



Wreaths placed by the Loyal Legion and other organizations on May 30 at the Civil War Unknowns Memorial.

150th Anniversary of First Memorial Day at Arlington National Cemetery

As it is customary, the Loyal Legion, represented by Past Commander-in-Chief Jeffrey Burden, was present with the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War to commemorate Memorial Day at Arlington National Cemetery. Decoration or Memorial Day was borne out of the Civil War and the desire to honor all our dead. It was officially proclaimed on 5 May 1868 by General John Logan, national commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, in his General Order No. 11, and was first observed on 30 May 1868, when flowers were placed on the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers at Arlington National Cemetery.



MOLLUS Congress Meets in Richmond October 12-15

See Registration Form on Page 9

More State Commandery Archives Located

Archives for four additional Commanderies have been located. However, records held at the Army War College in Carlisle are still not available to researchers.

The Order's Special Committee on History and Preservation is continuing to locate more archives of MOLLUS State Commanderies in our effort to compile a complete inventory of the archives and historic records of all State Commanderies, whether active or defunct.

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MOLLUS Pursues a New Generation of Members

Recruiting Millennials requires a new approach to membership. The New Generation Committee is developing events and programs that appeal to young people.

The Committee on the Next Generation is pleased to report five new Millennial companions recruited and processed! As always, the key is putting the prospective member in contact with the right people to assist in proving their relationship and processing their application in a timely manner.

Frustratingly, several *Continued p. 4*



Commanders-In-Chief MOLLUS Wants Your Opinion

Look for Loyal Legion membership survey delivered by USPS.

In an effort to better understand the needs of Loyal Legion Commanderies and members, Senior Vice Commander-in Chief Joe Coleman has developed a survey that will be mailed this summer to every Commander-in-Chief. One of our primary objectives is to increase the

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Col. Eric A. Rojo
2017-2019 Commander in Chief

It is my pleasure to report that Jr. Vice Commander-in-Chief Rob Pollock, DOLLUS President Ellen Higgins, our ever-present flag bearer Lynn Malasnik, and many other companions and dames joined me in participating in the Annual Lincoln Tomb Ceremony in Springfield. It was my honor to represent the Loyal Legion and to share the podium with Companion and SUVCW Commander Mark Day. Being my first opportunity to visit the Tomb and the city, this was an emotional and personal pilgrimage for me. First and foremost being able to visit the magnificent monument

to our beloved president, and be as close to him as all who visit can be; and having the privilege of giving our keynote address. On the personal side, my officer ancestor, Capt. Thomas O'Connor, Commander Company A 10th Illinois Cavalry joined his unit in Springfield. On both counts I can check these items off from my "bucket list."

Paraphrasing from my remarks: *As we gather here to honor President Lincoln, new internal forces of disruption and dissent, similar to those who slayed him, are making every effort to once again destroy the fiber of our nation and our freedoms. Under the guise of political correctness, pretending to be offended by everything our forbearers have done, they act with impunity in their effort to change, destroy, and deface our history. Their misguided concept is focused in condemning those who fought for a cause with superfluous charges to apply their twisted morals to promote outrage aimed at taking down monuments that represent our history (good and bad). They have gone after Confederate monuments, and those representing Christopher Columbus, Thomas Jefferson, and George Washington, among others. Not satisfied, now, there is a group in California that has voted to destroy a statue of President McKinley, a Civil War hero, Loyal Legion Companion, and a promoter of equal rights. Moreover, their accusations are not supported by facts.*

Companions and Dames, this is a fight we must take up along with all Allied Orders. We need to keep our message alive in every corner of our nation to ensure as General Joshua Chamberlain, 20th Maine noted as his reason for joining the fight "doing my part to keep the old flag up, with all its stars."

Our legacy is at risk of perishing from this earth as long as there are people who decompose the vision that guided President Lincoln in preserving our Union, who ignore the legacy of General Grant who carried on his mantle in securing the peace; ensuring that equality for all Americans became real. To this end, we must be reminded of Edmund Burke's admonition: "The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing."

— Colonel Eric A. Rojo



WELCOME

Hereditary Companions

David Hart Robinson #22723 MO,
Maj. Joseph Hugh Wagner,
13th TN Vol Cav.

Wesley Francis Sainz #22724 VA,
Capt. William Deetz,
Co H, 7th NY Vol. Inf.

Scott Elliot Bobbs #22725 IN,
Col./Brevet Brig. Gen. John Coburn,
33rd IN Vol Inf.

William Coburn Bobbs III #22726 IN,
Col./Brevet Brig. Gen. John Coburn,
33rd IN Vol Inf.

Clay Thomas Hoffman #22727 CA,
Capt. Mormon Fisher,
Co M 10th IN Vol. Cav.

Kerry Lee Langdon #22728 OH,
Maj. John C. Eversole,
14th KY Vol. Cav.#

Michael John Rowley #22729 WI,
2nd Lt. Marvin P Colby,
Co B, 11th WI Vol. Inf.

Andrew Philip Lawson #22730 PA,
Capt. Francis Schelling,
Co E, 41st PA Vol Inf., 12th PA Res.

Kurt Matthew Dietrich #22731 CA,
Capt. Joseph Grellet Lawton,
Co F, 14th WI Vol Inf.

John Steven Moore #22732 VA,
Capt. Levi Hurst,
Co D 6th TN Vol. Cav.

Associate Companion

James Marshall Floyd, Jr. #A312 IN



LOYAL LEGION HISTORICAL JOURNAL

VOL. 75, NO. 2

Commander-in-Chief
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Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief
Joseph Thomas Coleman, Ed.D.

Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief
Col. Robert D. Pollock

Recorder-in-Chief
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Treasurer-in-Chief
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Dr. Daniel Henry Heller

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Lawrence Alan Converse
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Clifton Potter, Jr., Ph.D.
Lt. Ryan B. Weddle

The *Loyal Legion Historical Journal* is a quarterly publication published by the Memorial Fund of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States, which was founded April 15, 1865. Pertinent materials will be welcomed by members and the public. Articles and news should be submitted to Shawn Beyer, Editor (shawnbeyer1@verizon.net). Content must be formatted in MS Word and submitted electronically. High resolution photographs and artwork should be submitted in JPG format and be accompanied by a description or caption.

Submission deadlines are the 15th of February, May, August, and November.

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Survey

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growth and relevance of the Order and your responses to this short and straight-forward questionnaire will help us to improve communications, recruitment, and retention throughout MOLLUS. Your input and prompt response is very important. With your cooperation, results will be shared during the 2018 MOLLUS Congress in October. Any questions or suggestions should be directed to Companion Coleman (drjtc30@comcast.net). 🌸



Loyal Legion Memorial Fund Supports Lincoln Death Day Observance

One of the events that the Loyal Legion Memorial Fund helps to underwrite is the annual Lincoln Death Day observance, held every year in Springfield, Illinois in April.

The Loyal Legion and the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) cooperate to organize the event. It attracts of large crowd of dignitaries, uniformed reenactment and ceremonial personnel, and visitors to the Lincoln family tomb at Oak Ridge Cemetery.

A 2011 Memorandum of Understanding between the Loyal Legion and the SUVCW outlining each organization's obligations and participation in the event can be found on the MOLLUS website. Event planning is overseen by a committee composed of five members of each organization.

The observance is a solemn and fitting honor to the life and legacy of Mr. Lincoln. Your attendance is welcome. ❁



Left: Several organizations presented wreaths during the observance including DOLLUS President Ellen Higgins (left) and MOLLUS Commander-in-Chief Eric Rojo (third from left).

Below: Eric Rojo gives the keynote address during Lincoln Death Day Observance at Lincoln's tomb.



Nomination Forms for Distinguished Service Awards Available Online

Each year, the Loyal Legion considers two awards for distinguished service by Companions—the Meritorious Service Medal and the Rutherford B. Hayes Cup. The awards are presented at the Annual Congress.

The **Meritorious Service Medal** is awarded for significant achievements or accomplishments by a Companion in an area of interest to the Loyal Legion, usually (though not necessarily) in his role as a member. The **Rutherford B. Hayes Cup and Medal** recognizes a Companion for conspicuously outstanding achievement over a period of time that has advanced the mission of the Loyal Legion and reflects great honor on the

Order. Both awards are given for work on the Commandery level and/or the national level (although the Hayes Cup recipients typically display some national leadership).

Detailed instructions and nomination forms are available on the MOLLUS website. ❁

The Loyal Legion Meritorious Service Medal (left) and the Rutherford B. Hayes Medal.



Millenials Targeted for Membership

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of these prospective members chose to join more active commanderies outside the states where they reside, due to not receiving prompt replies from their local commanderies. Remember, our first impression on prospective members sets the tone for their commitment to the Order!

Additionally, the Committee has been brainstorming creative ideas to “spruce up” the program for this year's National Congress and Remembrance Day, and will be reaching out to all Millennial companions to invite them to join in a Millennial mixer as part of the Congress. (Stand by for more on these initiatives in the next Journal). ❁



President's Message

I am pleased to have the long and cold winter behind me and I am looking forward to a summer filled with warm weather as I travel around the United

States in honor of our Civil War Veterans.

My spring travels began in April when I attended the annual Lincoln Death Day Ceremonies at Oak Ridge Cemetery in Springfield, Illinois. I was honored to place our traditional Magnolia Wreath at our late President's Tomb in the traditional Memory Ceremony on the anniversary of his death.

As I write this letter, it was just a few short weeks ago that I was able to attend many Memorial Day events representing DOLLUS. I began my tributes at Laurel Hill Cemetery in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, the burial site of General George Meade. I, along with members of the Commandery of Pennsylvania, placed a wreath at the Silent Sentry Monument. This Sentry overlooks the graves of many Civil War Veterans who are interred at Laurel Hill.

Next, I was off to Washington, D.C. for Memorial Day at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington Cemetery. I was pleased to be part of a small group of National Officers, who were privileged to attend as President Donald Trump placed his wreath at the Tomb. After a traditional speech by President Trump in the Amphitheater, each of the many Veterans Service Organizations, placed a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. I, along with member Caren Cleaveland, honored the unknown dead in a solemn wreath laying ceremony.

Memorial Day activities ended with the annual ceremony and wreath laying on traditional Memorial Day, May 30, at the Tomb of the Unknown Civil War Soldiers. I represented DOLLUS with pride as I honored the memory of our Civil War soldiers who did not make it home to their families.

I am looking forward to our Annual National Assembly meeting that will be held in conjunction with the National Congress of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion. MOLLUS is busy making plans for an enjoyable weekend in Richmond, Virginia. I invite you all to attend the meeting and look forward to meeting with those of you I have come to know over the years and to making new friends with those attending for the first time.

Please visit our website www.dollus.org for information on upcoming events and meetings. Information and registration forms for the National Assembly will be posted soon. In addition, officer contact information can be found on the site as well.

See you in Richmond!

—Ellen M. Higgins, National President
SquirrelOCNJ@aol.com



Photos: Ellen Higgins, Gary Grove, Andy Waskie, and Paul Lader at Laurel Hill Cemetery (top); Ellen Higgins in costume with wreath on Memorial Day, May 30 (center); Ellen Higgins and Caren Cleaveland with wreath, May 28 (bottom).

Pennsylvania and New York Commanderies Attend Memorial Event Honoring Brevet Colonel Myer Asch

Colonel Myer Asch was only one of over 10,000 Jewish Americans who fought in the Civil War. Like so many others in the country at the time, his life was affected and changed by the start of the Civil War. Myer Asch left his studies in Europe to come home to Philadelphia, the place of his birth, and help defend the Union with the 1st New Jersey Cavalry

Asch died on February 16, 1890 and for years his burial place had been a mystery. His death certificate stated he was buried in Cypress Hills, Brooklyn. It was only through the assistance of Steve Stein of the Jewish Genealogy Society of New York that Myer Asch's grave site in Beth Olam Cemetery in Queens was finally located.

On April 22, 2018, with the quest to find the grave of Myer Asch complete, Asch was honored at a special memorial ceremony at his grave site in Beth Olam Cemetery in Queens, New York.

The grave side ceremony included the unveiling of a Civil War veteran's marker for members of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) Meade Post #1 in Philadelphia. (Colonel Asch was also a member of the Loyal Legion and a member of the Union League.)

After a brief greeting and introduction by Zachary Edinger, Sexton of Congregation Shearith Israel, sponsor of the event, a brief biography and eulogy of Colonel Asch was delivered by Bruce Form, who was dressed in period military attire as Captain Myer Asch. Mr. Form is a living historian who has been portraying Captain Myer Asch for more than 20 years.

Following Colonel Asch's eulogy, Dr. Anthony Waskie of Temple University, a Civil War and GAR historian, delivered a brief address. He explained the significance of GAR posts for veterans. He also spoke of the prestige of being a member



Myer Asch 1831-1890

of the Meade Post #1 in Philadelphia. Dr. Waskie read a memorial prayer from the original GAR Post Commander's Ritual Services Handbook, which Myer Asch would have used while Commander of Post #1. He then unveiled the special GAR marker signifying that Colonel Myer Asch was truly an honored member of the Meade Post. Dr. Waskie, representing not only the Meade Post, but the Meade Society, MOLLUS and the Union League of Philadelphia, followed the Jewish tradition of placing stones (one from each location in Philadelphia) on the grave stone.

Noted Civil War historian and President Emeritus and founder of the Robert

E. Lee Civil War Round Table of Central New Jersey, Jay Jorgensen, spoke on the importance of veterans' organizations, especially the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States. Myer Asch (#11) was a member of both the Philadelphia and New York Commanderies of the Loyal Legion.

The ceremony also included an honor guard that consisted of living historians representing the 39th New York "Garibaldi Guards" Infantry Regiment, Sons of Union Veterans, MOLLUS of Philadelphia, and members of the Veterans Corps of the Artillery of the State of New York. The National Anthem was sung by Major Lou DiLeo of the 11th New York Regiment of Sons of Union Veterans.

Sexton Zachary Edinger led the Sephardic Hebrew Memorial Prayer, Hashcabah, to end the formal ceremony which was followed by Taps, played by Major DiLeo.

The Memorial Program for Colonel Myer Asch was jointly designed by Sexton Zachary Edinger of Congregation Shearith Israel, The Spanish & Portuguese Synagogue in New York City, who were the sponsors of the event, and Bruce Form, President of Officers for The Union Living History Organization centered in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. ❁

Sidenbender Descendant Visits Gravesite

On Veterans Day weekend, Past Wisconsin Commandery Commander BG Vince Barker was finally able to visit the grave of his MOLLUS ancestor, 1st Lieutenant Samuel Sidenbender, 9th Indiana Vol. Infantry and 11th Indiana Cavalry, who is buried in Paris, Illinois. First Lieutenant Sidenbender was a successful farmer in Paris after the war and was a long time member, along with his brother Henry, of the town's Driscoll GAR Post. It was a great thrill for Companion Barker to finally visit his ancestor's grave and pay his proper respects ❁.

New York Commandery Enjoys Busy Spring Schedule

The New York Commandery met for regular business meetings throughout the first half of the year. In February, we held a joint Abraham Lincoln Birthday dinner with the New York Commandery of the Military Order of Foreign Wars at the venerable Keen's Steakhouse in midtown Manhattan in their Lincoln Dining Room which features a variety of Lincoln ephemera, including an original handbill program of Our American Cousin from that fateful night at Ford's Theatre.

In April, we presented our ROTC and NROTC awards to students in the New York metro area. Two Army ROTC cadets from Rowan University—Robert Farrigan and Nicholas Niesciore—were presented awards. At the Princeton/Rutgers NROTC awards, we were proud to present our award to Midshipman 3/C Alexis Stewart, a historic first for the New York Commandery, awarding to a deserving African-American female Midshipman—Bravo Zulu!



NY-MOLLUS NROTC award presented by NROTC Rutgers CO CAPT David Wright to Midshipman Alexis Stewart.

On May 3, the Commandery held its annual general meeting election of officers at the Coffee House Club in Manhattan. We were happy to host several guests, including the former Battalion Commander of the 1/69th Infantry, the same unit as 69th New York of the Irish Brigade of Army of the Potomac fame. We also heard from our Commandery Historian William B. Styple, who spoke

on his research pertaining to artist James Kelly and his interactions with U.S. Grant from his stellar book on the artist, "Generals in Bronze." ❁



Members of the Loyal Legion (NY) and Military Order of Foreign Wars (NY) attending the Lincoln Birthday Dinner in February.

Virginia Commandery Awards ROTC Medals

Cadets from three Army ROTC battalions received Medals of Merit from the Virginia Commandery. Cadets Merriwether Sale of Hampden-Sydney College, and Daniel Devine of the University of Richmond (shown right), members of the "Spider Battalion," received their medals, certificates and copies of *Union Blue* from Past Commander-in-Chief Jeffry Burden in a ceremony at the University of Richmond on April 10.

Cadet Maria Torres-Trujillo of Catawba, North Carolina, a member of the Virginia Women's Institute for Leadership at Mary Baldwin College, received her award on April 28 from Companion Edmund Potter.

On April 18, Cadets Matthew Y. Chu of the College of William & Mary, and Clara Jacobsen of Christopher Newport University, members of the "Revolu-

tionary Guard Battalion" were presented their awards at Christopher Newport. Past Virginia Commander Companion Robert Krasche organized the Order's participation in that ceremony. ❁



133RD MOLLUS NATIONAL CONGRESS



OCTOBER 12-14, 2018 —RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

Join us in richly-historical Richmond for the Loyal Legion's Annual National Congress. Tour Civil War battlefields, explore Richmond's world-class museums, and attend a memorial ceremony at the grave of Union spymaster Elizabeth Van Lew. Conduct the business of the Order and join Companions in a weekend of fun and fellowship!

PROGRAM

Friday, October 12
12:00 - 3:00 p.m.
 Battlefield Tour — Seven Days Campaign sites
3:00 - 6:00 p.m.
 Registration — Richmond Omni lobby
6:00 - 9:00 p.m.
 Dinner — On your own
9:00 - 12:00 p.m.
 Cocktail Reception — Commander-in-Chief's Suite



Saturday, October 13
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
 MOLLUS meeting
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
 DOLLUS meeting
12:00 - 1:30 p.m.
 Lunch — On your own
1:30 - 4:30 p.m.
 Wreath-laying at the grave of Patriot and Spymaster Elizabeth Van Lew, in honor of her 200th birthday; tour of local monuments and the Richmond National Battlefield Park Medical Museum
6:00 - 7:00 p.m.
 Cocktail Reception (cash bar)
7:00 - 9:30 p.m.
 Banquet and Speaker
9:30 - 12:00 p.m.
 After-Dinner Party — Commander-in-Chief's suite

133rd MOLLUS National Congress—Registration Form

MOLLUS/DOLLUS Congress Registration Fee No. _____ \$ _____
 Required for all Companions, Dames and Guests (\$55/adult; \$35 under 18)

Friday, October 12

12:00 - 3:00 p.m. — Special Battlefield Tour No. _____ FREE
 Meet in lobby of Omni Richmond Hotel

9:00 - 12:00 p.m. — MOLLUS/DOLLUS Cocktail Reception FREE
 Commander-in-Chief's Suite, Omni Richmond Hotel

Saturday, October 13

1:30 - 4:30 p.m. — Van Lew Memorial and Museum Tour No. _____ FREE

6:30 - 9:30 p.m. — Reception & Banquet (\$65/person) No. _____ \$ _____
 Omni Richmond Hotel
 Black or White Tie or military uniform with decorations

Banquet Entree choices:

Grilled Beef Tenderloin & Chicken Breast No. _____
 Herb Seared Salmon No. _____

TOTAL \$ _____

ATTENDEE INFORMATION

Name: _____ Commandery: _____

Phone: _____ email: _____

Guest(s): _____

Special needs/requests: _____

Payment — Deadline September 1
 Make check payable to "VA Commandery - MOLLUS" and send a copy of this form by September 1 to: Jeffry Burden, 905 N. 37th Street, Richmond VA 23223.

Hotel Information—Reserve Early!
 A block of rooms has been reserved at The Omni Richmond Hotel—our official conference headquarters—for Loyal Legion Members and guests. The special rate is \$149/night plus tax on the nights of October 12 and 13. Call 1-800-843-6664 before September 14 and request the "Military Order of the Loyal Legion Congress" rate.

Several other hotels are within a short walking distance of the Omni, among them The Berkeley Hotel (804-780-1300), The Commonwealth (804-343-7300), and Hampton Inn & Suites Downtown (804-643-5400).

Questions?
 Contact Past Commander-In-Chief Jeffry Burden by email (richburd6165@yahoo.com) or phone (804) 426-1355.



Clara Barton

Angel of the Battlefield

Kevin Patti, National Park Service

The Civil War was the transformative event of Clara Barton's life. Already 39 when it began, the war started her on a track of service that she stayed on for nearly 50 years. After the war she went on to establish the American Red Cross at age 59 and led it for 23 years before dying at 90 in her Glen Echo, Maryland home.

Service through Public Education

At 17, Clara Barton began her life of public service as a school teacher near her family home in Worcester County, Massachusetts. During the next 12 years, she taught in many Massachusetts schools, but by the age of 29, she wanted to break away from her familiar surroundings and further her own education. She studied for a year at a college in New York where she made a good friend named Mary Norton. After college she moved with Mary to New Jersey.

In Bordentown, New Jersey, Clara Barton saw a need for public education. Children were roaming the streets during the day as their families could not afford the subscription schools that were available. New Jersey did not have a free, public school system. With the support of local officials, Clara Barton started a free school and it quickly succeeded. Hundreds of students attended the next year. The community was very happy with the new school, but when it came time to hire a principal to run the larger institution they did not consider hiring Miss Barton because she was a woman.

A New Beginning in Washington

It was after that disappointment that she made her way to Washington, D.C. in 1854. A congressman from Massachusetts introduced her to Charles Mason, the Commissioner of Patents. The idea of the introduction was that Clara might become a governess to Mr. Mason's family. However, Mr.



Clara Barton (1821-1912)

Mason was a forward-thinking government leader who was willing to hire her to be a clerk at the Patent Office. This made Clara Barton one of the few women to work for the Federal Government.

While living in Washington before the war, she would occasionally go to the Capitol to sit in the audience and watch Congress debate. Clara Barton closely followed events unfold as the nation entered into the Civil War.

Days after the attack on Fort Sumter in South Carolina started the war; President Abraham Lincoln called for 75,000 volunteers to put down the rebellion in the South. Among the first troops to make their way to Washington in answer to Lincoln's call was the Sixth Massachusetts Regiment. Many of the men of the Sixth Massachusetts were from Worcester County like Clara. They traveled by train and had to transfer in many places as they headed south. In Baltimore, they had to walk through the city streets to change trains. Baltimoreans who sympathized with the confederacy picked up paving stones and threw them at the soldiers. Rioting in Baltimore that day would spill some of the first blood of the Civil War.

Civil War and a New Calling to Serve

News of the riots came over the wires into Washington. The army in Washington was not well organized or equipped to meet the needs of the soldiers of the Sixth Massachusetts who were hurt and had lost their things. Clara Barton met the men, saw what they needed, and worked to help them. She found that she knew about 40 of the men; many had been students of hers. They wrote home and urged their families to send things to Clara. She received supplies in Washington, D.C. and gave them to the soldiers. She worked to form alliances with women's groups in Massachusetts and New Jersey who could continue to send her supplies.

At the very beginning of the war, before the Christian Commission or Sanitary Commission was formed, Clara Barton was accepting and distributing supplies from a public who was eager to help the troops.

In the first months of the war she stockpiled supplies, first in her apartment and then in warehouses. She gave food and supplies to troops around the city and at some of the forts. Soon after the battle of First Manassas, she worked with the wounded that were brought back to Washington.

Early in 1862, Clara Barton learned that her father was dying in Massachusetts. She went home to see him for a last time. She confided that she wanted to continue to serve the troops and that she thought she could be most useful on the battlefield. However, she had doubts and wasn't sure she would be accepted and respected by the soldiers. Stephen Barton encouraged his daughter to serve. He said: "I know soldiers and they will respect you and your errand."

With her nerve bolstered, all she needed now was transportation and a pass to go to the field. She took her request to the quartermaster's office in Washington and

spoke to Major Daniel Rucker. He said of the battlefield: "That's no place for a lady. There's going to be a battle. Have you got a brother or father there?" Miss Barton said: "No, I have no one there. I have some things I want to take to the soldiers, but I need a wagon and a pass to get them there." Clara told him that she had three warehouses full of supplies and somehow convinced him that she was up to the task. Rucker gave her a pass to the front lines.

Supportive superiors at the Patent Office accepted an arrangement Miss Barton had made with a substitute worker. Miss Barton would take a half salary in her absence from work while the substitute worker worked for half salary.

Shocking Battlefield Conditions

She had her first experience tending to battlefield casualties after the Battle of Cedar Mountain. She spent two days and nights tending the wounded. Support measures were lacking, there was not a trained ambulance corps to move the wounded off the field, and the hospitals were improvised. There she met Dr. James Dunn, a surgeon she would meet again on different fields.

Following the battle of Second Manassas Clara Barton arrived at Fairfax Station accompanied by one male and two female assistants. Here the wounded were being held until they could be taken by train to hospitals in Washington. Ambulance personnel that were supposed to be there to support and treat the troops had gotten drunk on the brandy meant for the wounded and became lost on the way. Dr. Dunn was there, but poorly supplied and understaffed. Three thousand wounded were lying along the tracks. Clara and her assistants supplied bandages, brandy, wine, prepared soup, jellies, and meals. She applied tourniquets, made compresses, replaced bandages, and talked to men. She took hard tack from soldier's packs, pounded them with a stone, and then poured the crumbs into a mixture of wine, water and course sugar. She would go from man to man spooning food into their mouths before they departed on their

trip to Washington. On several occasions she looked into a wagon of wounded men arriving at the station and found one of her former students.

On September 13, 1862, Clara Barton received a note that read: "Harpers Ferry, Not a moment to be lost." She never revealed who sent it. McClellan had learned Lee's intentions when a communication wrapped around a cigar was found in the field. Lee had divided his army, McClellan intended to "cut the enemy in two and beat him in detail". Whoever sent Clara the note must have been privy to this intelligence.

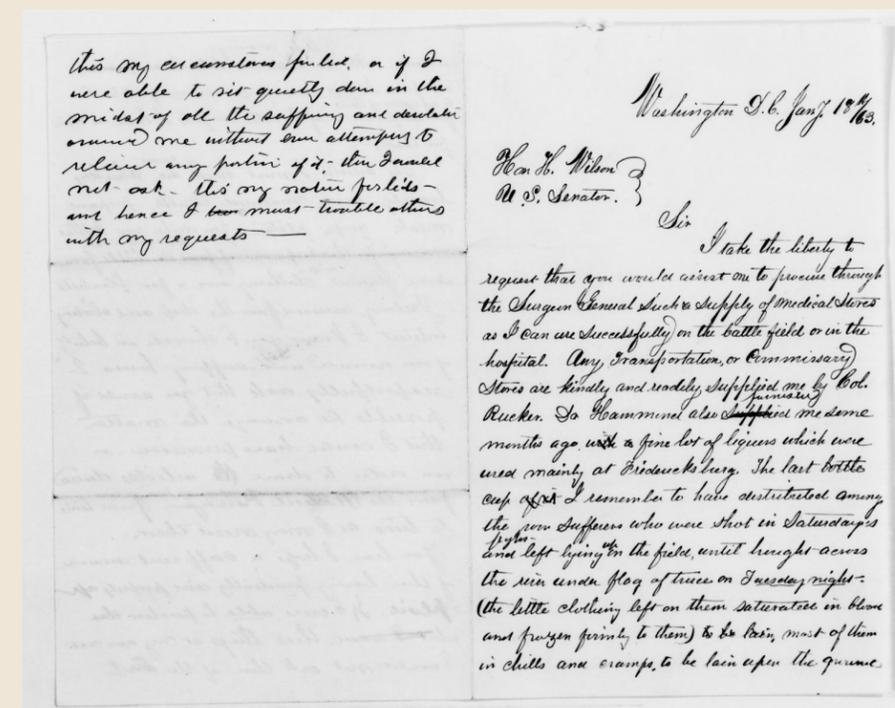
Clara Barton had a fever but once again went to see Quartermaster Major Rucker about getting a pass. Rucker gave her a wagon with six mules and a teamster. She loaded the wagon with alcoholic stimulants, bandages, dressing, food and lanterns and headed toward Harpers Ferry. On the 14th she aided troops who had been in the battle of South Mountain.

On September 17 at about noon, she arrived at a cornfield outside Sharpsburg, Maryland. The Battle of Antietam had been raging since before dawn. She went to the field hospital on the Poffenberger Farm and

found Dr. Dunn standing in the yard. Clara Barton's supplies were desperately needed as the surgeon's supplies were depleted—the medical staff was bandaging wounds with corn husks! That day she prepared food and fed long lines of wounded soldiers as they waited for treatment. She took a piece of shrapnel out of a man's face with a pin knife, at his insistence. The battle raged and Clara continued to work. At one point while helping a wounded soldier, a bullet went through the sleeve of her dress and killed the man. She went on to help the next man.

As night fell the surgeons were in despair, they could not operate without light and they were down to their last candles. Clara Barton had brought four boxes of candle lanterns, the work continued into the night.

In the morning, as many as half of the men she had treated were dead. A frustrated Dr. Dunn wrote his wife after the battle, "If we had followed up our victory the next day there would have been no southern army for we would have killed or captured the whole of them. Why this was allowed, McClellan only knows." Dr. Dunn also wrote to his wife: "In my feeble estimation,



Letter dated January 7, 1863 written by Clara Barton to Senator Henry Wilson asking for help in procuring medical supplies.

General McClellan with all his laurels sinks into insignificance beside Clara Barton, the true heroine of the age, the angel of the battlefield.” At Antietam, Clara Barton brilliantly functioned as a battlefield nurse despite the fact that she had no formal training. When supplies were depleted, she surrendered to typhoid fever and returned to Washington in the back of a wagon.

Building a Network of Support

In mid-October she received a note from Major Rucker: “They will fight again. Can you go, and what transportation do you want?” She answered: “Yes I can go, and I want three six-mule army wagons with good drivers.” In Frederick she joined the Army of the Potomac as they headed south to Fredericksburg.

General Lee did not anticipate the shift to Fredericksburg, so neither of his wings were positioned to defend the city. Union forces had to wait for pontoon bridges in order to cross the Rappahannock River and invade Fredericksburg. By the time the bridges arrived, the Confederates were ready to fight. At the hospital organized at Lacy House, Miss Barton was the only female nurse, she tried to keep track of the dead in her journal. She helped one man who had been shot in the face. As she wiped away the dried blood, she recognized Nathan J. Rice, sexton of the Universalist Church in North Oxford, Massachusetts, her home town.

That winter, Clara Barton was summoned to Lincoln Hospital in Washington, D.C., where she found 70 wounded soldiers she had helped at Lacy House. Sergeant Plunket, who she saved after both of his arms were amputated, came to her with a problem. He was running into red tape at the War Department while trying to be furloughed for disability. She took him to Senator Henry Wilson who quickly solved the problem. Senator Wilson of Massachusetts had already become an important supporter of Miss Barton’s. He would come to her aid several more times before the war was over. After the war, Henry Wilson

would go on to serve as Vice President in President Grant’s administration.

In mid-January 1863, Major Rucker wanted Clara to go out again. She went back to the Fredericksburg area. This time Dorthea Dix’s nurses were there and she found it difficult to fit in and be of service. Dorthea Dix was the Superintendent of Army Nurses and she did not welcome outside nurses like Clara Barton. Dorthea Dix, the U.S. Sanitary Commission, and the Christian Commissions got better at what they did as the war progressed, and it became more and more difficult for Clara Barton to work freely. She relied on supportive individuals in key positions such as Major Rucker and Senator Wilson.

This growing problem led to Clara Barton’s older brother, David, being nominated for a quartermaster position by Senator Wilson. Clara thought her brother would be able to supply her, allowing her to work more freely. David Barton was accepted and assigned to Port Royal, South Carolina near Hilton Head. Clara followed him in April 1863 and stayed until December. She was far from Dorthea Dix now and there were plans for a siege on Charleston, South Carolina. As it turned out, Clara Barton found herself entering into an idle period as they waited for action.

During that period of inactivity at Hilton Head, Clara befriended the Civil Rights activist, author, and orator Frances Dana Gage. Mrs. Gage who was from Ohio near the Kentucky border had grown up helping runaway slaves as they crossed into Ohio from the South. She was in Hilton Head to work with freed slaves. Through her relationship with Mrs. Gage, Miss Barton developed into a committed feminist and became more informed and sensitive to the situation of African Americans.

When news of the victories at Gettysburg and Vicksburg came to the South Carolina coast, the troop morale was uplifted. Not long after, the siege on Fort Wagner took place, Clara Barton nursed the African American troops and was impressed with their courage. Describing their service she wrote: “I can never forget

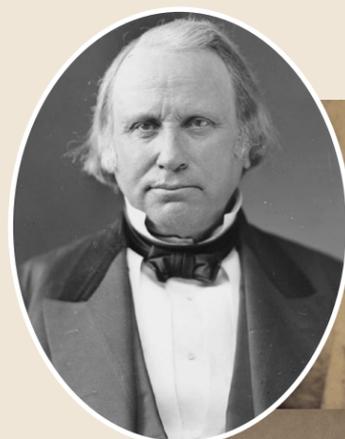
the patient bravery with which they endured their wounds received in the cruel assault upon Wagner, as hour after hour they lay in the sands, just back of the growling guns waiting their turn for the knife or the splint and bandage, not a murmur, scarcely a groan but ever that patient upturning of the great dark eyes, to your face in utter silence, which kept one constantly wondering if they knew all they had done, and were doing? And whenever I met one who was giving his life out with his blood, I could not forbear hastening to tell him lest he die in ignorance of the truth, that he was the soldier of freedom he had sought to be, and that the world as well as heaven would so record it and among them all.”

After the siege on Fort Wagner, Mrs. Gage and David Barton left South Carolina. Clara was invited to work at a hospital by a surgeon who wanted her to lend a woman’s touch to the job of communicating with soldiers’ loved ones. She went to work there only to later find that Dorthea Dix’s nurses would come and take over that hospital too.

There were other problems arising. On December 10, her arrangement at the patent office ended. Her superiors were told that Miss Barton was making money as a nurse and therefore didn’t need her patent office salary. The people saying this wanted her job. She left South Carolina and returned to Washington.

Battlefield Angel Gets to Work

In May 1864, she heard rumors of fighting at Spotsylvania Court House in Virginia. It was said that it might be the great battle that could decide the war. On May 10, reports came that wounded from Spotsylvania were being sent to Fredericksburg. She received a pass from Major Rucker after some trouble. There were 30 to 40 surgeons for 7,000 to 8,000 wounded with thousands more on the way. They were poorly supplied and the railroad was destroyed. Rain poured as wagons filled with wounded soldiers were stranded on the roads leading into Fredericksburg. Miss Barton once again went to Senator Wilson



Photos clockwise from top left: Henry Wilson; Clara Barton tending the wounded at a field hospital; sign from the Missing Soldiers Office; Quartermaster Daniel Rucker.

of missing men, which were distributed to every post office in the North. The system began to produce results as the public sent information.

Dorence Atwater, a Union soldier who had been imprisoned at the Confederate prison in Andersonville wrote to Clara. He had worked at the prison office and had managed to keep a copy of the death register, which had 12,636 names on it. Dorance Atwater’s turning over of that list to Miss Barton lead directly to the identification thousands of dead at the prison site. Clara Barton went to Andersonville and met a local Georgian, William Griffin, who wanted it to be a National Cemetery; Miss Barton shared that vision and worked to realize it.

Clara Barton’s missing soldiers office on 7th Street in Washington, D.C. closed in 1868; she had received 63,182 inquiries. Her workers had written 41,855 letters and provided information on 22,000 men.

Clara Barton was a volunteer, one who pushed against the limited roles women played in society to serve soldiers amid the dangers of the Civil War. Her powerful example made a positive impact on the nation’s progress towards equal rights. Miss Barton’s Civil War work also brought progress to the issue of the proper identification and treatment of the missing and wounded. After the war Clara Barton went on to create things that serve our society today, such as the American Red Cross, the first aid kit, and emergency preparedness. The Civil War started her on that track of service.

Kevin Patti is a ranger with the National Park Service stationed at the Clara Barton House in Glen Echo, Maryland. This article is based on a presentation he gave to MOLLUS during the 2018 Midwinter Meeting. ❁

to report the unreasonable suffering due to the broken lines of transportation. As a result, Quartermaster Montgomery Meigs ordered the railroad repaired to speed the evacuation of the wounded.

Clara now wanted to join Benjamin Butler’s forces outside Richmond and Petersburg. She took a letter of introduction written by Senator Wilson. Butler liked her immediately—they were both from Massachusetts and they both had independent streaks. Clara Barton was assigned to work at the Flying Hospital at Point of Rocks, Virginia. She was in charge of nursing and diet for one section of the hospital. With soldier nurses and former slave women as her assistants, she saw to the care of up to 1,600 patients at one time. Clara described her work in a letter: “I have cooked 10 dozen eggs, made cracker toast, corn starch blanc mange, milk punch, arrow root, washed faces and hands, put ice on hot heads, mustard on cold feet, written six soldiers’ letters home, stood beside three death beds – and now, at this hour, midnight, I am too sleepy and stupid to write even you a tolerable readable scrap.”

After six-and-a-half months in the field, she returned to Washington, D.C.

Finding Missing Soldiers

In the spring of 1865, Clara Barton began to focus on the problem of missing men and the unidentified dead. Throughout the war she had received letters from families of missing soldiers who were seeking information about their loved ones. The army had not kept complete records of the fallen and families hoped Miss Barton might remember their loved one from her battlefield experience and help them to reconnect. Clara decided to address the problem herself and came up with a plan. She would compile lists of the names of missing men sent to her and then post the lists in Annapolis, Maryland with the request that returning troops review them and send her information. Clara would then communicate with the person who reported the name to her. In this way she would serve as a conduit of communication between the friends and families of missing soldiers.

Clara was given permission to use the Government Printing Office to print lists

Civil War Horses

Jerry Zillion, District of Columbia Commandery

Horses were the greatest strategic advantage for both the North and the South during the Civil War. The number of horses and mules accounted for at the beginning of the War was 3.5 million in the North (including border states), and 1.7 million in the South. To purchase and maintain horses for war came at a considerable expense. Typically, the price for an average horse in 1860 was \$150 (about \$4,298 in today's dollars). Each required 30 pounds of fodder per day and seven to ten gallons of water. It was estimated that 400 wagon loads per day were needed to carry the hay and grain for an army on the move. Major General William T. Sherman understood the strategic importance of horses during wartime and instructed his troops on their care, "Every opportunity at a halt during a march should be taken advantage of to cut grass, wheat, or oats, and extraordinary care be taken of the horses upon which everything depends."

With limited train transportation, horses and mules were vital to carry out the strategic plans of the military. Supplies, soldiers, artillery batteries, horse fodder, cavalry, and wagons to carry the disabled and wounded were all part of war plans and were dependent on horses and mules. Horses were the vehicle used to move the army, to pursue the enemy, to communicate on the battlefield, and to provide logistics.

These animals were sent to a training camp to prepare them for battlefield conditions. They were taught a variety of commands and were trained to endure rifle blasts, cannon fire, explosions and the general excitement brought on by combat conditions. Horses were far more courageous than mules; mules tended to be skittish and unreliable during battle.

Artillery Horses

Requirements for artillery horses were outlined by General John Gibbon in his article, *A Cavalry Officer's Diary*: "The



General Grant with Cincinnati.

horse for artillery service should be 15 to 16 hands high [5.33 feet at the shoulder], should stand erect on legs, be strongly built, free in his movements, his shoulders should be large enough to give support to the collar but not too heavy; his body full, but not too long; the sides well rounded; limbs solid with strong shanks, and the feet in good condition. To these qualities he should unite as much as possible, the qualities of the saddle horse; should trot and gallop easily, have even gaits and not be skittish."

Typically, six horses were used to pull a limber and cannon, along with ammunition, blacksmith tools, fodder, and occasionally the cannoners. Ammunition alone weighed 700 pounds, just a three-day supply of fodder for a single team added another 540 pounds to the load.

Artillery harnessed horses were a prime target for riflemen. However, these horses could endure a great deal of punishment. When hit, they would continue to carry out their duty until they were disabled or suffered enough to be killed. In the early part of the war, more horses were killed in combat than men, but even more losses of these work animals resulted from disease or exhaustion.

Famous Horses of Famous Generals

During the Civil War, horses were as famous (and as brave) as the men who rode them. Riders and horses developed a close bond from the long hours spent together

eating, sleeping, and riding into battle. When they heard the rumble of a distant fight, some veteran war horses would become excited and begin snorting and pawing the ground with their front hooves, preparing to enter battle carrying the fearless officers who cared for them. War horses and their battle adventures made exciting stories and were often covered by newspaper correspondents.

General Phillip Sheridan's favorite horse, Rienzi, was a gift to Sheridan before a raid on Rienzi, Mississippi. Rienzi stood 16 hands tall and was jet black. In three years, Sheridan rode the horse through 45 engagements including 19 pitched battles and two cavalry raids. Rienzi was renamed Winchester by Sheridan after a victory near Winchester, Virginia. Sheridan marveled at his horse's courage under fire and praised him often. The old war-horse was mounted after he died in 1878, and Winchester can be seen today standing in the Hall of Armed Forces History at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History.

General George Meade's favorite horse was Old Baldy. Old Baldy was wounded seven times in combat and displayed great courage. Yet he outlived the general by 10 years, and even participated in the general's funeral as the riderless horse.

Charlemagne was General Chamberlain's favorite horse and they spent the entire war together, including the surrender at Appomattox Courthouse and the victory parade in Washington D.C. In fact, Chamberlain led the parade riding Charlemagne. The reliable Morgan was shot from beneath Chamberlain three times and carried many battle scars.

No one had a greater fondness for horses than did President Lincoln. His horse, which he left in Springfield, Illinois, was Old Bob, not to be confused with General Burnside's horse of the same name. Lincoln was astride his new horse, Old Abe, as he rode to the White House

from his summer cottage in northeast Washington. When an assassin's bullet whizzed by Lincoln's ear, Old Abe bolted and carried Lincoln to the White House in a dead run, losing Lincoln's \$8 plug hat in the mayhem.

General Grant was a skilled horseman. He had several horses during the war including Rondy (his first horse in battle), Egypt, Fox, and Jack. However, Grant's favorite horse was Cincinnati, a Kentucky thoroughbred sired by Lexington, the fastest four-miler in the country. He was a massive horse, measuring between 17 and 18 hands. Grant thought Cincinnati was the "finest horse he had ever seen" and found the horse to be gentle and quiet until he was ridden in battle during which he would become a spirited and enthusiastic warrior. Grant rode Cincinnati to the surrender at Appomattox and often appears in photographs and statues astride his famous horse.

The Civil War demanded the massive mobilization of animals for their ability to perform work. Millions of horses and mules participated in the war as agents of work, war, and companionship. They powered the war's supply lines, forms of attack, and army transportation. Horses were the greatest strategic advantage during the War, and many were as brave and famous as the men who rode them. ❁

Sources:

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Four "Lost" Commandery Archives Found

Continued from pg. 1

The search for our archives has been greatly assisted by the library staff at Lincoln Memorial University in Harrogate, Tennessee. Since our last report (see Spring 2018 issue, p. 1), we have located the following additional archival collections:

Maine Commandery (founded 1866): Most of the Maine Commandery records are being maintained at the Union League in Philadelphia. The records are organized and available to researchers. There are additional records at the Maine Historical Society in Portland. These include a photograph collection and a collection of 66 memorials which had belonged to Major David Parsons, an Original Companion and medical doctor, who served in the 19th Maine Regiment.

Iowa Commandery (founded 1886): The Iowa State Historical Library in Des Moines has some of the Commandery's archives, but we have not yet been able to determine exactly what is in their collection. The library has 16 containers, which is described as including correspondence dating from 1886 to 1917, plus financial records, and miscellaneous records, clippings, programs, etc. The State Library's Research Center in Iowa City has a history of the Iowa Commandery and a membership list. Some other Iowa records are held at the Wisconsin Historical Society in Madison. A representative of the Iowa Commandery will visit these libraries to determine the precise contents of their MOLLUS collections.

Vermont Commandery (founded 1891): Most of the original records of the Vermont Commandery are located in the University of Vermont's Special Collections in Burlington. This collection includes correspondence, membership records and other record books and ledgers, photographs, and memorabilia. The

library has produced a detailed finding aid to assist researchers. The U.S. Army War College library has some minutes and financial records of the Vermont Commandery that have not been processed and made available to the public, as well as a couple of membership rosters which are available.

Tennessee Commandery (1866-1880): Some correspondence is held at the Union League in Philadelphia. Any other records for this short-lived commandery may be at the Army War College in the unprocessed collection from the Commandery-in-Chief.

We believe that we have now located most of the original records of those state commanderies which were established before 1900. There are still some gaps and we will need everyone's help to determine what records are still out there of which we are not aware.

The biggest gap in our knowledge is the large volume of Commandery-in-Chief and D.C. Commandery records being held at the Army War College which are still unprocessed and uncataloged.

Once we have located all the records, the next phase of our project will be to have them digitized so that they can be made available to Companions and researchers. This is a long-term project, but one which will be of great importance for future generations researching the Civil War and the legacy of our original Companions.

Many rosters and membership lists for the historic State Commanderies (those established between 1865 and 1900) have already been digitized and can be found online. The Special Committee will be happy to assist any Companion or family members looking for these materials. ❁

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