

Old Baldy

Civil War Round Table of Philadelphia



October 13, 2011, The One Hundred and Fiftieth Year of the Civil War

Camp Letterman : 80 Acres for 121 Days

When the Army of the Potomac and the Army of Northern Virginia left the Gettysburg environs on July 4 and following, they left behind almost 21,000 wounded soldiers. These men were distributed over the countryside in roughly 160 locations. Casualties of this magnitude overtaxed the available resources immediately. Camp Letterman, the first of its kind, a large General Tent Hospital was constructed.

It occupied 80 acres on the site of the George Wolf Farm, on a hillside just one mile out of town on the York Pike, and existed for a period of 121 days.

Using period accounts, original photographs, and current maps LBG **Phil Lechak** will attempt

to bring this often overlooked and under appreciated site to life. Although today this location contains only two historic markers, a hotel and a shopping center, complete with gas station and fast food restaurant; we will take an imaginary 'walking tour' around the grounds and experience where soldiers healed from the ravages of war.

Phil Lechak became a Licensed Battlefield Guide at the Gettysburg National Military Park in November of 2005. At his retirement from the U S Postal Service in January of 2007, following an almost 37 year career, Phil and Donna, his wife of 33 years, moved to Gettysburg. Now a Full Time LBG, Phil has led multiple tours across these historic Hospital grounds for many groups and was a presenter at the 2010 13th GNMP Biennial Seminar - The Aftermath and the End of the Campaign.

Join us at our next Old Baldy Civil War Round Table meeting as **Phil Lechak** presents Camp Letterman. That's **Thursday, October 13th** starting at **7:30PM** in the Sando Room of the **Union League** at Broad & Sansom Streets. As always, you are welcome to join us at 6:00 at Applebee's for a bite to eat before the meeting. It's just a block south of the Union League on 15th Street.

Notes from the President...

Welcome to Fall and another World Series run. Hard to believe three quarters of the year is complete and we are moving toward the end of the first year of the war. Special thanks to **Craig Schoeller** for filling in last month when Tom Moran had to cancel at the last minute. Craig's presentation on the Battle of the Bulge and his imprisonment was super. Everyone one present was greatly appreciative to him and astonished at his recall of events from almost 70 years ago. Thank you to all who came out to hear Craig as we had a good sized crowd for our first meeting in our new location. **Our new location in the Sando Room in the front of the building worked out well. We enter in the main door up the front stairs but can exit out the door just outside the Sando Room on to Broad Street.**

This month **Licensed Battlefield Guide Phil Lechak** will enlighten our group on Camp Letterman. It should be a great presentation. I will not be in attendance this month as I will be heading to Peoria the night of the meeting for a dedication ceremony. Come out and support Phil. I will be back with you next month for **Herb Kaufman's** presentation on the Gettysburg Address. A shout out to **Kerry Bryan** for the great job she has done lining up some fine programs for our unit despite her medical challenges this Spring.

The sessions at Camden County College have been well attended and very good. If you are in the area they are having an encampment on October 22nd. Keep current on 150th events and share them with the newsletter so we all can learn. Will have details on the "Gone for the Soldier" exhibit in Macculloch Hall in the next newsletter. For those not going to central Pennsylvania next month the New Jersey Historical Commission is having a Conference at Princeton University with Eric Foner and other scholars. Look for the details in the newsletter.

Thank you for your continued support and for telling everyone about our website [www.OldBaldycwrt.org]. Have outstanding October!

Rich Jankowski, President

The Old Baldy CWRT will meet at the Union League of Philadelphia at 7:30 PM, the second Thursday of the month. Members go out to a local restaurant for dinner at 6:00 PM, Applebees on 15th Street between Walnut and Locust. You're Welcome to Join Us!

Notice: Attire for Men at the Union League Jacket and tie would be preferred; otherwise collared shirts, long pants and jacket are recommended. For men and women, the following attire is never acceptable on the first or second floors of the League: jeans, denim wear, tee shirts, athletic wear, tank, halter, or jogging tops, shorts, baseball caps, sneakers, extremely casual or beach footwear. Current or historical military uniforms are appropriate.

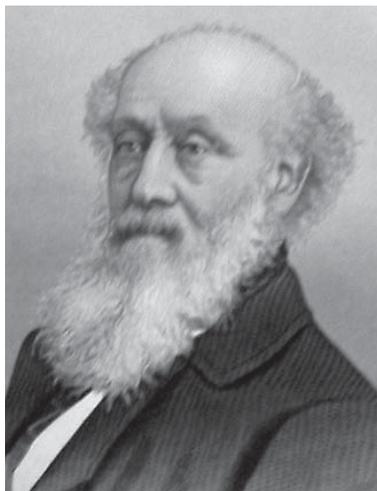


of an import-export company located at the base of Chestnut Street. Evidently a man of independent wealth

Homefront Heroes... "Samuel B. Fales"

Article, Photos
by Kerry Bryan

Faithful readers of the OBCWRT newsletter may recall last month's article regarding Philadelphia's Civil War volunteer refreshment saloons. The Cooper Shop and the Union Volunteer Refreshment Saloons were both located near the base of Washington Avenue, proximal to the Delaware River wharves where ferries unloaded train cars being shuttled between the Perth Amboy and Camden Railroad and the Philadelphia, Wilmington, and Baltimore Railroad. In the spring of 1861, as the first flood of Union soldiers en route to the front were funneled through the Southwark neighborhood, local citizens began to provide free food and drink (coffee was the most potent potable served) to the tired, hungry "boys in blue." By May 27, 1861, both the Cooper Shop and the Union had been officially organized, on that date providing hot meals to 780 men of the 8th New York Regiment as it passed through Philadelphia. By the end of 1865, the saloons together would supply some four million meals – at no charge. Funded completely by private donations, the refreshment saloons relied upon its volunteer workers, men and women willing to rush to the saloons to welcome arriving troops at any hour of day or night.



One of the most dedicated of these volunteers was Samuel B. Fales. Born in Boston in 1808 to a prominent New England family, he could trace his ancestry to William Bradford, one of the "Pilgrim Fathers" who arrived on the Mayflower in 1620; Bradford then served as governor of Massachusetts for some thirty years. Young Fales attended Harvard from 1821 to 1825, after which he studied medicine in Boston for a few years before discontinuing that career path. Fales then moved to Philadelphia in 1832, where for the following three years he was co-proprietor

(the 1860 census lists his profession as "gentleman"), Fales retired from commercial enterprise in 1835, after which he turned his attention to the fine arts. He studied art for several years, became an avid private collector, and served as a director of the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts from 1857 until 1860.

Then came the War. An ardent Unionist, Fales soon found a venue wherein he could demonstrate his patriotism: he devoted himself to the mission of the Union Volunteer Refreshment Saloon from its 1861 inception to the day its doors closed (December 1, 1865); in the interim, he served not only as Corresponding Secretary, but also was a member of numerous Union Saloon committees, chairing several of them, e.g. the Hospitals and Military Reception. Indeed, Fales continued to serve the Union Volunteer Refreshment Saloon long after the War, for this collector of art had become an inveterate archivist: Fales diligently compiled and preserved Union Volunteer Saloon records and ephemera, including letters, accounting ledgers, stationery, brochures, broadsides and tickets for fund raising events, sketches, and much more. Today the Historical Society of Pennsylvania holds the Samuel B Fales Collection, 22 boxes of primary source materials invaluable to those interested in researching Philadelphia's Civil War homefront.

After the War, Fales again turned his attention to his private art gallery, but he also remained an avid amateur historian; he actively corresponded with Frank Moore, author of *Women of the War* (1866), as well as Dr. Linus P. Brockett, co-author of *Women's Work in the Civil War: A Record of Heroism, Patriotism, and Patience* (1867). In 1867 he carefully prepared a document outlining the history of the Union Volunteer Refreshment Saloon.

In the fall of 1868 he was able to galvanize the members of the Union Volunteer Refreshment Saloon for a mighty reprise: October 1-3, they provided 27,000 meals to former "boys in blue" who had converged upon Philadelphia to celebrate the Presidential nomination of General Ulysses S. Grant.

MOLLUS honored Samuel B. Fales in August, 1867, when they elected him to be a "Companion" of that elite order;

he served on its Pennsylvania Council of the Commandery for several years. Also an enthusiastic member of the Union League, Fales continued to be active in Philadelphia cultural and patriotic spheres until shortly before his death in 1880. Samuel B. Fales was indeed a homefront hero.



Today in Civil War History

Sunday October 13, 1861

Gumption Gets Glaize Gamble Going

Things were going rather slowly in Sterling Price's first expedition to retake Missouri for the Confederacy. He and his men had had a success in the siege and battle of Lexington, when Fremont sat in St. Louis fighting political battles rather than military ones. Finally, though, Fremont had gotten a force together and was moving towards where he thought Price might be. As Price wished to discourage this, he attempted to cut the telegraph wires wherever he could. Today's telecommunication outages took place near Henrytown, at a locale known variously as Dutch or Monday Hollow, and also as Wet Glaize, Mo. Federal scouts caught Price's people at it, and a small battle ensued.

Monday October 13, 1862

Confederate Congress Cracks Constitution

The Constitution of the Confederate States of America is in many ways a fascinating document. Modeled almost word for word after the US Constitution, it is best known for its differences from the earlier document, such as a single six-year term for the President as well as repeated references to the everlasting legality of the institution of slavery. The similarities, however, were considerable, and included the right of habeas corpus, the rule that persons could only be arrested on specific charges, and had the right to have these heard before a judge. The Congress today renewed a law authorizing the suspension of these rights. Then they adjourned the second session of the First Congress.

Tuesday October 13, 1863

Manassas Mirage Making Meade Meander

It would have been a case of "déjà vu all over again" if such a phrase existed at this time, because Robert E. Lee seemed to be retracing the exact steps and maneuvers as had occurred before the dreadful Second Battle of Bull Run, or Battle of Manassas in the Southern nomenclature. The Army of Northern Virginia had crossed the Rapidan and headed north, before curving west as though to cut between Gen. George Meade's Army of the Potomac and the city they were supposed to protect, Washington D.C. Meade seemed intent on keeping his position near Richmond, and Lincoln was in a state of near-hysteria. Again he wired Meade, "How is it now?" Finally on the move, Meade today responded that he was headed for Manassas and Centerville, and was no longer likely to be cut off from the capital.

Thursday October 13, 1864

Mosby Makes Military Money Men Mad

John Singleton Mosby was technically a cavalryman, but really belonged to that category known as "Confederate raiders." Rather than scouting and screening for an army of infantry, he and his men operated independently, taking supplies, tearing up communications lines, and generally raising hell wherever they could. They raised a great deal today when they tore out some railroad tracks. The next train along naturally derailed, and Mosby's men pounced. Great was their glee when they discovered the Army payroll was on board. Relieving the two Union paymasters of \$173,000, they compounded their nuisance value by burning the train.

www.civilwarinteractive.com

September 13th meeting

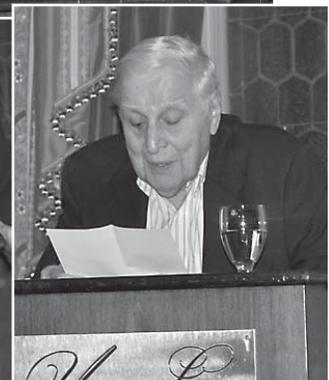
"Battle of the Bulge - Imprisonment"

Craig Schoeller filled in for our scheduled speaker and continued his talk on his military experiences during the Battle of the Bulge in World War II. After being wounded he went back to his unit and into more combat. During some harrowing events he was captured near the Rhine River on March 6, 1945. His tank column with infantry riding ran into an ambush and was cut off. During the capture we were under fire by our own artillery and being bombed by British Mosquito Bombers on the banks of the river. They were also bombed by P47's, and B17's in Osanbruck, Germany, he arrived at Stalag 118 located between Bremen and Hanover, Germany.

It was a tough two months and he was happy to be liberated by the British 7th Armored Division, veterans of El Alemien, the "Desert Rats".

His talk ended with a copy of a telegram that was sent to his family by the War Department and then one sent by Craig to assure them he was fine. Craig's memory of events that took place 70 years ago kept our group spellbound and greatly appreciating this fine gentleman.

Craig Schoeller



On the Road with Rich... "New York State Military Museum and Veterans Re- search Center"

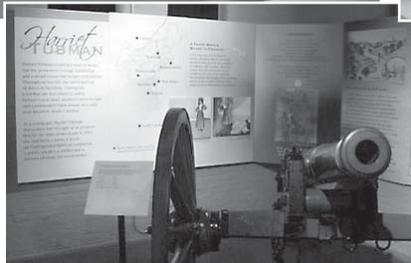
Article, Photos
by Rich Jankowski



On our Labor Day weekend trip up to visit the Pittsfield (MA) Colonials, we stopped in Saratoga Springs, NY for lunch and to visit the New York State Military Museum and Veterans Research Center. It is housed in the historic armory designed by Isaac Perry and constructed in 1889. Its mission is to preserve, interpret and disseminate the story, history and records of New York State's military forces and veterans. The museum has over 10,000 artifacts from the Revolutionary War to

Desert Storm relating to New York State's military forces, the state's military history and the contributions of New York's veterans. Among the notable Civil War artifacts in the collection are Colonel Elmer Ellsworth's uniform, the medical kit of Jubal Early's surgeon, and the uniform and bugle of Gustav Schurmann (General Philip Kearny's boy bugler). It also has artifacts from New York units in World War I and World War II.

The museum owns the largest collection of state battle flags in the country, many of them Civil War flags. The collection of 1700 flags date from the War of 1812 through the 1991 Gulf War, half are from the Civil War. The museum maintains an exhibit of its flag collection in the state capitol building in Albany. The library and archive holdings in the Research Center include a 2000 volume library of military and New York State history, over 6000 photographs, unit history files, broadsides, scrapbooks, letters, and maps. Among the collection is 2300 Civil War photographs, a collection



of Civil War era newspaper clippings arranged by New York units, and the NY National Guard service cards and service records dating from the 1880's to 1965. The Veteran Center operates and archives the New York Veteran Oral History Program for veterans of all eras.

The museum is laid out in chronological order opening with "Battleground for Freedom: New York During the Revolutionary War" highlighting the activities in New York during the war. The next area has exhibits on conflicts in the 1800's including the War of 1812, the Mexican War and the Spanish American War as well as in state conflicts the state militia participated in. The World War One exhibit is entitled "Fiery Trial and Sacrifice - New York and the First World War." It contains artifacts and stories of New Yorkers in the European War. "World War II - United for Freedom," has exhibits on the European conflict, action in the Pacific, the Coast Guard, the WAVES, and Navy explaining New York's role. The museum also has an exhibit on the current conflict and Guard participation in it. The Civil War exhibit is in the front opposite the Revolutionary War one. The artifacts on display were about 40% Confederate items. Beside the Ellsworth items there is are displays on Harriet Tubman and the Zouaves. The bookstore covers two rooms in the front of the building. They were having a book sale to make room for additional items and we secured some values.



The museum is located at 61 Lake Avenue in Saratoga Springs (518-581-5100). It is open Tuesday-Saturday 10-4 and Sunday 12-4. Admission is by donation. More information on exhibits is available at <http://dmna.state.ny.us/historic/mil-hist.htm>. The Museum does not have a parking lot so street parking is required. Before or after your visit to the museum, go over to Broadway for a variety of shops and eateries. Saratoga Springs

is about 35 miles north of Albany and nine miles south of Grant's Cottage.



Dr. Letterman's Gettysburg Report

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
MEDICAL DIRECTOR'S OFFICE,
Camp near Culpeper Court-House, Va., October 3, 1863.

GENERAL: I have the honor to submit the following report on the operations of the medical department of this army at the battle of Gettysburg, July 1, 2, and 3:

As the subject of transportation has an important bearing upon the manner in which the wounded are attended to after a battle, it is necessary to make some allusion to the manner in which this department was supplied. It is scarcely necessary to say that if the transportation is not sufficient to enable the officers of the department to conduct it properly, the effect must fall upon the wounded.

In the autumn of 1862, I investigated the subject very carefully, with the view to the adoption of some system instead of the irregular method and want of system which prior to that time was in vogue, to limit the amount necessary, and to have that amount always available. The transportation was one wagon to each regiment and one to each brigade. This gave all that was required, and it was not too much; and, it may be remarked, was a reduction of nearly one-half of that which had been in use prior to that time. This system worked well. At the battle of Chancellorsville, the department had upon the left bank of the Rappahannock means sufficient, had it been allowed to use them, for taking care of many more wounded than there came under its control.

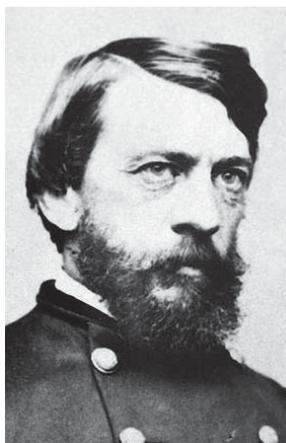
On June 19, while the army was on the march, as it were, from before Fredericksburg to some unknown point north of the Potomac River, the headquarters being near Fairfax Court-House, Va., the transportation of the department was cut down by Major-General Hooker on an average of two wagons in a brigade, in opposition to my opinion, expressed verbally and in writing. This reduction necessitated the turning in of a large portion of the supplies, tents, &c., which were necessary for the proper care of the wounded in the event of a battle. Three wagons were assigned to a brigade of 1,500 men, doing away with regimental wagons. This method in its practical working is no system at all, as it is liable to constant changes, and proved to be, what I supposed at the time it would be, a failure to give the department the means necessary to conduct its operations.

The headquarters left Fairfax Court-House on June 26 ultimo, for some point as yet unknown in Maryland or Pennsylvania.

On the 25th of that month, I directed Assistant Surgeon [Jeremiah B.] Brinton, U.S. Army, to proceed to Washington, and obtain the supplies I had ordered the medi-



Jeremiah Brinton



Jonathan Letterman

cal purveyor to have put up, and there await orders.

On the 26th, he was ordered to proceed with them to Frederick. This step was taken to obviate the want of supplies consequent upon the reduction of transportation.

At this date it was not known that the army would be near Frederick; still, the risk had to be run, and the event justified the order, Dr. Brinton arriving at Frederick on June 28, the day after the arrival of headquarters there, with twenty-five army wagon loads of such supplies as would be most required in case of a battle. The train with these supplies followed that of headquarters until we reached Taneytown.

On July 1, the trains were not permitted to go farther, and, on the 2d, were ordered farther to the rear, near Westminster.

On the 1st, it was ordered that "corps commanders and the commander of the Artillery Reserve will at once send to the rear all their trains (excepting ammunition wagons and ambulances), parking them between Union Mills and Westminster."

On the 2d, these trains were ordered still farther to the rear, and parked near Westminster, nearly 25 miles distant from the battlefield. The effect of this order was to deprive the department almost wholly of the means for taking care of the wounded until the result of the engagement of the 2d and 3d was fully known. I do not instance the effect of this order, excepting to show the influence of it upon the department. The expediency of the order I, of course, do not pretend to question, but its effect was to deprive this department of the appliances necessary for the proper care of the wounded, without which it is as impossible to have them properly attended to as it is to fight a battle without ammunition. In most of the corps the wagons exclusively used for medicines moved with the ambulances, so that the medical officers had a sufficient supply of dressings, chloroform, and such articles until the supplies came up, but the tents and other appliances, which are as necessary, were not available until July 5.

The supply of Dr. Brinton reached the field on the evening of July 4. This supply, together with the supplies ordered by me on July 5 and 6, gave more than was required. The reports of Dr. Brinton and Dr. [John H.] Taylor show that I ordered more supplies than were used up to the 18th of July, when the hospitals were taken from under my control. Surgeon Taylor, medical inspector of this army, who was ordered on July 29 to Gettysburg, to examine into the state of affairs there, reports to me that he made "the question of supplies a subject of special inquiry among the medical officers who had remained with the wounded during and for a month subsequent to the battle. The testimony in every instance was conclusive that at no time had there been any deficiency, but, on the contrary, that the supply furnished by the medical purveyor had been and still continued to be abundant." This is, perhaps, sufficient to show that not only were supplies ordered in advance, but that they were on hand when required, notwithstanding

the difficulty in consequence of the inability of the railroad to meet the requirements made upon it, until after General Haupt took charge of it on July 9. I have not deemed it necessary to present any tables showing the amounts ordered and issued, considering what I have just given as ample enough to show the action of this department. The chief want was tents and other appliances for the better care of the wounded. I had an interview with the commanding general on the evening of July 3, after the battle was over, to obtain permission to order up the wagons containing the tents, &c. This request he did not think expedient to grant but in part, allowing one-half the wagons to come to the front; the remainder were brought up as soon as it was considered by him proper to permit it. To show the result of the system adopted upon my recommendation regarding transportation, and the effect of the system of field hospitals, I may here instance the hospital of the Twelfth Corps, in which the transportation was not reduced nor the wagons sent to the rear at Gettysburg.



Ambulance Train

Surgeon [John] McNulty, medical director of that corps, reports that "it is with extreme satisfaction that I can assure you that it enabled me to remove the wounded from the field, shelter, feed them, and dress their wounds within six hours after the battle ended, and to have every capital operation performed within twenty-four hours after the injury was received. I can, I think, safely say that such would have been the result in other corps had the same facilities been allowed – a result not to have been surpassed, if equaled, in any battle of magnitude that has ever taken place.

A great difficulty always exists in having food for the wounded. By the exertions of Colonel [Henry F.] Clarke, chief commissary, 30,000 rations were brought up on July 4 and distributed to the hospitals. Some of the hospitals were supplied by the commissaries of the corps to which they belonged. Arrangements were made by him to have supplies in abundance brought to Gettysburg for the wounded; he ordered them, and if the railroad could have transported them they would have been on hand.

Over 650 medical officers are reported as present for duty at that battle. These officers were engaged assiduously, day and night, with little rest, until the 6th, and in the Second Corps until July 7, in attendance upon the wounded. The labor performed by these officers was immense. Some of them fainted from exhaustion, induced by over-exertion, and others became ill from the same cause. The skill and devotion shown by the medical officers of this army were worthy of all commendation; they could not be surpassed. Their conduct as officers and as professional men was admirable. Thirteen of them were wounded, one of whom (Asst. Surg. W. S. Moore, Sixty-first Ohio Volunteers, Eleventh Corps) died on July 6 from the effects of his wounds, received on the 3d. The idea, very prevalent, that medical officers are not exposed to fire, is thus shown to be wholly erroneous. The greater portion of the surgical labor was performed before the army

left. The time for primary operations had passed, and what remained to be done was to attend to making the men comfortable, dress their wounds, and perform such secondary operations as from time to time might be necessary. One hundred and six medical officers were left behind when the army left; no more could be left, as it was expected that another battle would within three or four days take place, and in all probability as many wounded thrown upon our hands as at the battle of the 2d and 3d, which had just occurred. No reliance can be placed on surgeons from civil life during or

after a battle. They cannot or will not submit to the privations and discomforts which are necessary, and the great majority think more of their own personal comfort than they do of the wounded. Little more can be said of those officers who have for a long period been in hospitals. I regret to make such a statement, but it is a fact and often a practical one. Dr. [Henry] Janes, who was left in charge of the hospitals at Gettysburg, reports that quite a number of surgeons came and volunteered their services, but "they were of little use." This fact



Henry Janes

is so well known in this army that

medical officers prefer to do the work rather than have them present, and the wounded men, too, are much better satisfied to be attended by their own surgeons. I, however, asked the Surgeon-General, July 7, to send 20 medical officers to report to Dr. Janes, hoping they might prove of some benefit, under the direction of the medical officers of this army who had been left behind. I cannot learn that they were ever sent.

Dr. Janes was left in general charge of the hospitals, and, to provide against contingencies, was directed, if he could not communicate with me, to do so directly with the Surgeon-General, so that he had full power to call directly upon the Surgeon-General to supply any want that might arise.

The ambulance corps throughout the army acted in the most commendable manner during those days of severe labor. Notwithstanding the great number of wounded, amounting to 14,193, I have it from the most reliable authority and from my own observation that not one wounded man of all that number was left on the field within our lines early on the morning of July 4. A few were found after daylight beyond our farthest pickets, and these were brought in, although the ambulance men were fired upon when engaged in this duty by the enemy, who were within easy range. In addition to this duty, the line of battle was of such a character, resembling somewhat that of a horseshoe, that it became necessary to remove most of the hospitals farther to the rear as the enemy's fire drew nearer.

This corps did not escape unhurt; 1 officer and 4 privates were killed and 17 wounded while in the discharge of their duties. A number of horses were killed and wounded, and some ambulances injured. These facts will show the commendable and efficient manner in which the duties devolving upon this corps were performed, and great credit is

deservedly due to the officers and men for their praiseworthy conduct. I know of no battle-field from which wounded men have been so speedily and so carefully removed, and I have every reason to feel satisfied that their duties could not have been performed better or more fearlessly.

Before the army left Gettysburg, and knowing that the wounded had been brought in from the field, six ambulances and four wagons were ordered to be left from each corps, to convey the wounded from their hospitals to the railroad depot, for transportation to the other hospitals. From the Cavalry Corps but four ambulances were ordered, as this corps had a number captured by the enemy at or near Hanover a few days previous. I was informed by General Ingalls that the railroad to Gettysburg would be in operation on the 6th, and upon this based my action. Had such been the case, this number would have been sufficient. As it proved that this was not in good running order for some time after that date, it would have been better to have left more ambulances. I acted on the best information that could be obtained.

The number of our wounded, from the most reliable information at my command, amounted to 14,193. (*) The number of Confederate wounded who fell into our hands was 6,802, making the total number of wounded thrown by that battle upon this department 20,995. The wounded of July 1 fell into the hands of the enemy, and came under our control on the 4th of that month. Instruments and medical supplies belonging to the First and Eleventh Corps were in some instances taken from the medical officers of those corps by the enemy.

Previous to leaving Gettysburg, I, on July 5 and 6, ordered supplies to be sent to Frederick from Washington and Philadelphia, to meet the wants of the department in the event of another battle, which there was every reason to suppose would occur shortly after the army left Gettysburg. While at the latter place, I asked the Surgeon-General to have 50 medical officers ready to meet me at such a point as I should thereafter indicate.

On July 7, I desired them to be sent to Frederick. Late in the night of July 9, 47 reported. These officers were designed to make up, as far as possible, the deficiency of medical officers existing in consequence of the large detail from this army left at Gettysburg.

Tents were ordered by my request, and the corps supplied as far as their transportation would permit, and the remainder kept in reserve. It is not necessary to enter into a detailed list of the articles ordered and on hand ready for the anticipated battle. I have the orders in my office, and it is with pleasure I can state for the information of the commanding general that, notwithstanding the short time in which I had to make the necessary preparations, this department was, when near Boonsborough, fully prepared to take care of the wounded of another battle of as great magnitude as that which this army had just passed through at Gettysburg.

It is unnecessary to do more than make an allusion to the difficulties which surrounded this department at the engagement at Gettysburg. The inadequate amount of transportation; the impossibility of having that allowed brought to the front; the cutting off our communication with Baltimore, first by way of Frederick and then by way of Westminster; the uncertainty, even as late as the morn-



ing of July 1, as to a battle taking place at all, and, if it did, at what point it would occur; the total inadequacy of the railroad to Gettysburg to meet the demands made upon it after the battle was over; the excessive rains which fell at that time— all conspired to render the management of the department one of exceeding difficulty, and yet abundance of medical supplies were on hand at all times; rations were provided, shelter obtained, as soon as the wagons were allowed to come to the front, although not as abundant as necessary on account of the reduced transportation. Medical officers, attendants, ambulances, and wagons left when the army started for Maryland, and the wounded were well taken care of, and especially so when we consider the circumstances under which the battle was fought and the length and severity of the engagement.

The conduct of the medical officers was admirable. Their labors not only began with the beginning of the battle, but lasted long after the battle had ended. When other officers had time to rest, they were busily at work—and not merely at work, but working earnestly and devotedly.

I have not considered it necessary to give in this report other than a very general outline of the operations of this department at that time. To enter into a detailed account of them would, I presume, be more than the commanding general would desire.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JON A. LETTERMAN

**New Jersey Historical Commission 28th Annual
New Jersey History Conference
“New Jersey in the Crucible
of the Civil War”**

Princeton University • November 19, 2011
Co-Sponsors

Historical Society of Princeton
Rutgers Institute on Ethnicity, Culture and the Modern
Experience
New Jersey Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission
New Jersey Civil War Heritage Association

8:30 Registration, exhibits, continental breakfast

9:30 Morning Program

Annual Cunningham Lecture: Eric Foner, *The Fiery Trial: Abraham Lincoln and American Slavery*. Larry Greene, *The Role of Race and Slavery in New Jersey Elections*

Awards Presentation

Book Signing

Continued on page 8

Education Session 12:45 – 1:30
Researching Your Community Heritage

Afternoon Panel Sessions 1:45 – 3:00
The Homefront
Women, Medicine, and the Civil War
The Soldier Experience

Plenary 3:15 – 4:00

Manor College has announced its program of classes for the 2011 Winter Session. Instructors are all members of the Delaware Valley Civil War Round Table.

Take courses independently or enroll in the Civil War Certificate program. To earn a certificate, you must take eight courses. Four must be core courses with the remainder being electives. For an application and/or to register, contact the Manor College Continuing Education Department at (215) 884-2218. Manor College is located at 700 Fox Chase Road in Jenkintown, PA.

**** The Role of Railroads.**

– 0.6 CEUs – 6 Hours

Many have argued that the railroads made Union victory in the Civil War possible. This course examines the Iron Horse's impact on the war, with special focus on the people, from Donald McCallum and Herman Haupt to Union General William "Cump" Sherman, who saw the potential of railroads as an instrument of war.

Instructor: Matthew Bruce

Sessions: 3

Dates: Wednesdays, October 19 - November 2

**Schedule of Old Baldy CWRT
Speakers and Activities for 2011**

October 13 – Thursday
"Camp Letterman-Gettysburg"
Licensed Battlefield Guide: Phil Lechak

November 10 – Thursday
"Creating the Gettysburg Address"
Historian/Author: Herb Kaufman

December 8 – Thursday
"Victorian Christmas Customs"
Historian: Jane Etes

All meetings,
unless otherwise noted,
begin at 7:30 PM
in the Sando Room of the UNION LEAGUE,
Broad & Sansom Streets in Philadelphia.
Questions to Steve Wright at 267-258-5943 or
maqua824@aol.com

Members go out to a local restaurant
for dinner at 6:00 P.M.
Applebees on 15th Street between Walnut and Locust

You're Welcome to Join Us!

WEB Site: <http://oldbaldycwrt.org>
Email: oldbaldycwrt@verizon.net
Blog: <http://oldbaldycwrt.blogspot.com/>
Face Book: Old Baldy Civil War Round Table

Time: 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM
Fee: \$65, Early Bird \$55

**** Civil War Assortment I.**
– 1.2 CEUs – 12 Hours

This course will cover a different topic each week. They will include:

Spies for the Blue and Gray
The Role of Horses in the Civil War
How the Press Covered the War
Notable Civil War Marriages
Home Life
Heroes, Rogues and Lunatics – Memorable Personalities of the War

Instructor: Delaware Valley CWRT

Sessions: 6

Dates: Saturdays, November 5 - December 17 (No Class November 26)

Time: 10:00 AM – 12:00 Noon

Fee: \$110, Early Bird \$100

*** The Lincoln Assassination.**

– 1.2 CEUs – 12 Hours

The assassination of our 16th president will be studied as an historical event. The military, social and legal aspects of 1865 will be analyzed. Special emphasis will be given to the conduct of the military commission that tried the alleged conspirators. Guilty or not guilty? Justice or no justice?.

Instructor: Hugh Boyle

Sessions: 6

Dates: Wednesdays, November 16 - December 21

Time: 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM

Fee: \$110, Early Bird \$100

**The 150th Civil War History
Consortium in the Philadelphia Area**

Exhibitions

Rally Round the Flag: Civil War Color Bearers

Betsy Ross House

Opening April 12

John McCallister's Civil War: The Philadelphia Home Front

Library Company of Philadelphia

Opening May 17

Philadelphia 1861: The Coming Storm

The Heritage Center, The Union League of Philadelphia

Opening mid-June

Presbyterians and the Civil War: Witness to a Great Moral Earthquake

Presbyterian Historical Society

Mon - Fri 8:30-4:30 [free]

Audacious Freedom

African American Museum

Ongoing - permanent exhibit

**Old Baldy Civil War Round Table of Philadelphia
Union League
140 South Broad Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103**

**856-427-4022 oldbaldycwrt@verizon.net
Founded January 1977**

Annual Memberships
Students: \$12.50
Individuals: \$25.00
Families: \$35.00

President: Richard Jankowski
Vice President: William Brown
Treasurer: Herb Kaufman
Secretary: Bill Hughes
Programs: Kerry Bryan