

UNION BLUE

WESTERN NEW YORK AT WAR 175

APRIL 1987 VOL-1



THIS MONTH...

**THE ELICOTTVILLE CAPT.
& THE SHIPPY BROS. OF OTTO...**

UNION BLUE

"Western New York At War"

April 1987

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Union Blue is published monthly except in August for \$17.00 per year, continental U.S. subscriptions. Single copy price, \$1.75. Available at various area news stands or contact the main office.

Direct editorial comments and advertising inquiries to Union Blue. We welcome any ideas, original artwork and articles to the magazine. Please note that any work is subject to approval and editing. Any material submitted will be returned if a self-addressed, stamped envelope is provided.

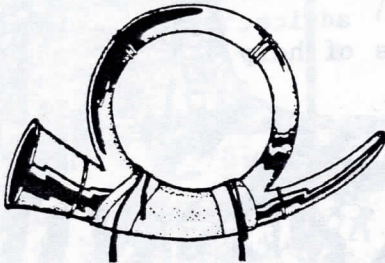
Classified Ads: Up to ten words, \$4.00 per issue; each additional word, 10¢. Ten word advertisement for one year (11 issues), \$40.00 paid in advance.

Proof of Publication: Tear sheets are sent out to all display advertisers who are not subscribers. Tear sheets are sent to classified advertisers only if a SASE accompanies the ad.

Bulk Rate To Retailers: \$1.25 per copy in lots of ten.

UNION BLUE MAGAZINE

R.D.2 Box 124 North Otto Road
Cattaraugus, New York 14719
(716) 257-9642



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UNION BLUE

APRIL 1987

THE SHIPPY BROTHERS OF OTTO
by Mark H. Dunkelman

CAPT. BYRON JOHNSTON
by b.l. Loeffke

DAN EILLS Union Guide

LEE: THE COMPASSIONATE LION
by b.l. loefke & m.l.l.

THE 154th
How much do you know?

LIVING HISTORY RE-ENACTMENT!

OLD LEATHER
by P. J. Cullen

ON THIS DATE...

a c.w. cartoon

plus other items of interest!
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Dedication

I feel this is not only a first in our area, but a milestone as well. I wish to dedicate this, the first issue of Union Blue, to all the courageous men who served from 1861-1865 and reddened this great land of ours with thier blood; to die for a cause and freedom they believed was priceless. This publication is one of many written in our country every month, lest we forget the price that was paid.

I would like to especially dedicate this first issue to the men of the 154th New York State Volunteer Infantry, "The Hardtack Regiment".

Editor's Introduction

In my travels throughout the communities of Cattaraugus and Chautaugua counties, I find an ever present interest in the rich military history so prevelent in this area. It is a sincere commitment on my part to bring to life this vast reservoir of historical fact and folklore.

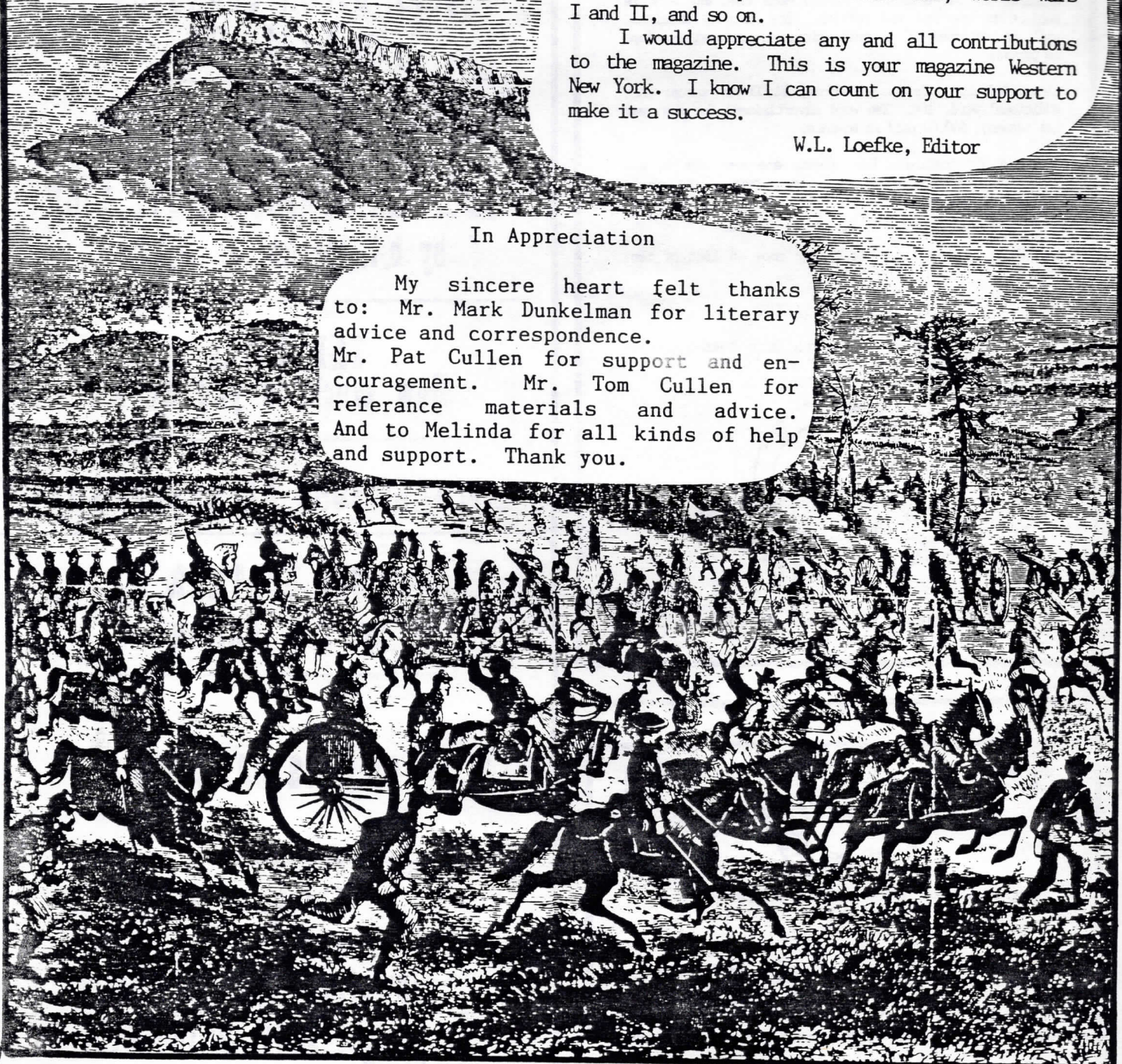
Although my interest and first love lies in the area of the Civil War and military units of that era, I will also from time to time present a column called "Other Wars and Other Shores." This feature addresses local heros from The War of 1812, The Spanish-American War, World Wars I and II, and so on.

I would appreciate any and all contributions to the magazine. This is your magazine Western New York. I know I can count on your support to make it a success.

W.L. Loeffke, Editor

In Appreciation

My sincere heart felt thanks to: Mr. Mark Dunkelmann for literary advice and correspondence. Mr. Pat Cullen for support and encouragement. Mr. Tom Cullen for referance materials and advice. And to Melinda for all kinds of help and support. Thank you.



CAPT. BYRON JOHNSTON

Captain Co. F. 154th New York Infantry Volunteers
Enrolled July 21, 1861 in Ellicottville, N.Y.

The medical history of Captain Byron A. Johnston is a typical example of how difficult the Civil War was on the everyday well-being of its participants. I have researched the Captain's mustering reports, discharge records, and frequent unscheduled leaves due to medical infirmities. I realized that if you were fortunate enough to avoid the mutilation and infection caused by a wound, there were other "enemies" waiting to "attack" you. Among these were typhoid fever, yellow fever, dysentery and malnutrition. The odds were certainly stacked against the soldier of the 1860's.

Johnston's occupation at the time of his enlistment was that of a carpenter. He was mustered in for duty on May 7, 1861, for a period of two years. He held the rank of Orderly Sergeant in Co. H, 37th New York Infantry. Less than one year into his service, he was discharged by a Surgeon's Certificate of Disability from Fort Washington, Maryland. The cause for his release was stated as, "chronic inflammation of the kidneys and general disability there from."

PENSIONER DROPPED.

no other claim
United States Pension Agency,
Washington, D. C.

June 29 1904.

Certificate No. *26519*
Class *Civil War. 2nd Lt.*
Pensioner *Byron A. Johnston*
Soldier *Co. F. 154th N.Y.I.*
Service *Regt. A. 2nd B. 154 N.Y.I.*

The Commissioner of Pensions.

SIR: I have the honor to report that the above-named pensioner who was last paid at \$ *17* to *July 9 1863* has been dropped because of *death* *17 Mar 03*

Very respectfully,
Edom
United States Pension Agent.

NOTE.—Every name dropped to be thus reported at once, and when cause of dropping is death, state date of death when known.

"Pensioner Dropped" *J*
due to death

Six months later, on July 21, 1862, Bryon A. Johnston re-enlisted in Ellicottville, N.Y., his birthplace, with the newly-formed 154th Regiment. He was mustered in as First Sergeant, Co. A. One might speculate as to the reason for his re-enlistment.

Through the spring and early summer of 1862, the War had become a full-blown engagement. The Shanandoah Valley Campaign had begun. The Battle of Fair Oaks, as well as escalating naval battles all greatly concerned the North. Many men were swayed toward the "cause", and although Johnston was disabled only six months prior, he probably felt well recovered due to his convalescence at home along with a strong sense of duty to his country. Thus, he went off to the battlefield again.

Sergeant Johnston was well liked by his men and superiors. He was promoted at an almost regular occurrence. On January 3, 1862, he received a promotion to 2nd Lieutenant, Co. B; on May 27, 1863 as 1st Lieutenant Co. I; and finally, on July 9, 1864 as Captain, Co. F, the rank which he mustered out with near Bladensburg, Maryland.

When Johnston left the army, he returned to Ellicottville and resumed his trade. However,

as the years progressed, a condition originally contracted on the battlefield made it increasingly difficult for him to continue his work. According to official Union documents, he suffered from chronic articular rheumatism. In a general affidavit signed by Byron Johnston and dated May 2, 1892, he stated:

"In the month of December, I was on the march from Atlanta to Savannah, Georgia. I was in charge of Pioneer Corps and worked building roads being often in swamps and water. My rheumatism was contracted on this march and was caused by exposure, often lying as much on wet grounds at night, and being in the water building roads and bridges during the day. At Sisters Ferry in Savannah where we were crossing the river into South Carolina, I was working in the water and mud building bridges, and constructing roads for eight days and as a consequence was very badly used up with rheumatism. Rheumatism has continued up to the present time and is continuously increasing in severity."

It should be noted that while these are Johnston's own words, they were recorded by someone else and only signed by him. Upon close examination, one can see the deterioration in his penmanship found on many military documents containing his signature, thus substantiating his condition even further.

ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES.

CERTIFICATE OF DISABILITY FOR DISCHARGE.
(To be used, in duplicate, in all cases of discharge on account of disability.)

Byron Johnston
Company, (1st) of the *1st* Regiment of United States
was enlisted by *Col. J. P. Kingman* of
the *1st* Regiment of *N.Y. 3rd* at *Albany, N.Y.*
on the *17* day of *May* 186*2*, to serve *2* years; he was born
in *Cattaraugus County* in the State of *New York* is *thirty four*
years of age, *5* feet *8 1/2* inches high, *light* complexion, *blue* eyes,
brunet hair, and by occupation when enlisted a *Cuba nut maker*. During the last two
months said soldier has been unfit for duty *days.* (Here insert direction on Form 12, p. 203, Medical Dept. Gen. Reg.)

STATION: *Fort Washington, Md.*
DATE: *December 28 1864*

I CERTIFY, that I have carefully examined the said *Byron Johnston* of
Captain *L. B. Hammon's* Company, and find him incapable of performing the duties of a soldier because
of (Here insert par. 1124, p. 215, and direction on Form 12, p. 203, Med. Dept. Gen. Reg.)

*Chronic inflammation of the kidneys and
general debility therefrom*

Samuel A. Storron, appt. Surgeon, 1st Army

DISCHARGED, this *nineteenth* day of *January* 186*2*, at *Fort Washington, Md.*

Col. H. P. ...
Commanding the Post.

NOTE 1.—When a probable case for pension, special care must be taken to state the degree of disability.
NOTE 2.—The place where the soldier desires to be admitted may be here added.


Town— County— State—

[Gov. Form 107, Oct., 1861.] (DUPLICATE)

Byron Johnston's first Certificate of Dissability

THE HARDTACK REGIMENT AN ILLUSTRATED HISTORY OF THE 154th REGIMENT, NEW YORK STATE VOLUNTEERS, by Mark H. Dunkelman and Michael J. Winey., Fairleigh Dickinson University Press, New Jersey, 1981.

**P. J. Cullen
Antique Arms**



*Individual Pieces
or
Entire Collections
Bought Sold Appraised*

**24 Main Street
Cattaraugus, N.Y. 14719**
716 257-9862
716 257-3432

GENERAL AFFIDAVIT.

State of New York, County of Cattaraugus, ss:

In the matter of the claim of Byron A Johnston
Co. A. 154 Regt 9th Vols. Ctp. 216, 519 -

Personally came before me, a Notary Public in and for aforesaid County
and State, Byron A Johnston, aged 65 years
and _____, aged _____ years
citizen of the Town of Ellicottville, County of Cattaraugus, State of
New York, well known to me to be reputable and entitled to credit, and who,

being duly sworn, declare in relation to aforesaid case, as follows:

That he is the claimant above named
and that in the month of December 1864
he was on the march from Atlanta to
Savannah Ga he was in charge of the "Pioneer
Corps" and worked building roads being
often in the swamps and water.

My rheumatism was contracted on this
march, and was caused by exposure, the
lying on the ground at night, and being
in the water building
roads & bridges during the day.
From Savannah to Washington was
traveled badly.

At Friers Ferry on Savannah when we were
crossing the river into South Carolina, I was
working in the water and mud building
bridges and ordinary roads for eight days and
as a consequence was very badly set up
with rheumatism.

The rheumatism has continued ever
since up to the present time and is continually
increasing in severity.

further declare that _____ no interest in said case, and _____ not con-
cerned in its prosecution.

1. _____ }
2. _____ } Byron A Johnston
Signature of Affiant.

NOTE - In the execution of papers and evidence, whenever a person or witness signs by mark, (i.) two persons who
can write must attest the signature by signing their names opposite.
The official before whom papers are executed is not a competent witness to a mark.

Captain Johnston received a pension of \$17.00 per month up until his final mustering out of life itself on March 17, 1903. A short obituary, describing his military career, appeared in the Ellicottville Post. He was survived by his wife, Corina, and his son, also Byron. The Captain has decendants in Cattaraugus County.

While I do not believe Johnston's case to be an extraordinary one, he was one of the many who continued to suffer long after Robert E. Lee laid his sword aside at Appomatox.



C.W. MUSIC

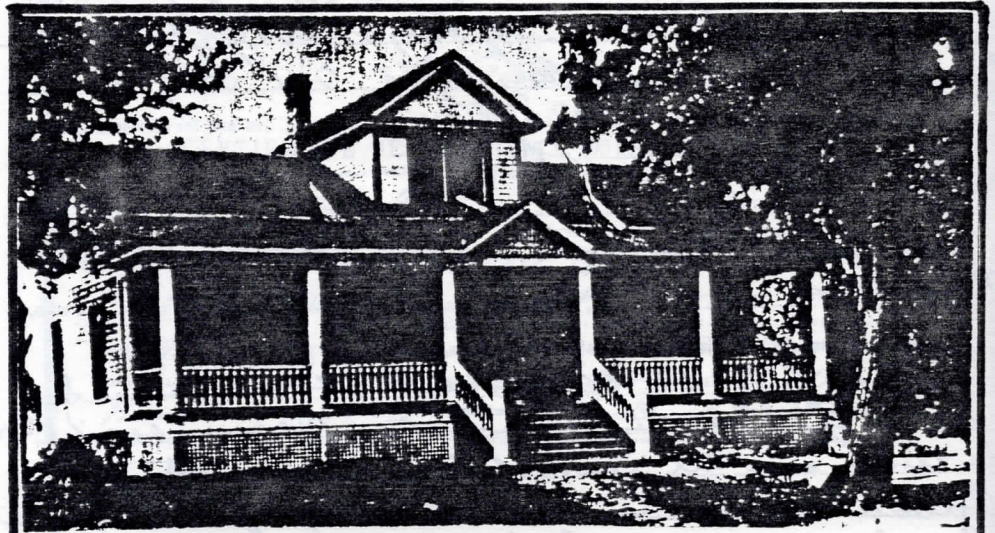
Music was an integral part of the War between the States. Most Confederate bands consisted of only a few pieces. Unlike their Federal counterparts, they were not accustomed to handsome treatment. In return for some much sought after food, bandsmen would serenade the most prosperous looking houses in towns and villages. If there were a piano player in the group, he would even walk into the house uninvited to play the instrument until the inhabitants of the house gathered. His comrades would then join in singing. Such concerts almost always resulted in the desired payment of rations.

THE SHIPPY BROTHERS OF OTTO

by Mark H. Dunkelman

The photographs presented here came to my collection as a result of an article in North South Trader Magazine, ("Relics of a Regiment", Vol. IX, No. 3), which detailed Mike Winey's and my search for artifacts of the 154th New York Infantry Volunteers. A Virginia subscriber notified me he had portraits of a member of the regiment and his four brothers, all of whom served during the war. He had acquired them in 1977 in New Orleans from a Gulfport, Miss. dealer. Through whose hands they had passed to get there is unknown. At some point in the past, however, the pictures were an heirloom of the Shippy family of Otto, New York, and since I have obtained them I have learned a bit about the brothers and their parents.

Elisha Shippy wed Isabella Parkinson in Otto on May 29, 1830, and there they were still thirty years later, living in the village of Waverly. By that momentous and foreboding election year, they had raised a family of five boys, all of whom resided in the household. Father Elisha, suffering from heart disease, had come to rely more and more on the five to help support the family. And then came the war, all five sons joined the army, Elisha died, and for a short period Isabella Shippy was left alone, but indomitable.



The Shippy family homestead, Otto, New York
Photo courtesy of the Otto Historical Museum,
Cattaraugus Area Historical Society

Eugene Shippy, the third-born son (March 29, 1940), was the first to enlist, on September 7, 1861, at the Cattaraugus County town of Portville. He was mustered in at Elmira on September 25, to serve three years, as a private in Company D, 85th New York Infantry. With his regiment Eugene left the state on December 3 headed for the Army of the Potomac. On New Year's Day, 1862 he was promoted to corporal. On May 31 of that year Eugene participated in his only battle of the war when the 85th New York, as a part of Silas Casey's 2nd Division of the IV Corps was hit hard at Fair Oaks during McClellan's Peninsular campaign.

As that campaign was ending in failure, Eugene was sent north on July 3, 1862. Six days later he was at DeCamp U.S.A.

General Hospital on David's Island in New York City's harbor, suffering from intermittent fever and diarrhoea. For Eugene, the front lines were now a thing of the of the past. Six months after arriving at DeCamp, by January of 1863, he was serving as a nurse there. He continued to do so throughout that year, expecting a week's furlough home, and into the spring of 1864. On May 11 he was sent to the convalescent barracks at Fort Wood, on Bedloe's Island, and two days later he returned to duty.

Eugene was transferred to Company A when he rejoined the skeletal 85th New York in North Carolina. Almost all of the regiment had been captured in the recent surrender of Plymouth, N.C. to the Confederates. After a few quiet months of service, Eugene was discharged at New Berne

on October 27, 1864, at the expiration of his term of service.

His next four years were spent in Otto. He was the first of the brothers to marry. Eugene wed Henrietta Williams at her parents' home in East Otto on March 28, 1866. It was a strong marriage-- their certificate hung on display for years-- and they raised five children. The family settled in nearby Springville in Erie County around 1870, after two years in East Otto. Eugene continued his prewar occupation as a farmer. In 1876 he filed an invalid pension claim, stating he suffered from the effects of a severe strain and hernia he got when he slipped and fell at the Battle of Fair Oaks. Two years later the Adjutant General's office declared there was no record of the injury. Over the years Eugene continued to apply, but it wasn't until 1908 that he was granted a pension. He was the last of the Shippy brothers when he died on July 21, 1917 of pyelitis and chronic urinary tract infection. Eugene is buried in Maplewood Cemetery in Springville. His widow Henrietta remarried in 1925.

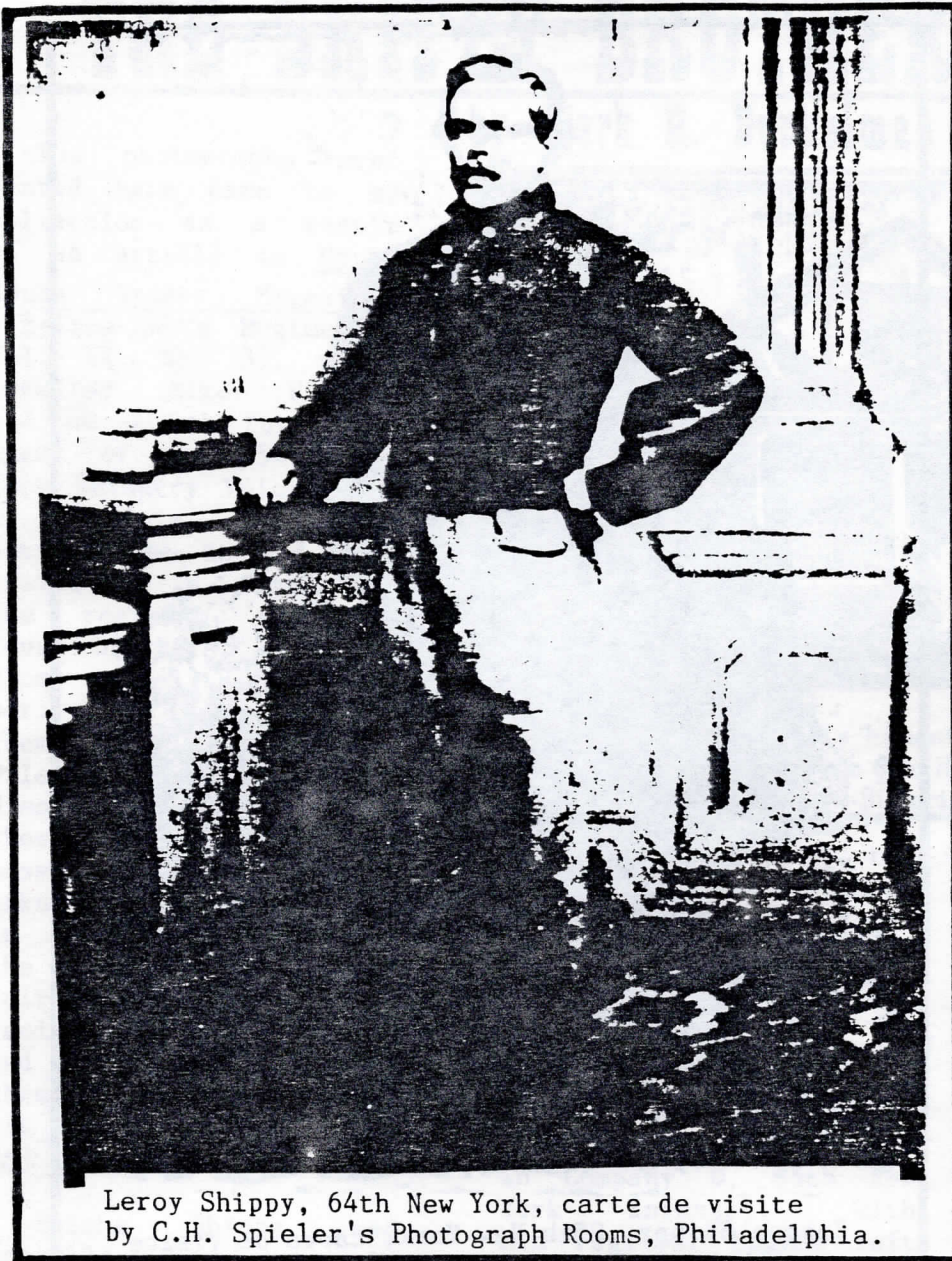
The second-born son (May 21, 1836), Leroy Shippy, was the second brother to enlist. Like Eugene, Leroy's occupation was listed as farmer when he enrolled September 16, 1861 at Otto, to serve three years. He was mustered in September 24 as a private in Company



Eugene Shippy, 85th New York, carte de visite by W.H. Cranston, Olean, N.Y.

C, 64th New York Infantry, the "Cattaraugus Regiment." The 64th left the state December 10, 1861 and became a part of the 1st Brigade, 1st Division, II Corps of the Army of the Potomac. With that command Leroy fought in his first battle, Fair Oaks, on June 1, 1862, the day after Eugene and the 85th New York were engaged there. Leroy, however, was not as fortunate as his brother. A ball struck his left wrist and followed the bone nearly to his elbow. Much of his recuperation occurred at the

Camden Street U.S.A. Hospital in Baltimore. By January of 1863, he was at a convalescent camp near Baltimore and that spring he rejoined his regiment. The 64th New York, now a part of the 4th Brigade of their old division, was engaged at the Battle of Chancellorsville, and Leroy emerged unscathed. Two months later he was not so lucky. On July 2 at Gettysburg, as Leroy's brigade mounted a counterattack through the Wheatfield and into



Leroy Shippy, 64th New York, carte de visite
by C.H. Spieler's Photograph Rooms, Philadelphia.

On her death, March 3, 1877, the family home in Waverly became his and he lived there apparently the rest of his life. He married Sabrina Barse at Otto on December 16, 1868. The couple had no children. In the 1880's Leroy was a newsdealer. When he succumbed to pneumonia on March 4, 1896, he was the second of the Shippy brothers to die. He is buried next to his parents in the cemetery adjacent to the Congregational Church, across the street from the family homestead.

Augustus A. Shippy, the eldest brother, was born November 30, 1831. A mechanic, Augustus had helped to support the family for fifteen years when the war broke out. And recently, with Elisha unable to work, he was their sole support. Then his two younger brothers joined the army and he made a fateful decision. He enlisted at Otto on July 30, 1862, to serve three years, and was mustered in at Jamestown, New York, on September 24 as sergeant, Company B, 154th New York Infantry.

His regiment was also assigned to the Army of the Potomac--the 1st Brigade, 2nd Division, XI Corps. His first battle was adventurous for Augustus. He was captured when the 154th was shattered, after fighting hard, opposing "Stonewall" Jackson's famous last flank attack on the evening of May 2, 1863, at Chancellorsville. On May 14 he was paroled at City Point, on the

the Rose Woods, he was shot again.

The wound in his right hand, near the thumb where the ball had gone through, was deemed slight. In conjunction with the Fair Oaks wound, however, it was enough to send Leroy away from his regiment permanently. His new address, a week after the battle, was Ward R of Satterlee U.S.A General Hospital in West Philadelphia. There his wound was treated, a cough and chest pain cleared up, and he returned from a long fur-

lough in August with the wound healed. Then, needing no treatment, he worked in the ward and enjoyed an autumn furlough. On December 3, 1863, Leroy was transferred to the 123rd Company, 2nd Battalion of the Invalid Corps. After that unit's reorganization he was with Company G, 9th Regiment, Veteran Reserve Corps. From them he was mustered out September 22, 1864 at Washington.

When Leroy Shippy rejoined Isabella in Otto his father was dead and brothers all gone.

16th he was at Camp Parole, Md., on the 20th he was sent to Washington, and nine days later he arrived at the convalescent camp across the Potomac in Alexandria.

On June 12, Augustus applied for a furlough on the grounds that his "father is sick, unable to attend to any business." He also passed along this letter from Isabella, which goes a long way towards explaining why all five brothers served:

to the Commander of Convalescent Camp Alexandria
Dear Sir I have a Son among the paroled prisoners, Augustus A Shippy, of the 154th N.Y., and we are very anxious to see him come home untill he is exchanged— his father is sick with consumption and he is very anxious to see him— You need have no fear but that he will return the moment he is exchanged— I have three sons in the army, and I would much rather they all fall on the battle field than to desert their Country in this her hour of triall,

or do one Cowardly act— they are true patriots Grandsons of one of the noble old heroes of the revolution inhaling patriotism with their first breath So you need have no fears— he will certainly come back to his regiment— from his Mother Mrs. I. Shippy

Two days after applying, Augustus received his furlough. Eleven days later it was over and he was back in Alexandria.

By the time he was exchanged, the 154th New York had been sent west. Augustus rejoined the regiment on October 3, 1863 at Bridgeport, Alabama. He was present for the subsequent Chattanooga and Knoxville Campaigns, and winter camp in Lookout Valley, Tennessee. In the spring of 1864 the XI and XII Corps were consolidated to form the XX, and the 154th joined the 2nd Brigade, 2nd Division, the latter commanded by John W. Geary.

Four days after marching out of winter camp, at the opening of the Atlanta Campaign, Geary's division was ordered to create a diversion by an attack on Rocky Face Ridge, in northwestern Georgia. Their objective was Dug Gap, where a road crossed the steep, wooded slope, crowned with a huge palisade of stone. That Sunday, May 8, 1864, was a warm one, and climbing that tough, tangled terrain in a woolen uniform, with an Enfield and accouterments, was hard enough. There was also a constant fire of the enemy from



Augustus A. Shippy, 154th New York, tintype.

the crest, growing more accurate as Augustus and the rest approached, to which was added occasional boulders sent careening and crashing down through the saplings and trees.

A brief respite was gained when the 154th reached the protecton of the huge, overhanging outcrop of rock at the brow of the ridge. Then the order was given to storm the Confederate line. With a yell, Augustus followed the regimental colors to the top into a withering fire. The colors fell, were raised, and fell and rose again and again. Finally they were rescued, and the 154th fell back down the slope. Above, among the shattered bodies that had fought for the flags, sprawled Augustus Shippy. He had been instantly killed.

"Captain [N.V.] Pemberton came here in Waverly of the town of Otto for Recruits for the 14th N.Y. Heavy Artillery and my Son Stanley Shippy enlisted-- he took him to a Public House in Great Valley-- they stayed there untill he got his number of men and they then went to Rochester where their head quarters were." So wrote Isabella Shippy in a letter inquiring which town he was credited to.

Her youngest son was now gone and only one remained at home. When Stanley E. Shippy (born April 3, 1848) enlisted in Otto on October 17, 1863, he was



Stanley E. Shippy, 14th
New York Heavy Artillery,
tintype.

fifteen years old. In his declaration he swore he was sixteen, and who ever filled in the parental consent wrote eighteen, rubbed it out, and entered sixteen, before Elisha signed it in a shaky hand.

Stanley was mustered in at Rochester on December 17, 1863, as a private in Company H of the 14th New York Heavy Artillery. That month his company was sent to Fort Hamilton in New York harbor, near

where brother Eugene was nursing at DeCamp. This duty continued until April of 1864, when the regiment joined the Army of the Potomac. On May 3, just before the opening of Grant's spring offensive, Stanley was sent on detached service to Battery G, 3rd U.S. Artillery. This battery had recently been reactivated after nearly two years as "a paper company only", according to a regimental historian. It served in the reserve artillery brigade of the IX Corps during the Wilderness Campaign until May 14, when it was sent to the defenses of Washington, where it remained until the war's end. The quiet garrison duty was interrupted once for Battery G during the time Stanley was with them-- in July, when Jubal Early's invasion sputtered out in skirmishing at Washington's forts.

While Stanley had been detached, his regiment had been fighting as infantry in the IX Corps. When he rejoined them on February 12, 1865, they were a part of the 3rd Brigade, 1st Division, stationed at Fort Stedman in the Petersburg lines.

When the surprise, predawn Confederate onslaught briefly overran the fort on March 25, Stanley was one of hundreds of prisoners taken. The war was about over, but he would be the last surviving brother to return home. He was paroled on March 30 and reported at Camp Parole, Md. the next day. From April 7 to May 8, first



Aaron P. Shippy, 13th New York Heavy Artillery, carte de visite, no backmark.

ber 3, 1864 at Otto, to serve one year. He was mustered in the same day at Dunkirk as a private in Company G, 13th New York Heavy Artillery. With them he was stationed on Hart Island, N.Y. in late September through October. From November, 1864 to February, 1865, Aaron was on detached service at Scott's Creek in the defences of Portsmouth, Virginia. After the quietest term of service of the five brothers, Aaron was mustered out June 21, 1865 at Norfolk, by order of the War Department.

As with his three brothers who survived the war, details of Aaron's postwar life are sketchy. By 1880 he was living in Fillmore County, Minnesota. On August 30 of that year, in the town of York, he married Nancy A. Daughgetee. They had two children. By 1890 the family moved to Kansas, living in Admire, Lyon County. Ten years later they were in Hutchinson, Reno County. By 1903, Aaron, formerly a laborer, was totally disabled. In fourteen years, his pension had doubled-- up to twelve dollars a month. He died in Hutchinson on October 14, 1907. Nancy died in 1923 at Hot Springs National Park in Arkansas.

anniversary of his brother's death, Stanley was at home on furlough. Finally, on August 26, he was mustered out at Washington.

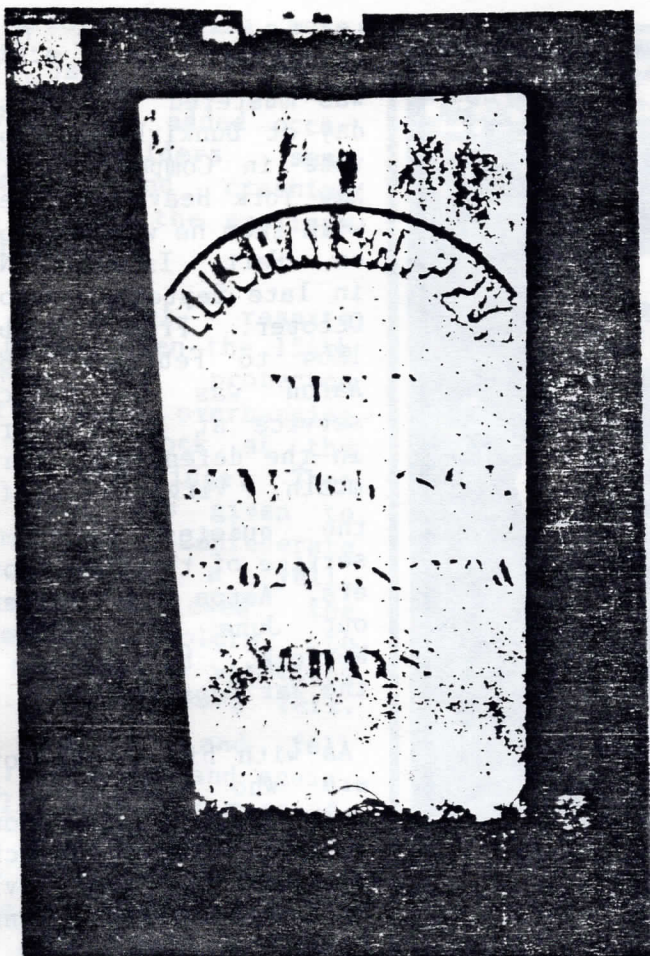
On October 5, 1873, Stanley married Margaret Hanley, a native of Liverpool, England, five years older than him, at St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church in Lockport, N.Y. They had six children, including a set of twins. By 1890 they were living in Rochester, and Stanley was partially disabled by a variety of ailments.

He was working as a watchman before he died, on June 6, 1902 in Hope Hospital in Rochester. Margaret Shippy died seventeen years later.

Elisha Shippy died at home in Otto on June 6, 1864. Aaron P. Shippy, his fourth-born son (August 3, 1843), the only one still at home with Isabella, was working as a cooper. Three months later, he too was gone.

Aaron enlisted Septem-

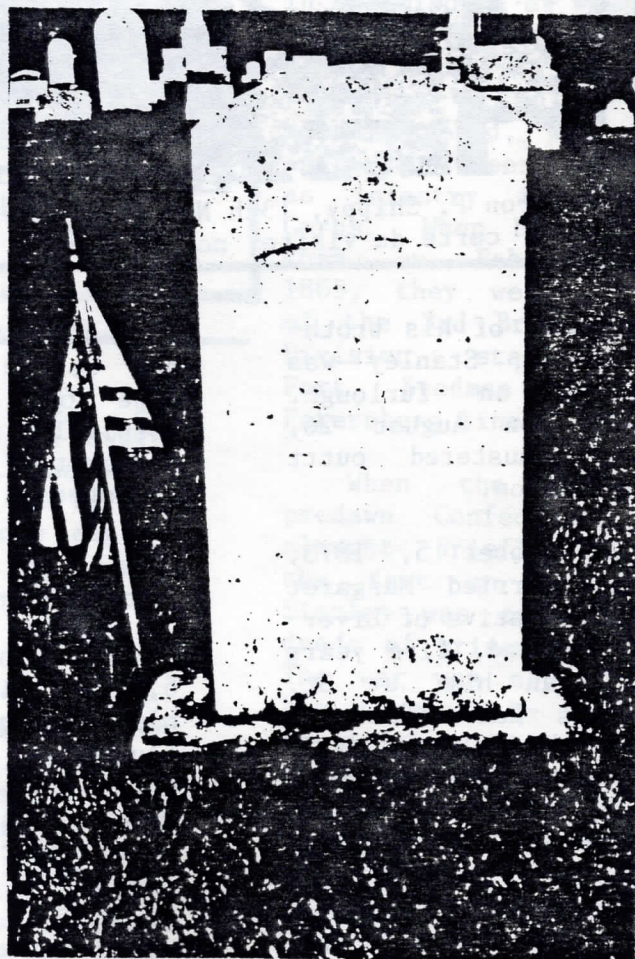
Aaron unharmed, Stanley captured, Eugene sick, Leroy twice wounded, and Augustus killed. There is no doubting the patriotism of the Shippy family of Otto. That Isabella Shippy sent all five of her



Shippy family graves in the Otto Cemetery. Top left, Isabella. Above, Elisha. Left, Leroy. Photographs by the author.

sons to the war, as her husband died, displayed a special devotion. I would like to think that these portraits of the brothers were first collected by her.

(Author's note: I would like to thank Mrs. Medora Ball, Otto Town Historian, and Don Post of Brockport, N.Y., great-great-grandson of Eugene Shippy, for their assistance and interest in the preparation of this article.)



ON THIS DATE.

April 12, 1861

Confederate messengers return from Fort Sumter to General Beauregard. They had been on the errand of once again asking Major Anderson when they could expect the Federal troops to evacuate the fort. The Confederacy appeared willing to "avoid the effusion of blood" if the Federal garrison done nothing to participate armed conflict. Anderson states that if he receives no orders or supplies by 12:00 April 15, the Federal troops will move. General Beauregard realizes that help is undoubtedly on the way has a written notice delivered to the Federal commander informing him that an attack will begin in an hour's time. At 4:30 am batteries open fire on Fort Sumter and continues throughtout the day and into the night.

April 13, 1861

The Federal garrison is short on men and food. Major Anderson concludes that it is pointless to continue the conflict. The troops had done their best under difficult conditions, but they have no choice but to surrender. The action is declared at 2:30 pm. No lives had been lost and the wounded were few on both sides.

DAN ELLIS UNION GUIDE

It gives me great pleasure to introduce you to The Thrilling Adventures of Daniel Ellis. Dan Ellis was a Union Guide from eastern Tennessee who led loyal Union men across the Cumberland mountains, sustaining great danger and hardship so these men could either take refuge in Kentucky or join the Northern army.

Mr. Ellis was born and lived his life in Carter County, Tennessee in 1827. He was a wagon maker by trade, quite well read, a veteran of the War with Mexico and a devoted family man. When secession occured and the Southern Confederacy rose, Daniel was not at all pleased. He did not want to see his dear Tennessee or even more beloved national government torn apart by the horrors of war. In fact, in the opening pages of the autobiography contained in his book, he devotes numerous paragraphs to the vivid expression of his abhorrence to the "infamous rebellion."

Several citizens of Eastern Tennessee were loyal to the Union. Equally so however, were several loyal Confederates. Trouble between the two was inevitable.

In the next several issues of Union Blue we will be reprinting several chapters of Dan Ellis's exciting story. The Thrilling Adventures of Daniel Ellis The Union Guide was published in 1867. It contains page after page of daring undertakings, bitter

hardships, miraculous escapes and many surprises. Please understand that these are Mr. Ellis's own words. He is very open about his hatred of certain "Confederate marauders." The opinions expressed are not necessarily the opinions of this magazine or its publishers.

I do feel you will find yourself cheering Dan or perhaps sighing with relief as he eludes his "murderous captors." This book is a thriller. I hope you enjoy the unfolding tale.

In the month on November, 1861, the troubles of the Union people in the upper portion of East Tennessee began in earnest. Orders had been received from the government of the United States to burn all the bridges, and to destroy the railfoad from Chattanooga on up the country as far as it possibly could be done. It was to be done at night, secretly; and every true-hearted Union man that was advised of this design readily engaged in a combination to assist in this contemplated work of destruction. It was generally believed by all who had been advised of the project, that if this destruction could be accomplished, there would then be nothing in the way to prevent the Federal troops from coming to East Tennessee to stay; and, consequently, we all joined heart and hand in the business. Being a citizen of Carter County, I united with the company which had been selected to burn the bridge over the Holston River at the town of Union, in Sullivan County,



A Portrait Of Daniel Ellis
 "The Great Union Guide Of East Tennessee
 For A Period Of Nearly Four Years During
 The Great Southern Rebellion"

Tennessee. The bridge over the Watauga River, at Carter Depot, six miles from Elizabethton, Tennessee, escaped destruction, owing to the fact that a company of rebel soldiers were stationed there. The bridgeat Union not being thus guarded, was destroyed without any trouble, as the few guards who were there were suddenly captured, and their lives spared as they avowed most solemnly that they would never reveal the names of any party concerned in burning the bridge. But their solemn asservations soon proved to be "as false as dicers' oathe;" for so soon as they met with their partners in rebellion, they immediately disclosed the name of every man with whom they were acquainted, and guessed remarkably well in regard to those with whom they were not personally acquainted. This was not very hard for them to do, for up to this time there were not very many who had disclaimed their principles, but, on the contrary, openly declared themselves as firm and steadfast friends of the Union. The injury which was thus done so enraged the rebels, that the Union citizens, in order to insure their self-protection, assembled together in a body of some several hundred men, and armed themselves as best they could, believing all the time that the Federal forces would soon visit this portion of East Tennessee, and relieve them from the dangers which surrounded them. They were now meditating the policy of making an attack on the rebel force which was stationed at Carter Depot, and therefore a scout was sent out; they encountered a small lot of rebels, and drove them back with rapidity, killing several of the party in their retreat. Intelligence now arrived that the rebels were re-enforcing,

THOMAS CULLEN

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This was sad news indeed for our little party of undrilled mountaineers, who had been suddenly collected together to resist the tyranny of rebel desperadoes.

Some of the men fled to the mountains, while others returned to their homes to stand the threatened storm of rebel vengeance, controlled and directed by old Ledbetter. I returned to my home, concealed my horse, and then took refuge myself in a clump of cedar bushes on a hill which overlooked the road, so I might watch the movements of the rebels as they passed along the road. I had not been in this position long, when I saw a large body of men coming down the road, and, as they approached nearer to me, I saw that a number of our men were in the crowd; some were mounted upon horses, but the greater number were walking. I thought at once that it was our own party, who had partially reunited again, and, entertaining as I did this very erroneous impression, I left my place of concealment, and went down to them, when, to my utter surprise, I found myself in the hands of the rebels. These were two companies of infantry and one company of cavalry, and the men whom I knew had belonged to our own party were prisoners, whom the rebels had captured in the Doe River Cove. They halted me at once and asked me my name, when some one in the crowd that knew me (for there were a good many rebel citizens with them) answered for me, telling them that I was a bridge-burner without any sort of doubt. At the very mention of bridge-burner their passions seemed to be greatly aroused, and I certainly would have been killed if I had not succeeded in making my escape, for,

sure enough, I was the first bridge-burner who had been captured. The prisoners whom they had were boys and peaceable citizens, and the only charge which they had against them was that they had found them at our encampment. The moment that I was designated as a bridge-burner many of the rebel gang said, "Shoot him! shoot him!" At this juncture an officer stepped up to me and said, in a very angry manner, "You shall not live two minutes; I will kill you right here!" and placed me in the care of a sergeant, directing him to keep a strict watch over me until he could bring two men who had told them that they would swear that I was a bridge-burner. That there were rebel citizens in that crowd who were mean enough to swear my life away, I could not for a moment doubt. We were now in a lane opposite to a house. As soon as the officer stepped away, I asked leave of the fellow who was guarding me to let me go into the house and get a drink of water, and walked off without an answer. I was halted very promptly but did not stop until I got to the house and in front of the entry, when summoning all my energies for the trial, I leaped over the fence and ran. I started up the hill, aiming for the cedar thicket. Some bawled at the top of their voices, "Shoot that man running!" but that only served to impart strenght in my legs. The cavalry threw the fence down, and came on after me on their horses like a storm, but the ground being very soft from the recent rains, they could not make much speed, and I soon increased the distance between us. The cavalry seemed to be certain of recapturing me, and the infantry could not shoot at me for the fear of shooting the cavalry,

Old Suttler John

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but they found that I would make my escape, and commenced bursting caps at me; their guns failed to fire, and one of them exclaimed, "My gun never failed to fire before!" Surely at this time I was a special object of the care of divine Providence, for not a single gun fired which was aimed at me, and I reached the desired cedar thicket in perfect safety, and there, crouching beneath the low-spreading branches, I could see my angry pursuers galloping around in search of me, and venting their rage by the utterance of oaths which were enough to raise the hair on a Christian man's head. I soon had the agreeable pleasure of seeing them check their horses and return, vowing and protesting vengeance against me if I should again fall into their hands.

OLD LEATHER

By P.J. Cullen

Unfortunately, checked or flaked leather will continue to flake during this process. The "Pecard" needs a fairly clean surface to work on and can not penetrate mud.

The "Pecard" is gently applied with your fingers in a slow, smooth and circular motion to all leather surfaces in a thin but fully covering film.

Some Dont's

Don't store leather in the sun. As with fine antique items of any description, whether they be furniture or baskets or silver, the climate is important. Temperature and humidity age items quickly, leather "cooks."

Don't use Neats Foot oil. This is harmful to leather. It breaks down leather fibers.

Don't display leather or store leather with sharp bends in it, like tightened musket straps, or hang on a nail, etc.

Some Do's

Do realize that rules are never perfect. For instance, saddles will need a neutral wax over the surfaces that you would want slick and smooth.

Quite often I run across antique military items which are either entirely made of leather or partially. The most fragile are the hunting bags and pouches which were used by hunters from day one through about the 1880's.

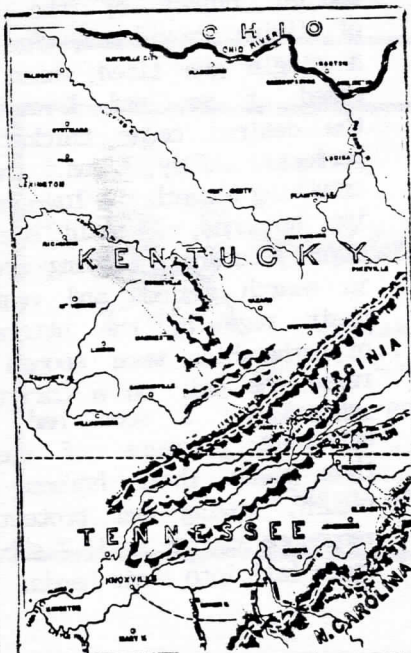
A lot of Civil War leather has survived in more sturdy condition, mostly because of the leather being thicker than the more flexible hunting pouches. Rifle slings are probably the most commonly encountered and the ones nearly anyone can restore. The other items mentioned, you should be shown how to restore, or have someone do it for you.

The product that I sell to restore antique leather is called Pecard. It is like a penetrating vaseline. One tin of this product would restore about one pair of Civil War boots. The items should be clean to start with. If they are not, then they should be cleaned with a foamy saddle soap, gently wiped off, then allowed to dry.

Some antique leather would be ruined by any preservation, except by an expert, such as antique Indian beaded items.

When in doubt, ask. Do it right or not at all.

DAN ELLIS - con't



I now considered myself free from rebel tyranny, which I must confess was a most cheering reflection; so, emerging from my place of concealment with the upmost of caution, I quickly hastened away, altogether destitute of either hat or coat, having lost both in my precipitate flight.

Before concluding this chapter, I must invoke a blessing upon that "dear old cedar thicket;" for it most assuredly saved one poor, unprepared soul from being suddenly expelled from its tenement of clay, and violently precipitated upon the great ocean of eternity.

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ROBERT E. LEE

THE COMPASSIONATE LION b.l. Loeffke & mll.

In the past 125 years there have been numerous stories written about the Confederacy's greatest fighter, namely, General Robert E. Lee. While he is certainly one of the most renowned Civil War generals, his military career can be called controversial. It has been justly said by many that Lee was a brilliant strategist and beloved comrade, but by others that he was, perhaps, too patient with insubordinate officers and ambitious, self-centered government officials. Can such seemingly contradictory statements both be true?

"Bobby Lee" was the Compassionate Lion. Despite the fact that the Union offered him a commission in their army, Lee's deep dedication and sense of duty to Virginia outweighed the Federal's offer. In order to preserve his beloved homeland and prevent the destruction of the Southern way of life, he would die if necessary to protect it. This made him a powerful, dangerous and highly respected adversary of the Union Cause.

Due to General Lee's prudent military maneuvers, conflict and confusion permeated the Union cause resulting in a constant change of command in the Army of the Potomac until General U.S. Grant was given the task of "check-mating" the Army of Northern Virginia. Even

later, in the final chapters of the war, Grant was cautiously aggressive in persuading and engaging Lee's army. The Confederates were destitute for rations, had few weapons and little gear, yet even in their impoverished condition, Grant treated them with wariness and respect. Lee was still the Lion, even if wounded.



"The Lion" and son Custis, 1865

Although General Lee demonstrated tactical genius and bold determination on many occasions, he was always a gentleman. Even when terribly outnumbered and in dire need of supplies, the great humanitarian did the best he could for his men. While the Battle of Fredricksburg raged on, Federal positions were literally being cut to shreds by Lee's

impregnable artillery batteries. Lee himself peered out at the holocaust and uttered, "It is good that war is so horrible, else we should grow to fond of it."

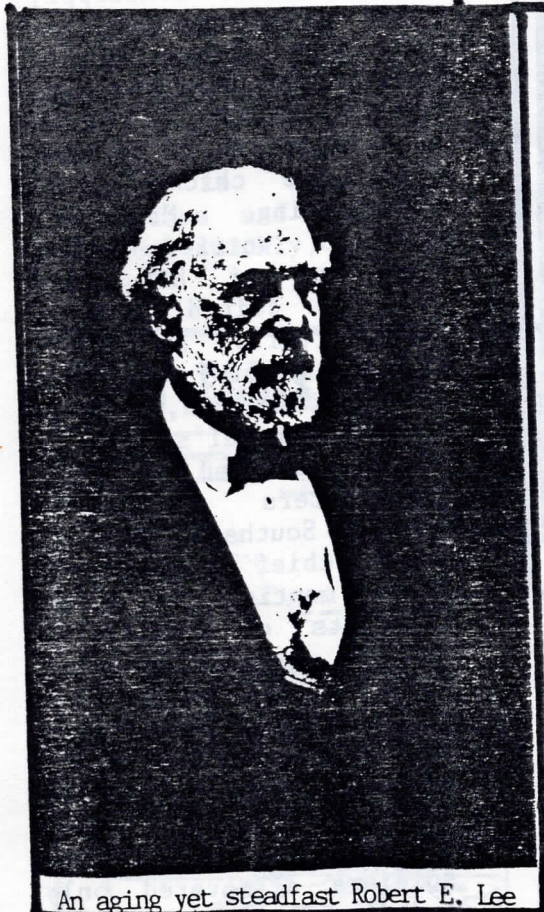
There are numerous eyewitness accounts of tenderhearted deeds to both man and beast during the war. One such incident involved a pet hen which Lee always had with him on the battlefield. This hen laid an egg under the General's field bed every morning and traveled along with the army in the supply wagon. Lee would leave his tent flap open in order for her to gain access easily. While retreating from Gettysburg, the chicken came up missing. Mr. Lee was so worried about the fate of his dear pet, he joined with a search party in order to locate her. The bird was discovered, much to the General's relief, to be perched in the Headquarters wagon. Douglas Southall Freeman, Lee's chief biographer, makes mention of other incidents of tenderness toward wayward animals. While under direct fire at Petersburg, the General was observed to dismount and place something in a nearby tree. After he was gone, his curious soldiers discovered only a baby bird in its nest. During the opening skirmishes in The Wilderness, a courier rushed up to Lee with an urgent dispatch. This messenger was harshly reprimanded

for mistreating his horse. The exhausted steed received a buttered biscuit from Lee's own haversack before the Commander even read the dispatch.

Perhaps Robert E. Lee was no more misunderstood at any other time during or after the war than at Gettysburg. Scholars have argued about his lack of interest as well as the Confederate Army's inability to fight as a cohesive unit. Can the loss be attributed to Longstreet's failure to maneuver his troops as per order? Can one surmise that Stuart's absence caused difficulty in estimating Union strength and position, causing doubt and question in the Confederate's



Lee And Traveller, Taken In His Backyard In Lexington, Virginia



An aging yet steadfast Robert E. Lee

upper infantry command? In any case, Lee met the Union on a day and in a place in which he did not intend.

Whatever the reason for the defeat at Gettysburg, Lee made very little mention of it and laid no injurious blame toward any of his commanding officers. Even after the war, its events were not discussed by Lee. Only after his death on October 12, 1876 did surviving officers make accusations and counter accusations as to who was at fault for the tragic defeat.

While Robert E. Lee remains a topic of heated discussion around many tables, several facts cannot be argued. Lee was a strong leader who somehow flamed a fire of devotion deep in a man's soul. This

fire consumed any reservation or doubt concerning a man's duty to his country or ability as a soldier. The General led an army which has been placed high above with some of the greatest armies of the world for devotion to its leaders and valor. Lee lives on in many hearts as a hero; a symbol of a courageous but lost effort.

Since General Lee was not present at the final surrender, the details were prepared by three officers from each side. Perhaps the last official document prepared in his capacity as Commander was the gripping farewell address which he delivered to his beloved Army of Northern Virginia; to the devoted men who fought so bravely and earnestly for not only their chief-

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steadfast to the last, that I have consented to this result from no distrust of them: but feeling that valor and devotion could accomplish nothing that could compensate for the loss that would have attended the continuation of the contest, I have determined to avoid the useless sacrifice of those whose past services have endeared them to their countrymen. By the terms of agreement, officers and men can return to their homes and remain there until exchanged. You will take with you the satisfaction that proceeds from the consciousness of duty faithfully performed: and I earnestly pray that a merciful God will extend to you his blessing and protection. With an unceasing admiration of your constancy and devotion to your country, and a grateful remembrance for your kind and generous consideration of myself, I bid you an affectionate farewell.

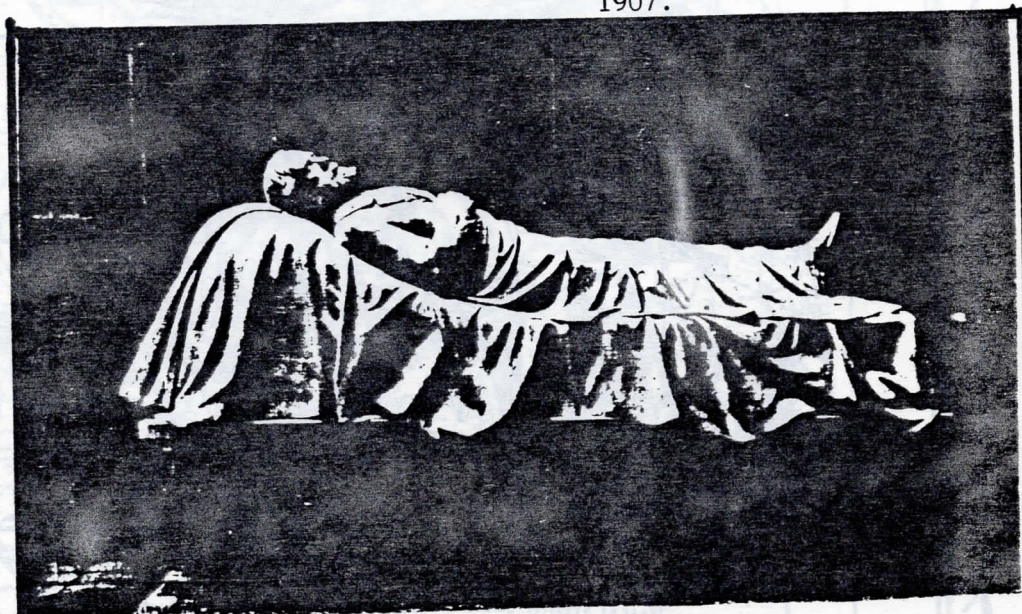
R.E.LEE, General.

taken from the Great Commanders series, edited by James Grant Wilson. General Lee by General Fitzhugh Lee, D. Appleton And Company, New York, 1907.

tan, but there comrade. Even in the face of defeat and despair, Lee was a gentleman, a God fearing Christian and loyal friend; truly, compassionate lion.

The following document, dated April 10, 1865 reads as follows:

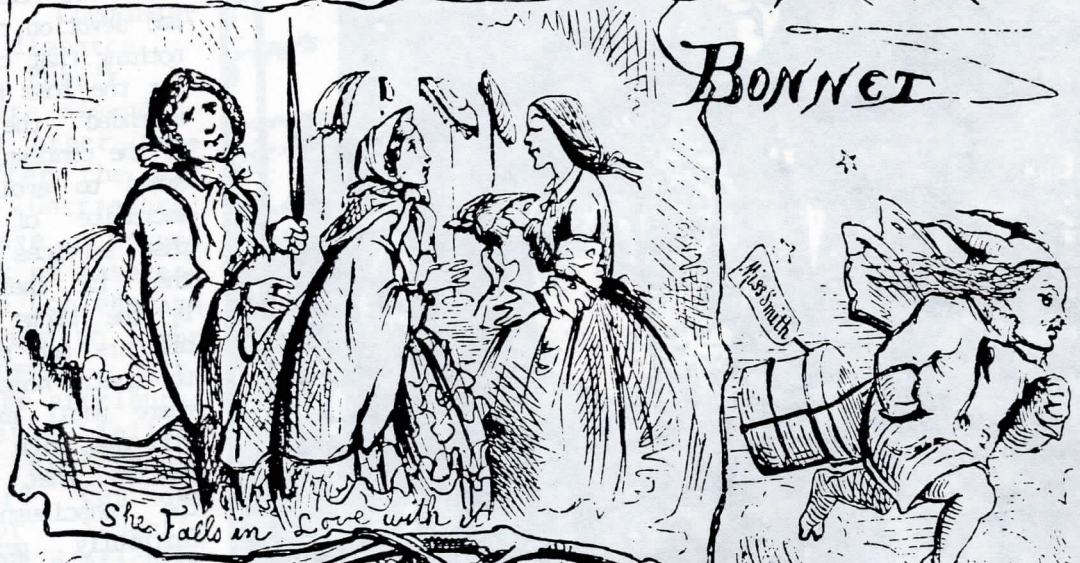
After four years of arduous service, marked by unsurpassed courage and fortitude, the Army of Northern Virginia has been compelled to yield to overwhelming numbers and resources. I need not tell the survivors of so many hard-fought battles, who have remained



Lee at rest. E.V.Valentine's statue is found in Lee's Chapel, Washington Lee University.

THE ROMANCE of MISS SMITH'S

BONNET



She teases the Governor for it



Until the Poor Old Gentleman is glad to give it to her



It is brought home



To a great use FUR CAP.



Bless you my children, Bless you!!

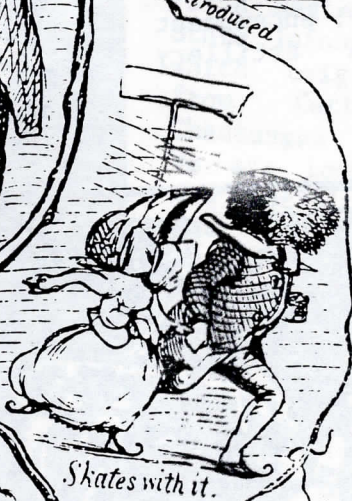
They receive the old Beavers Blessing.



It is introduced



Flirt's with it



Skates with it.



It is made the happiest FUR CAP in the world



It is sat upon by Heavy Uncle who comes to the wedding.



Barkis is willing.

STEP BACK TO 1861

BL LOEFKE

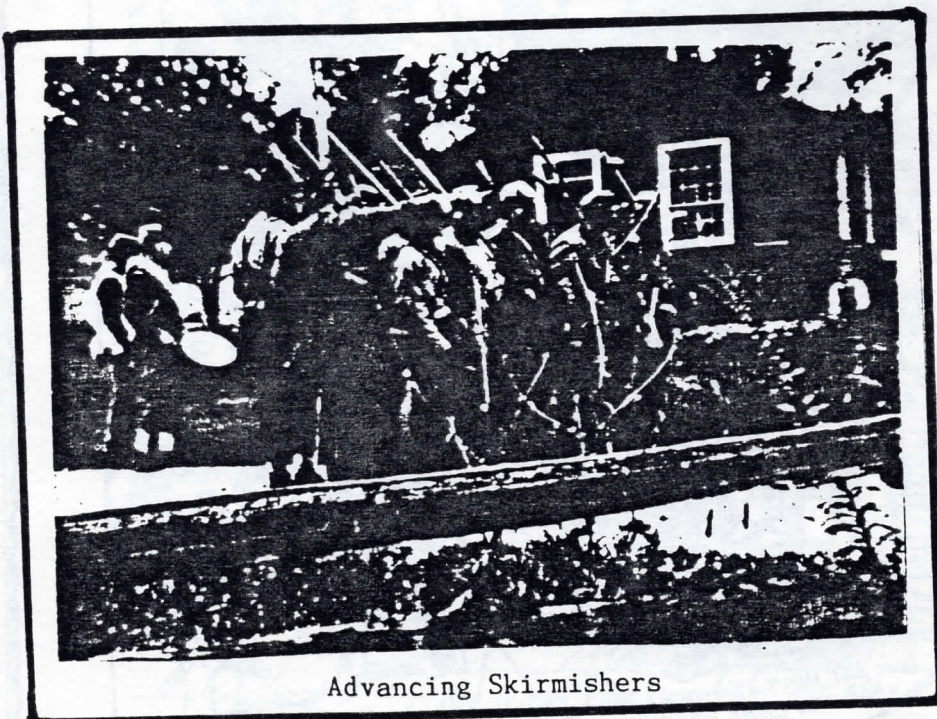
Ever since Generals Grant and Lee ceased the struggle that claimed better than 600,000 lives, man and women remember the Great Rebellion. Major battles and events are faithfully relived each year with the upmost attention being given to accuracy and authenticity. North and South again clash, only this time the due to the soldiers' similar passions and camaraderie. Also, thousands of spectators, both young and old, can experience with amazement the life of a typical Civil War soldier. Hardly a weekend goes by from April to November that somewhere in the North-eastern United States an 1860's enthusiast can't witness a true-to-life battle, encampment or even an artillery demonstration.



Confederate troops ready to march.

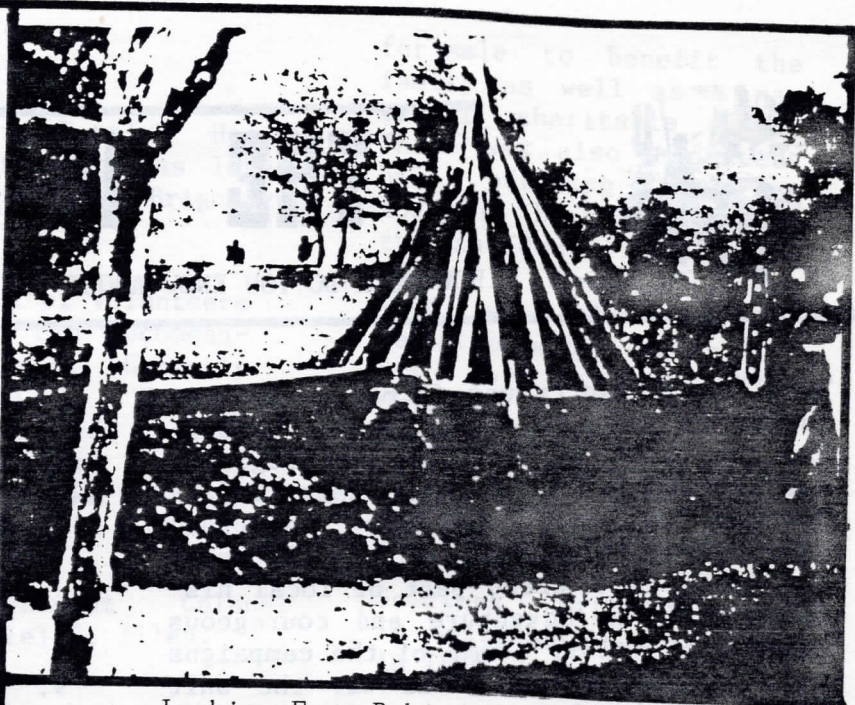
Although Living History events realized tremendous interest and growth during the 100th anniversary of the Civil War, it really began much earlier with the development of The Grand Army Of The Republic,

an organization of Union veterans. The men would gather to re-visit battle fields, recollect deeds of heroism and remember fallen comrades. As old soldiers grew feeble and memories dimmed, their sons and grandsons continued to visit those hallowed battle grounds to remember their valiant ancestors. Thus, the images of the past were preserved.



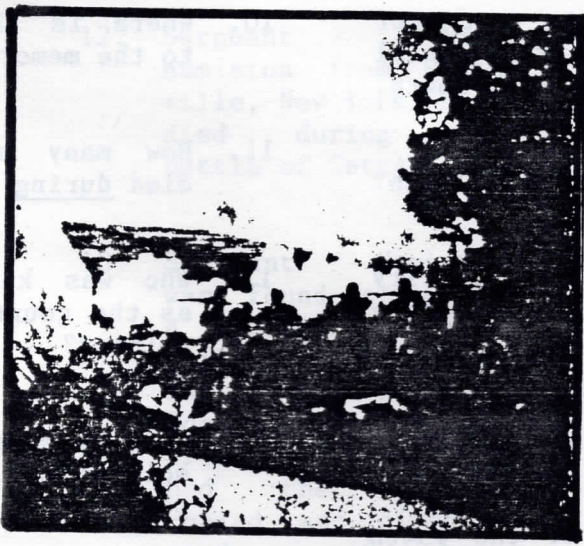
Advancing Skirmishers

Whether you are involved as a participant or as an observer, the experience will last a lifetime. Becoming a soldier, 1860's lady or civilian, or even an authentic suttler does require some effort, time and expense. A civilian needs a proper costume. An enlisted man requires an uniform, military accouterments, and a weapon as well.



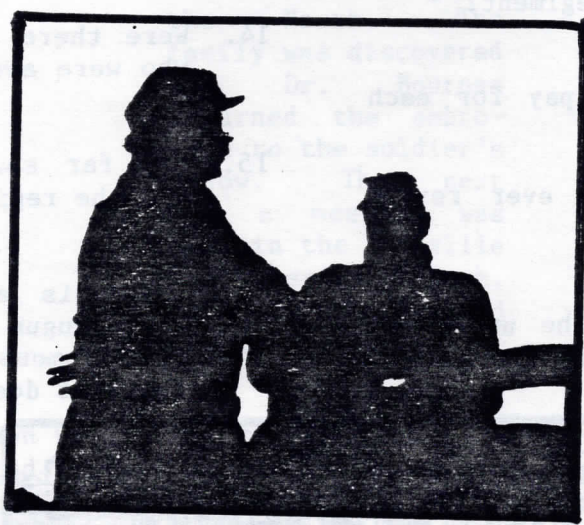
Looking From Behind The Confederate Lines As The Battle Begins

The average cost to outfit a soldier is between \$500 and \$600. This may seem to be quite a lot, however, it probably compares to the initial investment expenses of any new hobby. The goods you purchase are of good quality and very durable. Also you can buy things piece by piece as you can afford them. Once you are completely outfitted there are only minimal recurring costs to cover powder and eventing fees, if any.



My family and I are involved in Civil War re-enactment and enjoy it very much. We have reorganized the 154th Regiment, New York State Infantry Volunteers which originally hailed from Cattaraugus and Chautaugua counties. We are looking for some new recruits and encourage your participation. Anyone interested may write to:

Over the past thirty years, living history re-enactment groups have sprung up all over the country. Along with these groups, a rising interest in the Civil War has also developed. Re-enactments are attended by thousands of participants and spectators. The people witnessing the rebirth of history are not only entertained but educated as well. It is an unparalleled experience.



The 154th N.Y.S. Vols.
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Remember that this is a family hobby. It is very exciting and rewarding. We hope to see you on the battlefield this summer. "Rally to the Colors Boys" and happy re-enacting.



THE 154TH



HOW MUCH DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE "HARDTACK REGIMENT"

The 154th Infantry was formed in Cattaraugus County on or about August 9, 1862. This New York State Volunteer Regiment was assigned to the First Brigade, 2nd Division of the 11th Corps; a proud addition to the Army of the Potomac. The 154th is a proud part of local history, rich in adventure and courageous stories of valor. Some of the campaigns and battles of the Civil War the unit participated in were Fredricksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Chattanooga & Knoxville, Atlanta, and Sherman's historic March to the Sea.

Here are some questions to test your knowledge of some of our rich local history and to acquaint you with 154th.

1. How many companies made up the 154th?
2. What occupation did the majority of volunteers engage in before enlisting?
3. What age was the oldest volunteer?
4. Why were the members of the 154th called the "Hardtack Regiment"?
5. What was the monthly pay for each recruit?
6. Did President Lincoln ever review the 154th?
7. How many members of the unit died in Andersonville Prison, Georgia?
8. Colonel Rice was the commander of the 154th when it was mustered in. After the regiment was organized and equipped, who took over as its Commander?
9. What other famous Commander of the Hardtack Regiment was born in Otto, New York and is buried in the cemetery there?
10. Where is there a monument erected to the memory of the 154th?
11. How many members of the regiment died during the Battle of Gettysburg?
12. Who was known, for a brief time, as the country's most famous unknown soldier?
13. What resulted from this "unknown soldier's" rather strange death pose?
14. Were there any members of the 154th who were awarded the Medal of Honor?
15. How far south into the Confederacy did the regiment march?
16. There is a saddle housed in the Cattaraugus County Historical Museum. What famous member of the Hardtack Regiment does it belong to?



ANSWERS TO THIS MONTH'S
HISTORY QUIZ

Ten in all: eight from Cattaraugus County and two from Chautauqua County.

Over 600 were farmers.

Warner D. Shaw was 49 when he enrolled.

The German members of two Pennsylvania regiments were very fond of coffee. The boys of the 154th favored their hardtack crackers, but had more than enough coffee. The regiments traded amongst themselves. It seems however that some of our New York boys began saving their used coffee grounds to trade in order to get even more hardtack. When the German's discovered the reason for the lackluster flavor of their dear beverage they named their unfair trading associates "Hardtacks." The boys did not seem to mind so the name stuck.

\$13.00.

Yes. He reviewed the entire 11th Corps on April 10, 1863.

- 7. Twenty.
- 8. Major Patrick Henry Jones, who was later commissioned Brigadier

General of Volunteers due to the recommendations of Generals Sherman, Hooker, and Howard, along with the urging of President Lincoln himself.

- 9. Lieutenant Colonel Daniel B. Allen.

- 10. The Gettysburg Battlefield.

- 11. Only one.

- 12. Sergeant Amos Humiston from Portville, New York. He died during the Battle of Gettysburg.

- 13. Sergeant Humiston was found clutching a picture of three children. He was buried, unidentified. Doctor John Bournes from Philadelphia had the picture copied and distributed throughout the North. The family was discovered and Dr. Bournes returned the ambrotype to the soldier's widow. The next day a meeting was held in the Portville Presbyterian Church. Dr. Bournes offered copies of the picture

for sale to benefit the family as well as a national charitable fund. There was also a contest held offering a prize for the best poem about the incident. Mr. James Clark of Dansville, New York won the contest. He also wrote music for his work called, "The Children of the Battlefield."

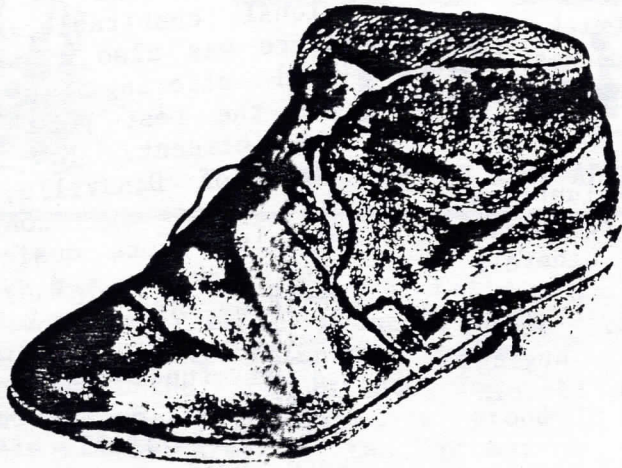
The funds that were raised as a result of all the charitable efforts were used to form the Soldiers' Orphans' Home in Gettysburg. It opened in 1866.

- 14. Yes. Private Charles W. Mckay and Sergeant Stephan Welch were each awarded the Medal of Honor for "voluntarily risking [their] life in rescuing under fire of the enemy a wounded comrade who was lying between the lines" at Rocky Face Ridge, Georgia.

- 15. Savannah, Georgia marching with Major General William T. Sherman on his famous March to the Sea.

- 16. Colonel Patrick Henry Jones. There are several Civil War items in this museum. Many are from the 64th Regiment also, from our area. Go and see for yourself!

Information was used from The Hardtack Regiment, an Illustrated history of the 154th Regiment, New York State Volunteers, by Mark H. Dunkelman and Michael J. Winey, Fairleigh Dickinson University Press, New Jersey, 1981.

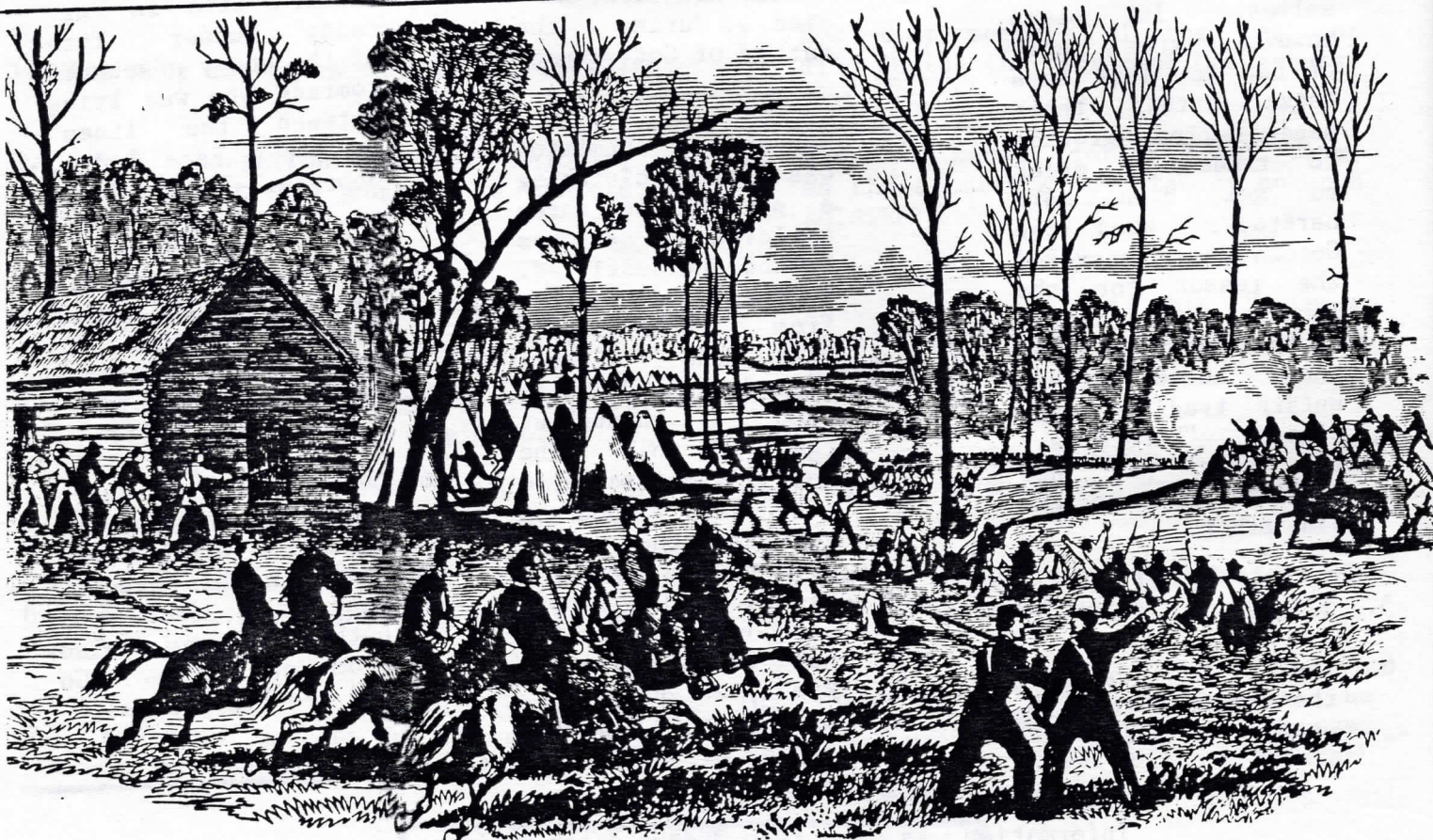


This is an example of the "Jefferson Bootees" worn by the Civil War soldier. They had laces made of rawhide, were made of rough heavy leather with a squared toe and had no eyelets in the lace holes.

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SHILOH LOG CHAPEL, WHERE THE BATTLE OF SHILOH COMMENCED, APRIL 6TH, 1862

Frank Leslie's Illustrated Famous Leaders and Battle Scenes
of the Civil War, 1896



DRIVING HOME THE COWS.

OUT of the clover and blue-eyed grass
 He turned them into the river-lane;
 One after another he let them pass,
 Then fastened the meadow bars again.

Under the willows, and over the hill,
 He patiently followed their sober pace;
 The merry whistle for once was still,
 And something shadowed the sunny face.

Only a boy! and his father had said
 He never could let his youngest go:
 Two already were lying dead
 Under the feet of the trampling foe.

But after the evening work was done,
 And the frogs were loud in the meadow-swamp,
 Over his shoulder he slung his gun
 And stealthily followed the foot-path damp.

Across the clover, and through the wheat,
 With resolute heart and purpose grim,
 Though cold was the dew on his hurrying feet,
 And the blind bat's flitting startled him.

Thrice since then had the lanes been white,
 And the orchards sweet with apple-bloom;
 And now, when the cows came back at night,
 The feeble father drove them home.

For news had come to the lonely farm
 That three were lying where two had lain;
 And the old man's tremulous, palsied arm
 Could never lean on a son's again.

The summer day grew cool and late.
 He went for the cows when the work was done;
 But down the lane, as he opened the gate,
 He saw them coming one by one:

Brindle, Ebony, Speckle, and Bess,
 Shaking their horns in the evening wind;
 Cropping the butter-cups out of the grass—
 But who was it following close behind?

Loosely swung in the idle air
 The empty sleeve of army blue;
 And worn and pale, from the crisping hair,
 Looked out a face that the father knew.

For Southern prisons will sometimes yawn,
 And yield their dead unto life again;
 And the day that comes with a cloudy dawn
 In golden glory at last may wane.

The great tears sprang to their meeting eyes;
 For the heart must speak when the lips are dumb:
 And under the silent evening skies
 Together they followed the cattle home.

By Miss Kate P. Osgood

Harper's New Monthly Magazine March 1865

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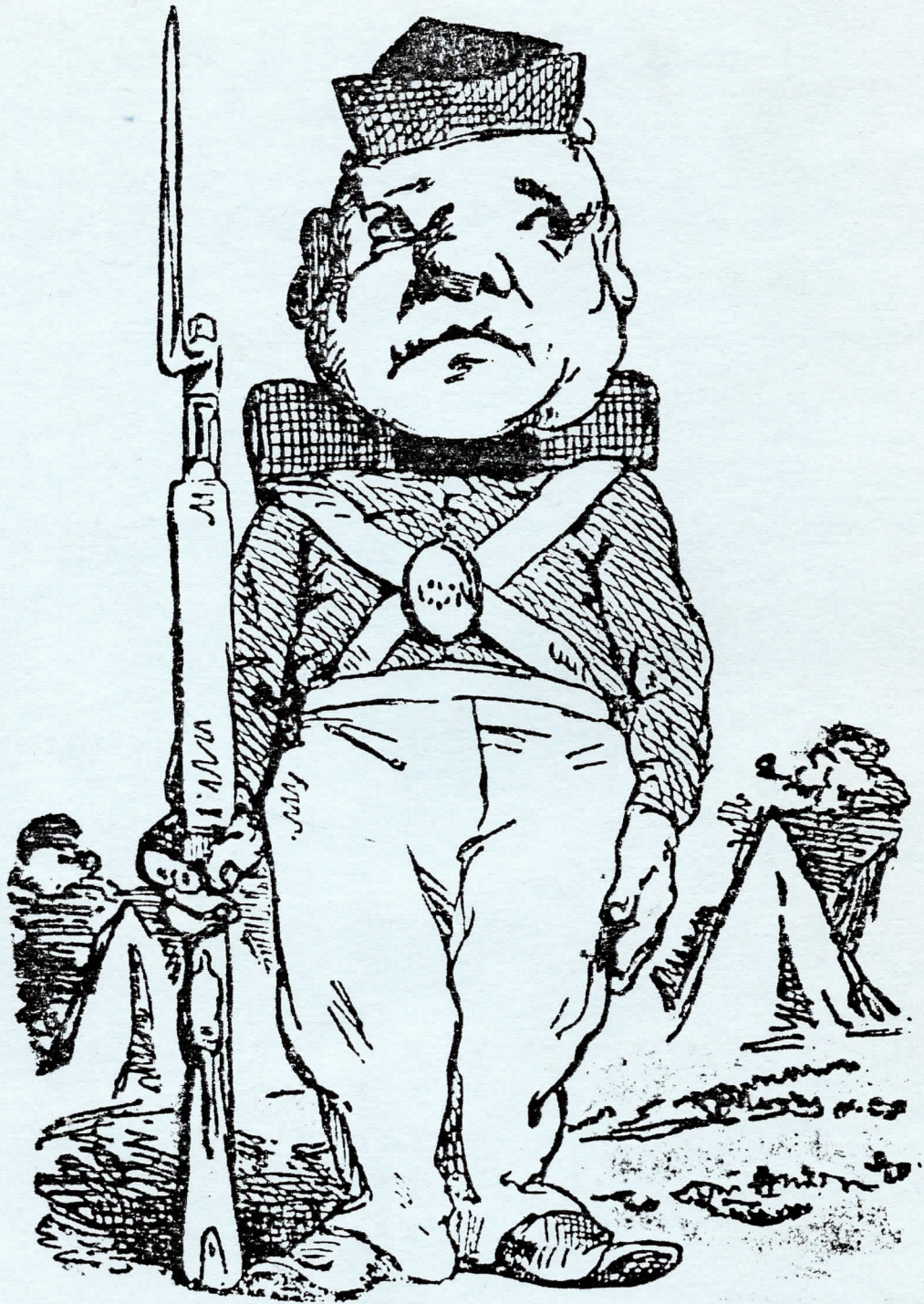
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A REGULAR.

My love is a regular man—
A man with a regular way;
He means to regulate me—if he can,
When he gets his regular pay.
But I'll be no regular's wife,
No! no! not for all creation;
For who could enjoy married life,
When bound to a mere regulation.

A CIVIL WAR VALENTINE