

53rd Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry

Company C

"The Sentinel" May 2023

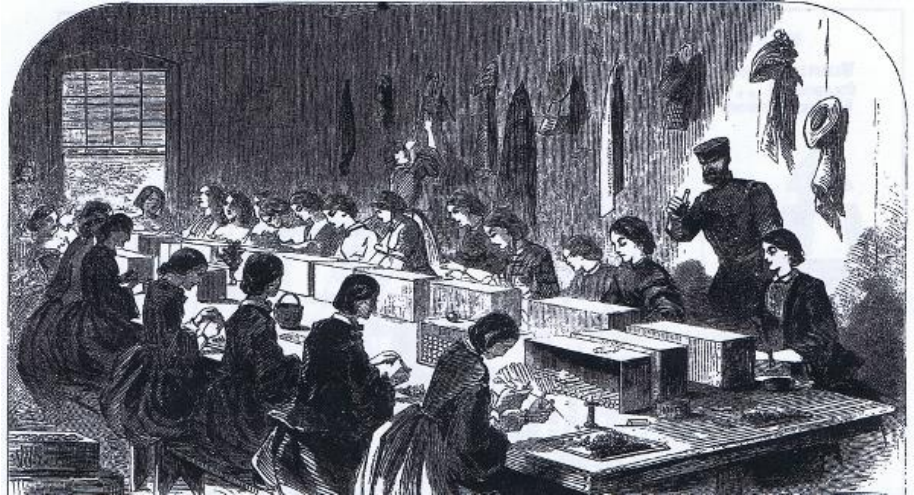
Newsletter of The James Creek Guards



"Clubs Are Trumps!"

This Month:

1. The Real Charles Longfellow Story
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I am always looking for newsletter content, so please forward your articles, CW-related movie or book reviews, event summaries/photos, stories, etc. to me for inclusion in a future edition of "The Sentinel". – Matthew Steger, editor

THE REAL LONGFELLOW STORY

Submitted by Marc Benedict

[I guess we can chalk this one up to 'Hollywood' sometimes changing the facts in order to get their idea or message across – editor]

I was at Williams Grove and found a beat-up copy of "Camp-Fire Sketches and Battle-Field Echoes of 61-65" compiled by W. C. King and W. P. Derby of the 27th Mass. Regt.; co.1886. Not quite the way it is depicted in the "Bells". Interesting to speculate if Charles was transferred from the infantry to the cavalry because he lost his left thumb at age 11.

<https://www.nps.gov/articles/charles-longfellow-in-the-civil-war.htm>

Shooting of Longfellow's Son.

A Bullet Passes Through His Body, Piercing His Lungs.

One of War's Strange Happenings in the Mine Run Campaign.

by Warren Walters



Charles Longfellow, 1863

On the morning of the 26th of November, General Gregg, in command of the 2nd Division of Cavalry, crossed the Rapidan at Ely's Ford. They advanced some miles and halted for the night at Whitehall. Early the following morning, Colonel Taylor's brigade proceeded over the plank road toward Orange Court House, the 3rd Penn. in advance. Two miles brought them face to face with a large body of the enemy, hidden in a dense wilderness. Colonel Taylor dismounted his advance and deployed them in line.

He succeeded in driving back the enemy some distance to a park of strongly fortified artillery. The general saw he could no longer force a retreat, for he felt confident that he was facing a heavy body of infantry. During a partial cessation of fire, Colonel Taylor rode along the whole front hoping to obtain

some idea of the character and number of the foe. The dense undergrowth, however, prevented. A squadron of the 1st Mass., commanded by Lt. C. A. Longfellow, was engaged in this skirmish. Young Longfellow joined the general in his endeavor to discern the character of the force contesting their advance. A sharp volley was fired, directed evidently at the two officers, The general paid little heed to the whistling musketry until he heard some one cry, "General, I'm shot!" Turning quickly the general made his way back and found the gallant young officer. a bullet having passed through his body. Lifting him tenderly from the earth, the general hurriedly moved him to the rear, the life-blood marking every step of the way. General Taylor could not repress thoughts of the sorrow the wire must carry to the poet's home. The wound must prove fatal, for the ball had pierced one of the boy's lungs. Yet it could be but a moment's sigh, for in the next moment the general ordered a charge along his whole line. With a yell, the men pressed forward, eager to avenge the death of their young officer. The result of the onset was the capture of almost the entire force of the enemy.

This scene had almost grown rusty in General Taylor's mind. He thought of Lieutenant Longfellow as a victim of the cruel war, and had described the young officer's death in "Fighting o'er his battles by the quiet hearth." The death of the great poet himself was flashed over the wires. Among the names of the children who gathered about the coffin appeared the name of C. A. Longfellow. It seemed incredible to General Taylor that he could be alive. A letter was dispatched and until an answer should come all must be doubt. A letter came -- brief, sad, and subdued, but the doubt is doubt no longer. C. A. Longfellow is no other than the Lieutenant Longfellow, shot down in a Virginia copse. April [sic: Nov.] 27, 1863.

THE DIARY OF BENJAMIN JAY CUSHING (53RD PVI, CO. G) -

[Transcribed and provided to me by Thomas Kear, a direct descendent of the Cushing brothers. Any typos or grammatical errors were left in place. – editor]

1863 (note - Both Benjamin and his brother Leavitt were wounded at Fredericksburg in December 1862)

June 1 – Mail one letter to Ulysses. On guard today. Nothing in particular going on in the army of the Potomac at present.

June 2 – Come off guard at 7 o'clock. Div. Drill at half past 8. But old guards are excused. Busy through the day reading or playing ball, cool pleasant day, Wilson goes on guard at Hd. Qts. at night.

June 3 – Writing to Mrs. O.H. Lewis in the forenoon. Send in a pass to be signed to go to White Oak Church but did not get it. On guard at Brigade Hd. Qts at 6 A.M. Recd. My pass approved for June 4th.

June 4 – Started at 7 o'clock to visit some boys in the 149th Regt. Near White Oak Church, find them all well and have a good visit with them. Also find Cousin Charles Cushing of the 121st N.Y. Vol. Start back after dress parade.

June 5 – Not on duty today. Company drill at 9 o'clock and Brigade drill in the afternoon. Write one letter to Ulysses.

June 6 – No drill today. Busy washing and various other things, to numerous to mention. Rec. a letter from home, at night, hear that our troops have again crossed the river below Fredericksburg.

June 7 – On Picket today, go on post at 9 o'clock and come off at 3 o'clock P.M. See one Divn. Of our troops on the south side of the river. Our Batys. Threw a few shells into a small house which sheltered some rebbel sharpshooters and drove them out.

June 8 – Go out on the support at 4 o'clock in the morning, all seems to be quiet on this oposite side of the river. Get back to Camp afternoon, find one letter from M and ans. it.

June 9 – Company drill at 9 A.M. Busy myself in reading etc. during the day. Brigade drill in the afternoon at 4 o'clock P.M.

June 10 – Wilson goes on picket this morning. Wash in the forenoon. Rec. a visit from German Bornaby, he has just returned from home and I had a good visit with him. On guard at Hd. Qts. at night.

June 11 – At Brook's Hd. Qts. all day. Are relieved at sundown. Rec. orders to have everything packed and ready to move at short notice. But are not disturbed.

June 12 – All are lying idle in their tents til 3 o'clock and then have Bat. Drill, distribute some of the tracts sent me by Mr. Hendrick And I earnestly hope that they may be blest to do good to some soldier.

June 13 – Nearly all are away on picket or guard, no drilling and all very quiet. Busy reading and writing. Paymaster comes in the afternoon but only paid 2 or 3 Comps. As he is very slow. Were waked up in the night and told to pack up and be ready to strike tents at daylight.

June 14 – Lay ready to start til 3 or 4 P.M. And then march to Banks ford. Stopp long enough to make coffee & then go back to the Brick Church & lay all night on the road to guard against Cavalrys coming in from that direction.

June 15 – Started from the Church at Sunrise & march to Stafford C. House. Stopp and rest awhile. March across Camion and Aquia Creek, and encamp for the night. Many of the boys were overcome by the heat, and one of them had to go into the ambulance.

June 16 – Started in good season and march to Dumfries in the forenoon rest awhile & then move on to Ocognan Creek which we reach after dark awhile, quite tired and very dusty as it was nothing but a cloud of dust all the way.

June 17 – March til nearly noon and cross the Alex. And Manassas R.R. near Sancter Station and encamp. Expect to stay all night. Hear all sorts of rumor about the rebs being in Penna. & Maryland.

June 18 – Moved a short distance and pitched our tents. Busy myself washing & writing, reading etc. Write home in the afternoon.

June 19 – Marched to Centreville in the afternoon, reach there at dark. Put up our tents in a hard thundershower.

June 20 – Leave Centreville at noon and march out on the Warrenton Pike as far as Gainesville, reach there at dark. March from there to Throughfare Gap. Making a march of 16 or 18 miles. Camp at 10 o'clock. Passed over part of the Bull Run Battleground.

June 21 – Were moved to the right of the gap into the woods, and Co. G and E go out on picket together. The roadsides and edge of the woods are filled with Cherry trees loaded with fruit of which the soldiers strip them in a hurry. Some cannonading over in the valley on the other side of the mountains.

June 22 – Are relieved from picket in the morning. Writing or lying idly in camp all day. Send mail to Washington by Lieut. Roberts.

June 23 – Go on picket in the morning, the whole of E and G companys.

June 24 – Remain on picket all day, everything very quiet and still. I have a fine view of the surrounding country from the top of an oak tree on the hill. Can see Centreville, Gainesville & Warrenton.

June 25 – There is a little picket firing this morning on the left of the Gap and we are called in from picket and march back to Haymarket & then turn to our left and make towards Leesburg. Travel cross lots and by roads all day. And stop at Gum Springs.

June 26 – Start early in the morning and cross the RR. Near Leesburg & halt on the banks of the Potomac in the afternoon, lay til dark and then cross the river & march 2 or 3 miles & halt for the night after 1 o'clock in the night.

June 27 – Find ourselves in Maryland this morning. Lay at the Ferry til 4 o'clock P.M. and march to Barnestown reach there at 10 o'clock.

June 28 – Started early in the morning and reach the Monocacy Bridge at 3 o'clock & camp with 2 miles of Frederic. Go down to the river and wash. And then write home (A wearisome Sabbath Day it has been).

June 29 – Start early in the morning and pass Frederic & go north through Md. Make a march of upwards of 30 miles. Camp at night at Union Bridge, all the boys were very tired.

June 30 - Lay all day at Union Bridge and rest ourselves. Other Corps coming up all day.

WINSLOW HOMER SOUVENIR CARD

Noted American artist Winslow Homer (1836 ~ 1910) created a series of drawings entitled "Life In Camp" originally published circa 1864 by L. Prang & Co. The series was exhibited in "The Civil War in America" at the Library of Congress in 2013. This month's image is entitled "Building Castles".



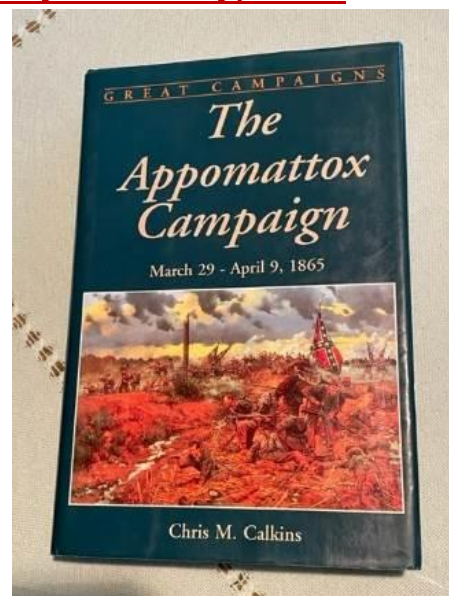
BOOK REVIEW: THE APPOMATTOX CAMPAIGN MARCH 29 – APRIL 9, 1865

Author: Chris M. Calkins

Reviewed by Mike Espenshade

Autographed Hardbound; 1997; Combined Books Inc.; 227 pp.; 31 pictures, 17 page-length sidebars, 17 maps, 0 pp notes, 5 pp bibliography, 5 pp index. Free from a friend of Pete Zinkus.

Mr. Calkins is a highly-skilled historian, previous NPS guide, and author of several books on this campaign. He provides a day-to-day tactical narrative of this fascinating campaign - featuring aspects and detailed information often neglected in previous works of the last 2 weeks of war in Virginia. Innovative sidebars, charts, and maps compliment his dramatic narrative. The fall of Petersburg, Richmond, the last battles of the many small and large engagements including Sutherland Station, Five Forks, Sailor's Creek, Dinwiddie Court House, Cumberland Church, Appomattox Station, and the final battle and surrender at Appomattox Court House are all described. It is quite evident this author has an extensive knowledge of the historical sources which is equaled by his long familiarity with the countryside over which the armies marched and fought.



I especially appreciated the (17) special full-page sidebars that highlighted many incidents, personalities, and Virginia locations involved. The casualties of the campaign are detailed on a special chart and the campaign's Order of Battle has been nicely detailed and commented.

Calkins does not use the noting technique to substantiate his sources. However, one may be consoled a bit when referring to his well-described sources listed in the bibliography.

I highly recommend this book. It is exciting to read and power-packed with on-the-ground realities and consequences of the exertions, fatigue and hunger that hard-marching brings. Personal details on the locations/attitudes of key commanders, their tactical circumstances/considerations, and tons of statistics provide the reader a complete view of what is happening - and why.

CIVIL WAR LETTERS FROM THE 53RD, COMPANY C

This month, we continue the letters from a member of Company C who signed himself as "PILUM." All letters appeared in the Huntingdon Globe newspaper. The letters include the period January 1862 through December 1863. I have divided longer letters into more comprehensible paragraphs; otherwise, all wording has not been changed. Enjoy! Rick Sauers.

Camp Near Pamunky River, Va.,
May 21, 1862.

Mr. Editor:—Not having written for the *Globe* for a long time, and thinking something from the 53d on its onward march to Richmond might, perhaps, be of some interest to the many readers of your sheet, I concluded to write a few lines for the paper. I will not attempt to give any description of our march and counter-march to Manassas Junction, and from thence to Warrenton Junction. Neither shall I attempt to describe our trip from Alexandria down the Potomac to Ship Point and the part the 53d played on the grand theatre in front of Yorktown, as all these movements have been known to all.

After making a forced march on the day of the battle of Williamsburg through mud which words now fail me to describe, we returned next day and encamped at Yorktown until the 12th, at which time we were ordered on board the boats for West Point. But when we arrived at West Point the boat did not stop, but proceeded up the Pamunky river a distance of about eight miles. Here we disembarked at a place called Brick Landing, where we encamped a few days in a pleasant grove of pines, when we again received the order to march. We marched to the place where we are now encamped, a distance of some seventeen miles, stopping, however, several times along the road and camping for the night.

Marching goes very slowly through the swamps and ravines of Virginia. Some of the citizens of Huntingdon County would not believe me when I should tell you that yesterday we marched seven hours and only came the short distance of two miles. But this nevertheless the truth. The roads are dreadful in some places. The wagons and artillery often stick for hours in the mud, and are subsequently brought out by the vigorous exertions of the men. Woods and swamps are all that meet the eye, with here and there a small farm house. Most of these houses are deserted, and in what few houses the inhabitants still remain you can invariably see a white flag flying. They no doubt have been misled to such a degree by the leaders of the rebellion, that they thought unless they put up a flag of truce, everything would be destroyed for them, which, however, is never the case.

We are now encamped on quite a pleasant situation. Our camp is in a large field owned by a man by the name of Lee, said to be a Major in the rebel army. It is the most pleasant place for a camp we have come to since we are on the peninsula. The water is plenty and of the best, which has been a rarity with us for some time. The water in the majority of places at which we have encamped was scarce, and exceedingly obnoxious to the taste. Here, near the camps stands the St. Peter's Episcopal Church—quite an old building—in which, it is said, General Washington was accustomed to worship in his younger days. It is reported that the General was married in this church. It is of brick and not very large. Surrounding it are trees, which give it a beautiful appearance. On the corner stone is written: "This church was commenced in 1710 and was finished in 1713." In the rear of the church is a burial ground with some half a dozen graves in it. On some of the tombstones are some writings of a very early date. On one is inscribed the following: "Here lyeth the body of Ann Clopton, the wife of William Clopton, of the county of New Kent. She departed this life the 4th day of March Anno Domini 1716, in the 78th year of her age. She left three sons and two daughters, by her said husband, viz: Robert, William, Walter, Ann and Elizabeth." Several other writings are quite old, but this one is the oldest I have seen.

None but officers high in command are permitted to go inside of the Church, so that I cannot tell anything about the church on the inside. Generals Sumner and Richardson have their headquarters near the Church. It is indeed a beautiful spot. Washington no doubt never thought when he worshiped in that church, that there would one day be an army encamped around it, for the purpose of punishing traitors who are trying all in their power to destroy the Government which he devised. But such is the case, and now a sentinel paces in front of the Church where he, one hundred years ago, was accustomed to worship. Such a thing doubtless never entered his mind, yet what is the crime which a traitor will not commit. A man who breaks his oath and tramples upon the constitution which he is sworn to defend, as many of these rebel leaders have done, are not to be trusted in the humblest station in life, and ought to be made to pay the full penalty of the law upon which they have trampled.

The boys are all in good spirits. The health of the regiment is better now than it has been for a long time. We expect to be in Richmond soon. There is quite a large force here.

More anon.

Yours, &c.

PILUM.

[*Huntingdon Globe*, May 29, 1862]

ELF DRILL

ELF held a spring drill at Ft. McHenry on Saturday 1 April. In attendance from the 53rd PVI were Corporals Espenshade and Brumbaugh and Musician Brayden Thomas. Photo courtesy of Chip Smith (7th PA Reserves). About 21 uniformed Unionists attended, including 3 new recruits. Per Corporal Espenshade: "We benefited from detailed guard mount (in-garrison sentry duty), plaza drills, open field company drills, and bayonet drills led by the patient and excellent Capt. Carlson. After a rainy start, we enjoyed the enlisted men barracks during breaks and warm sunshine for the afternoon drills. Drummer Thomas' musical beats helped us all to keep in military order as good numbers of spectators watched on. Was a very productive day!"



INFO ABOUT UPCOMING EVENTS

6- 7 May – NR Camp Of Instruction – Gruber Wagon Works – you can start arriving at 3pm on the 5th. Reveille is at 6:30am on Saturday the 6th. Drill will include Company Drill, Facings, Marching in Column, by the flanks, wheels, turns. Plus, company into line, on the right by files into line, break files, firing, battalion firing and bayonet drill. Skirmish drill and dress parade will be covered on Sunday. Bring rounds as we will be doing, at least, one firing demo for the public on Saturday. We should be wrapped by around 11AM on Sunday. If you are attending but have not yet let Eric know, please contact him ASAP. Also, bring your 95th PVI jackets as we may have an opportunity to wear them.

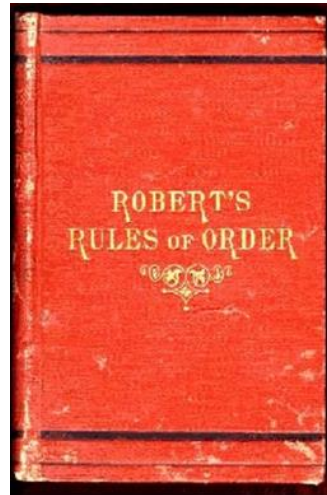
29 May – Hummelstown Memorial Day Parade – As in prior years, meet at the NW corner of Olde Factory Antiques by 9:30AM. Park on Parkside Avenue (and not in the parking lot immediately behind Rita’s as the business owner complained last year). Parade commences at 10AM. Bring rounds and caps. Lunch will be at the VFW pavilion after the cemetery ceremony and then a debriefing at Corporal Espenshade’s cabin afterwards.

ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER AND THE CIVIL WAR

By Norman Dasinger, Jr., April 14, 2023, blueandgrayeducation.org



Henry M. Robert | public domain



Robert's Rules of Order | public domain

In 1862, at the First Baptist Church of New Bedford, Massachusetts, during a meeting of church leaders, open conflict erupted. In attendance that day was an Army officer named Henry M. Robert. Embarrassed by knowing nothing about how to run a meeting, Robert used this experience to begin collecting bits of information about “parliamentary” procedure. Then he began to write his own code, breaking with precedent when necessary.

Finally, in 1876, paying for the publication costs himself, he produced the *Pocket Manual of Rules of Order for Deliberative Assemblies*, more commonly known as *Robert's Rules of Order*. The work was immediately successful and has gone through numerous editions. Today it remains the most common parliamentary authority in the United States.

But who was U.S. Army officer Henry Robert?

His Father: Joseph T. Robert

Born in 1837 in Robertville, South Carolina, to a slave-holding family, his father, Joseph T. Robert, was a preacher leading Black Swamp Baptist Church. Reverend Robert was a highly educated man, having graduated from Yale, Columbian College in Washington, D.C., Charleston Medical College, and Furman Theological Institute.

In a 2004 article for the *Georgia Historical Quarterly*, Frank Saunders and George Rogers wrote: “[Reverend Robert] was a trustee of Western Baptist Theological Seminary, and in 1841 moved to Lebanon, Ohio, then to Savannah, Georgia, in 1846, then back to Robertville in 1849. In 1851, he freed his slaves and went back north to Temple Baptist Church in Portsmouth, Ohio.” By 1881, Reverend Robert was the chief administrator of both Spelman College and Morehouse College in Atlanta. He died in 1884 and is buried in an unmarked grave in Atlanta’s Westview Cemetery.

His Mother: Adeline Robert

Henry’s mother was Adeline (Lawton) Robert. Her father served as the colonel of the 12th South Carolina Militia during the War of 1812 and was the original incorporator of Furman University in Greenville, South Carolina.

His Uncles

Also, Adeline had two brothers who served in the Confederate States military. Alexander Lawton graduated thirteenth in the 1839 class at West Point. (FYI: Senior U.S. Army officer Henry Halleck was third in that class.) Alexander resigned his commission in 1849 to attend Harvard Law School and, after graduating, moved to Savannah, Georgia. In 1861, he formed the 1st Georgia Volunteer Infantry, CSA. As a brigadier general, he was wounded at Antietam and then became the Quartermaster General of the Confederate Army.

Adeline's other brother was Edward P. Lawton. He was wounded at the Battle of Fredericksburg on December 13, 1862, and died as a POW in Alexandria, Virginia. One source states "The fact that Joseph and Adeline went over to the Union was a source of chagrin to her family.

Henry M. Robert

Henry M. Robert, graduated fourth in the 1857 West Point class (FYI: Confederate Brig. Gen. Edward Porter Alexander was third in the class and Marcus Reno of Little Big Horn fame was twentieth.) Henry was assigned to the engineer corps and was eventually designated to Puget Sound, Washington, where he was involved in the Pig War with George Pickett.

During the Civil War, he worked on the defenses of Washington D.C., Philadelphia, and several places—including near New Bedford, Massachusetts—along the New England coast.

After the Civil War, he became the chief engineer in charge of river, harbor, and coast improvements along the Pacific and Gulf Coasts and Long Island Sound. Following the devastating 1900 Galveston hurricane, Robert designed the concrete seawall that stands today in Galveston to protect against future tidal waves. He was promoted to brigadier general in 1901, just before he retired. He is buried in Arlington National Cemetery.


LANCASTER CEMETERY EVENT

Here's a Facebook graphic posted by Lancaster Cemetery for the flag ceremony I brought forth at our annual meeting in Jan. My wife and I participated in this in 2022. It's an easy yet worthwhile cause. Please let me know ASAP if you are interested in participating. Afterwards, we plan on meeting for lunch somewhere in the area.

Lancaster Cemetery Flag – In Day

When: Saturday May 20, 2023
9:00 am. - 12:30 pm.

Where: **Lancaster Cemetery**
205 East Lemon Street
Lancaster PA 17602



You are invited to join us for Flag – In Day at the Lancaster Cemetery:

Help us to place flags at the graves of over 1,200 U.S. Veterans at the Lancaster Cemetery. Volunteers will choose an area on the map and place flags to honor each veteran in that section.

At this event there will be an opportunity to learn more about volunteering at the Lancaster Cemetery

All participants will be asked to read and sign a release the day of the event.

Items You May Need:

Please consider bringing the following:

- Sturdy Shoes
- Camera with SD Card or cell phone camera
- Drinking Water
- Wagon or cart to move and carry the flags.



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.) Dave Townsen, a fellow pard of mine in the old 83rd PVI, is selling off most of his CW gear. You can contact him directly at: grumpydave58@comcast.net with any inquiries about items, pricing, etc. He lives in Mechanicsburg and he has quality gear.

(2.) I have a C&D Jarnagin size 46 federal enlisted frock coat for sale. Still in great condition. Email me with any questions/inquiries: n3ntj@outlook.com

(3.) Kerry Williard is handling the selling of Dave Swigert items for Dave's wife. Marc and I met a few years ago to look over 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 31 Dec. 2022. Contact Kerry directly with any and all inquiries: shamokin71@aol.com (see the updated list below)

Uniform Clothing	Item Description	Detailed Description	Price
1	Trouser - Steel Blue each with suspenders	34 min waist/27" inseam-avg. condx and a little dirt w/ braces no watch pck	\$25.00
1	Dk Blue Vest Size 42	3 pockets - light wear	\$20.00
1	Colored Pattern Shirt	blue plaid with white china buttons - sun faded - good condx	\$10.00
1	White muslin Shirt	19" at shoulder 14" neck - very short in body length	\$5.00
1	White muslin Shirt	20" at shoulder 16" neck - very short in body length - cuffs are stained	\$5.00
1 pair	Woolen Grey Gloves	modern - right hand is fingerless	\$2.00
1	Underpants - Night Pants - White	36" waist - knee stains - 25" inseam white muslin - rear repair	\$3.00
1	Lt Brown Scarf - Acrylic - Modern		\$1.00
1	Havelock - White - VG condx		\$2.00
3 pairs	Grey Wool Socks - Modern		\$2.00/pr
2	Hats - Union & Confederate for children		\$1.00
Accoutrements			
1	Scabbord - Late war 7 Rivet		\$15.00
1	Gum Blanket	some cracking with oversized grommets	\$20.00
1	Shelter Tent - Both Halves - Heavy Canvas w/Loops w/Mildew		\$35.00
1	Bag of 7 wooden Tent Stakes w/Rope		\$3.00
1	Grey Smooth Face Canteen - Leather Sling Satinette Cover w/ Corded Stopper		\$20.00
1	Haversack - Tarred Black - Brittle Strap w/opwn seam		\$5.00
1	Haversack - Tarred Black w/Liner- Paint peeling Holes @ Strap Connection		\$10.00
1	Grey Smooth Face Canteen - Leather Sling Satinette Cover w/ Corded Stopper		\$20.00
Misc Items			
1 can	sno-seal (half full)		\$1.00
1	Wood Mirror - Haversack filler	sliding cover	\$3.00
1	Wood Comb - Haversack filler		\$1.00
1	Wooden button board		\$1.00
2	Coin Purses - Made from Tic Material		\$1.00/ea
1	Bag with Coffee	brown coffee	\$1.00/ea
1	shoe lace - undied		\$0.25/ea
2	Soap Bar		\$1.00/ea
6 1/2	Wax Candles		\$0.25/ea
1	pocket sharpenig stone	new	\$2.00
1	box rifle cleaning kit	pads, steel wool, rags, etc	\$5.00
3	match boxes w/ matches		\$0.25/ea
1 Pair	shoe tree		\$3.00
1	Green Army Duffel Bag		\$3.00
1	drawers for use as patches		\$1.00
Armaments			
1	1861 Springfield Rifle - Armi Sport		\$900.00

2023 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 15 January - Holiday Party - Gettysburg (private)
- 4 February - Winter Drill - Landis Valley (our NR pards are invited)
- 18-19 February - NR School of Instruction (Gettysburg Fire Hall)
- 25 March - Cartridge Rolling Party (1st Sgt.'s Home)
- 1 April - ELF Drill at Ft. McHenry
- 15 April - Patriotic Order Sons of America (POSoFA) event (Robesonia)
- 6 - 7 May - NR Camp Of Instruction (COI) - Gruber Wagon Works (Reading, PA)
- 29 May - Memorial Day Parade (Hummelstown) [Max Effort]
- 23 -25 June - Gettysburg 160 [NR Max Effort]
- 15-16 July - Landis Valley Civil War Days (Lancaster) [Max Effort]
- 12 August - Safe Harbor Cemetery - grave rededication
- 8-10 September - Thunder on the Gauley (Summersville, WV - Carnifax Ferry Battlefield (NR Max Effort)
- 14-15 October - USAHEC Army Heritage Days (Carlisle) [Max Effort]
- 18 November - Remembrance Day (Gettysburg) - NR Annual Meeting and Parade

Secondary schedule -

- 20 May - Lancaster Cemetery - grave decoration day
- 28-20 July - Receding Tide - Trenches of WilliamSPORT
- 14-15 October - Cedar Creek re-enactment



For updated event info and other news, please check out the Facebook pages of the 53rd PVI and/or the National Regiment (links below) and check your email on a regular basis

53rd PVI Contacts

President: Eric Ford (reenactor53@gmail.com)

Vice President: Pete Zinkus (zinkusp@gmail.com)

Treasurer/Secretary: Matthew Steger (n3ntj@outlook.com)

Newsletter Editor: Matthew Steger (n3ntj@outlook.com)

Webmasters: Steve Dillon (steve@gofoxpro.com) and Matthew Steger (n3ntj@outlook.com)

53rd PVI Website: <http://www.53rdpvi.org>

2023 Field Officers - Sergeants: Mark Fasnacht (1st Sgt), Marc Benedict, Matthew Steger

Corporals: Mike Espenshade & Michael Brumbaugh

53rd PVI Facebook Page: <http://www.facebook.com/groups/53rdPVI>

National Regiment Phone line: 800-777-1861 (code 61)

National Regiment Website: <https://www.thenationalregiment.com>

National Regiment Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/842904089142263>

