John Lee Dyer Hopkins
By Douglas R. Knight

Sgt. John L.D. Hopkins—of whom I am lucky enough to have a photograph—served in Co. A, 58th Mass. Vet. Vol. Inf. Rgt.; he was the son of Isaac and Ruth Hopkins, and was born in Truro, Mass. in March 1843. He enlisted as a Private on 22 Dec. 1863, and trained at Readville, Mass.; he was mustered-in to Federal service as a Corporal on 12 Feb. 1864; he went to the front with his regiment on 28 Apr. 1864, which was assigned to the 1st Bde., 2nd Div., 9th Corps, Army of the Potomac. After a forced march across Northern Virginia in brutal heat, the 58th Mass. joined-up with the 9th Corps, and participated in the Battle of the Wilderness on 06 May 1864. Those members of the 58th Mass. who fell out of this forced march were either killed by Confederate guerillas (contrary to the laws of war), or they were captured by Confederate cavalry—and sent to the Confederate POW Camp at Andersonville... where most of them died of starvation and disease.

On 12 May 1864, then-Cpl. Hopkins participated in the charge of the 58th Mass. at Spotsylvania, where he was slightly wounded-in-action. On 03 Jun. 1864, Cpl. Hopkins participated in another great charge of the 58th Mass. at the Battle of Cold Harbor; this charge was highly praised in LTC William Fox's 'Regimental Losses in the American Civil War.' On 17 Jun. 1864, Cpl. Hopkins participated in yet another great charge of the 58th Mass., this time in the initial assault on Petersburg—where Potter's 2nd Div., 9th Corps actually broke the Confederate line, capturing one stand of colors, a three-gun battery, and 200 prisoners. . . but, because they were unsupported by another corps, the initial success amounted to nothing. On 30 Jul. 1864, Cpl. Hopkins participated in another great charge of the 58th Mass., this time at the Battle of the Crater—where, once again, the 9th Corps broke the enemy line, but was not properly supported. Cpl. Hopkins was again slightly wounded-in-action, and temporarily missing-in-action. When he returned to his unit, he was promoted to Sergeant.

On 30 Sep. 1864, Sgt. Hopkins participated in another great charge upon the Confederate lines with the 58th

(Continued on page 11)
Commander-in-Chief’s Message

Beautiful weather and a large attendance made the 54th annual Lincoln Tomb Ceremony in Springfield, Illinois highly successful. I laid a wreath on behalf of the Commander-in-Chief and I, along with Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) Commander-in-Chief (CinC) Leo Kennedy, provided a brief address on Abraham Lincoln during the commemoration. The MOLLUS Commandery-in-Chief flag was carried in the military parade and held during the ceremony by Illinois Companion and Commandery Treasurer Donald Sherman. In addition to the program, I, along with SUVCW CinC Kennedy and SUVCW Sons of Veterans Reserve Commanding Officer Bob Grim, was interviewed by a local Springfield television station about the commemoration and the significance of it to the country. The MOLLUS had representation at this commemoration from the California, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Michigan, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin Commanderies. There are only three national commemorations in which the Commandery-in-Chief participates: the celebration of Abraham Lincoln’s birthday in February in Washington, DC; the commemoration of his death in April in Springfield, Illinois; and the remembrance of his Gettysburg Address in November in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. We, as an organization, need to be more visible at these events with much greater Commandery participation. I wish to thank those Companions who were able to attend this most recent and important annual program.

In keeping with my new program of the Commander-in-Chief or, in his absence, other Commandery-in-Chief officers, visiting our Commanderies, the month of May will bring travels to three Commanderies, Michigan, New York, and Ohio by your Commander-in-Chief. Also, as of this writing, we are trying to arrange attendance by a
LOYAL LEGION HISTORICAL JOURNAL

The Publication of the military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States

Vol. 67, No. 2 Summer 2010

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WELCOME NEW COMPANIONS

The following Companions have joined the Military Order of the Loyal Legion since the Spring 2010 issue of the Journal. Commander-in-Chief Keith G. Harrison extends congratulations and a warm welcome to each one.

Captain James A. Simmons, Chancellor-in-Chief

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hereditary Companions</th>
<th>Insignia No.</th>
<th>Commandery</th>
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<tr>
<td>Gerardo Raymond Kennett</td>
<td>22526</td>
<td>Virginia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michael Alden Ludlow</td>
<td>22527</td>
<td>Pennsylvania</td>
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<tr>
<td>Caspar Carl Schneider, Jr.</td>
<td>22528</td>
<td>Texas</td>
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<td>Conrad Turner Schneider</td>
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<td>John Edward Schneider, Jr.</td>
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<td>Michael Kane Schneider</td>
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<td>Daniel Henry Heller</td>
<td>22532</td>
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<td>Alexander Coulter Oliphant IV</td>
<td>22533</td>
<td>Connecticut</td>
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<td>Samuel Lawrence Russell</td>
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<td>William Albert DeBarry</td>
<td>22535</td>
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<th>Associate Companions</th>
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<tr>
<td>Philip Gerard Olson</td>
<td>A240</td>
<td>Wisconsin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Angelo Anthony Sedacca</td>
<td>A241</td>
<td>New York</td>
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<td>Larry Dan Jordan</td>
<td>A242</td>
<td>Texas</td>
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</table>

Hereditary Membership Program

Our Hereditary Membership Program is in effect each fiscal year, October 1 through September 30. Here are the rules that apply to this program. Recruit a minimum of three (3) new Hereditary Companions and you will be rewarded with a Lincoln MOLLUS Certificate of Appreciation for meritorious service and a Lincoln Membership Medal of Honor presented by our current Commander-in-Chief. These two prestigious awards will be presented to you at our annual National Congress, the Lincoln Memorial Ceremony in Washington D.C. or at the Lincoln Tomb Ceremony in Springfield, Illinois. If you are unable to attend one of these three major functions, arrangements may be made to mail the certificate and medal to your home. This program is the lifeblood of our historic Military Order and will ensure our noble existence for countless generations to come.

MOLLUS WEBSITE
Loyal Legion Historical Journal is now online!
http://www.suvcw.org/mollus/mollus.htm

Remembering “MOLLUS” In Your Will

After you provide for your family and other matters, would you consider including a memorial gift in your will to our hallowed Order? Your gift to the Loyal Legion Memorial Fund, which is tax deductible, would be used to support the preservation of battlefields, monuments and programs that serve to memorialize the Civil War. In this way you would be perpetuating the memory of your Civil War ancestors and fellow companions.
Commandery-in-Chief officer to the Massachusetts Commandery due its date being the same as that of the Ohio Commandery. The purpose of these meetings is to afford Commandery-in-Chief officers the opportunity to sit down with your Commandery officers and members to see how we can help your Commandery grow and again become active in the state in which it resides. Again, I encourage you to provide the dates of your Commandery’s annual or other meetings to the Recorder-in-Chief in order that we can see if we can arrange to have in attendance a Commandery-in-Chief officer.

The Civil War Sesquicentennial is closely approaching. Did you know that the Commandery-in-Chief has a Sesquicentennial Committee (go to our website and check out all the officers and committees)? How is your Commandery going to be involved in this during the next five years? Does anyone even know in your state who or what the MOLLUS or Loyal Legion even is? It is solely up to your Commandery to educate your state powers-to-be on this and other significant relationships between this organization and the Civil War. It also is up to your Commandery to get involved. You will not have another opportunity like this in your lifetime to recruit members into this Order. National cannot do this for you. It is up to your Commandery to take the initiative.

Finally, as a reminder, in the last issue of the *Loyal Legion Historical Journal*, and currently on our national website, information is provided on the upcoming October 8 - 9, 2010 Congress in Grand Rapids, Michigan. The Michigan Commandery is hard at work to make this Congress a memorable event for the Order’s Companions. I encourage your attendance.

Keith G. Harrison
Commander-in-Chief

"Not all readers are leaders, but all leaders are readers."

Harry S. Truman, 33rd President of the United States and National Guard Citizen Soldier.

The Massachusetts Military Academy Officer Candidate School is currently building a Leadership Library for the 101st Regiment (Regional Training Institute) and requests your donation of books to add to the 50-plus volumes already on hand. Military and leadership non-fiction books, biographies, and references can be dropped off at the RTI 3rd Floor-South OCS TAC Shack.

POC is CPT John Macuga (john.macuga@us.army.mil) for book donations.

The 101st Regiment (RTI), also known as the Massachusetts Military Academy, is the oldest state run military academy and Officer Candidate School in the United States. It has served as the prototype after which all other state military academies and OCS programs have been modeled. Today, the 101st Regiment (RTI), Massachusetts Army National Guard is the premier military training facility in the Northeast.
**DC Commandery News**

The MOLLUS Gold ROTC Medal and Certificate was presented to Cadet James McClare with the Army ROTC Unit at Georgetown University, Washington, D.C. by Past Commander, DC MOLLUS, Peter Arrott Dixon. This annual award by MOLLUS is presented to an outstanding ROTC Cadet each year.

**MO Commandery News**

MO Commandery SVC Todd Wilkinson presenting the US Army Association's award for military history at the MSU ROTC Bear Battalion Awards Ceremony, 22 April 2010.

**IN Commandery News**

A former Commander in Indiana, Donald A. Morrison, Jr. passed away April 27, 2010. Donald was a longtime Recorder and moving force in the Commandery and Community. He was born to the late Donald and Edna (Krauss) Morrison. He was a graduate of Shortridge High School and Purdue University. He was the owner of L.E. Morrison & Co., a trunk manufacturing and luggage company. He was a Mass Mutual Life Insurance Agent until his retirement in 1996. Donald was a member and founder of St. Andrew Presbyterian Church. He was one of Highland Golf and Country Club's oldest members. He was a member of Phi Gamma Delta Fraternity, Military Order of the Loyal Legion, The American Legion John Holiday Post. He was the past president of the Downtown Optimist club and past president of Junto Club of Indianapolis in 1959. He was the Past Master of Mystic Tie Lodge. He was also member of Murat Shrine and the Scottish Rite. Donald was an Army Artillery Officer, Italian Campaign, 1943-1945. He was awarded two bronze stars for valor. Survivors include his son, Donald Morrison, III, (Mary Ellen); grandchildren, Paula Mullineux, Michael Morrison (Heather), Jon Morrison (Tanya), and David Morrison (Amy); 10 great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews; brothers-in-law, John Wynne (Barbara) and Bill Mohler. He was preceded in death by his wife, Mary E. (Wynne) Morrison; brother, Lewis Morrison (Dorothy); and sister, Mary Ann Mohler. Please visit www.leppertmortuary.com, where you can sign the guest book, or leave a message for the family.

**VA Commandery News**

What a great weekend it was at Four Oaks for the 145th Bentonville, NC re-enactment Battles on 20 & 21 March 2010. Great weather! A cast of 3,500

(Continued on page 6)
re-enactors, long lines for a hot dog, a portable toilet, and a turn to tour the Harper House, busy sutlers and perhaps 25,000 people in attendance for the Saturday events. The Union soldier shortage is a recurrent problem at Bentonville. Interested Yankees must travel many miles to get to the site. To deal with the Union shortfall, organizers allow any Federal units to join the battle up to the day of the event. Confederate units must earn their keep. Sometimes a Confederate soldier will don a navy blue jacket the first day to level out the numbers. In addition to the battles on Saturday and Sunday, re-enactors demonstrated how soldiers were treated in the field, how fabric was dyed, how meals were prepared and other representations of life back in the Civil War days. Many fine lectures were also available.

Dan Hopping, his brother and Dick Bishop visit the SUVCW and MOLLUS Recruiting Station at the Bentonville Battlefield during the Re-enactment. Note also that the MOLLUS Recruiting Booklets sent by Jeffry Burden were well received by interested visitors.

VA Commander Clifton Potter (front row, second from left) marches with other uniformed reenactors at the opening of the Chaplains Museum on January 19.

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Dan Hopping, his brother and Dick Bishop visit the SUVCW and MOLLUS Recruiting Station at the Bentonville Battlefield during the Re-enactment. Note also that the MOLLUS Recruiting Booklets sent by Jeffry Burden were well received by interested visitors.

Photo Credit Max Speers JR VC MG Thomas Howard Ruger Camp #1 Department of North Carolina.

Virginia Commander Clifton Potter and Companion Mark Day represented the Loyal Legion at the dedication of the National Civil War Chaplains Museum in Lynchburg on January 19. The museum, on the campus of Liberty University, is dedicated to the service of all chaplains of all faiths. A crowd of over 200 attended a ribbon-cutting and luncheon.

The VA Commandery awarded Medals of Merit to Army ROTC Cadets Adam Grover of the College of William & Mary, and Thomas Goodman of Christopher Newport University, members of those schools’ joint Revolutionary Guards Battalion, in a ceremony in Newport News on April 21. Companion Robert Krasche made the presentations. The day before, Army ROTC Cadets Jordan Furtado and Cheston Hickman of the University of Richmond’s Spider Battalion received awards recognizing their academic achievements and leadership potential during an awards even there. In a meeting on May 5, the Virginia Commandery welcomed two new Companions, making a total membership of eighty-five Companions of all types. The Companions there also voted to approve a letter from Commander Clifton Potter to Virginia Gov. Robert McDonnell, urging the Governor to proclaim April 2011 “Civil War Heritage Month.” Such a proclamation would recognize all Virginians (free and slave) involved in the Civil War, including the many thousands of them who served in the Union armies or supported the Union war effort.

Past Virginia Commander Robert Krasche presents the Medal of Merit to Cadet Adam Grover of the William & Mary.

Cadet Justin Furtado of the Spider Battalion holds the Medal and Certificate presented to him on April 20.

The VA Commandery, meeting in Richmond on November 19, voted to partner with two S.U.V.C.W. camps in the Richmond area to place a memorial marker on Belle Isle in the James River, near
downtown Richmond. The marker will honor the thousands of Union POWs who were imprisoned there from 1862 to 1865, and the many hundreds who died and were temporarily buried there. The project partners hope to have the marker fabricated and placed by early 2011.

**OH Commandery News**

Companions and Dames of the Ohio Commandery met at “Shaw’s Restaurant” in Lancaster, OH for their Spring/Summer meeting on May 22, 2010. The Commandery was honored to have Commander-in-Chief Keith Harrison present.

**MI Commandery News**

The Michigan Commandery proudly presented ROTC medals to cadets at the University of Michigan and Michigan State University as well as Eastern Michigan University.

Presenting the medals and certificates on behalf of the Commandery were Commander-in-Chief Keith Harrison and Commandery Senior Vice-Commander Walter Fred Roberts on April 15, 2010 in Ypsilanti, MI.

The historic Whitney, Detroit’s iconic mansion turned restaurant, provided a great setting for our annual business meeting on 1 May. The Whitney mansion is an impressive home on Woodward Avenue near downtown Detroit. The structure, completed in 1894, was designed for lumber baron David Whitney, Jr. and described by one newspaper account in 1894 as "the most elaborate and substantial residence in this part of the country." Created in the Romanesque style by respected Detroit architect Gordon W. Lloyd, the structure is built of South Dakota Jasper, a rare variety of pink granite which gives the outside of the House a striking rose hue. The exterior features a multi-gabled roof and arched windows that add drama to the, already, luxurious facade. The 21,000 square foot home has 52 rooms, 218 windows, 20 fireplaces, a secret vault in the original dining room and an elevator. Construction took four years at a cost of $400,000. The flag of the Commandery-in-Chief was joined by that of the Michigan Commandery at two ceremonies conducted in Niles, Michigan on Saturday, 8 May. The first ceremony was to recognize the service of MOLLUS Companion and Brigadier General Henry A. Morrow (24th Michigan, Iron Brigade and U.S. Volunteers). During the ceremony, Commander-in-Chief Keith G. Harrison placed a flag in the new flag holder that was placed by the grave of Morrow. (Lt. Col. Frank Graves, 8th Michigan Infantry, was also presented with a new flag holder and flag as the gravestone is a dual marker for both men.)

Following this service, the Commandery participated in a rededication ceremony for a newly restored 100-pdr. Parrott rifled cannon. During this ceremony a new historical interpretive sign was unveiled that included information on the cannon, the Civil War-era training grounds called Camp Barker and a short regimental history on the 12th Michigan Infantry. Commander-in-Chief Harrison presented a wreath on behalf of the Commandery and eight of his ancestors that served in the 12th.
Greetings Companion, Dames and guests:

The Commandery of the State of Michigan proudly welcomes you to Grand Rapids, Michigan for the 125th National Congress to be held 8-10 October 2010.

The primary purpose of this Congress will assuredly focus on the business of the Order as we address many new and important issues that are geared to helping the Loyal Legion grow. At the same time, we will pay proper respect to those that have gone before us in an effort to blend the past, present and future. We have planned for you an exciting program in a city and state proud of its Civil War history.

The headquarters of the Commandery-in-Chief will be the Grand Rapids Holiday Inn (Airport); 3063 Lake Eastbrook Blvd., Kentwood, MI, 49512

Toll free: 800-465-4329

Direct phone: 616-285-7600

A block of one King bedroom or two Double bed rooms have been reserved for this Congress. The price for either room is $94/night plus tax (approximately 14%).

When reserving a room, please state you are with the Michigan Commandery of MOLLUS.

Free shuttle service is available from the Gerald R. Ford International Airport.

Some of the amenities the hotel offers include indoor pool, fitness center, convenience shop, and free high-speed Internet service in all guestrooms and meeting space. The hotel is full-service located just blocks from two shopping malls, various restaurants, and a cinema two blocks away. The property has an on-site restaurant called Grille 29 as well as a lounge area.

For more information about the hotel and travel directions, please visit:

For more information on area attractions, please visit:
http://www.visitgrandrapids.org/visit.php
The Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States
125th National Congress—8 & 9 October 2010
Grand Rapids, Michigan

Event Announcement and Registration Form

MOLLUS/DOLLUS Congress Registration Fee ($50/person) No. ____ $ ________
Required for all Companions, Dames, & Guests

Please indicate which MOLLUS functions you plan to attend:

Friday, 8 October 2010

7:00 PM Welcome Reception ($45/person) No. ____ $ ________
Executive Deli Buffet will be served in the Traverse/Petoskey Room

Saturday, 9 October 2010

7:00 AM Breakfast (included in registration fee) No. ____ $ ________
Continental style available (room to be announced)

11:00 PM Lunch
Choices: Grilled Ham & Swiss Panini ($25) No. ____ $ ________
Chicken Salad Croissant ($25) No. ____ $ ________

2-5:00 PM Bus tour of Civil War related historical sites No. ___
Meet in hotel lobby to board tour bus at 1:45 PM (Cost included in registration fee)

7:30 PM Dinner with the “Lincoln’s” formal banquet
In Select Center I with black tie, uniform with decorations, and/or period clothing
Choices: Stuffed chicken ($60) No. ____ $ ________
New York Strip ($60) No. ____ $ ________

Sunday, 10 October 2010 Breakfast on your own

Total enclosed $ ________

Please make checks payable to “MOLLUS MI” and send to:
Bruce B. Butgereit/2010 Congress 1691 Summerfield St. Grand Rapids, MI 49508-6499

Name: ____________________________ Commandery/Society: ____________________________

Additional Name(s): ________________________________________________________________

Phone: ___________________________ Email: __________________________________________

Special Needs/Menu Allergies: ______________________________________________________
125th National Congress – 8 & 9 October 2010 – Grand Rapids, MI

Headquarters, Commandery-in-Chief
Circular No. 1 11 February 2010
Series 2010
Whole Number 585
I. The One Hundred and Twenty-Fifth Annual Meeting of the Commandery-in-Chief will be held in Grand Rapids, Michigan on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, 8, 9, and 10 October 2010 for the transaction of such business as may properly come before the meeting. Headquarters will be at the Holiday Inn (Airport), Grand Rapids, Michigan.

PROGRAM

Friday, 8 October 2010
II. Registration for the One Hundred Twenty-Fifth Annual Meeting of the Commandery-in-Chief will be held from 12:00 to 5:00 PM at the Grand Rapids Holiday Inn (Airport), 3063 Lake Eastbrook Blvd., Grand Rapids, Michigan.
III. The Trustees of the Loyal Legion Memorial Fund will meet from 4:30 to 5:30 PM at the Grand Rapids Holiday Inn.
IV. A welcome dinner will be held from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM in the Traverse/Petoskey Room. A reception with cash bar will open at 6:30 PM in the same room. Musical entertainment will be provided by the Grand Rapids Schubert Male Chorus.
V. At 9:30 PM, all Congress attendees are welcome to share in a “Taste of Michigan” ice cream social in the Commander-in-Chief’s suite.

Saturday, 9 October 2010
VI. Breakfast at the Grand Rapids Holiday Inn, Grand Rapids, Michigan from 7:00 to 7:45 AM.
VII. The Congress will convene promptly at 8:00 AM. MOLLUS will meet in the Traverse/Petoskey Room and DOLLUS will meet in the Charlevoix Room.
VIII. A joint luncheon at 12:00 PM in the Grille 29 restaurant at the Grand Rapids Holiday Inn.
IX. Assemble at 1:45 PM in hotel lobby for a bus tour of four (4) Civil War-related historical sites within the City of Grand Rapids, Michigan. Interactive tour will be from 2:00 PM to 5:00 PM.
X. The formal banquet, “Dinner with the Lincoln’s” will be from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM. A reception with cash bar will open at 6:30 PM. Black tie or military uniform with decorations. Period uniform and dress is welcome. President Abraham Lincoln and First Lady Mary Todd Lincoln will be portrayed by Fred and Bonnie Priebe.
XI. At 10:00 PM, all Congress attendees are welcome to share in a beverages and snacks “Taste of Michigan” in the Commander-in-Chief’s suite.

Sunday, 10 October 2010
XII. Breakfast on your own.
XIII. Check out and departure up to 12:00 noon.

By Command of
Keith G. Harrison
Commander-in-Chief
Official John Kent Kane I
Recorder-in-Chief

2010 MOLLUS Congress update:
Several new discount airlines now provide service at the Gerald R. Ford International airport. They include AirTran and Allegiant Air. For more on what airlines are available and from what cities, please visit: http://www.grr.org/DestCarry.php
Mass., this time at Poplar Springs Church (aka Poplar Grove Church). Several regiments of the 2nd Div., 9th Corps were surrounded by a counter-attack of five confederate brigades, supported by a field artillery battery.

The regiments of the 9th Corps fought as best they could until obliged to surrender or be slaughtered. Sgt. Hopkins was shipped to the Confederate POW Camp at Salisbury, N.C. along with nearly 100 other members of the 58th Mass. Suffering from the effects of starvation and disease, he was admitted to the prison hospital in late Jan. 1865. On 12 Feb. 1865--Pres. Abraham Lincoln's last birthday--Sgt. Hopkins died of starvation and disease, and was buried in a mass grave, along with 11,700 other Federal POWs at Salisbury. By all accounts, the conditions at Salisbury were absolutely appalling.

After the Civil War, a cenotaph was erected to the memory of JOHN L.D. HOPKINS in the Truro, Mass., Congregational Churchyard Cemetery--which is 'flagged' every Memorial Day by his devoted descendant. The cenotaph reads: 'Sgt. John L.D. Hopkins, Co. A, 58th Rgt., Mass. Vols., d. in Salisbury Prison, N.C., 12 Feb. 1865 aged 21 yrs, 11 mos. With patriotic ardor, he obeyed the call of his country in her hour of peril. Bravery and fidelity characterized him as a soldier. With patience he endured martyrdom in her cause. With resignation and hope he committed himself to God, who hears the sighing of the prisoner [of war].'

In a mere 11 months of near constant combat, the 58th Mass. lost 10 Officers and 129 Enlisted Men who were killed or mortally-wounded-in-action, for a total of 139 combat fatalities. The 58th Mass. lost another 89 men who died in Confederate POW Camps, namely Andersonville and Salisbury. I am fortunate enough to have a Membership Medal of the 58th Mass. Veterans Association--of which John L.D. Hopkins would have been a member, had he not died in a Confederate P.O.W. Camp in 1865. NOTE: Sgt. John L.D. Hopkins was a direct descendant of Stephen Hopkins of the Mayflower; and, Stephen Hopkins was an 'FFV' for having first settled at Jamestown, Virginia in 1610--after having been shipwrecked on Bermuda (while en route to Jamestown) in 1609-1610.

*****Please Note: Anyone seeking information on the military service of their Massachusetts or New Hampshire Civil War ancestor/s should please feel free to contact me, as I will have that information in my extensive personal library, which includes:

1. 'Massachusetts Soldiers, Sailors, and Marines in the Civil War' (nine volumes, published in the 1930s);
2. 'Massachusetts in the Army and Navy, 1861-1865' (two volumes, published in the 1890s);
3. 'The Record of the Massachusetts Volunteers, 1861-1865' (two volumes, published in 1868 and 1870);
4. 'The Revised Register of New Hampshire Soldiers and Sailors in the War of the Rebellion' (1895);
5. 'The Register of New Hampshire Soldiers and Sailors in the War of the Rebellion' (1866);
6. 'Regimental Losses in the American Civil War' (1889);
7. MA & NH Adjutant General's Reports (1861-1866);
8. Shebnah Rich's 'Truro, Cape Cod' (1883); and,
9. many other highly authoritative and Official works, as well as many unit histories--including a copy of
10. Frederick E. Cushman's 'History of the 58th Regiment, Massachusetts Volunteers' (Washington, DC: Gibson Brothers, Printers, 1865)...

which, by the way, has (in August 2007) been reprinted... and is available for purchase on
www.abebooks.com,
www.amazonbooks.com, and

N.B.: Please feel free to join my Yahoo Chat-Group: 9th Corps Veterans (Descendants of Veterans of the 9th Corps).

PLEASE NOTE: Anyone desiring to communicate with me is welcome to do so at:
DOUGLASS R. KNIGHT, Post Office Box 955, Salem, N.H. 03079. Thank you.
Companions & Dames,

The printer has reported only a $10 difference between having the Journal mailed flat vs. folded and tabbed. In a situation when we have 20 pages, the Journal is unable to be folded and tabbed due to the bulkiness. Therefore, going forward we will continue to mail flat. This makes it easier to preserve, file away, and gives a better presentation. Any comments or concerns should be addressed to MOLLUSJOURNAL@aol.com email or at the Congress in the Fall.

I extend a heartfelt thank you to those that have inquired about my recent health injuries. In March, I suffered a severe injury to my brachial plexus nerve bundle which has left me partially paralyzed on one shoulder and the opposite hand. This has resulted in much therapy and many doctor visits each week.

Please remember to use the official MOLLUS Journal email:

MOLLUSJOURNAL@aol.com

and please take the time to reset your email address books.

When submitting items electronically for use in the MOLLUS Historical Journal please remember to send WORD or RTF documents and JPG photos as I cannot open other file types. If you mail your pictures and articles please be sure to type your text so we can eliminate errors that come from interpreting handwriting.

The deadlines for 2010 are as follows:

Fall Issue August 15
Winter Issue November 15

Loyally,
Robert E. Rock

Correction from Vol. 67, No 1: is on page 4 of Commandery news. The article about "Lincoln Day" belongs to the MA Commandery, not VA, although it is true that the speaker was from the University of VA.
Origins of the Challenge Coin
In the USA

MOLLUS Coins Now Available
By Adam P. Flint

Like so many other aspects of military tradition, the origins of the challenge coin are a matter of much debate with little supporting evidence. While many organizations and services claim to have been the originators of the challenge coin, the most commonly held view is that the tradition began in the United States Army Air Service.

Air warfare was a new phenomenon during World War I. When the army created flying squadrons they were manned with volunteer pilots from every walk of civilian life. While some of the early pilots came from working class or rural backgrounds, many were wealthy college students who withdrew from classes in the middle of the year, drawn by the adventure and romance of the new form of warfare.

As the legend goes, one such student, a wealthy lieutenant, ordered small, solid-bronze medallions (or coins) struck, which he then presented to the other pilots in his squadron as mementos of their service together. The coin was gold-plated, bore the squadron’s insignia, and was quite valuable. One of the pilots in the squadron, who had never owned anything like the coin, placed it in a leather pouch he wore around his neck for safekeeping. A short while later, this pilot’s aircraft was heavily damaged by ground fire (other sources claim it was an aerial dogfight), forcing him to land behind enemy lines and allowing him to be captured by the Germans. The Germans confiscated the personal belongings from his pockets, but they didn’t find the leather pouch around his neck. On his way to a permanent prisoner of war facility, he was held overnight in a small German-held French village near the front. During the night, the town was bombarded by the British, creating enough confusion to allow the pilot to escape.

The pilot avoided German patrols by donning civilian attire, but all if his identification had been confiscated so he had no way to prove his identity. With great difficulty, he crept across no-man’s land and made contact with a French patrol. Unfortunately for him, the French had been on the lookout for German saboteurs dressed as civilians. The French mistook the American pilot for a German saboteur and immediately prepared to execute him. Desperate to prove his allegiance and without any identification, the pilot pulled out the coin from his leather pouch and showed it to his French captors. One of the Frenchmen recognized the unit insignia on the coin and delayed the execution long enough to confirm the pilot’s identity.

Once the pilot safely returned to his squadron, it became a tradition for all members to carry their coin at all times. To ensure compliance, the pilots would challenge each other to produce the coin. If the challenged couldn’t produce the coin, he was required to buy a drink of choice for the challenger; if the challenged could produce the coin, the challenger would purchase the drink. If you as a MOLLUS member are challenged at a future gathering, make sure you have your MOLLUS challenge coin, or the drink will be on you. Get yours today, now available on the merchandise order form on the back page of this newsletter.


A Toast To George Morris of Hartford, Conn., who is popularly given the credit of suggesting "Flag Day," the occasion being in honor of the adoption of the American flag on June 14, 1777. The city of Hartford observed the day in 1861, carrying out a program of a patriotic order, praying for the success of the Federal arms and the preservation of the Union.
Fenwick Y. Hedley, Brevet-Captain, U.S.V.

The MO Commandery of MOLLUS has been contacted by Fenwick Y. Hedley's relative (a first cousin) in Scotland. Fenwick was an original Companion of the MO MOLLUS. From the MOLLUS records, Fenwick Yellowley Hedley, Brevet Captain, 1st Lieutenant and Adjutant, 32nd IL Infantry USV, was born March 2, 1844 in Berwick-on-the Tweed in Scotland. After the Civil War he was the editor and publisher of the Bunker Hill Gazette from 1866 until 1898 in Bunker Hill, IL. Fenwick was living in St. Louis, MO in 1901, but died on January 7, 1924 in New York City. This is the first of a four part series featuring Fenwick's work in 2010.

The greatest stress was laid upon the use of the musket, and this was the young soldier's severest experience. To begin with, the arms were old muzzle-loaders—muskets of Mexican War days, altered from flint-lock to percussion, or obsolete Austrian or Belgian guns, heavy and clumsy. The manual of arms, as laid down in the text-book of the time, Hardee's "School of the Soldier," was complicated and wearisome. In particular, the operation of loading and firing involved numerous counted "motions"—handling the cartridge (from the cartridge-box), biting off its end, inserting it in the gun-barrel, drawing the ramrod, ramming the cartridge home, returning the ramrod, and placing the percussion cap upon the gun-nipple. This feat (or series of feats) required much practice. The musket was to rest upon the ground, immediately in front of the soldier, and exactly perpendicular. Its excessive length made it impossible for a short man to draw and return his ramrod in precise manner, and, in either act, he frequently interfered with the man upon his right, breaking the symmetry of the movement, and provoking language forbidden by the "Articles of War."

Further, the men were diligently drilled in firing—by file and by company, to the front, to the right oblique, to the left oblique, and to the rear. But most awkward and wearisome of all was the bayonet exercise, requiring acrobatic agility, while the great length of the musket and fixed bayonet rendered the weapon almost impracticable except in the hands of one above the average stature. As a matter of fact, all of the accomplishments thus particularized—methods of loading and firing, and bayonet exercise—fell into disuse with entrance upon actual field-service, as having no practical worth.

With such preparation and such equipment, the soldiers marched to their first battle. The experience of a single regiment was that of thousands. The drums sound the "long roll," or the bugle "the assembly," and companies form and march to the regimental color-line. A few moments later the regiment marches forward until the first scattering fire of the foe is received. Sometimes the antagonists are visible; often but few are seen, but their presence is known by the outburst of flame and smoke from a fringe of forest. The regiment forms in line of battle, and at the word of command from the colonel, passed from company to company, opens fire. No thought now of manual of arms, but only of celerity of movement and rapidity of fire. Shouted a gallant officer who at home (as he was in the field, the war through) an exemplary Christian gentleman, "Load as fast as you can, and give them the devil!" The battle is now on in earnest, and the discharge of thousands of muskets becomes a roar. The range is not more than two hundred yards—sufficient for antiquated weapons carrying a nearly three-quarter-inch ball and three buckshot. It

(Continued on page 15)
may be here remarked that early in 1862 practically all the obsolete muskets were replaced with Springfield or Enfield rifles, the former of American, the latter of English make, and the best of their day. They were shorter and lighter than the discarded arms, well balanced, and of greater efficiency, carrying an elongated ball of the Minnie pattern, caliber .58, with a range of a thousand yards.

At times the regiment shifts its position, to right or left, sometimes diminishing the distance. During much of the time the men experience heavy artillery as well as musketry fire. At the outset a lad threw away a pack of cards, saying, "I don't know they would bring me any bad luck, but I wouldn't want to be killed and have them found in my pocket, and mother hear of it." He lived the war through, but never again so disburdened himself. A grape-shot tore off the end of a lad's gun as he was capping it. He finished the operation, discharged his weapon, and recovered it for reloading, to find that, while the ragged muzzle would receive the powder, it would not admit the ball. "Don't that beat the devil," he exclaimed—his very first use of language he was taught to abhor. On the instant he had grasped another gun from the hands of a comrade by his side. A youth, in a regiment which had lost nearly half its men, his ammunition exhausted, fell back into a ravine where the wounded had crawled, to replenish from their cartridge boxes. Returning, he saw so few of his comrades that he thought the regiment gone, and started for the rear. He came face to face with the colonel, who called out, "Where are you going?" "To find the regiment!" "Well, go to the front! All that are left are there," said the colonel. "All right," responded the lad, and he again went into action.

The first battle was a great commencement which graduated both heroes and cowards. A few, under the first fire, ran away, and are only known on their company rolls as deserters. An elbow comrade of the lad whose gun was shot away, as told of above, ran from the field, and died the next day, from sheer fright. Men were known to fire their muskets into the ground, or skyward. In various battles scores of muskets were found to contain a half-dozen or more charges, the soldier having loaded his gun again and again without discharging it, and many a tree in Southern forests held a ramrod which had been fired into it by some nervous soldier. A great majority of those who had demonstrated their worthlessness soon left the service, usually under a surgeon's certificate of disability, for they were generally so lacking in pride as to be unconformable to health-preserving habits. There were, however, some who fell short at first, but eventually proved themselves good soldiers, and the great majority of volunteers were pluck personified. A soldier who saw the war through from beginning to end has said that he knew only two men who actually enjoyed a battle. The majority held to their place in the line from duty and pride. Except among the sharpshooters, charged with such a duty as picking off artillerists or signalmen, few soldiers have knowledge that they ever actually killed a man in battle, and are well satisfied with their ignorance.

More than thirty years after the war, an Illinoisan went into the heart of Arkansas to bury a favorite sister. After the funeral service, in personal conversation with the attending minister, Northerner and Southerner discovered that, in one of the fiercest battles of the first war year, their respective regiments had fought each other all day long; that they were similarly engaged in the severest battle of the Atlanta campaign, and finally in the last battle in North Carolina, in 1865; also that, in the first of these, as determined by landmarks recognized by each, the two men had probably been firing directly at each other.

SOLDIER LIFE

THE SCHOOL OF THE SOLDIER

These drummer-boys of the Eighth Regiment of the National Guard of the State of New. York were photographed in the '50s, wearing their Mexican War uniforms. The boys of this regiment went to the front in these same uniforms and marched throughout the war.
Military Order of the Loyal Legion
Keith Harrison
4209 Santa Clara Drive
Holt, MI 48842

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

NOTICE
The Spring Issue of
The Loyal Legion Journal
Will be published in
September 2010

EDITORIAL DEADLINE IS
August 15, 2010

Please email all material to:
Robert E. Rock
MOLLUSJournal@aol.com

MERCHANDISE ORDER FORM

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*Vermeil (Gold on Sterling Silver) Questions on supplies and orders should be sent to Adam P. Flint at Adampflint@aol.com