Elmira Prison Camp OnLine Library

Stephenson, Benjamin T.
32nd N.C. Vol.
Present or accounted for until captured at Spotsylvania Court House, Va. 5-15-1864. Confined at Point Lookout , Maryland 5-18-1864. Transferred to Elmira 8-3-1864. Paroled at Elmira, on February 20, 1865 , and transferred to the James River Virginia, for exchange . Hospitalized at Richmond, Virginia , 2-25-1865 with diarrhea. Furloughed for thirty days on 3-29-1865.
Information provided by James R. Tunstall.

http://www.factasy.com/civil_war/content/elmira-prison-(union)

Confederate Regiment

On the outbreak of the American Civil War, 313 officers left the United States Army to join the Confederate Army. President Jefferson Davis called for 82,000 volunteers but this was clearly not enough and in August, 1861, the Confederate Congress authorized the recruitment of 400,000 men. It was the responsibility of the individual states to recruit these men.

At the beginning of 1862 Davis announced that the South could not win the war without conscription. In April, the Confederate Congress passed the Conscription Act which drafted white men between eighteen and thirty-five for three years' service.

In the Confederate Army all officers below the rank of brigadier were elected by the troops. There were no medals awarded as it was claimed they were all heroes and it would be wrong to single anyone out. The highest honor was to be mentioned in dispatches.

Some soldiers in the Confederate Army was willing to defend the South from the Union Army but objected to offensive operations. When Robert E. Lee decided to take the war to the north in the summer of 1863, an estimated 50,000 men deserted. This number increased after the defeats at Vicksburg and Gettysburg. By the end of the war there were an estimated 100,000 deserters at large in the South.

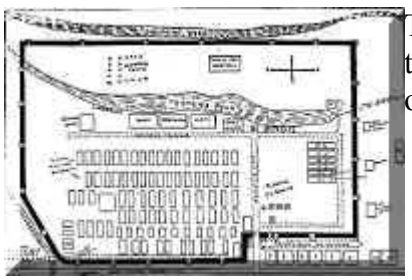
A total of 1,406,180 men enlisted in the Confederate Army during the war. An estimated 52,954 men who were killed in action, 21,570 died of their wounds and 59,297 were the victims of disease. At the end of the war 174,223 men surrendered to the Union Army.

The Confederacy raised between 764 and 1009 regiments over the period of the Civil War. The lack of adequate records precludes a more accurate count. Regardless of the actual number of regiments recruited, the list below will grove and in the future shall it be complete with Regiment and name on the soldier.

Elmira Prison (Union)

Submitted by Webmaster Ann on Tue, 09/18/2007 - 17:11.

Elmira barracks were built at the beginning of the war as a general recruiting depot; but in July, 1864, Division No. 3, of the barracks, called afterwards Camp Chemung, was converted into a prison camp. This division was situated on the river-bank a mile and a quarter west of the town. The site was believed to be healthy; it was level, and having a sandy soil resting on a stratum of coarse gravel a few feet below the surface, affording good underground drainage. At the date mentioned twenty of the old barrack buildings were considered fir for the occupation of the prisoners and the new ones were constructed. The former, 88 x 18 x 8 feet, were intended to accommodate each one hundred men. Mess-halls and kitchens were suitably furnished. The barracks were built of pine they were well lighted, warmed by stoves and provided with ridge-ventilation. The bakery could turn out six or seven thousands rations per day. Good water was obtained from two wells, and any deficiency was supplied from the river. Lavatories and baths were not at first specially provided. Drainage was by means of pits dug to the porous subsoil. The sinks were covered pits, which were filled up when necessary.



The prison camp was only there for one year, yet it had the highest death rate, per capita, of any prison camp north or south, 24 percent. The following statistics are offered

as published.
Elmira prison was located on a 30 acre site, along the banks of the Chemung River. A one acre lagoon of water, called Foster's Pond, stood within the walls of the stockade. The pond was a backwash from the river and served as a latrine and garbage dump. Prison buildings were located on the high northern bank of the lagoon. The lower southern level, known to flood easily, later became a hospital area for hundreds of smallpox and diarrhea victims.

The prison was conceived on May 15th. 1864, when Adjutant General E. D. Townsend reported several empty barracks could be used to house a large number of "Rebels" recently captured.

Hoffman wrote to Eastman on 5/19 that he had HEARD the site would hold 10.000. Eastman then replied on 5/23 that the barracks "could hold 4,000, with plenty of room for another 1,000."
Hoffman on 6/22 tells Eastman "to make the area, being enclosed by a fence, enough to accommodate, in barracks and tents, 10,000 prisoners."
On June 30, 1864, Eastman wrote to Brigadier-General L. Thomas that the camp was ready to receive prisoners, "as there will be about 50 companies of 200 men each (10,000)...".

The camp bakery had adequate facilities for feeding 5,000 prisoners. No camp hospital existed, but tents were available for any men who might become ill. Preparations for 10,000 prisoners does not appear to have been made.

Inside the fenced in area (know as "the pen") stood 35 two-story barracks, each of which measured 100 by 20 feet. Ceilings were barely high enough to accommodate two rows of crude bunks along the walls. Unsealed roofs characterized the wooden buildings. The floorings were of green lumber, without foundations, and had little resistance to wind and water. Behind the rows of barracks was a group of buildings converted into a dispensary, adjutant's office and guard rooms. To their rear, extending to the northern bank of Foster's Pond, were the cook houses and mess halls. The first group of prisoners to arrive at the prison quickly crowded the allotted barracks. Subsequent arrivals lived in "A" tents scattered around the prison area.

At the time of their arrival, most prisoners were unaware of one last and deadly factor. The prison was located in New York State, where for at least four months of the year, the weather was bitterly cold. One prisoner from Virginia wrote the compound was, "an excellent summer prison for southern soldiers, but an excellent place for them to find their graves in the winter."

The first contingent of prisoners arrived from New York by train. Prisoners were pleasantly surprised when sympathetic citizens, at many stops, distributed food and clothing to them. Yet, wrote one prisoner, "these agreeable incidents were occasionally diversified by the insults of some sleek non-combatant, whose valiant soul found congenial occupation in fearful threats of our indiscriminate massacre, if he could only lay hands on us."

The first group reached the prison at 6 a.m. on July 6th and numbered 399 men, one soldier escaped in route. The second group arrived early in the morning of July 11th, followed by 502 Confederates the following day. Before departing their earlier prison camps, the prisoners received vaccinations for smallpox. The injections were of poor quality vaccines, and seen on many arms "were great sores, big enough, it seemed, to put your fist in."

On July 15th, an Erie Railroad train jammed with prisoners, collided with a freight train near the hamlet of Shohola. Forty-eight prisoners and seventeen guards were killed. 100 prisoners and eighteen guards were injured.

By the end of July, 4, 424 prisoners were packed in the compound, with another 3,000 in route. The total number leaped to 9,600 by mid-August. It took three hours to feed 10,000 men in shifts of 1,800 at a time. The camp commander complained of the over crowded conditions, and was told as long as the men got through their breakfast by 11 a.m. and dinner by 6 p.m. nothing more was necessary.

The Conditions In The Elmira Prison

Submitted by Webmaster Ann on Tue, 09/18/2007 - 17:16.

The prisoners were insufficient clothed, there being at the same time a great want of blankets, especially among the prisoners in quarters. A supply is said to have been received on one occasion from the Confederate authorities. Sometimes the want f clothing was incompatible with the maintenance of health, and hospital patients, after having sufficiently recovered to be up, were obliged to keep their beds for want of pantaloons. Needs of this kind, and others less urgent, on becoming known, were relieved by the issue of hospital clothing. Bedding was supplied in quarters only to the sick, and consisted of sacks of straw and blanket. The men in confinement here had the full prison ration as supplied as the other prisons depots. Desiccated vegetables were at first furnished, but as they were not acceptable to the prisoners, fresh onions and potatoes were substituted. Inspector LYMAN reports on November 11, 1864, that onions and potatoes were supplied on three days out of five, and in each of his subsequent reports speaks of the supply of vegetables as sufficient. On one occasion he reported the beef as of inferior quality, but generally the diet was represented as good and well cooked, the kitchen being under the supervision of a special officer.

On the arrival of the prisoners, and while the hospital was in course of erection, the sick were treated in a pavilion set far apart for their reception. Medical supplies and accommodations were deficient at this time. An inspection report dated July 15, 1864, says: They are absolutely without the necessary medical and hospital supplies. Requisitions were made three weeks ago. Until the day of my inspection the sick were laid on the naked bunks from the inability to obtain straw. This was finally procured by the commending officer after considerable difficulty, and arrived during my inspection. When the requisition for medicine and hospital supplies is filled they will be in every respect suitable provided in a sanitary view."

In August, medicines were reported a"is due to the broken-down condition of the prisoners on their arrival." There were at this time 9,170 prisoners, of whom 553 received hospital attendance and 558 were prescribed for at sick-calls.

The medical staff consisted of a surgeon in charge and eleven or twelve assistants. Confederate surgeons sometimes assisted in attending to the sick. Visits by the medical officer were made twice a day, and in special cases oftener; and any complaint against a medical attendant of inattention or harshness was prompted investigated. Competent persons were selected from among the prisoners to compound prescriptions and to act as nurses and cooks.

In August the hospital consisted of three wards of seventy beds each, and one of eighty-two beds, with 624 cubic feet of space per bed. On October 14th there were 9,063 prisoners, of whom 3,873 slept in the barracks and 5,190 in 1,038 tents. The air-space in the larger barrack buildings was 111 cubic feet per man, in the smaller buildings 92.5

cubic feet. there were 1,560 men on the sick report. The hospital had been extended, consisting now of six new wards averaging 62 beds each, with 654 feet of air-space per bed, and four barrack-buildings averaging 70 beds, with 342 cubic feet per bed.
On November 11, and additional hospital ward of 62 beds, with 654 feet of space per bed, had been completed, and one of the old 70-bed wards was vacated for use as quarters.

In January, 1865, with a view to diminish the sickness and lessen the mortality, the Medical Inspector made the following recommendations:

1st. That additional wards be constructed and provision be made for hot-water bathing of the sick.
2nd. That hospital clothing be allowed, which would afford an opportunity for cleansing the woolen and underclothing of the patients.
3rd. That all the old barracks be provided with additional windows. In the water season the men confine themselves to the wards as much as possible for warmth, and the closing of the doors and windows renders these barracks too dark.
4th. That more cubic and superficial space be allowed by the erection of additional barracks. The type of disease among the prisoners is that which results from over-crowding: there is no acute disease, everything assumes a typhoid type.
The condition of the camp at the date mention is thus described:
The whole appearance of this camp is greatly improved since the last inspection. The sick in hospital and quarters are now vigilantly watched; the food is good and well cooked; coal stoves have been substituted for wood, and the police of the barracks is quite as good, and, I think, better than in most regimental barracks."

Small-pox broke out among the prisoners about this time. From December 1, 1864 to January 24, 1865, there had been 397 cases. To isolate these properly a small-pox hospital had been improvised with tents; but a new pavilion was being constructed to replace it. During January 5,600 vaccinations and re-vaccinations were performed. To replace, and afford better shelter than the tents, twenty-four new barracks, each 100 x 24 x 12 and 3 feet pitch of roof, had been completed by the middle of March, and six more were in course of construction. These are said to have given 180 cubic feet of air-space per man. At this period there were 1,738 on the sick-list in a total of 5,934 prisoners, and many of those in quarters were very sick and stood as much in need of suitable ward-accommodation as those in hospital, into which, for want of room, they could not be received. Said the inspector:

The condition of the patients is pitiable; the diseases are nearly of all type, and much of the sickness is justly attributed to crowd-poisoning. In addition to this, the clothing during the winter was insufficient. The deep mud prevents the exercise o the prisoners in the open air, and there is no occupation for most of them to relieve, in a measure, the depressing influence of prison life. The Fort Fisher prisoners, especially arrived in cold weather very much depredated, poorly clad, and great numbers were soon taken sick with pneumonia and diarrhea, rapidly assuming a typhoid character. The surgeon was recommended to press constantly upon the commandant the necessity for appropriating

some of the best barracks for additional wards, the *immediate* completion of the floor-ventilation, the alternation already commenced in the hospital latrines, and the free use of the permanganate of potash throughout the barracks ad of bromine in the wards. I would renew the recommendation, made in my January report, that additional light be given to the old barracks, and greater facilities for warm and cold bathing as prophylactic measures.

Subsequently, up to June 22, 1865, the date of the last report, the sanitary condition of the camp and buildings is reported as having been good. The number of prisoners continued to diminish and the ratio of mortality grew steadily less.

The runoff and sewage going into Foster's Pond was beginning to have effects on the prisoners. It was getting to be offensive to the nostrils and a danger to the health. One of the surgeons at the prison stated the case more pointedly. An average of 7,000 prisoners released daily over 2,600 gallons of urine-"highly loaded with nitrogenous material"-into Foster's Pond. Moreover, he noted, the pond received the contents of the sinks and garbage of the camp until it became so offensive that vaults were dug on the banks of the pond for sinks. Washington was notified as early as August 17; not until late October was permission received to use prisoner labor to dig drainage ditches to remove the water and it's rotting matter. By December the odor was gone, by then scores of prisoners were down with disease.

Housing was still a problem and getting worse. Less then a month after the camp opened, almost 10,000 Confederates were inside it's crowded compound... tents ran out on August 7; a new shipment arrived on August 12, but there wasn't enough of them. Hundreds of prisoners had to sleep in the open, many of them without blankets. Late in November, a medical inspector pronounced the barracks to be "of green lumber, which is cracking, splitting, and warping in every direction."

In a feeble effort to lessen the number of prisoners, late in September, Washington issued a directive that prisoners physically unfit would be exchanged. The order stated that no Confederates would be shipped southward that were "too feeble to endure the journey." The camp commander was ordered to "have a careful inspection of the prisoners made by medical officers to select those who shall be transferred."

- Captain Munger, in weekly inspection report of Oct. 16th, says: "... During the past week over 1200 invalid prisoners, 300 of whom were from the hospital, were paroled and sent South for exchange. ..."

The prisoners journey south was to be by train to Baltimore followed by steamer to City Point for exchange. On October 14, Washington surgeons examined the 1200 prisoners who arrived by train at Baltimore. Five had died in route; scores of others were reported by one doctor as being "unable to bear the journey." The physical condition of many of these men, he added, "was distressing in the extreme, and they should have never been permitted to leave Elmira.

- Letter to Surgeon J. Simpson, US Army, Medical Director, West's Building Hospital, Baltimore, Md. from A. Chapel, Surgeon, US Volunteers in charge," I went on board the steamer loaded with prisoners last evening..." "I found at least forty cases that should not have been sent.... but as my hospital had been more than filled by those sent by Surgeon Campbell, I thought it better NOT to remove them."

The episode became one of the major marks against the prison it's occupants had dubbed "Helmira."

In the mean time, life at prison had become routine and, in most instances, revolting. Prisoners not packed in the flimsy barracks swarmed around the yards and vied for space within the few ragged tents. The first troops designated as guards at the prison were Negroes who, one Georgia soldier sneered, "had been decoyed North and organized into companies and regiments to guard their former masters." units of the Veteran Reserve Corps, and New York State Troops later became the Provost guard.

Late in July the prisoners underwent a unique indignity. A group of townspeople erected two observation platforms immediately outside the prison walls. For the nominal sum of 15 cents, spectators could observe the prisoners as they endured life inside the compound. Initially, one of the more pressing needs of the prisoners was for clothing. The cry for clothing brought an instantaneous response from Southern families and friends. Yet, Col. Eastman withheld issuance of the clothing until he could get permission for distribution from Col. Hoffman. The permission came in late August, but only clothing of gray could be issued. Piles of clothing of other colors were burned. All but a few coats, shirts and pairs of trousers were destroyed.

Winter struck early at the prison. Prisoners lacking blankets and clad in rags collapsed from exposure. By early December, 1,600 men "entirely destitute of blankets," stood ankle deep in snow to answer morning roll call.

In the second week of December, the Federal government issued clothing for 2,000 men to 8,400 Confederates then quartered at the prison. In January, Confederate authorities sent a shipment of cotton Northward under a flag of truce, the proceeds from the sale of the cotton went to purchase clothing for the prisoners.

On August 18, Col. Hoffman ordered prisoner rations restricted to bread and water. The results were, by late August, an epidemic of scurvy was in full force; on September 11, no less then 1,870 cases had been reported. In October the prisoners received a single small ration of fresh vegetables. Onions and potatoes, wrote a prison doctor, constituted three of every five rations for two weeks of that same month; then their distribution stopped. Not until December was the meager diet of bread and water supplemented with a meat ration. However, stated Captain Bennet Munger, a prison inspector, the meat was of such inferior quality that a quarter-beef weighing 92 pounds yielded but 45 1/2 pounds of meat, "when carefully taken off the bone." Men were dying of starvation at the rate of 25 a day.

Close on the heels of the scurvy epidemic came an even larger outbreak of diarrhea. Moreover, by November 1864, pneumonia had reached plague proportions. A month later dreaded smallpox came to Elmira and in it's first week struck 140 men and killed ten. Smallpox was ever-present thereafter. One prisoner wrote, "there is not a day that at least twenty men are taken out dead."

Medical treatment of prisoners from the outset was bad, and it just got worse as time went on. As early as July 11, 1864- five days after the arrival of the first group of prisoners, Surgeon Inspector C.T. Alexander reported, "I found the sick.... in no way suitably provided for except for shelter; diet not suitable; some without bedsacks; blankets scarce." On September 21, Ward Assistant Anthony Keiley wrote in his diary: "As I went over to the first hospital this morning early, there were 18 dead bodies lying naked on the bare earth. Eleven more were added to the list by half past eight o'clock." By November the death toll in the hospitals had reached 755 men. A large portion of mortalities stemmed from nearby Foster's Pond, which one observer described as being "green with putrescence, filling the air with it's messengers of disease and death." at the rate of sickness then present, a doctor informed Washington, "the entire command will be admitted to the hospital in less than a year and thirty-six percent will die."

Washington ignored or denied repeated requisitions for badly needed medicines. An urgent request for straw on which the sick could lay was ignored. Hoffman turned repeated request to complete the ceilings and roofs on the hospital buildings down without any reasons given. An official in the U.S. Sanitary Commission was turned down flat when he asked permission to attend to the sick and dying. By late December at least 70 men were lying on the hospital floors because of a lack of beds and straw; another 200 diseased and dying men lay in the regular prisoner quarters because there was no room for them in the wards. As one guard wrote, "Prisoners died as sheep with the rot." A Federal Inspector wrote in October, "The number of deaths this week is but 40."

The number of sick and dead rose sharply at the end of 1864, when prisoners, fighting disease, filth and starvation, could not weather the bitter cold of a New York winter. The winter was so severe, and clothing so scarce, that prisoners stood in deep snow with only rags tied around their frozen and swollen feet to answer morning roll calls. Late in December, after repeated urgent pleas, Washington sent a few stoves to the prison. There were two small stoves for each barracks, and a few for the men still housed in tents. Prisoners received small wood rations only at 8 a.m. and at 8 p.m. During the 12 hour intervals they had to get warm as best they could. Moreover, with an average of 200 men to a barracks, each stove therefore was the sole means of warmth for 100 men.

On the night of March 16, 1865, unusually hard rains caused the Chemung River to over run it's banks. Federals and Confederates alike hastily assembled crude rafts to evacuate prisoners from the Smallpox Hospital in the flats and they did succeed in floating most of the sick to safety. Other prisoners crowded the upper stories of the barracks as icy water rose halfway up the first level. The Camp's Col. Tracy reported that the transfer of prisoners to high ground resulted "with but slightly increased loss of life."

A month later General Robert E. Lee surrendered at Appomattox, and the prisoners received much improved treatment, and were not guarded as closely. The paroling of prisoners began late in May. Except for those still confined to the hospitals, the prison camp was vacant by July 5th, and ready for demolition a month later. The last prisoner, named Kistler, did not leave the hospital and start home until September 27, 1865. The prison's death rate in March of 1865 was an average of sixteen Confederates a day. Of a total of 12,122 Confederate soldiers imprisoned at the prison, 2,933 died of sickness, exposure, and associated causes. Of the survivors from the stockade, an eyewitness made the observation; "I speak in all reverence when I say that I do not believe such a spectacle was seen before on earth...On they came, a ghastly tide, with skeleton bones and lusterless eyes, and brains bereft of but one thought, and hearts purged of but one feeling, the thought of freedom, the love of home."

Reference Resources:

1. "The Elmira Prison Camp", A History of the Military Prison at Elmira, N. Y. July 6, 1864 to July 10, 1865; By: Clay W. Holmes, A.M.; G.P. Putman's Sons New York and London, The Knickerbocker press 1912.
2. "Civil War Prisons", Kent State University Press, edited by William B. Hesseltine.
3. "Photographic History of The Civil War", Black Dog & Leventhal Publishers, New York, edited by William C. Davis & Dell I. Wiley.
4. "The Blue and the Gray", published by Cresent Books, distributed by Random House Value Publishing, Inc., edited by Henry Steele Commager

"The Blue and the Gray" the story of the Civil War as told by participants, edited by Henry Steele Commager, 1995 edition is published by Cresent Books, distributed by Random House Value Publishing, Inc., 40 Engelhard Avenue, Avenel, New Jersey 07001. ISBN 0-517-06015-9. Chapter XIX, Prisons, North and South, Section 7, Titled: "The Privations of Life in Elmira Prison." is a narrative by a Tennessee prisoner, Marcus B. Toney, titled: "The privations of a Private", Nashville, Tenn.; Methodist Episcopal Church South, 1905. Pp. 93-104, passim."

Confederate Military History of North Carolina

Submitted by Conrad on Sat, 03/15/2008 - 18:56.

Confederate Military History of North Carolina

The State of North Carolina was not as quick or eager to secede from the Union as her southern neighbors. However, after the firing on Fort Sumter, South Carolina, and President Lincoln's call for 75,000 troops, the Old North State joined those already fighting for independence. North Carolina contributed and sacrificed more men for the Confederate cause than any other state.

The first Confederate soldier killed in the war was a North Carolinian; North Carolina regiments made it farther into Union lines at Gettysburg and Chickamauga; and North Carolinians captured the last Union artillery battery, made the last charge, fired the last volley, and surrendered the last man at Appomattox Court House.

North Carolina proudly earned the label: First at Bethel, Farthest at Gettysburg and Chickamauga, Last at Appomattox. Confederate Military History of North Carolina recounts the contribution and sacrifice of North Carolinians made while serving in the Army of North Virginia and the great battles in which it participated—Big Bethel, 1st and 2nd Manassas, The Peninsula Campaign, Seven Days battles, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Bristoe Station, Wilderness, Spotsylvania, Early's Valley Campaign, Petersburg, Appomattox, and many more. North Carolinians gallantly protected their state throughout the war, from Burnside's Expedition, to the battles of Fort Fisher and Kinston, and Sherman's Carolinas Campaign, ending with the battles of Averasboro and Bentonville. A few Tar Heel regiments fought in the West, seeing action at Murfreesboro, Chickamauga, Lookout Mountain, and the Atlanta Campaign.

Facts About The Civil War

Submitted by Webmaster Ann on Wed, 08/29/2007 - 20:38.

Page 1

At least 618,000 Americans died in the Civil War

Of every 1,000 Federals in battle, 112 were wounded

Of every 1,000 Confederates, 150 were hit

The 1st Maine Heavy Artillery, in a charge at Petersburg, Virginia, 18 June 1864, sustained a "record" loss of the war-635 of its 900 men within seven minutes.

The bloodiest battles of the War were:
Gettysburg (3 days) ..... 51,116 casualties
Antietam (1 day) ..... 22,726 casualties
Seven Days Battle ..... 36,463 casualties

The Confederate regiments sustaining the greatest losses in one battle were:
26th North Carolina ..... 86 killed 588 wounded (Gettysburg)
6th Alabama ..... 91 killed 277 wounded (Seven Pines)
4th North Carolina..... 77 killed 286 wounded (Seven Pines)
44th Georgia ..... 71 killed 264 wounded (Mechanicsville)

There were more Northern-born Confederate generals than Southern-born Union generals.

The general with the longest name was union General Alexander Schimmelfennig

The largest cavalry battle took place at Brandy Station Virginia, June 9, 1863.

There were 100 men in a Company and 10 Companies in a Regiment.

Thomas Jonathan "Stonewall" Jackson often went about camp handing out Sunday school leaflets.

Approximately 3 million men served at some point between 1861 and 1865, about 900,000 for the Confederacy and 2.1 million for the Union. An estimated 300 women disguised themselves as men and fought in the ranks. About 180,000 African American men served in the Union army. By the time of the Confederate surrender in 1865, there were more African Americans in the Union army than there were soldiers in the Confederate army.

More than 3,000 horses were killed at Gettysburg

3,530 Indians who fought for the Union, 1,018 were killed

Within the Civil War soldiers Three hundred were thirteen or under-most of these fifers or drummers, but regularly enrolled, and sometimes fighters. Twenty-five were ten or under

Facts About The Civil War

Submitted by Webmaster Ann on Wed, 08/29/2007 - 20:42.

Page 2

Archibald Gracie, Jr., survived the sinking of the Titanic.

General Stonewall Jackson walked around with his right hand in the air to balance the blood flow in his body? Because he was right-handed, he thought that his right hand was getting more blood than his left, and so by raising his hand, he'd allow the excess blood to run into his left hand. He also never ate food that tasted good, because he assumed that anything that tasted good was completely unhealthy.

Union privates were paid $13 per month until after the final raise of 20 June '64, when they got $16. In the infantry and artillery, officer was as follows at the start of the war: colonels, $212; lieutenant colonels, $181; majors, $169; captains, $115.50; first lieutenants, $105.50; and second lieutenants, $105.50. Other line and staff officers drew an average of about $15 per month more. Pay for one, two, and three star generals was $315, $457, and $758, respectively.

The Confederate pay structure was modeled after that of the US Army. Privates continued to be paid at the prewar rate of $11 per month until June '64, when the pay of all enlisted men was raised $7 per month.

Alfred Thomas Archmedes Torbert held commissions in both USA and CSA armies simultaneously

Surgeons never washed their hands after an operation, because all blood was assumed to be the same, nor did he wash his instruments

After the Battle of Gettysburg the discarded rifles were collected and sent to Washington to be inspected and reissued? Of the 37,574 rifles recovered,

Facts About The Civil War

Submitted by Webmaster Ann on Wed, 08/29/2007 - 20:49.

24,000were still loaded; 6,000 had one round in the barrel; 12,000 had two rounds in the barrel; 6,000 had three to ten rounds in the barrel.

A regiment of volunteers has been commenced at Albany to be composed entirely of men over forty-five years

One of the New York regiments contains thirty schoolmasters

An Iowa regiment has a rule that any man who utters an oath shall read a chapter in the Bible. Several have got nearly through the Old Testament

Thomas Stewart, aged 92 years, of East Newtown, Ohio, was private in the 101st Ohio regiment, and took part in the battle of Perryville, where he was complimented for his bravery and soldierly bearing. He has four sons, two grandsons, and three sons-in-law at present in the army. He was born in 1770 at Litchfield, Conn., where his father now resides, aged 122

The death of Major McCook furnishes some melancholy coincidences in the history of his family in connection with the war. His youngest son, Charles, was killed at the battle of Bull Run, on the 21st day of July, 1861; his son, Col. Robert McCook, was killed on the 21st day of July, 1862, and the father himself was killed on the 21st day of July, 1863.

Some idea of the tremendous work at Gettysburg may be inferred from the fact stated that more shells were discharged in the single battle of Gettysburg than were employed in all the battles that Napoleon ever fought

If a statue in the park of a person on a horse has both front legs in the air, the person died in battle; if the horse has one front leg in the air, the person died as a result of wounds received in battle; if the horse has all four legs on the ground, the person died of natural causes.

The name "Dixie" became a universal nickname for the South long before the war. "Unlike many Southern banks, the prospering Creole financial houses of New Orleans dealt at par; their notes were traded at face value, and no deductions were made or asked in the brisk trade which came downriver into the gay Louisiana city. The most popular of these bank notes was a ten-dollar bill. Its French heritage was clear in the cheery legend on each corner: "Dix." To unlettered tradesmen, stevedores and boatman, these bills were only "Dixies," and as their soundness became known in the great river basin, the lower South became "Dixieland" . . .

On May 13, 1865, a month after Lee's surrender, Private John J. Williams of the 34th Indiana became the last man killed in the Civil War, in a battle at Palmito Ranch, Texas. The final skirmish was a Confederate victory. Info gathered from among the following.

The Civil War: Strange Facts by Burke Davis

2,000 Questions and Answers About the Civil War by Webb B. Garrison

Civil War Ghost Stories & Legends by Nancy Roberts

"Historical Times Encyclopedia of the Civil War" Edited by Patricia L. Faust