

53rd Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry

Company C

"The Sentinel" May 2021

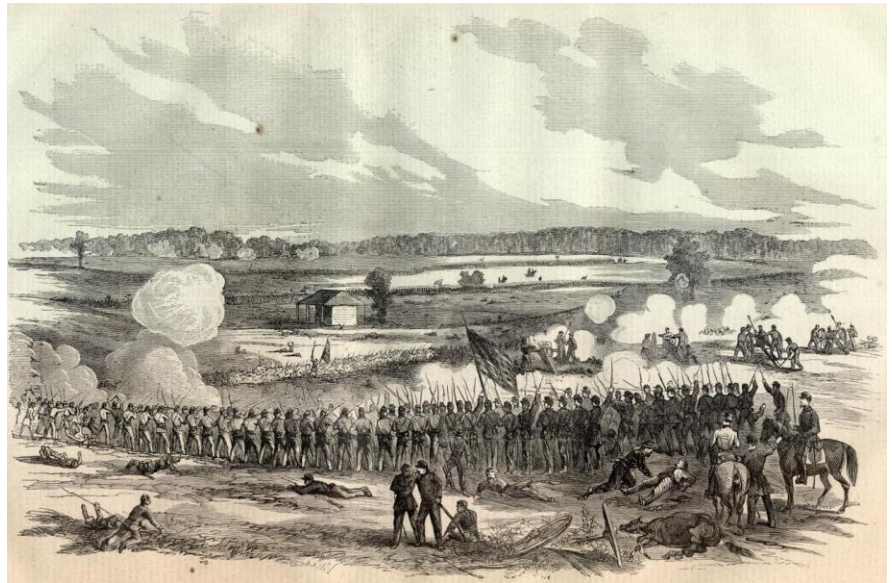
Newsletter of The James Creek Guards



"Clubs Are Trump!"

This Month:

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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

SURVIVING, PERSEVERING, AND PROFITEERING: THE STORY OF LYDIA LEISTER AT GETTYSBURG

By: Jessica Roshon of the [Gettysburg Compiler](#) (reprinted with permission)

“War on the Doorstep: Civilians of Gettysburg”

By late June of 1863, alarms warning of approaching Confederate forces were nothing new for the 2,400 residents of Gettysburg. Living just ten miles from the Mason-Dixon line, small-scale raids, kidnappings of freed-people, and rumors of an imminent clash between the two great armies had long plagued the borough and its surrounding community. Nevertheless, none of these events could prepare Gettysburgians for the ferocious 3-day fight between 165,000 soldiers in early July of that year that would transform the lives and lands of Gettysburg's civilians forever. However, these civilians' experiences were not monolithic; while some were defined by tragedy and blight, others included remarkable episodes of perseverance, successful pragmatism, and creative profiteering. This new blog series profiles the lives of diverse Gettysburgians who were forced to confront the war at their very doorsteps, each on their own terms, whose stories speak to the kaleidoscope of experiences of civilians struggling to survive, and thrive, along the Pennsylvania-Maryland border during the Civil War.

When the Civil War arrived on the literal doorstep of widow, Lydia Leister in July of 1863, it transformed her small plot of land into one of the most famous postage stamps on the Gettysburg battlefield, but also into a blighted homestead. Lydia was forced to flee her house during the battle to seek safety elsewhere, but it is the

story of how Lydia chose to respond to the destruction she encountered upon returning to her homestead that sets her apart from so many.



A Photograph of the Headquarters of General Meade, Commander of the Union Army” by Alexander Gardner and Timothy O’Sullivan, July 1863. (Courtesy of The Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) via Metropolitan New York Library Council and Empire State Digital Network)

Lydia was born in Carroll County, Maryland and was of German descent. She married her husband, James Leister, also of Carroll County, sometime before 1830 and eventually they settled down on a farm built by James’s father in Silver Run, Maryland. Together, they had six children: James Leister, Jr., Eliza, Amos, Daniel, Hannah, and Matilda.

In 1850, the couple moved to the Gettysburg area where they remained until James passed away on December 11, 1859. Fortunately, Lydia was able to sustain herself financially with money her father, John Study, left to her in his will. She ultimately bought a farm of nine acres for \$900.00 on the Taneytown Road, in Cumberland Township, on March 30, 1861. The land was first owned by a man named Thomas Nolan, who had sold it to Henry Bishop, Jr. around 1840. Bishop then sold his ten acres of land, one and a half story log cabin, and several outbuildings to Lydia Leister. These buildings would famously become the site of General Gordon Meade’s headquarters in the years to come.

On the afternoon of July 1, 1863, a man arrived on horseback and informed 54-year-old Lydia and her two children then present at the home, Hannah and Matilda, that they needed to evacuate, since fighting was drawing closer to the area. Although the other children are unaccounted for during the time of the battle, it is known that Amos Leister, born October 22, 1840, had enlisted in the Union Army and marched in the 165th PA from October 16, 1862 to July 28, 1862, then later reenlisted in 1865. James Leister, Jr. was also in the service of the Union Army. In any case, upon receiving the warning, Lydia packed a chip basket full of clothes and followed an officer on the Taneytown Road to George Spangler’s nearby farm, where other civilians had gathered to seek shelter. They remained there for a time until the area fell under artillery fire, so the small group of civilians proceeded to a new safe haven on the Baltimore Road where they remained for several days, waiting out the fighting. Once the battle concluded, Lydia and her family returned to their home to find the house and the surrounding farmland ravaged by shellfire.

During the battle, the Leister farm had sat slightly to the rear of the Union line, somewhat sheltered behind a gentle slope and along a major Union thoroughfare, making it an ideal location to set up the base of communications which eventually became General George Meade’s headquarters after the first day’s battle. The house and barn also served as a temporary field hospital. On the other hand, its strategic position also made it the recipient of massive amounts of artillery fire. One shell fell straight through the whitewashed main house, demolishing the front porch and blowing a bedstead to smithereens. Both during and after the fighting, soldiers scavenged much of the house’s siding for grave markers and firewood. All the fence rails on the property collapsed and burned. Additionally, the barn and outbuildings also suffered severe damage. Lydia’s crops and yard also fell victim to scavenging soldiers and artillery shells alike: Frantic horses had trampled all her wheat, soldiers had impressed most of her meat and flour, shot and shell had destroyed her peach and apple trees, and the rotting corpses of fallen

horses contaminated her spring. Despite these seemingly insurmountable losses, her age, and her widowhood, Lydia Leister ultimately managed to take them in stride and was able not only to recoup her losses, but ironically make a profit off of the battle's destruction as well.

In the weeks following the battle, Lydia replaced the siding on the barn and house and had the well re-dug. In order to acquire some of the money necessary to finance these repairs, she began selling the bones of dead horses on her property after the meat rotted off them one year later. Although the remains of horses were used for a variety of products, the main usage for bones was to harvest a substance called collagen and use it to make an adhesive. This process must have been extremely appalling and gruesome work for Lydia and her daughters; however their willingness to defy traditional 19th-century gender norms provides an illustrative example of how war-time necessity could, in many instances, stretch and shift the boundaries between masculine and feminine spheres. By 1868, Lydia's work had clearly paid off, as she expanded her property with the acquisition of nine additional acres on the northern side of the original property from Peter Frey for \$900.00.

She also put on a two-story addition to the east gable of the house and expanded the barn in 1874. She remained on the farm until 1888, when her failing health caused her to move in with her daughter, Hannah, in the borough of Gettysburg itself. In May of that same year, the Gettysburg Battlefield Preservation Association purchased the Leister farm for \$3000.00, eventually turning the property over to the National Park Service in 1933. Even though six decades had passed since the battle, Lydia still strove to transform the legacy of the destruction and bloodshed wrought on her farmstead into lucrative outcomes. Lydia herself passed away on December 29, 1893 on her 84th birthday.



The Leister Farm as photographed by Alexander Gardner on July 6, 1863. (Library of Congress)

Lydia Leister's story highlights her industriousness, determination, and remarkable ability to turn the war's destructive forces into engines for personal opportunity. She did not receive any assistance from the government to repair her property, so she earned every penny by herself. Lydia even engaged in a subtle form of war profiteering, with the sale both of the horse bones and of her now famous property, in order to attain this money and achieve long-term financial stability in the wake of the battle. Despite the necessity of these actions, German stereotypes common throughout the 19th century tainted, if not obscured the full significance behind the nature and meaning of Lydia's profiteering. One particular encounter between an early tourist of the battlefield and Lydia plainly showcases such impressions: "This poor woman's entire interest in the great battle was, I found, centered in her own losses," the man disgustedly remarked. "That the country lost or gained she did not know nor care, never having once thought of that side of the question."

The man also made a point to comment on Lydia's very plain, "Dutch"-like appearance and thick accent, implying that Lydia's German heritage was largely to blame for her selfish, harsh demeanor and seeming political ignorance. However, Lydia's struggles highlight how the harsh realities of war at the doorstep, by necessity, often re-focused civilians' gaze squarely on the pragmatism of family survival, whereas civilians out of harm's way, politicians, and even those soldiers on the front lines often placed discussions of the politics of war, martial order, camaraderie, and the political outcomes of military campaigns at the fore. As a result, individuals such as this tourist were inclined to misunderstand, mischaracterize, or misinterpret Lydia's post-battle endeavors and concerns as unseemly, selfish, ignorant, or even backward. Truth be told, Lydia Leister was none of these, as it was her grit, determination, and creative opportunism in the face of incredible hardship that allowed her and her family to look to the future with great optimism.

OLD PHOTOS OF THE 53RD PVI

(shared by Jeff Marks)



The 53rd PVI at Burkittsville MD (circa 1982) – L to R: Marty Dean, Bob More, John Nyeste, Jeff Marks, Joe Zaiss, Bot Roda, Jeff Driscoll, Barry Dusel, John Heiser, Dave Sequin, Curt Breitegan, Dave Lindoerfer, Craig Long, Ray Hock, Bill Hinks, Bill Benda, and Rodney Yeaple.



The 53rd from an event in 1987 – L to R: John Nyeste, Dave Sequin, Jack Pastezac, unknown, Jeff Marks, John Lowry, Rick Sauers. Photo by Glenn Riegel.

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.

Camp Curtin, Harrisburg,
Saturday, Aug. 24th, 1861.

Messrs. Editors:--As many of your readers know on Wednesday morning the Madison Guards of Pottstown (lately Company C, 4th Reg. P. V.) left in the morning train for Harrisburg, having enlisted for the war now existing.

We arrived in Harrisburg at 2 o'clock and were marched immediately to Camp Curtin. We were at once supplied with a complement of tents and before evening we received our quota of blankets, knives and forks, spoons, tincups, plates, &c. Rations are plenty and eatable, consisting alternately of fresh beef, corned beef and bacon; as well as hard and soft bread, rice and beans. Camp Curtin, that until a recent period was in a miserable unhealthy condition, has been thoroughly renovated. The old cattle stalls in which we spent a night on the straw some four months ago, are all torn down, and the camp looks passing tidy and comfortable. The soldiers are nearly all quartered under canvass; the tents are also furnished with boards for flooring them, being a great improvement and much more cleaner and warmer than straw. At the present date there is about eighteen hundred men in camp, these being divided amongst perhaps thirty companies. Very few companies come in with the regular number of men in their ranks. Volunteering is about "played out," and unless some unforeseen circumstances arise to prevent it, the next quota of men called for will be furnished by the drafting process. I have it from good authority that arrangements for drafting the militia are now being concluded. Our boys are all well and in excellent spirits, in fact our Company is becoming celebrated throughout the camp for its continuous liveliness. We have some excellent singers in our ranks, and so in the evenings our improvised concerts are attended by a large congregation of the neighboring companies, and our vocal efforts are applaudingly received. We are getting along in a merry old style, and "so let Southernors do as they will, we'll be gay and happy still." We have not yet been mustered into service--we are waiting for recruits. It is impossible at the present writing to say when we will be moved from here; it is the general desire of the men to go south as soon as possible.

The following is the "order of the day" in this camp: Morning--Company drill from 5.30 to 6.30; Squad drill, 7.30 to 8.30; Officers drill, 7.30 to 8.30; Company drill, 9 to 10.30; Sergeants drill 11 to 12. Afternoon--Squad drill by officers, 2 to 3; Sergeants drill, 3 to 4; Officers drill, 4 to 5; Company drill, 5 to 6; Dress parade at 6.

Yours, &c. L.J.F.

[*Ledger*, September 3, 1861]

BOOK REVIEW: ELMIRA – DEATH CAMP OF THE NORTH

Reviewed and Submitted by Mike Espenshade. Author: Michael Horigan.

Hardback; 2002; Stackpole Books; 198 pp.; pictures, additional 25 pp notes, bibliography, appendices, indexed. \$5.00 at a used book store.

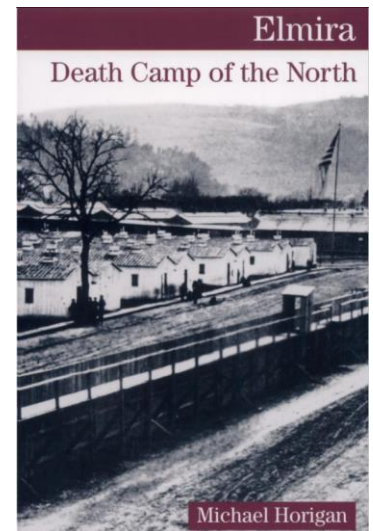
The Civil War prison camp at Elmira, New York, opened July 6, 1864 and closed on July 11, 1865. 12,123 Confederate prisoners passed through its gates during this single year of existence. Hauntingly, 2,950 of them died during their incarceration. Known as "Hellmira" by the prisoners, the nearly 25% death rate is the highest of any northern prison camp.

After 10 years of research, the author follows the gross oversights and unconscionable inactivity of the Union prison's staff. The strong evidence is presented that Elmira was targeted for retaliation by Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton to try to improve conditions in the southern prison camps.

Deliberate overcrowding, reduced rations, severe clothing shortages by withholding clothing sent by loved ones, and sloth-like remedies to unhealthful water conditions and lack of quarters all contributed to the miseries and high death rate.

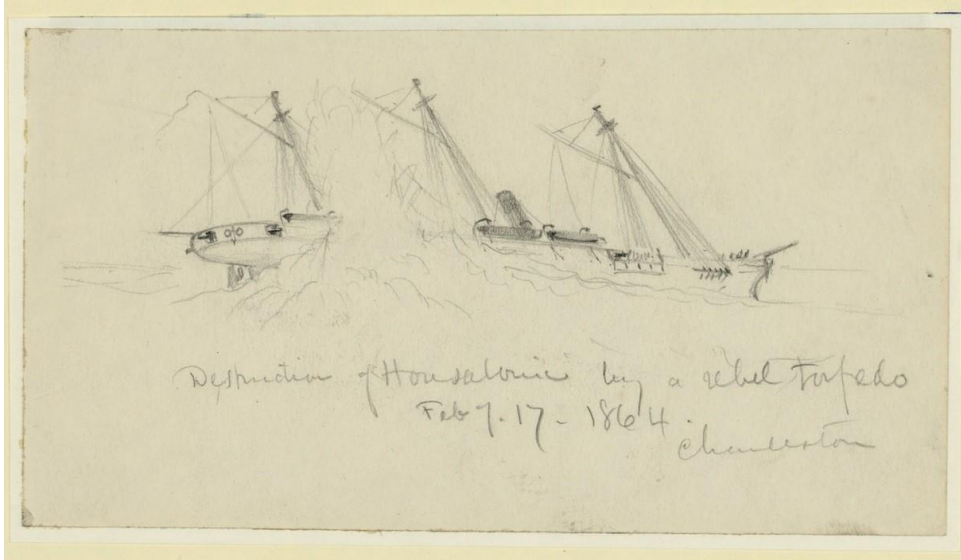
The book is a good read, reveals much (not good) about the Union Prison leadership - from Stanton on down. The politics involved, the townspeople attitudes, many personal accounts by prisoners and key figures, Federal communications with Southern authorities, etc. is reviewed nicely to provide a 360 degree scene for the reader.

A map of the prison camp should have been provided - would have benefited my experience a great deal.



A DIFFERENT CONCLUSION TO THE CSS HUNLEY AND THE BLUE LIGHT DEBATE

by Christopher Rucker, June 19, 2020 blueandgrayeducation.org



*Destruction of the Housatonic
by a rebel torpedo, February
17, 1864*

The USS *Housatonic* was sunk by a Confederate torpedo from the Confederate submarine *Hunley* on the evening of February 17, 1864, off the Charleston coast. The author concludes that the blue light observed by Confederate lookouts at Battery Marshall, and by a sailor on the sunken *Housatonic*, came from the Federal tug *Daffodil*, rather than the *H.L. Hunley*. Arguments that the blue light originated from something other than the sub are not novel, but they never gained traction because of the lack of evidence, and the preponderance of evidence that supports the *Hunley* as the signal's source.

We know for a fact that before the mission there were "signals agreed upon" between the *Hunley* crew and her shore base. We know for a fact that a newspaperman said that the signals were "two blue lights." Since the plan was to send signals, which were observed on shore by the Confederates who had agreed to look for them (another fact), logical researchers have concluded that the sub sent the blue light signals.

Let us examine the argument that the blue light came from a Federal vessel. *Housatonic* crewman Robert Flemming's testimony is critical, since he established the position of the blue light and the battlefield geometry. Flemming was 22- year-old African-American marble cutter from Cambridgeport, Massachusetts, who had enlisted in the Navy on either June 22, 1862, or May 14, 1863. That gave him between nine and 20 months of sea experience by the time the *Housatonic* was sunk, depending upon which enlistment date is accurate. His keen eyes were the first on his ship to detect the approaching sub (another fact), which should dispel any doubts about his observational skills. There was no social status so low as an African- American landsman on a U.S. warship, yet while deposed by a white superior officer in an investigation that might have assigned him some blame for the *Housatonic's* loss, Flemming was unintimidated and offered his unsolicited comment about the blue light. I find him to be a courageous and reliable witness.

Let us look at the testimony in its unedited form, which supports the submarine as the source of the blue light. The examining officer asked: "Did you see this object (the submarine) at any time after you fired at it?" Flemming answered: "I did not. When the *Canadaigua* got astern, and lying athwart of the *Housatonic*, about four ships lengths off, **while I was in the fore rigging I saw a blue light on the water just ahead of the *Canadaigua***, and on the starboard quarters of the *Housatonic*." Flemming could have stopped his answer after saying "I did not," but he added, without being prompted, his statement about the blue light. He was obviously eager to tell the officer that he didn't see the sub itself, but he sure knew where it was, because its position was marked by the blue light. He couldn't see the sub for the same reasons he didn't see it approach his ship until it was too late for the *Housatonic* to defend itself or escape: The sub was black, quiet, its hull barely awash, and it was over 800 feet ("four ships lengths") from his observation point on the sunken ship. It was a stealth vessel, invisible to Flemming even on a night brightly lit by an almost full moon.

Could a tugboat in the vicinity of the *Canandaigua* be a plausible source for the blue light that Flemming believed marked the position of the *Hunley*? Look closely at the sequence of events, and we see that this argument is without merit. I have personally reviewed the original deck logs of the four ships in the South Atlantic Blockading Squadron, which were within steaming distance of the *Housatonic*: the USS *Canandaigua*; the USS *Wabash*; the USS *Mary Sanford*; and the USS *Paul Jones*. We can dispense with the last two, which did not learn of the sinking until the next day. The *Canandaigua* was the closest, about a mile and a half to the southwest of the *Housatonic* (Fig. 1).

Charleston Harbor, 1864

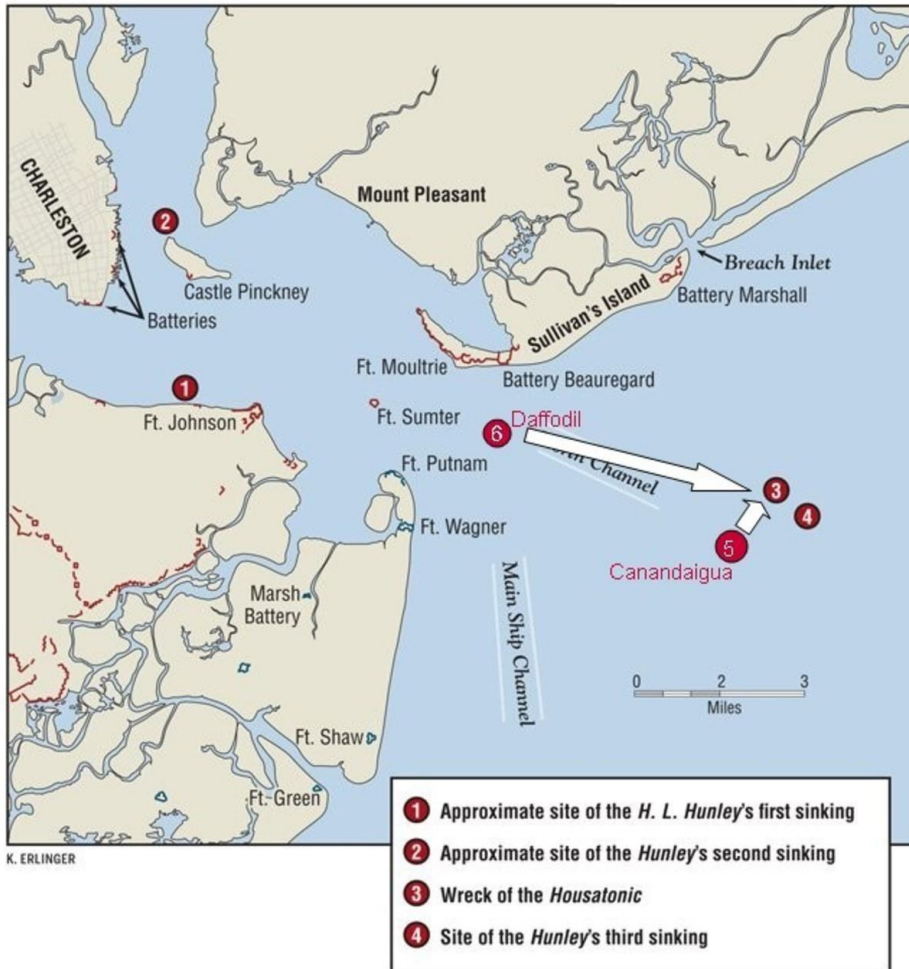


Figure 1. The approaches of the USS *Canandaigua* and *Daffodil* to the *Housatonic* wreck | Adapted from US Naval Institute map

Here is an abstract of the *Canandaigua*'s ship log.

Abstract Log of the USS *Canandaigua*, Captain Green, US Navy, Commanding

February 17, 1864. At 9:20 pm discovered a boat pulling toward us. Hailed her and found her to be from the *Housatonic*. She reported the *Housatonic* sunk by a torpedo. Immediately slipped our chain and started for the scene of danger, with the *Housatonic*'s boat in tow. At the same time sent up three rockets and burned Coston signals No. 82 and soon after burned 82 again. At 9:30 pm picked up another boat from the *Housatonic*, with Captain Pickering on board. At 9:35 arrived at the *Housatonic* and found her sunk. Lowered all boats, sent them alongside, and rescued the officers and crew, clinging to the rigging. At 10:30 all were brought from the wreck. Brought on board this ship,

belonging to the *Housatonic*, 21 officers and 137 men. At 11:30 stood toward the *Wabash*, to the southward and westward. Made signal to the *Mary Sanford*. The tug *Daffodil*, from inside the bar, communicated with us, Lieutenant Commander Belknap on board. At 12 communicated with the *Wabash* and send on board of her 8 officers and 49 men belonging to the *Housatonic*. [i]

The *Canandaigua*'s log is unequivocal: The entire crew of the *Housatonic* was onboard by 10:30 p.m., well before the *Daffodil* arrived. Flemming could not have observed a blue light displayed from the tug while he was suspended in the rigging of the *Housatonic*. This fact alone disproves the theory that the tug displayed the blue light.

If it had been correct that the *Daffodil* burned a blue light, it begs the questions of "where" and "why?" Flemming clearly stated that the blue light was ahead of the *Canandaigua*, so the *Daffodil* would have had to be ahead of the *Canandaigua*, as well. There are two possible orientations of the *Canandaigua* relative to the sunken *Housatonic*, which had its bow directed into the tidal current and slight wind coming from the northwest (Fig. 2). In scenario A, the *Canandaigua* was situated with its bow facing to the southeast, having passed to the *Housatonic*'s stern as reported by Flemming. Since the *Daffodil* came from the near-shore bar outside of Charleston Harbor, it was proceeding offshore, arriving at the *Canandaigua* from the northwest, approaching it from behind. If *Daffodil* burned a blue light to herald its arrival, the signal would have been behind the *Canandaigua*, not ahead of it, where it was seen by Flemming. Clearly, in this arrangement of the two ships, the blue light observed by Flemming could not have come from the tug approaching

the *Canadaigua*.

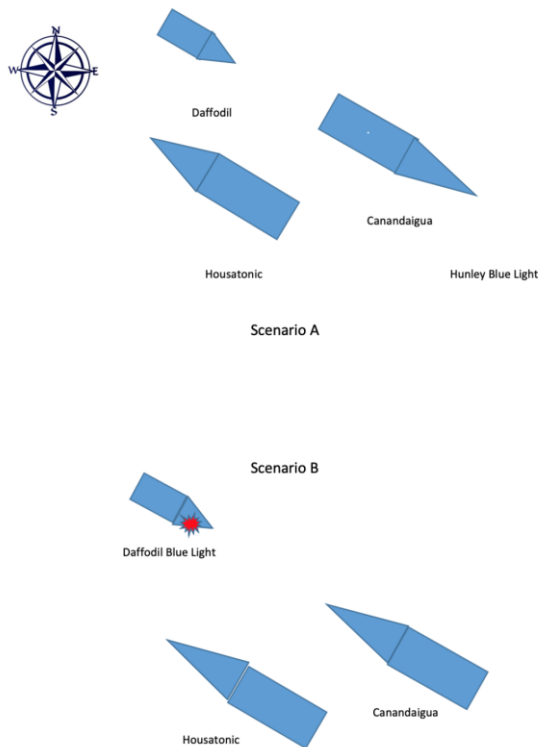


Figure 2. Two possible orientations of the USS *Canadaigua*, not to scale.

In scenario B, the *Canadaigua*'s bow was positioned to the northwest, parallel to the *Housatonic*. In this position, the approaching *Daffodil* would be ahead of the *Canadaigua*, and it is correct that if it burned a blue light, Flemming's report of it would be consistent with his testimony. However, there is an obvious problem with this scenario. A 110-foot-long steam-powered tug is not a stealth vessel: Its approach is heralded by the coaming at its bow and the splash of its side wheels, the noise of its engine, the odor of the coal smoke plume from its prominent stack, and the running lights of its lanterns. Had the *Daffodil* burned a blue light "just ahead of the *Canadaigua*" (Flemming's words), he also would have seen the very visible tug. He wouldn't have testified that he "saw a blue light on the water," but instead would have said that he saw the tug burn a blue light.

The theory that a vessel other than the *H.L. Hunley* burned the blue light doesn't hold water. Unfortunately, we will never find a log of the *Daffodil* to provide any new evidence. National Archive staff can't find one because she was not a commissioned vessel, and therefore wasn't required to keep a log. Everything in the historical record fits the conclusion

that the *H.L. Hunley* signaled to shore after sinking the *Housatonic*. The *Daffodil* was a bit player that didn't figure in the main plot.



H.L. Hunley recovery in 2000 - U.S. Government

[i] Brian M. Thomsen, *Blue & Gray at Sea: Naval Memoirs of the Civil War* (New York: Tom Doherty Assoc., 2003), 431.

NEWVILLE EVENT INFO –

As mentioned in the April edition of *The Sentinel*, the 53rd PVI and our ELF friends have been invited by James Owens (1st MN) to their drill event in Newville. **The date has been changed to 12 June.** The event will be on private land in Newville, PA being preserved through a non-profit organization. Below is additional info from James:

-Starts at 10:00 AM Saturday. It may be a 1 day only event or may be extended into Sunday around lunch. More details to follow.

-Camp will be shelter halves only

-Activities will include company drill, skirmish drill, a short field march and some talks on material culture subjects (TBA)

-Will finish off the weekend with knapsack drill and guard mount

-Tailgate sale Saturday evening for folks interested.

Marc Benedict has agreed to cook. There will be a cost per man (for food and port-o-john rental) which hasn't been decided yet. According to James, the site is really nice and well cared for. There is plenty of shade and parking will be close by. The Blue Hill Green Space project, the non-profit preserving the land, is designed to keep land adjoining Laughlin Mill and the mill stream open for use in both historical program as well as conservation and nature study. For more information got to www.bluehillgreenspace.org.

Should be a good event to help get the rust off after being off the field for so long and a good opportunity to spend some time with your pards. Please let me know ASAP if you plan to attend and I will email the list to James. We may be able to do a car-pool to the event. We will send more info/updates once we get them as we get closer to the date.

A WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT.....

Pards,

I hope this finds y'all well. I'm happy to see that we have a couple of event opportunities coming up in the near future at Newville and Ft. Mifflin. I'm not going to go into detail here as I know Matt has the events info outlined in the newsletter. As we move forward, and sites are beginning to open, they're still trying to evaluate how to host events. I've been in contact with most and it's a constant evolving situation. I'm asking everyone to keep the event dates that we have on the schedule on your calendars. I'll keep everyone posted on any changes as I learn of them. Matt will adjust the schedule on our website accordingly. For those who haven't seen the recent email for a new Memorial Day service, please check your inbox and let me know if you can make it.

Please be patient with the process. I know that we'll be back in the field sooner than later.

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 in good shape unless noted otherwise. Contact Rick directly for any inquiries/questions - 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 a few weeks ago to look at the items, give them descriptions, and provide approx. values. Several of the items have been sold yet many some remain. The list is current as of 30 January 2021: Contact Kerry with any and all inquiries: shamokin71@aol.com (see list on next

Quantity	Item Description	descr.	approx. value	Quantity	Item Description	descr.	approx. value
Uniform Clothing							
1	Great Coat - Enlisted Assume Size 42	minor staining - heavy wool	SOLD	1	Tin Cup	sturdy	5
1	Sack Coats - Assume Size 42 Dk Blue Wool	lined	SOLD	1	Mess Kit		SOLD
1	Sack Coats - Assume Size 42 Dk Blue Wool	unlined faded course wool	20				
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	Trouser - Steel Blue each with suspenders	36 min waist/27" inseam - avg. condx and a little dirt w/ braces no watch pockets	25	1	Tin Dinner Plate		SOLD
1	Dk Blue Vest Size 42	3 pockets - light wear	20	1	Fork		SOLD
1	Colored Pattern Shirt	blue plaid with white china buttons - sun faded - good condx	SOLD	1	spoon		SOLD
1	Colored Pattern Shirt	blue and brown plaid - bone buttons - large - very good condx - neck 16"	SOLD	2	Small Fry Pan & Large Fry Pan		SOLD
1	White muslin Shirt	inside neck stains 21" at shoulder 16" neck	10	1 can	sno-seal (half full)		1
1	White muslin Shirt	19" at shoulder 14" neck - very short in body length	5				
1	White muslin Shirt	20" at shoulder 16" neck - very short in body length - cuffs are stained	5	1	Wood Mirror - Haversack filler	sliding cover	3
1 pair	Woolen Grey Gloves	modern - right hand is fingerless	2	1	Wood Comb - Haversack filler		1
1	Underpants - Night Pants - White	36" waist - knee stains - 25" inseam white muslin - rear repair	3	1	Wooden button board		1
1	Underpants - Night Pants - White	34" waist/field modified can be enlarged 4" - 28" inseam white muslin	SOLD	1	Toothbrush w/ tooth powder	bone handle bristle - new	SOLD
1	Lt Brown Scarf	acrylic - for modern use	1	1	Housewife with buttons/needles	blue plaid	SOLD
1	Havelock - White - VG condx		2	2	Coin Purses - Made from Tic Material		1/each
1	red nightcap with black tassel		SOLD	1	Cloth ditty Bag	used (1 left, 7 sold)	1/each
3 pairs	Grey Wool Socks	modern	2/pair	1	Bag with Coffee	brown coffee	1/each
2	Hats - Union & Confederte for children		1	1	shoe lace - undied		25/each
				2	Soap Bar		1/each
				6 1/2	Wax Candles		0.5
Accoutrements							
1	Cap Box with Caps w/ pick		20	1	pocket sharpenig stone	new	2
1	waist belt	53" long w/brass keeper	5 SOLD	1	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	Gum Blanket	some cracking with oversized grommets	20	1	Green Army Duffle Bag	drawers for use as patches	1
1	Grey Blanket	with US sewn	SOLD	1	large shite cotton sheeting		1
1	Shelter Tent - Both Halves	heavy canvas with loops w/ mildew	35	1	sky blue patch material - 3 pcs		SOLD
1	Bag of 7 wooden Tent Stakes	with rope	3	2	hankerchiefs - blue cotton	used	SOLD
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				
1	Knapsack - Black	double bag w/ blanket straps - needs light cleaning	SOLD				
1	Haversack - tarred Black	brittle strap, open seam	5				
1	Haversack - tarred Black	w/ liner - paint beginning to flake. holes at strap connections.	10				

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 - NR Camp of Instruction - Gruber Wagon Works (Reading) - **POSTPONED**
- 15-16 May - USAHEC Event - cancelled
- 31 May - Hummelstown Memorial Day Parade - cancelled (see Eric's email about another event that we've been invited to that same day)
- June - Company Picnic - Date/Location TBD
- 12-13 June - Fenian Raid (8th OH) - Fort Erie, Canada - contact Tom Downes for more info.
- 19-20 June - Ft. Mifflin (Philadelphia) - NR units are invited
- 17-18 July - Landis Valley "Civil War Days" (Lancaster)
- 7-8 Aug. - Cedar Mountain Re-enactment
- 28-29 August - 53rd PVI Living History w/ ELF - Spangler's Spring - Gettysburg NMP
- 4-5 Sept - Old Bedford Village - Bedford, PA - NR Max Effort
- 16-17 Oct - Cedar Creek Re-enactment (NR)
- 20 November - Remembrance Day Parade/NR Meeting - Gettysburg
- 4 December - Annual business meeting



Other events -

- 12-13 June - Newville (with 1st MN) (new dates!)
- 10 - 11 July 1st MN's Living History @ PA Monument (the 53rd PVI is invited)



53rd PVI Contacts

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