

# THE FLAGSTAFF

JULY, 1863 (2008)

Volume 5, Issue 2

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## CAPTAIN'S REPORT

What a wonderful start to the 2008 campaign. Spokane set the tone. The 20<sup>th</sup> Maine fielded seventeen brave soldiers who gave the rebs all they could handle. A great feature this year was the creation of a battlefield in no mans land between the two camps. At times, these battles became impromptu skirmishes. Certainly, those battles brought back some great memories of tacticals from the past. I can say with a great degree of certainty, that Lt. Colonel Sayler is more popular in confederate camp than their own colonel after the hit he took on Saturday (in his own camp on the edge of no mans land), and then being taken prisoner on Sunday (while the Army of the Columbia was engaged in a great morning skirmish). Of course, there are some rumors as to the gesture the good Lt. Colonel may have made to the rebs in order to garner such an excited response. (Hail Columbia!)

Port Gamble was an even better event. The Union battalion had one of it highest head counts at 110 plus rifles with the 20<sup>th</sup> Maine fielding 25 of those (the rebs had 70 total). Company F also had eight members go on this years preservation march. A special thanks to Ken Morgan, who helped out his company by talking to the crowds during the recruitment scenario on Saturday, and then on Sunday during the infantry demonstration. Port Gamble also saw the return of two of our own. Bill Baehr made his return from a fourteen month tour in Iraq as well as the first Washington 20<sup>th</sup> Maine Captain, Rick Morgan. Great to have both back in the rank and file. For those who may not have heard about my Private Carr, you need to get to an event. Clyde Carpenter has not only brought with him his past experience in reenacting, and story telling, but the wonderful experience of listening to him play the bag pipes. Clyde played his pipes while the Army of the Columbia headed into and during the battle on Memorial Day (a childhood dream). Clyde also played them for the final battle at Port Gamble as a rallying cry to the Army of Columbia as they marched on to victory.



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At the conclusion of these two events, the 20<sup>th</sup> Maine Company F inducted seven new members into the brotherhood.

Ferndale, Ft. Stevens, and Lewis and Clark State Park are battles still to come. I look forward to inducting many new members into the brotherhood at each of these events. This ceremony is an even better event if company F has a large contingent of members (soldiers, musicians and civilians) present to experience this ceremony with the new recruit.

I continue to be honored to lead such a talented group of individual who make up this fine company. As I come to the end of this article, I would like to remind all who made the march into Lt. Colonel Sayler's camp and inform those who may have missed this opportunity, that "the 20<sup>th</sup> Maine Company F Loves Ted Sayler!"

I look forward to seeing you all real soon. Bayonets!

Captain Keene.

## **FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK**

What a great season so far! First we were at Spokane. The weather was cooperative and our numbers were high. Considering the price of gas I was surprised at the number of muskets representing the 20<sup>th</sup> on the field. We had several new and existing members see the elephant for the first time. Clyde Carpenter, Tim Magin and Courage Lowrance, were all duly initiated into the 20<sup>th</sup>. Clyde brings vast amounts of experience and a great sounding bag pipe. It was special to hear him pipe to us as we marched onto the fields and fired our muskets. Tim and Courage have been with us for a few years and finally carried a musket on the field. Both performed valiantly. The skirmishing during after-hours was very enjoyable. Good idea Battalion staff.

Port Gamble was great as usual. There were good numbers from all units. There were only two, small inconveniences though: the Union streets were unusually narrow and the reenactor parking lot was almost a mile away. I think a better parking alternative was available. Otherwise, the weekend was very successful. The crowds were large and very supportive. As usual, there were a lot of visitors in camp. I prefer the 20<sup>th</sup>'s previous location next to the service road across from the Calvary. This allows us maximum exposure to the public, large numbers of spectators to speak with and more room. Bill Baher returned from Iraq and to our ranks. Nice to have you back Bill. It's probably reassuring to know those shooting at you back here will never hit you! The report on the preservation march was much better this year. It takes doing something new once or twice to work out the kinks. Let's make this an annual tradition. It gives the troops that campaign feeling before battle.

Snohomish was another successful and enjoyable event. Again, good numbers from the 20<sup>th</sup> (each event so far had at least 18 muskets take the field). The weather was warm but



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pleasant; the number of visitors in camp was up there also. We again had two new recruits join our ranks, Andrew House-Higgins and Samantha Amenn. Alex is originally from England and has been involved with the 20<sup>th</sup> Maine, Company F back there for several years. Samantha happened to be visiting at Port Gamble and heard the President's call to arms. Both took to the fields and earned their Maltese crosses. The crowd always enjoys the cannon fire and exploding outhouse skit. It's fun watching their reactions. Remember Col. Sayler's warning: Expect the unexpected when marching to and from battle and manoeuvring on the fields. It was fun quickly responding to his commands. We practiced stacking arms quite often and we needed it. We follow the procedure as outlined in Casey's Manuel, not Hardee's Manuel. As to be expected, the 20<sup>th</sup> was the pride of the Army of the Columbia. Keep us on our toes Colonel!

Three huzzahs to Earl Simmons and Bob Knooce. Earl recently donated a dog tent to Company F and Bob donated uniforms and a gum blanket. Thanks gentlemen. The items will be put to good use.

Speaking of Company equipment, we are increasing our amount of loaner gear. This is good because the Company is growing with new members. The unofficial policy of the company regarding loaner gear is to help outfit our new recruits for their first year. After that, they are expected to provide their own muskets, uniforms, tents and the like.

Increasing membership is a nice problem to have but it is still a problem: We don't have enough accoutrements for everybody. So if you have been in Company F for a year now, start purchasing your own equipment. I know our Captain, 1<sup>st</sup> Sgt. and I have been loaning out our personal muskets at times. Check out the classified ads in the Dispatch. There are always good, used items offered for sale at reasonable prices.

## **MESS'N AROUND**

### **Gumbo Soup**

Cut up a chicken or any fowl as if to fry and break the bones; lay it in a pot with just enough butter to brown it a little; when browned, pour as much water to it as will make soup for four or five persons; add a thin slice of lean bacon, an onion cut fine and some parsley. Stew it gently five or six hours; about twenty minutes before it is to be served, make a thickening by mixing a heaping tablespoonful of sassfra leaves, pounded fine, in some of the soup and adding it to the rest of the soup; a little rice is an improvement. If the fowl is small, two will be required, but one large pullet [a hen of the domestic chicken less than a year old] is sufficient.

[This is a great recipe for Living History events.]



*Recently I committed a mortal sin when I dropped my rammer down the barrel of my Enfield musket with a cloth patch on the end. Being my obsessive self, I was checking how clean the barrel was. The rammer became lodged and when I tried to remove it the tip broke off. I contacted Greg Hagge, a former member and founder of the 20<sup>th</sup> Maine, who managed to shoot the tip out. Greg also recently replaced several worn parts in two of the Company's muskets. Consequently, I was able to draw out his experience and wisdom on the proper care and look of an Enfield musket. The following is a reprint on an article he wrote several years ago. Please take the time to read it even if you own a Springfield: you will find it very enlightening.*

## **Some Notes on Original and Reproduction Enfield Rifled Muskets.**

By Greg Hagge

For those of you who have ever wondered about the differences between original and reproduction Enfields, or what to look for in a "real" potential civil war issue original Enfield, here are some points to ponder. Data from several sources and some personal observations can be boiled down to a few general points. For reenacting purposes the out-of-the-box reproductions we use today are fairly good. However there are a number of flaws. Some of these can be fixed by replacing a part. Some take much more effort.

1. It should be kept in mind that the 1853 British Enfield Riflemusket was the pattern tested by the US government in 1854. Many features of the US Model 1855 Riflemusket were borrowed from this design. This Enfield is very different from the design exported nine years later to the US and Confederate governments after 1862. Most reproduction Enfield Riflemuskets are based on the Snider-Enfield breech loading conversion introduced in 1866. In 1869 the stock of Enfields suitable for conversion to breechloaders was depleted and the British Government began manufacturing complete new guns (The Mk III\*). For the most part this is fine but some details were altered in later versions of this rifle. It would seem that Parker-Hale used the original gauges from the Tower of London to manufacture their reproduction (less the breech loading part of it). This was an excellent idea but unfortunately these manufacturing inspection gauges were apparently for the post 1865 configuration. It would also seem that other modern reproductions are based on this same product. The barrel bands on reproduction Parker-Hale and Euroarms made guns use the late 1864-post 1865 filled in and rounded off type screw lug. On reproduction guns with steel bands this can be filed down to the proper profile. Many earlier reproductions use brass bands colored black. These can also be reshaped and repainted black but should be replaced if possible. Original 3-band Enfields use only steel barrel bands. Some variations of the two banded and musketoon models did use brass bands.



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Armi Sport manufactured reproductions have the correct type steel bands with small “doughnuts” on the end of the screw to prevent their removal and loss. When re-installing barrel bands on Enfields the screw head is always to the left side, away from the lock.

2. The next item is also based on the later breech loading conversion. The upper sling swivel is offset to one side rather than centered on the sling. This part can be easily replaced with a swivel having the lug at the center.

3. There are two types of side screw escutcheons or washers. This is the brass fitting behind the two large screws on the left side that hold the lock to the stock. The mocommon style and the type used by all modern reproductions is the “round eared” variety. The other style has “square ears”. The square ear type can be purchased and installed if desired on the modern guns. Contrary to popular belief both types were used extensively and there seems to be no particular pattern to what manufacturers used either type. The use of this detail can only be confirmed for any given manufacture by looking at an original Enfield and documenting the fact from that individual example.

4. Another small detail is the lower sling swivel. Again there are two types in common use. The type most often seen is rounded on the ends much like the typical American musket sling swivel. The other is a deep triangle shaped swivel. Here again the use of either type can only be documented to one or another manufacturer by examining an original example. Both types can be purchased and easily installed on your gun if you want to change what you have.

5. The wooden stocks for most reproduction guns are configured correctly. Unfortunately for some unknown reason Armi Sport started blending the profile of the fore stock into the lower barrel band, like what is done on the Springfield. The fore stock should end squared off at the lower band. This “chin” is a unique feature of the Enfield. There is nothing to be done for this problem. The stock is too expensive to replace for this reason alone.

6. On the original Enfields, the wood color tends to be dark, to the black side of the scale. They were originally oil finished. The modern plastic urethane finish from the factory can be removed, the wood stained darker and refinished if you are inclined to do so.

7. Markings are the most specific and detailed part of the equation. These being quite small and not seen at a distance, most folks tend to ignore them. At the close up level this detail is the most defining feature of the gun and is the only feature that distinguishes a potential American civil war used weapon from a British Army issue gun. To start with no



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British Government marked weapons were sold to anyone in the arms trade. This would have been a violation of the neutrality laws. An extremely important issue at the time. All Enfield Riflemuskets sold to foreign buyers in England were manufactured especially for the contracts involved.

The arms trade in England was a collective affair. Two gun-making guilds produced Enfield type arms in England. Various subcontractors made components for several larger concerns that did the final assembly. This kept everyone employed and happy. Even at the late date of 1861 the Enfield arms were still hand made and fitted. Interchangeability of parts was demanded by the American government but the lack of interchangeability was tolerated from foreign purchases. This point was among the complaints of the troops. It was difficult to make field repairs on Enfields.

The Birmingham Small Arms Trade (BSAT) and the London district were the two primary centers of production for Enfield type arms. Each manufacturing center had its own proof houses and collection of sub contractors, each with their own proof and trade name markings. This means that there is a tremendous variety of part styles and marking combinations.

Beginning with the barrel, the government proof houses would apply a series of marks just as the U.S Government arsenals did. These are found on the upper left side of the breech. The lock was made by one or more sub assembly firms that would apply their marks to the inside of the lock. The out side surface would generally have the final assembly companies name and a date of manufacture forward of the hammer. The lock may or may not have a Queens crown (The gender of the current reigning monarch would determine the "gender" or style of the crown use on government material) engraved behind the hammer. All markings and border designs on the lock plate and hammer are hand engraved, not stamped as with Springfield or Harpers Ferry markings. On British Government contract arms additional government ownership marks would be applied. The cipher "VR" (Victoria Rex) would be under the Crown. Forward of the hammer along with the name and date would be a small crown over the government "broad arrow" inspectors stamp. These government ownership marks are not present on arms sold to the warring American purchasing agents. the right side of the butt. This is usually but not always present. Along the lower edge below the trigger guard is stamped the name of the primary assembly firm. There were many in each manufacturing district (See fig. 8). Occasionally, an importer would mark the stock with an embossed stamp or an ink stamp with their firm's name.

8. An important part of defarbing a reproduction Enfield is removing the modern markings from the barrel primarily. This is easily done but leaves you with a major dilemma. The blued finish on most parts and especially the barrel must be restored. Matching the existing bluing is difficult to impossible. Cleaning the part or barrel bright and having a professional gunsmith re-blue it is the most practical solution. This of course



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costs money and time. A few years ago the debate over blued Enfields verses bright finish was commonly bantered about. For those who missed this debate it was never really resolved. The short answer is that apparently some Enfields were delivered in a bright finish and some ended up that way due to fair wear and tear as well as the troops burnishing the bluing off by accident or design. Photos clearly show both finishes in evidence. However, the normal finish was blued and it is difficult to find an original example that can be documented as having been manufactured bright. My observation is that the blued finish is the most common and authentic answer for ordinary duty. For the past few years various venders have offered new reproduction Enfields in bright or blued finish with all the correct markings and improvements. They look excellent and are well done. This is the easiest way to have an authentic looking Enfield without the fuss of doing the work. If you buy one of these be sure it dose not have the Armi-Sport stock with the trimmed off "chin" at the lower band.

9. Research has revealed some interesting facts and theories regarding Confederate purchased Enfields. These are by no means fully understood or proven beyond question, but have been deduced and observed among examples with known provenance. As postulated in Firepower From Abroad, a typical scenario would seem to be as follows. A hand engraved four digit inventory number on the butt plate tang; a small stamp consisting of an anchor under "JS" on the stock below the trigger guard (See fig. 7); a date of 1861 through 1864, and no British Government markings at all as detailed above. Other inspector's marks (on the bottom of the barrel mostly) have been associated with contracts for the Confederate Government but this is still to be fully researched. Returning for a moment to United States purchased Enfields, they carry US government marks. Like the Springfield, they were viewed by government inspectors for acceptance. If passed by the inspector a cartouche of the inspector's initials in an oval or rectangle was stamped on the left stock side flat just like any other US arm. Another interesting point is that many thousands of Enfield muskets were captured from blockade runners and issued to Union troops.

10. The Enfield bayonet is another small detail that is routinely over looked. The triangular blade is finished bright as with most other bayonets. However the Enfield bayonet is unique for the fact that the socket and stem of the blade are blued. The effect is such as to appear like the bayonet was held by the blade and dipped up to the point where the squared off shoulder of the blade starts. As with the musket the bayonet has no British Government markings on it. Some maker marks and a tiny proof mark may be present on an export bayonet. This is not true of British or other government issued bayonets. When examining an original bayonet there may be eight or ten various small markings, letters and numbers in addition to a broad arrow stamp visible on the blade and socket. This is a positive sign that the bayonet in hand is a British or other



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government surplus piece and not a candidate for a “real civil war” used artifact. Also the diameter of the socket should be viewed carefully. As with Springfield musket bayonets, later models look identical but are used on a smaller diameter barrel and will not fit a civil war vintage musket.

11. Another small point that has come up relative to reproduction Enfields (and others) concerns the ramrod. As with reproduction Springfield ramrods they tend to bend and break regularly. When this happens in the barrel it is a real problem. The trouble starts when the ramrod is used for something other than ramming the ball. All reproduction ramrods are made of two or more segments screwed and or soldered together. The joints facilitate cheap manufacture and are also the weakest part of the rod. When bent at these joints it is only a matter of time before the joint breaks. This often happens when the rod is being used for cleaning. The Enfield ramrod was originally designed to be used as a cleaning jag. The problem is that the joints of the reproduction do not survive the stress of the patched rod being forcibly wrenched from the barrel when they become stuck. The temptation to place a rod or screwdriver in the slot cut through the rammer head and twist the rod to dislodge a stuck wiper or other accessory attached to the threaded end of the rod is also liable to end in difficulties. There is no practical solution for this inherent weakness in the construction of the reproduction ramrod. Paying attention to the condition of the joints and not doing things that tax the strength of the rod is prudent. The other and best solution if you insist on using the rammer as a cleaning tool is to buy a one piece steel ramrod. These can be had but be sure it is in fact of one piece construction. (Figures are printed at end of this publication).

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## **THE MINSTREL BOY**

(Thomas Moore (1779-1852))  
Air "the Moreen" Ancient Irish Air  
*(Submitted by Eric Maggard)*

The minstrel boy to the war is gone,  
In the ranks of death you'll find him;  
His father's sword he hath girded on,  
And his wild harp slung behind him;

"Land of Song!" cried the warrior bard,  
(Should) "Tho' all the world betrays thee,  
One sword, at least, thy rights shall guard,  
One faithful harp shall praise thee!"

The Minstrel fell! But the foeman's steel  
Could not bring that proud soul under;  
The harp he lov'd ne'er spoke again,  
For he tore its chords asunder;

And said "No chains shall sully thee,  
Thou soul of love and brav'ry!  
Thy songs were made for the pure and free  
They shall never sound in slavery!"

## **DID YOU KNOW?**

More than 10,000 different battles and skirmishes were fought during the Civil War of which maybe fifty to one hundred can be considered significant in scale. The war was fought at a higher level of intensity than earlier campaigns with each soldier participating in a greater number of combats.

By the end of 1863 Union troops at Cold Harbor and Mine Run started writing their names and addresses on scraps of paper and pinning them to their uniforms in order to permit notification to their next of kin in the event of their deaths. This was the forerunner of the modern dog tag.



## THIS DATE IN HISTORY

**July 29, 1862**

### **Belle Boyd is Captured**

Confederate spy Marie Isabella "Belle" Boyd is arrested by Union troops and detained at the Old Capitol Prison in Washington, D.C. It was the first of three arrests for this skilled spy who provided crucial information to the Confederates during the war.

The Virginian-born Boyd was just 17 when the war began. She was from a prominent slaveholding family in Martinsburg, Virginia (now West Virginia), in the Shenandoah Valley. In 1861, she shot and killed a Union soldier for insulting her mother and threatening to search their house. Union officers investigated and decided the shooting was justified.

Soon after the shooting incident, Boyd began spying for the Confederacy. She used her charms to engage Union soldiers and officers in conversations and acquire information about Federal military affairs. Suspecting her of spying, Union officers banished Boyd further south in the Shenandoah, to Front Royal Virginia, in March 1862. Just two months later, Boyd personally delivered crucial information to General Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson during his campaign in the Valley that allowed the Confederates to defeat General Nathaniel Banks's forces at the Battle of Winchester. In another incident, Boyd turned two chivalrous Union cavalymen who had escorted her back home across Union lines over to Confederate pickets as prisoners of war.

Boyd was detained on several occasions, and on July 29 she was placed in the Old Capitol Prison in Washington. But her incarceration was evidently of limited hardship. She was given many special considerations, and she became engaged to a fellow prisoner. Upon her release one month later, she was given a trousseau by the prison's superintendent and shipped under a flag of truce to Richmond. Boyd was arrested again in 1863 and held for three months. After this second imprisonment, she became a courier of secret messages to Great Britain. In 1864, her ship was captured off the coast of North Carolina, and the ship and crew were taken to New York. Captain Samuel Hardinge commanded the Union ship that captured Boyd's vessel, and the two were seen shopping together in New York. He followed her to London, and they were married soon after.

Boyd was widowed soon after the end of the war, but the union produced one child. Still just 21, Boyd parlayed her spying experiences into a book and an acting career. She died in Wisconsin in 1900.



## ROLL CALL

*Let's doff our kepis to two of our newest recruits.*

Samantha Amenn, originally from New York, moved to Washington State about twelve years ago and currently resides in Gold Bar. She is sixteen and is homeschooled. She was bit by the Civil War bug at the age of thirteen (after learning of the 20<sup>th</sup> Maine's stand at Little Round Top) and has read just about everything Civil War related that wasn't nailed down. But it was only after last summer when she visited Gettysburg did she realized that she wanted to become a reenactor. It was at the battlefield that the magnitude of the war hit her and she wanted to honor the dead by reenacting the past and making sure no one forgets their sacrifice. The reason she chose the 20<sup>th</sup> Maine was because it was the regiment that got her into the Civil War, Joshua Chamberlain is one of her personal heroes, and their bravery at Little Round Top. She looks forward to learning more about the 20<sup>th</sup> Maine, what it was like to be an average soldier during the Civil War, how to load a gun without eating the powder, and making friends with fellow Civil War fanatics.

Andrew House-Higgins chose the 20th Maine because he belonged to the same regiment and company in the UK American Civil War Reenactment when he lived there. He started reenacting when he was 16 in England. According to Andrew: "I had always been besotted with Napoleonic History and I walked into my local library and there was a recruiting poster for the 21st Infantry (French). I called and that night two real life grenadiers turned up in my Mum's living room with shakos and plumes and Charleville pattern flintlock muskets. Like the lad, smitten by the stories told by the Recruiting Sergeant, I was hooked! The following week I fought my first battle at Scarborough Castle". He stayed with the 21st for eight years and became a corporal. He then did two years with the 45th French line infantry as Sergeant and then a year as a Sous Lieutenant (ADC) with the General Staff. At the same time Andrew did some civilian reenacting from the regency period of English history.

"Unlike some reenactors, I do not have any family ties to a particular unit. I love reenacting because I enjoy bringing history to life, marching, shooting and singing. I like the colorful people our hobby seems to attract. I am looking forward to getting to know all of my new comrades both on and off the field and, in the interest of full disclosure, I have been known to inflict folk music on people at the slightest provocation. You have been warned..."

Andrew lives with his wife Carolyn, who is a native Olympian and their four year old girl Sophia. They reside in Olympia. He's worked in the wine business for the past twelve years - well someone has to test quality. He currently is staying home with his daughter.





*Samantha and Andrew receiving their Maltese Crosses from Captain Keen at the Battle for Snohomish. Who do you love?*

## **THIS DATE IN HISTORY**

**August 2, 1861**

**First income tax is passed**

The United States Congress passes the first income tax to raise revenues for the war effort. Although never enacted, it was an important fiscal innovation that paved the way for growth of the government in the 20th century.



## GENERALLY SPEAKING

*Generally Speaking is a new feature that examines some of the lesser known generals who served in the War Between the States. Presented are two generals who opposed each other in the Western Theater.*

Brig. General Lloyd Tilghman, CSA



Born in January 1816 in Claiborne, MD. Graduated from West Point in 1836. Before the war he served as a railroad construction engineer. After the war broke out he was commissioned a Colonel with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Kentucky Infantry. A few months later he became a Brigadier General with the CSA. He was responsible for constructing Forts Henry and Donelson on the Tennessee and Cumberland Rivers.

On February 6, 1862, an army under Brig. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant and gunboats under Flag Officer Andrew H. Foote attacked Fort Henry and Tilghman was forced to surrender. (This was not his first encounter with Grant. Tilghman was in Paducah when Grant captured that city the previous September.) Prior to doing so, he led the vast majority of his garrison troops on the 12-mile road to Fort Donelson, and then returned to surrender with a handful of artillerymen who were left defending the fort. The biggest factor in the defeat of Fort Henry was not the naval artillery or Grant's infantry;



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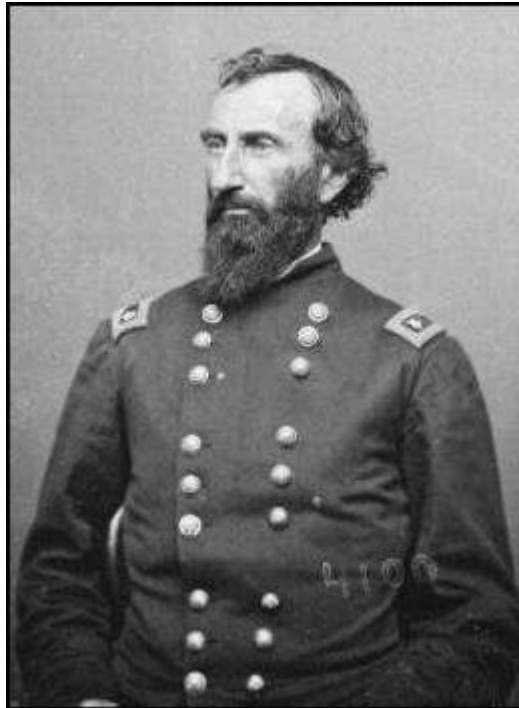
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it was the rising flood waters of the Tennessee, which flooded the powder magazines and forced a number of the guns out of action. (If Grant's attack had been delayed by two days, the battle would have never occurred because the fort was by then entirely underwater.) Tilghman was imprisoned as a prisoner of war at Fort Warren in Boston and was not released until August 15, when he was exchanged for Union General John F. Reynolds. Tilghman is remembered for his bravery and gallantry in surrendering with his men, but he was derelict in his duty by abandoning the command of his garrison, which was responsible for the defense of both Henry and Donelson. (He was replaced by Brig. Gen. John B. Floyd at Donelson, whose army fought gallantly under poor leadership and was surrendered to Grant on February 16.)

Returning to the field in the fall of 1862, Tilghman became a brigade commander in Mansfield Lovell's division of Earl Van Dorn's Army of the West, with which he fought in the Second Battle of Corinth. In the Vicksburg Campaign of 1863, he was hit in the chest by a shell fragment and killed in the Battle of Champion Hill. He is buried in Woodlawn Cemetery, New York City.

Brigadier General John Alexander McClermand, USA



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McClermand was born in Kentucky, but his family moved to Illinois when he was quite young. His early life and career were similar to that of another Illinois lawyer of the time, Abraham Lincoln. He was largely self-educated and was admitted to the Illinois bar in 1832. In that same year he served as a volunteer private in the Blackhawk War (Lincoln briefly served as a captain). Beginning in 1836 he served as a democratic member in the Illinois state house and in the US Congress until 1861.

He resigned from Congress, raised the "McClermand Brigade" in Illinois, and was commissioned brigadier general of volunteers on May 17, 1861. His commission as a general was based not on his brief service in the Blackhawk War, but on Lincoln's desire to retain political connections with the Democrats of Southern Illinois. He was second in command under Ulysses S. Grant at the Battle of Belmont (Missouri) in November 1861, and commanded the 1st Division of Grant's army at Fort Donelson; his division, whose flank was not properly anchored on an obstacle, was struck by a surprise attack on February 15, 1862, and driven back almost two miles before he was able to get reinforcements. On March 21, 1862, he was promoted to major general of volunteers for his service at Donelson. At the Battle of Shiloh he commanded a division, which was practically a reserve to William T. Sherman's. His service as a major general was tainted by political maneuvering, well resented by his colleagues. He sought to replace General George B. McClellan in the Eastern Theater and criticized Grant's maneuvers in the Western.

In October 1862, McClermand used his political influence with Illinois Governor Richard Yates to obtain a leave of absence to visit Washington, D.C. and President Lincoln, hoping to receive an important independent command. Early in January 1863, at Milliken's Bend, McClermand superseded Sherman as the leader of the force that was to move down the Mississippi. On January 11, 1863, he took Arkansas Post, an expedition considered by Grant and most historians as a distraction from a general campaign against Vicksburg. On January 17, Grant, after receiving the opinion of Admiral Andrew H. Foote and General Sherman that McClermand was unfit, united a part of his own troops with those of McClermand and assumed command in person, and three days later ordered McClermand back to Milliken's Bend. During the rest of the Vicksburg Campaign there was much friction between McClermand and his colleagues; he intrigued for the removal of Grant, spreading rumors to the press of Grant drinking on the campaign.<sup>[1]</sup>

It was Grant's opinion that at Champion Hill (May 16, 1863) McClermand was dilatory, but Grant bided his time, waiting for insubordination that was blatant enough to justify removing his politically powerful rival. After a bloody and unsuccessful assault against the Vicksburg entrenchments (ordered by Grant), McClermand wrote a congratulatory order to his corps, which was published in the press, contrary to an order of the department



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and another of Grant. He was relieved of his command on June 18, two weeks before the fall of Vicksburg, and was replaced by General Edward O. C. Ord.

President Lincoln, who saw the importance of conciliating a leader of the Illinois War Democrats, restored McClernand to a field command in 1864, the XIII Corps of the Department of the Gulf. Illness limited his role and he resigned from the Army on November 30, 1864. He played a prominent role in the funeral of Lincoln, his old friendly rival.



Entered according to Act of Congress, 1863, by Root & Cady, in the Clerk's office of the District Court for the Northern District of Illinois.



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Just before the battle, mother,  
I am thinking most of you,  
While upon the field we're watching  
With the enemy in view.  
Comrades brave are 'round me lying,  
Filled with thoughts of home and God  
For well they know that on the morrow,  
Some will sleep beneath the sod.

*CHORUS:*

Farewell, mother, you may never  
Press me to your heart again,  
But, oh, you'll not forget me, mother,  
If I'm numbered with the slain.

Oh, I long to see you, mother,  
And the loving ones at home,  
But I'll never leave our banner,  
Till in honor I can come.  
Tell the traitors all around you  
That their cruel words we know,  
In every battle kill our soldiers  
By the help they give the foe.

*CHORUS:*

Farewell, mother, you may never  
Press me to your heart again,  
But, oh, you'll not forget me, mother,  
If I'm numbered with the slain.

Hark! I hear the bugles sounding,  
'Tis the signal for the fight,  
Now, may God protect us, mother,  
As He ever does the right.  
Hear the "Battle-Cry of Freedom,"  
How it swells upon the air,  
Oh, yes, we'll rally 'round the standard,  
Or we'll perish nobly there.

*Submitted by Eric Maggard*



I believe that the following was taken from the CW-Reenactors Listserve, and has been passed around the internet. It is included here for your enjoyment, and to perhaps lower the level, just a bit.

---

## **You Might Be a Civil War Reenactor -- IF**

- **If your \$20,000 car sits out in the weather so your \$200 tent can stay in the garage...you might be a reenactor.**
- **If you drive by some open land and think, "What a great place for a battle!" ...you might be a reenactor.**
- **If most of the clothes you own went out of style over 135 years ago...**
- **If you've made a vehicle purchase decision based on how well it can accomodate your tent poles...**
- **If you've ever uttered the phrase, "only 68 more days til our Roaring Camp event" ...**
- **If sleeping in a leaky tent in the rain and mud is your idea of a fun Saturday night...**
- **If you've ever worn wool when the temperature tops 100 degrees repeatedly...**
- **If there are half-completed sewing projects decorating your furniture...**
- **If you've ever made a career decision based on its impact on your reenacting weekends...**
- **If your friends refuse to attend any historic movie dramas with you...**
- **If you can spot 100% wool at 30 yards...**
- **If your kids can correct their history teachers...**
- **If your mailman is confused as to what rank you hold in the reserves...**
- **If you have been asked at a gas station if you're Amish...**
- **If your birthday and Christmas list reads like a quartermaster's request for supplies...**
- **If you believe that your brogans are the most comfortable shoes that you own...**

*This and the following submitted by Luther Palmer (aka Bob Koonce). How much of the above sounds true? Ask your wife if any of this applies to you and if it does, you are a reenactor!*



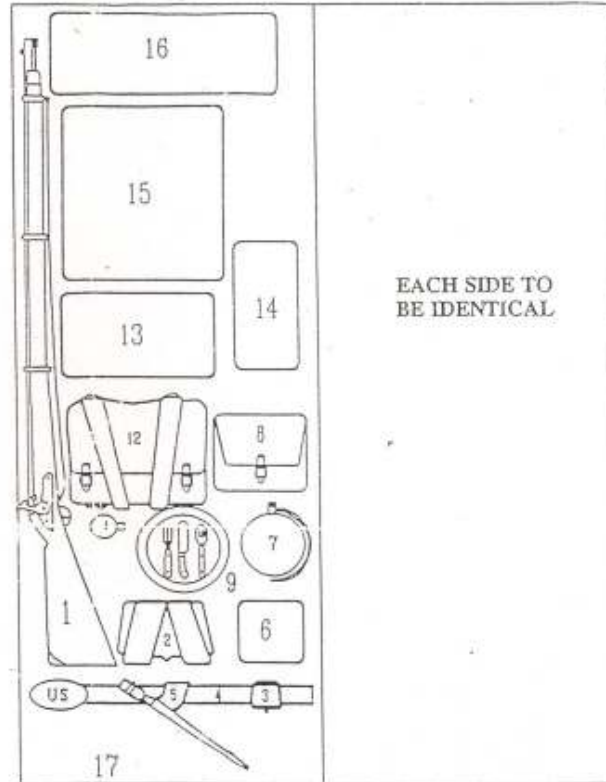
How to:

## Camp Inspection

### Layout Plan for Inspections of Two Man Dog Tents

- 1) Rifled Musket
- 2) Cartridge Box and Sling
- 3) Cap Box
- 4) Waist Belt
- 5) Bayonet & Scabbard
- 6) Cleaning Equipment
- 7) Canteen
- 8) Haversack
- 9) Plate
- 10) Fork, Knife & Spoon
- 11) Cup
- 12) Knapsack
- 13) Greatcoat rolled (in season & if not worn)
- 14) Personal Items:
  - A. Hygiene Items
  - B. Writing Material
  - C. Candies
  - D. Small Amount of Food
- 15) Additional Clothing
- 16) Bedding - Folded
- 17) Poncho (black down)
 

Items 1 thru 16 to be placed on the poncho



COMPANY STREET

*Ah, camp inspection. This is an opportunity to do some great first person and show off all your gimcracks and geegaws at the same time. I've watched a few units go through camp inspection recently and it really seems to be a crowd pleaser also.*

*So without any further ado, here is the diagram you've all been waiting for. Thanks to Bill Wong for sending this in and to Mike Haddad for preparing the drawing. Both Bill and Mike are with the 19th Indiana, Co. C.*

*According to Mike Haddad this drawing is from an old manual and has been circulating through the Confederate ranks for some time (although reputed to be a Federal standard). Mike scanned it and computer enhanced it so it reproduces cleanly.*

*This layout is for your side of a two man dog tent.*





Several of us from the 20<sup>th</sup> will be attending this event back east. It is not too late to do likewise. For further information contact Eric Maggard at [ericmaggard@msn.com](mailto:ericmaggard@msn.com).

### CONTEST

The first person to email me the correct answer will receive a period-looking time piece; a new brushed silver, battery operated pocket watch.

Which items had more of an impact on the individual soldier and hence the outcome of the war and why:

- A. Dog shelter tent, gum blanket, canned fruit, & desiccated vegetables, or
- B. The rifled-musket?

The individual with the correct answer will be notified by email and the winner will be announced in the next edition of the Flagstaff.



## **PARTING COMMENTS**

*By the time this is published, the Battle for Fort Stevens will be taking place. My apologies for being so late with this edition. This has proved to be a very enjoyable season. Compliments to Col. Saylor and our Captain Keen for doing a terrific job this year. There are a few more events coming up: A living history event at historic Fort Vancouver, the Battle of Chickamauga, the Veteran's Day Parade and possibly a season ending get-together at my place for members of the 20<sup>th</sup> ME.*

*Don't forget to vote for club and field positions and recipients of our annual awards. Remember the motto of our state Democrat Party during the last gubernatorial election: "Vote early and vote often".*

*Kerry Gove is initiating a clothing loaner program for children. Good idea. Thanks Carrie!*

*Since our reenactments are coming to an end, I find myself occupied with thoughts and memories of the last 8 months. This has been a very fun summer. I enjoyed the scenarios, skirmishes, unexpected manoeuvres, and camaraderie around the campfires. The meals have been the best yet. I nominate Sgt. Bob as official camp chef! I also nominate Clyde as official piper. All those in favor... But what I like best is we have good, clean, family fun. So far this season everyone came with an attitude of giving and I salute you all! I noticed much interaction with public this year. I suspect this had something to do with the number of new recruits. Keep up the good work 20<sup>th</sup> Maine! We are the pride of the WCWA! Until next time, Bayonets!*

## **THE NECESSARY STUFF**

The Flagstaff is published by Company F, 20<sup>th</sup> Regiment Maine Volunteer Infantry to foster communication amongst its memberships and is distributed by e-mail to members and other select persons and organizations. It is published 4 to 6 times a year. The editorial policy is set by the governing board of the Regiment. Materials may be re-published with permission. All communication regarding the Flagstaff may be directed to Cap Caputo, Editor, at: 360-705-1271, or [cap10inwa@comcast.net](mailto:cap10inwa@comcast.net). Please indicate 20<sup>th</sup> Maine in subject heading of email.

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