



The Newsletter of the Bull Run Civil War Round Table — Vol. XXII, Issue 7, OCTOBER 2015

NPS HISTORIAN BETH PARNICZA TO SPEAK AT OCTOBER 8th MEETING ON “THE LOOTING OF FREDERICKSBURG, VA – DEC. 12, 1862”

By Mark Trbovich

In the early morning hours of December 11, 1863, Union soldiers began assembling pontoon bridges to cross the Rappahannock River directly into Fredericksburg, VA, hoping speed and surprise would bring success in their assault against entrenched Confederate forces there. A day-long delay in getting those pontoons up to the crossing point ruined the element of surprise and proved to be deadly.

On Dec 12th, Union troops crossed into Fredericksburg and street fighting soon followed. As the Confederates left the town, the Federal forces looted and vandalized what remained of the city. To bring you the story of what happened to Fredericksburg that day, we have NPS Historian Beth Parnicza Thursday evening.

Beth is a park historian at Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park, where she also supervises the Chancellorsville Battlefield Visitor Center. A 2011 graduate of West Virginia University, she joined the Na-

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

THURSDAY, October 8, 2015

7 p.m. Centreville Library

GUEST SPEAKER:

NPS HISTORIAN BETH PARNICZA

TOPIC:

**“THE LOOTING OF
FREDERICKSBURG, VA –
DEC. 12, 1862”**

tional Park Service and moved to the "other Virginia" to pursue her passion for Civil War history.

Beth's research interests focus largely on the human aspects of the war, including the



Arthur Lumley (ca. 1837–1912), artist. Night. The Sacking of Fredericksburg—& Biovace [sic] of Union Troops, [December 12, 1862]. Pencil on paper. Prints and Photographs Division, Library of Congress.

looting of Fredericksburg, the movement toward “hard war,” the experience of battle, and early historians of the park.

Members are encouraged to come early and get your seat. Prior to the regular meeting (at 7 p.m.), come on out at 5 p.m. and

meet Beth for dinner at Carrabba's Italian Restaurant, 5805 Trinity Pkwy., Centreville, VA 20120; (703) 266-9755 (next to the now-closed Copper Canyon Grill).

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 The Bull Run Civil War Round Table publishes the *Stone Wall*.

General Membership meetings are held at 7 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month at:

Centreville Regional Library
14200 St. Germain Drive
Centreville, VA 20121-2255
703.830.2223

For specific meeting dates and information, please visit the Web site: <http://bullruncwrt.org>.

NEWSLETTER ARTICLE SUBMISSION DEADLINE

For the **November 2015 issue**, e-mail articles by 9 a.m., Monday, October 26, to Nadine Mironchuk at: nadine1861@hotmail.com.

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For the **November 2015 issue**, advertisers should please click on "Instructions for Advertisers" at <http://bullruncwrt.org> and e-mail ads by noon, October 16, to Charlie Balch at BRCWRTads@gmail.com.

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to educate and to commemorate the battles
and events of the Civil War**

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UPCOMING MEETINGS

October 8, 2015 - NPS Ranger Elizabeth Parnicza - "Looting of Fredericksburg, VA: 1862"

November 12, 2015 - Author and Historian Christopher Kolakowski - "CSS Alabama"

December 17, 2015 - NPS Ranger Matt Atkinson - "Battle at the Devil's Den - Gettysburg, PA: July 1863"

January 14, 2016 - Dan Toomey - "The War Came By Train",

February 11, 2016 - Kevin Knapp - "The Use of Balloons by Union and Confederate Armies During the Civil War"

March 10, 2016 - Dan Vermilya - "Battle of Kennesaw Mountain, GA"

April 14, 2016 - John Quarstein - "Battle of Mobile Bay"

May 12, 2016 - Chris Mackowski - "Battle at the Mule Shoe Salient".

June 9, 2016 - Anniversary Meeting - Panel of Past BRCWRT Presidents

July 14, 2016 - Ed Bearss - "Battle of 1st Manassas"

August 11, 2016 - John Hennessey - "Battle of 2nd Manassas Campaign"

September 8, 2016 - Jon Hickox - "Civil War History at the Bull Run Winery"

October 13, 2016 - William Backus - "Battle of Bristoe Station"

November 10, 2016 - Bruce Venter - "Kill Jeff Davis, The K&D Richmond, VA Raid"

December 8, 2016 - Dwight Hughes - "CSS Shenandoah"

In This Issue

The President's Column	Page 3
The Book Corner	Page 4
Library of Congress Tour	Page 5
Ms. Rebelle	Page 6
North Anna Tour	Page 9
Indiana Civil War Trips	Page 10
New Members	Page 11
BRCWRT - Manassas Days	Page 11



The President's Column

By Mark A. Trbovich

Bull Run Civil War Round Table Members,

Fall has arrived in Northern Virginia and the leaves are starting to bring forth the autumn color. This is certainly my favorite time of the year. The summer was an excellent time for the BRCWRT, as we hosted our favorite guest – National Park Service Historian Emeritus Ed Bearss - in August, and author Chris Mackowski in September. Both presentations were heavily attended and outstanding in every way. Ed brought us the complete history of Lee's retreat from Petersburg, VA to Appomattox.

In excellent detail, as always, Ed brought us through the grueling struggle as Lee's forces pushed on until they could go no more. Thank you so much, Ed, for another fine BRCWRT memory!

September's lecture was brought to us from a very dynamic speaker, Chris Mackowski. We were so fortunate to have him speak on the Battle of North Anna just prior to our BRCWRT tour the next week. His presentation was delivered from all four corners of the room, which I found to be quite unique amongst any other speaker I have ever witnessed. Fantastic job, Chris, and we hope to see you back at the BRCWRT in the future.

I would like to thank Rob Orrison, our excellent tour co-director, and BRCWRT members who attended the September 19th tour of the North Anna, VA battlefield. The tour covered a lot of ground and many different locations. It was a very well-attended event, and we hope to see some slides of the tour at a future BRCWRT meeting to relive the highlights of this expedition. I am so looking for-

ward to hearing from Kimball Brace on the upcoming November tour of the Library of Congress. Stay tuned for more information on that.

I have a preservation update concerning the Centreville Historic District Leland Rd. extension, which the BRCWRT Executive Committee and I have opposed. On September 30th, there will be a Fairfax County Planning Board Meeting held to (hopefully) finalize the cancellation of this road extension. There will be more details to come in October. There's no new action to report on the Bristoe Station Battlefield/Kirkland's Charge land preservation effort. If I receive any word of movement on this, we will send it out via e-mail to all.

The 2016 BRCWRT speakers list is nearly completed. I so look forward to the outstanding BRCWRT 25th Anniversary Year of excellent

presentations lined up at the Centreville (VA) Regional Library every 2nd Thursday of the month. Our 2015 four-general statue raffle is in full swing to support our 2016 Scholarship fund. The drawing will be held at our Nov 12th pre-meeting dinner. Please support this worthy cause.

Our 2016 Election of Officers campaign process begins this month. John Depue and Ed Wenzel will be the Nomination Committee again this year. They will take nominations from the floor, as our by-laws state, so please consider a worthy candidate for the four available officers' positions.

Come on out to dinner at 5 p.m. prior to the upcoming meeting and join Beth Parnicza at Carabba's Italian Restaurant, 5805 Trinity Pkwy., Centreville, VA 20120; (703) 266-9755 (next to the now-closed Copper Canyon

Grill).

Let us never forget the people who served, and what they did for us. God Bless all of you.



The incomparable Ed Bearss (left), historian emeritus of the National Park Service, was August speaker at the BRCWRT. He is shown here with BRCWRT Pres. Mark Trbovich, who is one of Ed's legion of admirers.

Photo by Janet Greentree



Author Chris Mackowski was September's speaker at the BRCWRT. He is shown here with some of his books, including: "That Furious Struggle" and "Strike Them a Blow."

Photo by Janet Greentree



THE BOOK CORNER



By Ralph G. Swanson

After four years of Civil War, we are tired and need a break. *Traveller*, by Richard Adams (Dell Publishing, New York, 1988) is a refreshing, light perspective on the conflict, amidst so much reading reality of the era's great tragedy. *Traveller* is the poignant (and only slightly confused) memoir of Robert E. Lee's favorite war horse. Traveller, speaking in "first-equine," relates his exciting life experiences to his stable mate, Tom, the family cat. Traveller is a true native (West) Virginian and tells his story in that familiar, warm southern drawl. (Tom has no noticeable twang because, as we all know, cats can't talk.)

Traveller is the equestrian perspective on events that transpired when some sort of ruckus came up and he and Marse Robert had to head on off to a place called War. Along the way, a powerful lot of Blue men came up and caused all sorts of trouble. After a lot of marching around and commandin', Marse Robert finally gave them Blue men a lickin' and put them in their place.

Once all the loud banging died down, Marse Robert could get back to commandin' the country and judgin' and decidin' things. Traveller figures it musta' come out alright because Marse Robert and family now live in a comfortable house where all is quiet and old friends come to visit. Traveller relaxes in a warm stable, and he and Marse Robert enjoy many leisurely rides together.

Periodically, Adams interrupts Traveller's narrative to give his version of the conflict and keep less informed readers properly oriented. We don't need these asides, because we recognize all the events, such as those two big fights after crossing that big river up north, and other such goings on. You will also know Marse Robert's main helpers, "Cap-in-His-Eyes," "Red Shirt," and that flashy fella, "Jine-the-Cavalry."

This is not your intense, scholarly history of the war. After all, Traveller probably had about the same perspective on the conflict as the average private in the ranks—a lot of marching around, lots of noise and confusion, but not much grasp of what's really going on. In fact, with all the distractions, Traveller allows they never did get to that there War place.

Traveller knows instinctively that Lee is unwell. He senses it during the conflict and especially in the

years that follow. But he does not understand when Lee, all of a sudden, stops visiting the stable.

We can be thankful that Traveller survived the war and lived on as a faithful companion to Lee throughout his years at Washington College in Lexington, VA. Historian Eric Foner has estimated that the Confederacy lost 30 percent of its horses in the war. Georgia alone lost over 50,000 horses. Recovery in the agrarian south was crippled for years to come for lack of adequate horsepower.

Horses were the engines of war in the 1860's, vital to communication, intelligence and the movement of virtually all heavy materials such as food, ammunition and artillery. Railroads were beginning to play a role, but can you imagine our Civil War without horses? Only a glimpse of their horrendous sacrifice and suffering is found in the period photographs.

It is reasonable to believe that Lee was especially close to Traveller, as the historical record attests. Throughout his life, duty was everything to Lee. His children were grown and his wife had been invalided for many years of their marriage. While he had many admirers, it appears Lee had few close confidants.

Traveller will have you smiling, chuckling and, finally, choked with emotion. That knot in your throat comes from the memories of faithful friends lost during years of shared trial and hardship. As Lee was revered after the war, so too, was Traveller an icon of the south and the Lost Cause. In post-war letters, Lee wrote how he had to protect his pal from admirers who would otherwise pluck his mane and tail bare for mementos.

Sadly, Traveller survived his human friend by only a few months. He stepped on a nail and developed tetanus. He was euthanized to prevent suffering from a disease that is still incurable in large farm animals. Traveller was about 13 years old when he died, probably a full life for a horse in those days before proper veterinary care. He is buried just outside the Lee Chapel (Lee's tomb) on the grounds of Washington and Lee University in Lexington, VA.

There is much Civil War history to experience and enjoy in beautiful Lexington, and a visit to Traveller's gravesite is certainly a warranted salute to that beautiful and faithful creature.

Until next time, keep reading.

Note: As we arrive at the end of our sesquicentennial observances, **The Book Corner** wishes to solicit the views of the membership on new themes to be pursued in the literature of our Civil War. Two such themes under consideration are "Reconstruction" and "the Subordinate Generals," books by or about the generals who served under the army commanders. Your suggestions will be welcome at: renataralph@gmail.com.

BRCWRT Library of Congress “Behind the Scenes” Tour

by Kim Brace, Tour Coordinator

Are you interested in seeing the following items - and *more*?

- ♦ The message from James C. Chesnut and Stephen D. Lee, on behalf of General P. G. T. Beauregard, April 12, 1861, providing one hour's notice before the Confederate firing on Fort Sumter commenced.
- ♦ A letter from John G. Nicolay to his fiancée Therenia Bates, July 21-22, 1861, in which Nicolay provides a running account of news coming from the battlefield at Bull Run/Manassas.
- ♦ An original edition of Volume 1 of Alexander Gardner's *Gardner's Photographic Sketch Book of the War* (1865-1866), including scenes from Manassas.
- ♦ Original Ambrotypes/Tintypes/Ivorytypes showing:
 - ◊ Two unidentified sailors in Union uniforms with rope and anchor
 - ◊ Unidentified soldier in Confederate uniform of the 11th Virginia regiment with knapsack and bedroll
- ♦ Stereographs from the recently acquired Stanford Collection:
 - ◊ Tending wounded Union soldiers at Savage's Station, Virginia, during the Peninsular Campaign
 - ◊ Negro quarters on Fripp Place, St. Helena Island, S.C.
- ♦ Drawings about:
 - ◊ Colonel Burnside's brigade at Bull Run
 - ◊ The battle of Groveton or Second Bull Run. Between the Union army commanded by Gen. Pope and the Confederate army under Gen. Robert E. Lee. Sketched from Baldface Hill, looking towards the village of Groveton
- ♦ Original maps from the Civil War

These items and more will be shown to BRCWRT members on Monday, November 9th, during a special “behind the scenes” tour of three different departments in the Library of Congress. The Manuscript Division, Prints and Photographs, and Geography and Mapping Departments will host a full-day tour of some of their selected holdings, some of which are normally not shown to the general public.

Besides showing their items, representatives from each of the departments will talk about how people can do research in their divisions, in person and on-line. All departments are located within the James Madison Building at 101 Independence Ave., between 1st & 2nd St, SE, Washington, D.C., catty-corner from the U.S. Capitol. The Capitol South Metro station on the Orange, Blue & Silver lines is a half-block away. We'll have lunch in their 6th-floor cafeteria, which is open to the public.

The schedule for November 9th is as follows:

Meet at 10 a.m. – First floor, just inside the Independence Ave. entrance. BRCWRT members will meet just outside the Manuscript division, which is straight ahead past security.

- We'll spend the morning with Michelle Krowl, Civil War and Reconstruction Specialist in the Manuscript Division.

Noon – We'll go upstairs to the 6th-floor cafeteria where lunch and drinks can be purchased. You can bring a sack lunch if you want. Enough tables are available that we can rearrange in a corner to have lunch as a group.

1 p.m. – We'll be taken to the basement to view the Geography and Map room.

- Map discussion with Mike Buscher, Reference Team Leader in Maps, Civil War Specialist.

3 p.m. – Head up to the 3rd- floor, Room 337 for the Prints and Photographs division.

- Tour and talk by Barbara Orbach Natanson, Head of the Reference Section for the Prints and Photographs Division.

4:30-5 p.m. – Tour ends.

When we announced this tour at last month's meeting, we had 28 people sign up; more are interested in joining attending. However, 20 is the maximum capacity for each room. As a result, they have agreed that we can do a second tour of the Library after the first of the year.

To be fair to all, as well as an enticement for everyone to attend our October 8th Round Table meeting, we'll have a drawing for the first tour's 20 slots. Given the proximity to Halloween, I obtained a jar of multi-colored jelly beans filled with 10 blue and 10 gray beans for the special drawing. Come and try your hand at drawing out one of the special beans.



CIVIL WAR TRAVELS WITH MS. REBELLE

Brig. General Richard Brooke Garnett, CSA

By Janet Greentree

Ms. Rebelle seems to be on a roll here with generals who died at the Battle of Gettysburg, so here is another one for you. Gen. Garnett has a couple of amazing historical connections, which she will get into later.

Garnett was a Virginian, born on November 21, 1817, at his family's plantation, Rose Hill, in Essex County. He had a twin brother, Wil-



Portrait of Brig. Gen. Richard Brooke Garnett.

liam Henry, who died on August 4, 1855 at the age of 37 in Norfolk, Virginia. Even using my genealogy search tools, I've been unable to find anything on William. It's always interesting that so many of these ranking men came from big families, most likely outshining their siblings; you don't hear

much about their brothers' service unless they became staff members, etc.

His father was William Henry Garnett and his mother Anna Maria Brooke. First interesting connection: His father was descended from an indentured servant who arrived in Jamestown in 1610. What a true success story for his family to own a plantation in later years.

Like many of our generals, Garnett attended West Point, along with his cousin Robert Seldon Garnett (although, not his brother), and graduated with the class of 1841. There is some contention that pictures purported to be of Richard B. Garnett are instead those of his cousin Robert Seldon. Robert Seldon also has the distinction of being the first Confederate general to be killed in the Civil War, at

Corrick's Ford, WV.

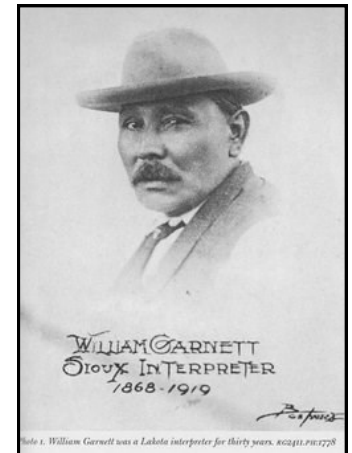
Richard was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the 6th U.S. Infantry. His service included military posts in Florida during the Seminole Wars, Fort Laramie, the Utah Expedition, Mexican War, and California. In May, 1855 he had attained the rank of captain but resigned his commission in May, 1861 to return to Virginia to serve with the Confederacy.

Before we get into the Civil War, the second connection evolves. Richard was stationed at Fort Laramie in Wyoming when he married an Indian woman in 1855, named Looking at Him Woman, daughter of Chief Crow-Feather. Looking at Him Woman may or may not have been previously married to John Baptiste Boyer, a French Canadian hunter, trapper, and blacksmith. This earlier union did produce a son, Mitch Boyer/Bouyer, who you may know as one of Custer's Indian

scouts at Little Big Horn. Mitch Boyer died along with Custer at the Little Big



Mitch Boyer, Gen. Garnett's stepson by his native American wife and her former partner, a French Canadian hunter.



William Garnett, Gen. Garnett's own son with wife Looking at Him Woman.

Horn massacre in 1876.

The union/marriage between Looking at Him Woman and Garnett produced a son as well, William Garnett, a/k/a Billy Garnett or Billy Hunter, born on April 25, 1855, in Laramie, Wyoming. Billy Garnett and Mitch Boyer were half-brothers. Once Richard Garnett left Fort Laramie, he never saw his son again. After Garnett left, Billy's mother went back to John Baptiste Boyer, but later married

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Ms. Rebelle – (con't from page 6)

John Hunter, that is why Billy went by Garnett and/or Hunter.

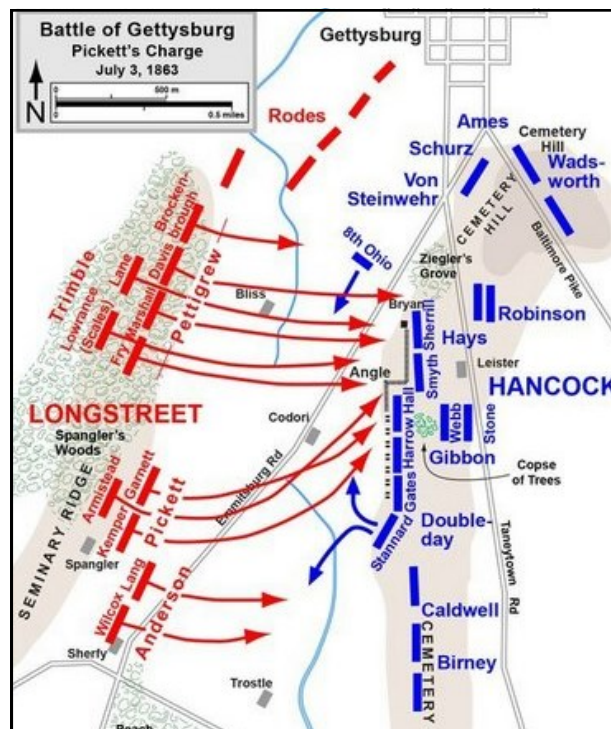
Garnett's first assignment in the Civil War was with the artillery of Cobb's Legion. He was promoted to brigadier general on November 14, 1861, and commanded the Stonewall Brigade. In March, 1862, at the battle of Kernstown, Garnett was surrounded on three sides by 9,000 men from General James Shields' infantry division. The division was almost twice the size of Garnett's unit. Rather than stay and be slaughtered, Garnett chose to retreat. This infuriated Stonewall Jackson so much that he accused Garnett of cowardice and disobeying orders. Jackson's position was that he should have requested permission to retreat. Jackson had him arrested for neglect of duty on April 1, 1862, and relieved him of command. This was devastating to Garnett. General Robert E. Lee stepped in and suspended the proceedings because every officer was needed for Lee's Northern Virginia Campaign. Garnett was hard-pressed to get over the embarrassment of what happened to him at Kernstown.

He next commanded Pickett's Brigade under Longstreet, when Pickett was injured. He fought at Antietam and Fredericksburg. He missed Chancellorsville, since he was with General Longstreet at Suffolk. When Jackson was killed at Chancellorsville, Garnett returned to Richmond for the funeral and served as one of Jackson's pall bearers.

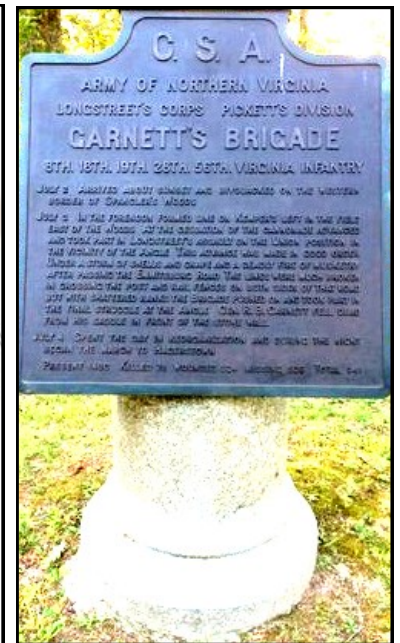
Garnett's brigade under General Pickett did not arrive in Gettysburg until the afternoon of the second day, July 2, 1863. Garnett was ordered by Gen. Lee the next day to the center of the line, commanding the 8th, 18th, 19th,



A depiction of Gen. Garnett, aboard his black horse Red Eye, waving his black hat to encourage his troops to surmount the stone wall at the copse of trees at Gettysburg. Here he will be killed in proximity of Gen. Armistead, both killed by recent Congressional of Honor recipient Alonzo Cushing's artillery.



Garnett's movements toward the copse of trees.



Garnett's marker at Gettysburg, near the Lee monument on West Confederate Ave.

Photo by Lisa Greentree Tully

28th, and 56th VA. Kemper was on the right and Armistead behind. Their lines curved to the left arriving at the copse of trees. All the generals were ordered to walk (to avoid being easy targets), but Garnett had been kicked by his horse, Red Eye, had a fever, and was wearing his heavy great coat, and so was mounted.

(con't on page 8)

Ms. Rebelle – (con't from page 7)

Most likely his insistence on riding instead of walking was to clear his name of the stain of cowardice from the Kernstown Court Martial. He chose to ride Red Eye, even though everyone told him he would be a sitting target for the Union's guns. General Armistead said to him: "This is a desperate thing to attempt." Garnett replied: "Yes, it is. But the issue is with the Almighty, and we must leave it in His hands."

General Garnett managed to get within 20 paces of the stone wall on the Emmitsburg Road. He was wearing a brand new coat with his general's star and braid. Was he a victim of Alonzo Cushing's guns, along with General Armistead - as related in my previous story (see February, 2015 Stone Wall)? Some surviving witnesses said he was shot in the waist area. Others say he was shot in the head while waving his black hat. Was his body cut in half and blown up, as rumored? His body was never recovered. From the black cloud and smoke of powder exploding, his horse emerged riderless, surviving a deep slash to the shoulder, and ran back to Confederate lines. A shield monument to Garnett is on West Confederate Avenue, on the right side, two monuments down from the Lee Monument.

Private James W. Clay, 18th VA, Co. G stated: "General Garnett was killed while leading his brigade in Pickett's charge across the field and up the slope between the two contending battle lines. Immediately after the great artillery duel, during which many of the enemy's guns were silenced, orders came for the general advance of Pickett's division, but it was not until we had covered nearly the entire distance between the two lines that the General received his death wound." "...The last I saw of General Garnett he was astride his big black charger in the forefront of the charge and near the stone wall, just beyond which is marked the farthest point reached by the Southern troops. The few that were left of

our brigade advanced to this point." "...The horse in its mad flight jumped over Captain Campbell and me."

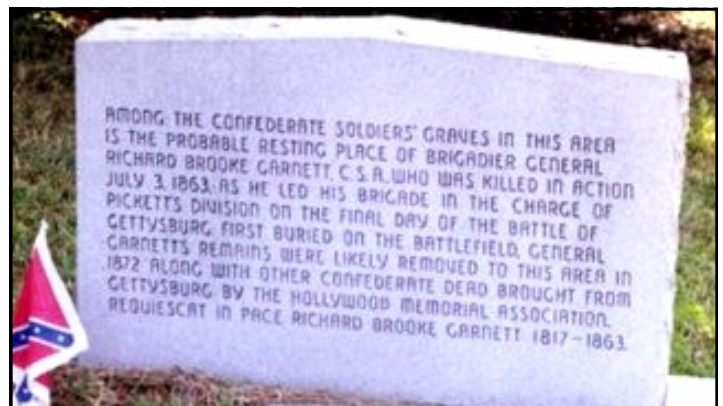
Another interesting tidbit concerns Garnett's sword. Thirty years later, Confederate General George H. "Maryland" Steuart found General Garnett's sword in a second-hand shop in Baltimore. The sword was engraved:



Garnett's sword, found in a thrift store and returned to the family years later.

"R.B. Garnett, U.S.A." General Steuart purchased the sword, intending to give it to Garnett's descendants. Unfortunately, Steuart died in 1903. Steuart's nephew gave the sword to Garnett's descendant, the wife (no name was given) of Colonel John B. Purcell in Richmond, Virginia.

When the Gettysburg dead were disinterred from the fields of battle and sent back to Hollywood Cemetery in Richmond, it is presumed that Garnett's body was among them. A marker was erected in tribute to General



Garnett's grave marker in Hollywood Cemetery, Richmond, VA.

Photo by Janet Greentree

Garnett. The inscription reads as follows: "Among the Confederate Soldiers' Graves in this area is the probable resting place of Brig-

(con't on page 9)

The BRCWRT Tours North Anna Battlefield



The BRCWRT recently toured the North Anna battlefield, with the following hearty participants learning about the conflict that took place May 23-26, 1864, with Grant making his end-around movements from the Wilderness, to Spotsylvania and then approaching the North Anna River. As Grant concentrated his troops there, he clashed with Lee but it was a glancing blow. The truly horrific fighting was to follow a few days later at Cold Harbor. Shown here, toward the front, left to right, are: Blake Myers, Doug Cox, Rob Orrison, Brian Whitenton, Kevin Anastas, and Alan Day. To the rear, left to right: Ed Wenzel, Mike Block, Mark Allen, Patrick McGinty, Chris Kern, Dan Lundeen, Bob Hickey, Mary Shine, David White, Sandra Cox, Mark Whitenton, Mimi Kotner, Joe Young, Debbie Page-Maples and son Tom, Amberli Wilson, John Scully and Brandon Rowland.

Photo by Kim Brace

Ms. Rebelle – (con't from page 8)

adier General Richard Brooke Garnett C.S.A. who was killed in action July 3, 1863, as he led his Brigade in the charge of Pickett's Division on the final day of the battle of Gettysburg. First buried on the battlefield, General Garnett's remains were likely removed to this area in 1872 along with other Confederate dead brought from Gettysburg by the Hollywood Memorial Association. Requiescat in Peace Richard Brooke Garnett, 1817-1863."

A Confederate of Medal of Honor was bestowed on Garnett by the Sons of Confederate Veterans in 1985. (see photo at right).

NOTE: Ms. Rebelle's hobby is traveling the country finding and honoring the graves of our 1,008 Civil War generals. So far, she has located and photographed 403....169 Confederate and 234 Union. You may contact her at jlgrtree@erols.com. On to Michigan now!



Civil War Field Trips — in INDIANA!

by E. B. Vandiver

In mid-September this year, I was privileged to take two Civil War field trips in Northern Indiana, one planned and one 'pop-up.' The planned trip was to the gravesite of a Civil War ancestor: the pop-up was to visit the Replica Lincoln Funeral Train.

My Great-grandfather, Elihu Bishop (my Grandmother Vandiver's father), served three years with Company B, 73rd Indiana Volunteer Infantry (1862-1865) in Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, and at military hospitals in many other states. He enlisted in August, 1862 when he was already 24 years old and married, with children.

Elihu answered his country's call to duty when it was faced with the great Confederate counteroffensive of mid- and late-1862. He fought in only a few battles, spending about half his service time hospitalized or convalescing from, variously, chronic bronchitis and dysentery. His health was ruined by the war; he could seldom work thereafter, and he died in 1874 when my grandmother Vandiver was only a year old.

A cemetery locator identified his gravesite at Rossberg Cemetery in the country north of Laporte, Indiana. Elihu was from New Buffalo, Michigan, a few miles further north on the shore of Lake Michigan. When the regiment was raised in the summer of 1862, he enlisted in Laporte, to which he returned when the war ended.

I was accompanied by a Culver Military Academy schoolmate, Jerry Ney, of the class after mine. He lives in Culver, Indiana, where I was visiting to attend a meeting of the Culver Legion Board of Directors. The Culver Legion is the Alumni Association of the Culver Academies: Culver Military Academy and Culver Girls School. The latter only came about in the 1970's. Trust me, there were no girls there when I was a cadet in the 1950's.

We found the cemetery and quickly found the gravesite. The cemetery is fenced and very well maintained. It was, as the sign notes, established in 1855, with few burials later than 1900. Four graves were marked with the iron G.A.R. star markers denoting Union Civil War veterans. Each veteran's grave displayed an American flag. I suspect this cemetery is maintained by a local VFW or American Legion Post.

Elihu's grave had two stone markers, both the kind furnished to veterans of that era, with a similar inscription: "Elihu Bishop, Co. B. 73D (or RD) Ind, Inf." I don't know why there are two markers, but one (right side of photo) is apparently older, and had at one time been buried deeper. The iron G.A.R. star marker is between the two stones, with a modern American flag.

I brought two small flags that I placed crossed at the base of the G.A.R. emblem. One is a 35-star U.S. flag, the national standard when Elihu was discharged in July 1865.

The other is the Indiana State Flag. After making a few remarks honoring a fallen veteran of an earlier war, we had a moment of silence; I then saluted the flags. That concluded the ceremony, which was both solemn and sorrowful.

We continued on to the Stray Dog Café, overlooking Lake Michigan in Elihu's hometown of New Buffalo, Michigan, to recuperate - which we did with cheeseburgers and craft brews.

After three days of reunion business meetings and social activities on campus, we were finally free at noon on Saturday, September 19th, which was also my 77th Birthday. Only the day before, we learned that the Replica Lincoln Funeral Train was visiting the Francesville, Indiana, Fall Festival, only 31 miles away. Field Trip time again! What a great birthday present.

We arrived at Francesville on a glorious end-of-summer day, after driving through endless golden corn and bean fields awaiting harvest, and found the train (an engine, tender, and the funeral car) parked in the middle of the main business street. The Replica Train took 10

(con't on page 11)



Above, Elihu Bishop's Gravesite in Indiana. Shown are the two antique markers and Grand Army of the Republic flag-holder decorating the Union soldier's grave. Below, the author salutes the sacrifice of his ancestor, who clearly offered his life for the success of the Union's cause.

Photos by E.B. Vandiver



Indiana – (con't from page 10)



Above, the replica Lincoln Funeral Train visited by the author in Indiana is now touring the U.S. Below, the funeral car.



years to construct and is meticulously correct - the funeral car having been constructed from the original drawings. The engine is a working locomotive that sometimes arrives on existing railroad tracks, and at other times is trucked to the various exhibit locations. The train has been touring all season, with some 40 thousand visitors having viewed the unique artifact to that time.

Lincoln's casket is also an exact replica. In fact, as shown, two guards occupied the facing chairs as Lincoln's body originally toured the Northern states en route to

interment in Springfield, Illinois.

Most amazing of all was that Mr. Lincoln himself was strolling about outside his funeral car, and very graciously posed for a photograph with me! Note that I am wearing my BRCWRT ball cap. I was careful not to tell him about my extensive Confederate lineage.



A replica coffin occupies the funeral car.

You may not be interested in visiting the grave of Elihu Bishop, but if you ever have the opportunity of visiting the Lincoln Funeral Train, I strongly recommend you do



Pres. Abraham Lincoln (left) greets the author upon his visit to the Replica Funeral Train.

so. It is set to tour many states (including North Carolina), and that schedule can be viewed at this Web site: <http://www.thosetrainpeople.com/>.

BRCWRT MEMBERS ENJOY RECENT MANASSAS DAY EVENT



Manning the BRCWRT info booth at the recent Manassas Days event are, left to right: Kim Brace, Jim Lewis and Blake Myers.

Photo by Janet Greentree

The Bull Run Civil War Round Table's Newest Recruits!

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- ◆ Donald Blersch
- ◆ David White
- ◆ Howell Simmons
- ◆ Vern Bettencourt

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