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Archer Jones Receives The 2003 NYMAS

Civil War Lifetime Achievement Award

The second annual NYMAS Award for Lifetime Achievement in Civil War Studies has been presented to Archer Jones.

Archer Jones, winner of the NYMAS Civil War Scholarship Award, is Professor Emeritus from North Dakota State University, where he also served as Dean for many years. Born in 1926, Jones obtained his Ph.D. from the University of Virginia in 1955. Over the course of his career, Jones has been a prolific author. Some of his most famous works include *The Politics of Command*, co-authored with Thomas L. Connelly, *Confederate Strategy from Shiloh to Vicksburg*, *Command and Strategy in the Civil War*, and *War in the Western World*. He is also co-author with Herman Hattaway of *How the North Won*, a book that stands today as one of the most popular military history texts on the Civil War. Dr. Jones has also authored dozens of articles.

Aside from service as Dean and faculty member at North Dakota State, Dr. Jones has also served as Visiting Professor to the United States Army Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

Reviews

The Making of Robert E. Lee, by Michael Fellman. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2000. Pp. xx, 360. Illus., notes, index. \$18.95 paper. ISBN: 0-8018-7411-4.

As has proven the case with his personal hero, George Washington, the true Robert E. Lee, man and a soldier, suffered greatly from the mythmakers. In Washington's case the problem was the Parson Weems school of idolaters. For Lee it was the "Lost Cause" historians. (No coincidence here that Douglas Southall Freeman penned monumental biographies of both men.) For both Virginians, getting at the real man has proven difficult, as the mythic image was greatly treasured. For Washington the work was largely accomplished by the Bi-centennial. For Lee it began

with Thomas Connelly's 1977 work *The Marble Man*, and is still underway.

In *The Making of Robert E. Lee* Michael Fellman looks at both the making of the real man and the making of myth. Only four of the thirteen chapters are actually about the Civil War. The others focus on Lee's early life, including the impact on his character of the abandonment of his family by his rebrodate father and the subsequent disgrace of his equally shameful older half-brother. Considerable attention is paid to the political, cultural, and social forces that shaped his views. As Fellman points out, most biographers pass lightly over his views on slavery, picking and choosing to prop up Lee's image, and also ignore his tendency to snobbishness, surely a mechanism to insure that he maintain a "gentlemanly" image at all time (in contrast to his father and brother). Equally so, however, Lee's biographers seem to miss his surprisingly impish sense of humor (There's a wonderful anecdote describing how Freeman so totally misunderstood a little joke of Lee's that he seems to have thought it implied the man had committed murder!) and his playful relationships with young women.

While *The Making of Robert E. Lee* does not delve deeply into Lee's military accomplishments, it represents a valuable work for anyone interested in the Civil War.

--Albert A. Nofi,
CNO SSG

Confederate General R.S. Ewell: Robert E Lee's Hesitant Commander. By Paul Casdorff. Lexington: The University Press of Kentucky, 2004. Pp. xii, 440. Illus., maps, notes, biblio., index. \$39.95. ISBN: 0-8131-2305-4.

One of the more interesting trends over the past twenty years has been the spate of Confederate biographies that have appeared, especially dealing with the major figures of the Army of Northern Virginia. One of those figures was Richard Ewell, the subject of a biography by Donald Pfanz, published in 1998. Now Paul Casdorff has weighed in with his own biography of Ewell. Pfanz noted in his biography of Ewell that when writing on the Army of Northern Virginia, one has to escape the shadow of Douglas Southall Freeman.

Casdorph's book is in many ways a retreat back into the shadow of Freeman. He takes a very traditional view of Ewell, often relying on Freeman's well-known judgments of Ewell as someone who was ill suited to corps command, although he could function as a division commander executing Stonewall Jackson's explicit orders.

Although Casdorph's research is better in this book than in his previous major effort, the truly awful *Lee and Jackson: Confederate Chieftains*, and the book is reasonably well written, his views on Ewell do not differ much if at all from those set forth sixty years earlier by Freeman. The recommendation of this reviewer is that people should read Casdorph's book, then read Pfanz's book on Ewell and decide for themselves.

--Richard Di Nardo,
USMC C&S College

The Supply for Tomorrow Must Not Fail: The Civil War of Captain Simon Perkins Jr., A Union Quartermaster, by Lenette S. Taylor. Kent, Oh.: Kent State University Press, 2004. Pp. xvi, 264. Illus., maps, append., notes, biblio., index. \$35.00. ISBN: 0-87338-783-X.

A civilian businessman, early in the war Perkins secured an appointment as an assistant quartermaster, and later as a paymaster, and served in the Army of the Ohio and later that of the Cumberland, in Kentucky, Alabama, and Tennessee, including service during such battles as Shiloh, Corinth, and Chattanooga. His duties seems like the material from which one can make an interesting book, but that is precisely what the author has done, taken a difficult, dry subject, and turning it into an informative, readable account of the logistical side of the war.

In the course of his duties Perkins managed the supply of fodder to the armies, conducted "midnight requisitions," fed – and later paid – thousands of troops, and fought countless bureaucratic battles, all skills acquired through "O.J.T.", as the Union had very few trained quartermaster and paymaster officers, and no training program for them. The book provides a good lesson in what it took to keep an army in the field during the Civil War, from uniforms and ammunition to pens and ink (the latter in two colors, black and red).

The book also provides a look at how Perkins career was initiated and sustained by an intricate pattern of family and social ties, and how he maintained his private interests whilst on campaign. A valuable contribution to an often-neglected side of the war.

--Albert A. Nofi,
CNO SSG

The War within the Union High Command: Politics and Generalship During the Civil War, by Thomas J.

Goss. Lawrence, Ks.: University Press of Kansas, 2003. Pp. xx, 300. Tables, notes, biblio., index. \$34.95. ISBN: 0-7006-1263-7.

In *The War within the Union High Command* the author address how the nation's "Dual Military Tradition," its long reliance on the combination of citizen-soldiers and professionals, affected the conduct of the Civil War. We are all familiar with the distinction between the "political generals" and the "professional generals" in the war, with scholarship traditionally coming down hard on the former and praising the latter. Goss takes a different view, pointing out firstly that quite a number of the "professional generals" – McClellan, Halleck, Pope, Buell, Frémont, etc. – proved wanting, while some of the "political generals" – Logan, Wadsworth, etc. – were by no means inept. But he goes beyond that, to argue for an expanded definition of generalship in the war, one rooted in the Clausewitzian concept of war as an extension of politics.

The Union needed not only commanders who could win in the field, but also commanders who could inspire popular support for the war, a fact recognized by such professionals as U.S. Grant himself. The "political generals" could bring men into the ranks and solidify regional support for the struggle, and particularly Democratic support, something the professionals could not do, since few of them had any influence – or image – outside the army. While they sometimes failed on the battlefield, the political generals succeeded in keeping popular support for the fight.

A further aspect of the problem facing Lincoln was that there just weren't enough professional soldiers to command the enormous armies that the war engendered. And in any case early in the war the professionals demonstrated little more capability than did the amateurs. As the war went on, and capable professional soldiers came to the attention of the public, Lincoln was gradually able to dispense with the political generals, or at least those who had proven less than capable on the battlefield.

--Albert A. Nofi,
CNO SSG

Walker's Texas Division, CSA: Greyhounds of the Trans-Mississippi, by Richard G. Lowe. Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 2004. Pp. xiii, 339. Illus., maps, notes, biblio., index. \$39.95. ISBN: 0-8071-2933-X.

This book is the latest addition to the growing corpus of literature on the previously neglected Trans-Mississippi theater. The division commanded by James G. Walker was somewhat unique in the war that it was the only division whose units came from one state, in this case Texas, throughout the war. Lowe

covers the history of the Texas Division from its creation in the spring of 1862 through its service in the Trans-Mississippi to its disbanding in May 1865.

Lowe has done a fine job in painting a portrait of the division, using wide array of sources, both published and unpublished. Particularly valuable here is the attention given to the division's part in the Red River campaign. He also includes useful sociological data on its soldiers. Given the specialized nature of the topic, this book's appeal will not be very broad. For students of the Trans-Mississippi, this book is a must.

--Richard Di
Nardo, USMC C&S College

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Biographies & Personal Accounts

Winfield Scott and the Profession of Arms, Allan Peskin. Kent, Oh.: Kent State University Press, 2003. Pp. xi, 328. Illus., maps, notes, biblio., index. \$49.00. ISBN: 0-87338-774-0.

Although the bulk of this work deals with Scott's life and deeds prior to the Civil War, that period is of importance because it laid the foundation not only for his own contributions to the Union effort in the early stages of the conflict but also because it was during that period that Scott, more than any other figure, created a professional American officer corps, which in turn shaped the armies that fought the war. Although one would think that yet another biography of Scott – there have been at least three in the ten years prior to this one – would be superfluous, but Prof. Peskin has managed to throw some fresh light on many of the critical events in the general's early career, notably his services during the War of 1812.

Little Phil: A Reassessment of the Civil War Leadership of General Philip H. Sheridan, by Eric J. Wittenberg, Dulles: Brassey's, 2002, Pp. xxii, 249. Illus., maps, append., notes, biblio., index. \$24.95. ISBN: 1-57488-385-2.

Little Phil is by no means an admiring account of Phil Sheridan's life and career. It opens with a summary account of Sheridan's life before the war, and then plunges into his military career during the conflict, with a highly critical view not only of his performance as a commander, but also of his personality and character. The author argues that Sheridan was a mediocre commander with a talent for self-promotion. As has been the case with many of the popular heroes of the Civil War, Sheridan's abilities and character may have benefited from some inflation (after all, the hardly less self-promoting Jubal Early gave him a good fight in the Valley in 1864).

Nevertheless, Wittenberg's goes too far, omitting much contrary evidence. For example, he glosses over Sheridan's surprising administrative abilities and his knack for inspiring troops, gives only cursory treatment to the final weeks of the war in Virginia, during which "Little Phil" demonstrated some skill in a highly fluid situation.

Cushing: Civil War SEAL, by Robert J. Schneller, Jr. Washington: Brassey's, 2004. xvi, 199. Illus., maps, chron., notes, biblio., index. \$19.95. ISBN: 1-57488-506-5.

A concise biography, considering the number of "special operations" on which Cushing served, including the "torpedoing" of the Confederate ironclad *Albemarle*, the sub-title of this work is hardly inappropriate. But the book is more than just a retelling of Cushing's feats of daring. It provides a look at what it was like to grow up middle class in the *ante bellum* period, and the training and service of a naval officer, as well as his wartime services.

Southern Lady, Yankee Spy: The True Story of Elizabeth Van Lew, A Union Agent in the Heart of the Confederacy, by Elizabeth R. Varon. New York: Oxford University Press, 2003. Pp. xi, 317. Illus., maps, notes, index. \$ 35.00. ISBN: 0-19-514228-4

An in-depth look at the Elizabeth Van Lew and the espionage network that she operated in Richmond throughout the Civil War. Although portions of this story have been told before, Varon provides a comprehensive look at the activities of Van Lew and her network, thereby helping to clear up a great many uncertainties. In addition to biographical and operational matters, the book takes a look at spy craft in the period, and provides considerable insight into the social structure and gender roles in the Old South.

A Politician Turned General: The Civil War Career of Stephen August Hurlbut, by Jeffrey N. Lash. Kent, Oh.: Kent State University Press, 2003. Illus., maps, notes, biblio., index. \$49.00. ISBN: 0-87338-766-X

In a work that revives the old argument about the effectiveness of "political" generals in the war, Lash focuses on one who had a mixed record. An Illinois politician with a hint of corruption in his background, Hurlbut, a veteran of many years in the militia and service in the Seminole Wars, proved very effective commanding a division in combat, both personally brave and tactically savvy, yet was less capable at higher levels – hardly a failing limited to the "political" generals. At higher levels of command, he seems to have lost confidence in himself, and resorted increasingly to alcohol. Over all, an officer who made substantial contributions to the Union war effort, but was promoted beyond his abilities. The work also provides a great deal of valuable background on political, social, and economic life in the period, as

well as on the network of family ties that often underlay a great deal of what went on in those realms..

Jefferson Davis, Confederate President, by Herman Hattaway and Richard F. Beringer. Lawrence, Ks.: University Press of Kansas, 2002. Pp. xix, 542. Illus., maps, append., notes, biblio., index. \$39.95. ISBN: 0-7006-1293-9

Despite its title, *Jefferson Davis, Confederate President* is less about Davis the President and more about the Confederate government, using Davis as the lens through which to observe its workings. Considering its hasty organization and limited resources, it was a remarkably successful government. But it was also riven by many political, bureaucratic, and personal rivalries that arguably undermined its effectiveness at least as much as did the Union war effort. The book provides a comprehensive look at the organization and functions of the various branches of the Confederate government, the personalities of the principal office holders, the workings of the Congress, and, of course, military administration, recruiting, logistics, and so forth

Kentucky's Last Cavalier: General William Preston, 1816-1887, by Peter J. Schlinger. Lexington: Kentucky Historical Society/University Press of Kentucky, 2004. xvii, 309. Illus., maps, notes, biblio., index. \$33.95. ISBN: 0-916968-33-2.

This is a full biography of Preston, and focuses on his career as a businessman, politician, member of Congress, and diplomat. Only a quarter of the work is devoted to his service in the Confederate Army 1861-1864, and as Minister to Imperial Mexico. The work, which has a rather pro-Southern tone, does provide adequate, if short, coverage of describing his services to the Confederacy, particularly his command of a division at Chickamauga. It is even more valuable for its look at the intricate web of business interests and family ties (Preston was the brother-in-law of Albert Sidney Johnston and a cousin to John C. Breckenridge) that undergirded Southern society.

Kate Chase and William Sprague: Politics and Gender in a Civil War Marriage, by Peg A. Lamphier. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press: 2003. Pp. x, 315. Illus., append., notes, index. \$55.00. ISBN: 0-8032-2947-X

The courtship and wedding of the rich and dashing William Sprague, Governor of Rhode Island, to the sparkling and beautiful Kate Chase, daughter and hostess to the Secretary of the Treasury, would make a good film, perhaps a romantic comedy. But the marriage that followed would be better portrayed in a soap opera, involving political intrigue, adultery, betrayal, and divorce. A very readable look at one of the most spectacular political marriages in American

history, while along the way providing a some valuable insights into mid-nineteenth century domestic life, ranging from child rearing to gender roles to family finances and more.

A Soldier's General: The Civil War Letters of Major General Lafayette McLaws, edited by John C. Oeffinger. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2002. Pp. xx, 299. Illus., maps, notes, biblio., index. \$34.95. ISBN 0-8078-2690-1.

A valuable collection of letters and related documents that cover McLaws' life and military career, including his service in the Old Army, with some particularly valuable items dealing with the Navaho War of 1859. However, most of the items focus more on McClaws' personal life, rather than the great military events in which the general took part. While these letters provide considerable insights into his personality, they are much less enlightening about his experience and thoughts on command, battle, and the military life.

Brigadier General John D. Imboden: Confederate Commander in the Shenandoah, by Spencer C. Tucker. Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 2003. Pp. xiii, 392 pp. Illus., maps, notes, biblio., index. \$32.00. ISBN: 0-8131-2266-X.

Imboden is here treated to a solid biography that tries to find the real person behind his post-war penchant for telling tall tales that has led most historians to pass over him rather lightly, if not dismissively. In this effort, Spencer Tucker manages quite nicely, fitting Imboden's life and career into the larger events of the age. This is no easy task, but is well done. The author carefully and critically compares Imboden's own accounts of events against each other, as well as against other sources, to come up with an excellent look at the general's role in the war, and particularly in the irregular operations that he conducted in Western Virginia. The picture that emerges is of a capable, conscientious officer faced with complex ethical issues both as a commander of partisan troops and, later in the war, as administrator of prisoner-of-war camps.

Reminder

Annual dues – \$35.00 – are payable
in September

Battles & Campaigns

Bloody Valverde: A Civil War Battle on the Rio Grande, February 21, 1862, by John Taylor. Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 1999. Pp. xii, 185. Illus., maps, append., notes, biblio., index. \$19.95 paper. ISBN: 0-8263-2148-8

A spirited account of the Confederate campaign in New Mexico and the pivotal Battle of Valverde, which

the Union lost, but which helped set up the later fight at Glorietta, which decided that campaign for the Union. The work does an excellent job of bringing to life some of the more unusual characters who served in war (such as Lt. Col. William "Dirty Shirt" Scurry or Capt. James "Paddy" Graydon, not to mention the dipsomaniacal Brig. Gen. Harry Hokins Sibley), while dealing adequately with the problems both sides had in concentrating forces, including, on both sides, lance armed cavalry, and campaigning in an unusually hostile environment. A good read

Vicksburg is the Key: The struggle for the Mississippi River, by William L. Shea and Terence J. Winschel. Lincoln, Neb.: University of Nebraska Press, 2003. Pp. xii, 231. Illus., maps, notes, biblio., index. \$35.00. ISBN: 0-8032-4254-9

Although focused on the critical operations that led to the siege and fall of Vicksburg in the summer of 1863, *Vicksburg is the Key* fully lives up to its subtitle, for its primary concern is the importance of the Mississippi in the war. While the work contains no revolutionary re-interpretations or insights, it does provide an excellent over-view of some of the most important operations of the war, the armies and navies that fought them, and the men who led them.

When Sherman Marched North from the Sea: *Resistance on the Confederate Home Front*, by Jacqueline Glass Campbell. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2003. Pp. xii, 177. Notes, biblio., index. \$27.50. ISBN: 0-8078-2809-2.

A different look at Sherman's march through the Carolinas in the closing weeks of the war. Rather than on purely military operations, the focus of this work is primarily on how civilians, particularly white women – primarily upper class white women – and slaves, coped with the invasion. In this way the author provided insights into racial and gender roles in mid-nineteenth century America, and how the campaign affected the south in terms of morale as well as material factors, and how the campaign shaped the post-war period. Along the war, the book provides more nuanced treatment than has been customary of the reception given Union troops by Africa-Americans.

The Fredericksburg Campaign: Winter War on the Rappahannock, by Francis Augustin O'Reilly. Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 2003. Pp. xv, 630. Illus., maps, notes, biblio., index. \$39.95. ISBN: 0-8071-2809-0.

Essentially an account of Ambrose Burnside's tenure in command of the Army of the Potomac, *The Fredericksburg Campaign* focuses on the causes of the disastrous series of frontal assaults that marked the general's attempt to secure a crossing of the Rappahannock in December of 1862. As has become

something of a minor trend, the author is less hostile to Burnside than older treatments. He notes the enormous political pressures that were brought to bear on the general, as well as the lack of cooperation – and loyalty – from some of his principal subordinates, misinterpretation of orders, and more, including some personal failings on Burnside's part, all of which played a part in the disastrous events of December 13th.

West Wind, Flood Tide: The Battle of Mobile Bay, by Jack Friend. Annapolis: Naval Institute Press, 2004. Pp. xiv, 308. Illus., maps, notes, biblio., index. \$29.95. ISBN: 1-59114-292-X.

Based on an extensive re-examination of the evidence, and incorporating some new sources, *West Wind, Flood Tide* is perhaps the clearest narrative of the campaign to capture Mobile during the Civil War. The book actually devotes six of its 24 chapters to a look at Union and Confederate naval capabilities and early Federal proposals to capture Mobile, discussing the reasons why did not come to pass. There follow fully ten chapters that discuss the development of the plans and the preparations, on both sides, for the actual battle. Treatment of the actual battle on August 5, 1864, is covered in seven chapters, in considerable detail. The balance of the book is devoted to the effects of the battle, and there is a useful epilogue discussing the ultimate fates of some of the prominent participants, including both men and ships. A very valuable look at two of the "fightingest" admirals of the Civil War, David G. Farragut and Franklin Buchanan, *West Wind, Flood Tide* provides some "rattlin' good" tactical detail while giving the reader a solid education in the conduct of naval operations during the Civil War.

And Keep Moving On: The Virginia Campaign, May-June 1864, by Mark Grimsley. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2002. Pp. xxi, 283 pp. Illus., maps, notes, biblio., index. \$45.00. ISBN: 0-8032-2162-2.

Although it does not provide any radical insights or revolutionary re-interpretations, *And Keep Moving On* provides an excellent survey of Grant's "Overland Campaign," the six weeks of bloody fighting in the spring of 1864 that brought the armies from the line of the Rappahannock to the trenches before Richmond and Petersburg, where they would spend nearly an entire year, fitting the campaign into the grand strategy that Grant and Lincoln had devised, and tying the events into the larger picture of a nation at war in an election year. The book contains a number of excellent battle pieces, and provides some valuable criticism of generalship by the principal commanders on both sides. Altogether a useful work.



The War and America

Grant's Secret Service: The Intelligence War from Belmont to Appomattox, by William B. Feis. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2003. Pp. xii, 3300. Illus, maps, notes, biblio., index. \$16.95 paper. ISBN: 0-8032-6911-0.

One of the pioneers in the study of intelligence during the Civil War, in *Grant's Secret Service* William B. Feis takes a look at the ways in which Grant's understanding, use, and management of intelligence evolved over the course of the war, set against the broader picture of the development of the Union's intelligence capabilities. The book is even-handed. While faulting Grant on a number of occasions, while demonstrating that his successes were far more dependant upon an increasingly sophisticated understanding and use of intelligence than upon the free expenditure of manpower.

Black Soldiers in Blue: African American Troops in the Civil War Era, edited by John David Smith. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2002. Pp. xxiii, 451. Illus., maps, notes, index. \$39.95. ISBN: 0-8078-2741-X.

In fourteen chapters *Black Soldiers in Blue* examines the military experiences and contributions of African Americans in the Civil War. The themes of the chapters range from recruiting through the post war experiences of veterans, with individual chapters focused various battles and campaigns (Port Hudson, Olustee, Petersburg, etc., including a masterful examination of the evidence concerning the Fort Pillow Massacre), the role of black troops in occupation duties, both during and immediately after the war, the white commanders of black regiments, and even one on the career of a black regimental chaplain. Although there is no unifying theme to the volume as a whole, beyond the wartime experiences of African American troops, a worthwhile read.

Gettysburg: Memory, Market, and An American Shrine, by Jim Weeks. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2004. Pp. xii, 267. Illus., notes, index. \$29.95. ISBN: 0-691-10271-6

Jim Weeks' *Gettysburg* is a study of how the little Pennsylvania town evolved into a major national shrine, with aspects of Disneyland and side shows thrown in. He points out that the combination of a certain degree of homogenized history, plus entertainment and commercialization have been features of the site ever since the battle, as have complaints about the legitimacy and accuracy of the commemorations, orations, and exhibitions. In the process, the book takes a look at how different

segments of American society have viewed the battle and the site, such as its curious importance in African-American observances of the Civil War around the turn of the twentieth century. A valuable work for anyone interested in the Civil War or American popular culture.

Memoirs and Personal Accounts

Above a Common Soldier: Frank and Mary Clarke in the American West and Civil War, 1847-1872, From Their Letters, edited by Darlis Miller. Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 1997. Pp. xvii, 222. Illus., notes, biblio., index. \$55.00. ISBN: 0-8263-1799-5.

A British immigrant, Clark served as Sergeant Major in the 1st Dragoons for nearly a decade before the Civil War, then, having married, attempted a variety of civilian pursuits before volunteering for the Union in 1861, dying of disease less than a year later while serving as a staff officer in Tennessee and Mississippi. With the notes and annotations by the editor, *Above a Common Soldier*, is a valuable guide to civilian and military life in the west during the late *ante bellum* period and the early part of the war.

The Struggle for the Life of the Republic: A Civil War Narrative by Brevet Major Charles Dana Miller, 76th Ohio Volunteer Infantry, edited by Stewart Bennett and Barbara Tillery. Kent, Oh.: Kent State University Press, 2004. Pp. xxiii, 301. Illus., maps, append., notes, biblio., index. \$34.00. ISBN: 0-87338-785-6.

A well-written personal account of the war, beginning with training. Miller and his regiment took part in the operations in Tennessee and Mississippi in 1862, fighting at Donelson, Shiloh, and Corinth, then served in Arkansas for a time, took part in the Vicksburg Campaign and the Atlanta Campaign. During the war Miller was wounded a couple of times, and was as a result of a wound that he missed taking part in the "March to the Sea"; unable to rejoin his regiment, he resigned. In preparing Miller's memoirs for publication, the editors have added a useful introduction, providing details of his life, furnished clearly identified supplemental material in places where his narrative is thin, and provided immensely useful notes.

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## Membership News

Congratulations are in order to member *C. Kay Larson*, for her new book, *Great Necessities: The Life, Times, and Writings of Anna Ella Carroll, 1815-1894*, which has just been published by Xlibris. A review will be published shortly.

In September boardmember *Dr Albert A. Nofi* completed 44 months as the Center for Naval Analyses field representative to the Chief of Naval Operations Strategic Studies Group, in Newport, for which he was awarded the Navy Meritorious Civilian Service Medal. Al is now working with CNA's Operations Evaluation Group in Alexandria, Va.

## Short Rounds

*Last Train South: The Flight of the Confederate Government from Richmond*, by James C. Clark. Jefferson, N.C.: MacFarland, 1984. Pp. ix, 164. Illus., maps, notes, biblio., index. \$29.95 paper. ISBN: 0-7864-0469.

Beginning with the evacuation of Richmond on April 2, 1865, this work traces the flight of the senior officials of the Confederate government on a day-to-day basis until the capture of Jefferson Davis on May 10th. It then traces Davis' movements while a prisoner, and separately follows the flight of certain individual cabinet members – notably John C. Breckinridge and Judah Benjamin – until they took ship out of the country. In the process, the work reveals the extent to which Davis still further believed resistance was possible, and provides a number of interesting insights in his character and that of the other senior officials.

*Ambrose Bierce's Civil War: Tales of Soldiers and Civilians*, edited by Donald T. Blume. Kent, Oh.: Kent State University Press, 2004. Pp. xxxiii, 221. Append, notes, biblio. \$20.00 paper. ISBN: 0-87338-777-5.

A reprint of Bierce's 1892 work *Tales of Soldiers and Civilians*, to which the editor has added a very useful introduction and several appendices of additional related materials drawn from Bierce's writings in the period during which the book was composed. The "tales" are typically Biercian, looking deeply into the human psyche, but with ironic, eerie, or human twists, or combinations thereof. In addition, many of them provide glimpses of the daily life and trials of both soldiers and civilians during the war.

*The Civil War: A Concise History and Picture Sourcebook*, by John Crafton. Mineola, N.Y.: Dover Publications, 2003. Pp. viii, 152. Illus., index. \$14.95 paper. ISBN: 0-486-42306-9.

Profuouly illustrated with particularly sharp reproductions of period engravings, *The Civil War* presents a short, but comprehensive and readable

survey of the conflict. Although the text is particularly suited for young adult readers, due to the many illustrations this large-format book will be of interest to anyone interested in the Civil War, regardless of age.

*An Uncommon Time: The Civil War and the Northern Home Front*, edited by Paul A. Cimballa and Randall M. Miller. New York: Fordham University Press, 2002. Pp. xxii, 362. Notes, biblio., index. \$45.00. ISBN 0-8232-2195-4.

Observing that, in contrast to treatments of the Southern home front during the Civil War, that Northern has been rather neglected, the editors of *Union Soldiers and the Northern Home Front: Wartime Experiences, Postwar Adjustments* (New York: Fordham, 2002), have provided a second look at the ways in which the people of the North were affected by and affected the war. The dozen essays, by a number of different scholars, range from the organization and work of the United States Sanitary Commission to war bond sales to Copperheadism, and from racial attitudes to unionism to poplar literature, and more.

## Some Websites of Interest

*Boone Bunny's Historical Hubbub*, is devoted to American slang. It's principal focus is Civil War slang, providing amusing insights into soldierly humor on both sides, while at the same time serving as a useful glossary for anyone trying to figure out what "patent bureau" or "bumblebee" mean [knapsack and the sound of minie balls, respectively]. The URL is <http://members.tripod.com/BooneBunny/hubbub.html>

*Chronology of the Prisoner of War Exchange and Parole Cartel* very usefully outlines the arrangements made for the parole and exchange of prisoners. The principal events and agreements are noted, as well as administrative and judicial rulings, policy statements, and so forth, including the debate about the status of black prisoners. A very handy guide for anyone needing to find out about this aspect of Civil War military practice, which is online at <http://members.aol.com/jfepperson/pow.html>

*Eye of the Storm* provides at the life of a Civil War soldier through the medium of journal entries and sketches of Private Knox Sneden, which came into the hands of the Virginia Historical Society in the early 1990s. An excellent example of how a multimedia website can be used to both teach and entertain, the URL is <http://www.musarium.com/eyeofthestorm/>

*Americans in the Egyptian Army* is devoted to the adventures of the surprisingly numerous contingent of

former Yanks and Rebs who entered Egyptian service under the Khedive Ismail between 1868 and 1883, many of whom arguably had even more distinguished careers along the Nile than they ever did along the Potomac or the Mississippi. The URL for the site is [http://home.earthlink.net/~atomic\\_rom/egypt.htm](http://home.earthlink.net/~atomic_rom/egypt.htm)

*Chronological List of Civil War Battles* provides dates and usually some outline details about thousands of engagements, from major battles down to very small skirmishes. Useful when trying to pin down the

location or date of an action referred to in a book or document, though not always accurate. The URL is at <http://hometown.aol.com/dlharvey/engage.htm>

*Abraham Lincoln Online* is a reference site about the 16<sup>th</sup> president, including links to his writings, many anecdotes, biographical details, news items related to Lincoln, books about him, and so forth. The site is at <http://showcase.netins.net/web/creative/lincoln.html>

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#### NYMAS Winter-Spring 2004 Lecture Schedule

Sept 10 – “The Dutch Military Campaign to Recapture New York from the British, 1673-1674,” Thomas Wismuller, Author  
Sept 17 – “The Man in the Red Shirt: The Life of General A.P. Hill,” Patrick Falsi, Civil War Roundtable Actor / Historian  
Sept 24 – “The Nazi Camp and Ghetto System,” Geoffrey Megargee, US Holocaust Museum  
Oct 1 – “The Union War against Confederate Guerrillas,” CPT Clay Mountcastle, USMA  
Oct 8 – “Thunder Run: Armor Raid into Baghdad,” Richard Zucchini, *Philadelphia Inquirer*  
Oct 15 – “Lt. Col. John Eager Howard and the Maryland Line,” Christopher T. George, War of 1812 Consortium  
Oct 22 – “The 1938 Oster Conspiracy against Hitler,” Terry Parssinen, University of Tampa  
Oct 29 – “Lessons of the Afghan War,” Stephen Biddle, Army War College  
Nov. 5 – “Redefining the Battle for New York in the American Revolution,” Barnet Schecter, Author, Historian  
Nov 12 – “Canadian Military Forces Today,” Col. Michael Hanrahan, Military Adviser, Permanent Mission of Canada to the UN

Nov 13 – Saturday All-Day Conference - “Peacekeeping: Military Operations other than War.” – details forthcoming, check the NYMAS website, <http://nymas.org>  
Nov 19 – “1916: The Year Germany Was Defeated,” Chuck Steele, USMA  
Dec 3 – “The State of Today’s Army & Air National Guard,” Maj. Gen. Martha Rainville, Adjutant General of Vermont  
Dec 10 – “The Redlegs from Brooklyn: the 14th Regiment in the Civil War,” Thomas Sarro, Reenactor  
Dec 17 – “Operation Shô: The Japanese ‘Defense’ of Leyte from Sixty Years On,” Theodore F. Cook, William Paterson University

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NYMAS talks are free and open to the public. They are normally held on Friday evenings at the City University of New York Graduate Center, at 365 Fifth Avenue between 34th and 35th Streets from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Friday lectures are usually held on the 6th floor in Room 6-495, but confirmation of the room number should be obtained from the guard at the street-level entrance. These talks are sponsored by the New York Military Affairs Symposium in conjunction with CUNY’s Conference on History and Politics, Dr. George D. Schwab, Director. NYMAS is associated with the Society for Military History, Region 2. Speakers and subjects are subject to change without notice. A current schedule is available at the NYMAS website at <http://nymas.org>.

**The New York Military Affairs Symposium**  
**c/o Prof. K. B. Williams**  
**20 Alden Pl.**  
**Bronxville, N.Y., 10708**

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