

## A Message from the Executive Committee 2020 MOLLUS Congress Will Be A Virtual Meeting



Unfortunately, due to all the unknowns associated with the current COVID-19 Pandemic and for the safety and welfare of those attending, we have decided to cancel the 2020 MOLLUS Congress that was to be held in Philadelphia on October 17th. Instead we will be conducting the meeting virtually by setting up a ZOOM video conference call that all Loyal Legion Companions are being invited to attend. To insure you will receive an invite, simply provide your name, Insignia Number and Commandery in an email addressed to [bucktails@comcast.com](mailto:bucktails@comcast.com) with the subject being "2020 MOLLUS Virtual Meeting Request". You will then receive detailed information of how to log on via ZOOM.

Participation can be either via PC or phone. The official business meeting will convene virtually at 12:30 PM Eastern Daylight Savings Time and the projected time frame for this meeting is two hours. However, the connection will become active at 12:00 PM Eastern Daylight Savings Time and we strongly recommend that you logon early to ensure connectivity and to chat with friends informally before the meeting.

Our plans are not completely worked out but we want to give you a heads-up now because some aspects of this virtual meeting will certainly differ from what we have done in the past when we met physically. Of course, the order of business shall be as required by our bylaws and a formal agenda as well as the proceedings of the 2019 Congress will be provided well in advance of the meeting. There are also several proposed amendments to our C&BL that you will be receiving shortly for consideration that will be voted on during the October 17th business meeting.

One thing that will change is how the Roll Call of Officers and Commanderies will be taken. All Commanderies need a designated representative and are counted in the roll call. To avoid confusion, the name of the designated representative as per Article 6 section 6 of our Constitution must be submitted to the Recorder-in-Chief by Oct. 3rd. This will allow us to establish in advance both a quorum as well as a procedure for casting votes of each Commandery when votes are called for.

Another change is that all reports must be submitted in writing to the Recorder-in-Chief by Oct. 3rd as well so they can be posted on-line and placed on the final agenda. These will be incorporated into the "deck" of documents that will be displayed and discussed during the meeting. Recall that these annual reports are mandatory not only for all the current CinC Officers and Standing Committees Chairmen but for the State Commanderies as well. Each written report should include at least a roster of the current officers or committee members, a review of their past year's activities and plans for future events. Photos are encouraged. We hope that all attendees will take this opportunity to read these reports in advance so that can have a better understanding of these matters when they come up on the agenda for discussion. In the past, some have not provided a written report and relied on just making verbal comments during the meeting which will not be allowed this year.

Please send the name of your designated representative and your written report to Recorder-in-Chief Gary Grove at [bucktails@comcast.net](mailto:bucktails@comcast.net). Earlier than the Oct. 3rd deadline would be appreciated. At the very least, you can send in your 2020 MOLLUS Virtual Meeting Request email now. If you have any questions, please feel free to send me an email or call me at 610-348-5657. ✱

Gary Grove

Recorder-in-Chief

## COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF'S MESSAGE

Joseph T. Coleman, Ed.D.

Commander-In-Chief: 2020-2022



Since our last edition, it seems like our country, in some respects, has entered a period of greater challenges beyond what we have been experiencing with the coronavirus and all of its terrible effects. The emergence of civil unrest and the “change culture” should have greater meaning to those of us descended from the distinguished men of the Union forces who gave away years of their lives, and in some case, “the last full measure of devotion” to save the country and wipe away the scourge of slavery from our great land.

Unfortunately, the “change culture” has taken its toll on memorials around the country that commemorate the dedication of the men who sacrificed much for their causes, while at times targeting memorials to individuals adamantly opposed to the institution of slavery. Proposals have been made in the US House of Representatives requiring Confederate monuments to be removed from National Park Service Civil War battlefield around our nation. While MOLLUS as a tax-exempt entity is prohibited from activities interpreted to be lobbying in nature, our individual members retain

their constitutional right to express their opinions to their elected representatives on the destruction, desecration and removal of Civil War memorials. Our ancestors rose to the call of President Lincoln to defend the Union. We should rise to the occasion and express our thoughts to Congress as direct descendants of those who gave so much and are commemorated in sacred memorials throughout our National Parks. Living as close as I do to Gettysburg and having visited there on many, many occasions, I have walked it's hills and fields with the understanding that immediately following the battle, the fallen were interred close to where they died. We must remember that these Pennsylvania fields served as the initial graveyards of men who gave the last full measure of devotion. They hallowed these fields by their death and interment. Removing the memorials to their suffering and death should not be desecrated by the removal of the monuments honoring their sacrifice, regardless of the color of their uniform. They were all AMERICANS. To further improve our communication with all Companions, Commandery Recorders are requested to send a list of Email addresses for each of their Companions to: National Member List Coordinator at: [pdmarcomm@aol.com](mailto:pdmarcomm@aol.com). \*

Loyally,  
Joe Coleman

### Welcome New Members

#### HEREDITARY COMPANIONS:

**Owen Andrew Kloter**, 22789, NY

1LT Thomas Woods, CO E&K 51st NY, Infantry

**Frederick W.S. Kirchner**, 22790, NY

MG Lewis Gillespie, Jr. USA, MOH

**Ashley Ciune Smith**, 22791, KY

2LT Hiram Rogers, Jr. Co. I, 47th Kentucky Mounted Infantry

**Hans Joseph Klotzbach**, 22792, PA

1LT Charles Manning Whiteside, Co. M, 16th NY Heavy Artillery

**David Caldwell Bouley**, 22793, PA

CPT Joseph Plummer Schooley, Co. F, 66th US Colored Infantry

**Cortright Wetherill, III**, 22794, PA

MAJ/COL Samuel Wetherill, 11th PA Cavalry, 108th Vol.

**DR. Charles William Lenz**, 22795, PA

LTC John P. Denney, 33rd PA Vol. Infantry

#### ASSOCIATE COMPANIONS:

**Lawrence R. Golding**, A341, NY

**Karl Kirchner**, A342, NY

**Jeffrey A. Montanari**, A343, CA

**Joseph Richard Bouley**, A344, PA

**Francis Michael Spano III**, A345, PA



LOYAL LEGION  
HISTORICAL JOURNAL

VOL. 77, NO. 3

**Commander-In-Chief**  
Joseph T. Coleman, Ed.D.

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*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 on April 15, 1865. Pertinent materials will be welcomed by members and the public. Articles and news should be submitted to Paul Davis at [pdmarcomm@aol.com](mailto:pdmarcomm@aol.com). Content must be formatted in Microsoft Word and submitted electronically. High resolution photographs and art work (300 DPI JPEG or TIFF files) at the finished size to be published should be submitted and accompanied by a description and/or caption.

Submission Deadlines:

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

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# INSIDE

- 1 2020 MOLLUS Congress Will Be A Virtual Meeting
- 2 Commander-In-Chief's Message, Joseph T. Coleman, Ed.D.
- 4 Biography of Alexander Clark
- 5 DOLLUS Society Meeting to be Virtual
- 6 Commandery Events and Activities
- 7 Charles W. Cadwallader Obituary
- 8 Col. John Baptiste Weber
- 10 Preserving the Past
- 12 MOLLUS Order Form/Mailing Info

4



7



8



10





## Alexander Clark

By Jeffrey Burden, Virginia Commandery

As the dream of emancipation came nearer to reality in 1862 and 1863, thousands of black Americans — both enslaved and free — sought the opportunity to serve in the armies of the United States.

Alexander G. Clark of Muscatine, Iowa, was a man of color who had forged his life and career in a largely-white community. He was also in the forefront of the movement to enlist black troops. His efforts, despite setbacks and fierce opposition, led directly to the formation of a regiment that carried the flag of Iowa, and the Union, into the fray. Clark was born in Pennsylvania to parents who had been freed from slavery. He moved to Iowa in 1842 as a teenager, eventually buying and

selling timber, and acquiring land. Crucially, he also operated a popular barbershop, allowing him to develop contacts and friendships with white citizens.

Through the pre-War years, as the black population of Muscatine swelled into the hundreds, Clark worked for their interests. He was a leader in opposing state laws that prohibited black migration to Iowa and that kept Iowans of color without the vote. His home was an important stop for enslaved persons fleeing northward from Missouri on the Underground Railroad. He became friends with Frederick Douglass and was an agent for Douglass' newspaper, *The North Star*. From the summer of 1862, into mid-1863, he implored state legislators and influential citizens — to no effect at first — to allow enlistment of black Iowans. A letter in 1862 from Clark to Iowa Gov. Samuel Kirkwood drew this response from the Governor's secretary: "You know better than I the prejudices of our people...and you know your color would not be tolerated in one of our regiments."

Yet he persisted in the face of such hostility, and as white minds (and official Federal policy) shifted to favor black soldiers, he found his chance. By special orders of the War Department in July 1863, the "1st Regiment of Iowa African Infantry" was authorized. Recruitment by then was already underway by Clark and others in Iowa, and also in Missouri and Minnesota. Many of the recruits had been born free, but many others had been freed (or had freed themselves) from enslavement. There weren't enough eligible Iowan men of color to fill out the entire regiment; however, six of its ten companies were mostly Hawkeyes, representing a huge percentage of Iowa's black population of fewer than three thousand.

By October 1863, those six companies (led as per regulation by white officers) were training in Keokuk, on the Mississippi River. Clark, who had personally recruited fifty men, wanted to serve as Sergeant Major of the regiment, but could not because of an old leg injury. Yet he was constantly with the troops, traveling with them from Keokuk to Benton Barracks in St. Louis, and in November presenting them (now numbering more than 900 officers and men) their flag.

In early 1864, most black regiments raised by the various states were redesignated collectively as United States Colored Troops. The "1st Iowa African" became the 60th U.S.C.T, and as such, served in Arkansas for the balance of the War as part of the VII Army Corps. It mostly engaged in garrison and post duty, along with several scouting expeditions. Records suggest the 60th saw a pitched battle once, at Wallace's Ferry, Arkansas on July 26 1864, losing an officer and several enlisted men. When the War ended, the regiment was in Little Rock and the surrounding area. The men were mustered out at Devall's Bluff, Arkansas on October 26 1865. It had lost a total of 12 officers and men in battle, and 332 by disease. (2nd Lieutenants Iram A. Sawyer, William F. Reed, and William G. Work, among other officers, later became Companions of the Loyal Legion.)

After the War, Alexander Clark continued his fight for civil and political rights. In 1867, he sued to have his daughter admitted to the public schools of Muscatine. The resulting state Supreme Court decision made Iowa one of the first states to desegregate its schools as a matter of law. He became very active in Republican politics, and spoke frequently before white and black audiences on civil rights and the emancipationist legacy of the Civil War, earning him the nickname "Colored Orator of the West". Clark and his son Alex Jr. both obtained law degrees from the University of Iowa, and practiced together for several years.

Clark lived long enough to be appointed ambassador to Liberia by President Benjamin Harrison. Despite a lifetime of achievement, by the time of his death there in 1891 he was increasingly dismayed both by the dimming of that "emancipationist legacy," and by the growing exclusion of black Americans from the society he had served so well.

Clark's home in Muscatine has been restored and is on the National Register of Historic Places. ✱

## Attention: DAMES Of The Loyal Legion



Unfortunately, due to all the unknowns associated with the current COVID-19 Pandemic and the safety and welfare of those attending, the in person 2020 DOLLUS Society meeting has been canceled. It was to be held at the Union League in Philadelphia on October 17th. Instead we will be conducting the meeting remotely by setting up a ZOOM video conference. The ZOOM conference will be on October 17th, at 12:00 PM Eastern Daylight Savings Time. All Dames of the Loyal Legion are invited to participate and attend remotely. Participation can be either via internet using a computer, tablet, smart phone or by phone land line.

Our Recorder will be sending a meeting notice via Email with the log in information for the meeting and a preliminary agenda. If you have any items for the agenda please send to President Ellen by October 10th. The projected duration for this meeting is approximately two hours.

All officer reports must be sent electronically to the President Ellen by October 10th. Verbal reports are not permissible this year under the virtual meeting format.

I hope to see you at the Virtual Meeting on October 17th. \*

Loyally

Ellen M. Higgins, President

SquirrelOCNJ@aol.com



## Robert C. Wallace

By Anonymous

### Insignia Number 3927 - Member of the Military Order Of The Loyal Legion Of The United States: The MOLLUS

Robert C. Wallace was born in Ayrshire, Scotland on February 26, 1837. He came to America with his parents in 1844 and the family settled in Detroit, Michigan. Wallace enlisted in Company A, 1st Michigan Infantry on April 18, 1861 at the age of 24 for a term of three months. He was mustered in as a Corporal on June 13, 1861. He mustered out and re-entered the service in Company L of the 5th Michigan Cavalry at its organization as a 2nd Lieutenant. Wallace was taken prisoner at Difficult Run near Hawkhurst's Mills, Virginia on April 19, 1863 by Mosby and sent to Libby Prison. Wallace was paroled on May 5, 1863.

He rejoined his Regiment just prior to Gettysburg but did not participate in the battle with the 5th Michigan Cavalry as his company was assigned to guard the cavalry's supply train. Wallace served as a member of Colonel Sawyer's staff in September of 1863. He received his commission as a 1st Lieutenant of Company G on November 2, 1863. Again he served on Colonel Sawyer's staff in February of 1864 as an Aide-de-Camp. From May to November of 1864, he served as an Aide-de-Camp to Brigadier General A. T. Torbert. Wallace was promoted to Captain of Company A on August 24, 1864 and subsequently assigned as Aide-de-Camp at Cavalry Headquarters. Robert Wallace was commissioned Major on April 14, 1865 and mustered out of service at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas on June 22, 1865 as a brevet Lieutenant Colonel.

After the Civil War, Robert Wallace went west and settled in Helena, Montana. He married and had two children, one was a daughter named Margaret. Wallace passed away on October 21, 1928. \*



# Commandery Events & Activities



*Past C-I-C Eric Rojo at Cementerio Nacional, Memorial Day*



*Ken Roach and Jerry Carroon, Connecticut Commandery, Memorial Day*



*Ken Roach, Jerry Carroon and Lee Tryon, Connecticut Commandery, Memorial Day*



*Annual Pennsylvania Commandery Picnic*



## Charles W. Cadwallader

Insignia 20316 Pennsylvania Commandery

Member Of the Loyal Legion Of The United States: The MOLLUS

August 28, 1923 ~ February 15, 2020 (age 96)

### ~ Obituary ~

**LT COL. Charles Washburn Cadwallader** USAF (Ret.), born 28 August 1923, Son of Charles and Helen, husband to MaryAnne (nee Friel) Cadwallader, father to Charles and Lee died 15 February 2020. Veteran of WWII, Korea and Vietnam. 151 combat missions.

Awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal with 11 Oak Leaf Clusters, European African-Middle Eastern Campaign medal with 3 battle stars, test pilot for Republic Aviation. A fighter pilot in life and in spirit.

Charles (sometimes referred to as "Uncle Tiger" by family) should also be remembered for the following accomplishments: Member of the Caterpillar club.

Member and former President and board member Pan American society, Philadelphia.

Graduated USAF Flying Safety Course at University of Southern California.

Graduated USAF Command and Staff College.

Member of The Military Order Of The Loyal Legion US (MOLLUS).

Member of the New York Quaker Meeting.

Graduated George School, Newtown, PA

Additional awards, medals and citations include but not limited to:

Bronze Service Star to National Defense Service Medal, Hour Glass Device to Air Force Reserve Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal.

Charles was interred at the Washington's Crossing National Cemetery at a private ceremony with full military honors on 3 August 2020 at 11:00 A.M.

In lieu of flowers, we ask that you please donate to your favorite veterans organization/charity instead. \*

# Colonel John Baptiste Weber – Insignia 12729

Member of the Military Order Of The Loyal Legion Of The United States: The MOLLUS

By William Christen, NY Commandery



On September 21, 1842, John Baptiste Weber was born in a cottage on Oak Street, north of Goodell Street, in the City of Buffalo, New York, to Philippe Jacob and Mary Anne Young Weber. The couple immigrated to Buffalo, New York in 1833. John was the younger of two brothers born in a family of four children. He began his education at the age of 4 at Public School 15. He continued through to central high school when he began pursuing other occupations such as errand boy. At 14, he joined Company 'F', 65th Regiment of Militia as their color bearer. At the age of 18, when Fort Sumter was fired upon during April 1861, beginning the American Civil War, he was working as a clerk and bookkeeper for a grain and flour commission house on the Central Wharf.

On August 7, 1861, he enlisted as a private in the 44th New York Volunteer Infantry, known as 'Ellsworth Avengers' with a starting base pay of thirteen dollars per month, twelve of which he sent home to help support his parents. His enlistment in the 44th was quite an honor since the regiment was composed of men representing every ward and town in the state, selected by a board of examiners. Weber was selected from the seventh ward of Buffalo. He was promoted to Corporal within a few weeks of active duty in Virginia.

After the battle of Hanover Courthouse in June 1862, his first serious engagement, he was promoted to Second Lieutenant of Company 'F' of the 44th, which he commanded during the 'Seven Days Battle' around Richmond in the same year. Later he was given the rank of Captain of Company 'D' of the 44th, and was cited for meritorious conduct for actions at Gaines Mill and Malvern Hill, Virginia. Other battles were Yorktown (1862), Hanover Court House (1862), Little Round Top (1863), and the Red River Campaign (1864). His service with the 44th is remembered at the monument on Little Round Top.

On August 8, 1862 he was discharged from the 44th for promotion to first lieutenant and adjutant of the 116th New York Volunteers who were instrumental in the battle at Port Hudson, Louisiana in 1863. During January 1863, while on leave from the army, he was offered the command of a Massachusetts regiment or else was authorized to organize a colored regiment. He chose the latter and was promoted to colonel of the 89th United States Colored Infantry two days prior to his 21st birthday, making him one of the youngest colonels of the war. From Private to Colonel in two years and six weeks was a truly splendid achievement.

The 89th was formed in Port Hudson, Louisiana and the Colonel was the first person to be put in charge of a thousand men colored brigade commanding the 2nd Brigade, 2nd Division of the 19th Corps. The 89th's early service included tasks considered menial until they were finally put into active service. When General Banks procured his regiment for service in the unsuccessful Red River Expedition in Louisiana, the 89th was decimated, being left with many officers but few enlisted men. He resigned his commission after three years in the Army due to family illness. He left service with the Army in 1864 at 22 years of age.

John Weber's service to the public didn't end with this resignation in 1864. Following the war, Colonel Weber began his involvement in politics by helping to organize the Republican Third Ward "Grant Club," served as its president (1867), and become involved in the presidential run of General Ulysses S. Grant (1868). He became the Assistant Postmaster in Buffalo, New York (1870-1873), the Sheriff of Erie County, New York (1874-1876) after being previously defeated for Sheriff by Grover Cleveland (1870), the elected Representative of the 33rd New York District in Congress (1885-1889), the first Commissioner of Immigration (1890-1893) who oversaw the opening of

Ellis Island, the Chairman of the Special Committee to Investigate Immigration (1895), the Cashier of the American Exchange Bank (1894-1897), the Secretary of the Grade Crossing Commission for the City of Buffalo, New York (1888-1908), Director and then Commissioner-General of the Pan-American Exposition in Buffalo (1901), and Chairman of the Erie County, New York Home Defense Committee during World War I.

Colonel Weber gave a \$10 gold Liberty coin to 17-year-old Annie Moore, who was the first foreigner to pass U.S. federal immigrant inspection at Ellis Island. As Chairman of the Special Committee, he investigated the major reasons for the immigration of Jews from Russia.

The Colonel was affiliated with many organizations including the Grand Army of the Republic's Edward P. Chapin Post Number 2 and Wilkeson Post Number 9, and the Loyal Legion's New York Commandery. From 1864 he was a member of the Washington Lodge of Masons in Buffalo and at the time of his death in 1926, had been the oldest living mason in the country. He was a former president and treasurer of the Ellicott Club for Men and a life member of the Young Men's Association. During his retirement he wrote his autobiography in 1924, which was a widely acclaimed success. He also found time to write many papers on canal improvements and immigration problems which were widely published.

Colonel Weber was a leader in withdrawing from the Town of West Seneca to create the City of Lackawanna in Erie County, New York. There are many streets in Lackawanna named for Colonel Weber and his family, including: Weber, Shamokin, Cobb, Carden, Brinker, Goodrich, and Josie (who was Colonel Weber's maid).

After 56 years of public life, Colonel Weber then retired from active political and business activities and lived quietly until his death at the age of 84 on December 18, 1926. He died in his home on Abbott Road in the newly formed City of Lackawanna. He was survived by his wife, Alice, who he married on January 7, 1863 and five children; Mrs. Howard O. Cobb, Mrs. Godfrey L. Carden, Mrs. Frank M. Brinker, Mrs. George S. Goodrich and Mrs. Edward Meinel. Colonel Weber's family plot is located in Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo. His marker is inscribed with 'Colonel 89th U.S. Infantry'.

In 1944, the John B. Weber Post of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 898 was established and the Colonel John B. Weber Camp No. 44 was chartered by the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War in 2006. \*



#### SOURCES:

Autobiography of John B. Weber, J. W. Clement Company, Buffalo, New York, Copyright 1924.

Colonel John B. Weber Monument Association, Corporation website (<http://www.colonelweber.org/index.htm>).

Wiki Tree website (<https://wikitree.com/wiki/Weber-3126>).

John B Weber for Congress, The New York Times, 4 September 1884.

Men of New York – Western Section, Part I, The Express, Buffalo, New York, Copyright 1896.

The Successful American, Volume II, Number 6, The Press Biographical Company, New York, New York, December 1900.

Influx of Jews, The Tennessean, 3 July 1903.

Story of the First Through Ellis Island is Rewritten, New York Times, 14 September 2006.

*Photo page 8 - John B. Weber Circa 1863. Photo page 9 - John B. Weber Circa 1922.*





# Preserving The Past

By Mabel Rosenheck

## THE FIRST AMONG EQUALS: THE MOLLUS, ITS COLLECTION, AND THE CIVIL WAR MUSEUM OF PHILADELPHIA

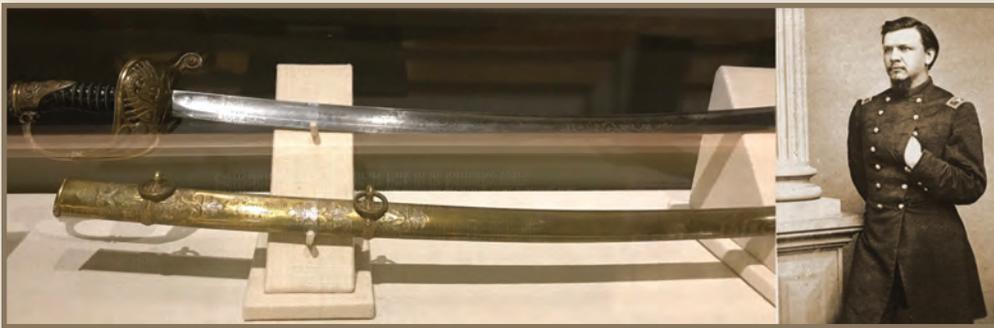
The assassination of Abraham Lincoln on April 14, 1865 caused great concern. Coming so close on the heels of the Confederacy's collapse, the assassination sparked rumors of a wider conspiracy to overthrow the Federal government. Three of the veteran Union officers assigned to the honor guard for Lincoln's body in Philadelphia - Samuel Brown Wylie Mitchell, Thomas Ellwood Zell, and Peter Dirck Keyser - met at Zell's offices in the city and decided to demonstrate their loyalty by forming a "Legion" in support of the republic and its ideals. Taking their inspiration from the Revolutionary War's Society of the Cincinnati, their efforts culminated in a meeting at Independence Hall on May 31, 1865 of many of the city's former Army, Navy, and Marine Corps officers. The Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States (MOLLUS) was born.

Motivated by patriotic purpose and to "perpetuate the recollections of the war", the Companions (as members were called) in Philadelphia established the first "Commandery." MOLLUS eventually expanded to twenty-two "Commanderies" throughout the nation where former Union Army, Navy, and Marine Corps officers lived and worked, but the Commandery of Pennsylvania was always seen as the "first among equals," having ushered in the birth of the organization. At the height of its existence MOLLUS had 12,000 members and counted many generals, admirals, and US Presidents among its ranks. The MOLLUS leadership and Companions helped create and construct memorials on Civil War battlefields, including Gettysburg. They also participated in the numerous commemorative events held here and were influential in creating and leading the Gettysburg National Military Park in its formative years.

MOLLUS lives through hereditary membership in the organization. Today, it is a nonprofit patriotic, historical and educational society dedicated to preserving and promoting the memory of Abraham Lincoln and the Civil War through ongoing programs, special events, scholarship, and other activities.



The history of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States dates to April 15, 1865. Upon the death of Abraham Lincoln, three men—Brevet Lieutenant Colonel S.B. Wylie Mitchell, Lieutenant Colonel Thomas E. Zell, and Captain Peter D. Keyser—founded a new organization for veteran officers of the United States Army, Navy, and Marine Corps. It would serve as a reserve officer's corps in case the assassination led to renewed conflict with the rebel states, and it also escorted Lincoln's body as it passed through Philadelphia. As the threat of a second Civil War subsided, MOLLUS, modeled on the Society of Cincinnati, became a fraternal organization, like many others in the United States. It was second only to the Grand Army of the Republic in numbers and was founded a year earlier—a point of pride.



MOLLUS served various functions, but its most visible—at least retrospectively—is its work in preserving the past. The first clause in Article III of its 1865 Constitution set out a mission to “cherish the memories and associations of the war waged in defence of the unity and indivisibility of the Republic.”

However, like many Civil War organizations, this mission only came into focus at the end of the nineteenth century as veterans aged. In 1879, John Page Nicholson became the recorder-in-chief and began undertaking such a project for MOLLUS. In 1888, leading a reinvigorated organization, he helped found the War Library and Museum in Philadelphia, which inspired similar collections in commanderies throughout the country.

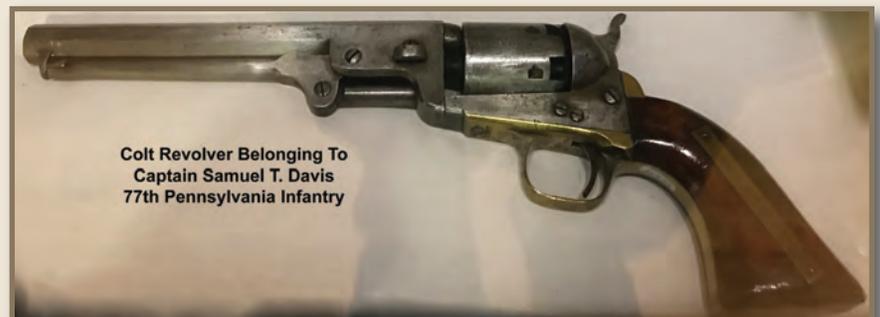


From a historiographic perspective, these museums are crying out for attention. While Civil War monuments and National Park Service sites have garnered extensive scrutiny in both scholarly and popular outlets, smaller, private Civil War museums like these have, for the most part, slipped beneath the radar. My research is a very small corrective, but, regardless of what may have happened to them, the museums and libraries of the MOLLUS commanderies (and GAR branches like the one that survives in Philadelphia) are a rich opportunity for historians, especially those, like me, who are interested in material culture, not just books and paper.

The artifacts in the CWMP collection which have now been transferred to Gettysburg document the best known heroes of the Civil War: MOLLUS members like Grant and Meade, but also radicals like John Brown and freedmen like William Still, a conductor on the Underground Railroad. Indeed, what is most remarkable to me about that collection is that it does not just document the elite, white, male officers who were the members of MOLLUS, but somehow made room for other, more radical artifacts of freedom and equality.

My research (so far) has uncovered little information about where exactly any of these artifacts came from, but still they inspire vital questions about collecting and recollecting the Civil War.

*Photo page 10 center: Sword belonging to General Lewis Merrill, Insignia 100. Photo page 10 bottom: Sword belonging to Admiral George W. Melville, Insignia 4682. Photos supplied from a private collection*





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Hereditary or Associate Replacement Ribbon (Miniature Medal)	\$20	_____	_____
Officer Neck Ribbon	\$20	_____	_____
Rosettes (Hereditary, Associate, or Honorary)	\$9	_____	_____
Officer Rosette (Indicate State or National)	\$24	_____	_____
Neck Tie (All Silk)	\$34	_____	_____
Blazer Patch	\$20	_____	_____
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Certificate of Hereditary Membership (17" x 19")	\$45	_____	_____
Certificate of Associate Membership (8.5" x 11")	\$25	_____	_____
Official MOLLUS Scarf (9.5" x 72")	\$45	_____	_____
ROTC Medal with Ribbon Bar and Certificate	\$35	_____	_____
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MOLLUS Cuff Links (Vermeil)	\$100	_____	_____
Gold Plated Challenge Coin	\$25	_____	_____
MOLLUS Name Badge (shipping incl.)	\$22	_____	_____

Shipping based on total merchandise cost:      Shipping \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Up to \$10 = \$5

\$11 to \$50 = \$8

\$51 to \$100 = \$10

\$101 or more = \$14

TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\*Vermeil (gold on sterling silver)