well.

Equine Report: One training session was held last month, with at least nine horses.

Rules Committee: Donny Cameron reported that Scott Ingalls had contacted the lawyer who had helped NCWC in the past, and the lawyer said that waiving dues fees for active military is not allowed. It is allowed in the By-Laws as long ago as a 1993 copy.

Membership: no report due to absent chair.

Public Relations: Annabelle Larsen will begin transferring information to our public page.

Ashley Wendell reported that the information on the Facebook page has been straightened out.

Civilian Advocate: nothing to report.

Union Battalion: nothing to report.

Confederate Battalion: no report, chair absent.

Artillery: nothing to report.

Old Business: there was no old business.

New Business: there was no new business to come before the board, but Chair Don Benson reported that we got the 2021 insurance bill for \$2,356.76. Some of that will be returned if there are no reenactments.

The next meeting will be March 18th, either via Zoom or at the Country Kitchen in Woodburn.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25.

The Bugle Call is usually sent out on the 25th of each month. Sometimes it is sent sooner, sometimes later, depending on important information. Our NCWC webpage now has a functioning subscription icon for pards who wish to subscribe to The Bugle Call, and we welcome seven new subscribers! Spread the word!

Civil War-reenacting rooster lost and found at Alabama Cracker Barrel

By Ben Hooper, UPI

Feb. 12 (UPI) -- A rooster that participates in Civil War reenactments was reunited with his owner after going missing in the parking lot of a Cracker Barrel restaurant in Alabama.

Thomas Ramsey, 18, founder of the Muddy Rabbits Mess military reenactment group, said he started bringing his pet rooster, Peep, along on Civil War reenactments after learning about soldiers who kept similar pets on the front lines. Ramsey said he and his group, including Peep, were on their way back to Mississippi after a

reenactment event in Springhill, Tenn., when they stopped at the Cracker Barrel in Cullman.

He said Peep was tied up in the bed of his pickup truck, but a friend went out to check on the vehicle after about an hour and discovered Peep was gone.



A rooster named Peep was reunited with owner Thomas Ramsey after the bird, which participates in Civil War reenactments, wandered off from the parking lot of a Cracker Barrel restaurant. [Photo by scan5353/Pixabay.com](https://www.pexels.com/photo/rooster-5353/)

"I went back into the Cracker Barrel and it was very hard for me to say this with a straight face, even though I was panicking: 'Do you have cameras in the parking lot? I think someone stole my chicken,'" Ramsey recalled The Cullman Times.

A fellow diner overheard the question and told Ramsey that Peep had been spotted wandering loose in the parking lot. Ramsey, his friends and Cullman Animal Control Officer Cooper Harris searched the area for Peep, but eventually the group had to get back on the road to Mississippi. Ramsey posted in multiple Facebook groups about his missing pet, and when he was nearly back in Mississippi he learned Peep had returned to the Cracker Barrel parking lot and was safely captured.

John Watson, a local farmer who had followed the search on Facebook, volunteered to drive Peep to Birmingham, where the chicken and owner were reunited.

"I believe in paying it forward," Watson said.

"God has blessed my family so much throughout the years, I believe we should be kind to our fellow man. Yes, it was 'just a chicken,' but it was his and he clearly cared for it."

Letters to Home

Two letters from February 1862 are included in this issue. The first is a Confederate letter from the 21st Virginia. The second, written later in the month comes from a soldier in the 72nd New York. His spelling is about the worst I have found to date, and a correction has been included.

Pvt. William T. Cole
Winchester Virginia
February 8th, 1862

Dear sister I seat myself two write you a few lines to inform you that I am well at this time and I hope when this comes to hand it may find you enjoying the same great blessing. I received your letter of the 26th and it stated that you had not received a letter from me since before Christmas. I have wrote 4 letters and started them since then. If you never got them things that Ned has got, if he don't bring them back I will run the law on him. I heard that he was gone off in a volunteer company but I don't know whether it is so or not. Tell Jo to get them things or burn them up and not let Ned and the Andrewses enjoy them. Tell Charles I will write to him as soon as I get time. Tell Charles to help Jo to get them things back as Ned and the Andrewses are such men. Tell mother she must try and make out the best she can. I will be there before long if nothing don't happen. I got a letter from Jim the other day and he was well. I want you to tell the Andrewses that I don't want them to get on a horse of mine if you haven't got no use for the horse get Mr. Evans or Mr. Drumright to take him and keep him until I come, but if you have any use for him keep him. I must bring my letter to a close. Write soon. From your affectionate brother W. T. Cole

Pvt. James Anderson
72nd New York Infantry
Camp Wool Md,
Feb 20, 1862
Dear Sister

I now take the opetunity to write a few lines to you hoping to find you well as leaves me at

present. We air under marching orders
knapsacks packed, 40 rouns of eatey 60 caps
shoes 2 par dros 2 shirts
2 pants 2 socks 2 jackets 1 blous 1 overcoat1
blankets 2 and all other
equipments that is reanited for to go into the
field. We sleep on our armes not noing the minet
that we will be called on. We are the
weekest any plase on the lines There has 4
wagens gon to load with aminition for this regt. I
had a leter from Charley Bucklin but havent
had none from ? yet. The quarter master is
sending all extry bagage to washing (note:
Washington) The battl is fast roling for the union
victory air grate but expenses air grate. I have
throne one ruber blanket and one wolen blanket
1 pants good and meny other things.
Good by
Direct your leter the same as before
Right soon
James Anderson

The Black Terror: also known as the \$8.63 gunboat

Copyright 2014 by John Hartman

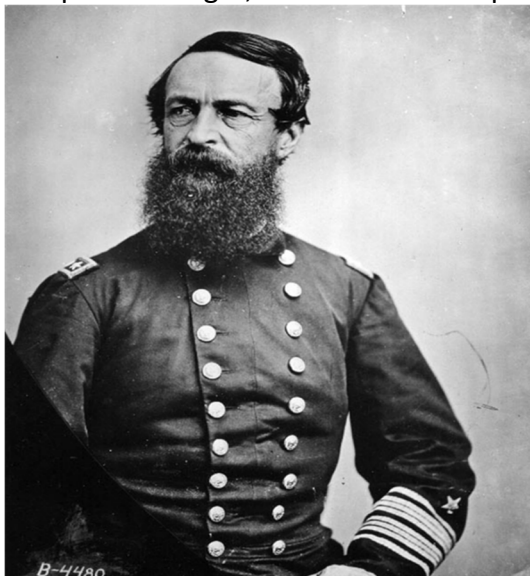
It is February 1863. Ulysses S. Grant is trying to capture Vicksburg with the assistance of the United States Navy and Rear Admiral David Porter. With its high eastern bluffs guarding the Mississippi River, and a couple of hundred cannons and guns of various calibers, Vicksburg is a dangerous point for Federal vessels either to engage in combat, or to run past. Not only is Vicksburg a tough nut to crack, but the Confederates also have a small squadron of gunboats: twenty small converted civilian craft often covered with a mixed shell of tough oak planks, layers of ¼" iron or steel, and cotton bales. The "cottonclads" patrolled between the Red River and Vicksburg, making life interesting for the Federal Army and Navy.

On February 16, *USS Indianola* steamed down the Mississippi, captured steamer *Era No. 5*, which had run aground while under heavy fire from Confederate shore batteries at Gorton's Landing in the Red River. Late that afternoon lookouts in *Indianola* spotted Confederate steamer *CSS Webb* at Ellis Cliffs. She promptly

cleared for action and steamed ahead full speed, firing at the Southern ship, which proved to be barely out of range. *Webb* turned about and dashed downstream and out of sight around a bend in the river. A heavy fog set in, compelling *Indianola* to give up the chase and anchor for the night.

Early the next afternoon the fog cleared, enabling *Indianola* to proceed to the mouth of the Red River, where she maintained a strict blockade until February 21st, when she began steaming upstream. Her progress was slowed by two coal barges which she towed so that she might furnish fuel to any ships sent to reinforce her from above Vicksburg. On the evening of February 24th, the Confederate ram *Webb* and *Queen of the West*, recently captured from the Federals and now Confederate-manned, overtook *Indianola* and attacked from each side, ramming her seven times before the ironclad, "in an almost powerless condition," ran her bow on the west bank of the river and surrendered.

At dawn, the *Queen of the West* continued up to Warrenton, just south of Vicksburg. There, she landed and drew supplies. She also drew the attention of Rear Admiral Porter, who was already enraged that the *Queen* had been lost. Finding her under Rebel colors did nothing to help his mood. What this meant, he quickly deduced. If the *Queen* was directly across the river from the Federal landings, that could only mean that the *Indianola* had been destroyed or captured. The previous night, he had heard the pounding of

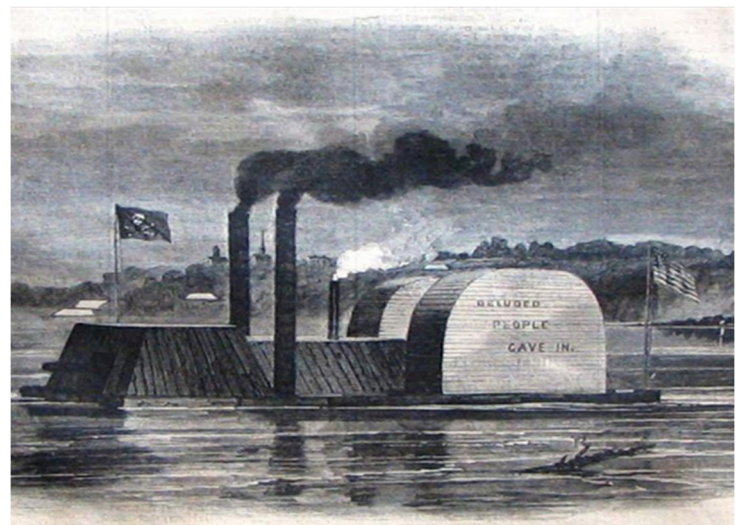


Rear Admiral David Dixon Porter artillery in the distance and figured it must be so. Hoping to buy time, salvage the vessel, and/or win some small victory, Porter devised a scheme to fashion a sort of naval Quaker gun. He and his crew found an empty scow and built up a top for it with barrels and mud. Employing logs, he lengthened it to 300 feet, while other workers built a "casemate," complete with a huge, blackened log that would serve as false artillery. A wheelhouse was made, as were two chimneys. They even placed burning tar within them to simulate smoke.

When the hulk was complete, they coated it in black tar, christened it the *Black Terror* and inscribed it with the motto: "Deluded People, Cave In!" It was a horribly ugly and utterly beautiful piece of work. They waited until nightfall when her true nature could not be ascertained. Using a tugboat, she was hauled to a point just above Vicksburg and cast loose.

Spying her almost immediately, the Rebel gunners opened with a fury upon the *Black Terror*. Round after round did little but expose their true position to the watching Federals, meticulously noting each blast of the Confederate artillery. But the night was with darkness as well as shells, and all but one missed its mark.

The Vicksburg telegraphs lit up with chatter. There was a new Union gunboat, and she was huge! The *Queen of the West* was only 180 feet long, so in the darkness of night, the *Terror* must have seemed twice that.



The Black Terror, all \$8.63 of her.

The *Black Terror* grounded herself just out of range of the Rebel guns. Luckily, she stopped on the western shore near a gathering of some of General Sherman's infantry. In the morning, a squad was sent out to investigate.

From the *Official Records*:

YOUNG'S POINT, La., February 25, 1863-6 a. m.

P. B. STANBERRY,

Lieutenant and Actg. Asst. Adjt. General, 3rd Brigade, 2nd Div., 15th A. C.:

SIR: I have the honor to report that the firing from the rebel batteries near the city, at 12 p.m., was occasioned by a boat which is now lying below the mouth of canal, and proves to be a flat-boat rigged up to represent a gunboat. She has a square turret forward, with a mock cannon projecting toward the bow from within. Smoke-stacks made of flour barrels; wheel-house, &c., covered all over with a thick coat of tar. Has a hole just above the water-line at the bow, from a shot. Nothing else of interest.

Very respectfully, yours,

S. HASSLER,

Second Lieutenant Thirty-seventh Ohio Volunteer Infantry

Meanwhile, the news of the capture of the U.S.S. *Indianola* spread rapidly upriver to Vicksburg. Lieutenant General John C. Pemberton hurried to send word to the Confederate capital in Richmond, Virginia. Again, from *The Official Records*:

Report of Lieutenant General J. C. Pemberton, C. S. Army, commanding Department of Mississippi and Eastern Louisiana. Vicksburg, February 25, 1863.

Expedition, fitted up in Red River and Port Hudson, captured ironclad gunboat *Indianola* at 11 o'clock last night; is now sunk in the Mississippi; shows bow and upper works out near Mr. Joe Davis' plantation; armament, two 11-inch forward, two 9-inch aft. Lieutenant Brown, U. S. Navy, commanding, with his officers and men, captured; will do everything possible to raise and get her afloat immediately. There will probably be

an attempt by other ironclads to run down past our batteries to-night. Major J. L. Brent, of General Taylor's forces, commanded the expedition.

J. C. PEMBERTON,

Lieutenant-General, Commanding.

GENERAL S. COOPER,

Adjutant and Inspector General

From across the river came congratulations from Major General Richard Taylor, commander of the Confederate District of Western Louisiana.

Reports of Major General Richard Taylor (below), C. S. Army, commanding District of Western Louisiana, with congratulatory orders. Vicksburg, February 25, 1863. From the *O.R.*:

I have the honor to report, after a severe and hot engagement, the capture of the Federal iron-clad steamer *Indianola*, Lieutenant-Commander Brown, U. S. Navy, together with all her officers and crew, by the Confederate States steamers *Queen of the West* and *Webb*, forming an expedition sent out by me for that purpose, under the command of Major [J. L.] Brent. The prize is a good deal damaged.

R. TAYLOR,

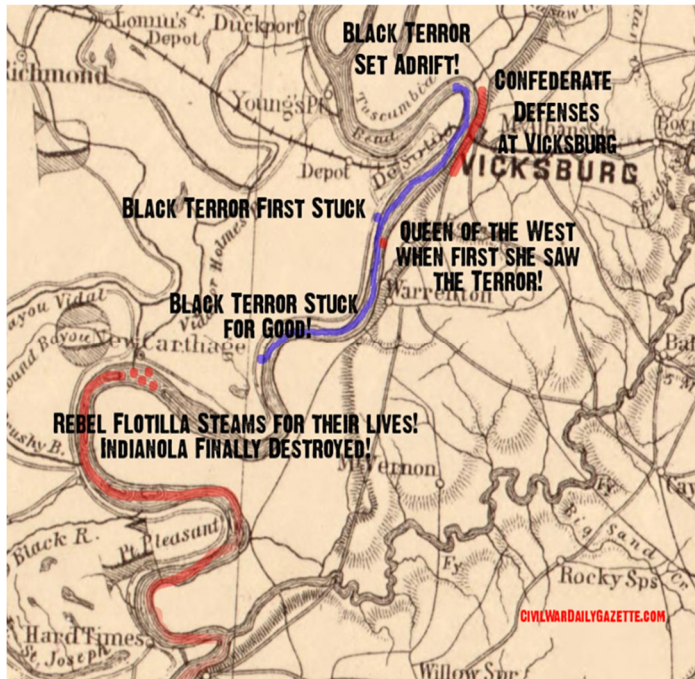
Major-General, Commanding.

General S. COOPER

Shortly after Lieutenant Hassler reported on the *Black Terror*'s presence, Union soldiers pushed her off the sand bar where she had run aground and the phony ironclad continued drifting downstream towards the Confederates working to salvage the wreck of the U.S.S. *Indianola*.

From there, the *Terror* floated with the current until she was spotted by the *Queen of the West*, which was engaged in a bit of scouting upriver from Warrenton. Both the *Queen* and her counterpart, the CSS *Webb* had been greatly damaged in the previous day's fighting with the *Indianola*. There was no way that either or both together could take on such a massive foe. The *Queen* turned at once, steaming downriver towards the *Webb*. As word filtered down to the rest of the fleet, still at the site of the half-sunken *Indianola*, confusion and panic held the night.

As the CSS *Grand Era* tried to escape, her port end was clipped by the racing *Queen*. With no time to lose, lest they all be sunk by this new Federal leviathan, the *Grand Era* dumped seventy bales of cotton overboard.



Map from CivilWarDailyGazette.com

Orders from Vicksburg were clear. The new Federal monster was here to save the *Indianola*, and the captured ironclad must be destroyed lest she fall back into Federal hands! Her new crew wanted, instead, to make her a water battery and fight to the finish. They had lugged two pieces of field artillery upon her nearly submerged decks and were awaiting orders to fire. The *Black Terror* floated to within two and a half miles of this ruckus before becoming stuck again. To the Rebels, however, she was merely lurking and hovering – waiting for the right time to strike. This was all too much, even for the *Indianola's* new and daring crew. There was genuine panic in the program. The crew set off the ship's magazines to prevent her recapture and beat a hasty retreat. After Vicksburg fell, and following a long and difficult struggle, *Indianola* was refloated January 5, 1865 and towed to Mound City, Illinois, where she was sold.

Oddly, there were no more reports of the continued voyage of the *Black Terror*. Most probably, after word got around that she was merely a fake, she was salvaged for firewood.

Regardless, the United States Navy got a big return on its \$8.63 investment.

How Stovepipe Johnson Got His Name

copyright 2015 by John Hartman

The Newburgh Raid was an incident that occurred on July 18, 1862. In it, Confederate Colonel Adam R. Johnson captured the town of Newburgh, Indiana using a force of only 35 men, mostly partisans he had recruited from nearby Henderson, Kentucky.

Prior to the raid, Johnson served as a scout for Nathan Bedford Forrest. Johnson was ordered by Forrest to go to Henderson, Kentucky, to give a secret message to Mr. D. R. Burbank, a former employer of Johnson's. Just before launching the raid, Johnson's partisans camped at the Soaper Farm in Henderson. With 35 men by Johnson's later count (other counts say 32), Johnson formed a group of partisan rangers that would engage in guerrilla warfare.



Newburgh, Indiana is near the Kentucky border.

They crossed the Ohio River on July 18, with Johnson and two subordinates, Felix Akin and Frank A. Owen, sharing one boat and the rest of the force crossing via a flatboat. Prior to

crossing, Johnson strategically placed two "Quaker Guns," actually made of stovepipes, charred logs, and the axles and wheels from a broken wagon, on hills that had a view of Newburgh, and vice versa. Johnson was unable to find enough firearms for all of his force, but was able to acquire enough horses for each man to receive a mount. Johnson allowed each of his men to decline to join him on the raid, but to a man they all wanted to accompany him. The only defenders available for Newburgh were eighty soldiers convalescing at a makeshift hospital that was the Exchange Hotel (still standing in 2010), under the care and command of one Capt. Union Bethell, a Union medical officer. This hospital was itself a tempting prize for Johnson, as it had medical supplies, commissary items, and arms for 200 soldiers that were meant for two future companies of the Indiana Legion; all of which Johnson's forces needed. Fifteen miles away, five companies of the Indiana Legion were being raised, but would not be available to defend Newburgh until after the Confederates withdrew.

Johnson had crossed the Ohio River in a direct manner. The first stop for his men was the Bethel warehouse, a tobacco warehouse that also held 75 loose sabers and 130 pistol&holster sets. Now armed, his men went to the Exchange Hotel. When Johnson opened the door, he was immediately aimed at by Union rifles, but quickly informed the Union soldiers (using a play from Bedford Forrest's book of tactics) that they were surrounded and had no hope for success. The Union major in charge of the convalescing troops had told them not to resist, allowing Johnson a swift victory. Meanwhile, some of Johnson's men had captured Capt. Bethell. Johnson lent Bethel a spyglass to view the "cannons". Johnson said to Bethell he would "shell this town to the ground" if resistance was made. This caused Bethell to tell his men to offer no resistance. After securing the items he desired, Johnson paroled the captured Union officers and soldiers, and returned to the Kentucky soil. Newburgh had become the first town in a Northern state to be captured.



Col. Adam "Stovepipe" Johnson

As a result of this raid, the governor of Indiana, Oliver P. Morton, was able to receive additional firearms and soldiers to defend Indiana from further incursions. Two Newburgh residents who had openly helped the Confederates were killed by a mob, an additional six residents were imprisoned in Indianapolis, four others left the town for good, and another went free after two hung juries. Historian and former Union officer Edmund L. Starling said of the raid: "*Johnson performed perhaps the most reckless, and yet most successful, military masterstroke achieved by any commander of high or low authority, in either army during the war.*" After the raid, Braxton Bragg (I.) had Johnson promoted to colonel. Johnson would forever be nicknamed "Stovepipe" for his success in this raid. Every year, the event is commemorated by the reenactors of Cobb's Key Battery at Henderson's Sunset Park.

Johnson recounted the events many times, and eventually published the account in his memoir, *Partisan Rangers of the Confederacy*. Filled with enthusiasm, southern chivalry, and name-dropping—although often sparse on corroboration—his memoir has assured that many commentators place the Newburgh raid in the context of Confederate movements in

Kentucky in the summer of 1862. If it had no other effect, the Newburgh affair enabled Johnson to raise and arm a number of youthful recruits for what became his 10th Kentucky cavalry (CSA).

In 1863, Johnson assumed command of a brigade in the cavalry division of Brig. Gen. John Hunt Morgan. He reluctantly participated in Morgan's Raid, though Morgan was only supposed to raid on the Kentucky side of the river. Following the Confederate disaster at the Battle of Buffington Island, Johnson led nearly 350 of his men across the rain-swollen Ohio River to safety. The remainder of Morgan's division was trapped on the Ohio side of the river and eventually forced to surrender.

Johnson was appointed brigadier general on September 6, 1864, to rank from June 1, 1864, though his appointment was never confirmed by the Confederate Congress. On August 21, 1864, he was blinded by an accidental shot from one of his own men during a skirmish at Grubb's Crossroads, near Princeton, Kentucky. Left behind because of his injuries, he was captured by the Federals and was a prisoner for much of the remainder of the war in Fort Warren. He was exchanged near the war's end, and despite his blindness attempted to return to active duty. However, the final surrender put a stop to that.

Stovepipe Johnson returned to Texas after being exchanged and paroled in 1865. Although blind, he founded a town, established a company, and worked to harness the waterpower of the Colorado River. One of his sons was Rankin Johnson Sr., a former Major League pitcher for the Boston Red Sox and St. Louis Cardinals.

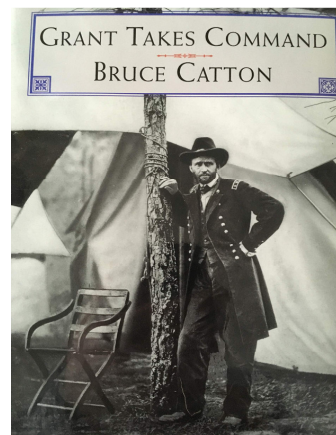
He died in Burnet, Texas in 1922 at the age of 88, and is interred at the Texas State Cemetery in Austin, Texas. He rests beside his wife Josephine and near his grandson, Judge George Christian Sr., and a great-grandson, former White House Press Secretary for Lyndon Johnson, George Christian Jr.

Book Review: Grant Takes Command by Bruce Catton, 1969, 556 pgs., maps, notes, bibliography, index.

Bruce Catton's books about the Civil War have become classics since he began with the Army of the Potomac trilogy in the 1950s, which earned him a Pulitzer Prize for non-fiction. *Grant Takes Command* deals with the Chattanooga Campaign, his appointment as lieutenant general, the Overland Campaign and the ensuing siege of Petersburg, leading to Lee's surrender at Appomattox Court House.

Catton was not a historian, but a journalist. As a boy, Catton first heard the reminiscences of the aged veterans who had fought in the Civil War. He wrote in a style appropriate for somebody born in 1899, and favored the word "especial," over special. He tended to use long sentences structured much like those found in the writings of the Apostle Paul, but that's not a criticism, merely an observation.

I picked up *Grant Takes Command* years ago in a 1994 Book of the Month Club edition for a mere five bucks, and it sat on a shelf in our study until a few weeks ago, when I cracked it open.



Catton carefully documented the political pressures placed on the Army of the Potomac since its formation, and the political infighting that went on between the officers in its command structure. Grant had come from the Western Theater where that kind of behavior simply didn't exist, but he quickly learned the political side of the war as early as the Vicksburg Campaign. By the siege of Petersburg, he had figured out how to deal with Maj. Gen. Henry Halleck, the Army's Chief of Staff, and how to get around the more subtle machinations of Secretary of War Stanton.

Catton earned high marks from this reader for his clear explanations of the Battle of the

Wilderness, Spotsylvania Court House, and the North Anna fighting. I should not have been surprised since Pulitzer Prizes are not given to poor writers. My only criticism, and this is minor, is that the maps, drawn well by Samuel H. Bryant, tend to show up a bit later than I prefer.

Grant Takes Command has become a classic for a reason. Do not hesitate to add it to your own bookshelf.

The Chattanooga Gazette

James Rogers Editor

John Hartman Correspondent

February 20, 1863

THE CURRENT SITUATION

Since the battle near Murfreesboro which ended New Year's Day, the two armies have settled into winter quarters. The Federals are encamped around and in the town of Murfreesboro. The Army of Tennessee is divided south of there, in the Duck River Valley.

Confederate cavalry is on the flanks and northern line of the army to prevent any mischief from unwanted neighbors to the immediate north.

In Virginia Lee's troops are encamped south of the Rapidan near Fredericksburg. The Federals, now commanded by Joe Hooker, are north of the river.

In Mississippi the Federals, commanded by Grant, are trying to figure out a way to capture Vicksburg. They are having no luck. Confederate artillery around the city has proven to be a strong deterrent to the Yankees.

In Charleston General Beauregard has established batteries and emplacements which have made the harbor impervious to unwanted ships, and a fatal moorage to any foolish enough to enter.

COPPERHEADISM

MR. CLEMENT VALLANDIGHAM, member of Congress from Ohio, made a speech last week in which he avowed himself a "Copperhead." Certain editors nearer home have likewise rejoiced in the title.

THE FRENCH PROPOSAL TO ARBITRATE FROM WASHINGTON CITY: The President sent into the Senate last week a letter from M. Drouyn de l'Huys proposing to confer with the South with a view to peace.

"If the Cabinet of Washington," says he, "believes that it ought to repel any foreign intervention, could it not honorably accept the idea of direct informal

conferences with the authority which may represent the States of the South?" The opening of informal conferences between the belligerent parties does not necessarily imply the immediate cessation of hostilities. Representatives or Commissioners of the two parties could assemble at such point as it should be deemed proper to designate, and which could, for this purpose, be declared neutral."

THE "ALABAMA" AT KINGSTON, JAMAICA The Alabama arrived at Kingston, Jamaica, on 23d January. Captain Semmes was received by the merchants and citizens of Kingston in the Commercial Exchange on the 25th ult., after his arrival there, and was met with distinguished honor by our "neutral" British friends, who welcomed him and his vessel with twice three vociferous cheers. The crew of the Hatteras, who were landed by the Alabama, are to be sent home on board the American ship Borodino, chartered by the American Vice-Consul for that purpose.

CANNONEER BLOWN TO SKY COUNTTO, TENN. - In an engagement between elements of Cheatham's Corps and Federals from Rosecrans army a cannoneer from the 4th U.S. Artillery was captured after being found unconscious and hanging in a tree on February 18th instant.

Corporal Napoleon Bonaparte Jones was the sole survivor of his gun crew, and apparently had been blown into the tree when a shell from Cheatham's artillery struck his gun. Jones was delirious for a quarter-hour, and had all his clothes but his faded red long johns blown away by the force of the explosion.

Amazed Confederate soldiers who captured him and gently lowered him to earth have begun referring to him as "Napoleon Blown Apart."

QUEEN OF THE WEST RUNS BLOCKADE FROM NEW YORK WORLD: MISSISSIPPI RIVER, NEAR VICKSBURG, Feb. 2, 1863.

A very exciting scene was witnessed here this morning. The Union ram Queen of the West, Captain E. W. Sutherland, ran the blockade of the rebel batteries at Vicksburg. Colonel Charles P. Ellet, commander of the ram fleet, was on board of her, and directed all her movements. The event has created great excitement in this vicinity. When the rebels saw the ram run into the rebel steamer, near the city, and then pass down the river uninjured, they were not less astonished than chagrined, because it was believed, by them at least, that no Union steamboat could safely pass their formidable batteries.

GENERAL WHAPDOODLE CAPTURED We are sad to learn that Brigadier General Spaulding Whapdoodle, also state senator from Greene County, was captured on the 10th inst. while reconnoitering too close to the Federal lines near

his home in Greene County. He was captured while hiding in the privy on his own estate. He has since been sent to Camp Douglas, near Chicago.

TELEGRAPH INTERRUPTED

The telegraph lines between here and Macon, (Ga) have been cut for the last two days. Consequently, we have received no dispatches from that route. The lines between here and Knoxville, and from here to the front, are operating well.

ONE OF the Yankee prisoners taken to Shelbyville the other days was a Capt. Word, of that city. The other Yankee prisoners could not write to their friends in Bedford County, but were thoughtful enough to "send Word back."

Would Colonel Thomas Rogers, 1st CSA Cavalry, please send his address to the Gazette office.

MILITARY BLANKS

For sale at this office, such as *Monthly Company Returns, Clothing Returns, Ordnance Returns, Provision Returns, Special Requisitions, etc., etc.*

SAWYERS MERCANTILE

Has just received 100 boxes of Palm Soap, 20 cases of peaches, 10 chests of tea, 25 bags of Rio coffee, star candles in whole or quarter box, 10 cases baking soda, 100 gallons of coal oil, socks, gloves, needles, pins and stationary by the box. The river is up 7 feet at the shoals. Captains must have provost passes.

The *Abbeville Banner* reports that General Kirby Smith has transferred from this department to Fala, LA.

THE CHATTANOOGA GAZETTE

428 Market Street

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION

One Year, in advance	\$14.00
Half Year.....	\$7.00
Three Months.....	\$3.50
One Month... ..	\$1.25
Per Week.....	0.35
Single Copies.....	0.05

Regiments firing on the correspondent will be charged double.

Rates of Advertising

Pmt. in Adv. Specie Preferred

Qtr. Col. 1 Month	\$30.00
Qtr. Col. 2 Months	\$35.00
Qtr. Col. 3 Months	\$40.00
Half Col. 1 Month	\$50.00
Half Col. 2 Months	\$55.00
Half Col. 3 Months	\$60.00
One Col. 1 Month	\$85.00
One Col. 2 Months	\$80.00
One Col. 3 Months.....	\$75.00

At the Chattanooga Theater

Feb. 20: Miss Pauline Cushman, the fine soprano and stage performer.

Feb. 21-23: 35th Infantry Brass Band performing patriotic airs, duty permitting.

Feb. 24-25: The play *"The Soldier's Bride"* with Theo. Allen as Jasper Plum, Toby Allen as Jimmy Plum, the vivacious Laura Allen as Miss April May, and Cyrus McVirus as The Preacher.

Taken Up and Jailed Feb. 18: Otto Mattick, for public intoxication. To appear before Judge Lindahl 9:00 a.m. Feb. 21

Taken Up and Jailed Feb. 18: Bill O'Fare, for cheating at cards in a friendly game. To appear before Judge Lindahl 9:45 on Feb. 21.

E. & J. Northman

22 Market Street

Have Just Received From Eastern Markets

A Most Desirable Assortment of

Ladies Mourning Goods

Bombazines, English and French Merinos, English and French Crape, Silks, Alpacas

E. FIELDS & H. ANGOVE

PRACTICAL OPTICIANS

Spheroidal Spectacles and Artificial Eyes

Superior Field and Maritime Glasses

No. 8 River Street, Chattanooga

ROBERT THOMPSON

of Thompson, Roberts & Co.

Wholesale Dealer in

Groceries, Confectionaries

Wines and Spirits

Cigars and

Fine Tobacco

24 Market St.

Nashville, Tenn.

When asked his ambitions, a wit replied, "to marry a rich, older woman with a bad cough."

MISS GRETA'S

Purple Reticule

Entertainment and Hospitality

For Gentlemen

By the Hour or By the Evening

255 Second Street, Louisville

Next to the Galt House

When in Savannah Go To

Le Purple Reticule

16 Bull Street

Drugs & Medicines

at the old, established firm of

Kennedy & McCorkle

121 Market Street, Chattanooga

Just Two Doors North of

Central House

The Crutchfield House

NEWS DEPOT

Where will be Kept Constantly on Hand

the Latest Reading Matter

of the First Order

Ink, Pencils, Stationary, Magazines,

Song Books, Pocket Diaries,

Comic Monthlies, Novels, Novellas

Daily and Weekly Papers

OFFICERS RETREAT

210 Cherry Street

First door north of the theater. Officers

are respectfully invited to reserve my
establishment

for meals by the week, day, or individual
need.

Terms negotiable. Mrs. Fiske

MCDANIEL & FARBY

LYNCHBURG, VIRGINIA

Commission Merchants and agents

for the sale of New Orleans Sugar

and Molasses invite your attention to the

cheapest freight rates for shipping of

merchandise by rail.

MILITARY GOODS

Scott, Davidson, & Co.

successors to

Scott, Kean, & Co.

MILITARY CLOTHIERS

Will Keep Constantly On Hand at

Headquarters

Staff and Line Officers

Trousers Blouses &

Great Coats

of the finest gray wool

material available

for the

Regiments of

The Confederacy

Swords and Boots

Available as Stocked

THE TRUSTED FIRM

of

Hamilton, Jophranc, and

Reynolds

is ready to meet all your

INVESTMENT AND

FINANCIAL

NEEDS

Dealers of Confederate War

Bonds

Land Trust Deeds

British and French Stocks and

Bonds

London Gold Futures

610 Broad St. Chattanooga

and

212 Garnett St. Atlanta