The First Officer Killed!

Ephraim E. Ellsworth

Born in Saratoga County, NY, April 23, 1837, he was killed at Alexandria, VA, May 24, 1861. He early displayed a taste for a military life, and sought to enter West Point as a cadet. Lacking political influence, he entered a store in Troy, and afterward in NY City. In 1855 he removed to Chicago, entered a law office as student, and soon achieved an honorable position.

His martial tendencies being still strong, he connected himself with a military company. He soon became its Captain, and infused new life in it by adopting the dress, drill and practices of the French Zouaves, as illustrated by that arm of the service in the Crimean War. His company, known as the Chicago Zouave Cadets, were sworn to total abstinence from liquor, tobacco and all excesses. Profanity was made a ground for dismissal, and chivalrous courtesy at all times exacted. About this time he entered the law office of Abraham Lincoln, then practicing law in Springfield, Illinois.

The reputation won by his company of Zouave Cadets, and the desire of the public to witness the peculiar drill, led to invitations to visit the Eastern cities, and in 1860 he complied with this request. In NY, he gave an exhibition drill in the city hall park before 8,000 spectators. He was commissioned Second Lieutenant in the Army early in 1861, and, when volunteers were called for, he resigned his commission in the Army, went to NY, and from the firemen of that city organized a regiment of 1,000 men, who, accustomed to exposure, hard work and extreme vigilance, proved excellent material for active service, especially under the peculiar drill and discipline adopted by Colonel Ellsworth. This regiment was known as the NY Fire Zouaves, and on the 29th of April, 1861 sailed for Washington, and on the 24th of May occupied Alexandria, VA.

Before going into camp, and while engaged in destroying means of communication southward by railroad and telegraph, Colonel Ellsworth, accompanied by a small guard, caught sight of a Confederate flag flying from the Marshall House.

Determined to capture it, he entered the house, mounted to the roof, tore down and secured the flag, and on his way to the street was shot down by J. W. Jackson, the proprietor of the hotel. Private Francis E. Brownell, one of his guards, immediately raised his rifle, shot Jackson through the head, and by the next movement thrust his bayonet through the body before it had fallen from the step.

Colonel Ellsworth’s body was carried to the White House in Washington, where the funeral service

(Continued on page 12)
Commander-in-Chief’s Message

Commander-in-Chief Message

Slightly overcast skies and some rain impacted on the 55th annual Lincoln Tomb Ceremony in Springfield, Illinois; however, the event still was highly successful. I laid a wreath on behalf of the Commandery-in-Chief and I, along with Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) Command-in-Chief Brad Schall, provided a brief address on Abraham Lincoln during the commemoration. The MOLLUS Commandery-in-Chief flag was carried in the military parade and was present on the podium along with the SUVCW Commandery-in-Chief’s and SUVCW Sons of Veterans Reserve flags. Registrar-in-Chief Adam Flint served as the Master of Ceremonies. The MOLLUS had representation at this commemoration from the California, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Texas, and Wisconsin Commanderies. Following the ceremony, everyone partook in a luncheon. Pictures of the commemoration and the luncheon are on the MOLLUS website (http://suvcw.org/mollus/molid.htm).

The Civil War Sesquicentennial is now upon us. I am hopeful that all Commanderies are actively participating in this commemoration. Our whole existence is premised on the Civil War and for any Commandery not to be doing something is unthinkable. Did you know that the Commandery-in-Chief has a Sesquicentennial Committee? Go to our website and check out all the officers and committees. Let this committee know what your Commandery is doing. Also, when you present your annual reports at the Congress, provide a summary of your Commandery’s Civil War Sesquicentennial

(Continued on page 7)
WELCOME NEW COMPANIONS

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

Hereditary Companions Insignia No.
Commandery
Linn William Malaznik California 22548 15 Feb 11
John Logan MacConnell Virginia 22549 15 Feb 11
Donald Braden Schall Jr. Connecticut 22550 21 Mar 11
Major Thomas D. Taylor Connecticut 22551 21 Mar 11
David Michael Loomis Ohio 22552 10 Apr 11
Theodore Rex Legler II Virginia 22553 12 May 11

Associate Companion Insignia No.
Commandery
John Charles Darrow New York A247 11 May 11

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.

Remembering “MOLLUS” In Your Will

After you provide for your family and other matters, would you consider including a memorial gift in you 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.
Award of the Meritorious Service Medal
The Meritorious Service Medal is designed to recognize significant achievement in an area of interest to the Legion. Companion Bayard R. Lincoln has, in each and every year since 1973, contacted the Professors of Military Science at Northeastern University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the University of Massachusetts. He has obtained the names of recommended cadets, ordered the MOLLUS medals, have them engraved, obtained checks for the cash awards and the presentation certificates. Either in person or with assistance, he has insured the smooth process of the MOLLUS portion of the award ceremony and proper recording of the winners.

Because for over 37 years, with five cadets each year receiving the awards, he has made known the values of the Military Order of the Loyal legion of the United States to over 185 of the nation’s finest young men and women, the MOLLUS Meritorious Service Medal is awarded to Bayard R. Lincoln.

Fred Stevens & Bayard R. Lincoln

OBITUARY
John Robert Taft Sr.

TAFT, John Robert A resident of Duxbury for over 50 years, passed away on February 26. Mr. Taft was born in Cornwall-on-Hudson, NY, where he attended local schools and The Storm King School. He was an alumnus of MIT, Class of 1944, and had a long career as a professional engineer, including working on the design of the earliest nuclear powered submarines and atomic power plants. Mr. Taft was an officer in the US Navy for both World War II and the Korean Conflict. He was aboard the USS Iowa in Tokyo Bay where it was moored adjacent to the USS Missouri when the Japanese surrender ceremony took place. He served in the Naval Research Reserve for thirty years. He also served on many local Duxbury boards and committees, including the Capital Budget Committee, the Council of Churches, the Bike Path Committee, and the Republican Town Committee. He was an active member of the MIT Alumni Association, the Duxbury ExNavos and the Military Order of the Loyal Legion, a group of descendants of Civil War Union Officers dedicated to preserving the history of that period. Mr. Taft was an accomplished sailor who served as Commandant of the MIT Sailing Club. Through the years, he spent many happy hours sailing in Duxbury Bay and along the New England Coast. He was married for 49 years to the late Mary Malvina Hopkins Taft and is survived by his children, Georgia Taft Pye and her husband James Taylor Pye of Duxbury, Marjorie Taft of Stratham, NH, Arthur T. Taft and his wife Linda Frech Taft of Greensboro, NC, John K. Taft and his wife Lori Nazar Taft of Chapel Hill, NC, and Roberta Taft Putney and her husband Andrew T. Putney of Plympton. He also leaves ten grandchildren and five nieces and nephews, including Christopher Knapp Taft of Maynard and Alexander Gunn Taft and family of Stow. Burial will be private and a Memorial Service is planned for May 21, 2011 at Pilgrim Church in Duxbury. In lieu of flowers, contributions in his memory may be made to the Trustees of Partridge Academy, PO Box 2552, Duxbury, MA 02331, for the Molly Hopkins Taft Scholarship, or to Duxbury Bay Maritime School, P.O. Box 263A, Duxbury, MA 02331. To offer condolences please visit www.shepherdfuneralhome.com Shepherd Funeral Home, KINGSTON.
PA Commandery News

ROTC Awards Program Grows
The Pennsylvania Commandery has been making an effort to expand our ROTC awards program as part of our outreach. Several years ago we were appearing only at Drexel. That expanded to five colleges. This year we have had a massive increase in major part to contact information provided by the Society of the War of 1812 group which also has an awards program. We provided medals and certificates to 12 colleges, and at several we awarded to several services to bring our award total to 15 for the season just ending.

The program was coordinated by Treasurer, Tee Adams (videoboss@aol.com). Presenters included Bob Lynch, Richard Smith, Mitchell Schmidt, Joe Coleman, Andy Waskie and Drew Techner. They were backed up by Adam Flint who provided the medals and Jack Kane who creates the certificates. Those were signed by our Commander, Joe Coleman, and Recorder, Jim Loudon before being sent on to the colleges.

ROTC awards are a very satisfying program to administer. The colleges and cadets are thrilled to have our participation. Our members are well received when they go out to present. Only issue is the contact person at the colleges keeps being rotated to other duties and that is where the 1812 information collected by their awards coordinator, Sam Hoff was invaluable. If other states want to ramp up their programs, I bet we could get some contact info for you as well.

We grew so fast this year that we had to let several colleges staff members present this year. They were OK with that, but there’s a job opportunity for next year. We are always looking for more help to attend the events and present to a PA college with an ROTC program.

Photo of MOLLUS-PA’s Bob Lynch presents the ROTC award to Carnegie Mellon Navy Midshipman 3/c Matthew Burnett at an awards event on April 20 on the campus.

VA Commandery News

The Virginia Commandery awarded five ROTC Medals of Merit to cadets at three ARMY ROTC battalions in the Commonwealth. For the first time, a student at Mary Washington College’s “Virginia Women’s Institute for Leadership” (VWIL) -- Victoria Barrett -- received the award on April 5th. Companion Edmund Potter organized the Commandery’s participation with MWC, and presented the award. On April 8th, Cadets Benjamin Luedtke of the College of William & Mary, and Keith Mincey of Christopher Newport University, received medals and certificates from Companion Jack Kane. Their two schools comprise the Revolutionary Guards Battalion. And, two of the University of Richmond’s finest cadet underclassmen, Alexander Tellez and Ulyana Pivovarova, were recognized the “Spider Battalion” award ceremony on April 8th.

Photo is of Cadet Pivovarova

(Continued on page 6)
Companion Mark Day represented the MOLLUS at the April 2nd dedication of the first-ever regimental memorial to be placed at Pamplin Historical Park near Petersburg. The marker to the 6th Maryland Infantry (US) honors one of the units that spearheaded the breakthrough there on April 2, 1865 that led to the fall of Richmond. Mark is shown with the sculptor, Gary Casteel (left), and SUVCW Department of Maryland Commander Gene Mortorff (center).

**OH Commandery News**

On April 10, 2011 Mollus members of the Ohio Commandery attended the kick-off to the Civil War sesquicentennial in Columbus, Ohio. With 100 reenactors & 200 spectators, the days events were sponsored by the Ohio National Guard, the Ohio Society, the Capital Square Review, reenactors from the Army of Ohio, and the Camp Chase Fife and Drum Corps. Special guests included Adj. General of Ohio, Maj. Gen. Deborah Ashenhurst, Ohio Historical Society Executive Director Logan, and of course President Lincoln. Ohio Commandery members honoring this day included Commander Keith Ashley, Recorder, PCinC Gordon Bury, Journal Editor Robert Rock, along with DOLLUS members State President Lynne Bury, Elizabeth Rock, and Madeline Rock. Following the ceremony, members were able to tour the State House, view the special displays, and enjoy dinner and fellowship.

On May 7th the Ohio Commandery sponsored a mini symposium open to the public in Hudson, OH. After the 29th O.V.I. posted the colors, guests enjoyed listening to Marjorie Wilson speak on the war of the rebellion as it interfaces with Cleveland history and lives from pre war to post war civilians. Tim Dally, Director of the soldiers and Sailors Monument on Public Square in Cleveland, discussed this outstanding monument and it’s recent restoration. After a delightful luncheon at the Reserve Inn, members had a brief meeting the campus of the Western Reserve Academy. The day ended with a memorial at the Western Reserve Academy Chapel followed by a walking tour concluding at the cemetery where John Brown family members are buried.

Mr. Keith Ashley, Commander, Ohio MOLUS presents the MOLLUS award to Ohio State University Army ROTC Cadet Ian Beil on May 20, 2011.
activities. It is up to your Commandery to get involved. You will not have another opportunity like this in your lifetime to be involved in such a historical time and also to recruit members into this Order. National cannot do this for you. It is up to your Commandery to take the initiative.

Finally, information on the upcoming October 14 – 15, 2011 National Congress in Philadelphia is now available on our web \( \text{http://www.suvew.org/mollus/mollus.htm} \). You can now make your reservations at the Union League and register for the Congress. The Pennsylvania Commandery plans to make this a memorable event and one that you will not want to miss.

Keith G. Harrison
Commander-in-Chief

Editor's Notes: 
Companions & Dames

Throughout the next four years your Editor will travel to as many sesquicentennial activities as possible. During June 3-5 my family found themselves reliving the year 1861 when the first land battle of the Civil War was fought in Philippi, WV. We marched over the only surviving double barred covered bridge serving the US Federal Highway System. The covered bridge across Tygart Valley River was built in 1852 by Lemuel Chenoweth of Beverly. Made of wood, with the exception of iron bolts used to hold the segments together, it is an example of the best in covered bridge architecture and design. It was used by armies of the North and South in the Civil War. In 1934 the bridge was strengthened to permit modern traffic and is today a part of US 250. The bridge was the first to be captured in the war by either side and was used for a time as a barracks by the victorious Union troops. Sponsored by the Blue and Gray Reunion Committee, the re-enactment, parade and fireworks were all celebrations of the 150th anniversary. Highlights for this family included a full high tea for the ladies at Adaland Mansion and the Blue and Gray Community choir. Next trip: Manassas 150th!

Deadlines for 2011:
Fall Issue August 15
Winter Issue November 15

Loyally,
Robert E. Rock

Now Available: MOLLUS T-Shirts and Ball Caps. $15 each, send orders & payment made out to MOLLUS Commandery-in-Chief to:
Adam Flint 23 Grosstown Rd, Stowe, PA 19464
Greetings Companions, Dames and Guests:

The Commandery of the State of Pennsylvania proudly welcomes you to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania for the 126th National Congress to be held 15 October 2011.

The primary purpose of this Congress will focus on the business of the Order and address many new and important issues as we enter the Sesquicentennial of the Civil War. We have planned an exciting program in a city, state and region proud of its military history.

The headquarters of the 2011 Congress will be the

**Union League of Philadelphia; 140 South Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA, 19102**

(215) 405 – 9578

The Union League of Philadelphia is a shining jewel of history in the heart of the cultural and commercial district of Philadelphia, a city defined by such treasure. Founded in 1862 as a patriotic society to support the Union and the policies of Abraham Lincoln, it laid the philosophical foundation of other Union Leagues across a nation torn by Civil War. The Union League has hosted U.S. presidents, heads of state, industrialists, entertainers and visiting dignitaries from around the globe. It has also given support to the American military in each conflict since the Civil War, and continues to be driven by its motto, “Love of Country Leads.” The classic French Renaissance-style League building, with its brick and brownstone facade and dramatic twin circular staircases leading to the main entrance on Broad Street, dates to 1865. The traditional decor is accented in rich leather, patina-tered wood and polished marble. Adorned the walls and hallways is the League’s distinguished collection of art and artifacts. The collection is a rich, historical chronicle of Philadelphia’s unique imprint upon the American landscape from the 19th century to today and is recognized by historians and art experts as valuable components of our shared American history.

Some of the amenities the Inn at the Union League of Philadelphia include: room service, high speed DSL lines in all guest rooms, cable TV including HBO, individual mini-bar, complimentary daily newspaper, individual climate control, complimentary breakfast, fitness center, signing privileges in any of the three restaurants, library, executive business center, laundry service and barber shop.

Saturday Afternoon will be spent on the Battleship New Jersey located on the Delaware River in Camden, NJ. The New Jersey was built at the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard, and launched December 7, 1942 – just a year after the Pearl Harbor Attack.

America’s most decorated Battleship is now the area’s most exciting museum. Exploring “BB62” is experiencing history in a whole new way. Not only do you see exhibits of artifacts from the ship’s past, but
you are put into the exhibit as you go through the tour route. Sit in the chair from which Admiral Halsey commanded the fleet. Stretch out on the bunks where the sailors slept. Climb into the 16” gun turrets and learn how the projectiles were loaded. You will be going up and down on ladders, stepping through passageways and sometimes maneuvering in tight spaces – just like the officers and the crew did.

If you do not feel comfortable with a complete tour, you can enjoy a main deck tour, which does not have any ladders. Lunch will be served on board at 12:30 PM.

HOTEL RESERVATION INFORMATION

The Inn at the Union League (Headquarters Hotel)
140 South Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA 19102 (215) 587-5570
(MOLLUS rate: $189.00 per night plus applicable tax)
- Inn guests are considered temporary members and have access to all Union League facilities, including areas marked “Members Only.”
- Full breakfast is included with the room rate for up to 2 people per room
  (additional guests are $16.50 including tax and gratuity), served in the Founders Dining Room, located on the first floor. Breakfast Hours: M-F 7-10, S&S 8-11.

Make your reservations by the cut-off date of 1 September 2011. Identify yourself as with “MOLLUS” to receive the group room rate.

Parking is available at the Union League’s Parking Garage located across the street from the League at 1415 Sansom Street. The parking garage is open 24/7. Parking rates are lower if charged to a guest room. Please have parking posted to your guest room account at check in. Anyone using an alternate hotel may use this parking garage when visiting the Union League.

Alternate Hotels:
The Park Hyatt at the Bellevue Hotel
200 South Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA 19102
(215) 893-1776
Standard rooms starting @ $229.00 per night plus applicable tax.
One block from the Union League.

Travelodge
1227 Race Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107
(866)-539-0036
Standard rooms starting @ $139.00 per night plus applicable tax.
8 blocks from the Union League.

Comfort Inn
53 Industrial Highway
Essington, PA 19029
(866)-539-0036
Standard rooms starting @ $69.00 per night plus applicable tax.
13.7 miles or 25 minutes from the Union League (near Philadelphia Airport).

Contacts for information and questions on the Congress are:
Adam Flint: Adampflint@aol.com (610) 970-2787
126th MOLLUS National Congress
Reservation Form
Please indicate the functions you plan to attend
Send Reservation Form & check As Soon As Possible To:
Mr. Tee Adams, Treasurer, PA Commandery, MOLLUS
PO Box 328 Devon, PA 19333-0328
Please make checks payable to “MOLLUS-PA”

Registration Fee ............ Number attending _____ $50.00 per person $_________
(Registration Fee is required for all Companions, Dames, and Guests, children excluded)

FRIDAY 14 October 2011
3:00 pm Registration opens inside the Sansom Street entrance on the first floor.
4:00 pm Guided tour of the Union League .................................................. No Charge
6:00 pm Dinner on your own, options include:
   1.) Union League Dining Room: 5:30 pm - 9:30 pm
   2.) Union League Café: 5:30 pm - 10:30 pm
   3.) Varalli Restaurant (Italian cuisine): 231 S. Broad Street, 215-546-6800,
two blocks South from the Union League Club House.
8:30 pm PA Host Commandery OPEN HOUSE in the MOLLUS Suite ...... No Charge

SATURDAY 15 October 2011
8:00 am Breakfast for those staying at the Union League ...................... No Charge
8:30 am Meeting for MOLLUS in the Lincoln Memorial Room.
9:30 am Meeting for DOLLUS in the Library Lounge.
12:00 pm Lunch and Tour of the Battleship New Jersey Meet transportation at the
   Sansom Street entrance. Lunch on board the ship at approx.12:30 pm.
   (Anyone not choosing to visit the battleship may have lunch at the Union
   League, your lunch will be posted on your guest room account.) ......................
   Number attending _____ $50.00 per person $_________
6:30 pm Reception with Cash Bar in the McMichael Room.
7:30 pm Dinner in the McMichael Room with Speaker. Black Tie or Uniform with
   Decorations ...... Number attending _____ $65.00 per person $_________
10:15 pm PA Host Commandery OPEN HOUSE in the MOLLUS Suite ...... No Charge

TOTAL ENCLOSED:  (If attending all functions this should be $165.00) $________

Name: __________________________________________________________________
Phone:________________________ Commandery_______________________________
Additional Names in your party:
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
Email:________________________ Special Needs: ______________________________
The Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States
126th National Congress, October 14, 15, 2011 Philadelphia, PA
Headquarters, Commandery-in-Chief

CIRCULAR NO. 1 15 May 2011
SERIES 2011
WHOLE NUMBER 586

I. The One Hundred and Twenty-Sixth Annual Meeting of the Commandery-in-Chief will be held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on Friday and Saturday, 14, 15 October 2011 for the transaction of such business as may properly come before the meeting. Headquarters will be at the historic Union League of Philadelphia, 140 S. Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA 19102. (215) 405-9578

PROGRAM

Friday, 14 October 2011
II. Registration for the One Hundred Twenty Sixth Annual Meeting of the Commandery-in-Chief will be held from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. inside the Sansom Street entrance of the Union League Club House.
III. A private guided tour of the Union League will be conducted at 4:00 p.m., lasting one hour.
IV. Dinner on your own, options include:
   1.) Union League Dining Room: 5:30 - 9:30 pm
   2.) Union League Café: 5:30 - 10:30 pm
      Meals at the Union League except the Saturday Night banquet are for Inn guests only. Meals will be posted on your guest room account.
   3.) Varalli Restaurant (Italian cuisine) 231 S. Broad Street, (215) 546-6800, two blocks South from the Union League House.
V. Meet in the MOLLUS Suite for cocktails, soft drinks and snacks at 8:00 pm.

Saturday, 15 October 2011
VI. The MOLLUS Congress will convene promptly at 8:30 a.m. in the Lincoln Memorial Room and DOLLUS will convene promptly at 9:30 a.m. in the Library Lounge of the Union League. Coffee, tea, juice and pastries will be provided.
VII. Tour of the Battleship New Jersey on the Delaware River. Meet inside the Sansom Street entrance at 12:00 p.m., transportation will be provided. A catered lunch will be provided on board the battleship. We will return to the Union League by 4:00.
VIII. Reception and Cocktails with cash bar at 6:30 p.m. in the McMichael Room of the Union League. Black tie, white tie or military uniform. Orders and decorations.
IX. Dinner will follow at 7:30 p.m. in the McMichael Room. Our guest speaker will be Ms. Sharon Smith, President/CEO of the Civil War Museum of Philadelphia.
X. Meet in the MOLLUS Suite for cocktails, soft drinks and snacks at 10:15 pm.

Sunday, 16 October 2011
XI. Breakfast at the Union League for those staying at the League.
XII. Check out and departure until 12:00 noon.

By Command of
Keith G. Harrison
was performed, and thence, with impressive ceremonies, through NY City, to the home of his parents at Mechanicsville, N.Y. where a company of his devoted regiment fired a volley over his grave.

**SURPRISE AND ROUTE AT PHILIPPI**

Philippi is a little town in WV, 22 miles southward of Grafton where the Baltimore and Ohio and the Northwestern Railways make it an important connection, and has become noted as the scene of the surprise and route of the Confederate forces which were concentrated there June 3, 1861, under Colonel Porterfield.

Acting under instructions from Brigadier-general T. A. Morris, the Federal troops were arranged in two columns: one commanded by Colonel B. F. Kelley, whose force consisted of his own regiment, the First Virginia, the Ninth Indiana, Colonel Milroy, and a portion of the Sixteenth Ohio, under Colonel Irwin; while the other column was commanded by Colonel E. Dumont, who had with him eight companies of his own regiment, the Seventh Indiana, Four companies of the Sixth Indiana, Colonel Crittenden, a portion of Burnett’s Ohio Artillery, under Lieutenant-Colonel Sturges, and four companies of the Fourteenth Ohio, under Lieutenant-Colonel Steadman.

It was agreed that Colonel Kelley’s command should proceed along the Beverly Turnpike above Philippi, a distance of about 22 miles, with the view of engaging Colonel Porterfield’s rear at 4:00 on the morning of the 3rd of June. When Colonel Dumont’s column would simultaneously open fire from the heights over looking the village of Philippi.

Colonel Dumont’s column, accompanied by Colonel F. W. Lander, of General McClellan’s staff, reached it’s destination at the appointed time, after a very weary and march of nearly thirteen miles in a drenching rainstorm, and was about taking it’s position, when Colonel Porterfield’s pickets engaged it in consequence of the alarm caused by a pistol-shot, which was fired by a woman at Colonel Lander, while he was reconnoitering ahead of his column. There being, up to that time, no signs of Kelley’s troops, contrary to their preconcerted arrangement, and fearing Colonel Porterfield might escape, Colonel Dumont opened fire upon the Confederates with both of his guns, and, under their cover made a dash upon the enemies pickets, carrying consternation in their ranks, and capturing the barricaded bridge across the river.

Meanwhile, Kelley’s command, which had been delayed by being treacherously led at the side instead of in the rear of Colonel Porterfield’s position, advanced rapidly upon the fugitives, and pursued them through the streets of Philippi, compelling them to abandon everything in their flight. It was while thus engaged, gallantly leading his troops, that Colonel Kelley was shot by a retreating Confederate through the left breast, and believed to be mortally injured.

In this emergency, Colonel Dumont was assigned to the command of the two operating columns, and continued the pursuit until, under the instructions of General Morris, he brought the troops back to Grafton, which, for a while, became the headquarters of the national troops in Western Virginia. Colonel Kelley finally recovered his health, and received the well merited promotion of Brigadier-General, his commission
being dated May 17, 1861, sixteen days earlier than the date of the battle in which he so brilliantly distinguished himself.

BEALINGTON, CORRICK’S FORD AND RICH MOUNTAIN

The troops which had so greatly distinguished themselves at Philippi were not destined long to remain idle at Grafton, for...July 6, we find them all—the First Virginia, the Sixth, Seventh and Ninth Indiana, the Fourteenth and Sixteenth Ohio, and Barnett’s Cleveland Artillery, together with the Sixth Ohio, the Eighth, Tenth and Thirteenth Indiana, and Burdsall’s Cavalry—in the neighborhood of their former scene of victory, and about to add greatly to their already brilliant record.

General McClellan, who had, two weeks previous, taken command of the troops at and near Grafton, now controlled an available force of about twenty thousand men, and decided upon an immediate advance, in order to offset any movement likely to be made by General R. S. Garnett, who had succeeded Porterfield, and was at the time in command of the Confederate troops in Northwestern Virginia. Garnett’s headquarters were then at Beverly, in Randolph County, on the Eastern base of a long ridge parallel to the Alleghenies, and known as Laurel Hill.

A detachment of Federal troops, under General T. A. Morris was sent toward Beverly: while another, under General J. D. Cox, entered the Kanawha Valley, where it was likely to meet General Henry A. Wise, and could keep him in check: and a third force, under General Hill, was dispatched toward Western Union, in Tucker County, and Eastward of Philippi, to prevent the passage of the Confederates by that way over the Alleghany Mountains. The main body, consisting of about ten thousand men, under McClellan’s command, then marched in the direction of Buckhannon, which was reached on the seventh of July.

General Morris’s force encamped at Bealington, a village at the foot of Laurel Hill, and in close proximity to Garnett’s position. Morris had been ordered to engage Garnett in a series of feints which would lead to the belief that the main Federal assault might be expected from that quarter, thus giving McClellan a chance to attack the rear of Garnett’s forces. These were estimated at fully eleven thousand men, including three thousand under Colonel John Pegram, at Rich Mountain.

So eager were the troops for active work, that skirmishes were incessantly kept up, and one of these, which took place on the eight of July, has by many been dignified by even a higher name. Early in the afternoon of that day, while observations were going on near Bealington, two large bodies of Confederate troops were seen emerging from the woods, and detachments from the Ninth Indiana and the Fourteenth Ohio at once pushed forward to meet them. This they soon did, and a lively engagement began between the two parties. This had not continued long, however, before a strong body of Confederate cavalry appeared on the scene, and would

(Continued on page 14)
doubtless soon have made the position untenable to the Federal troops but for the timely arrival of Barnett’s Cleveland Battery.

The latter’s admirable shelling of the woods alone prevented the further rallying of the opposite force, and soon compelled it’s flight. The Federal loss in this engagement was two killed and six wounded, whilst that of the Confederates was reported to be fully twenty killed and twice as many *hors de combat*. General Morris’s force was afterward advanced close to the western base of Laurel Hill, the woods being held by the Ninth Indiana, who, by their daring and the fierceness of their attacks, had already been dubbed by the insurgents “Swamp Devils,” and had like wise become known as “The Tigers of the Bloody Ninth.”

General McClellan’s force had, meanwhile, been engaged in some brilliant skirmishes at Buckhannon, but it was not until July tenth that any large body of Confederate troops was met with. This was a part of the force under Colonel Pegram, found to be in a strongly entrenched position on Rich Mountain, which commanded the road to Staunton, the principle highway to Southern Virginia. McClellan immediately divided his force, sending the Sixteenth Ohio, and the Eighth, Tenth and Thirteenth Indiana Regiments, as well as Burdall’s Cavalry, the whole under command of Colonel W. S. Rosecrans, who was accompanied by Colonel F. W. Lander, to attack Pegram’s position, while he himself would advance on the Confederate Camp at Laurel Hill.

The movement of Colonel Rosecrans was, however, accidentally discovered through the capture of a courier whom McClellan had sent after Rosecrans, and, after a wearisome, and in many respects quite dangerous, march in a heavy rain through the mountains, he found the enemy prepared to meet him. This circuitous march through the dense forests of Laurel Hill, over a wild and broken country, was guided by a woodsmen named David L. Hart, who describes the march as follows: “We started at daylight, and I led, accompanied by Colonel Lander, through a pathless wood, obstructed by bushes, laurels, fallen timber and rocks, followed by the whole division in perfect silence. Our circuit was about five miles; rain fell, the bushes wetted us through, and it was very cold. At noon we came upon the Confederate pickets, and after drawing the dampened charges from our guns, immediately opened the action.” The engagement commenced at once, and was made with such impetuosity that, not withstanding the fact of Rosecrans being without cannon, and opposed to the enemies masked battery, the fight lasted scarcely an hour and resulted in the total route of the Confederates who, in that short time, lost about four hundred in killed and wounded, besides their guns and all their ammunition, tents, and camp equipage.

General McClellan discovering, meanwhile, that Garnett had evacuated Laurel Hill, which General Morris afterward took possession of, occupied Beverly, and advanced his position in front of Pegram’s camp, with the intention of assaulting it the next morning. It was found, however, that Pegram had abandoned it during the night, and that he was then endeavoring to join Garnett’s forces. This was, however, impossible, as McClellan was already at Beverly, and, finding resistance useless, Pegram offered to surrender to General McClellan, which he did on Sunday, July 14th.

On learning of Garnett’s flight, General Lander had
been sent with a force of Ohio men after the fugitives, with whom he had several skirmishes, in one of which he had a horse shot from under him, and the result of which was the capture of many prisoners, with a loss of but two men.

McClellan had likewise dispatched Captain H. W. Benham, United States Engineers, with eighteen hundred men, to the assistance of General Morris, who had actively pursued the enemy one or two miles beyond Leedsville, where they had halted for the night. Captain Benham effected the desired junction with General Morris, and the combined forces continued the pursuit, not withstanding the rain, all the following day, finally over taking the enemy at a place called Corrick’s Ford, eight miles south of St. George. There the Confederates made a stand, and, with cannon planted on an elevation, disputed the advance; but Captain Benham’s men dashed into the river, halting under the bluff until their artillery came up, and then attacked the enemy’s flank, forcing him to disperse.

The pursuit was continued until another ford was reached, when General Garnett again attempted to rally his forces. Colonel James Barrett Steedman, of the Fourteenth Ohio, was close upon them, and bore the brunt of the heavy fire directly upon his men by Colonel Taliaferro, of the Twenty-third Virginia Regiment. He stood his ground well until joined by Burnett’s Battery and the Seventh and Ninth Indiana Regiments.

The Seventh Indiana under Colonel Dumont, was then ordered to cross the river between the two fires, and to engage the Confederates in front. This was promptly done, but by the time the men had reached the summit of the opposite bank, the Confederates had dispersed. Garnett endeavored to make one more stand, at a ford a quarter of a mile further on, and, while doing so, was mortally wounded, his men flying in wild confusion to the mountains.

Further pursuit was abandoned. The Federals, who had by this time made a forced march of twenty miles, bivouacked that night at the Ford. Having lost in all not over twelve killed and wounded. It was expected that General Hill, who was then at Rowlesburg, on the line of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, would intercept the remnant of Garnett’s army before it could cross the mountains, and would capture it at either St. George or Western Union, but for some unexplained reason this was not done. The entire body was allowed to escape into the Shenandoah Valley, and to join the forces gathered there under General T. J. (“Stonewall”) Jackson, at Monterey.

While all this was going on, General Cox had successfully held his own in the Kanawha Valley. He had captured Barboursville, repulsed Wises’ forces at Scarytown, and forced their retreat to Charleston, then to Gauley Bridge, and as far as Lewisburg, the capital of Greenbrier County.

The immediate result of the above brilliant series of victories under Generals McClellan, Rosecrans, Morris, and Cox, was the evacuation of Harper’s Ferry and the abandonment by the Confederates of all of Western Virginia.

On the twenty-fourth of July Colonel Rosecrans was promoted to be a brigadier-general, and was placed in command of the “Department of Ohio,” just vacated by General McClellan, who was ordered to Washington, to take personal command of the Army of the Potomac. General Garnett was succeeded by General Robert E. Lee, who, on the twentieth of April, resigned his commission in the United States Army, and was appointed, by Governor Letcher, to the command of all the forces of the State of Virginia.

An excerpt from “Frank Leslie's the Soldier in our Civil War” published by Stanley Bradley Publishing Co. 1893 NY & Atlanta, Vol. I

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