



DRUM AND BUGLE CALL

MAHONING VALLEY CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

DATE: Monday, May 8, 2017 @ 6:30 P.M.
LOCATION: Antone's, 8578 Market Street, Boardman, Ohio
SPEAKER: **Daniel Davis, Emerging Civil War Contributor**
Upton's Assault at Spotsylvania

Gordy Morgan, Editor
Dave Duchek, Publisher
Hugh Earnhart, Reservations
www.mahoningvalleycwrt.com

"As the sun began to sink in the western sky on May 10, 1864," says tonight's speaker, Dan Davis, "Colonel Emory Upton prepared to lead an assault on the Confederate line at Spotsylvania Court House. In the next 90 minutes, Upton would change the face of warfare in Virginia."

Daniel T. Davis, one of the many talented young historians associated with Emerging Civil War, says he has "spent hours traversing the ground where Upton made his famous attack." Tonight, he will "detail the operation and its impact on the Overland Campaign" and "discuss Upton's brilliant but personally tragic career."

A prolific writer, Dan is the co-author of six titles in the Emerging Civil War Series, which he will have for sale at the meeting for \$12. He has also contributed articles to *Blue and Gray Magazine* and *Hallowed Ground*. A former NPS historian, Dan serves as the Managing Editor of Emerging Civil War (www.emergingcivilwar.com).



Parking at A La Carte: We've heard from some of you who arrive closer to the meeting's start time that parking spaces are hard to find. In addition to the parking lot in the back of A La Cart, Shelly has assured me that we are allowed to park at **J&R Auto City**, which is adjacent, and **Delf's, Inc. Building Supply** across the street. Of course, use extreme caution when crossing Route 62.

Something new for the May meeting: If you remember a meeting from a few years ago when we didn't have books to raffle, we held an impromptu 50/50 that went over very well—everyone loves a 50/50! We've decided that for the May meeting, we will sell two sets of raffle tickets: one for the monthly book raffle and one for the 50/50. And don't forget that Dan Welch sells used books cheap, the proceeds from which we donate to a selected Civil War preservation group.

For the fall: At last month's meeting, Sue Boardman passed around a piece of the historic Gettysburg Cyclorama painting for all to handle. Sue graciously donated another piece to the MVCWRT to use for a fundraiser. In September and October, we will hold a silent auction of that relic as well as other items.

The Ladies Department

By Charen Fink

(Charen has compiled her Ladies' Department articles into a book that will be published very soon)

Quilts: As the War continued, one of the most sought after items for a soldier was a quilt. Often they were confiscated from Southern homes as they were ransacked. As a result, many prized quilts were lost forever as soldiers used them for warmth. Following are more notable quilts from the past.

From Soldiers' Aid Societies—*Rally Round the Flag Boys Quilt* was made by groups of women who formed Soldiers' Aid Societies.

Sanitary Commission—*Nine-Patch Q* was usually made of cotton, using brown prints in the madder dyes of the era. Madder, a vegetable dye, produced warm shades from a rusty red through burnt orange to a purplish chocolate brown.

Quilts made for and sold at Fairs—*Silk Autograph Quilt* and *Federal Rose Quilt*. Silk was the favored fabric for elegant quilts and fashionable clothing.

A seventeen-year-old Iowa teacher stitched a quilt, *Jackson Star*. A South Carolinian buried two quilts with the silver; one was the *Open Rose* and the other, *Album Quilt*.

A woman from Vermont used a piece of her calico dress to make a quilt for her sister who was moving to Wisconsin. Mary High from Tennessee made a *Basket Quilt* which was raffled during the war to raise funds for the Confederate cause.

When looking at old quilts, check the kind of fabrics that were used, if they were available during the war, and check for period colors. **Deborah Wagner**, from our Roundtable, can offer detailed descriptions and advice concerning Civil War era quilts.

Food Brands, 1862: A patent for preserving green corn was issued to Isaac Winslow; he sold 12 cans to Boston's S.S. Pierce.

- **Northern Spy** apples were introduced in West Bloomfield, NY.
- **Gulden's Mustard** was introduced in New York by Charles Gulden.
- **Crosse & Blackwell** introduced canned soups in England
- **Bacardi Rum Co.** was founded in Cuba by Emilio Bacardi

Prices & Salaries

- Fall of 1863—cost of living in Washington was \$1333.00 for a family of five. Women working in the Treasury were paid \$50.00/month. An ordinary room—\$20/month, board was \$30/month.
- Confederate & Union nurses were paid \$12/month and expected to purchase small items for the soldiers in their care.
- In Augusta, GA in 1863, girls who worked in a textile factory operating spindles & looms were paid \$8 to \$10/week

- Pre-war prices for: molasses—\$0.75/gallon, beeswax—\$0.21 to \$0.26/pound. Mid 1863: Molasses—\$10.00/gallon, Fall, 1863—Molasses—\$15.00/gallon, Nov., 1863—Molasses—\$500.00/gallon

Inventions: before & after the Civil War. 1850—Ginger ale produced as a soft drink and spa drink; 1870—Brown paper bag invented by Margaret Knight; 1883—Standard Time & time zones implemented after four years of planning and fourteen years after the original suggestion was made; 1893—Zipper was patented by Whitcomb Judson (was called the “Clasp Locker or Unlocker for Shoes”).

Speaking Charlestonese: **ARM**—I am, **BALL**—to heat a liquid until it bubbles, **COAL**—an ailment that causes sniffles, **DRUG**—hailed, **FEEL**—an open space, **GARNER**—a man who tends to flower beds.

Etiquette:

- A lady will not say, “My husband,” except among intimates; in every other case she should address or speak of him by his name, as Mr. _____
- To carry children or dogs with you on a visit of ceremony is altogether vulgar
- If you are a guest in any family, you should accommodate yourself to their customs and habits
- Your own good sense and delicacy will teach you the desirability of keeping your room tidy and your articles of dress and toilet as much in order as possible.

References

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IN MEMORIAM: Larry Johnson, long-time member and past president of the MVCWRT, passed away December 13 at the age of 66. A Navy veteran and a pastor for many years, Larry served as chaplain for the Boardman Police Department. As a re-enactor and founding member of the Thomas W. Patton Camp #2021 of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, Larry shared a passion for preserving the memory of the Civil War and the soldiers who fought it.

Civil War podcasts: If you have an iPhone or iPad, you can be listening to Civil War-themed internet broadcasts. Each week, *Civil War Talk Radio* Gerald Prokopowicz of East Carolina University, conducts hour-long interviews with the likes of James McPherson, Doris Kearns Goodwin, Gary Gallagher, Garry Adelman, and our own Dan Welch. You can subscribe to Civil War Talk Radio on your iPhone or iPad by clicking on the podcast icon (shown at left).



BOOK REVIEW

Three Months in the Southern States

By Arthur J.L. Fremantle

Biblio Bazaar, U. Of Nebraska, 2007

Introduction by Gary Gallagher

Reviewed by Carole Babyak

This book is available in many reprints. All should remember Col. Fremantle in a red British Uniform calmly talking in his melodious accent to Gen. Longstreet on the Gettysburg battlefield, in the movie, "Gettysburg." My son and his friend memorized, almost, the entire dialogue of that movie, spontaneously re-telling it

whenever Pennsylvania was mentioned. Another favorite was Little Round Top, the first stop on Remembrance Day. We solemnly watched as re-enactors laid a wreath by the Maine monument.

And reading Fremantle's words, his journey and the people he met is important and will enrich your Civil War world. His words about Gettysburg are probably the most quoted, and as with any good book re-reading them will add more understanding.

George Beck loaned his copy to me, saying that it was the most interesting and revealing book about the south and Civil War era. One person writing about dusty travel and very important people that we want to better understand..



Memorial Day: On May 30th, 1884 Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr., in one of the most quoted Memorial Day speeches ever given, reminded veterans of the John Sedgwick Post No. 4, GAR in Keane, NH that "Through our great good fortune, in our youth our hearts were touched with fire." It was the highlight of an answer to a young man he once heard ask why the people still keep Memorial Day.

For those assembled the answer was simple. They met to "rejoice in the closest tie which is possible between men—a tie which suffering has made indissoluble for better, for worse." But for those who did not share the old soldier's experience he offered that the day "celebrates and solemnly confirms from year to year a national act of enthusiasm and faith." The fallen heroes and graying survivors of the late war acted as such and were able to do great things. "Our dead brothers still live with us, and bid us think of life, not death," he continued, "of life which in their youth they lent the passion and joy of the spring."



Armistead came up to the stone wall, and the blue boys were falling back. He felt a moment of incredible joy. A hot slap of air had brushed his face, but he was not hit; to the right a great blast of canister and all the troops to his right were down, but then there was another rush, and Armistead leaped to the top of the wall, balanced on the high stones, seeing the blue troops running up the slope into the guns, and then he came down on the other side, he had done it, had gotten inside the wall, and men moved in around him, screaming.

Michael Shaara writing in his 1975 Pulitzer Prize winning historical novel, *The Killer Angels*.