



Frederick H. Hackeman CAMP 85

June 2021



Commander's Ramblings

Brothers,

To say that I was pleased with the turnout for the May meeting would be an understatement. Having nine of the brothers in attendance is gratifying. I can't use that as an excuse for my lapse of memory in forgetting to bring the envelope that had everyone's membership cards to hand out. Once I got home it struck me that I didn't do that - hand out the cards. I finally located the envelope that had those cards and mailed it to Ray for him to mail to each of you. By now you should have your card. It basically identifies you for any official meeting such as the Department Encampment of National Encampment. One of the requirements for those meetings is to have your membership card. So, now you can attend the National Encampment in St Louis this year.

Of the things that we got caught up on were the Flag Day Parade and our continuing support and participation. I've emailed the organizer and requested that we be placed with the other military/patriotic groups which are usually towards the front of the parade line-up. And that we be separated from any horse groups due to our musket firing. They replied and stated that they would take that into consideration. Well, when I get word back I'll pass this on.

Another item discussed was the idea of having a Family **Commander to Page 2** picnic this July. Typical picnic fare: hot dogs, Hamburgers

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Next Camp Meeting

****September 9****, 2021 -6:30 p.m.

In person Meeting ??

Camp Communicator

Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War

CAMP TRAINING AIDS

As located on the Department of Michigan web site. It is recommended that Camp members visit these URLs and familiarize themselves with the information contained within these documents.

Handbook of Instruction for the Department Patriotic Instructor
<https://www.suvcwmi.org/hq/Department%20PI%20Handbook.pdf>

Handbook of Instruction for the Camp Patriotic Instructor
Missing link

Handbook of Instruction for the Civil War Memorials Officer
<https://www.suvcwmi.org/hq/Michigan%20CWM%20Handbook.pdf>

Department Membership Initiative
<https://www.suvcwmi.org/hq/DeptMemInitiative.pdf>

Department of Michigan Member Recruitment & Retention Report
<https://www.suvcwmi.org/hq/Dept%20of%20Michigan%20Member%20Recruitment%20&%20Retention.pdf>

National Chaplain's Handbook
<https://www.suvcwmi.org/hq/Dept%20of%20Michigan%20Member%20Recruitment%20&%20Retention.pdf>

Recommended Education & Additional Department Officer Duties
<https://www.suvcwmi.org/hq/Department%20Orders/Series%202017-18/Recommended%20Ed%20&%20Add%20Dept%20Officer%20Duties.pdf>

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(maybe), buns, condiments, salads, chips, drinks (either soft drinks or Iced tea provided or a BYOB option), and something for dessert. I'm suggesting that it start about 11 and can run until early afternoon. Of course, a lot will depend on what the weather forecast is like. If anyone knows of a park with a shelter that isn't too expensive to reserve let me know. The Lincoln Twp shelter does require a payment. So think of something that you might bring from the list above. I'll bring the hot dogs and buns. We'll need to know who will be coming so that we know how much to provide.

At some point we need to have our Brothers consider thinking about becoming Camp Commander. I can maintain that officer for the meantime but there will be the day that I will move to New York. So there will need to be someone step up and assume that office. That time may not be soon but it will occur. I would hope that the condition of the camp will be healthy enough to maintain activities supported by the membership.. Of course, the hope is that increasing recruitment will bring in more Brothers able to take up camp offices. But that depends on each of us continuing to reach out to friends, neighbors, family and others to develop their interest and patriotic sense for their ancestor(s).

Yours in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty

Steve Williams,
Frederick H. Hackemann, Camp 85 Commander



Meeting Schedule

Our meeting schedule is Alternate months between September through May meeting on the 2nd Thursday of every month except as noted. At 6:00 PM.

Location -

Currently -
Lincoln Twp
Public Library



7th corps Kepi patch

Battle of Brandy Station

The Battle of Brandy Station, also called the Battle of Fleetwood Hill, was the largest predominantly cavalry engagement of the American Civil War, as well as the largest ever to take place on American soil. It was fought on June 9, 1863, around Brandy Station, Virginia, at the beginning of the Gettysburg Campaign by the Union cavalry under Maj. Gen. Alfred Pleasonton against Maj. Gen. J.E.B. Stuart's Confederate cavalry.

Union commander Pleasonton launched a surprise dawn attack on Stuart's cavalry at Brandy Station. After an all-day fight in which fortunes changed repeatedly, the Federals retired without discovering Gen. Robert E. Lee's infantry camped near Culpeper. This battle marked the end of the Confederate cavalry's dominance in the East. From this point in the war, the Federal cavalry gained strength and confidence.

Background

The Confederate Army of Northern Virginia streamed into Culpeper County, Virginia, after its victory at Chancellorsville in May 1863. Under the leadership of Gen. Robert E. Lee, the troops massed around Culpeper preparing to carry the war north into Pennsylvania. The Confederate Army was suffering from hunger and their equipment was poor. Lee was determined to strike north to capture horses, equipment, and food for his men. His army could also threaten Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Washington, and encourage the growing peace movement in the North. By June 5, two infantry corps under Lt. Gens. James Longstreet and Richard S. Ewell were camped in and around Culpeper. Six miles northeast of Culpeper, holding the line of the Rappahannock River, Stuart bivouacked his cavalry troopers, screening the Confederate Army against surprise by the enemy.

Most of the Southern cavalry was camped near Brandy Station. Stuart, befitting his reputation as a "dashing cavalier" or beau sabreur, requested a full field review of his troops by Gen. Lee. This grand review on June 5 included nearly 9,000 mounted troopers and 4 batteries of horse artillery, charging in

simulated battle at Inlet Station, about two miles (3 km) southwest of Brandy Station. (The review field currently remains much as it was in 1863, except that a Virginia police station occupies part of it.)



"Cavalry Charge Near Brandy Station, Virginia", a drawing by Edwin Forbes of the Battle of Brandy Station



Gen. Lee was not able to attend the review, however, so it was repeated in his presence on June 8, although the repeated performance was limited to a simple parade without battle simulations. Despite the lower level of activity, some of the cavalr-ymen and the newspaper re- porters at the scene complained that all Stuart was doing was feeding his ego and exhausting the horses. Lee ordered Stuart to cross the Rappahannock River the next day and raid Union forward positions, screening the Confederate Army from observation or interference as it moved north. Anticipating this imminent offensive action, Stuart ordered his tired troopers back into bivouac around Brandy Station.

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Opposing forces and Pleasonton's plan

Around Brandy Station, Stuart's force of about 9,500 men consisted of five cavalry brigades, commanded by Brig. Gens. Wade Hampton, W.H.F. "Rooney" Lee, Beverly H. Robertson, and William E. "Grumble" Jones, and Colonel Thomas T. Munford (commanding Brig. Gen. Fitzhugh Lee's brigade while Lee was stricken with a bout of rheumatism), plus the six-battery Stuart Horse Artillery, commanded by Major Robert F. Beckham.

Unknown to the Confederates, 11,000 Union

Brady Station to Page 7

Upcoming Events

National

The Department of Missouri is proud to host the 140th National Encampment of our Order in St. Louis from **August 4-9, 2021**. They are pleased to announce that **HOTEL RESERVATIONS ARE NOW BEING TAKEN**. Please visit their Encampment Website for more information

In Accordance with General Order No. 8: The Department Website will be draped until 15 JAN 2021 to Honor Past-Commander-in-Chief Allen W. Moore who passed from this life on 14 DEC 2020

In Accordance with General Order No. 6, Series 2020-21: The 501(c)3 Status of the National Organization, has been extended to the subordinate Organizations, including Departments, Camps, and SVR Units, Please consult General Orders No. 06 - 6 DEC 2020 for details

Please consult the Special Message No. 1 from C-in-C Pearson Clarifying the National Policy on Monument Protection

Department News

The web page information for G.A.R. Museum in Eaton Rapids MI Museum Activities

- July 4th - Independence Day
- July 20th (7 PM) - Seminar: Jackson's (Michigan) Role in the Underground Railroad (Speaker: Linda Hass)
- August 10th (10 AM - 5 PM) - CW Discovery Camp
- September 10th - 11th - Eaton Rapids Air Festival
- September 19th (3 PM) – Seminar: The Eleventh Corps at Gettysburg (Speaker: Dr. Jim Pula)
- November 10th (10 AM - 5 PM) - Veterans Day
- November 11th (10 AM - 5 PM) - Veterans Day
- November 16th (7 PM) - No one scheduled yet
- December 4th (Noon - 8 p.m.) Hometown Christmas

[August 10 Civil War Discovery Camp on G.A.R. Island Park \(for Kids 7 - 14\)](#)

Camp

- **July 24** 2021 Camp Family **PICNIC** Location TBD
- **September 9** 2021 Camp **In-person** meeting?? Location TBD (Lincoln Twp Library?)
- **November 11** 2021 Camp **In-person** meeting?? Location TBD (Lincoln Twp Library?)



Officers 2020 - 2021

Camp Commander:
Steven Williams

SVC: Rex Dillman

JVC: Charles L Pfauth Sr

Secretary :Ray Truhn

Treasurer : Ray Truhn

Council 1: Charles L Pfauth Jr

Council 2: Keith Chapman

Council 3: Charles L Pfauth Sr

Patriotic Instructor: Open

Chaplain : Steven Williams

Graves & Memorials:
Rex Dillman

Historian: Rex Dillman

Signals Officer:
Steven Williams

Guide: Jeff Chubb

Guard: Jeff Chubb

Color Bearer: Rex Dillman

JROTC contact: Unassigned

Editor
Steve Williams
sarwilliamssa@gmail.com

The purpose of this newsletter is to inform the members of **Frederick H. Hackeman Camp 85** of activities and events related to the mission of the SUVCW and its interests.

If you wish to place a civil war article or SUVCW item please submit to the Editor at sarwilliamssa@gmail.com

The Editor reserves the right to censor and/or edit all material submitted for publication to the Camp Communicator newsletter without notice to the submitter.

Camp Website

Be sure and visit our Camp Website at <http://www.suvcwmi.org/camps/camp85.php>.

Sutler Links

Link to list of vendors for any items to fill out your uniform and re-enactor accessories.

<http://www.fighting69th.org/sutler.html>

<http://www.ccsutlery.com/>

<http://www.crescentcitysutler.com/index.html>

<http://www.regtdm.com/>

<http://www.cjdaley.com/research.htm>

<http://www.fcsutler.com/>

<https://www.militaryuniformsupply.com/civil-war-reenactment-clothing-gear>

Department of Michigan Officers

Commander -	Nathan Smith, CC
Senior VC -	Gary L. Swain
Junior VC -	David Kimble, CC
Members of the Council -	
	Robert R. Payne, PDC
	Steven S Martin, CC
	David S. Smith
Secretary -	Dick Denney, CC
Treasurer -	Bruce S.A. Gosling
Chief of Staff	David S. Smith
Counselor -	Paul T. Davis
Chaplain -	Rev. Charles Buckhahn
Patriotic Instructor -	Nathan Tingley
Color Bearer -	Edgar J. Dowd, PCC
Signals Officer -	Robert R. Payne, PCC
Editor, "Michigan's Messenger" -	
	Richard E. Danes, PCC
Historian -	Keith G Harrison, PCinC
Guide -	Alex Tingley
Guard -	Lloyd Lamphere, Sr.
Graves Registration Officer-	Richard E. Danes, PCC
GAR Records Officer-	Gary L. Gibson, PDC
Civil War Memorials Officer-	John H. McGill
Eagle Scout Coordinator -	Nathan Tingley
Camp-At-Large Coordinator -	L. Dean Lamphere, Jr., PDC
Camp Organizer	James B. Pahl, PCinC
Military Affairs Officer -	Edgar J. Dowd, PCC
Aide-de-camp	L. Dean Lamphere, Jr., PDC

Civil War Time line:

June in the Civil War

June 3, 1861 Death of Stephen A Douglas aged 48 in Chicago IL possibly of Typhoid Fever. The Philippi Races in Western Virginia June 8 – Tennessee voters approve Secession 104,913 to 47,238; eastern TN against it. June 10 – Engagement at Big Bethel VA. June 13 – Gen'l Lew Wallace (author of Ben Hur) enters western Virginia on raid. June 17 – Engagement at Boonville MO. June 19 – A provisional Governor Federal Virginia was named in Wheeling – Francis H Pierpoint. June 28 – The Central Pacific Railroad Co of CA was incorporated. June 30 CSS Sumter captained by Raphael Semmes runs blockade to begin career as a Confederate raider.



June 1, 1862 – Battle of Seven Pines/Fair Oaks concluded. June 3 to 5 – Evacuation of Fort Pillow TN by Confederates. June 6 – Battle of Memphis TN. June 9 – Battle of Port Republic VA. June 12 – JEB Stuart begins his ride around McClellan with 1200 cavalymen in 4 days. June 16 – Engagement at Secessionville SC. June 19 – Slavery in Territories Prohibited. June 25 – The Seven Days (Campaign before Richmond) Begin. June 26 – Battle of Mechanicsville, Beaver Dam Creek, or Ellerson's Mill. June 27 – Battle of Gaines' Mill, First Cold Harbor or the Chickahominy. June 28 – Passage of Vicksburg by Farragut's fleet. June 29 – Battle of Savages' Station VA. June 30 – Battle of Frayser's Farm or White Oak Swamp VA.



June 3, 1863 – Lee begins movement westward (beginning of Gettysburg Campaign). June 9 – **Battle of Brandy Station VA.** June 14 – Battle of Second Winchester; Assault on Port Hudson LA. June 15 – Battle of Winchester; Stephenson's Depot. June 23 – Tullahoma TN Campaign begins. June 27 – General Hooker replace by General Meade.



June 1, 1864 – Battle of Cold Harbor VA to June 3. June 3 – Charge at Cold Harbor. June 8 – Lincoln nominated for second term. Morgan (escaped from Prison on November 1863) raids Mt Sterling KY. June 10 – Battle of Brice's Crossroads, Guntown, or Tishomingo Creek MS. June 11 – Battle of Trevilian Station VA. June 12 – Army of the Potomac begins move across the James River. June 14 – Grant's Army begins crossing of the James River; Gen'l Polk killed. June 15 – Attack on Petersburg Fails. June 16 - 17 – Assault on Petersburg. June 8 – Assault on Petersburg Fails – siege begins.

June 19 – USS Kearsarge sinks CSS Alabama of Cherbourg France. June 22 – Engagement at Petersburg: Attempt against Weldon Railroad. June 27 – Battle of Kennesaw Mountain GA. June 30 – Sec of Treasury Salmon Chase leaves cabinet.

Source: *The Civil War Day by Day, An Almanac 1861-1865*, E B Long, 1971, Doubleday. Source: *The Civil War Day by Day, An Almanac 1861-1865*, E B Long, 1971, Doubleday.

The Role of Cavalry in the Civil War

Horsemen of both armies were initially limited to patrolling and scouting, guarding supply trains and railroads, and providing escorts to generals. They were only used in battle as shock troops, a tactic which dated back to the Romans. A favorite jibe from the infantry was: “Did you ever see a dead cavalryman?” The foot soldiers believed the cavalry to be “dandies on horseback” who never saw much fighting and always had the easy life. Certainly, the dash and spirit of the more flamboyant cavalry leaders provided the newspapers with many stories of harrowing rides and gallant duels in the saddle. Southern troopers commanded by General J.E.B. Stuart had the grandest reputations of being the best horsemen, ready to ride on a raid at a moments notice or rush to the front to do battle just as the tide was beginning to turn. Of course, truth was very different from the romantic descriptions of newspapermen. Soldiering on horseback was a hard life with plenty of danger. The cavalry’s military role had dramatically changed by 1863 and the armies were making use of their horse soldiers in more combat situations. Cavalry divisions were utilized by commanders as advance scouts and as a mobile fighting force. These new strategies culminated in the largest cavalry battle of the war fought on June 9, 1863 at Brandy Station, Virginia. Brandy Station was the opening clash of the Gettysburg Campaign.

Union troopers of General John Buford’s Division opened the Battle of Gettysburg against Confederate infantry of General Heth’s Division on July 1st. The cavalrymen were limited by their numbers and the moderate range of the carbines they carried, but were able to deter the Confederate skirmishers for a few hours until Union infantry arrived. While the armies did battle around Gettysburg, cavalry units skirmished in Hunterstown, Pennsylvania, and on several roads east of town.

Cavalry were dependent on fast movement so a cavalryman’s first priority was care of his horse. Each cavalry regiment had a blacksmith who shod and cared for the animals in camp. On active campaign, a trooper had to look out for his own animal and care for it. If the horse was disabled, it was easier for a northern soldier to get a new mount from the herd which usually accompanied the army. Southerners brought their own mounts with them into service and woe be to the man whose horse pulled up lame or was injured. It sometimes meant the trooper became a foot soldier until another horse could be obtained. The armament of a typical cavalryman at Gettysburg included a light steel saber, a pistol and a carbine. By the time of the Battle of Gettysburg, breech loading carbines were standard issue in all Union cavalry regiments. Two regiments, the 5th and 6th Michigan Cavalry, were armed with Spencer Repeating Rifles, a rifle that held a seven-round magazine. The carbine version of this weapon appeared in the Army of the Potomac after Gettysburg and made a great difference in firepower. On the cavalryman’s saddle was strapped his baggage which included a shelter tent, blanket, poncho, saddle bags for rations and a canteen.

Confederate cavalrymen traveled lighter than their Union counterparts and were not usually armed with the more modern carbines. Short, muzzle-loading carbines were more common in southern regiments, including imports from England. Some Southern troopers preferred to leave their sabers behind and carried extra pistols instead of sabers, for close work. Southern arsenals attempted to mass produce breech loading carbines, even making copies of Union carbines made by the Sharps Rifle Company. Attempts at mass production of the weapon failed and southern cavalrymen relied upon a



Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States

Hereditary membership in the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States (MOLLUS) is open to men who are descendants (e.g., great great grandson, great grand nephew, etc.) of commissioned officers of the Union forces during the Civil War. Web site - <http://suvcw.org/mollus/mbrfrm.htm>

Please Note: Non-hereditary membership (Associate Companion) may be available in some (but not all) of the Commanderies. Associate affiliation is based on a percentage of the number of hereditary members in each Commandery. Consequently, movement to elect Associates may be delayed until such time as there are enough hereditary Companions present in the particular Commandery.



varied stock of captured and imported arms.

Cavalry regiments were composed of ten companies of 100 to 110 troopers each. There were five squadrons in a regiment, a squadron being a combination of two companies. This was later changed and the regiments were divided into three battalions. Cavalrymen could fight either mounted or on foot in a staggered skirmish line. Fighting on foot did eliminate some of the unit's firepower as one soldier was designated as a holder for four horses, including his own, while the other three troopers were detailed to the firing line.

The Army of the Potomac's Cavalry Corps, commanded by General Alfred Pleasonton, was made up of three divisions and included two brigades of Horse Artillery- batteries with enough horses for drivers and gunners alike. Each division had two to three brigades which either acted in concert with the remainder of the corps or acted as scouts and escorts when the army was on the move such as during the Gettysburg Campaign.

The cavalry of the Army of Northern Virginia, commanded by General J.E.B. Stuart, was organized into one large division, divided into brigades, and accompanied by six batteries of horse artillery. General Stuart was legendary amongst cavalry leaders for his daring exploits and raids around the slower moving Union forces. Southern writers composed songs and poems about his exploits. The morale of his troopers was very high and they fancied themselves as superior horsemen. One even boasted that twenty northern horsemen were no match for a single Confederate cavalryman. But Stuart's men were thwarted at Gettysburg by determined Union cavalry regiments which were better armed and led by experienced officers who had learned some of their tactics from the foe. Cavalry not only opened the battle, but closed it in a fierce contest east of Gettysburg. In a decisive showdown on July 3rd, Union General David Gregg's Cavalry Division thwarted a drive on the Union right flank by General J.E.B. Stuart's Cavalry. The battle was fought dismounted until a last desperate charge to break through the Union positions was beaten back by General Custer's Michigan Brigade. From Gettysburg on, cavalry would never be the same.

READ MORE ABOUT IT!

Edward G. Longacre, *The Cavalry At Gettysburg*, Fairleigh Dickinson University Press, Rutherford, 1986.

John S. Mosby, *Stuart's Cavalry in the Gettysburg Campaign*, Mofat, Yard & Company, New York, 1908.

David F. Riggs, *East of Gettysburg, Custer vs. Stuart*, Old Army Press, F. Collins, CO, 1970

Mark Nesbitt, *35 Days To Gettysburg, The Campaign Diaries of Two American Enemies*, Stackpole Books, Harrisburg, PA, 1992.

Robert F. O'Neill, Jr., *The Cavalry Battles of Aldie, Middleburg, & Upperville- Small But Important Riots, June 10-27, 1863*, H.E. Howard Inc., Lynchburg, VA, 1993.

Heros von Borcke, *The Great Cavalry Battle of Brandy Station*, Palaemon Press Ltd., Winston-Salem, NC, 1976.

Brady Station from Page 3

men had massed on the other side of the Rappahannock River. Maj. Gen. Alfred Pleasonton, commanding the Cavalry Corps of the Army of the Potomac, had organized his combined-armed forces into two "wings," under Brig. Gens. John Buford and David McMurtrie Gregg, augmented by infantry brigades from the V Corps. Buford's wing, accompanied by Pleasonton, consisted of his own 1st Cavalry Division, a Reserve Brigade led by Major Charles J. Whiting, and an infantry brigade of 3,000 men under Brig. Gen. Adelbert Ames. Gregg's wing was the 2nd Cavalry Division, led by Col. Alfred N. Duffié, the 3rd Cavalry Division, led by Gregg, and an infantry brigade under Brig. Gen. David A. Russell.

The commander of the Army of the Potomac, Maj. Gen. Joseph Hooker, interpreted the enemy's cavalry presence around Culpeper to be indicative of preparations for a raid of his army's supply lines. In reaction to this, he ordered Pleasonton's force on a "spoiling raid," to "disperse and destroy" the Confederates. Pleasonton's attack plan called for a two-pronged thrust at the enemy. Buford's wing would cross the river at Beverly's Ford, two miles (3 km) northeast of Brandy Station; at the same time, Gregg's would cross at Kelly's Ford, six miles (10 km) downstream to the southeast. Pleasonton anticipated that the Southern cavalry would be caught in a double envelopment, surprised, outnumbered, and beaten. He was, however, unaware of the precise disposition of the enemy and he incorrectly assumed that his force was substantially larger than the Confederates he faced.

Battle

About 4:30 a.m. on June 9, Buford's column crossed the Rappahannock River in a dense fog, pushing aside the Confederate pickets at Beverly's Ford. Pleasonton's force had achieved its first major surprise of the day. Jones's brigade, awakened by the sound of nearby gunfire, rode to the scene partially dressed and often riding bareback. They struck Buford's leading brigade, commanded by Col. Benjamin F. Davis, near a bend in the Beverly's Ford Road and temporarily checked its progress, and Davis was killed in the ensuing fighting. Davis's brigade had been stopped just short of where Stuart's Horse Artillery was camped and was vulnerable to capture. Cannoneers swung one or two guns into position and fired down the road at Buford's men, enabling the other pieces to escape and establish the foundation for the subsequent Confederate line.

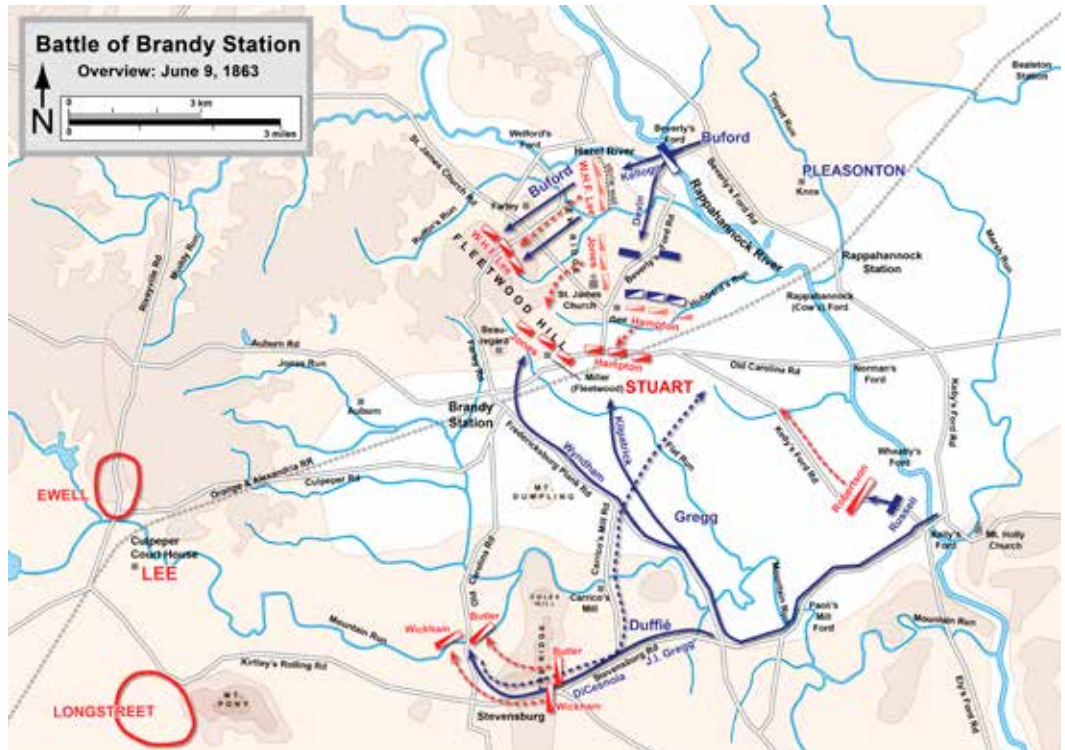
The artillery unlimbered on two knolls that were on either side of the Beverly's Ford Road. Most of Jones's command rallied to the left of this Confederate artillery line, while Hampton's brigade formed to the right. The 6th Pennsylva-



nia Cavalry (led by Major Robert Morris, Jr.) unsuccessfully charged the guns at St. James Church, suffering the greatest casualties of any regiment in the battle. Several Confederates later described the 6th's charge as the most "brilliant and glorious" cavalry charge of the war. (In many Civil War battles, cavalrymen typically dismounted once they reached an engagement and fought essentially as infantry. But in this battle, the surprise and chaos led to a mostly mounted fight.)

Buford tried to turn the Confederate left and dislodge the artillery that was blocking the direct route to Brandy Station. However, Rooney Lee's brigade stood in his way, with some troops on Yew Ridge and some dismounted troopers positioned along a stone wall in front. After sustaining heavy losses, the Federals displaced the Confederates from the stone wall. Then, to the amazement of Buford's men, the Confederates began pulling back. They were reacting to the arrival of Gregg's Union cavalry division of about 2,800 men, which was the second major surprise of the day. Gregg had intended to cross at Kelly's Ford at dawn, in concert with Buford's crossing at Beverly's, but assembling the men from dispersed locations and Duffié's division getting lost on the way cost them two hours. They had intended to proceed on roads leading directly into Brandy Station, but discovered the way blocked by Robertson's brigade. Gregg found a more circuitous route that was completely unguarded and, following these roads, his lead brigade under Col. Percy Wyndham arrived in Brandy Station about 11 a.m.

Between Gregg and the St. James battle was a prominent ridge called Fleetwood Hill, which had been Stuart's headquarters the previous night. Stuart and most of his staff had departed for the front by this time and the only force on Fleetwood when Gregg arrived was a howitzer, left in the rear because of inadequate ammunition. Major Henry B. McClellan, Stuart's adjutant, called Lt. John W. Carter and his gun crew (of Captain Robert P. Chew's battery) to ascend to the crest of the hill and go into action with the few shells available, as he sent an urgent request to Stuart for reinforcements. Carter's few shots delayed the Union advance as they sent out skirmishers and returned cannon fire. When Wyndham's men charged up the western



Map of the Battle of Brandy Station (overview) of the American Civil War. Drawn in Adobe Illustrator CC by Hal Jespersen. Graphic source file is available at <http://www.cwmaps.com/>

slope of Fleetwood and neared the crest, the lead elements of Jones's brigade, which had just withdrawn from St. James Church, rode over the crown.

Gregg's next brigade, led by Col. Judson Kilpatrick, swung around east of Brandy Station and attacked up the southern end and the eastern slope of Fleetwood Hill, only to discover that their appearance coincided with the arrival of Hampton's brigade. A series of confusing charges and countercharges swept back and forth across the hill. The Confederates cleared the hill for the final time, capturing three guns and inflicting 30 casualties among the 36 men of the 6th New York Light Artillery, which had attempted to give close-range support to the Federal cavalry. Col. Duffié's small 1,200-man division was delayed by two Confederate regiments in the vicinity of Stevensburg and arrived on the field too late to affect the action.

While Jones and Hampton withdrew from their initial positions to fight at Fleetwood Hill, Rooney Lee continued to confront Buford, falling back to the northern end of the hill. Reinforced by Fitzhugh Lee's brigade, Rooney Lee launched a counterattack against Buford at the same time as Pleasonton had called for a general withdrawal near sunset, and the ten-hour battle was over.

[Brandy Station] made the Federal cavalry. Up to that time confessedly inferior to the Southern horsemen, they gained on this day that confidence in themselves and in their commanders which enable them to contest so fiercely the subsequent battle-fields ...
Major Henry B. McClellan, Stuart's adjutant

Aftermath

Union casualties were 907 (69 killed, 352 wounded, and 486 missing, primarily captured); Confederate losses totaled 523. Some 20,500 men were engaged in this, the largest predominantly cavalry battle to take place during the war. Among the casualties was Robert E. Lee's son, Rooney, who was seriously wounded in the thigh. He was sent to Hickory Hill, an estate near Hanover Court House, where he was captured on June 26.

Stuart argued that the battle was a Confederate victory since he held the field at the end of the day and had repelled Pleasonton's attack. The Southern press was generally negative about the outcome. The Richmond Enquirer wrote that "Gen. Stuart has suffered no little in public estimation by the late enterprises of the enemy." The Richmond Examiner described Stuart's command as "puffed up cavalry," that suffered the "consequences of negligence and bad management."

Subordinate officers criticized Pleasonton for not aggressively defeating Stuart at Brandy Station. Maj. Gen. Hooker had ordered Pleasonton to "disperse and destroy" the Confederate cavalry near Culpeper, but Pleasonton claimed that he had only been ordered to make a "reconnaissance in force toward Culpeper," thus rationalizing his actions.

For the first time in the Civil War, Union cavalry matched the Confederate horsemen in skill and determination. Stuart falling victim to two surprise attacks, which cavalry was supposed to prevent, foreshadowed other embarrassments ahead for him in the Gettysburg campaign.

References

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- Kennedy, Frances H., ed. *The Civil War Battlefield Guide*. 2nd ed. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1998. ISBN 0-395-74012-6.
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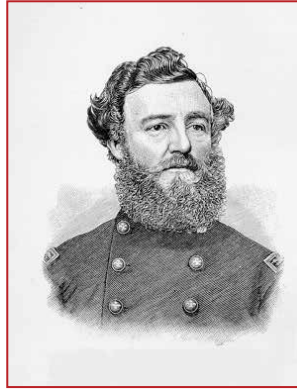


The site of the battle, seen in 2017

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- National Park Service battle description
- National Park Service history and tour of the battlefield
- CWSAC Report Update

BRIEF HISTORY OF THE 4TH MICHIGAN CAVALRY

The 4th Michigan Cavalry was recruited from all over the state. They trained and organized west of Elmwood Cemetery in Detroit, and departed on Sept. 26th, 1862 with 1,233 men, led by an extraordinary Colonel, Robert Horatio George Minty, a veteran of the British Army. Minty would later command a brigade and a division of cavalry in the Army of the Cumberland which included the 4th. His brigade was known as "Minty's Sabers" for their numerous successful saber charges. The 4th fought in over 100 battles and skirmishes, 375 cavalymen from its ranks would perish.



Lt Col Robert Minty
Commander

The regiment began its service clashing with General John Hunt Morgan's Confederate Cavalry in Kentucky and Tennessee. Dec. 31st, 1862, during the Battle of Stones River, the 4th would be part of an important saber charge routing General Joe Wheeler's Confederate Cavalry, and Jan. 5th, 1863, they were the first regiment to enter the captured town of Murfreesboro, TN. With another daring saber charge at the Battle of Shelbyville, during the Tullahoma Campaign, the brigade routed two divisions of Confederates, capturing 600 prisoners.



Historical marker for the fourth Michigan cavalry. Written on marker: "Michigan, to her fourth regiment of cavalry, Colonel Robert H.G. Minty, Major Horace Gray, commanding, Minty's brigade, Crook's division, cavalry corps."

At the beginning of the Battle of Chickamauga on Sept. 18th, 1863, "Minty's Brigade" made a heroic, determined stand at Reed's Bridge, an important crossing over Chickamauga Creek. The small force held off nearly 7 times its number by brilliantly deploying a delay tactic disrupting General Braxton Bragg's advancing Confederate Army by a day. This action helped to save the Union forces from being out flanked and destroyed, similar to General John Buford's Union Cavalry at Gettysburg.

The regiment went on to a fight at Chattanooga, Missionary Ridge, the Atlanta Campaign, Wilson's Raid into Alabama and Georgia, and the final extraordinary mission under the command of Lt. Col. Benjamin Pritchard, of seeking out and capturing, the fugitive Confederate President Jefferson Davis in south-east Georgia on May 10th, 1865.

Pritchard reported that Captain Charles Hudson led an advance guard of 14 men into Davis' camp. "Corporal's George Munger of Company C, William Crittenden, Company E, together with privates James Bullard, Company C, Andrew Bee and Daniel Edward, Company L, were present at the halting of Davis." Today, we honor one of those important participants, Corporal William H. Crittenden.

On page no. 684 of Michigan in the War, it states: "The 4th gained a national reputation and world-wide notoriety by the capture of Davis. It was the accomplishment of an eminently special and important duty for the nation, so distinctive and definite in its character, as to render a like service impossible, giving it a place in the history of the war without parallel".

We are always looking for content suggestions, comments, Book Reports, Family Civil War stories, advice.

Send your contributions to the Editor at sarwilliamssa@gmail.com

Member Ancestors

Compiled from current and past member information.

Red Text indicates publication of a biography in the *Camp Communicator*

Current Members		Ancestor		Unit
Theodore J	Chamberlain	Chamberlain	Jeremiah M	Pvt, Co B 176 th OH Vol Inf
Keith Alan	Chapman	Stillman	Samuel	Pvt, Co B 94 th IL Inf
Steven	Chapman	Stillman	Samuel	Pvt, Co B 94 th IL Inf
Jeffrey L	Chubb	Brownell	(William) Henry	Pvt., Merrill's Horse, MO
Harold L	Cray	Bassett	George W	Pvt., Co F 54th Reg Ohio Inf
Rex	Dillman	Yaw	Benjamin Franklin	Pvt, Co G 26 th MI Inf Reg,
Richard	Gorske	Hackeman	Frederick H	Cpl, Co L 1 st IL Lt Artillery
Rodney Samuel	Krieger	Krieger	Jacob	Pvt, Co I, 19th MI Inf
Glenn	Palen	Palen	Charles	Pvt Co E 128 th IN Inf
Charles L	Pfauth Jr	Shopbach	Henry	Pvt, Co F 52 nd PA Vol Inf
Charles L	Pfauth Sr	Shopbach	Henry	Pvt, Co F 52 nd PA Vol Inf
Ray	Truhn	Goodenough	Alonzo	Pvt, Co A 2 nd VT Inf
Steven Allen	Williams	Carter Mountjoy/Munjoy Wetmore Wetmore Wetmore	Oren George W Abiather Joy/JA Gilbert Helon/Hellen	Pvt, Co B 186 th NY Vol Inf Pvt, 11 th MI Vol Cavalry & 1 st MI Sharpshooters Pvt 66 th IL Inf Pvt 2 nd Reg NE Cavalry Pvt 13 th Reg IA Inf
Matthew Carter	Williams	Carter	Oren	Pvt, Co B 186 th NY Vol Inf
Past Members		Ancestor		Unit
Roger C	Gorske	Hackeman	Frederick H	Cpl, Co L 1 st IL Lt Artillery
Kenneth A	Gorske	Hackeman	Frederick H	Cpl, Co L 1 st IL Lt Artillery
Dennis L	Gorske	Hackeman	Frederick H	Cpl, Co L 1 st IL Lt Artillery
Michael	Gorske	Hackeman	Frederick H	Cpl, Co L 1 st IL Lt Artillery
Irving	Hackeman	Hackeman	Frederick H	Cpl, Co L 1 st IL Lt Artillery
Richard	Horton	Horton, Jr	William	
Virlin	Dillman	Mason	Daniel W	
Daniel	Stice	Pegg	Henry Riley	Co E 17 IN
Amasa	Stice	Pegg	Henry Riley	Co E 17 IN
Douglas	Christopher Morales	Terwilliger	Albert Eugene	Co B Batt 9 NY HA

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