

Bugle Call

ECHOES

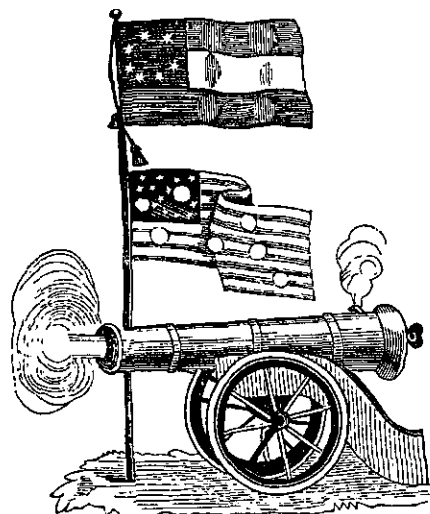
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San Joaquin Valley
Civil War Round Table
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JULY PROGRAM

The July meeting of the San Joaquin Valley Civil War Round Table will feature Nathan Boyer on the topic, "The English Contribution to the Southern War Effort." The meeting, a luncheon program, will be held at the Downtown Club, 2120 Kern Street on Friday, July 26, 1996, at noon.

Nathan is a graduate student of history at CSUF with a long interest in history. As a child, he visited many historic sites with his parents. When he was eight, the family moved to South Carolina, the seat of secession. During the four years spent in South Carolina, Nathan developed an interest in the Confederacy and the prevailing mind-set of the people there. Given his interest in the Civil War and a college writing project on British history--voilà!--you have a paper on the English contribution to the Southern war effort with emphasis on the Southern perspective.



President's Corner

If you have never attended a West Coast Civil War Conference, you have truly missed a great experience. We founded our round table in 1991 and the following spring, I received an invitation to attend the West Coast Civil War Conference in San Jose. William C. Davis was the keynote speaker. Wow! I have not missed a conference since. The '93 conference was held in San Diego; the '94 at the Tenaya Lodge; '95 in Redlands; and, once again, the '96 conference will be in San Jose. The conference is held the first weekend following the November election (Friday evening through Sunday afternoon).

Our organization has requested the privilege of hosting the 1998 conference. The topic, place, etc., have not been determined at this time. However, a committee was appointed by the board to present a plan before the year has ended. At that time, we will inform the membership. Over a dozen members worked on the '94 program--hopefully we'll have more volunteers for the '98 conference.

--Bill Head

PERSONALITIES OF THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR

by Rick Kubiak

Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr.:

The Soldier's Field and the Judge's Bench

Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr. was a man whose life was formed by tradition. He was a product of solid, sound and adventurous people. His ancestors' inheritance to him was not one of wealth and privilege but of brains, ability, wit, intellectual vitality and a passionate interest in one's country.

Holmes' great grandfather, Captain David Holmes, had fought Indians in the Old French War of 1758 and served in the

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Cost for the luncheon is \$10 (\$5 for students under 25). Send your check (payable to the SJVCWRT) to PO Box 5695, Fresno, CA 93755, by July 24, 1996, or contact Wayne Bowen at 291-4885 to advise him you will be attending the meeting. Seating cannot be guaranteed without a reservation.

(Holmes, continued)

Continental Army for four years during the American Revolution. Worn out, he had died in 1779 at the age of 57, leaving seven sons and two daughters to help build the country for which he had fought. Abiel Holmes was one of those seven fatherless sons. Reverend Abiel Holmes became the Calvinist minister of the First Parish in Cambridge, Massachusetts. One fine autumn day in 1800 Abiel Holmes sat down in his parsonage in Harvard Square to begin the writing of his AMERICAN ANNALS, OR A CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY OF AMERICA. Abiel, who had been a widower for five years, in 1801 married Sally Wendell, the daughter of Judge Oliver Wendell, and to them was born Oliver Wendell Holmes on August 29, 1809. Oliver Wendell Holmes, after graduating from Harvard, received his medical degree from Harvard Medical School in 1836, and began his medical practice in Boston. Dr. Holmes taught anatomy at Harvard Medical School, wrote poetry, books and submitted articles for the Atlantic Monthly Magazine. Dr. Holmes, who became known as the "Autocrat of the Breakfast Table," was part of the circle of intellectually and socially cultivated Bostonians. To him and his wife, Amelia Jackson Holmes, was born Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr. on March 8, 1841.

Responding to President Abraham Lincoln's call for volunteers, Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr. was 20 years old and a senior at Harvard when he enlisted as a private in the New England Guard, a militia unit. After completing his studies and graduating, Holmes was commissioned a first lieutenant in Company A of the 20th Regiment of the Massachusetts Volunteers, which was mustered into service a few weeks later.

Holmes found the rough and open life of campaigning, at least when the weather was good, an exhilarating experience, and his body became hardened and tempered by open air and constant exercise. However, suddenly came the "call to battle." Holmes' unit was involved in the Union defeat at Ball's Bluff on October 21, 1861. Among the wounded carried from the field was Lt. Holmes, with two musket balls in his body. In a letter to his mother written at his hospital bed, Holmes described what happened. "I felt and acted very cool and did my duty I am sure. I was out in front of our men encouraging 'em on when a spent shot knocked the wind out of me and I fell." Ordered to the rear, Holmes was determined that such a minor blow should not stop him and rushed back to his company. He was waving his sword and calling on his men to follow him when his lungs were pierced by a bullet. Holmes fainted, while around him the battle continued.

After recovering from his wounds at Ball's Bluff, Captain Holmes re-joined his regiment on the Virginia Peninsula. He fought at the battles of Fair Oaks, Gaines' Mill, Garnet, Golding, Glendale and Malvern Hill. Battle after battle the soldiers crossed plowed fields, corn fields, thickets, and woods. At Fair Oaks the men charged with fixed bayonets across a field of mud, sinking knee deep at every step.

Captain Holmes, who had come unscathed through the terrible fighting of the Seven Days battles, was wounded at the beginning of the Battle of Antietam. He was shot through the neck, the bullet just missing the windpipe and jugular vein and cutting the seams of his coat collar as it exited. Holmes, who

had been left for dead, was found by a friend, Captain William LeDuc, that evening wandering aimlessly over the battlefield. LeDuc cleaned and bandaged the wound as best he could and helped get Holmes off the battlefield. At the first opportunity LeDuc sent a telegram to Dr. Holmes saying, "Capt. Holmes wounded shot through the neck thought not mortal at Keedysville."



Capt. O. W. Holmes Jr.

Dr. Holmes the next morning began a journey in search of his wounded son. It was a bewildering search that would last for six days and would take him through Baltimore, Frederick, Middletown, Keedysville, back to Philadelphia, and on to Harrisburg. Dr. Holmes in his article, "My Hunt After the Captain," describes the battle scene. "There was something repulsive about the trodden and stained relics of the stale battlefield. It was like the table of some hideous orgy left uncleared, and one turned away disgusted from its broken fragments and muddy heeltaps." Dr. Holmes inquired at one field hospital after another. "Many times I started at some faint resemblance, the shade of a young man's hair, the outline of his half turned face, recalled the presence I was in search of." At last Dr. Holmes found him on a train about to depart for the North. He writes, "In the first car, on the fourth seat to the right, I saw my Captain."

(continued)

(Holmes continued)

Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr. recovered from his wound at Antietam and was once more in command of his company. The 20th Massachusetts moved forward on the night of May 2-3, 1863, crossing the Rappahannock and advancing through Fredericksburg. Waiting to cross the canal before Marye's Heights, Holmes was hit by a piece of shrapnel. In her book, *YANKEE FROM OLYMPUS*, Catherine Drinker Bowen describes what happened. *"At the canal, knowing he was in full view of the enemy's guns from the hills beyond, Holmes ordered his men sharply to lie down. He had not finished speaking when the first shell came over and tore the cape from his overcoat. He threw himself down full length, grabbed a rifle from one of his men, and sighted it at the enemy. When the next volley came Holmes' head went down, he buried his face in the grass. His long legs were crossed, one ankle over the other. There was a lull while the enemy took range. The next shells will be lower, Wendell thought. They were. Shrapnel that missed his head caught the heel of the foot that was uppermost. A terrific blow, tearing ligament and tendons. It was Holmes' third and last wound. It would keep him out of the war for nine months, it would trouble him for years to come."*

Early in January 1864 Holmes was appointed Aide de Camp on the staff of Brigadier General Wright stationed on the banks of the Rappahannock River. On the 4th of May the army crossed the Rapidan River to fight in the thickets, the mud and swollen streams of the Wilderness. Holmes fought at Spottsylvania, North Anna, and Cold Harbor. A few days after the bloody battle of Cold Harbor, Holmes wrote to his parents of his intention to resign his commission. He stated, *"I started this thing a boy, I am now a man and I have been coming to the conclusion for the last six months that my duty has changed. I honestly think the duty of fighting has ceased for me, ceased because I have laboriously and with much suffering of mind and body earned the right to decide for myself how I can best do my duty to myself, to the country, and if you choose, to God."*

In July 1864 Holmes left the army at the end of the 20th Massachusetts Regiment's three year term of enlistment. In September 1864 Holmes enrolled at Harvard Law School. After completing his law studies Holmes was admitted to the bar and began to practice law in Boston in 1867. Holmes became professor of law at Harvard Law School in 1882, but resigned the same year to accept an appointment as associate justice of the Massachusetts Supreme Court. In 1899 he was appointed chief justice and served from 1899 until 1902.

In 1902 President Theodore Roosevelt appointed Holmes associate justice of the United States Supreme Court. Holmes,



Holmes circa 1890

upon leaving his fellow justices and friends of the Massachusetts Supreme Court after 20 years, stated, *"It is a good deal of a wrench to leave old friends. But gentlemen, it is a great adventure, and that thought brings with it a mighty joy. To have one's chance to do one's share in shaping the*

laws of the whole country spreads over one the hush that one used to feel when awaiting the beginning of a battle. We will not falter...we will reach the earthworks if we live, and if we fail we will leave our spirit in those who follow, and they will not turn back. All is ready. Bugler, blow the charge."

In December of 1902 Holmes started his service as an associate justice of the United States Supreme Court. Holmes, serving during a period of history with almost revolutionary social changes, was well known for his liberal interpretations of the U. S. Constitution. He became known as the "Great Dissenter" because of his disagreements with the views of his conservative colleagues on the court. In 1932, after 30 years of service as associate justice, Holmes retired at age 90.

Holmes died in his bed of pneumonia on March 6, 1935, two days short of his 94th birthday. He was to have stated at a Memorial Day speech in 1884 that, *"Life is action and passion. I think it is required of a man that he should share the action and passion of his time at peril of being judged not to have lived."* Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr. shared his country's action and passion on the soldier's field and the judge's bench.

Sources used: *THE CIVIL WAR: A NARRATIVE, RED RIVER TO APPOMATTOX* by Shelby Foote; *TRIAL BY FIRE: A PEOPLE'S HISTORY OF THE CIVIL WAR AND RECONSTRUCTION* by Page Smith; *BATTLE CRY OF FREEDOM: THE CIVIL WAR ERA* by James M. McPherson; *LANDSCAPE TURNED RED, THE BATTLE OF ANTIETAM* by Stephen W. Sears; *YANKEE FROM OLYMPUS, JUSTICE HOLMES AND HIS FAMILY* by Catherine Drinker Bowen

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Because of holidays falling on the days the round table normally meets in October and November, those meeting dates have been changed to:

Thursday, October 24, 1996
Thursday, November 21, 1996

Dinner meeting
Dinner meeting

WEST COAST CIVIL WAR CONFERENCE

"BATTLES AND CAMPAIGNS OF THE CIVIL WAR"

November 8-10, 1996

Red Lion Hotel

San Jose, California

Contact the Red Lion for room reservations at 408/453-4000. Tell them you're attending the West Coast Civil War Conference in order to receive a special room rate.

Full registration for the conference is \$120 before October 1, 1996; after October 1, 1996: \$140. Send a check made payable to the South Bay Civil War Round Table to Helen Trimpi, 1788 Oak Creek Drive, #403, Palo Alto, CA 94304-2160.

For more details, contact Don Pfeuffer, 408/378-4464, or David Lang, 408/735-8092.

THE CIVIL WAR TRUST'S OFFICIAL GUIDE

The new edition of The Civil War Trust's Official Guide to the Civil War Discovery Trail is now available. The guide contains visitor information for 24 states and over 400 sites. With an introduction by James M. McPherson, this 272-page book includes maps and photographs.

Cost is \$11.95 plus \$4 S&H for first book, \$.50 for each additional.

Order from The Civil War Trust, 4407 Wheeler Drive, Alexandria, VA 22304 or call 1-888-CWTRAIL (toll free). Sales of the guide help preserve Civil War battlefields.

REENACTMENT NEWS

The American Civil War Association (ACWA) will participate in battles and encampments at the following locations on the dates noted:

July 20-21, 1996

Fort Baker, Sausalito

August 17-18, 1996

Fort Tejon

Sept 21-22, 1996

Casa de Fruta

October 26-27, 1996

Gibson Ranch, Sacramento

For further information about the ACWA, write them c/o PO Box 61075, Sunnyvale, CA 94088-1075.

JUNE MEETING

Five prizes were given out at the June meeting raffle. They included SHERMAN, FIGHTING PROPHET by Lloyd Lewis; GRANT TAKES COMMAND by Bruce Catton; a gift certificate to the Remington; a selection of micro brewery beers; and a packet of Civil War publications (Confederate Veteran, America's Civil War and Civil War Times Illustrated). A total of \$35 was realized.

Thanks to all who donated items to support the raffle.

As a followup to Bob Wash's fine presentation about the Frémonts, Bill Head recommends Irving Stone's book about Jessie Benton Frémont entitled IMMORTAL WIFE.

BOARD MEETING

The next meeting of the Board of Directors of the SJVCWRT is scheduled for Thursday, September 12, 1996. It will be held in the home of Barbara and Ken Moats, 4780 North Delno, Fresno, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

All round table members are welcome to attend board meetings.

PRESERVATION ACTIVITIES

The Friends of the National Parks at Gettysburg hosted their third annual "March for Gettysburg" to raise funds, this year earmarked for land acquisition. Over \$2,500 was netted. Marchers followed the route Evander Law's 15th Alabama Infantry took to its encounter on Little Round Top with Union forces. The march concluded at Ziegler's Grove where a drawing for prizes was held. Prizes were also given to the individuals who raised the largest amount of money.

Next year's march is again scheduled in conjunction with the FNPG's annual meeting in the spring.

COFFEE AND CIVIL WAR

Beginning the second Saturday in September and each second Saturday of the month thereafter, Le Croissant at First and Nees will be the meeting place for a "coffee and Civil War" get together. Informal and unstructured, it will be an opportunity to talk about the Civil War: a book recently read, a trip taken, or...? Join us for the first Coffee and Civil War meeting at 9 a.m. on Saturday, September 14.

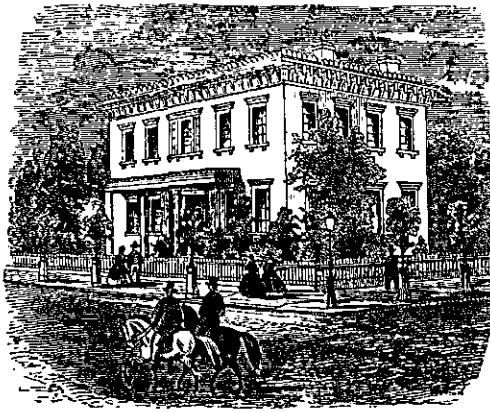
Any and all are welcome to attend.

LADIES GUNBOATS

The idea of an organization to raise funds to purchase gunboats began in New Orleans in the early days of the Civil War and soon spread throughout the Confederacy. Communities developed rivalries and states competed for the greatest contributions. Known by names such as the Women's Gunboat Fund and the Ladies Defense Association, these organizations raised money in a variety of ways. Concerts and dinners were two avenues; another was to hold auctions at bazaars and fairs.

Items auctioned included wine, cotton, paintings, butter, and jewelry. One woman offered her sewing machine, with a note, *"I have no money nor valuables, my only treasures being my children and I cannot offer them to my country for they are daughters. I have a sewing machine, though, which I offer to be disposed of for the benefit of the fund."*

Quilts were an item which were often raffled off. In several instances, a quilt would be raffled and immediately returned to be resold. Two of these "Gunboat Quilts" can be seen at the Birmingham Museum of Art and the First White House of the Confederacy in Montgomery today.



The "White House" at Montgomery

When it seemed likely that Mobile would fall to the Federals, local newspapers recommended that the money collected for the purchase of a gunboat be applied *"in providing Hospitals and in procuring hospital stores for the use of the sick and wounded in our armies."* Elsewhere, contributions declined as the Confederacy suffered repeated naval disasters. Although the exact amount of money collected is not known, at least \$30,000 was amassed in Charleston and Richmond for purchase of a gunboat, the cost of which was estimated at \$80,000. The three vessels which were known as Ladies Gunboats were the *Charleston*, the *Fredericksburg*, and the *Georgia*.

Source: "Alabama Gunboat Quilts," by Bryding Adams Henley, Uncoverings 1987

REGIMENTAL BANDS

General Order 15 of the War Department, dated May 4, 1861, provided for regimental army bands; the number of players in the band was limited to 24, including the leader, by General Order 49, which followed on August 3, 1861. As a result, at the beginning of the Civil War, many army regiments had their own bands. Civilian bands would often enlist together. Most members of the 13th Illinois were from a brass band in Sycamore, Illinois. The Salem Band of Salem, North Carolina, enlisted in three different state regiments, including the 26th North Carolina. It was the 26th North Carolina, said to be Robert E. Lee's favorite band, that Col. Arthur J. L. Fremantle of Her Majesty's Cold Stream Guards wrote about at the battle at Gettysburg. *"When the cannonade was at its height, a Confederate band of music, between the cemetery and ourselves, began to play polkas and waltzes, which sounded very curious, accompanied by the hissing and bursting of the shells."*

Federal band members usually received \$17 a month; the best Southern musicians were paid about \$12. Being in a band did not necessarily mean that the person was a musician; more than once men were expelled from the army for "ignorance of music." The 6th Wisconsin was considered one of the worst bands. It played one tune and played that one badly. *"It was enough to try the patience of a martyr,"* a 6th Wisconsin recruit wrote, *"that contemptuous brass band of ours."* When on the march and the band could not find the next note, he continued, the men *"had to hold one leg in the air and balance on the other."*

The over-the-shoulder brass instruments used during the Civil War were unique to America. The band of a regiment would march in front of the troops with the bells of the instruments pointing backwards so the music could be heard. This practice, however, was virtually discontinued after the Civil War.

Bands played for drills, for dress parades and for inspections. At times they gave evening concerts. During a battle, however, most musicians helped at the hospitals. They set up cots, carried stretchers, brought water and food to the wounded, and assisted with operations.

Sources: MUSIC IN THE CIVIL WAR by Stephen Currie; "THE CIVIL WAR, ITS MUSIC AND ITS SOUNDS" by Frederick Fennell

DUES

Annual dues for the San Joaquin Valley CWRT are \$25, \$40 for families, \$10 for a newsletter subscription only. If you haven't joined the round table yet and wish to do so, send your check made payable to SJVCWRT to PO Box 5695, Fresno, CA 93755.

SHENANDOAH VALLEY CAMPAIGNS

"Up to the summer of 1864 the Shenandoah Valley had not been to the Union armies a fortunate place either for battle or strategy...It was not long after General Grant completed his first campaign in Virginia, and while he was in front of Petersburg, that his attention was called to this famous seat of side issues between Union and Confederate armies. With quick military instinct he saw that the Valley was not useful to the Government for aggressive operations. He decided it must be made untenable for either army. In doing this he reasoned that the advantage would be with us, who did not want it as a source of supplies, nor as a place of arms, and against the Confederates, who wanted it for both."

Wesley Merritt, MajGen USV, BrigGen USA
in BATTLES AND LEADERS OF THE CIVIL WAR

The discussion group formed to study the Shenandoah Valley campaigns will meet on the following dates to discuss the battles listed.

<u>July 11</u>	<u>Kernstown, McDowell</u>
<u>July 25</u>	<u>Front Royal, 1st Winchester</u>
<u>August 8</u>	<u>Cross Keys, Port Republic</u>
<u>August 22</u>	<u>New Market, Piedmont</u>
<u>Sept 5</u>	<u>Cool Springs, 2nd Kernstown</u>
<u>Sept 19</u>	<u>Opequon Creek, Fisher's Hill</u>
<u>October 10</u>	<u>Tom's Brook, Cedar Creek</u>

Everyone is welcome to attend any or all of the approximately two-hour sessions, which begin at 7:15 p.m. Meetings are held at Ken and Barbara Moats' home, 4780 North Delno, Fresno.

For further information, contact Barbara or Ken at 229-3654.



UPCOMING SEMINARS

***"The POW Experience", November 1-2, 1996, Andersonville, Georgia. The seminar is presented by The Civil War Society. Also offered by The Civil War Society: "The Peninsula Campaign," a symposium to be held September 26-29, 1996, in Hampton (Fort Monroe), Virginia. Call 800/247-6253 to register.

***1996 Fall Muster, October 19, 1996, sponsored by the Friends of the National Parks at Gettysburg. Attendees have a choice of a morning program and an afternoon program. Topics include Culp's Hill, East Cavalry Field, Walking Devil's Den and Cemetery Walk. Cost: \$40. Information: 717/334-0772

***"Gibbons' Repulse - Pickett's Charge from the Union Perspective," September 21, 1996, another event sponsored by Friends of the National Parks at Gettysburg as part of their FNPG Saturday Seminar programs. Registration must be received by August 31, 1996. Information: 717/334-0772.

***The calendar of Civil War seminars sponsored by the Civil War Education Association and the American Blue & Gray Association includes such topics as "A Walking Tour of 'Occupied Winchester,'" on 10/5/96; "Sickles' Salient: The Peach Orchard, Wheatfield and Devil's Den, A Walking Tour," 10/31-11/2/96; "Robert E. Lee Fellowship Birthday Celebration," 1/18-19/97; and "Railroads in the Civil War," 7/10-12/97. Call 800/298-1861 for further information.

THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE OFFICERS FOR 1996 ARE:

<i>President</i>	Bill Head
<i>Vice President</i>	Barbara Moats
<i>Secretary</i>	Carol Berry
<i>Treasurer</i>	Wayne Bowen

Other board members are:

<i>Membership</i>	Linda Clague
<i>Publicity</i>	(Open)
<i>Newsletter Editor</i>	Verne Cole
<i>Historian</i>	Rick Kubiak
<i>Immediate Past Presidents</i>	John Taylor Charlie Jorgensen

Change of address? Call Wayne Bowen at 291-4885.

WILLIAM DORSEY PENDER

Dorsey Pender, born in Edgecomb County, North Carolina in 1834, graduated from West Point at the age of 20. As a first lieutenant in the U. S. Army, much of his service was on the West Coast. In 1861, prior to North Carolina's secession from the Union, he resigned from the regular army and offered his services to the Confederacy. He was given a lieutenant colonelcy and assigned to instruct a North Carolina regiment in military matters.

At Seven Pines in June 1862, Pender took his regiment into its first battle. About to be cut off by three Union regiments, Pender re-deployed his battle line at right angles and charged the Union regiments, giving the North Carolinians time to withdraw to the main line. Jefferson Davis, observing the action, said to the Lieutenant Colonel afterwards: "*General Pender, I salute you.*"

Thus promoted, Pender was given a brigade of North Carolinians in A. P. Hill's division, which eventually became part of Stonewall Jackson's corps. Pender wrote of Stonewall "*...not that I like to be under Jackson, for he forgets that one ever gets tired, hungry or sleepy.*" After Stonewall's demise in May of 1863, the army was reorganized, with Hill moved from division to corps command. Pender, now commander of a division, was, at 29, the youngest officer at that rank.

On the march to Gettysburg, Pender described his impressions: "*This is a most magnificent country to look at, but the most miserable people. I have yet to see a nice looking lady. They are coarse and dirty, and the number of dirty looking children is perfectly astonishing. A great many of the women go barefooted and but a small fraction wear stockings. I hope we may never have such people.*"

In the fight at Gettysburg on the first day, Pender's troops encountered Battery B of the Iron Brigade and the rest of the Union First Corps on McPherson's and Seminary ridges. Pender's Division, with help from Heth's, drove the Federals from the woods and by the end of the afternoon of July 1 possessed Seminary Ridge.

The following day, in the battle on the ridge, Dorsey Pender was wounded in the leg by a shell fragment. Transported to Staunton, Virginia, with what was believed to be a minor wound, he underwent amputation of his leg when complications set in. He died in Staunton on July 18, 1863.

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Speaking of the loss at Gettysburg, Robert E. Lee said, "*...we would have succeeded had General Pender lived.*" General Hill termed Dorsey Pender the best major general he had ever known.

Dorsey Pender left a wife, whom he had married in 1859, and three sons, one born after Pender's death. Fanny Sheppard Pender never re-married and, accepting no outside help, opened a school and worked as a postmistress to support herself and her children. At Fanny's death in 1922, she was buried next to her husband in the churchyard of Calvary Parish in Tarboro, North Carolina.

Source: GETTYSBURG: A MEDITATION ON WAR & VALUES by Kent Gramm

CIVIL WAR TRIVIA

Barnes and Noble Bookstore, 21 East Shaw Avenue, Fresno, is sponsoring a Civil War Trivia Evening on Saturday, July 27, 1996, at 7:30 p.m. Queries will be taken from Ken Davis' DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT THE CIVIL WAR, with the bookstore staff providing additional questions. Members of local reenactment groups and our own round table will be there in period dress.

Advance registration is requested. Contact Vicky Koda or Tim Crowne at 227-6472 on Wednesdays between 10 a.m.- 5 p.m.

DRUM BARRACKS

Drum Barracks, also known as Camp Drum, was established on 60 acres of land in the Los Angeles area. It served as headquarters in the Southwest for the U. S. Army from 1861 until 1871. Many volunteers with orders to join regiments in the east during the Civil War came through Camp Drum. The base was also the originating point of The California Column, commanded by Col. James Henry Carleton, the first commander of Drum Barracks.

After the Civil War, soldiers from Camp Drum continued to serve in the Southwest during the Indian Wars. The California units were recognized by the army commanders as being among the best equipped and trained in the U. S. Army.

The Drum Barracks Civil War Museum is housed in the last remaining major building of Camp Drum, the Unaccompanied Officers' Quarters. Located at 1052 Banning Blvd., Wilmington, CA 90744, the museum may be toured Tuesday through Thursday, Saturday and Sunday. Information: 310/548-7509.

A WAR OF FIRSTS

submitted by Barbara Moats

The Civil War produced more new ideas, weapons and techniques than any other period in our history. The following list of "firsts" from that era is taken from FIELD OF BATTLE, THE CIVIL WAR LETTERS OF MAJOR THOMAS J. HALSEY, a National Geographic publication.

- Repeating rifles
- Fixed ammunition
- Revolving gun turrets
- Telescopic sights for rifles
- Minefields
- First aerial reconnaissance by balloon
- "Aircraft carrier" - for hauling balloons
- Anti-aircraft fire, aiming at balloons
- Ironclad and steel ships
- First black army officer
- Military railroads
- Military Telegraph and Signal Corps
- U. S. Secret Service
- Federal income tax
- Nationally observed Thanksgiving Day
- Conscription
- American breadlines
- Battle photography
- The bugle call "Taps"

San Joaquin Valley
Civil War Round Table
P.O. Box 5695
Fresno, CA 93755



James Robertson in WHY THE CIVIL WAR STILL LIVES adds:

- Rifled cannon
- The machine gun
- Trench warfare to a degree never before seen
- Hand grenades
- Blockades and blockade running
- Railroads as military objectives
- An ambulance-wagon system for transporting wounded soldiers
- Organized use of black soldiers
- The Congressional Medal of Honor
- Paper money
- Shoes designed for the left and right feet to make walking more comfortable
- The first American depiction of Santa Claus
- The custom of sending flowers to a funeral
- Attack submarines
- Wide-spread use of underwater mines
- The Red Cross

