



# LOYAL LEGION HISTORICAL JOURNAL



The Publication of The Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States

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SPRING 2008

## The Indian Campaign of the Winter of 1864 to 1865

[This article was written in 1877 and was read by Major General Grenville M. Dodge, Past Commander-in-Chief of MOLLUS to the Colorado Commandery of the MOLLUS at Denver, Colorado on April 21, 1907. It has been transcribed by Douglas Niermeyer, Past Commander-in-Chief, with the assistance of Rev. Barry Howard, Council-in-Chief Member.]

**Transcriber Note:** This paper, written over 130 years ago, was published by the Colorado Commandery over 100 years ago. It was lost to us, buried among decades of great works that our members have given to our Order. We now proudly give it back to you for a whole new generation and generations to come.

**Colorado Commandery Notes from 1907:** Many interesting papers have been read at the meetings of the Loyal Legion, but one of the most instructive and entertaining was that of General **Grenville M. Dodge** giving his first public account of his campaign against the Indians on the plains in 1864-5.

General Dodge's military experience and knowledge of the West peculiarly fitted him for this difficult and arduous duty, and his reports and the accounts here given show that he most successfully accomplished the work and won a single victory over the most vindictive, barbarous and treacherous enemies our soldiers have ever been called on to fight.

General Dodge, since the close of the war, has been engaged in great railroad and engineering enterprises, and today stands at the head of his profession in this particular work, and is a man of national reputation.

Your committee takes great pleasure in having the address printed for the members of our Commandery and other interested readers.

## Indian Campaign of 1864-1865



Major General Grenville M. Dodge

made in the Winter. I answered; "Yes, if the proper preparation was made to clothe and bivouac the troops." A few days after, I received a dispatch from General Grant ordering me to Fort Leavenworth. In the meantime the Department of Kansas was merged into the Department of the Missouri, placing under my command Missouri, the Indian Territory, Kansas, Colorado, Utah, Wyoming, and all the country south of the Yellowstone river, and embracing all the overland mail routes and telegraph lines to the Pacific.

On reaching Fort Leavenworth I found that General Curtis, the former commander of that Department, had reported against any campaign during the Winter; that the Indians had possession of the entire country crossed by the stage lines, having destroyed the telegraph lines; and that the people living in Colorado, Western

In December, 1864, I was assigned the command of the Department of Missouri. In January, 1865, I received a dispatch from General Grant asking if a campaign on the plains could be

*continued on page 4*

## The Annual Tribute to President Lincoln

by Karl F. Schaeffer, Commander-in-Chief

The United States Congress created the Lincoln Monument Association in March 1867. In 1901, West Potomac Park, located at the end of the National Mall, in Washington, D.C. was selected as the site for the memorial to the 16th President. In 1911, legislation was passed authorizing funds for construction of the monument. On February 12, 1914, the 105th anniversary of Lincoln's birth, the ground-breaking ceremony for the new memorial took place. **Daniel Chester French** was commissioned as sculptor of the seated Lincoln, and **Henry Bacon** was chosen as architect of the marble monument.

The cornerstone was laid in 1915, and the memorial was dedicated on Decoration Day, May 30, 1922, by **William Howard Taft**, who also served as chairman of the Lincoln Memorial Commission. **Robert Todd Lincoln**, son of the late president, was among notables who attended the ceremony.

The *Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States* was founded by commissioned officers of the Union forces on the day of President Lincoln's death on April 15, 1865. President Harding requested the Loyal Legion arrange the dedication ceremony.

Following the dedication, members of the Loyal Legion resolved to commemorate the anniversary

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## Commander-in-Chief's Message

For the past several years, we have been very exertive in trying to have President Bush attend the Lincoln Memorial Birthday Ceremony at our Nation's Capitol on February 12. However, his schedule has not permitted him to be with us.

Our late 16th United States President, Abraham Lincoln, was a very just leader of our great country during difficult times. Lincoln knew that he would be tested more than any president had ever been before. Let us strive to finish the work we must do today to bind up the nation's wounds. The Civil War was deadly, but gallantly our 16th President died shortly after he was shot to death by John Wilkes Booth on April 15, 1865.

My main reason for reminding you of his tragic death is to recall that President Lincoln died in Washington, D.C. It is an honor for all of us to worship this gallant and very honorable United States President by attending the Lincoln Memorial Birthday Ceremony each year.

As Commander-in-Chief, I would hope our MOLLUS membership would make a strong effort to attend this remembrance on February 12, 2009 on the 200th anniversary of Lincoln's birth. The Lincoln Memorial Birthday Ceremony is a wonderful reminder of what he was all about. Having you and your family members attend will be very much appreciated. Hope to see you there!

Karl Frederick Schaeffer  
Commander-in-Chief



Karl P. Schaeffer, Commander-in-Chief

Kathy Watson

## Welcome New Companions

The following Companions have joined the Military Order of the Loyal Legion since the Winter 2007 issue of the Journal. Commander-in-Chief Karl Schaeffer extends congratulations and a warm welcome to each one.

### Waldron Kintzing Post II, Chancellor-in-Chief

<i>Hereditary Companions Insignia No.</i>	<i>Commandery</i>
Henry C. Howells, IV 22472	Virginia
Daniel Leroy Hopping 22473	Virginia

### Associate Companions

Robert Darrell Pollock A 223	D.C.
Kenneth Werner Wical A 224	Virginia

## 123<sup>rd</sup> National Congress October 17-19, 2008 Gettysburg, PA

The 123rd National Congress will be held in Gettysburg on October 17, 18 & 19. The host hotel for the meetings and banquet will be the Hotel Gettysburg on the square in the center of town. The hotel is an ideal location for the Congress with close proximity to many interesting shops and the battlefield. A block of rooms is reserved and the per night charge is \$169.00 plus applicable taxes. Reservations can be made by calling (800) 528-1234. Hotel reservation deadline is September 2.

There will be a reception on Friday evening, October 17, followed by business meetings on Saturday morning, October 18. A luncheon will then be held at the Dobbins House Tavern. This will be followed by a visit to the new visitors center which will have it's official opening on September 28th. The banquet speaker will be Dr. John Latschar, Park Service Superintendent of the Gettysburg National Military Park.

Registration fee - \$55.00  
Saturday Breakfast – on your own  
Saturday Luncheon - \$14.00  
Reception and banquet - \$65.00  
Sunday breakfast – on your own

**Make checks payable to MOLLUS-  
PA and mail to:  
F.T. Adams, III  
PO Box 328  
Devon, PA 19333-0328**

## Future Commander-in-Chief?

By Douglas Niermeyer, Past Commander-in-Chief

I am proud to announce the birth of **Corban Douglas Richard Niermeyer** on 6 Jan. 2008. The obstetrician was concerned that he was very big and wanted to deliver him at thirty-seven weeks. The test to see if his lungs were developed enough came back positive and my wife Chellee was induced the next morning. Still, the doctor had to do an emergency c-section after fourteen hours of labor and three hours of pushing.

Corban arrived weighing 8 lbs 10 ozs but was having some trouble breathing. He was placed in



Corban Douglas Richard Niermeyer

Douglas Niermeyer

the ICU and put on a breathing machine for two days. We ended up spending eight days in the hospital with Corban, in the ICU for six of those days. When he was finally released, he was 8 lbs 1 oz but Corban and Chellee recovered well. Corban now weighs fourteen pounds and is eating like a champ and wearing us all out.

In case you are interested, the name Corban is from the Bible (Mark 7:11) and means "Dedicated to God".



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The following individuals have contributed to The Loyal Legion Memorial Fund during the period of October 1, 2007 through February 29, 2008

**The Abraham Lincoln Society** (\$1,000 and above)

The New York Commandery of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States

**The Ulysses S. Grant Society** (\$500 to \$999)

Nicolas I. Quintana

Mareen Wolfe (in memory of her father Past Commander-in-Chief William C. Duval)

**The William T. Sherman Society** (\$100 to \$499)

Stephen Beszedits

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**The Philip H. Sheridan Society** (up to \$99)

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**Remembering "MOLLUS" In Your Will**

After you provide for your family and other matters, would you consider including a memorial gift in your will to our hallowed Order? Your gift to the Loyal Legion Memorial Fund, which is tax deductible, would be used to support the preservation of battlefields, monuments and programs that serve to memorialize the Civil War. In this way you would be perpetuating the memory of your Civil War ancestors and fellow companions.

*Indian Campaign.....from page 1*

Nebraska, and Western Kansas were without mails, and in a state of panic; that the troops distributed along the routes of travel were inside of their stockades, the Indians having in nearly every fight defeated them. This success had brought into hostility with the United States nearly every tribe of Indians from Texas on the south to the Yellowstone on the north. Two thousand Indians had destroyed over one hundred miles of telegraph, and were in possession of the country between the Arkansas and the North Platte rivers.

The opinion at Fort Leavenworth before I arrived was that it was impossible to make a successful campaign against these Indians during the Winter and successfully open these lines of communication. There were two regiments of cavalry in Kansas, mostly idle. There was no communication with any of the posts except by messenger. A dispatch from Colorado showed a panic there, and the people demanded that troops of the Department be stationed there to protect the citizens, instead of their organizing and fighting the Indians, and that martial law had been declared.

I saw, after spending a day at Fort Leavenworth, that it was necessary to change the depressed feeling and temper existing among the troops and the citizens throughout the Department. I sent for **Bela M. Hughes**, agent of the overland stages, and **Edward Craighen**, general manager and superintendent of the overland telegraph, and consulted fully with them. I selected from my old guides some of the most trusted men, and some of the trusted Indians that I had known, and sent them to each district commander who could be reached, these two short dispatches:

1. "What measures are you taking to keep open the route and protect it? What Indians are engaged in the struggle? Where are their villages? Do their families travel with them? Have you spies in their camps? What action have you taken to repair the telegraph lines? Give me all the particulars.

2. Place every mounted man in

your command on the South Platte route. Repair telegraphs, attack any body of Indians you meet, large or small. Stay with them and pound them until they move north of the Platte south of the Arkansas. I am coming with two regiments of cavalry to the Platte line and will open and protect it, and whip all the Indians in the way."

I also found that the plains were covered with Indian traders who had permits, under the guise of which they were stealing from the Indians, both friendly and hostile, and were selling them arms and ammunition. I immediately revoked all these permits, and ordered the arrest of all traders who had in their possession Indian Government stock. I also immediately wired to Major **Frank North**, who was the interpreter of the Pawnee Indians, and also to the Chief of the Omaha Indians, both of whom had been with me on the plains, and instructed them to select their most trusted men and send them on the plains to ascertain for me the purpose of the hostile Indians, and whether they would head towards the settlements, or if their movements indicated they would attack only the lines of communication and the trains crossing the plains. At the same time we stopped all trains on the plains and ordered them to the nearest military post, instructing the officers to arm and organize them in companies, and place a United States officer over them, and have them move with the army trains.

Having perfected the preliminary organization for moving upon the stage and telegraph lines, we saw it was necessary to concentrate on one line. At this time the stage and telegraph lines on the north ran from Fort Leavenworth to Fort Kearney, and from Omaha to Fort Kearney, where they were consolidated, running up the Platte valley to the mouth of the Lodgepole, the stage station at that point being known as Julesburg. The lines here separated again, the main telegraph line running to old Fort Laramie, thence up the Sweetwater through South Pass and thence to Utah. The stage line ran

up the South Platte to Denver, then by the Cache La Poudre to Laramie Plains, over them to Fort Hallack and Bridger and on to Utah. I concluded to concentrate all our efforts to open the line from Fort Leavenworth and Omaha to Kearney, thence to Denver and on to Utah, known as the South Platte Route.

The overland route from Fort Leavenworth and Omaha crossing the continent had a stage station about every twelve miles. The troops along the lines were posted at the forts and stockades about every hundred miles, with a few soldiers distributed at each stage station. Then scattered along the road were ranches, relay and feeding stations for the regular commercial and supply trains that were continually on the road. The great mining camps, and all the inhabitants of Colorado, Utah, Wyoming, and Idaho were dependent upon these trains for their supplies. In winter these trains were generally mule trains of twenty wagons each, and during the summer were generally trains of fifty to one hundred wagons each. They were in the habit of straggling along through the country, taking care of themselves. Their stock had to be herded at night and it was a great temptation to the Indians to steal, as a great deal of this had been done, but no actual fighting or attacking of trains or troops occurred until the winter of 1864 and 1865. The stopping of these trains, mail and supplies, and the destruction in that country and on the Pacific Coast, and the demands upon the government to open and maintain these lines were persistent.

At Fort Leavenworth there appeared to have been a systematic effort to reopen these lines. It seemed that the troops were taking care of the posts and resisting attacks. They did not seem to appreciate the Indian character: that the only way to strengthen and protect the lines of communication was to go for the Indians. What troops had been sent against the Indians were small and weak parties and had evidently gone out with the intention of locating the Indians and avoiding them.

Along the south emigrant line from Kansas City, following the Arkansas river to New Mexico, was the line of supplies for all of New Mexico and Southern Colorado. The Indians here were in possession. The travel and traffic along it were not to be compared with that along the northern lines. Then again the citizens of Kansas and Nebraska had settled along these routes as far west as the 100th Meridian, obtaining their living from this great traffic, and the Indians in their raids had picked them up, family at a time, until they had a great many prisoners, mostly women and children, the men being generally massacred when captured.

I found the 11<sup>th</sup> Kansas Cavalry at Fort Riley, and the 16<sup>th</sup> Kansas Cavalry at Fort Leavenworth, and immediately placed them en route for Kearney. All the posts were, unfortunately, short of subsistence, forage and ammunition. The three months' regiments enlisted in Colorado for the Indian service had been discharged, their time having expired, and there had been no troops sent to take their place. My only resource was to utilize the Colorado militia until I could send troops six hundred miles to take their place.

I immediately started for Fort Kearney, taking with me a few soldiers in the stage and one of my staff. It was the opinion of all the officers at Fort Leavenworth that it could be impossible for me to make the trip, but I knew it required personal presence among the troops to bring about quick results. The troops that I ordered at Fort Riley refused to march in the winter. I answered to place under arrest all officers of the companies and regiments that refused to obey the order, and have them report to Fort Leavenworth, intending to replace them with veteran officers of the Department whom I knew would move, no matter what the hardship. The next morning I received a report from Fort Riley that the troops would move. The regiment that marched from Fort Riley to Fort Kearney lost thirteen men

from freezing, as the weather was very severe, and while they were properly clothed, they did not know how to protect themselves from the weather.

On my arrival at Fort Kearney I immediately notified Mr. Hughes, the agent of the stage lines, that I was prepared to protect his stages, and called upon him to replace his stock immediately, ready to start out his stages. I also notified Mr. Creighton, superintendent of the telegraph lines, to replace his operators, for I would have his lines open in a few days. Both of these orders were made known to the public. I also notified the "press" at Omaha and Fort Leavenworth that all the trains which were tied up on the plains would be moved to their destinations during that month. We found it necessary to inspire energy and confidence in these three great interests, as not one of them even thought we would succeed, and in fact the "press" comments on our orders showed that they had no faith in them. I found on the line of the Platte the 7<sup>th</sup> Iowa Cavalry, and at Fort Laramie and on the Sweetwater the 11<sup>th</sup> Ohio Cavalry.

When we arrived in sight of Fort Kearney the troops were prepared to fight us, thinking it was a band of Indians. We discovered that the troops were depressed from the success of the Indians and the murder and mutilation of their comrades, and that they hardly stuck their heads out of the stockade. Having had experience with Indians I called the troops together and instructed them how to handle and fight Indians, telling them that an aggressive war would be made against the Indians, and no matter how large the Indian bands were, or how small the troop, that hereafter they must stand and fight; that if they did the Indians would run. If they did not, the Indians would catch and scalp them, and even if they had to retreat, they must do so with their faces to the enemy.

The Indians, after the Chivington fight on Big Sandy had concentrated upon the South Platte and on the Sweetwater. The reports showed that they held possession from Julesburg to Valley Junction and to

Mud Springs, and held the telegraph line west of Fort Laramie. They had with them two thousand head of captured stock and had captured all the stage stations, many trains, devastated the ranches, butchered many men, women and children, and destroyed one hundred miles of telegraph.

To show more plainly that I can describe the condition of the country, I give the reports of the three commanding officers along which I sent by messenger to all commanders that day I arrived at Fort Leavenworth. These answers met me at Fort Kearney.

### ***General Robert Mitchell's Reply***

General Robert Mitchell, who commanded the territory from Omaha to Lodgepole, replied as follows:

"The telegraph from Lodgepole creek, 25 miles west of Julesburg, on Laramie route, is destroyed for 15 miles. Poles cut down and destroyed on the Denver line beyond Julesburg for the first 50 miles. The telegraph is destroyed about 10 miles north. We are compelled to haul poles from 130 to 140 miles. Every means in my power is used to have the lines fixed. All the available troops I have at my disposal are in the vicinity of Julesburg, except some small garrisons at posts required to be kept up on the Denver route. My district only extends to Julesburg. I have sent some troops, however, up that route 50 miles since the outbreaks and find everything destroyed. We have no communication with Denver, and have not had since the last outbreak. Neither can I communicate with Fort Laramie in consequence of the lines being down. I have been traversing the country constantly on and adjacent to the mail and telegraph lines during the past four months, sending guards on the stage and, when deemed necessary, mounted guards and patrols on all dangerous portions of the road through my district.

This plan succeeded until an overpowering force attacked Julesburg and drove the troops inside of their barracks and burnt the stage and telegraph station, destroying a large amount of stores for both companies. The overland stage cannot run through until they can provide new supplies for stock from Julesburg to the Junction, where the overland stage leaves the Denver route, everything

*Indian Campaign.....from page 5*

belonging to the stage company, citizens and government became entirely destroyed. The Indian villages are unknown to us. From the best information I have I believe them to be on Powder River. I know certainly there is a large village there. There have been no squaws in the country, to my knowledge, since last fall. The tribes engaged are the Cheyennes, Arapahoes, Kiowas, Brule, Ogallala Sioux, a portion of the Blackfeet, and a large portion of what is known as the Missouri River Sioux, the same Indians General Sully made the campaign against last summer. From 3,000 to 5,000 additional troops will be needed to punish the Indians. One column will never be able to overtake them, unless they are willing to give battle. I think three columns of men 1,000 strong, each with ample garrison on the overland mail and telegraph lines, well mounted and supplied, can clear out the country of all hostile Indians, if done before grass comes. After that time, in my judgment, it will take twice that number of men.

In addition to the troubles west, I would not be surprised any day to hear an outbreak in the northern part of my district. I am informed by Indian scouts that there is a large encampment of Indians on the Running Water that are ready to engage in war against the whites. Among them are some of the Yanktonis Sioux."

Colonel R. R. Livingston reported as follows: "In reply to your inquiries I would respectfully state that in the early part of January last indications of large parties of Indians moving westward on Republican were reported by the scouts sent to gain information of their movements. On January 7th they had crossed South Fork Platte river, 23 miles west of this post, camped with their families forming a camp of 400 lodges, containing eight warriors each, many lodges being thirty robes in size. They commenced the work of destruction along the road west as far as Junction Station, 100 miles from here. Their forces in this fight were no less than 2,000, well armed with breech-loading carbines and rifles. A desperate attempt on their part to burn the overland stage station near this post was made at this time, but was frustrated by the gallantry of Captian N. J. O'Brien, Company F, 7th Iowa Cavalry. Every ranch and stage station from Junction station to this post is burned, and the charred remains of every inmate who failed to escape tell of the brutality they were subjected to. I telegraphed Hon. Sam H. Elbert, acting governor of Colorado, early in January of the state of things. The troops of Colorado have been withdrawn from Valley, 50 miles west of here, I surmise, to concentrate around Denver. The telegraph lines to Salt Lake, and the Denver branch lines are destroyed for a distance of nearly ten miles on the northern

route, and in different points throughout one hundred miles along the Denver.

I have but 360 troops, but so long as human endurance holds out we will work night and day to get the communication perfect with the west.

The Indians engaged in this war are the Cheyenne, Ogallalas, Brule, and Sioux. They have gone northward towards Horse creek and Fort Laramie. Their trail leads in that direction, but they are slow in marching, feeling audacious and indifferent to any effort from the small body of troops in this district. I saw their signals today, probably those of small war parties, on the North Platte. You will hear of continued murders and robberies as long as the road is so poorly protected by troops. No spies can be used now, owing to numerous small war parties being met everywhere in this country. I predict that if more troops are not sent into this district immediately, this road will be stripped of every ranch and white man on it. Should these Indians swing around by Lea Oui Court river and strike the Omaha road below Kearney, where settlements are numerous, infinite mischief will result to the settlers. What we need are troops, supplies for them, and a vigorous campaign against these hostile Indians. They must be put on the defensive instead of us. No difficulty can arise in finding them. Over 2,000 cattle accompany them."

*To be continued...*

## General Albert James Myer

by Kathy Watson, DOLLUS

**A**lbert James Myer (20 Sep, 1828 – 24 Aug. 1880) was a surgeon and U.S. Army officer. He is known as the father of the U.S. Army Signal Corps, as its first chief signal officer just prior to the American Civil War, the inventor of wig-wag signaling (or aerial telegraphy), and also as the



General Albert J. Myer (Portrait artist is Reginald Cleveland Coxe)

father of the U.S. Weather Bureau.

This portrait of General Myer hangs in the Army Navy Club where

MOLLUS holds an annual banquet in honor of **Abraham Linclon**.

Myer was born in Newburgh, New York, son of **Henry Beekman Myer** and **Eleanor (McClanahan) Myer**. He engaged in private medical practice in Florida and then sought a commission as a US Army assistant surgeon (lieutenant), entering service September 18, 1854, posted at Fort Duncan, Texas, and Fort Davis, Jeff Davis County, Texas. His major interest of the time, besides medicine,

was to devise a system of signaling across long distances, using simple codes and lightweight materials. This system of codes using a single signal flag (or a lantern or kerosene torch at night), known as wig-wag signaling or aerial telegraphy, would be adopted and used by both sides in the Civil War. On more than one occasion in his career, Myer was Chief Signal Officer in the Signal Corps.

Myer received the brevet rank of brigadier general in honor of his formation of the Signal Corps, effective March 13, 1865. His commission as brigadier general in the regular Army came on June 16, 1880, two months before his death.

*[Brief articles based on Civil War portraits which hang at the Army Navy Club in Washington D. C. will appear in future MOLLUS Journals]*

*Annual Tribute.....from page 1*

of Lincoln's birth each year at the memorial, commencing on February 12, 1923. The *Lincoln Birthday National Commemorative Committee* (LBNCC), formed in 1981, together with the Military District of Washington and the National Park Service, continues this tradition.

This year we commemorated the 199th Anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's birth. Master of Ceremonies for this event was **Peter Arrott Dixon**, Chairman of the Lincoln Birthday National Commemorative Committee, and District of Columbia MOLLUS Companion, Insignia No. 20832.

Presentation of the Colors was done by the Armed Forces Color Guard, Military District of Washington, after which the National Anthem was sung. The Invocation was given by The Reverend **Daniel P. Coughlin**, Chaplain of the U.S. House of Representatives and then the Colors were retired.

Greetings were given by **Joseph M. Lawler**, Regional Director, NCR, National Park Service after which Commander-in-Chief of MOLLUS **Karl F. Schaeffer** read the letter from President Bush.

Rear Admiral (Ret.) **James J. Carey**, former Chairman, U.S. Federal Maritime Commission, read the "Gettysburg Address."



Rear Admiral (Ret.) James J. Carey

C-in-C Schaeffer then presented the Frederick Talley Drum Hunt History Award to **Andrew John Bruninga** from The Severn School in Severna Park, Maryland.

The above was followed with the



Andrew John Bruninga, Frederick Talley Drum Hunt History Award Winner

presentation of the wreaths. Major General **Richard J. Rowe, Jr.**, Commanding General, MDW, presented the President of the United States wreath.

The wreath of the Diplomatic Corps was presented by His Excellency **Arturo Sarukhan**, Ambassador, Republic of Mexico Acting Dean, Diplomatic Corps.

The wreath of the Department of the Interior was presented by **Joseph M. Lawler**, Regional Director, NCR, National Park Service.

The wreath of the District of Columbia was presented by Dr. **Patricia Elwood**, Director of Protocol & International Affairs.

The wreath of the Lincoln Birthday National Commemorative Committee was presented by **Jerry W. Zillion**, Vice Chairman, and District of Columbia MOLLUS Companion, Insignia No.22004.

Additional tributes were made by the Sons of Union Veterans, National Woman's Relief Corps, Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic, Daughters of Union Veterans, Auxiliary to the Sons of Union Veterans, Dames of the Loyal Legion of the United States (wreath presented by National President **Rosemary Schaeffer** and Past National President **Florence Stanley**), Pennsylvania Department - SUVCW, 81st Illinois Volunteer Infantry Regiment, Kentucky State Society of Washington, D.C., Indiana State Society of Washington, D.C., Confederate Saltier Association, the Lincoln Group of the District of Columbia, Hildene - The Lincoln Family Home, Lincoln

Commission at the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church, Lincoln Memorial University - Harrogate, TN (wreath presented by President **Nancy Moody**) and the American War Mothers.

After the sounding of taps, our group attended the luncheon at the Channel Inn where we were welcomed by Peter Arrott Dixon, Chairman of the Lincoln Birthday National Commemorative Committee and his wife Joan.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, the Invocation was given by The Reverend **Christopher Agnew**.

Mrs. **Gail Stephens**, a retired U.S. Park Service Ranger, spoke on **Lewis "Lew" Wallace** and the Battle of Shiloh. Lewis, the son of **David and Esther French Test Wallace**, was born in Brookville, IN on April 10, 1827 and died in Crawfordsville, IN on February 15, 1905. He served in the Mexican War in 1846 as 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. of the 1<sup>st</sup> Indiana Infantry Regiment. Lewis passed the Indiana bar exam in 1849, but he preferred a political career. On May 6, 1852, Wallace married **Susan Arnold Elston** and had a son, **Henry Lane Wallace** on February 17, 1853.



Luncheon speaker, Mrs. Gail Stephens

Lewis was elected to the Indiana Senate in 1856 after moving his residence to Crawfordsville and held this office until the beginning of the Civil War. He held a number of commands during the Civil War. His first post was as Adjutant General of Indiana. He requested a transfer to a field command and became the Colonel of the 11<sup>th</sup>

*Annual Tribute.....from page 7*

Indiana Infantry. After brief service in western Virginia, he was promoted to the rank of Brigadier General of Volunteers on September 3, 1861 and given the command of the brigade.

Wallace's most controversial command came at the Battle of Shiloh where he continued as a division commander under Grant. His division had been left as reserves at a place called Stoney Lonesome to the rear of the Union line. At about 6 a.m. when Grant's army was surprised and virtually routed by the sudden appearance of the Confederate States Army under **Albert Sidney Johnston**, Grant sent orders for Wallace to move his unit up to support the division of **William Tecumseh Sherman**.

Here, the controversy begins. Wallace claimed that Grant's orders were unsigned, hastily written, and overly vague. There were two paths by which Wallace could move his unit to the front, and Grant (according to Wallace) did not specify which one he should take. Wallace chose to take the upper path, which was much less used and in considerably better condition, and which would lead him to the right side of Sherman's last known position. Grant later claimed that he had specified that Wallace take the lower path, though circumstantial evidence seems to suggest that Grant had forgotten that more than one path even existed.

Whatever the case, Wallace arrived at the end of his march only to find that Sherman had been forced back, and was no longer where Wallace thought he was. Moreover, he had been pushed back so far that Wallace now found himself in the rear of the advancing Southern troops. Nevertheless, a message from Grant arrived with word that Grant was wondering where Wallace was and why he had not arrived at Pittsburg Landing, where the Union was making its stand. Wallace was confused. He felt sure he could viably launch an attack from where he was and hit the Rebels in the rear. Nevertheless, he decided to turn his troops around and march back to Stoney

Lonesome. For some reason, rather than realigning his troops so that the rear guard would be in the front, Wallace chose to countermarch his column; he argued that his artillery would have been greatly out of position to support the infantry when it would arrive on the field.

Wallace marched back to Stoney Lonesome, and arrived at 11 a.m. It had now taken him five hours of marching to return to where he started, with somewhat less rested troops. He then proceeded to march over the lower road to Pittsburg Landing, but the road had been left in terrible conditions by recent rainstorms and previous Union marches, so the going was extremely slow. Wallace finally arrived at Grant's position at about 7 p.m., at a time when the fighting was practically over. Grant was not pleased. Nevertheless, the Union came back to win the battle the following day. Wallace's division held the extreme right of the Union line and was the first to attack on April 7.

At first, there was little fallout from this. Wallace was the youngest General of his rank in the Army and was something of a "golden boy." Soon, however, civilians in the North began to hear the news of the horrible casualties at Shiloh, and the Army needed explanations. Both Grant and his superior, Halleck, placed the blame squarely on Wallace, saying that his incompetence in moving up the reserves had nearly cost them the battle. Sherman, for his part, remained

mute on the issue. Wallace was removed from his command in June and reassigned to the much less glamorous duty commanding the defenses of Cincinnati in the Department of the Ohio.

In July 1864, Wallace produced mixed results in the Battle of Monocacy Junction, part of the Valley Campaigns of 1864. His army (the Middle Department) was defeated by Confederate General **Jubal A. Early**, but was able to delay Early's advance toward Washington, D.C., to the point that the city defenses had time to organize and repel Early.

General Grant's memoirs assessed Wallace's delaying tactics at Monocacy:

"If Early had been but one day earlier, he might have entered the capital before the arrival of the reinforcements I had sent. ... General Wallace contributed on this occasion by the defeat of the troops under him, a greater benefit to the cause than often falls to the lot of a commander of an equal force to render by means of a victory."

Personally, Wallace was devastated by the loss of his reputation as a result of Shiloh. He worked desperately all his life to change public opinion about his role in the battle, going so far as to literally beg Grant to "set things right" in Grant's memoirs. Grant, however, like many of the others Wallace importuned, refused to change his opinion.

*References: Wikipedia Encyclopedia  
Ohio History Central*



Commander-in-Chief, Karl F. Schaeffer flanked by MOLLUS members in attendance at the 199th Lincoln birthday ceremony held on February 12th 2008.

## Brevet Major General Regis de Trobriand

By Waldron K. Post, II, Chancellor-in-Chief

**Philippe Regis Denis de Keredern de Trobriand**, Colonel and Brevet Brigadier General in the United States Army and Brigadier General and Brevet Major General in the United States Volunteers, did not come into his military career by accident. It was his destiny.

Regis' ancestor, **Miles Denys**, fought in 1385 with **Jean de Montfort**, who was struggling to keep the crown of Brittany. He fought well and was awarded the fiefs of Keredern and Trobriand. The descendants of Miles were worthy of him. They left records of daring and courage on land and sea for over five hundred



Brevet Major General Regis de Trobriand

years, in tribute to their family motto: *brillant sur terre et sur mer* (shining on land and on sea). History shows that while serving their country, the family was constantly caught up in court intrigue and shifts in government, which resulted in titles and estates being granted, being confiscated, and again being granted. Islands in the South Pacific still bear the names of Trobriand and Denis.

Brother fighting against brother was not limited to our Civil War. It was true as well with Regis' family. His father Joseph fled to Austria in 1792 during the French Revolution and fought there until **Napoleon Bonaparte** abolished the sentence of death against the émigrés. Napoleon encouraged the men serving in foreign armies to take commissions in the army of their own country, while Regis' brother, Santiago, stayed and fought for the Republic. They were on opposite sides of the battlefield in at least once instance. While serving under Napoleon, Regis's father and one uncle earned the rank of general and regained the family titles, Comte (count) and Baron,

which were later inherited by Regis. Another uncle, Francois, earned the rank of captain while serving in the navy.

The de Trobriand family had an heir to carry on the tradition of military service to one's country, with the birth of Regis on June 4, 1816 in Tours, France.

Regis was inscribed at the age of six as a candidate for admission among the pages of the King (the equivalent of our academies), but history took a cruel turn. The tempest of 1830 broke out in France on the eve that Regis was taking up his duties at court as page and beginning his military education. Regis' father, loyal to his **King Charles X**, would serve no other, especially **Louis Philippe**, who was considered responsible for the French Revolution. He resigned his commission and removed his family to Tours, apparently

ending the military future of young Regis (whose first name of Philippe was dropped after Louis Philippe took the crown). Once again, Regis' father and uncle were on opposite sides, as Santiago remained in the service of Philippe.

Regis did what every young man should do for the next ten years. He played as well as challenged and fought in at least one duel which almost killed him. He took up writing and painting. Finally, he studied law at the strong urging of his father, which earned him a degree in law.

Regis, now a young and dashing Baron in 1841, came to New York and met and married **Mary Mason Jones**, whose family founded the Chemical Bank of New York. The young couple traveled about Europe and eventually took up residence with the exiled Bourbon court (the **Duchess de Berry** and her son, **Comte de Chambord, Henri V**) in Venice. This grand, court life came to an end in 1847. Regis and his family returned to New York at the request of his father-in-law, where he engaged in literary work and started a French review.

Destiny struck in 1861 and Regis' life took on a dramatic change. Regis was watching the 6<sup>th</sup> Massachusetts Regiment (the first to respond to the President's call for troops) make its way through the streets of New York on April 18. He recalled that, "I thought, in spite of myself, of the familiar sights of my childhood, when the French battalions defiled before the starry epaulets of my father: and I asked myself vaguely if destiny which had deprived me in France of the heritage of his sword had not in reserve for me in America some compensation, in the ranks of these volunteers marching to fight for a cause which had immortalized Lafayette." Therefore, when the officers of the Garde Lafayette (55<sup>th</sup> Regiment of New York Volunteers) unanimously elected him their colonel on July 21, he accepted without hesitation.

The regiment was sent to Washington in early autumn. They participated in 1862 in the Peninsular campaign (Siege of Yorktown and Battle of Williamsburg) with the 4<sup>th</sup> Corps, making a good record. The regiment returned to Washington after this campaign and was assigned to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Corps under the command of Brigadier General **Philip Kearny**. The 55<sup>th</sup> New York was consolidated with the 38<sup>th</sup> New York in November, 1862 with de Trobriand as colonel. He participated in the Battle of Fredericksburg on December 13 with three regiments under his command; the 55<sup>th</sup> New York and the 99<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Maine and later in the day the 57<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania. General de Trobriand was assigned to the command of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade, 1<sup>st</sup> Division, 3<sup>rd</sup> Corps after the Chancellorsville campaign.

His brigade was assigned on July 2, 1863 by Major General **Daniel Edgar Sickles** to a position between the peach orchard and the wheat field. He maintained this position with only two regiments: the 5<sup>th</sup> Michigan and the 110<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania. He was uncovered on the right and left sides by the falling back of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> brigades. (His

*continued on page 10*

*de Trobriand.....from page 9*

reserve regiments, the 7<sup>th</sup> Maine and the 40<sup>th</sup> New York, were assigned elsewhere). Finally after losing nearly one half of his force, he was relieved by General **Samuel Zook's** brigade of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Corps. General Zook was one of the first to be killed at the place where he had relieved General de Trobriand. There is an avenue at Gettysburg named for de Trobriand and a monument commemorating the Third Brigade's actions. Also, there is a painting of this position while under attack painted by de Trobriand, which was donated to the Gettysburg Museum.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade was involved in the fight at Manassas Gap on July 23 after Gettysburg and later at the fight of Auburn on October 13, 1863. They fought again and on November 7 at Kelly's Ford, where the operations of the Brigade opened the way for three army corps, the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> for a general advance. General orders from Headquarters conveyed the compliments of the General-in-Chief and the thanks of President **Abraham Lincoln** for these successes.

General de Trobriand was mustered out of service at his own request on November, 1863 after failing to be confirmed by the United States Senate as brigadier general, although he had been recommended by all of the officers above him. Finally, he was promoted on January 5, 1864 and was assigned to command the defenses and troops of New York City (1<sup>st</sup> Division, Department of the East). He remained there until he was ordered back to the army of the Potomac in command of the 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade, 3<sup>rd</sup> Division, 2<sup>nd</sup> Corps (troops formerly belonging to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Corps). General de Trobriand served with them until the final days at Appomattox. He was brevetted Major General on April 19, 1865 for highly meritorious service during this campaign and was mustered out of service on January 15, 1866.

Supposing that his services would not be called for again, General de Trobriand went to France to write and publish

his recollection of *Four Years with the Army of the Potomac* for the information of the French people. This publication was later translated into English.

During this time of writing, General de Trobriand received notice that he had been appointed to the Colonelcy of the 31<sup>st</sup> Regiment. He requested and was granted a leave of absence to complete his work. He reported for duty in 1866 and took command of the District of Dakota at Fort Stevenson. He remained there for three years, during which time he kept a diary which again was first published in French and later translated into English. This diary, entitled *Military Life in Dakota*, is much prized by Dakota historians. General DeTrobriand's presence in Dakota is still highly regarded. There is a de Trobriand Lodge, Bay, Island and wet lands in the Fort Stevenson State Park. His time in Dakota was uneventful, as his mission was to keep the peace and, except for a few minor incidents, this was a common desire of all the people in the region.

He was reassigned in 1869 to the command of the 13<sup>th</sup> Infantry (General Sherman's former regiment) of the District of Montana, stationed at Fort Shaw. He was forced during his command to deal with the hostile and murderous tribe of Piegans, who were practically wiped out during this period. This satisfied the people in the District, as peace was restored to their land. However, history has not dealt too kindly with this campaign.

Captain **Arthur MacArthur** (a MOLLUS member) was ordered in 1870 to proceed to Camp Douglas in Salt Lake City, Utah to deal with the trouble that seemed to be brewing with the Mormons. General deTrobriand and Mormon leader **Brigham Young** maintained a mutual respect for each other, which did not sit well with the territorial politicians. They were unable to manipulate de Trobriand during the conflict between the United States courts and the Mormon People.

General deTrobriand was transferred by the direct orders of President **Ulysses**

**S. Grant**, not his military superiors, to take command of the Wyoming District at Fort Steele. In fact, General William Tecumseh Sherman, who had visited Camp Douglas, emphatically expressed his approval of all that de Trobriand had said and done. The press had a "hay day" with this removal. General de Trobriand took over his new command in 1871, which like the one in the Dakotas was also uneventful.

He was ordered to New Orleans in 1874 where trouble was brewing, as the duly elected Governor **William Pitt Kellogg** and government officials were swept out of office by force and the illegal legislature took control. President Grant sent several regiments, including the 13<sup>th</sup> Infantry to restore Kellogg to his rightful position. General de Trobriand was given this command on January 4, 1875. He did as he was ordered, in such a way that he earned the respect of those on both sides of the issue.

General deTrobriand continued to command the troops in New Orleans until his retirement in 1879. He made this place his home, spending summers alternately between visits to one daughter in France and another daughter on Long Island. It was here that he passed away on the evening of July 15, 1897, at age 81. His daughter closed his eyes in death as the clock on the mantle struck nine, when the last "taps" had sounded.

General de Trobriand, an original member of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion, had two sons-in-law who were officers in the Union Army and he had two grandsons, two great-grandsons, one great-great-grandson and three great-great-great-grandsons who were or are members of the Loyal Legion.

## MOLLUS WEBSITE

Loyal Legion Historical Journal is now online!

<http://www.suvcw.org/mollus/mollus.htm>

## Fifty-Second Annual Lincoln Tomb Ceremony

All are invited to participate in the 52nd Annual Lincoln Tomb Ceremony, commemorating the 143rd anniversary of President Lincoln's death. It will be held at the Lincoln Tomb in Springfield, Illinois' Oak Ridge Cemetery at 10 AM on Saturday April 12, 2008.

The Headquarters Hotel: State House Inn, 1010 East Adams Street. Room Rate is 92.99 for double or single. A full breakfast buffet is included. You can call 1-217-528-5100 for reservations at a room rate of \$113.99. Ground level parking near the hotel lobby and across 1st Street is free.

Shuttle service will provide transportation between the tomb and the hotel.

Wreaths may be ordered from local Springfield florists. Instruct the florist to have the wreath delivered c/o The Lincoln Tomb, Oak Ridge Cemetery, Springfield, by 9 AM on Saturday, April 12th.

The Luncheon will be held in **The Inn at 835** at 12 noon. The Inn, located at 835 S. Second St. is about four blocks south of Adams St. The luncheon program will feature author, teacher and attorney Bruce Alardice, who is President of the Chicago Civil War Round Table.

The **Dr. Benjamin Stephenson Memorial Service**, hosted by the Dept. of Illinois, will take place at his grave in Rose Hill Cemetery, Petersburg, Ill., at 3 PM. The cemetery is located on Illinois Hwy. 123 on the east side of town. Traveling to Petersburg from Springfield, use highways 29 and 123 or 97. Additional information will be available at the hotel and luncheon.

Foreventinfo, goto the SUVCW ([suvwv.org](http://suvwv.org)) or the MOLLUS websites ([suvwv.org/mollus.htm](http://suvwv.org/mollus.htm)) or contact **Edward J. Krieser** at [EJKSUV@comcast.net](mailto:EJKSUV@comcast.net).



## Call for Descendants of Union/Confederate Officers and Soldiers

by *Michael E. Farrell, SUVCW Civil War Sesquicentennial Committee*

The 150th anniversary of the defense and siege at Fort Pulaski Georgia will be celebrated in 2012. In preparation for that event, the Georgia Civil War Sesquicentennial Committee is seeking to identify descendants of those regiments that were engaged in the siege.

A list of those Union/Confederate regiments engaged is below. Descendants of members of those regiments are to contact Michael Farrell by email at [mfarrell@harris.com](mailto:mfarrell@harris.com) or by postal at 7154 Willowlane N.W., Massillon, Ohio 44646.

### Union Regiments

6th Connecticut Volunteer Infantry  
7th Connecticut Volunteer Infantry  
8th Maine Volunteer Infantry  
8th Michigan Volunteer Infantry  
28th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry  
3rd New Hampshire Volunteer Infantry  
1st New York Engineers Volunteer  
46th New York Volunteer Infantry  
47th New York Volunteer Infantry  
48th New York Volunteer Infantry  
3rd Rhode Island Volunteer Heavy Artillery  
97th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry  
3rd United States Artillery, Battery E

### Confederate Defense Forces

1st Volunteer Regt. of Georgia (German Volunteers)  
1st Volunteer Regt. of Georgia (Washington Volunteers)



*Ft. Pulaski National Monument Georgia*

National Park Service

## Members of DOLLUS Gather for Lincoln Birthday

Pictured below from l. to r. are Maryann Mangold, Sun Kropp (guest), Blanche Curfman, Eleanor

1st Volunteer Regt. of Georgia (Oglethorpe Lt. Inf., Co. B)  
1st Volunteer Regt. of Georgia (Montgomery Guards)  
25th Georgia (Wise Guards)

Niebell, President Rosemary Schaeffer, Nancy Moody, and Kathleen Watson.



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