

# 53rd Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry Company C

"The Sentinel" November 2021

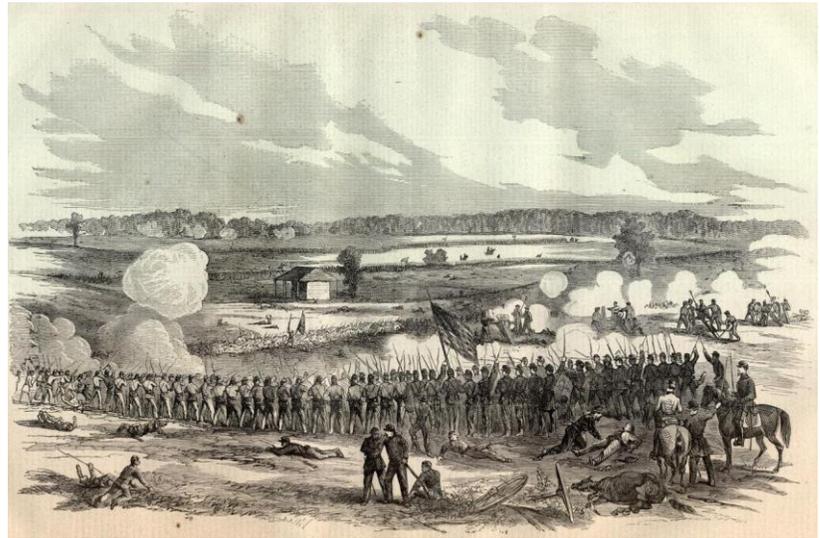
Newsletter of The James Creek Guards



"Clubs Are Trumps!"

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*I am always looking for newsletter content, so please forward your articles, book reviews, event summaries/photos, stories, etc.) to me for inclusion in a future edition of "The Sentinel". – Matthew Steger, editor*

## EMMA SANSON: A VERY BRAVE 15 YEAR OLD

By Norman Dasinger, Jr., May 15, 2020  
[blueandgrayeducation.org](http://blueandgrayeducation.org)

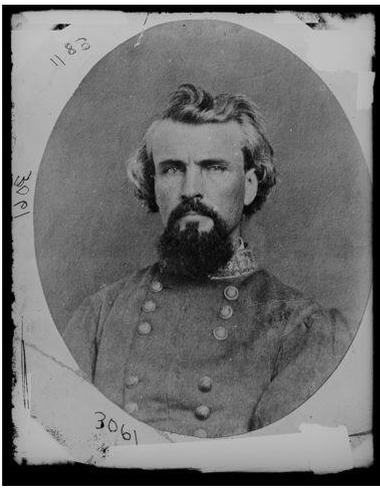
*Emma Sanson guides General Forrest, detail of a bronze map on lawn of Alabama Department of Archives and HIstory | [alabama.gov](http://alabama.gov)* →

In 1863, Emma Sansom and her family lived near Gadsden, Alabama. On the morning of May 2, almost 2,000 Union soldiers under the command of Col. Abel Streight arrived at the Sansom farm with the intent of crossing nearby Black Creek and moving into Gadsden. They had been on a mounted infantry raid all the way across Alabama since April 28. Their goal was to reach Rome, Georgia, and destroy military installations and parts of the railroad in or near that town.

Emma was small, slender, round faced, with auburn hair and dark blue eyes. Her family had moved to Gadsden in 1852 from Georgia. Her father was dead, but living in the house with Emma

that day were her mother Levina, her sister Jennie, a neighbor girl Mary, and an enslaved girl, Fannie. Her brothers were serving in the Confederate Army.

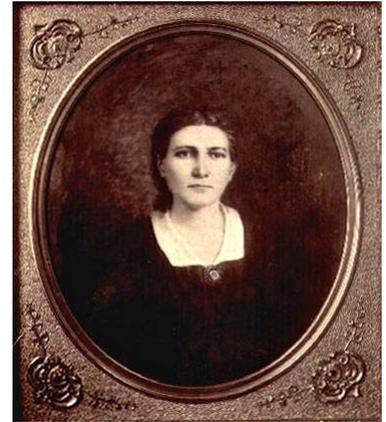




Once the Yankees arrived, they began to search the house for food and guns. They demanded the girls give them some water and then posted a guard at the house. Soon, all the troopers made their way to a nearby bridge over Black Creek. This bridge was located approximately 200 yards from the Sansom home

Pursuing Confederate cavalry commanded by Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest shortly arrived. Forrest asked if there was an alternate crossing of Black Creek, since Streight had posted a guard and had partially burned the only bridge. Emma revealed the existence of a little-known cattle ford on their property. By utilizing this ford, Forrest could flank the Yankees at the bridge and threaten the bulk of their command then in Gadsden. Emma told General Forrest she would personally escort him to the site. Emma’s mother was outraged and refused to give her permission. The general assured Levina that he would take care of her daughter and no harm would become her.

*Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest | LOC*



*Emma Sansom | Alabama Department of Archives and History*

But all the time, young Emma had moved out of the house and into the yard to prepare to assist Forrest. She was going no matter what her mother said!

Emma fulfilled her mission, and the Confederates chased the Federal rear guard into Gadsden, and Streight and his command had to retreat quickly. Eventually, Forrest and 300 of his calvary would capture all of Streight’s nearly 2,000 men near Cedar Bluff, Alabama, the next day.

Emma would marry Christopher Johnson in 1864. She and her husband and their children moved to Texas in 1876. Emma died in 1900 and is buried in Upshur County, Texas.

## **BOOK REVIEW – KILLING LINCOLN**

*Authors: Bill O’Reilly & Martin Dugard*

Reviewed and Submitted by Mike Espenshade

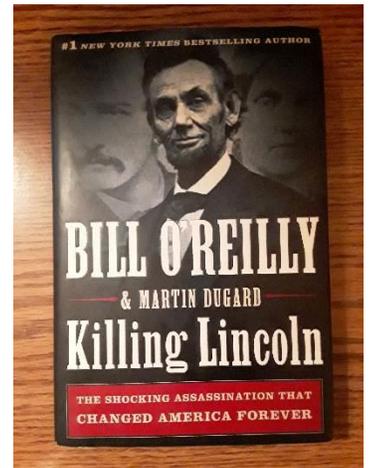
Hardback; 2011; Henry Holt and Company, LLC; 312 pp.; an additional 3 pp of notes, 9 pp index, 3 maps and 2 dozen or so pictures. \$3.00 at used book sale at McConnellsburg, PA. Public Library.

**Killing Lincoln** is history that reads like a thriller. Positioned as a fast read, rather than a professional history resource, this book was enjoyable and educational. The authors did a nice job summarizing the end of the war in the east and setting the stage for this infamous crime. Especially useful was the work putting the reader in the minds and behaviors of the key players.

Many interesting factoids come to light that helps the story along, weaving a path of what happened and why. Booth’s careful planning and ensuing conspiracy is developed nicely for a clear understanding of who was involved and why. (It also touches on the possibility of Stanton’s involvement.)

I appreciated that the events’ time segments were broken into separate chapters, sometimes very small in length. This helps the reader to follow the action, which is often simultaneous.

This book is worth your time, but is not a literary masterpiece, either.



## THE CIVIL WAR LETTERS OF LEVI J. FRITZ

(thank you to Rich Sauers for providing this series)

[Note – any grammatical and typographical errors were kept intact as they are original to the letter - editor]

Levi J. Fritz served in Company A, 53rd Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry. He enlisted in 1861 and was mustered out with the regiment in July 1865. During the course of the first three years of the conflict, Fritz wrote a number of lengthy missives to the *Montgomery Ledger*, a Pottstown newspaper.

Headquarters 53d Regiment P. V.,  
Camp Near Sandy Hook, Md.,  
Thursday, July 16th, 1863.

Messrs. Editors—We have received the *Ledger* of the 14th, and were somewhat surprised that a large communication that we wrote you several weeks ago, while our corps was watching an advancing column of the enemy and eating a dysenteryish quantity of cherries at Thoroughfare Gap, Va., did not reach you.—Hoping that the letter we scribbled under so many difficulties will yet turn up, we will, with a few dashes of the pen, leave our old camp near the battered and heroic city of Fredericksburg, and hasten to the beleaguered State of our birth and love.

We left Falmouth on the 15th of last month, and by a series of most severe marches we yet have performed, we marched via, Stafford Court House, Dumfries, Occoquan, Sangster Station and Centreville, to Thoroughfare Gap, Va., reaching the latter point on the night of the 20th. On Thursday night, June 29th, our pickets were attacked. An apparently heavy column of the enemy was advancing upon our position. Ordered to leave, which we accomplished instantly, the rebels hurrying our movements by repeated doses of shell in our rear, wounding several. We marched fifteen miles and bivouacked for the night at Gum Springs. A furious rain storm rained all night—somebody must have been hurrying up a contract for a new deluge. Next morning, we again moved onward, and by noon halted on the banks of the Potomac, at Edward's Ferry.

At midnight the column crossed the river on pontoon bridges and we were once more treading the fertile soil of "My Maryland." On the 27th we marched through the pleasant burg of Poolesville and mud. Passed Barnesville after nightfall and at 10 o'clock stacked arms on the eastern slope of Sugar Loaf Mountain. It was, as usual, raining most of the day—and it was a very wet and uncomfortable rain. Early next morning the column again moved forward, our route was through a splendid, rich and well-cultivated country, abounding with fields of golden grain and pretty blue-eyed girls. At noon we reached the summit of the heights, and spread out before us was the glorious, beautiful and picturesque valley, in the midst of which the steeples of Frederick City raise their white and slender forms towards the blue sky. We bivouacked at Monocacy, about two miles below that city.

At 7 A. M., (June 29th) the resumed the march, passed over Monocacy bridge at the railroad depot, passing to the right of the city about two miles, we struck the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, and once more passed over the Monocacy. Taking a road to the left, and which the residents told us was the direct way to Pennsylvania, we scarcely had marched a mile, when the omnipresent Monocacy again crossed our path, and for the third time we crossed it, this last time, however there was no bridges about, and so we forded it. About nine miles from Frederick we passed the "right smart" town of Liberty. A slave at Liberty will still be a slave. A march of six miles in a valley of the greatest fertility brought us to Johnstown—that being the collective title of a dozen cheerful looking residences, situated along the road at an average distance of one-fourth of a mile apart. We passed hundreds of acres of the finest wheat; at many places the farmers were busy harvesting. By 2 o'clock we arrived at Middleville and the weary end of eighteen miles.

The column was rested for a short time, when we again moved onward. The fact became painfully apparently that we were to do some "big" marching. On we go, over hills, through shaded woods and sweet-scented valleys; slowly but steadily the long dark blue heaving mass for miles dragged its slow length along. The sun slowly sank to rest in the far west, but there was no rest for us; in the beautiful twilight we kept marching on. By 8 o'clock, A. M., we had marched twenty-eight miles. Many of the troops were exhausted and lay by the roadside. Everybody was very tired. We even believe that some of our soldiers would have given utterance to more or less profane words, but they were too much exhausted to speak. Uniontown was generally believed to be our destination, and every countryman we met was asked a thousand times by as many different persons, "How far to Uniontown?" The answers of course would be contradictory. One said "four miles," marching a mile further we would receive the pleasing intelligence that it was "just five miles,"—this was refreshing plaster for blistered feet. Under the severe circumstances of the case many of the boys propounded to themselves in a manner peculiarly emphatic the question: "Oh! Why did you go for a soldier?"

But their understandings were too weak to furnish consoling reasons. To reach Uniontown and bivouac was during the time the height of our aspirations. By some hocus pocus the town gradually neared us—it was difficult to tell whether we were moving towards the village or the village moving towards us. We moved our weary limbs so slowly that we almost stood still. In answer to our interrogatories, the well fed farmers left off the "4's" and "5's" and got the distance mixed up in a conglomeration of "3's," "2½'s" and occasionally "4's." "

'Twas the o'clock that moonlight night, we ever shall remember," when *the* town was only "just over the hill," "a few hundred yards," &c. At last we reached it. We passed through it, and in the night darkened woods at the hour when the old day under cover of midnight shades was stealing good-night kisses from to-morrow, we lay our wearied bodies on the green sod and slept. The Yankees who done up seven nights' sleep in one night had a restless slumber in comparison with the sweet, balmy sleep of the boys of the 53d after a march of 32 miles in one day. We rested here twenty-four hours.

On the morning of July 1st, we packed up early and resumed the march. We moved slowly. We were nearing Pennsylvania and the enemy. How strange it sounds to use those two words in such close connection. Two miles march passed us through Taneytown. At 4 o'clock P. M., we passed over Mason & Dixon's line into the Keystone State. We were moving on the Gettysburg road. A fight was progressing in our front; at 10 o'clock we halted for the night about three miles from the battle field and bivouacked in line of battle. The 53d was put on picket. During the night the entire Division was engaged in building breastworks—it was possible that a flanking column of the enemy might attack us.

The following morning, the ever memorable day—Thursday, July 2d, we were marching before daybreak, and reached the battle field by 8 o'clock, and halted in a wood, where we rested half an hour. All the while the troops were briskly moving and taking positions in order of battle. We moved from the woods to the rear of the left centre of our line and the whole division was massed in columns of regiments. Slight cannonading was kept up all morning. About 3 o'clock, P. M., one of our batteries on the left opened fire, the enemy quickly responding, inaugurating quite a lively fusillade of shell and shot. The different divisions began moving in line of battle toward the front. The 3d Corps began the action. The enemy steadily resisted, and finally completely checked the advance of the 3d Corps, and it began falling back. This was part of Meade's programme—it led the enemy to do just what he did, follow up the 3d Corps and attack us in our chosen position of battle, where the advantage of position was in our favor.

About 4 o'clock our Division was moved to the left. It now became evident that the object of the enemy was to turn our left flank, and by so doing cut us from the Baltimore Pike and our source of supplies. The cannonading became terrifically grand—fully three hundred pieces of artillery were incessantly belching forth the missiles of death. The infantry engagement became general and was, like the cannonading, confined mainly to the left. The great battle for the redemption of Pennsylvania was being fought. Hearts beat high with hope—the army went in to the action confident of success—all hearts resolved on victory or death. The tide of battle rolled higher. The sharp cracking of a hundred thousand small arms kept dreadful harmony with the deep, deadly base of the heavy ordnance. The birds that had quietly nestled and warbled their cheering notes in the green foliage of the wood, flew screaming through the air, alarmed at the terrible uproar of battle.

For three hours the conflict raged with perfect fury; the rebels fought splendidly and made several desperate charges. But our brave soldiers were fighting for their homes and firesides, and gallantly repulsed every attempt to drive them from their position. Col. Brooke's Brigade went into action on the left about 4½, P. M. The 53d was formed in the centre of the brigade line of battle. Under a severe shelling fire the column was moved from the centre to reinforce the left. Formed in order of battle on the edge of a copse it moved forward in fine style, and relieved the 1st Brigade, and finally the Irish Brigade, when it had advanced about a fourth of a mile and reached the centre of a wheat field, firing commenced.

But this was too slow work for our brave Colonel, bayonets were fixed—"Forward, charge!" was the word, and with a loud hurrah, that was heard above the din of battle, at a double-quick, the entire line moved on. The enemy could not stand. He broke and ran for dear life. Hundreds of prisoners were captured. On went the line. Brave men fell. That field of golden wheat that was itself ready for the harvesters was made the bloody harvest field of death and carnage. Col. Brooke's sword still flashed in the advance, cheering on this grand old charge of the old veterans of the 4th Brigade. The crest of hill is captured, and the enemy is forced from a strong position.

But now a new unlooked for danger menaced our brave but decimated columns. For a mile and a half the 4th Brigade had charged a flying foe. The desired goal was reached, but the noble old brigade, in the fury of the onset, had outstripped the rest of our line and was far in the advance. The enemy soon perceived this and commenced crowding his troops on our both flanks with the intention of cutting us off and effecting the capture of the entire brigade. Col. Brooke at once dispatched Lieut. Smith, one of his aids, for reinforcements, but the aid was wounded, and at this juncture the Colonel received a painful contusion of the thigh. To prevent all from being killed, wounded or captured, the order was reluctantly given to retire back to our former line. This was effected in good order through a murderous fire of the enemy's infantry and artillery. Forming near Roundtop Hill about 8 o'clock, when the battle for the day was over. The enemy was repulsed at every point, the fight was expected to be renewed in the morning, and many were the surmises made with regard to Lee's plans for the morrow.

At early dawn on the morning of the 3d the challenge shot was fired from one of our batteries, which the enemy were prompt in answering. The morning was occupied in skirmishing and artillery dueling. At noon the enemy opened upon our left centre and left with all of his artillery, perhaps 150 guns, and shell, shot, grape and stones were thrown inside of our lines by tons. Our troops during the night had thrown up earthworks which served greatly to protect them from the furious fire of the enemy. Several "forlorn hopes" charged upon our works on the left, but in every instance it was an ignominious failure., and very few escaped to tell of their defeat and slaughter. Under

cover of this fierce artillery fusilade on our left, Lee threw the whole mass of his infantry on our right near nameless hill. This attempt to turn our right was gallantly met by the 12th and part of the 6th Corps. For several hours the attack continued, and only about sundown when some eighty pieces of artillery were cross-firing the rebel lines, they fell back. Thus on the close of the 3d days' battle the Union forces still remained the victorious masters of the position. And thus was closed the battle of Gettysburg, one of the most sanguinary of the war. Lee's army of invaders was badly defeated. His boasted programme of northern conquest was torn and scattered to the winds. His grand battalions that were to overpower, capture or disperse the Army of the Potomac, and march with the flaunting banner of the rebellion to Baltimore and the nation's Capital, were, in a fair contest completely overthrown, and, like thieves, escaped under cover of night. Pennsylvania was free from the traitor's foul foot-steps pollution. The blue starry cross of treason, shame and robbery, was tumbled into the mire and the transplendent oriflamme of freedom and Union on the morning of the anniversary of our nation's birth, waved the gorgeous emblem of victory, over all the fair fields and hills of the Keystone of the Republic.

On the 4th, the troops lay under arms in the breastworks; sharp skirmishing was going on. A reconnoissance to the front showed that the enemy was retreating and active measures were at once taken to closely follow up. Only seven Companies of the 53d were in the engagement. The other three Companies, A, B and K, were provost guard and were only under shelling fire and suffered no loss, except Henry Butz received a contusion wound of shell. The Regiment was commanded by Lieut. Col. McMichael, who nobly led his command through the thickest of the conflict. It is unnecessary to remark that in this the fifteenth battle in which the regiment has taken part, it acted gallantly. Of 124 men who went into action, only 45 came out uninjured. Six were killed, sixty-seven wounded and six missing. We intended to send you a list of casualties, but unfortunately we lost it, and have no means at present of getting one. The only casualty from Pottstown is Sergeant Major Samuel H. Rutter, who received a severe flesh wound in the leg by a minie ball, while gallantly fighting in the front line of the battle. In the regiment seven officers were wounded. Two officers of the 53d on Col. Brooke's staff, Capt. Smith and Lieut. Smith, both brave young men, were severely wounded. Lieut. John H. Root, Acting Assistant Inspector General of the first Brigade, was severely wounded in the shoulder, while in the hottest of the fight. He remained on the field attending to his duties half an hour after he was wounded.

It pains us to notice the death of Andrew Miesimer of battery A, 1st U. S. Artillery, who was shot dead while at his post of duty. He enlisted at the commencement of the war in Company A, 53d Pa. Vols., was in a number of engagements and for a few weeks was a prisoner of war in Richmond. Becoming tired of the infantry arm of service he was transferred to the Regular Artillery. While nobly fighting in the heat of the battle he died for his country, Liberty and law.

On the 4th we visited the 68th P. V. They were actively engaged on the 2d, and lost heavily. Col. Tippin exhibited great gallantry during the day, and had his horse shot under him. Lieut. Benjamin Guest commanded Company H, and the boys speak highly of his coolness and bravery in action. Company H fought with undoubted courage throughout the battle, and won laurels that will never fade. You have already received and published a list of their wounded. Our friend fellow-printer, Sergt. D. Q. Geiger, received a painful flesh wound during the fight. While gallantly using his "shooting-stick," a dastard rebel knocked his arm into "pi" with a minie ball. Many a column he "leaded" for the *Ledger*; but now a Johnny Reb has "leaded" him. May the "period" of his indisposition be short and may he soon again be able to make a "dash" in the "lines" of the enemy. May he long live to "shake types" and tense the "devil."

On Sunday July 5th, we left the battle-field and marched about three miles to a small place called Two Taverns where we bivouacked. On the 7th we left Pennsylvania and bivouacked at Taneytown to await supplies. Raining most of the time. Marched next day—raining all morning. The roads were in a miserable condition, and muddy enough in a quiescent state but ten thousand feet was working the roads into one long mortar bed. In one field that we passed through was of such an adhesive nature, that we thought we were passing through an acre or so of Spalding's prepared glue. At noon we halted one hour for dinner at Woodsborough. At 4 P. M., we bivouacked for the night within four miles of Frederick City—having marched twenty-two miles through the mud. The next day we marched about twenty miles, passing over South Mountain at night and halting for the night near Burkettsville.

On the 10th we passed through Rohrersville and Keeleysville and bivouacked near Funkstown about eight miles from Williamsport. Line of battle was formed by the Corps connected with the 12th Corps. Early next morning we marched, and had gone about two miles when our skirmishers engaged those of the enemy. The rebels were posted along the edge of a wood between the Hagerstown and Williamsport roads. After popping at each other for half an hour, two pieces of Pleasanton's horse artillery were put in position and commenced shelling the rebel skirmishers. In the afternoon we marched forward and occupied the woods in line of battle. During the night the troops fortified the position.

The next day, Sunday the 12th, things were quiet, except an occasional shot on the picket line. Monday was also quiet, General Meade reviewing the lines. A skirmish Brigade was under the command of Col. Brooke. About 8 o'clock the skirmishers carefully advanced, but had not gone many miles where they discovered that the enemy had evacuated. The line proceeded briskly forward capturing a number of prisoners. The line of skirmishers, including the 53d Pa., became engaged with those of the enemy near Williamsport, and drove the enemy before them, taking many prisoners. The enemy shelled our line, but did not hurt any one. The line was halted near

Falling Waters, where Lee crossed his infantry. The Rebel army had made a clean and thorough escape, saving nearly all his ammunition and stores.

The next day we resumed the march, passing through Sharpsburg and over the old battle-field of Antietam. At the mouth of Antietam creek, we left the road and marched on the tow-path of the Potomac canal. When near Harper's Ferry we bivouacked. The next morning, we had the pleasure of meeting some of our friends of the 175th P. V., that are here awaiting transportation, their time having expired. Captain Steele and Lieut. Binder look very well, after their tough campaign in the pine woods of North Carolina.

This day (16th) we reached Pleasant Valley, a few miles below Harper's Ferry, where we have gone into camp to refit, and wash ourselves—something that most of us sadly need.

Saturday, July 18th.

Early this morning we broke camp, and passing over the pontoon bridges at the Ferry we marched about 8 miles and are now in bivouac in Loudon Valley, near Waterford.

Yours, &c.,

Levi J. Fritz.

[*Montgomery Ledger*, August 4, 1863]

## **EXPERIENCES OF THE CIVIL WAR (PART 2)**

By Leavitt W. Cushing (a member of the original 53<sup>rd</sup> PVI, Co. G)

(supplied by Tom Kear, a decedent of an original 53<sup>rd</sup> member. Typos and grammatical errors were left 'as is')

Harpers Ferry Tuesday Oct 21<sup>st</sup> 1862

Dear Sister:

I take the first opportunity to inform you that we arrived here last night. We started from Washington Sunday about 5 o'clock PM, we had to go back towards Baltimore & then turn off to this place we were delayed on the road a good deal waiting for other trains, and about 3 o'clock in the morning an other train ran against in front our train was standing still waiting for it to pass, the switch was not right and it ran on to our track. It injured the engine attached to our train & broke up 2 o[or]3 cars in the other but there was no passengers on board & no one hurt we had to stay there till 9 o'clock in the morning before we could away, we got to Camp a little after dark, found Jay well and tough, tenting with J. Stevens & 2 others they made room for Charles & myself.

They have not their knapsacks yet and have only very small tents, not large enough to stand up in or to lay down in and straighten out cross ways I expect we shall draw some tents, perhaps today, we had the best breakfast this morning we have had since we left home, it was about the same fare but we fried our own meet & made our own coffee & it tasted better than usual, we had to go out and drill a little while just after I commenced writing. I don't know whether we shall have anything more to do today or not, I expect we shall have to do duty tomorrow.

Jay received a letter from you and Mary last night just after I got here. I was very glad of it for I had not heard from home since I left. I made a mistake in dating my letter in Washington it was the 18<sup>th</sup> I think instead of 17<sup>th</sup> I went up to the camp where Dwight's Co. was Sunday before we started. found E. Howe quite feeble but able to keep up and be around camp some of the time J Harvey was well. George Torry was sick and in the Hospital in the city Saturday night he was out of his head. I stopped and saw him a few minutes when I went back, he was better & thought the fever had turned.

The rest said he kept around as long as he could stand up he had been in the Hospital a week or more & was quite low, I did not see him but a few minutes. The rest of the boys from Ulysses are well. I suppose you have heard of Elder Willson's death or will before this reaches you. Lyman Came down to Washington with us & went over to Alaxander [Alexandria?] with but did not come back with us, but his officers sent after him the next day, all new recruits and them from the Hospi[tal] have to go there and stay till sent for.

I went with Jay after water this morn about ¾ of a mile, where there is a nice spring of good water. Lester Fling is not very well & I think he is quite homesick. Henry Y & Peter are well. the campground here is a large sidehill and not very steep and was quite a sight in the evening when the tents are all lighted up it looked like a large city. Walter Scott is out on picket duty will be in sometime today. It was quite cold last night and night before, yesterday was a little cool with a raw wind & it is a little windy to day. It don't look much like the wars coming to a close to see the troops stationed all over the country as they are from Baltimore to Washington and all along the Potomac.

Well, Frank how do you get along, have lots of chores to do I suppose, & all the cows to milk some of the time, but I suppose you have got through picking up potatoes by this and the corn husked, so you have not much but chores to do, I expect it is a good deal colder in Potter than it is here, you must write

& let me know how you get along I think of nothing more in particular to write and will close, My love to all, Goodbye to C.E. Cushing

L.W. Cushing

(end of part 2 – check out part 3 next month)

## **FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT**

Gentlemen,

We have a busy next several weeks (FINALLY). Landis Valley Civil War Days is November 6-7 with our friends from ELF as well as Sykes, Friday arrival has been approved for anyone who wishes to set up early. Supper on Saturday and breakfast on Sunday will be provided and served in the Hotel. We'll also have a tavern impression Saturday night. Plan on enough rounds to do three demos (two Saturday and one Sunday). It's looking like the overnight temps will be in the upper 30s with daytime temps in the low 50s. There is an option to sleep in the fire house or the hotel if you wish. Don't let the weather hold you back.

**We also have a prospective new recruit joining us. He's coming from Punxitawney and is a descendant of a 53rd veteran.**

Remembrance Day is November 20th. We typically have a low turnout for this event but I'd like to see everyone make an effort this year. The parade is back to the original route, I'm also planning a trip out to the 53rd's monument following the parade to get some good photos of us as a group and in kit. Let me know by the 13th if you're going.

The annual business meeting is scheduled for December 4th at Mark Fasnacht's home. For those who have never been to Mark's house, I'll provide the address and directions via email a little closer to the date. I'd like everyone to make a strong effort to attend the meeting. We have a lot of business to cover and it's been a long time since we met. Dues, insurance and your Holiday Party payments should be made at the meeting if possible. Pete, Matt and I made the decision last year to waive everyone's dues and we covered the financial expense for NR insurance and for the picnic out of the Treasury. With the loss of AHEC two years in a row, we have not had any money coming in but we have paid a lot out. Paying your dues at the meeting will be appreciated. The total is \$40.00 (\$30 for dues and \$10 for Insurance). Paying dues secures your good standing in the unit, allows you to vote on matters, and provides funds for unit supplies. We have some good events on the books for 2022 and possibly some date changes for ones we've always done. We'll cover this at the meeting. Unit NCO's and the office of President will be on the ballot this year. For the record, I have accepted the nomination for unit President for another term. Thank you for your trust.

I also need to know if anyone is willing to present a topic or lead a class at the NR's School of the Soldier. If so, reach out to me directly in the next week or so.

Finally, mark your calendars for the annual Holiday Party at the Dobbin House. The date is January 15th. Pete and/or I will have some info at Landis Valley and again at the meeting. Help us spread the word to those who have retired.

See y'all soon!

Eric

## **THE CIVIL WAR MERCHANT**

*(if you have something for sale or are looking for something, email me to include it in a future edition of "The Sentinel")*

### **For Sale –**

(1.) Listed by Rick Kramer for a friend. All items are in good shape unless noted otherwise. Contact Rick directly for any inquiries/questions - [auktion8@comcast.net](mailto:auktion8@comcast.net)

Keune McDowell Kepi - some brim cracking \$20.00

Grey Blanket with black stripe \$35.00

(2.) Kerry Williard is handling the selling of Dave Swigert items for Dave's wife. Marc and I met several months ago to look at the items, give them descriptions, and give approx. values. Several of the items have been sold yet some remain. The list is current as of 6 July 2021. Contact Kerry directly with any and all inquiries: [shamokin71@aol.com](mailto:shamokin71@aol.com) (see the updated list below)

Uniform Clothing			Misc Items				
Quantity	Item	Item Description	approx. value	Quantity	Item	Item Description	approx. value
1	Sack Coats - Assume Size 42 Dk Blue Wool	unlined faded course wool	20	1	Tin Cup	sturdy	5
1	Trouser - Steel Blue each with suspenders	34 min waist/27" inseam - avg. condx and a little dirt w/ braces no watch pockets	25	1 can	sno-seal (half full)		1
1	Trouser - Steel Blue each with suspenders	36 min waist/27" inseam - avg. condx and a little dirt w/ braces no watch pockets	25	1	Wood Mirror - Haversack filler	sliding cover	3
1	Dk Blue Vest Size 42	3 pockets - light wear	20	1	Wood Comb - Haversack filler		1
3 pairs	Grey Wool Socks	modern	2/pair	1	Wooden button board		1
2	Hats - Union & Confederte for children		1	2	Coin Purses - Made from Tic Material		1/each
1	Light Brown Scarf	acrylic - for modern use	1	1	Cloth ditty Bag	used (1 left, 7 sold)	1/each
1	Havelock - White - VG condx		2	1	Bag with Coffee	brown coffee	1/each
1	Underpants - Night Pants - White	36" waist - knee stains - 25" inseam white muslin - rear repair	3	1	shoe lace - undied		25/each
1 pair	Woolen Grey Gloves	modern - right hand is fingerless	2	2	Soap Bar		1/each
				6 1/2	Wax Candles		0.5
1	Cap Box with Caps w/ pick		20	1	pocket sharpenig stone	new	2
1	Haversack - tarred Black	w/ liner - paint beginning to flake. holes at strap connections.	10	3	box rifle cleaning kit	pads, steel wool, rags, etc	5
1	Scabbord	late war 7 rivet	15	1 Pair	match boxes w/ matches		0.25/each
1	Cartridge Box with Tin Inserts	w/ sling and brass and late war plate - tools, cone, etc.	35	1	shoe tree		3
1	Haversack - tarred Black	brittle strap, open seam	5	1	Green Army Duffle Bag		3
1	Shelter Tent - Both Halves	heavy canvas with loops w/ mildew	35	1	drawers for use as patches		1
1	Bag of 7 wooden Tent Stakes	with rope	3	1	large shite cotton sheeting		1
1	Blue Cloth Bulls-Eye Canteen	w/ chain stopper needs new sling	20				
1	Grey Smooth Face Canteen	leather sling satinette cover w/ corded stopper with light wear	20				

**2021 CALENDAR OF EVENTS** - *due to covid, all events are tentative as of right now.*



- ~~27-28 March~~ NR School of Instruction — Virtual  
~~1-2 May~~ Camp of Instruction — Gruber Wagon Works (Reading) — POSTPONED  
~~15-16 May~~ USAHEC Event — cancelled  
~~31 May~~ Hummelstown Memorial Day Parade — CANCELLED  
~~12-13 June~~ Fenian Raid (8<sup>th</sup> OH) — Fort Erie, Canada — contact Tom Downes for more info.  
~~19-20 June~~ Ft. Mifflin (Philadelphia)  
~~17-18 July~~ Drill at Gruber Wagon Works (with ELF and NR)  
~~31 July~~ Company Picnic — Denver Park  
~~7-8 Aug.~~ Cedar Mountain Re-enactment — contact James Owens (1<sup>st</sup> MN) for more info.  
~~28-29 August~~ 53<sup>rd</sup> PVI Living History w/ ELF — Spangler's Spring — Gettysburg NMP CANCELLED  
~~16-17 Oct~~ Cedar Creek Re-enactment (NR Max Effort)  
6-7 November — Civil War Days at Landis Valley — Lancaster **53rd MAX EFFORT**  
20 November — Remembrance Day Parade/NR Meeting — Gettysburg  
4 December — Annual business meeting

Other events -

- ~~12~~ — Newville (with 1st MN) — CANCELLED  
~~10-11 July~~ 1st MN's Living History @ PA Monument (the 53rd PVI is invited) CANCELLED

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