

# THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

Volume LII, Number 2

Chicago, Illinois

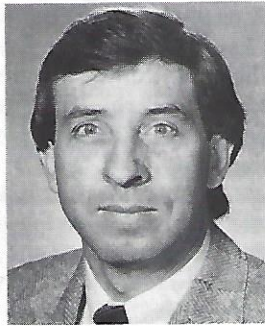
October 1991

## Nevins-Freeman Address: Gary W. Gallagher on "Jubal Early and the Myth of the Lost Cause"

by C. Robert Douglas

In 1974, The Civil War Round Table established the Nevins-Freeman Award to recognize those individuals who have made substantial contributions to the increase in our knowledge of the past, particularly the years 1861-1865, and the preservation of our nation's heritage. Since our group has focused attention on efforts to preserve Civil War battlefields, the 1991 selection for this award, Gary W. Gallagher, is especially appropriate. Since 1987, he has served as president of the principal organization devoted to this effort, the Association for the Preservation of Civil War Sites, with a national membership of 4000.

On October 11, The Round Table will honor Gary as the eighteenth recipient of the award, named for the distinguished American historians, Allan Nevins and Douglas Southall Freeman. He will address the group on the subject, "Jubal Early and the Myth of the Lost Cause." He is presently completing the manuscript for a projected 1992 Random House publication, *Jubal Early: A Southern Life*.



Gary W. Gallagher

An editor of the *Richmond Examiner*, Edward Pollard, wrote a book in 1866 entitled *The Lost Cause: A New Southern History of the War*. In that work, Pollard defined "Lost Cause" as the South's failed attempt to dissolve peacefully a Federal Union it believed had been formed as a voluntary association. In the postwar South, the central institutions devoted to the "Lost Cause" were such organizations as the Memorial associations, the United Confederate Veterans, the United Daughters of the Confederacy, and the Southern Historical Society.

For the last twenty-five years of Jubal Early's life—as president of the Southern Historical Society, an active leader in Confederate veterans' groups, a lecturer, and prolific writer—he resisted assimilation of the South into a society dominated by the North and played a key role in the movement to canonize Robert E. Lee and promote the cult of the "Lost Cause." During the postwar years, Early carried on an extensive correspondence with former Confederates and was widely published in newspapers and various periodicals. In his writings, he defended Lee's record against even the mildest criticism and leveled strong language at those who differed from his beliefs. Special targets were Southerners who supported the Republican party, most particularly his fellow corps commander, James Long-



504th Regular Meeting

\*\*\*

Nevins-Freeman Address:  
Gary W. Gallagher On  
"Jubal Early and the Myth of the Lost Cause"

\*\*\*

Friday, October 11, 1991

\*\*\*

Holiday Inn Mart Plaza  
350 North Orleans Street  
Buttons—15th floor

Cocktails at 5:30 p.m. Dinner at 6:30 p.m.  
\$17.50 per person

Entree: London Broil, Boneless Breast of Chicken,  
Orange Roughy, or Fruit Plate



### A Reminder

Please make your reservation by Tuesday, October 8, as the Holiday Inn needs 72 hours advance notice. Mail the enclosed postcard or call the book shop at (312)944-3085. If you make a reservation and must cancel, please call the book shop as soon as possible.

If you are driving and coming from the south, turn left into the Mart Plaza lot just after crossing the river on Orleans. From the north, turn right from Orleans on Hubbard, left on Kingsbury, right on Kinzie, and left into the Mart Plaza lot. Parking is free. Have your ticket validated at The Round Table registration table.

street. The feud that developed between them would contribute to "Old Pete's" social ostracism throughout much of the South. In his address, Gary's aim will be to place Early's postwar activities within the context of his entire life and examine the elements of his "Lost Cause" interpretation of the onset of the war, as well as the reasons for Confederate defeat. He will also assess Early's impact on other writers of his own and later generations.

A professor of history at Pennsylvania State University, Gary was appointed head of the History department in

(continued on page 3)

# THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE



Founded December 3, 1940

357 West Chicago Avenue

Chicago, Illinois 60610

Phone: (312) 944-3085

## Officers

President .....	Joseph L. Wishart
Senior Vice President .....	Mary Munsell Abroe
Vice President .....	Kurt Carlson
Vice President .....	Hal Ardell
Secretary .....	Wayne Anderson
Treasurer .....	Robert Girardi
Assistant Secretary .....	Steven Horton
Assistant Treasurer .....	Carole Cierniak
Inspector Generals .....	Terry Carr

C. Robert Douglas

Membership Registrar .....

Joan Carlson

Tour Registrar .....

Richard McAdoo

Newsletter Editor .....

Barbara Hughett

Contributing Editors .....

Mary Munsell Abroe,  
C. Robert Douglas, David R. Richert

Founding Newsletter Editor: Gil Twiss, 1954-1968

## Board of Trustees

Terms expiring in 1992: Ted Birndorf, L. Bradford Gregg,  
Adrienne Hanrahan, Joyce Warshaw

Terms expiring in 1993: Ronald B. Johnson, Michael Marienthal,  
Norman Poteshman, Dale Weitman

## Committee Chairmen

Battlefield Tour .....

John M. Coverick, Sr.  
Marshall D. Krolick

Nevins-Freeman .....

C. Robert Douglas

Membership .....

Daniel R. Weinberg

Hospitality .....

Barbara Hughett  
Robert Schell

Nominating .....

David R. Richert

Field Artist/Archives .....

Jerry Warshaw

Honors .....

Don Anderson

Publicity/Public Relations .....

Joyce Warshaw

Battlefield Preservation and  
Schimmelfennig Boutique .....

Ted Birndorf  
Frank Meacham

Tape Record Librarian .....

Hal Ardell

House .....

Robert Dawson  
James Nethery

Picnic .....

Paul Kleckner

The only requirement for membership in The Round Table is a genuine interest in the Civil War and its era. For information, address Dan Weinberg, 357 W. Chicago Ave., Chicago, IL 60610.



## Schimmelfennig Boutique

In addition to The Round Table history, the following items are available at each monthly meeting:

Lapel pins .....

\$ 5.00 each

Mugs .....

7.00 each

Meeting tapes .....

7.00 each

Fiftieth Anniversary photos .....

10.00 each

Proceeds from the sale of these items go to support the programs of The Civil War Round Table.

## Battlefield Preservation Update

by David R. Richert

**The West Woods, scene of some of the fiercest fighting during the Battle of Antietam,** is now a part of the Antietam National Battlefield. The Richard King Mellon Foundation, helped by the Conservation Fund, purchased the 151-acre tract for \$500,000 and officially transferred ownership to the National Park Service in late August. The land was already included in the National Battlefield congressionally-approved boundaries but was privately owned and farmed by the Poffenberger family.

On the morning of September 17, 1862, Union soldiers launched three attacks on Confederate General Stonewall Jackson's army. The Union soldiers pushed Jackson's men into the West Woods. As the Union soldiers readied to counter artillery fire from the remnants of Jackson's army, they were hit by a one-two punch from Confederate reinforcements. Out of 5500 Union troops engaged, 2200 were killed or wounded in twenty minutes.

The Park Service is working on a general management plan that calls for replanting hardwoods on the land, which is situated near the visitors center. "We want to put it back to its 1862 appearance," said battlefield historian Paul Chiles.

The Mellon Foundation is a private philanthropic organization based in Pittsburgh. The Conservation Fund, based in Arlington, Virginia, works with other groups to buy and save land.

According to an article in *The Civil War News*, America's best-known battlefield is facing a new threat. Developers are proposing to build a 320,000-square-foot shopping center on the doorstep of Gettysburg National Military Park. "Gettysburg Commons" is planned for nearly one hundred acres, east of the Culp's Hill portion of the battlefield.

Robert Davidson, assistant superintendent at the park, was quoted as saying that, while the mall would not be visible from any of the key areas of the battlefield, it is of "prime concern" that yet another significant open space may be lost. The *York Sunday News* reported that Mark Development Company was planning to go before the Adams County Zoning Hearing Board with a new design that would make the center nearly invisible from the battlefield.

Davidson acknowledged that, although a small portion of the site falls within the Battlefield Historic District which buffers the 5800-acre park, "there's very little direct legal authority we have to direct the development. We're just trying to negotiate our concerns."

**The Perryville Battlefield Preservation Association, Inc.** has recently been formed to provide an impetus and citizen-spearheaded means for the preservation, protection, and meaningful interpretation of the Perryville Battlefield. You may become a member of the PBPA's "Friends of the Battlefield" by making a contribution of \$15 or more. For information, or to make a contribution, contact Kent Masterson Brown, 1114 First National Bank Building, 167 West Main Street, Lexington, Kentucky 40507, (606) 233-7879.

**Elmer Gertz, a founder and former president** of The Civil War Round Table, recently celebrated his 85th birthday. He was the subject of a feature article in the September 20 issue of the *Reader*.

## September Meeting

by Barbara Hughett

Following General George B. McClellan's somewhat disappointing Peninsula Campaign, President Abraham Lincoln, in July of 1862, put out a call for 300,000 volunteers. There was not a mad rush to the recruiting offices, and fresh troops were badly needed. Thus, on August 4, the president issued a draft for 300,000 volunteer nine-month militia. In doing so, he utilized the Militia Act of July 17, 1862, which authorized him to call out the entire militia of states, with provisions to fill out quotas by conscription if that became necessary.

On August 10, the governor of Vermont was notified that his state's quota would be 4898 men. Vermont's thirteen militia regiments mustered far too few men to meet this quota. However, through town meetings and mass recruitment activities, fifty companies were finally raised. These companies were formed into five regiments, containing the 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, and 16th Vermont Infantry, which became the Second Vermont Brigade.

Prior to the summer of 1863, the Vermonters spent most of their time standing picket duty along the outer defenses of Washington, D.C. Their only excitement was a small skirmish with J.E.B. Stuart's men and a midnight visit by partisan ranger John Mosby. At the end of April 1863, the brigade attained its third commander, Brigadier General George J. Stannard, a native of Georgia, Vermont and a seasoned veteran of earlier campaigns. On September 13, Civil War scholar and author Blake A. Magnier addressed 109 members and guests at the 503rd regular meeting of The Civil War Round Table. His topic was "Stannard's Second Vermont Brigade."

At the start of the Gettysburg Campaign, the Second Vermont Brigade was transferred to General Abner Doubleday's Third Division of the First Corps. The Vermonters arrived on the battlefield during the evening of July 1, and participated in the action of July 2, helping to support Second and Third Corp troops in the late afternoon.

The brigade gained its fame on July 3, when it performed a flank attack on Pickett's men during Longstreet's assault. Describing the advance, one of Stannard's men recalled, "We saw them first as they reached the crest of Cemetery Ridge a full half-mile away. At first, horse and rider, with glistening bayonets and flags and banners waving in the sultry air, could be seen."

Just as Pickett's men were heading up the ridge, the Vermonters wheeled north, halted within easy range, and fired a volley into the 24th Virginia. While this attack was taking place, another Confederate force was advancing from the south. Seeing this, many men in the rear Vermont ranks turned around and began firing. For awhile, the Green Mountain Boys stood in two ranks—one firing north and one firing south.

When Stannard saw what was happening, he sent orders to Colonel Wheelock Vesey, of the 16th Vermont, to face about and charge this new threat. The 16th and four companies of the 14th Vermont ran forward with a cheer, hitting the rebel flank without firing a shot. The movement was so quick that the Confederates did not have a chance to change front, so their line simply dissolved.

Pickett's charge was over. The Confederates had been repulsed. Three hundred forty-two Vermonters were wounded, missing, or dead. Numerous prisoners were taken during this movement. Magnier noted that, although he didn't have concrete evidence, "it appears that one of the

prisoners captured here was Lewis Thornton Powell, better known as Lewis Paine, who later became one of the conspirators in the murder of Abraham Lincoln."

Though all its regiments were mustered out by August 10, 1863, the Second Vermont Brigade had served courageously for the cause of the Union. Four Medals of Honor were won by Vermont troops at the Battle of Gettysburg; three went to members of the Second Vermont Brigade. "The men of Stannard's Second Vermont Brigade," Magnier concluded, "came out of the hills of their native state to help preserve the Union. They ultimately made a significant contribution towards winning the greatest battle ever fought on this continent."

(continued from page 1)

January 1991. His previous appointments at Penn State include service as assistant professor (1986-1989) and associate professor (1989-1991). He began his work in the field of history as an archivist at the Lyndon Baines Johnson library (1977-1986). His graduate degrees include master of arts (1977) and doctor of philosophy (1982), both conferred by the University of Texas at Austin.

Gary's contributions to Civil War literature are most impressive. His first major work was the biography, *Stephen Dodson Ramseur: Lee's Gallant General* (1985). A most significant work was the 1989 publication of *Fighting For the Confederacy: The Personal Recollections of General Edward Porter Alexander*, a main selection of the History Book Club and for which he received the 1990 Douglas Southall Freeman prize and the 1991 Founder's Award. Campaign studies which he edited and to which he contributed an essay and a bibliographical essay include *Antietam: Essays on the 1862 Maryland Campaign* (1989) and *Struggle for the Shenandoah: Essays on the 1864 Valley Campaign* (1991). Forthcoming are studies involving his editorship and essays on Union and Confederate leadership on the first and second day at Gettysburg, to be published by Kent State University Press. Other writings include thirty-six articles in professional journals and Civil War magazines.

He has written forty-three book reviews for historical journals and magazines, and is contributing biographical sketches on eleven Confederate military commanders in the forthcoming six-volume work, *The Confederate General*, to be published by the National Historical Society. Important works now reprinted which he has edited number sixteen, including Eckenrode and Conrad's *James Longstreet: Lee's War Horse* and Robert E. Lee, Jr.'s *Recollections and Letters of General Robert E. Lee*.

His many contributions to the literature of a critical period in our nation's history and his key role in the preservation of important Civil War sites well recommend Gary for our Round Table's highest honor. The Awards Committee is pleased to recognize him as the 1991 selection for the Nevins-Freeman Award.

---

### Nevins-Freeman Honorees

Bruce Catton, 1974	John Hope Franklin, 1983
Ralph G. Newman, 1975	Richard B. Harwell, 1984
T. Harry Williams, 1976	John Y. Simon, 1985
Lloyd D. Miller, 1977	Harold M. Hyman, 1986
Bell I. Wiley, 1978	James T. Hickey, 1987
E.B. Long, 1979	Robert K. Krick, 1988
Edwin C. Bearss, 1980	Mark E. Neely, Jr., 1989
James I. Robertson, Jr., 1981	Marshall D. Krolick, 1990
Frank E. Vandiver, 1982	

## The New Books compiled by C. Robert Douglas



Amchan, Arthur J. *The Most Famous Soldier in America: A Biography of Nelson A. Miles*. Amchan Publications, P.O. Box 3648, Alexandria, VA 22302. 1989. pbk. \$14.95.

Brooks, U.R. *Stories of the Confederacy*. South Carolina Regimentals Series. 1991. J.J. Fox, Camden, SC \$30.00. Original of 1912.

Caldwell, Willie Walker. *Stonewall Jim*. A Biography of Gen. James A. Walker, C.S.A. 1990. Northcross House. \$24.95.

Carroll, John M., ed. *The Civil War Campaign Medal*. The Frontier Military Research & Preservation Society, P.O. Box 44, Bryan, TX 77826. 1987. \$15.00.

Elliott, Robert Garrison. *A Tarheel Confederate and His Family*. RGE Publications, P.O. Box 9281, Daytona Beach, FL 32120. 1990. \$19.95.

McKinney, Francis F. *Education in Violence: The Life of George H. Thomas and the History of the Army of the Cumberland*. Americana House. 1991. \$45.00. Original of 1961.

Wallace, Willard M. *Soul of the Lion: A Biography of Joshua L. Chamberlain*. Stan Clark Military Books, 915 Fairview Ave., Gettysburg, PA 17325. 1991. \$27.50; pbk. \$15.00. Original of 1960.

**The history of The Round Table, The Civil War Round Table: Fifty Years of Scholarship and Fellowship**, by Barbara Hughett, is available for \$30 per copy. You may purchase the book at the October meeting or order it from Morningside Bookshop, 260 Oak Street, Dayton, Ohio 45401 (1-800-648-9710). Add \$2.50 for postage and handling.

**Former Round Table President Brooks Davis** has recently been elected chairman of the board of trustees of Lincoln College.

**Visitors to Civil War battlefields** will soon be able to ask a computer questions about their ancestors who served in the conflict. The National Park Service has begun to make a computerized directory of all 3.5 million Civil War soldiers. It has been estimated that at least half of all Americans have relatives who fought in the Civil War.

Names will be entered into the computer system by the Genealogical Societies of Utah and the Federation of Genealogy Societies. The computers are expected to provide names, home states, regiments, and soldiers' ranks. Eventually, the computers are planned to be installed at all Civil War sites operated by the National Park Service. This fall, the computer system is being tested at Antietam National Battlefield and Shiloh National Military Park.

**Alan April, husband of Margaret April**, longtime member and Honorary Life member of The Civil War Round Table, died on September 15. Our deepest sympathy and affection are extended to Margaret and her family.

**Milton F. Perry, who was scheduled to speak** on "Jesse James in the Civil War" at the March 13 meeting, died a few weeks ago. We extend our sincerest condolences to the Perry family.

## BULLETIN BOARD



### Future Meetings

Regular meetings are held at the Holiday Inn Mart Plaza, 350 N. Orleans (Buttons, 15th Floor), the second Friday in each month, except as noted.

October 4-6: Tour of Springfield.

October 11: Gary W. Gallagher, Nevins-Freeman Address, "Jubal Early and the Myth of the Lost Cause."

November 8: Alan T. Nolan on "General Robert E. Lee and Civil War History."

December 13: Mary Munsell Abroe on "Battlefield Preservation: The Early Years, 1863-1890."

January 10: Karen K. Osborne and Virginia Crane on "A Woman's War: Two Perspectives—North and South."

February 14: W. Glenn Robertson on "General Thomas J. Wood at Chickamauga: The Fatal Order Revisited."

March 13: Herman Hattaway on "How They Teach Civil War History at West Point."

April 10: Dennis Frye on "Mosby vs. Sheridan in the Shenandoah."

April 30-May 3: Annual battlefield tour—Gettysburg.

May 8: Lawrence Hewitt on "Port Hudson: The Most Photographed Battlefield of the Civil War."

June 12: Steven Newton on "Joseph E. Johnston: Rationalizations, Ego, and Politics After the Battle of Seven Pines."

### New Members

Kevin Barry, 8317 B Highpoint, Hillside, IL 60463, (708)325-6842

Joseph Carter, 11539 Green Oaks, Houston, TX 77024, (713)789-7362

Bruce Falconer, 2446 Shannon Road, Northbrook, IL 60066, (708)498-0224

Myron Gluckman, 7520 Churchill Avenue, Morton Grove, IL, (708)965-7049

Ignatius K. Grimaldi, 4030 N. Lowell Avenue, Chicago, IL, (312)685-2545

Ken Hoffman, 6201 N. Kenmore, Chicago, IL 60660, (312)465-7929

Susan Kuecker, 205 Benita Drive, N.W., Cedar Rapids, IA 52405, (319)392-4133

Paul Maher, 829 S. Grove, Oak Park, IL 60304, (708)386-3573

Robert Maher, 1035 Washington, Oak Park, IL 60302, (708)383-7590

Frank Patton, 976 State Line Road, Crete, IL 60417, (708)672-7235

Bruce M. Turnmire, 462 Uvedale, Riverside, IL 60546, (708)447-8445

Sean Vinck, 3621 Lake Street, Burlington, WI 53105, (414)767-0113

Robert T. Wood, 404 Moffett Road, Lake Bluff, IL 60044, (312)295-6409

### Changes of Address

Harris D. Riley, Jr., Chowning Square, 4141 Woodlawn Dr., Nashville, TN 37205

William C. Vinck, 3621 Lake Street, Burlington, WI 53105, (414)767-0113