

Minutes continued....

LAST UNION CIVIL WAR SOLDIER

Parker Louis Gordon, great-great grandfather of Camp Brother **Richard McNeil** has been designated by our Camp as the last Union Civil War soldier to be buried in Arizona.

Parker Louis Gordon was born September 1, 1847, in Steelville, Ill., and died on December 5, 1946, in Phoenix. He was interred on December 7, 1946, at the Greenwood cemetery mausoleum. Parker was 99 years old.

As many may know from previous articles at age 15, Parker was a drummer-boy for the 154th Illinois Volunteer Infantry and served throughout the war. He officially entered military service in Co. F on February, 15 1865, as a private.

Parker was one of two remaining Civil War veterans belonging to Long Beach Post No. 181 in Long Beach, California when he died. He was also a delegate to the reunion of Union and Confederate veterans at Gettysburg, PA. in 1937.

Brothers present, voted to pay \$575.00 from our treasury to have engraving done on his crypt*. This will consist of an engraving of the GAR and SUVCW badges and the words "Final Resting Place of Arizona's Last Union Civil War Soldier."

Brother **McNeil** pledged \$100.00 to this project and Brother **Jack Conrad** gave a check for \$25.00. If any other Brothers wish to donate money for this project, please send it to our Secretary/Treasurer Jerry Bloom (see page 7 for address).

The Camp will apply to the National SUVCW for assistance through its Memorial Grant funding. Money for the Last Soldier Project comes from this fund after all other Memorial expenses have been funded from throughout the U.S.....so in other words, don't hold your corporate breath.

The Camp will have a ceremony either this summer or fall. The event will be publicized with the local news media. Once everything is finalized all will be informed.

* At press time for the newsletter, due to conflicting information from the cemetery, it is not known if the crypt will be engraved or a granite marker will be used.

Our next Camp meeting will take place at Coco's Restaurant, 4514 E. Cactus, Phoenix.

When: Saturday, May 21 at high noon.

Our Secretary/Treasurer Jerry Bloom will be our featured speaker and will talk about the C&O Canal and its place in the history of the Civil War.

This will also be a joint meeting with the Founders and Patriots organization.

Please make your reservations NOW. (see page 7)

C.S.S. H.L. Hunley Mobile Exhibit

June 4, 2005, at Marie Callenders Restaurant, 7445 W. Chandler Blvd. Lecture begins at 3:00 pm....or

June 5, 2005, at the Masonic Scottsdale Lodge, 2531 N. Scottsdale Rd. Lecture begins at 10:00 am.

The Colonel Sherod Hunter Camp 1525, Sons of Confederate Veterans, is very pleased to announce a limited engagement by the H.L. HUNLEY MOBILE EXHIBIT, which will be coming here all the way from its home in South Carolina. The exhibit consists of a 40 foot long, life-size, 100% accurate working reconstruction of the famous Confederate submarine C.S.S. H.L. HUNLEY, which was the first submarine in world history to ever sink an enemy warship in combat. We are also pleased to be able to offer a lecture by Holton Cutler and John Dangerfield, two members of the archaeological and conservation team which opened up and excavated the HUNLEY when it was recovered from its resting place in Charleston Harbor. This promises to be a very interesting, informative, and exciting event for all War between the States enthusiasts!

There will be limited admittance to this event, and tickets must be purchased in advance. Tickets for the Saturday (June 4) presentation are \$10.00 per person. Tickets for the Sunday (June 5) presentation are \$10.00 per person or \$20.00 for a family pass. To purchase tickets, contact the following to confirm seating is still available...

Robert Perkins, Camp Commander--(623) 594-2943, email--robertp6165@yahoo.com

Or you can purchase tickets online at our website (Paypal account required)...

<http://members.tripod.com/~azrebel/hunleytickets.html>



CELESTINE McMULLEN
CO. A, 55TH PENNSYLVANIA
VOLUNTEER INFANTRY

The following ancestor biography was submitted by Brother John Conrad regarding his great-great grandfather.

Celestine was the last child baptized February 3, 1939, by the Russian prince Rev. Demetrius A. Gallitzin, who served as his god father. Little is known of his youth, which he spent on his father's farm in Clearfield Township, apparently working as a laborer in his teens and early twenties. He attended school, though, and was literate.

With the coming of the War of the Rebellion, Celestine enlisted as a private with Captain Carroll's Company (Co A) of the 55th Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, at Hemlock, Cambria County, on September 3, 1861. He remained with Co. A, throughout the war.

Celestine was promoted to corporal sometime between September 1861 to November 1863. During this period his unit served in the South on coast duty, enforcing the naval blockade of Confederate ports. The only battle Celestine mentions during this period is that of North Edisto, South Carolina, on March 29, 1862. He was promoted to sergeant on November 21, 1863 and honorably discharged at Hilton Head, South Carolina on November 30, 1863.

Veterans were given large incentives to reenlist, and, with nowhere else to go—particularly from South Carolina at the height of the war—Celestine the same day signed on as a Veteran Volunteer, reenlisting as a corporal for the duration, entitling himself to a \$200 reenlistment bounty and a one-month veteran's furlough.

Remaining on coast duty with Co A, of the 55th, he was given a furlough from January 23, 1864 through February 28th as one of the benefits of reenlisting. In March he was back on duty as a 3rd Sergeant and the following month his unit was apparently placed into action in the large Union offensive to capture Richmond.

He fought in five major battles in May 1864, including Old Town Creek, Virginia, on May 9; Proctor's Creek on May 13; Foster's Plantation on May 19 and 20; Bermuda Hundred and Drury's bluff, both in Virginia. His fighting ended abruptly at the battle of Cold Harbor, Virginia, on June 3, 1864, when he was shot in the left leg while kneeling to reload his rifle. The bullet entered from a high angle, passed parallel to

the bone, and imbedded itself in muscle near the left knee.

Celestine was first removed to a field hospital in White House, Virginia, where the bullet was removed. The job was not neatly done; the surgeon simply cut where the bullet had entered and followed the damage to locate the slug. Muscle damage surely resulted in this way, and the scar measured two inches by one inch. On June 6, he arrived at Carver General Hospital in Washington, D.C. for convalescence. The beds in Washington were needed for more serious injuries and on June 10 was transferred to the DeCamp General Hospital in David's Island, New York. Celestine was given a 30-day furlough and after returning to his unit was furloughed again with orders to report to the Medical Director at Philadelphia when the furlough ended.

Celestine was cleared to return to his unit in October, and it appears that on the way he got involved in a little spat, as he himself reported that he fought at the battle of Pocatigo, South Carolina, on October 22. He did not report back to his own unit until November 25, 1864, and in the meantime had been promoted to 2nd Sergeant. On February 15, 1865, he was promoted to 1st Sergeant and then full Sergeant on the same day.

He fought his last battle on April 2, 1865, at Petersburg, Virginia, and then traveled the short distance to the Appomattox Court House, where he witnessed the surrender of General Robert E. Lee, an event he called the most important of his life. He was promoted again on April 28, to the rank of 2nd Lieutenant.

Celestine was kept on as a 2nd Lieut. until it was clear that the war was indeed over and finally on August 30, 1865, Celestine was honorably discharged as being unneeded at Petersburg, Virginia and sent home.

ANCESTOR BIO'S AND OTHER CIVIL WAR STUFF

If any Camp Brother has an article regarding his Civil War ancestor, or other Civil War related information he would like to see published in the newsletter, please forward it to the editor. The article should be no shorter than a paragraph and no longer than two newsletter pages (how is that for a range?) With a circulation of about 65, this is the place to get national recognition and a spot on any nationally televised talk show !

Court Marital of Pvt. Richard Fotheringill, Co. F 7th Pennsylvania Cavalry

The following is a copy of the court martial of Pvt. Fotheringill as found in the National Archives. Fotheringill is the great, great grandfather of Brothers Rick and Don Cups and the g-g-g-grandfather of Brother Nathan Cups.

Special Order

No

A general court martial is hereby appointed to convene at Maysville, Ala. on the 2nd day of November 1863 at 9 o'clock A.M. to sit without regard to hours, or as soon thereafter as practicable for the trial of such prisoners as may be brought before it.

Detail for the Court

- 1. Major Alfred B. Brackett
5th Iowa Vol. Cavalry
 - 2. Capt. Benj. S. Dartt
7th Penna. Vol. Cavalry
 - 3. Capt. James E. Robinson
72 Ind. Vol. Inft.
 - 4. Capt. Wm. McCracken
98th Ill. Vol. Inft.
 - 5. 1st Lt. Joseph Hedges
4th U.S. Cavalry
 - 6. 1st Lt. Thos. J Smith
98 Ill. Vol. Inft.
 - 7. 1st Lt. Johnson Parker
72 Ind. Vol. Inft.
- 1st Lt. George W. Lawson - 4th Mich. Cavalry
Judge Advocate

No other officers than those named can be assembled without manifest injury to the service.

By Command of

Brig. Gen. Crook

Maysville, Alabama

Nov. 4th 12 o'clock

The court met pursuant to the above order .

Present - All the members and the Judge Advocate

The court proceeded to the trial of Private Richard Fotheringill Co. F, 7th Penn. Vol. Cavalry who was called into court and having heard the order convening the court trial was asked if he had any objections to any of the

members named in the order. In this he replied in the negative.

The court and the Judge Advocate were then duly sworn in the presence of the accused and then the accused—

Richard Fotheringill, Co. F, 7th Penn. Cav. was arraigned on the following charges and specifications.

Charges and specifications against Private Richard Fotheringill Co. F, 7th Pennsylvania Cavalry -

1st Charge

Conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline.

1st Specification

In this that said Private Richard Fotheringill of Co. F, 7th Penn. Cavalry was found on private premises about one mile from the camp of his regiment without leave of absence or being ordered to the said premises on duty. This near Maysville, Alabama on the 26th of October 1863.

2nd Specification

In this that the said Private Richard Fotheringill of Co. F, 7th Penn. Cavalry did attempt to seize and take away a horse on said premises the property of a citizen without orders to do so. This near Maysville, Alabama on the 26th of October 1863.

3rd Specification

In this that the said Private Richard Fotheringill of Co. F, 7th Penn. Cavalry when ordered to desist from attempting to seize a horse the property of a citizen by Lt. Col. M. J. Patrick 5th Iowa Cavalry did behave himself toward the said Lt. Col. Patrick in a contemptuous and disrespectful manner and did make use of insolent and insulting language toward the said officer who was at the time in uniform with the proper badges of his rank. This near Maysville, Alabama on the 26th of October 1863.

2nd Charge

Violation of the 50th Article of War

Specification

In that the said Private Richard Fotheringill of Co. F, 7th Pennsylvania Cavalry when on a Picket detail did absent himself from the post of said Pickett without leave and was found marauding on private premises. This near Maysville, Alabama on the 26th of October 1863.

(Signed) M. J. Patrick, Lt Col 5th Iowa Cavalry

(continued on page 5)

Court Martial of Pvt Fotheringill Continued...)

To which charges and specifications the accused pleaded as follows -

To the first specification of the first charge	Not guilty
To the second specification of the first charge	Not guilty
To the third specification of the first charge	Not guilty
To the first charge	Not guilty
To the specification of the second charge	Not guilty
To the second charge	Not guilty

Lt. Col. Patrick 5th Iowa Cav. a witness for the prosecution being duly sworn testifies as follows -
 I found the accused on the 26th October with another man in company with him on private premises outside the camp endeavoring to catch a horse that was in a lot near a dwelling house. The lady of the house appealed to me and complained about the men chasing the horse and endeavoring to take it away and I ordered the men, the accused being one of them to desist and to report to their commander. They replied in an insulting manner and said that they would not go and that I had nothing to do with them. I had my uniform on. I then made an attempt to arrest them. They refused to be arrested and moved off at a walk. They were mounted and armed. I was on foot - without arms. I then ordered the three Captains and a Lieutenant who were with me to mount and assist me in arresting the men. They did so and we arrested the men. The accused and the man with him told me that they both belonged to a Picket post and they stated that the man agreed to trade the horse in question with them. I saw no man at the house - when I ordered the men to stop the accused did stop for a moment but moved off again when his companion told him to come on and not to mind those officers. They did not stop again and refused to be arrested till they saw the Captains gaining on them with pistols in their hands. The companion of the accused did most of the talking.

Question by the court --- "Do you think Col. that the accused seemed disposed to obey you until influenced by his companion."

Answer ----- "I do, but after he moved off with his companion he acted fully as bad."

Question by the accused --- "Did I refuse to halt when you ordered me to."

Answer ----- "You did"

(signed) M. J. Patrick
Lt. Col 5th Iowa Cavalry

The prosecution was then closed.

1st Lt. Thompson 7th Penn. Cav. a witness for the accused being duly sworn testified as follows -

That I have known the accused for more than two years - that his general character as a soldier is good and that he is not disposed to be insolent towards his superior officers nor disobedient of orders.

(signed)

Heber L. Thompson 1st Lt. 7th Penn Cav.

Statement by the accused -

When I was taking the horse the Col. ordered me to halt. I stopped then till the man - my companion went to the Col. to tell him we had traded for the horse. He said it did not matter and that we should go to our commander. Patrick , my companion, told the Col. that "Maybe he didn't know what command he belonged to and that we might go our way". I had no conversation with the Col. , Lt. Col. Patrick, except he asked me to what command I belonged - I told him. I went to the Col. when he ordered me to and I did not move after he ordered me to halt

Richard Fotheringill

X
(his mark)

The court was then closed and having materially deliberated upon the testimony addressed is of the opinion that Private Richard Fotheringill of Company F, 7th Penn. Cav. is:

Not guilty of the first specification of the first charge.
 Guilty of the second specification of the first charge.
 Guilty of the third specification of the first charge except as to the words " and did make use of insolent and insulting language toward him".
 Guilty of the first charge.
 Not guilty of the specification of the second charge.
 Not guilty of the second charge.
 And does therefore sentence Private Richard Fotheringill Company F, 7th Pennsylvania Cavalry to be confined under guard in his own regiment at hard labor for the period of twenty days and to forfeit one half of his proper monthly pay for the period of three months.

George W. Lawson
 A. B. Brackett
 1st Lt. 4th Mich. Cavalry
 Major 5th Iowa Cavalry
 Judge Advocate
 President

*(And as Brother Rick Cups related to the editor: "At this stage of my life it's a source of pride. Many people claim to have a horse thief in the family, but I have a **convicted** horse thief in the family!")*

RECOLLECTIONS OF THE ASSASSINATION OF LINCOLN

By Chief Sailmaker Charles H. Jones U.S.N.

“On the night of Friday, April 14th 1865, in the company with Thomas Stanes and Louis Langley, I visited Ford’s Theatre to see General Grant. We reached the Theatre early, secured good seats opposite the President’s box in the second tier. None of us had ever seen the play, “Our American Cousin....”

In our July newsletter will be printed the entire recollections of Chief Sailmaker Jones regarding the assassination of President Lincoln and Jones’ duties during the week that followed.

Chief Sailmaker Jones is the great-grandfather of Camp Brother **Paul Verheist**.

Official Site of the American Civil War...in France?

In September 2004 the Civil War Preservation Trust named Cherbourg, on the Normandy coast of France, an official site of the American Civil War...the only such site listed outside of the United States.

True or False: The battle of Cherbourg, France pitted Union Cavalry forces commanded by General McCook and Confederate forces commanded by General Jackson in a head long crash of will and determination on the final advance to Paris.

Actually, 140 years ago the Union Sloop USS Kearsage sank the notorious rebel raider CSS Alabama in the English Channel just off Cherbourg, France.

The cemetery in Cherbourg is the final resting place of both Union and Confederate sailors.

In 1984 the wreck of the Alabama was discovered by a French minesweeper in 200’ of water. An agreement between the U.S France was reached for underwater archaeological exploration of the site and so far more than 1000 dives have taken place. Over 300 items have been recovered from the icy depths and many are astonishingly in tact: one of which is a sailor’s meerschaum pipe still smelling of tobacco!

GETTYSBURG RECOLLECTIONS:

“At every house, and barn, and shed the wounded were; by many a cooling brook, or many a shady slope or grassy glade, the red flags beckoned them to their tented asylums, and there they gathered, in number a great army, a mutilated, bruised mass of humanity. Men with gray hair and furrowed cheeks and silt-lipped beardless boys were there, for these bullets have made no distinction between age and youth.”

- Col. Frank A. Haskell, USA
The Battle of Gettysburg

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