



The Banner

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No. 4

Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain: the Maine man

By R. C. Gregory
Banner Editor

Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain not only was a Civil War hero, he became a great man.

Greatly gifted and greatly learned, distinguished in several pursuits, and as uncompromising of principle as anyone who fought on either side in the war and then returned to the long littleness of peace, Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain remains, from the distance of 130-odd years, first among Maine's great human beings.

To Civil War historians Chamberlain is best known for what he, as colonel of the 20th Maine Infantry, achieved on Little Round Top at Gettysburg on July 2, 1863. His and four other regiments were ordered to hold Little Round Top; his regiment was on the far left end of the Union line and had been hustled into place only minutes before the first Confederate attack on the hill.

For Little Round Top was, in fact, the key to the Union position and to the battlefield itself. Chamberlain knew the importance of the position he had to hold at all hazards, and all through that hot afternoon the 20th Maine withstood and hurled back repeated Confederate attacks — and those attacks were mounted by some extremely competent regiments. The Confederates also knew the importance of the position.

Chamberlain had, that day, some 358 men and 28 officers, plus a few on sick call who joined for the fight. Losses were heavy — and fighting was almost constant. The 20th Maine was running out of ammunition and would have exhausted its supply except those still fighting gathered up the ammunition of those who were dead or wounded. Warned that the 20th Maine was in danger of being flanked, ammunition all but gone, one company sent out earlier unheard from and presumed captured or killed, Chamberlain was in



Bvt. Maj. Gen. Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain

that "all hazards" position.

Chamberlain ordered his commanders to have the men continue as much rapid fire as possible while, at the same time, sidestepping to the left and

the rear. The movement — "refusing the line," often called a textbook maneuver — was executed without

Continued on Page 5



GENERAL ORDERS No. 4
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Commander-in-Chief
1016 Gorman Street
Philadelphia, Pa. 19116-3719
(215) 673-1688

1. This edition of The Banner contains information on our National Encampment in Portland, Maine. The Encampment Committee has worked hard for more than a year to make this one of the best. The 1st Maine Heavy Artillery Regiment has restored the Civil War monument, *Lady of Victories*, in downtown Portland, and will rededicate it on August 14th, 1993. The Sons, Auxiliary, and Allied Orders will participate in the services. The 1st Maine will have an encampment at Fort Preble from August 13 to 15, so if you want to save room rent, you can camp under the stars on the rocky coast of Maine and still attend the encampment. Make plans to bring the family and spend a few days sight-seeing and eating lobster. Hope to see you all there.

2. In my preceding General Orders I asked for volunteers for National Encampment Committees; as of this date I have not received any. If you would like to serve on any of the following, please let me know: Credentials, Resolutions, Officers' Reports, Ritual and Ceremonies, and Press.

3. Officers' Reports: The reports of Officers and Committee Chairmen should be typewritten on 8 1/2" by 11" white paper and submitted to the National Secretary by August 1, 1993. Oral reports presented on the floor of the Encampment should be limited to no more than five minutes and should simply highlight the important points of the written report.

4. Notices to Members, Camps, and Departments of the Sons: Please remember the two Funds that need your support to keep the Order growing:

—1. The Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief's Fund that is used for promotional advertising of the Sons. Donations to Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Allen W. Moore, 1109 N. Co. Rd. 400 W., Kokomo, Indiana 46901.

—2. The National Patriotic Fund, used to keep alive the memory of the G.A.R. and continue the patriotic works we undertake in their memory. Donations to Charles A. Rogers, 4 Julian Drive, Athens, Ohio 45701.

5. A number of awards of yellow ribbons and Certificates of Merit have been awarded during the 1992-1993

year to members who secured 3 or 5 more new members. If there are any others who are eligible, please let me know as soon as possible. All recipients' names will be printed in the proceedings. I wish to thank each and every member who contributed to the expansion of Camps and Departments.

6. We mourn the loss of Past Commander-in-Chief Harry Gibbons who died April 21, 1992. Condolences are extended to his family and friends. All Camp Charters are to be draped for a period of thirty days in memory of Brother Gibbons.

7. At my request, Banner Editor Rus Gregory has agreed to prepare a post National Encampment issue of The Banner and to have this issue ready by the end of August. This issue will list all the 1993-1994 National Officers and Committees of both the Sons and Auxiliary and a summary of the 1993 Encampment, plus the Department Commanders' and Secretaries' addresses and the time and place of their Department Encampments.

In order for Rus to do this he must have most of this information as soon as possible before National Encampment. Brothers Rus Gregory and Dick Williams have been doing an outstanding job with The Banner, and to continue they need your help. Rus needs the information on your Departments and Dick needs a current membership list, up-dated where necessary, to ensure that your members receive their Banners.

8. We are running a full schedule at National Encampment this year, but the opportunity has arisen to run a workshop on Public Relations and The Banner. I have two members who are experts in this field, Rus Gregory and Chip Rogers, and have scheduled the workshop for 4 p.m. on Friday, August 13, 1993. All Departments should have members present.

9. I have appointed Brother Vaughn J. Rawson, 1745 W. Columbia Road, Mason, Michigan 48854, as National Camp and Department Organizer. He will be available to work with anyone trying to start a new camp or department. He will also work with the Membership-At-Large Coordinator,

Doug Park, in trying to get new camps started from among the at-large membership. Brother Rawson, I want to thank you for taking this appointment.

10. Brother Howard E. Bartholf, 1525F Split Oak Lane, Richmond, Va. 23229, a member at large, is trying to locate any descendants of prisoners at Libby Prison. There will be a rededication ceremony at the site of Libby Prison in Richard at 1 p.m. September 18th, 1993. He is also looking for Union re-enactors.

11. This will probably be my last General Orders. The year is passing quickly. It has been a very enjoyable year made possible by the members of Sons and Auxiliary and Allied Orders. I have traveled from coast to coast and wish to express my appreciation to our Departments for the many courtesies extended to me during the visits to Departments, Camps, and to other ceremonies, including the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D. C., and Lincoln's Tomb at Springfield, Ill., where I had the honor to place wreaths. I am looking forward to the Memorial Day ceremonies at Gettysburg May 31, 1993.

I wish only I could have visited all the Encampments and events, but owing to conflicting dates this was impossible. I still have three more encampments on my itinerary — Michigan, New York, and Pennsylvania (which is the same date as Maine's and Ohio's).

12. I wish to express special thanks to my National Officers and Committees; without them I would have been lost. I also extend my thanks to the Auxiliary's National President, Frances A. Murray, my traveling companion (the rainmaker). She was a great help in restoring harmony between the Sons and Auxiliary. I wish other National Presidents of our G.A.R. family, Mrs. Dolores Hubbard, L.G.A.R., Mrs. Betty Crozier, DUVCW, and Mrs. Anne L. Gerit, WRC, a very successful and harmonious Encampment. It has been a pleasure serving with each and everyone of you.

By Order Of:
Elmer F. Atkinson
Commander-in-Chief

Two Auxiliary Past Presidents die

March, 1993 — The National Auxiliary was deeply saddened by the recent deaths of two of our Past National Presidents. Edna S. Lambert, member of the New Jersey Department, died on Feb. 6, 1993. She won the respect of all for her lifelong dedication to the work of the Auxiliary, particularly as Parliamen-

tarian. Her late husband Albert was a former Editor of The Banner.

Sister Beatrice Riggs, California — Pacific Department, died on March 7th. She, too, was a long-time member and had served as Director of the Budget for many years. Sister Riggs was also well known for her work as the curator of a museum in California.

1993 National Encampment, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War & Auxiliary to the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Programs

3 p.m. Council of Administration meeting.

Note: Past Commanders-in-Chief and Past National Presidents dinner will be Thursday night, Aug. 12.

SUVCW Aug. 13, 14, 15

Friday, August 13, 1993:

7 a.m. Council of Administration breakfast meeting, at Sons' Headquarters.

8 a.m. Registration.
9 a.m. Joint Opening, Sons and Auxiliary

9:30 a.m. Business session.

12 Noon: Lunch.

1 p.m. Business session.

4 p.m. Public Relations/Media Workshop.

5 p.m. Adjourn for the day.

7 p.m. Campfire.

Saturday, August 14, 1993:

7 a.m. SVR breakfast.

8 a.m. Registration.

8:30 a.m. Business session. Nomination of Officers.

12 Noon: Lunch.

1 p.m. Business session.

3:30 p.m. Rededication of *Lady of Victories*, Portland's G. A. R. Monument.

6 p.m. Chief of Staff Banquet.

9 p.m. Courtesy Hour.

After: Open House, Joint Auxiliary and Sons, in Sons' Headquarters.

Sunday, August 15, 1993:

9 a.m. Joint church and memorial services, Sons, Auxiliary, and Ladies of the G. A. R.

10 a.m. Business session.

12 Noon: Lunch.

1 p.m. Business session (if needed).

The Banner is the newsletter of Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. It is published in October, January, April, and July each year. Manuscripts are welcome; deadlines are Sept. 1, Dec. 1, March 1, and June 1.

Opinions expressed in *The Banner* are those of its several writers and are not necessarily those of Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

Address editorial correspondence to: *The Banner*, R. C. Gregory, Editor, P. O. Box 252, Ionia, Michigan 48846.

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Auxiliary Aug. 11, 12, 13, 14, 15

Wednesday, August 11, 1993:

7:30 p.m. Council meeting, Headquarters.

7:30 p.m. Rehearsals (Chief of Staff, Ritualistic).

7:30 p.m. Registration in lobby.

Thursday, August 12, 1993:

7 a.m. Department Presidents breakfast with National President, Headquarters.

8 a.m. Registration in lobby.

9 a.m. Session opens with giving of gifts, Exemplification of the Ritual.

11:30 a.m. Lunch (club meetings).

1 p.m. Business session.

3 p.m. National Patriotic Instructor's presentation.

4 p.m. Recess.

6 p.m. Banquet, Past National Presidents and Past Commanders-in-Chief.

Friday, August 13, 1993

8 a.m. Registration.

9 a.m. Joint Opening, Sons & Auxiliary.

9:30 a.m. Business session.

11:30 a.m. Lunch (club meetings).

1 p.m. Business session. Nomination and election of officers.

2:30 p.m. Greetings received.

4 p.m. Recess.

7 p.m. Campfire band.

8 p.m. Campfire.

9 p.m. Drawing of chances.

Saturday, August 14, 1993

8 a.m. Registration.

9 a.m. Business session, financial reports, installation of officers.

12 Noon: Lunch.

1:30 p.m. Meeting of old and new councils; Headquarters.

3:30 p.m. Leave for rededication of *Lady of Victories*, Portland's GAR monument.

6:30 p.m. Chief of Staff banquet.

8 p.m. Courtesy hour.

9:30 p.m. Joint Open House; Sons' Headquarters.

Ramada Inn 1230 Congress Street Portland, Maine 04102

Sunday, August 15, 1993

9:30 a.m. Church-Memorial services; Sons, Auxiliary, and Ladies of the GAR.

Editor's Note: There's a half-hour difference between the start of the joint church-memorial services in the Sons' schedule and in the Auxiliary's schedule. Either that is because Sons need more church than the Auxiliary or because the Auxiliary needs more sleep than the Sons. A definite time will be announced in Portland prior to Sunday.

The National Encampment will be held at Ramada Inn, 1230 Congress Street, Portland, Maine 04102. Flyers for room and banquet reservations were included in the Spring issue of The Banner. Those who misplaced the flyer are advised to telephone Ramada Inn more or less immediately. Room rate is \$72 per night, any occupancy. (That means no questions asked.)

Cut off date for reservations for the Chief of Staff banquet is July 28, this year. The price is \$20. Send reservation and check to:

Margaret Joy
National Chief of Staff
Route 2, Box 1245
Oakland, Maine 04963
Phone: (207) 362-2712.

Thank You

The outpouring of mail to The Banner has been large. Your editor is grateful, if a little overwhelmed.

A couple of points: trying to half-retire has been strenuous.

Next, this is my third issue of The Banner. I have nearly enough material for another issue. Perhaps when I have produced half a dozen issues, I'll better understand the flow of activities and news.

Finally, C-in-C Atkinson has asked for a fast post-Portland issue and he's the boss. Some items not in this issue may be in the late August-early September issue. Otherwise, the October issue. Somehow.

Meanwhile, I've reduced the size of the type and increased pages to 12. If you've sent items, please don't despair. They will appear. —RCC



Photo Courtesy Grand Lodge, F. & A. M., Pennsylvania

The model for the figures for the Friend To Friend Masonic Memorial Monument, to be dedicated at Gettysburg National Cemetery Annex on Aug. 21: in front, sculptor Ron Tunison; standing, left to right, George H. Hohenschildt, Camp Hill, deputy grand master and co-chairman of the

memorial monument committee; Robert G. Boone, Chalfont, executive director of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania; Dean Vaughn, Hershey, co-chairman of the committee; and Edward H. Fowler, Jr., grand master of Freemasons in Pennsylvania.

Friend to Friend Memorial to be dedicated August 21

The following story is based on information provided by Lester A. Kern. Brother Kern is secretary of Capt. J. P. Brindle Camp, No. 50, SUVCW, of Carlisle, Pa., and is also District Deputy Grand Master for the Third Masonic District of Pennsylvania. The ties, ritualistic and other, between Sons and Masons, coupled with the dedication of this new Friend To Friend Masonic Memorial at Gettysburg the weekend after the National Encampment, suggests that some who drive to Portland

may want to attend the dedication en route home.

GETTYSBURG, Pa. — The Friend to Friend Masonic Memorial Monument will be dedicated in the Gettysburg National Cemetery Annex on Saturday, Aug. 21, in morning ceremonies.

The memorial, conceived and sponsored by the Grand Lodge of F. & A. M. of Pennsylvania, will depict two sculpted bronze figures atop a granite base. The figures, by sculptor Ron

Tunison, portray a historically verified encounter between Confederate Brig. Gen. Lewis A. Armistead and Capt. Henry Bingham, an aide to Union Maj. Gen. Winfield S. Hancock, on Cemetery Ridge on July 3, 1863.

Armistead and Hancock had been friends and fellow officers who chose opposite sides when war broke out in 1861. During Pickett's Charge, both

Continued on Page 5

Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain: the Maine man

Continued from Page 1

flaw, although ammunition was all but expended by the time it was completed. Here are a few of Chamberlain's words on this attack:

The two lines met and broke and mingled in the shock. The crush of musketry gave way to cuts and thrusts, grapplings and wrestlings. The edge of the conflict swayed to and fro, with wild whirlpools and eddies. At times I saw around me more of the enemy than of my own men; gaps opening, swallowing, closing again with sharp convulsive energy; squads of stalwart men who had cut their way through us, disappearing as if translated.

Friend to Friend Memorial Monument

Continued from Page 4

officers were wounded within a few hundred yards of each other. Armistead's cries for help were heard by several fraternal brothers in the Union ranks who offered to assist the Confederate general.

As he was being carried to medical aid, Armistead, by chance, encountered Capt. Bingham. Learning of Bingham's relationship to Hancock, Armistead asked Bingham to relay a message of regret to his old friend and entrusted his personal effects to the captain.

Armistead died two days later at the Spangler Farm without seeing Hancock.

Edward H. Fowler Jr., of Belle Vernon, Pa., the Right Worshipful Grand Master of more than 170,000 Masons in Pennsylvania, said, "The memorial is designed to honor not only the estimated 18,000 Freemasons who fought on both sides in the Battle of Gettysburg, but also to recognize symbolically the many historical acts of love and compassion that occurred in battle despite the political and emotional strains brought on by the Civil War."

The extensive project cost in excess of \$500,000. The memorial sculpture is encircled by a large granite-walled brick viewing plaza, and an entry plaza with a lighted flagpole, paved roadways, parking lot with handicapped access, permanent perimeter fencing, wayside exhibits, and improved landscaping.

All around, strange mingled roar — shouts of defiance, rally, and desperation, and underneath, murmured entreaty and stifled moans; gasping prayers, snatches of Sabbath song, whispers of loved names; everywhere men torn and broken, staggering, creeping, quivering on the earth, and dead faces with strangely fixed eyes staring stark into the sky. Things which cannot be told — nor dreamed. How men held on, each one knows, — not I. But manhood commands admiration.

And then there was a lull in the battle. When its fury resumed, "half of Chamberlain's left wing was down, and one-third of the regiment was dead or badly wounded." Chamberlain saw Confederates apparently fading back, as if preparing for a final onslaught to overwhelm him and the 20th Maine. With ammunition all but gone, Chamberlain ordered what was not a textbook maneuver: he ordered a bayonet charge into the Confederate attackers, on a great wheeling arc to the left.

It worked. The 20th Maine took more prisoners than it had men still fighting. Other Confederate soldiers simply fled — as their colonel said, they "ran like a herd of wild cattle." In the meantime, the missing Company B, isolated from the rest of the regiment during much of the battle, saw the Confederates driven toward them — and stood to fire volleys into the Confederates.

Chamberlain and the 20th Maine, in short, saved the day for the Union, perhaps the entire Battle of Gettysburg

for the Union. Thirty years later, in 1893, Chamberlain received a Congressional Medal of Honor for what he did on Little Round Top.

But that was not all his military career. He fought at Cold Harbor, received his fourth wound at Petersburg in June 1864, and was promoted to Brigadier General in the field by Gen. U. S. Grant. He provided brilliant generalcy in the Appomattox Campaign, the battles of White Oak Road, Five Forks, and the nasty, flying fights leading to Appomattox.

Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain was born in Brewer, Maine, on Sept. 8, 1828. He was graduated from Bowdoin College and knew Prof. Calvin and Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe while the "little lady was writing the book that caused this big war." He succeeded Prof. Stowe as a professor of languages — and, except for his war years, his connection with Bowdoin College remained unbroken, in one capacity or another, until his death.

He entered the Army as lieutenant colonel of the 20th Maine in 1862, serving under Col. Adelbert Ames. After Ames was promoted, Chamberlain succeeded to command of the 20th Maine. He later commanded the 3rd Brigade, First Division, 5th Corps, in various definitions that unit had during the course of the war. He was brevetted Major General, U. S. Volunteers.

With the surrender of Lee at Appomattox, Va., in 1865, Chamberlain returned to Maine. Continued on Page 8

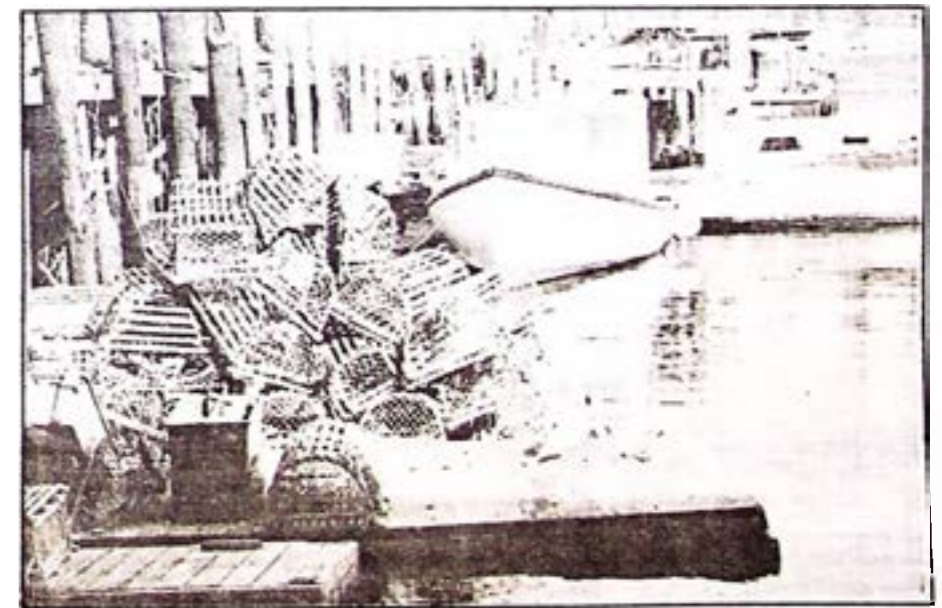
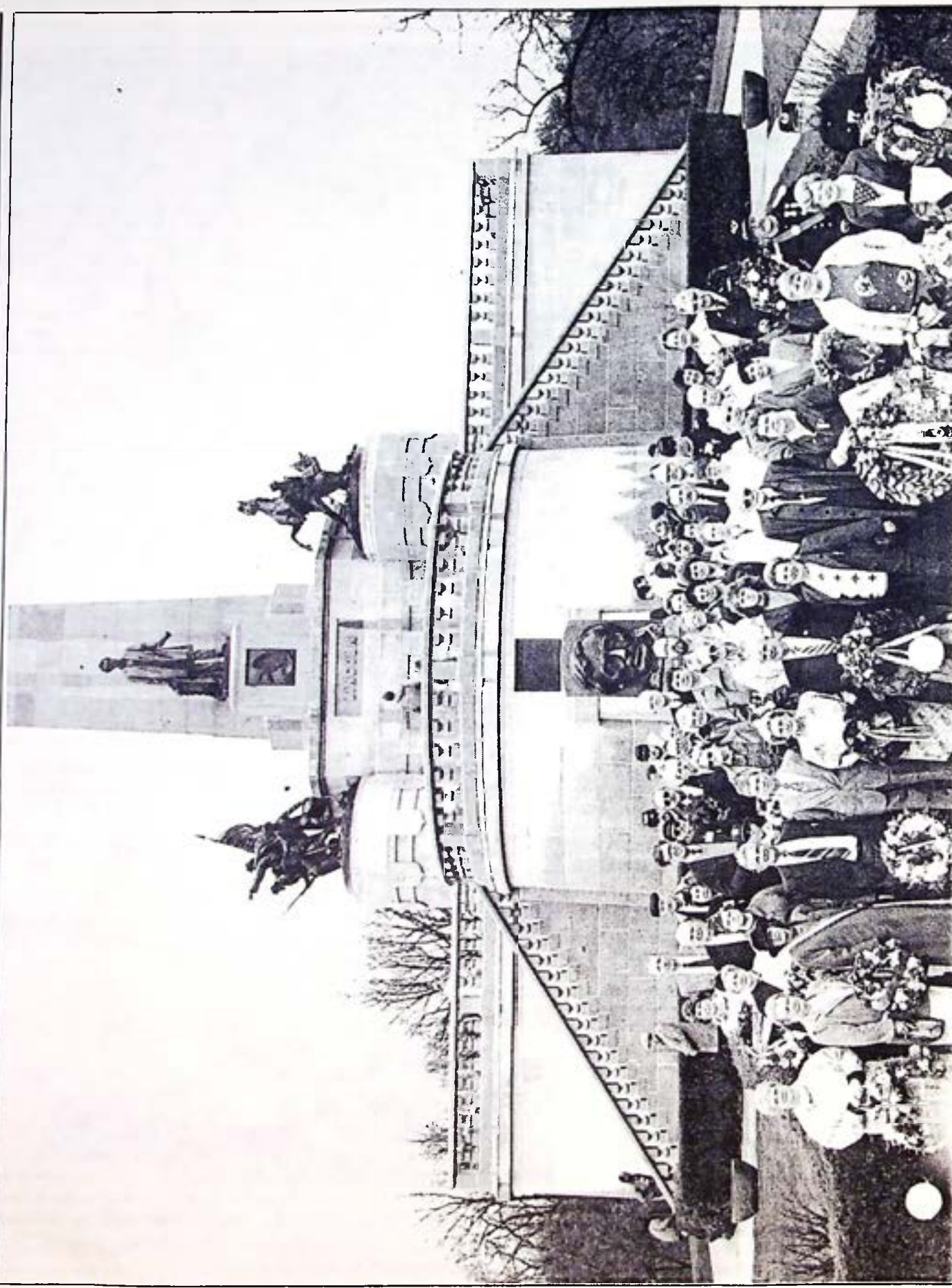


Photo Courtesy Portland Chamber of Commerce

This scene, from Portland's Old Harbor area, is walking distance from the hotel where the National Encampment, SUVCW and Auxiliary, will be held in August.



Steady rain on April 15 forced the Lincoln Tomb Ceremony inside the burial chamber for the 2nd time in the 37-year history of the ceremony. Wreathbearers gathered in front of the tomb after the close of the ceremony. The drenching rain stopped, permitting this photo-

Lincoln's Tomb ceremony held in burial chamber for 2nd time

By Thomas L. W. Johnson,
Co-chairman,
Lincoln Tomb Ceremony
Committee

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. — A steady rain on the morning of April 15 forced the 37th Annual Lincoln Tomb Ceremony inside for only the second time in the history of the observance.

This development gave the 1993 ceremony a special significance. In allowing the rites to be conducted in the burial chamber, the participants were literally at the grave side of our 16th President.

Co-Chairman Thomas L. W. Johnson welcomed the faithful who crowded into the chamber and then introduced the principal speakers for the occasion, Commander-in-Chief Elmer F. "Bud" Atkinson of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, and Past

Commander-in-Chief William H. Upham Jr. of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States. Both men stressed the importance of the Lincoln heritage and its meaning for our world today.

Although the roll-call of the wreathbearers was read, limited space prevented the wreaths from being presented in the customary fashion. The scheduled appearance of the Lanphier High School band was cancelled and the usual posting of colors was omitted.

Ronald E. Clark of the 114th Illinois Volunteer Infantry officiated as chaplain for the service itself and the luncheon which followed. As the ceremony concluded, the rain stopped which allowed the group picture to be taken in front of the tomb.

At the luncheon held at the Lincoln

New York editor seeking information on Civil War soldiers who were firefighters

After the Civil War, David F. Sherman of 69 Columbia Drive, Buffalo, New York 14221, writes The Banner, Civil War soldiers continued to put out fires — literally.

Sherman, who is great grandson of Paul Yingling of the First Maryland Cavalry and also past president of Hutchinson Hose Co., Williamsville, New York, writes:

"The link between the men who fought in the Civil War and their des-

cendants who have contributed to the fire service of this nation never ceases to amaze me.

"When federal troops were sought to defend the Union in 1861, some of the earliest units were recruited from the New York City Fire Department. Many of the men who fell in such landmark battles as Bull Run and Gettysburg, were fighting fires back home long before they shouldered muskets.

"I am greatly interested in hearing,

graph to be taken. The Banner thanks Thomas L. W. Johnson, co-chairman of the ceremony, for providing the photograph and the following story

Plaza Hotel, the respective heads of the Allied Orders of the G.A.R. were introduced, as were national representatives of the Loyal Legion and Dames of the Loyal Legion. Co-Chairman Edward G. Pres: introduced the luncheon speaker, Dr. Thomas E. Schwartz, curator of the Lincoln Collection at Illinois State Historical Library. His subject was Mary Todd Lincoln and her years in the White House and influence as First Lady.

On the evening before the ceremony, about thirty people in town for the event gathered at the hotel for dinner and fellowship. Tom Johnson recounted some of the history of the ceremony and the National Heads present made brief remarks.

Special thanks are due Col. Robert M. Graham of Springfield for his part in coordinating the local arrangements

and printing of the program; and to Nan Wynn, site superintendent at the Lincoln Tomb, for her cooperation in allowing the use of the burial chamber for the service. Ellmore K. Johnson provided inspiration throughout the year and devoted many hours to the preparation and mailing of invitations.

Departments of our Order that took part included Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Ohio, and Wisconsin. Camps represented came from Chicago and Springfield, Ill.; Valparaiso, Ind.; Des Moines and Indianola, Iowa; St. Louis, Mo.; and Milwaukee, Wis.

Department Auxiliaries represented were Iowa and Wisconsin and Auxiliary No. 8 of Iowa.

In addition, the 1st Illinois Light Artillery, Battery A, was represented, as was the 114th Illinois Volunteer Infantry.

from fire fighters, paid or volunteer, whose ancestors were Civil War veterans. Their story has never completely been told, and I would like to use this valuable information as the

basis for future journalistic projects. "It would be a shame to let this proud part of history simply fade away."

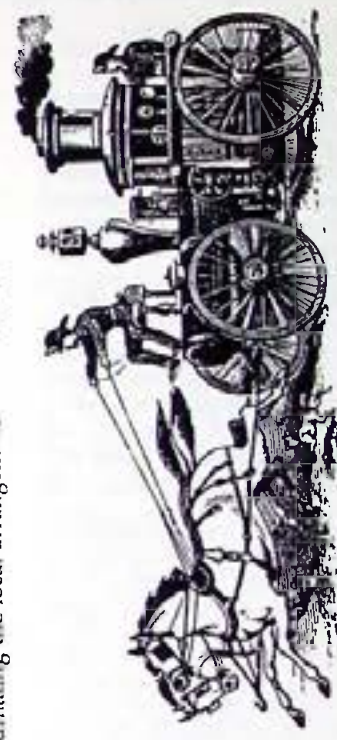


Photo by Marlin Roos Photography

Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain:

Continued from Page 5

pomattox, Gen. Grant chose Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain to receive the formal surrender of the Army of Northern Virginia. Although numerous other generals on the field ranked Chamberlain, there was something intensely right in Grant's selection of Chamberlain.

Chamberlain asked and received to have the veterans of his old Third Brigade assigned to him for the ceremonies, and arranged for other veteran regiments also to be included. But the story has never been told as well, and perhaps can never be told as well, as by Chamberlain himself.

It was now the morning of the 12th of April. I had been ordered to have my lines formed for the ceremony at sunrise. It was a chill gray morning, depressing to the senses. But our hearts made warmth. Great memories arose; great thoughts went forward. We formed along the principal street, from the bluff bank of the stream to near the Court House on the left, — to face the last line of battle, and receive the last remnant of the arms and colors of that great army which ours had been created to confront for all that death can do for life.

We were remnants also: Massachusetts, Maine, Michigan, Maryland, Pennsylvania, New York; veterans, and replaced veterans, cut to pieces, cut down, consolidated, divisions into brigades, regiments into one, gathered by State origin; this little line, quintessence or metempsychosis of Porter's old corps of Gaines' Mill and Malvern Hill; men of near blood born, made nearer by blood shed. Those facing us — now, thank God! the same. ...

Our earnest eyes scan the busy groups on the opposite slopes, breaking camp for the last time, taking down their little shelter-tents and folding them carefully as precious things, then slowing forming ranks as for unwelcome duty. And now they move.

The dusky swarms forge forward into gray columns of march. On they come, with the old swinging route step and swaying battle-flags. In the van, the proud Confederate ensign — the great field of white with canton of star-strewn corss of blue on a field of red, the regimental battle-flags with the same escutcheon following on, crowded so thick, by thinning out of men, that the whole column seemed crowned with red. At the right of our line our little group mounted beneath our flags, the red Maltese cross on a field of white, erewhile so bravely borne through many a field more crimson than itself, its mystic

meaning now ruling all.

The momentous meaning of this occasion impressed me deeply. I resolved to mark it by some token of recognition, which could be no other than a salute of arms. Well aware of the responsibility assumed, and of the criticisms that would follow, as the sequel proved, nothing of that kind could move me in the least. The act could be defended, if needful, by the suggestion that such a salute was not to the cause for which the flag of the Confederacy stood, but to its going down before the flag of the Union.

My main reason, however, was one for which I sought no authority nor asked forgiveness. Before us in proud humiliation stood the embodiment of manhood: men whom neither toils and suffering, nor the fact of death, nor disaster, nor hopelessness could bend from their resolve; standing before us now, thin, worn, and jamished, but erect, and with eyes looking level into ours, waking memories that bound us together as no other bond; — was not such manhood to be welcomed back into a Union so tested and assured?

Instructions had been given; and when the head of each division column comes opposite our group, our bugle sounds the signal and instantly our whole line from right to left, regiment by regiment in succession, gives the soldier's salutation, from the "order arms" to the old "carry" — the marching salute.

Gordon at the head of the column, riding with heavy spirit and downcast face, catches the sound of shifting arms, looks up, and taking the meaning, wheels superbly, making with himself and his horse one uplifted figure, with profound salutation as he drops the point of his sword to the boot toe; then facing to his own command gives word for his successive brigades to pass us with the same position of the manual, — honor answering honor.

On our part not a sound of trumpet more, nor roll of drum; not a cheer, nor word nor whisper of vain-glorying, nor motion of man standing again at the order, but an awed stillness rather, and breath-holding, as if it were the passing of the dead! ...

—That, and much more in Chamberlain's *The Passing Of The Armies*, is as good as Civil War writing has ever achieved — and, indeed, ranks in nobility of sentiment and in sheer superb writing, with the best anyone has achieved on this continent. Grant chose well in ordering Chamberlain to receive the surrender of the Army of Northern Virginia.

And then, not many months later, Chamberlain returned to Maine.

He served four terms of one year each as governor of Maine and then

became president of Bowdoin College. He remains first among equals of the many who have been students, professors, and presidents of that distinguished and lovely school. He taught, at one time and another, nearly every course the college offered and it may well be that no other Union officer had a greater command of languages, moral philosophy, the ability to write, or the unimpeachable integrity that made Chamberlain unique. He was unquestionably a hero; he became a great man.

Nothing more illustrates his greatness or his integrity more than the Maine election of 1880 and the near-revolution that followed. Chamberlain had been major general of the state militia since 1876 and after the fall election was appointed military commander of the state. There was no governor-elect and three parties — Democrats, Republicans and Greenbackers were vying, in armed groups, to seize power. Charged by the outgoing governor with protecting the state, Chamberlain did just that — almost single-handedly. While he could have called out the militia, he did not. The election mess went to the Maine Supreme Court.

Meanwhile, attempts at bribery of Chamberlain failed. All parties were enraged at him; but he was determined to keep the peace. His life was in grave danger. Once, warned that a mob of men wanted to kill him, Chamberlain's Little Round Top courage manifested itself, he faced the menacing mob, and said:

Men, you wished to kill me, I hear. Killing is no new thing to men. I have offered myself to be killed many times, when I no more deserved it than I do now. Some of you, I think, have been with me in those days. You understand what you want, do you? I am here to preserve the peace and honor of this State, until the rightful government is seated, — whichever it may be, it is not for me to say. But it is for me to see that the laws of this state are put into effect, without fraud, without force, but with calm thought and sincere purpose. I am here for that, and I shall do it. If anybody wants to kill me for it, here I am. Let him kill!

...And then from the crowd, came a voice. *By God, old General, the first man that dares to lay a hand on you, I'll kill him on the spot!*

Chamberlain kept the peace, the court made its decision, and after three weeks, a government was properly seated.

He helped found the Military Order

Continued on Page 10

A few highlights to see while attending Encampment

By R. C. Gregory
Banner Editor

Nearly everyone knows what he or she wants to do when attending a convention. But here are a few suggestions for those who will be in Portland, Maine, for the National Encampment in August.

—Victoria Mansion, the Morse-Libby House, 1858-1860, a National Historic Landmark. This superb Italianate (or Italianate Villa) house is located at 109 Danforth Street.

While the exterior is simple, even plain, the interior is everything we think was true of interior decoration by our 19th century predecessors — but rarely was. This house should not be missed; it has an enormous, well-deserved reputation for its interior decorating and furnishings.

Depending on your feet, it should be walking distance from Ramada Inn.

It is open 1-4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and from 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday. There is a fee and there are well-informed guides to give tours at a quarter of and a quarter after the hour.



—The Maine Historical Society at 485 Congress Street is a wonderful place, a model even of what historical societies should be, in its library, museum collections, and just plain ambience. The Maine Historical Society maintains the Wadsworth-Longfellow House, the boyhood home of the poet.

Hours are Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Second and Fourth Saturdays (Aug. 14), 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. It is closed Sundays, Mondays, and holidays. Nearly the same hours apply at the Wadsworth-Longfellow House. Check by phone or at the hotel desk.

—The Old Harbor area. It's essentially south of Congress Street and it's wonderful. Just walk. Eat, too.

—Thomas Moser, Cabinetmakers. The Portland showroom is located at 415 Cumberland Avenue, Portland, (207) 774-3791. If you want to see some of what I think is the best-designed and best-made furniture in the U. S., you shouldn't miss Thos. Moser. Whether chairs, tables, casework, or seating pieces, this company produces absolutely beautiful furniture. Even if you've got more furniture now than you need, don't miss Thos. Moser. Moser reveals wood, including cherry, in ways you rarely see outside museums.

Oh, yes. There are some hills in Portland. And wonderful houses and other buildings nearly every place. It's a city made to walk in. Saunter.

Picket Line: Notes from Departments, Camps & Auxiliary

National Auxiliary

The National Auxiliary appears to have reached a turning point.

We had been suffering from a gradual loss of membership the last few years, mostly due to the deaths of aged members. However, 1993 is proving to be a banner year.

Charters were issued to Auxiliaries in New York and Rhode Island, and plans are being made for the formation of new Auxiliaries in Maine, Ohio, and California.

Existing Auxiliaries are doing their part, too. Anna M. Ross Auxiliary No. 1 of Philadelphia had a recruiting drive in January and was able to add 10 new members and one transfer member to its rolls in March. Several other Auxiliaries have added new members recently. We hope this news will encourage everyone to make an effort to add one member to the organization this year.

—Margaret E. Atkinson,
National Secretary,
Auxiliary to SUVCW

Indiana

In August 1992, just after National Encampment in Pittsburgh, SUVCW lost a friend in Argus E. Ogborn. Besides being a member of many hereditary, veterans, and historical groups, Argus was the last of the signers of our Congressional Charter. So, with his passing, another page of the GAR family record is closed. He will be missed at camp meetings of William P. Benton Camp No. 28 and at Indiana Department encampments, as well as National Encampments. We will miss his recollections of historical events of the Sons and of the GAR.

—Edward J. Krieger, Commander,
Department of Indiana

At the April 24 meeting of Orlando A. Somers Camp, Jay W. Johnson, a great great grandson of Pvt. Williamson Haworth, Co. A., 79th Regiment, Illinois Infantry, was initiated by his father-in-law, Allen W. Moore, Sr. Vice Commander-in-Chief.

A slide presentation entitled "Capt.

Alexander Lawrie, His Gift to Indiana" was narrated by Richard Skidmore, a member of the Indianapolis Civil War Round Table. Capt. Lawrie, a disabled Civil War veteran who had served in the Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, entered the Lafayette, Ind., Veterans' Home in 1902, where he lived till his death in 1917.

During those 15 years, Lawrie did 167 oil portraits of Lincoln, Grant, and Indiana regimental commanders, which are displayed there today. Lawrie had studied art in Paris, Florence, Dusseldorf, and at the Philadelphia Academy of Fine Arts. Six of his paintings hang at West Point.

The Indiana Veterans' Home at Lafayette has the largest collection of military portraits in oil after West Point's collection.

Plans for participation in Memorial Day ceremonies were discussed. Three members, Dr. Gary Dolph, Ned Booher, and Allen Moore will be participating.

Orlando A. Somers Camp No. 1 held its March 27 meeting at Richard's Restaurant in Kokomo, Ind. Commander

Continued on Page 10

Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain:

Continued from Page 8

of the Loyal Legion of the United States and was always active in Maine MOLLUS and GAR affairs. He served as president of the Society of the Army of the Potomac when he had not been an active candidate and when dozens who ranked him were.

He was given a place of honor at the death of Grant by direction of Gen. Winfield S. Hancock who had charge of the funeral. He wrote on the war. He spoke on the war at perhaps hundreds of reunions and conventions.

He died, in Portland, on February 24, 1914.

No short passage serves better as an epitaph than this, which Chamberlain wrote of Gettysburg. In its Biblical pacing and noble sentiments it recalls another Address at that same place:

In great deeds something abides. On great fields something stays. Forms change and pass; bodies disappear; but spirits linger, to consecrate ground for the vision- place of souls. And reverent men and women from afar, and generations that know us not and that we know not of, heart-drawn to see where and by whom great things were suffered and done for them, shall come to this deathless field, to ponder and dream; and lo! the shadow of a mighty presence shall wrap them in its bosom, and the power of the vision pass into their souls.

Notes: Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain was, of course, quoted in Ken Burns's TV series on the Civil War.

A recent book, *In The Hands of Providence; Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain And The American Civil War*, by Alice Rains Trulock should and could have been a good book. It is not well-written for one thing, a fatal flaw in a biographer who selects as subject a man who wrote as well as anyone in the 19th century, and much better than many better known figures.

John J. Pullen's *The Twentieth Maine* remains the best single work on Chamberlain and the 20th Maine at Gettysburg.

There is a recent edition of Chamberlain's *The Passing of the Armies* in the "Eyewitness to the Civil War" series now being published by Bantam Books. While it has a cursory introduction by James M. McPherson and an undergraduate-level "Afterword" by Paul Andrew Hutton, the general editor of the series, it is an inexpensive paperback, with no decent maps.

The editors omitted Chamberlain's footnotes, roughly comparable to

knocking the feet off a statue. I recommend that anyone interested in the Civil War should begin with Chamberlain's book and essays early on in careful reading — and a decent library should have them. In describing battle, say White Oak Road or Five Forks, Chamberlain is as good as we've got and better than we're likely to get from anyone else, including Grant and Sheridan.

Chamberlain's house is in Brunswick, Maine, not far from Portland, and contains some fine memorabilia. It is staffed by excellent guides.

Brunswick is 25 miles from Portland, and while it looks northerly to me, I

think Mainers say it is down east.

The Chamberlain House, just off the intersection of Maine Street and Bath Road, is all but on the Bowdoin College campus, a dandy place to visit on foot. His grave is in Pine Grove Cemetery, which is near the Bowdoin Pines, on Bath Road.

The summer hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. There is a fee.

If Sons and the Auxiliary members were to make one excursion out of Portland, it should probably be to the Chamberlain House in Brunswick. (I also have a strong feeling that as many as possible should visit the Shaker Village at Sabbathday Lake.)

Picket Line: Notes from Departments

Continued from Page 9

Gary Dolph narrated a slide presentation entitled "The Forlorn Hope at Vicksburg." Plans for attending the John Hunt Morgan Civil War Show at Lexington, Ky., in May were discussed.

California

Before the opening ceremonies of the annual Department Encampment of California, the 107th, SUVCW and Auxiliary, the Department Charter was draped in memory of Sister Beatrice Riggs.

Sister Riggs served in many capacities during her life: National Auxiliary President; Dept. of California Auxiliary President; Historian of our Order; chairperson of the Budget Committee, to name a few. Even after she was National President, Sister Riggs remained very active in national, never missing a convention. Betty Woener, Dept. Auxiliary President, draped the charter.

This year's annual Department Encampment, March 26-28, at Grover Beach, Calif., was honored by the presence of Commander-in-Chief Elmer F. Atkinson and his wife Margaret.

—Donald Cheney, Dept. Secretary

Wisconsin

For several years the Department of Wisconsin has presented its Ulysses S. Grant Award of Excellence to cadets and midshipmen at selected universities and preparatory schools in the state. The institutions involved this

year and the presenters were: Marquette University, Milwaukee, Navy ROTC, Herman T. Black, PDC; University of Wisconsin-Madison, Army and Navy ROTC, William H. Upham Jr., Dept. Treasurer; St. John's Military Academy, Delafield, R. F. Saint Germaine, Jr. Vice Cmdr.; and Northwestern Military and Naval Academy, Lake Geneva, Col. E. A. von Frankenberg, Sr. Vice Cmdr.

These awards provide a means for the Department to become better known in the broader community while giving support to a worthwhile program and honoring some outstanding young people who are a part of it.

Congratulations to Brother Robert W. Wiesian as the author of a brief sketch, "Rally On The Colors," a piece about the Civil War record of Col. C. K. Pier for whom Camp No. 1 in Milwaukee is named. His efforts have identified a name that had drifted into obscurity in the years after the Civil War.

Col. Calvert Kendall Pier commanded the 38th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, the last of the three-year units organized in the Badger State.

Brother Wiesian became secretary-treasurer of C. K. Pier Badger Camp No. 1 last year upon the retirement of Brother Herman Black from that post.

—Thomas L. W. Johnson

Maryland

Lincoln-Cushing Camp and Auxiliary hosted their annual Memorial Day ceremonies on May 30 at the

Continued on Page 11

Picket Line: Notes from Departments & Camps

Continued from Page 10

tomb of 2,111 Civil War Unknowns at Arlington National Cemetery.

In support of our national efforts to keep May 30 as the true Memorial Day, the Camp began in 1983 to hold the ceremonies at 6 p.m., regardless of the day of the week, and to follow with a dinner at the Ft. Myers Officers Club nearby, with all the Allied Orders and MOLLUS participating.

Business conducted at dinner included the initiation of candidates the Rev. Thomas E. Weir, Dennis J. Hickey, and John Schroeder as new members.

SVR Captian Clyde Hayner announced the formation of a local unit, The Potomac Guard, appointed Sgt. John Mumper as adjutant and swore in recruit Lee D. Stone. Musician-Historian Lloyd Farrar brought poignant visions of our ancestors and wartime music in a most fitting presentation for the occasion.

On this weekend of two Memorial Days, camp members participated in many local community observances as well.

It is with sorrow that we report the death of Past Dept. Commander and Past National Chaplain Franklin Lucas in Wilmington, Del., a member of Appomattox Camp No. 2. His service to the order will be long remembered.

—Richard C. Schlenker, PC-in-C

The 106th annual encampment of the Maryland Department and the Auxiliary was held on April 24 at Fort Myer, Va. It was a hard-working business session, followed by a delightful dinner honoring Department Cmdr. Lee D. Stone and his Auxiliary counterpart Florence Foight. Commander-in-chief Bud Atkinson and Mrs. Atkinson honored us with their presence, as did National Auxiliary President Frances Murray of Maine.

Camp reports indicated healthy activity at Harper's Ferry, Wilmington, and Washington, D.C.

New department officers are: Andy Johnson, Department Commander; Clyde Hayner, Sr. Vice Commander; Bill Neal, Jr. Vice Commander. Lee Stone joined the Department Council for a three year term. The Harper's Ferry Camp and Auxiliary will host the 107th encampment, April 23, 1994.

Ohio

Camp Henry B. Banning, No. 207, Department of Ohio, recently recog-

nized two members for their long service to the order. Brother Stanton Dick was presented his 50-year membership badge and Brother John R. Kost was recognized for this 40 years of membership. Both were members of the Mount Vernon Fife and Drum Corps that played at the funerals of Albert Woolson and William B. Williams, the last Confederate veteran.

New camp instituted: Brother David Medert, Commander, Ohio Department of SUVCW, presided over the opening ceremonies of the Captain John P. Bruck Post in the meeting room of the GAR Hall in Hamilton, Ohio. The ceremony began at 6 p.m., June 12. Cmdr. Medert was assisted by members of Dennison Camp No. 1, Dennison Camp No. 125, and Camp Henry Casey.

Following opening ceremonies, PC-in-C Charles W. Corfman, assisted by Dennison Camp No. 125 Commander Chip Rogers and Chaplain Michael Trowbridge, presided over the installation of camp officers. Installed as Camp Commander of Captain John P. Bruck Camp No. 96 was Michael (Mickey) Colligan, who is a great, great grandson of Capt. Bruck.

After installation of officers, Commander Bruck requested PC-in-C Corfman to preside over the installation of the newest member of the Bruck camp, George Armstrong Custer IV, the great great grand nephew of Gen. George Armstrong Custer. Brother Custer, who is 38, lives in Phoenix, Ariz., and was a guest of Commander Colligan's. After the initiation of Brother Custer, Commander Colligan closed the meeting.

After closing ceremonies of the first meeting of John P. Bruck Camp No. 96, SUVCW, brothers and guests to the Hamilton City Club for supper and a presentation by Brother Custer. Needless to say, the topic of his presentation was his ancestor, Gen. Custer.

This marks the second name of note on the Ohio Department membership rolls. A relative of Gen. William T. Sherman, Frederic S. Cauldwell Jr., who lives in Milbury, Mass., is a member of Dennison Camp No. 125.

The Department of Ohio held its encampment June 25-27, a bit late for including news in this edition. June was proclaimed "Membership Month" by Department Commander David Medert, in the department's continuing — and successful — drive to add new members and new camps. Ohio's

goal is 400 members in 1994. Cmdr. Medert writes: "On April 18 at a living history reenactment at Gallipolis, Ohio, I issued 10 applications, and have three of them back so far completed...."

"At a Civil War relic show in Mansfield, Ohio, on May 1 and 2, I set up a recruitment table alongside Gen. Charles Corfman's six pounder and interviewed 45 people. I issued 42 applications. Three of these have been returned complete so far."

On May 11, Dennison Camp No. 125 heard a fine program on blacks in the Civil War, presented by Michael Wade, who has done extensive research into the U.S.C.T. (U. S. Colored Troops), with particular emphasis on Kentucky. If space permits, excerpts, at least, will be included in a forthcoming Banner. Mr. Wade is owner and operator of Wade Systems Development, a database management and custom programming firm in Lexington, Ky.

Camp Lois, No. 16, of Minford, Ohio, is in process of being reactivated. The original charter and articles of incorporation have been located. This is the 4th new camp to come into the Ohio Department in the last year or two.

Editor's Note: Without Chip Rogers and Dave Medert, this report on SUVCW events in Ohio would not have been possible. And I wish it were possible to include even more than is here.

At the April 8 meeting of Governor Dennison Camp No. 1 in Columbus, Ohio, Camp Cmdr. Jim Hilton and Sr. Vice Cmdr. Greg Brown were each awarded a National Ribbon and National Certificate for bringing into the Order six new members each.

These awards were presented by Ohio Dept. Cmdr. David Medert who represented C-in-C Elmer Atkinson.

—Ralph Shadel, Secretary-Treasurer

Massachusetts

Massachusetts held its 111th Encampment at Ramada Inn, Chicopee, April 15-16.

Many innovative resolutions were presented by Dept. Cmdr. Frank J. Tucker, among which was a plan to "run up the flagpole" at National Encampment for an addendum to the C & R, calling for the formation of na-

Continued on Page 12

Picket Line:

Continued from Page 11

tional district commanders, with departments assigned to them for oversight, including adding district commanders as members of the National Council of Administration. The plan was accepted by unanimous vote, to be presented at Portland, Me., in August.

Brother Edward Parks's report showed an amazing grasp of finances as acting treasurer, with an increase of the department's monetary assets more than double the previous year.

Cmdr. Tucker also expressed great pleasure in the improvements made under the stewardship of C-in-C Atkinson, especially the publication of one of the finest Banners in many years.

Plans were also made for paying homage to the unknown Union soldier buried at the National Veterans Cemetery in Bourne.

Brother Jerry Orton, national historian, visiting from New York gave one of his fine historical dissertations at the encampment. Brother William Haskell, elected Secretary Emeritus at the 1992 encampment, was honored for attending his 60th department encampment in a row. He is also a Past C-in-C; Massachusetts was honored by the presence of two other Past Chiefs, Eugene Russell and Clark Mellor.

Brother Frank J. Tucker was elected without opposition to an unprecedented third term as Massachusetts Department Commander. In addition to his stewardship as Department Secretary, Brother Edward Parks was unanimously elected Department Treasurer. Now the first hurdle, of straightening out department finances,

has been cleared, effort will be concentrated on organizing new camps.

Bay State Camp. No. 61, through Camp Cmdr. Lenahan O'Connell, reports two dinner meetings:

—At the Harvard Faculty Club, where the principal speaker was William E. Gienapp, professor of history at Harvard, gave a most interesting lecture on Abraham Lincoln, "The Presidential Leadership of Abraham Lincoln."

—On Feb. 22, at the Quincy Neighborhood Club, one block away from the ancestral home of Presidents John Adams and John Quincy Adams. The speaker was Anthony M. Sammarco, who spoke on Abraham Lincoln, Mary Forbes, and the Lincoln Log Cabin. The Lincoln Log Cabin is a replica located at Milton, Mass.

Illinois

Illinois Department has come through a re-building year. From a Commander's Message, by Past District Commander Nick Kaup, we select these items:

"To begin with, I would like to thank everyone who helped make 1992-93 a successful one for SUVCW. I believe that together we have gained credibility and the respect of our neighboring departments, as well as the National organization.

"I would like to express my gratitude to our new Dept. of Illinois Commander Ron Clark for his efforts in gather the inventory of department and camp equipment, supplies, and artifacts, and most importantly for his being able to secure the Department's finances. The cooperation and cordiality extended by Ron and members

of Camp Four were greatly appreciated.

"Illinois Dept. could not have had the positive year it experienced without strong leadership from its secretary and treasurer. Thanks to Tim Frake, the department met its obligations to the National and maintained good working relationships with our two Illinois camps. ...

"Our department Treasurer Jim Mueting went beyond the call in managing our funds. He secured banking facilities and has displayed an abiding and sincere concern for the welfare of our finances. We have now formulated our first budget. ... Additionally, Jim Mueting has worked at putting together department correspondence and has implemented various mailings ... to broaden our membership base. Tim Frake has also been active in this endeavor. ...

"Our Dept. Jr. Vice Commander Dave Bailey has been instrumental in providing me with valuable organizational procedures. ... Dave has also lent his expertise in the area of mass mailing and membership. ... I would like to thank Leon Wilkens for his efforts on GAR Memorial Highway No. 6. He worked with local and state officials to reinstate the signs, which are now in place. Leon has worked on putting together programs to aid veterans who are disabled and residing in VA Hospitals. These worthwhile programs will give the Sons the profile among our contemporaries which is needed; namely, descendants of Union Civil War veterans helping veterans who have risked their lives and paid a price to preserve our cherished freedom. ..."



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