



THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

Volume XXII, Number 8

Chicago, Illinois

April, 1962

Grandson to Tell Story of Dr. Samuel A. Mudd - Wednesday, April 11

Dr. Richard Dyer Mudd will be with us Wednesday, April 11, to tell the story of his grandfather, Dr. Samuel Alexander Mudd, who treated John Wilkes Booth's fractured leg the night of President Lincoln's assassination and was imprisoned for it.



Dr. Richard D. Mudd

Richard Mudd has been a busy physician, but also has devoted a lifetime in an effort to gain exoneration of his grandfather.

Early the morning of April 15, 1865, two men rapped on the door of Samuel Mudd's house near Bryantown, Md., saying they were travelers en route to Washington and that one had fallen from his horse and broken a leg. At that time Dr. Mudd was more of a farmer than a physician and lacked equipment for expert medical care. He made a splint and advised his patient to see an active physician upon reaching Washington. Physicians have called it a simple doctor-patient relationship.

In the search for Lincoln's assassin Dr. Mudd was linked with those who were seized and tried as conspirators. Four were hanged. Dr. Mudd was sentenced to imprisonment at Fort Jefferson on Garden Key, Dry Tortugas islands, about 60 miles off Key West, Fla. While there, yellow fever broke out. The prison physician being ill, Dr. Mudd was let out of his dungeon and valiantly fought the epidemic. One measure was placing the patients on the downwind side of the island. This blew away the mosquitoes and if he had realized the meaning of it, he might have had the answer to yellow fever years before Dr. Walter Reed.

Guards and prisoners all signed a petition for pardon for Dr. Mudd. One petition was pigeonholed on the island, but another was smuggled out and President Andrew Johnson honored it. Dr. Mudd was released on March 8, 1869, after four years' imprisonment. He died in 1883 at 49. His descendants are many.

President Johnson's pardon freed Dr. Mudd, but did not exonerate him. Congress in 1959 approved a monument which has been set up at Fort Jefferson attesting to Dr. Mudd's efforts against yellow fever, but still did not exonerate him. That is the crusade that his grandson, Richard Mudd, is carrying on.

Richard Mudd has spoken in many places on the subject and here he will give many more details than there are in this brief summary.

Our speaker was born in the Anacostia district of Washington D. C. and took his degrees at Georgetown University, also doing some teaching there and some hospital externe work in the city. He did his internship at Henry Ford hospital in Detroit. He turned to industrial medicine and has spent the years since 1928 with various branches of General Motors, mostly at Saginaw, Mich., his present home.



210th REGULAR MEETING

* * *

Dr. Richard Dyer Mudd

on

"The Assassination of Abraham Lincoln and the Trial and Imprisonment of Dr. Samuel A. Mudd"

* * *

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11, 1962

St. Clair Hotel
162 East Ohio Street

Cocktails at 5:30
Dinner at 6:30 p.m.



OPEN GRAND GULF CENTER MAY 6

The new Grand Gulf Military Monument will open officially May 6. The public is invited to attend the parade and dedication ceremony, which will begin at 2:30 p.m. The Visitors' Center museum, a handsome reconstruction of an early 1800's house, will be opened. The museum will contain relics, paintings, photos, maps and dioramas of Grand Gulf as an important river town and of the major Naval battle fought at Grand Gulf. Former Gov. J. P. Coleman of Mississippi will speak. Mississippi Grey units will participate. Descendants of the participants of the battle of Grand Gulf will be honored. The new Visitors' Center is in the site of Fort Wade, one of the two forts that held off seven of David Dixon Porter's ironclads for 5-1/2 hours and finally caused Gen. U. S. Grant to by-pass Grand Gulf.

BROWARD COUNTY CWRT of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., invites speakers from the north who are visitors to Florida to appear at their meetings. Write President Dr. A. D. Martin, Jr., 1000 East Broward blvd.

Dr. Mudd has also had a distinguished career with the air force and was the first field director of medicine and surgery at Carlisle barracks, Pa., 1941-42. He served through World War II and returned to service for a while during the Korean war. He has received numerous honors. He is a member of many medical and historical societies.

THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE



FOUNDED DECEMBER 3, 1940

18 East Chestnut Street,
Chicago 11, Illinois
Phone: Whitehall 4-3085

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Lester Joseph and J. B. Reavley.
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MAJ. GEN. GODFREY WEITZEL marched his Union troops into Richmond on April 3, 1865, and later in the day visited the huge hospital on Chimborazo hill. With him was his chief medical director, Dr. Alexander Mott. They were received by Dr. James McCaw and his corps of hospital officers. Mott and McCaw had known each other before the war and friendly relations were resumed. Then the Federals learned something of the operations of Chimborazo. Upward of 80,000 sick and wounded soldiers were cared for during the war. In addition to its 7,500 beds, it operated a bakery, five soup houses, a brewery, and five ice houses. It operated its own farms, manufactured soap from the kitchen greases and ran a canal boat between Richmond, Lynchburg, and Lexington bartering cotton, yarn, shoes, etc., for provisions raised in the countryside. A model of Chimborazo features an exhibit promoted by the Richmond Academy of Medicine and assisted by the Virginia Civil War Commission. From Richmond CWRT newsletter, William H. Stauffer, editor.

GAUS' BUGLE, newsletter of the N. B. Forrest CWRT, Murfreesboro, Tenn., suggests that Stone's River battlefield is the happy hunting ground for scavengers of cannon balls, minie balls and military metal. It is estimated that 338 tons of metal were scattered in the battle of Dec. 31, 1862 and Jan. 1 and 2 and that half of it is still there.

from the
Editor's pen



Dr. William M. Lamers' speech on Gen. William S. Rosecrans, the subject of his biography, *THE EDGE OF GLORY*, was a bubbling affair. Lamers began with an amusing allusion to the eve of St. Patrick's day and kept the humor flowing for more than an hour during the speech and discussion period. Most interesting was the story of his search for the Rosecrans papers and finding them intact in the hands of descendants in Los Angeles. Many hadn't been examined before and among them were Lincoln letters and letters from other famous persons of the day. Lamers dwelt on a number of Rosecrans' military actions, particularly Iuka. There Rosecrans was on time and Grant was late, and thenceforward Grant's behavior toward Rosecrans was less than kindly. Finally, Rosecrans was sidetracked to Missouri and then sent home. Thus, Lamers said, the best strategic mind of the Civil War was put on the shelf. The discussion touched on many facets and members will long remember Lamers' frequent assertion, "Don't take my word for it, check it in the Official Records."

* * *

Ninety members and guests attended the meeting. This was the occasion of some difficulty, since only seventy-five reservations had been made. Because it was Friday, the additional turnout put a strain on the number of fish orders available. Members are urged to make reservations, and also, if a member has made a reservation and can't attend, call Whitehall 4-3085 and cancel it.

THE AMERICAN M AWARD of Flick Reedy corporation, Bensenville, Ill., was presented to our member Frank Palumbo at a dinner party on January 19. The award was for Palumbo's work in assembling a collection of Civil War memorabilia and making it available for display without charge. Thousands of persons saw it on display at City Hall and at the Flick Reedy plant. Now it is on display through August 31 at the Museum of Science and Industry, one of Chicago's greatest attractions.

NEW YORK STATE and THE CIVIL WAR, February issue, tells the story of Abraham Lincoln's visits and speeches in the state in February, 1861, on his way to the inauguration at Washington. Among the stories is that of "How a Small Girl Wrote to a Tall Man and He Grew a Beard." The publication of the state's centennial commission devoted its January issue to the story of the Monitor which was built in a Brooklyn shipyard with iron fabricated in New York foundries.

SACRAMENTO CWRT has a most colorful and attractive heading for its stationery and announcements. Crossed flagstaves support the flags in full color of the Union and Confederacy. In front of each flag is a horseman in uniform, Union and Confederate. At the bottom is the California Republic flag - a red star, a bear on white and a bar of red at the bottom. President Merle Hussong designed it.

SEN. JOHN G. TOWER of Texas has been named a member of the national Civil War Centennial commission, to replace Sen. Carl T. Curtis of Nebraska.

Ready for Battlefield Tour



Dr. Tilberg Pointing to a Site at Antietam in 1952

Within a short time after preparations began for the 12th Annual Battlefield Tour, April 25-29, to Gettysburg, Antietam, and Harpers Ferry, more than 30 reservations had been made. And within the remaining time it is expected that the figure will rise to 60-70, the average number of members on previous tours.

BESIDES LEAFLETS in the tour packet, there are other excellent items that can be purchased at various points on the tour. In particular are the booklets of Gettysburg and Antietam, both written by Dr. Frederick Tilberg. Another is a booklet of Human Interest Stories, by Herbert L. Grimm and Paul L. Roy. Many items are obtainable at the Gettysburg National Museum, operated by George D. Rosensteel. The museum is near the Visitors Center, opposite the cemetery where Lincoln spoke, and houses the famed electric map of the battlefield, as well as other exhibits. Large scale maps are available at various places. The Lincoln room in the Wills house is only a few steps from our headquarters hotel.

The 1962 Battlefield Tour badge will have a pendant ribbon listing all previous tours:

- 1951 - Nashville to Cumberland Gap.
- 1952 - Gettysburg, Antietam, Harpers Ferry.
- 1953 - Richmond Battlefields.
- 1954 - Shiloh and Vicksburg.
- 1955 - Fredericksburg Battlefields.
- 1956 - Chattanooga to Atlanta.
- 1957 - Shenandoah Valley - Washington.
- 1958 - Nashville, Stones River, Franklin.
- 1959 - Charleston - Savannah.
- 1960 - Richmond - Petersburg - Appomattox.
- 1961 - Vicksburg - Port Gibson - Jackson.
- 1962 - Gettysburg, Antietam, Harpers Ferry.

Members will be provided with gold stars to affix beside each tour made. Hal Hixson, Ralph Newman, and Newton Farr are the only ones who can affix all of the stars.

Frederick, Maryland, has known the footsteps of Washington, Franklin, Jefferson, Braddock and Jackson - Andrew and "Stonewall." Nearby is the birthplace of Francis Scott Key, who wrote the "Star Spangled Banner". A monument at the entrance of Mount Olivet cemetery marks his grave. In the same cemetery is the grave of Barbara Fritchie, heroine of John Greenleaf Whittier's poem. The Francis Scott Key hotel is on a site that has been used for a hotel for more than a century and a half. The Barbara Fritchie house and museum is a block from the hotel. A number of members from Washington CWRT joined us at our meeting in the hotel on June 20, 1952, when Otto Eisenschiml was the speaker.

BULLETIN BOARD

CHARLES H. BOURNSTINE will represent Chicago Civil War Round Table at the meeting of the Sons of Union Veterans in Springfield on April 15 and will place a wreath at the Lincoln tomb in our behalf.

* * *

NEW MEMBERS: Lee Feldman, 7523 N. Damen Ave., Chicago 45; John E. B. Shaw, 3300 Lake Shore Dr., Chicago 13; Ronald F. Spiller, 452 W. 115th St., Chicago 28.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: D. L. Chambers to: 1321 N. Meridian, Indianapolis; Benedict Garmisa to: 3303 W. Crystal Ave., Chicago 51; Claire E. Graham to: 604 S. Waiola Ave., LaGrange, Ill.

DECEASED: Robert L. Floyd.

* * *

AVAILABLE at meetings: Gold finished CWRT lapel pin, \$1; Cloth patch of emblem, 50 cents.

AT HARPERS FERRY, where the waters of the Shenandoah flow into the Potomac, we will see the locale where nine times the railroad and highway bridge across the Potomac was destroyed during the Civil War, and nine times it was quickly rebuilt and put back into use. Boyd B. Stutler, one of our members who wrote an article about it for CIVIL WAR TIMES, said: "That constitutes a record of some kind - perhaps an all time record for the major bridge-building in one limited community. But not all of the wreckings can be laid to the heavy hand of war; floods washed away some make-shift structures. One such bridge was carried away after only a month of service, and another had a life of only a few days longer."

NEW ALBANY (Ind.) CWRT published an eight page issue of its newsletter, THE OLD SERGEANT, in observance of its 5th anniversary, Feb. 7. Fielder Myers, county musical director, a graduate of Illinois Wesleyan university, was honored as founder. Elsa Strassweg, first secretary of the group is secretary of the Indiana Civil War Centennial commission.

There were two units in the Union Army known as the "Iron Brigade." The more famous one was composed of the 19th Indiana and 2nd, 6th and 7th Wisconsin, with the 24th Michigan added later. It was first known as the "Black Hat Brigade." The less remembered one was an eastern unit made up of the 2nd U.S. Sharpshooters and the 22nd, 24th, 30th, and 84th New York. Both brigades were part of King's division at the Second Battle of Bull Run.

GETTYSBURG, Pa., encouraged by a state appropriation of \$100,000, is making plans for the commemorative program next year of the battle. A director and committees are at work.

"Because a newspaper correspondent described Grant as smoking a cigar during the battle (of Fort Donelson), the general became the recipient of so many boxes of cigars that he gave up pipe smoking for cigars" - THE CIVIL WAR, by Harry Hansen.

"Nations that forget their past must live it over again," Santayana.

THE NEW BOOKS



COMMANDERS OF THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, by Warren W. Hassler, Jr. Louisiana State, 320pp, \$6). Studies of seven leaders.

AN ACCOUNT OF THE BATTLE OF WILSON'S CREEK OR OAK HILLS, reissue of 1883 Holcomb and Adams book (Greene County Historical Society, M.P.O. Box 737, Springfield, Mo., \$3).

BERRY BENSON'S CIVIL WAR BOOK, Recollections of a Confederate Scout and Sharpshooters, edited by Susan Williams Benson (U. of Georgia, \$4).

LINCOLN AND MEN OF WAR TIMES, by A. K. McClure, edited by J. Stuart Torrey, with introduction by Earl Schenck Miers (Rolley & Reynolds, 275pp, \$4.50). Reprint of excellent 1892 book.

WALT WHITMAN'S MEMORANDA DURING THE WAR AND DEATH OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN, edited by Roy P. Basler (Indiana U., \$6.75).

CHAPLAIN DAVIS AND HOOD'S TEXAS BRIGADE, by Donald E. Everett (Principia Press, \$6).

WHO FIRED THE FIRST SHOT, by Ashley Halsey Jr. (Hawthorne, \$5).

DIARY OF A UNION LADY, by Harold E. Hammond (Funk & Wagnalls, \$3.95).

LION OF WHITEHALL, by Davis L. Smiley (U. of Wisconsin). Full length biography of Cassius Marcellus Clay.

TRANSPORT TO DISASTER, by James W. Elliott (Holt, Rinehart & Winston, \$4.50). Story of the Sultana sinking.

THE CIVIL WAR: THE ARTISTS' RECORD, by Hermann Warner William (Beacon Press, Boston, 268pp, \$12.50).

LINCOLN: A Contemporary Portrait, edited by Allan Nevins and Irving Stone (Doubleday, \$4.50).

BEAST BUTLER, by Robert Werlich (Quaker Press, Washington D. C., 160pp, \$3.95).

THE CIVIL WAR IN MIDDLE TENNESSEE 1861-1862, published by Nashville Banner, 36pp. Part II to be published next year.

NORTH CAROLINA SOLDIERS IN THE CIVIL WAR, Franklinville (N.C.) Book Store, 37pp, 50 cents.

THE CIVIL WAR IN THE WEST, Historical Society of Montana (Helena), 80pp, illus., \$1.

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The District of Columbia Civil War Commission, 910 17th St. N. W., Washington D. C., is publishing a map of Wartime Washington and booklet on Civilian Life in the Capital in Wartime.

CIVIL WAR NAVAL CHRONOLOGY, 1861-1865; Part II, 1862, has been issued by the U. S. Navy Department's History Division. It is loose leaf, 3 hole punch, for insertion with Part I in a blue loose leaf binder. Parts I and II and the binder can be obtained for a nominal sum from Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C. E.M. Eller, Rear Admiral USN (Ret.), director of Naval History, expressed thanks to Civil War centennial commission and Civil War Round Tables for help given and said to keep it coming for production of the parts covering 1863, 1864, and 1865.

Albert Sidney Johnston, a graduate of West Point, served a year as a private in the Texas Republic army. Later he became a general, and then was appointed secretary of war of the young republic.

FUTURE MEETINGS



Friday, May 11 - Everett Lewy on "Chickamauga." Annual meeting and election of officers.

Friday, June 15 - Donald L. Smith on "24th Michigan of the Iron Brigade." Installation of officers.

SPECIAL EVENTS

April 25-29 - Chicago CWRT, 12th Annual Battlefield Tour, to Gettysburg, Harpers Ferry, and Antietam.

April 6-7 - Pittsburg Landing, Tenn., Centennial of Battle of Shiloh, Harry S. Truman, speaker. First day of issue commemorative stamp.

April 8 - Tiptonville, Tenn., Taking of Island No. 10 commemoration.

April 10-11 - Fort Pulaski National Monument, Ga., centennial of battle.

April 12-14 - Atlanta to Chattanooga, Andrews Raid commemoration (The Great Locomotive Chase).

April 13-14 - Boise, Idaho, Pacific Northwest History Conference, "Did Western Gold Win the Civil War?"

April 14 - Indianapolis CWRT Battlefield Tour to Shiloh.

April 14 - Hopewell, Va., dedication of Appomattox Manor, Grant's headquarters.

April 15 - Springfield, Ill., Sons of Union Veterans at Lincoln Tomb.

April 28 - Washington D. C., commemoration of Andrew Raiders and Congressional Medal of Honor winners in the Civil War.

April 28 - Galena, Ill., 8th annual U. S. Grant pilgrimage for Boy Scouts and Explorers.

May 1 - Biloxi, Miss., commemoration at Beauvoir, home of Jefferson Davis.

May 1 - July 4 - Vicksburg, Miss., 99th anniversary of campaign and siege.

May 7 - Rogers, Ark., commemoration of Battle of Pea Ridge.

May 17-20 - New York CWRT 5th annual battlefield tour to Mosby country of Virginia. Headquarters, Willard Hotel, Washington D. C.



THE HIGHEST RANKING Jewish officer in the Civil War was Brig. Gen. Frederick Knefler of the Indiana volunteers. He was born in Hungary and fought under Gen. Kossuth. His family moved to the United States in 1850 and later he settled in Indianapolis, working as a carpenter, and then became a lawyer. He was a lieutenant in Shoup's Zouaves when the group became a part of the 11th Indiana volunteers. Knefler fought in West Virginia, at Fort Donelson, Shiloh, Perryville, Stone's River, and Chickamauga. He died at Indianapolis in 1901. From HARDTACK, Indianapolis CWRT.

Stephen Mallory, secretary of the navy, was the only member of the Roman Catholic faith in Jefferson Davis' cabinet. - Springfield (Ill.) CWRT.

The Lower Connecticut CWRT meets in four different cities in succession in its season.