ACTIVE SEASON AHEAD FOR CWRT

The CWRT fall campaign is starting with a rush. First regular dinner meeting is scheduled for Tuesday evening, September 17 at the regular field, the National Press Club. Subject, by a recognized expert, "Artillery at Gettysburg". This meeting will be followed by the fall field trip on Saturday, October 5, to do the Second Day at Gettysburg. (See enclosed announcement -- send in your reservation promptly.) Lively action already is planned for the next two meetings.

Here's the layout for the first skirmish:

First Regular Dinner Meeting

Date: Tuesday, September 17, 1963
Place: National Press Club
Price: $4.00 per person

5:45 p.m. Liquid fueling
7:00 p.m. Dinner
8:00 p.m. Program

Guest Speaker: Commander Richard C. Drum Hunt, USN (Ret.)

Subject: "Artillery at Gettysburg"

More on Gettysburg

One hundred years after Gettysburg, interest in that tremendous battle continues high. Our speaker, Commander Hunt, a member of our RT, is a recognized authority on his subject, the artillery in the battle. He is the grandson of Henry Jackson Hunt, U. S. Military Academy 1839, Chief of Artillery, and James Morris Morgan, U. S. Naval Academy, 1864, Confederate States Navy; he served as Naval Aide at the White House, 1937-'39, and is the author of a num-
ber of articles in professional journals and proceedings. In addition, he is Historian of the American Battle Monuments Commission and Executive Secretary of the Gettysburg Centennial Commission. There will be some fast shooting for our Buffs at the September meeting.

AND THE FIELD TRIP

Announcement of the fall field trip is enclosed with this issue of the News Letter. The First Day's Battle at Gettysburg provided a high-light of the season last spring, and many RT members urged that it be continued with the fighting of the two subsequent days. On October 5, Col. J. Gay Seabourne will again serve as guide and narrator, detailing the account of the sanguinary Second Day in the same memorable fashion as he handled the start of the battle. To aid those who will travel again to Gettysburg, Col. Seabourne has provided the following synopsis of what happened on July 2, 100 years ago:

THE SECOND DAY

The fighting on Gettysburg's second day was even more widely dispersed and more desperately fought than on the first.

Consolidation of the Union defensive position on the Culp's Hill-Cemetery Hill-Round Tops line during the night July 1st-2nd and morning of July 2nd will be pointed out and discussed from favorable vantage points. Then will follow the story of Longstreet's delayed arrival on the field, and build-up of the Confederate order of battle along Seminary Ridge and its southern extension. Finally will come narrative, on the very ground itself, of the frightful fighting at the Peach Orchard, the Wheatfield, Devil's Den and Little Round Top. Nor will the murderous melees on Cemetery Hill and Culp's Hill be slighted. The aim will be to give a lucid, coherent and chronological account in broad outline of the tactical events of this crucial day -- and that on the very ground where they occurred.

It is fitting in this centenary year of the war's most critical and decisive battle that we return again to its "hallowed ground."

BUGLE CALLS

The hot summer months found officers and committees of the RT engaged in skull-cracking over plans and programs for the coming fall and spring campaigns. Our new President, Rear Admiral E.M. (Judge) Eller, Director of U.S. Naval History, reports that a number of members urged consideration of returning the regular meetings to the Army-Navy Club. Logistics and costs ruled against it. Consequently, the monthly gatherings will continue every third Tuesday at the National Press Club, which proved superior space-and-cost-wise.

Admiral Eller has lined up active programs for the coming months. For October he promises "a special surprise" which he rates on a par with the interesting visit to the Naval Academy to see the electronic talking map of the war. The November meeting will be built around a panel encounter. Speakers Committee Chairman Bill Ingles and his troop (Gondos, Hart, Jones, Morgan, Sanderson and Wedemeyer) invite suggestions from members for a topic. The opposing panelists are looking for a controversial topic to provide some real
in-fighting with audience participation. If you have any ideas, shoot them along to Bill Ingles at 1815 H Street NW.

Admiral Eller also announces that Volume II of the Navy's Dictionary of Naval Fighting Ships is scheduled to appear late this month. It contains a splendid compilation of Confederate ships, with brief histories, statistics and illustrations gleaned from many parts of the country and from overseas. It will be available from the Government Printing Office at a bargain price of $4.25.

AN INVITATION FROM THE OFFICERS

Committees and officers of the RT are anxious to have suggestions, from the members for programs and activities. If you have suggestions, ideas or gripes, send them in. Here are the officers who will serve this year:

PRESIDENT Rear Admiral E. M. Eller
Room 1210 Main Navy Building
Constitution Avenue

VICE PRESIDENT William Ingles
1815 H Street NW
(Chairman, Speakers Committee)

SECRETARY George Schroebel
5532 Sanger Avenue, Alexandria

TREASURER William Hale Evans
4834 Rodman Street NW
(Send in your dues now)

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

Bruce Catton, on the day of dedication of the North Carolina monument at Gettysburg, as reported by the North Carolina Confederate Centennial Commission:

"In a great many ways, Gettysburg is a good thing to forget. It is an enduring reminder of the fact that there was nowhere in the land enough sanity and forbearance to find a peaceable solution to men's differences.

"But in retrospect, there are things about Gettysburg that it is good to remember. There is something in men that can rise supreme over fear and pain and death, proving that an imperishable something can never be choked out by stupidity or tramped down by soft living, and that the race has within it a deep streak of great nobility."

OUR OWN I. Q. TEST

With this issue, the NEWS LETTER is reviving our own I. Q. test about the War to see how much our Buffs really know about it. As usual, the prize will be a mashed Minnie ball if we can find one.

Member John B. Winters, who resides on the Fox's Gap battlefield, South
Mountain, submits the following questions. (Come to the September 17 meeting and give your answers.)

1. Who were the two general officers, division commanders in the Army of the Potomac, whose names were quite similar, one of whom was born in Canada, the other of whom died there?

2. Who was the officer who led Union troops at the Battle of First Manassas, then switched sides and led Confederate troops at Pea Ridge? Where is he buried?

FAMOUS NAMES DEPARTMENT

Member Rex Magee, energetic Major-Domo of name hunting, reminds us that our RT includes a number of descendants of famous figures in the War. He points out that our roster includes General U.S. Grant, III, grandson of General Grant; Secretary George Ewell Schroeble is the grandson of Confederate General Ewell; Past President James Longstreet Wheelchel is the namesake of his grandfather, General Longstreet; Beverly Mosby Coleman, former vice president, was named for his grandfather, Col. John S. Mosby; two brothers, Commander Richard Coulter Drum Hunt and Frederich Drum Hunt, are descendants of the famous artilleryman, Henry Jackson Hunt, whose name will always be associated with Gettysburg, and of General Richard Coulter Drum, assistant adjutant general of the Union Army.

Has Major-Domo Rex missed anybody? If he has, let him know at 4501 Connecticut Avenue.

GRAPESHOT

Seven of President Lincoln's brothers-in-law fought in the Confederate army; four were killed, three of whom were Mrs. Lincoln's half-brothers. Two of Mrs. Lincoln's half-sisters made a flag for a company in the Alabama Infantry. The library of the Prison Civil War Round Table at Richmond is growing, thanks to donations. It now lists 105 books, 155 pamphlets, 12 maps and charts and a miscellany of other materials. If you would like to help out this unique Round Table in a penitentiary, send your materials to J.F. Featherston, Education Department, 500 Spring Street, Richmond. Interest in the Round Table continues high among the prisoners. Members of the Chicago Round Table on a jaunt to the Richmond battlefields last spring took time out to address the Prison RT. Lincoln was not the only President to have relatives in the Gray ranks. Theodore Roosevelt had two Confederate uncles, officers in the Navy. Former President Paul J. Sedgwick and Col. J. Gay Seabourne joined Governors and other representatives in wreath-laying at the Gettysburg centennial in July. Member Col. Sidney Morgan wrote a poem for the occasion, a copy of which is enclosed with this LETTER. Col. Morgan also inspired the MONTGOMERY COUNTY SENTINEL at Rockville to include a feature about JEB Stuart's capture of a Union wagon train at that place in its 100th Anniversary Edition. Member Walter F. Terry did a front-page feature on the event.

ABOUT THE NEWS LETTER

We are trying to make the CWRT NEWS LETTER as interesting and useful as possible. Henceforth, a regular page of CW book reviews by Col. Seabourne, sometimes assisted by Josh Billings, will be included, the first one with this LETTER. Rex Magee also contributed items reported here. If you have any brief, newsworthy items you would like to submit, send them in.

Walton Onslow, Editor
1737 De Sales Street NW
The upcoming October 15 meeting gets off with a real splash with an unusually interesting program in unusually interesting surroundings. This special dinner meeting will take place at the Washington Navy Yard, the oldest Yard in continuous service in the Nation.

RT President Admiral E.M. (Judge) Eller has made arrangements for visiting members to inspect the Yard's Naval Historical Display Center which for this occasion will contain a special section of particular Civil War interest. Also, it is anticipated that two naval vessels, the Destroyer Escort, U.S.S. Keller, and the submarine S.S. Drum will be docked adjacent to the meeting area, where they can be viewed by interested Buffs. The display will be open during the afternoon for any members desiring to spend some time seeing this unusual and interesting group of exhibits. Program events will start at the usual times. Admiral Eller has arranged for cash-on-the-line privileges for members and guests at the Officers Club desiring to sample Navy grog before dinner.

Members are advised to enter the Navy Yard at the main gate, 8th and M Streets SE and navigate straight ahead to parking areas. Building No. 76 contains the Display Center and the meeting area. A map is enclosed with the NEWS LETTER to guide our visitors.

So DON'T go to the National Press Club for this meeting or you will be fighting the war in solitary and lonesome splendor.

THE SPEAKER AND THE SUBJECT

Speaker for the program will be a distinguished naval officer, Rear Admiral Ignatius J. Galatin, USN, Director of Special Projects, who is responsible for the research, development and production of the Navy's fleet ballistic missile weapon system, commonly known as Polaris. His subject is in his own particular field, namely the submarine in the Civil War and since. A submariner with an impressive record in his own right, Admiral Galatin has made a careful and authoritative study of undersea craft, beginning with the Civil War and continuing through the present remarkable vessels. Among other subjects, he will discuss the hand-driven, ill-fated Confederate Navy submarine, H.L. Hunley, first underseas craft to sink a warship.
Here's the rundown:

**SPECIAL NAVY YARD DINNER MEETING**

**DATE:** Tuesday, October 15, 1963  
**PLACE:** Washington Navy Yard Historical Display  
Center (Exhibits open all afternoon)  
**PRICE:** $4.00 per person

5:45 P.M. Grog Shop, Officers Club  
7:00 P.M. Navy roast beef dinner  
8:00 P.M. Program  

Guest Speaker: Rear Admiral Ignatius J. Galatin USN  

Subject: "From the Civil War to Today with the Submarine"

**ANOTHER PANEL BRAWL IN NOVEMBER**

Program Chairman Bill Ingles and his diligent assistants have come up with another knock-down program for November that is full of promise for quite an evening. It will be a panel discussion, pro and con, on "Stewart's Cavalry in the Gettysburg Campaign." Some of the RT's most able speakers have consented to make the presentation, and are working on maps, pictures and a spirited discussion of this controversial topic. The panel wants the audience to get into the act, so if you have any ideas about the subject, bone up on your sources and come prepared to join the arguments.

**FAMOUS NAMES DEPARTMENT AGAIN**

Major-Domo Rex Magee, Commander of Name Hunting, last month provided the NEWS LETTER with a partial list of members of our RT who are descended from famous-name ancestors in the CW. The Major-Domo and your Editor recognized that the list was far from complete, but we didn't know just how incomplete it really was. Now Major-Domo Magee is convinced that just about everybody in the RT can claim a well-known ancestor somewhere in the ranks. Your Editor suggests that if you want to know who they are, just read the Official Roster published each year for the Gold Medal Award Dinner. We haven't got enough room in the NEWS LETTER to list them all.

Now the Major-Domo has turned up with another interesting item. He points out that of four boys born in the White House, one was killed in battle during a night attack at Chickamauga. This was Confederate Captain John Samuel Donelson, grand nephew of President Andrew Jackson.

Rex reports that an official report from Col. Alfred J. Vaughan, Jr., later a Confederate general says: "I rode up to a soldier (in the darkness) and asked him his command. After he learned I was Confederate, he fired, missed me, and killed Captain Donelson who was at my side." Members of the 12th Tennessee Infantry returned the fire, killing the man, thought to be from the 77th Pennsylvania Infantry.
The Editor of your NEWS LETTER has been sent a most curious exchange of letters between a Confederate private named Franklum Beerfell and an inhabitant of the bayou country of Louisiana who went by several names, depending on the location of the sheriff. Before they are deposited in the National Archives, your Editor thought our D.C. Buffs might enjoy an insight into the attitudes of these two personalities in the CW, who up to this point are unsung by any of the historians.

Beerfell apparently came from Memphis, although there is some evidence that he travelled to such places as Spain, Zanzibar and, by a mischance, Point Barrow, Alaska. The swamp-buster, one Pierre Leroux Stoodbind, was a Cajun, pure and simple. At least he apparently was simple. (Editor's Note: How anybody in a bayou can be pure is a good question, especially if you are talking about The Bayou on K Street at the bottom of Georgetown where Julie Gibson hangs out in more ways than one.)

At any rate, here is what Beerfell wrote his swamp-folk friend in one of his first letters after being mustered into the Confederate ranks in a somewhat startling manner:

"Genril: All I wuz tryin' to do was fine out where I wuz supposed to reeport in. Them guys who dragged me outa bed in the middle of the night in Memphis where I was peaceably sleepin tole me to get the ---- out there, and the firs thing I knows is some guy with a great big pig-stickin thing about a mile long slaps me across my bottom an says that so long as he is chasin some yankee generil outa the Gayosa Hotel, he might jes as well do some recrutin of our Fine and Noble boys, and I is smack dab in the Confederit armee.

"So I goes along with a whole bunch of our Fine and Noble boys who was much more occupied with chasin octaroons than they was with sleepin, and after a few days of walkin my feetes off and dragging some kin of great big heavy bear shooter we gets into a big woods and is wondering what next when the dmanedst racket I ever hear busts out, and there I is in the middle of about ten billion guys shootin and hollerin and swearin something fierce whilst they was runnin all over the place. Man, you shoulda seen those genrils riding up and down and everywhere. The air and the woods was full of stuff flying all over and buzzin like a million beehives. I didn' wanta get stung by no million bees, so I ducked. Fast.

"I can't write you eny more about it right now in one letter so I will close at this point on account of about 18 more guys jes jumped in the hole I found and it jes caved in with all hell to pay. Yours. Private Beerfell."

Next is a letter from the bayou. This man Stoodbind at this point was callin himself a "Genril" and apparently had convinced the young man from Memphis that he actually was one. At least he acted like one after he had been sampling Sutler's stores too liberally. Wrote the daughty Cajun:

"Pvt las' Class Beerfell: I woulda' answered your illeterate letter sooner, except they was a sorta accident. Jes before the war, them no-good Yankees appointed a post man fer the swamps, to make his rounds in storms, ice, snow, rains and wind, except we an't got no ice nor snow, but we do got alligators.
"Well, the guy with your letter musta been trying to fish instead of makin his weary rounds, and it sorta looks as through he fell out of his periogue from lookin too long at the bottom of his jug. I was skinning alli­gerators one day, an what do I find in one stomach but your letter.

"Now, Pvt., that is a hell of a way to report to a Genril -- by alli­gerator. Now you git right back on the job an start chasin damyankees instead of they is chasin you! I is gonna tell somebody about it as what kind of Brave and Noble Confederit boy you really aint, and it might jes be that Beas Butler who is chasin our octaroons all around Nu Orleayns only them octaroons can run so fas' he can't never catch one. An tell them guys you is with up there that Shiloh is a church and not a kinda picnic grounds full of beehives like you was talking about."

The correspondence between these two unusual persons is quite voluninous, some of it almost undecipherable. By popular request, not yet registered, we will print other excerpts if we can keep beyond the libel laws invoked by their distinguished descendants, some of whom belong to the CWRT.

GRAPESHOT

The Ulysses S. Grant Association is collecting photographic copies of all manuscript material written by or to Grant and wants information about Grant materials in private hands or in obscure places. This is in preparation for publication of Grant's complete works. Communicate with: John Y. Simon, Executive Director of the Association at Ohio State Museum, Columbus 10, Ohio.....The D.C. Centennial Commission reports a gentleman called on President Lincoln in May, 1863 and asked for a pass to Richmond. "Well," said the President, "I would be very happy to oblige you if my passes were respected; but the fact is, sir, that I have, within the past two years given passes to 250,000 men to get to Richmond, and not one has gotten there yet."......That same month Lincoln walked to Treasury Park to watch a demonstration of liquid fire by its inventor. His name, believe it or not, was A. Berney....."The Civil War Prisoner" is title of a new exhibit opened to the public at the Virginia Commission's Centennial Center. Included are such items as one of the original doors of Libby Prison; trinkets manufactured by Federal and Confederate prisoners; implements by which John Hunt Morgan dug his way out of the Ohio State Penitentiary, and many works of art on Civil War prisons. Open through November.....Thirteen descendants of general officers of Union and Confederate armies recently appeared on a program of the Manuscript Society. Each read a manuscript from the hands of his distinguished forbearer. Six of the participants are members of the D.C. RT.

Walton Onslow, Editor
1737 De Sales Street, NW
WHERE IN TARNATION IS JEB STUART?

One of the most interesting of many controversial questions about The War will be the subject of the Round Table meeting of Tuesday, November 19. This time it will be a panel discussion by some of the Table's eminent scholars aided and abetted (we hope) by active audience participation. That is, short of heaving the Press Club's china and crockery about the premises. The subject: Stuart's Cavalry in the Gettysburg Campaign.

Here's the run-down:

REGULAR NOVEMBER DINNER MEETING

DATE: Tuesday, November 19, 1963
PLACE: NATIONAL PRESS CLUB
PRICE: $4.00 per person

5:45 P.M. Jug tapping
7:00 P.M. Dinner
8:00 P.M. Program

Subject: Panel Discussion with audience questions and comments on "Stuart's Cavalry in Gettysburg Campaign".

Participants: See below

THE PANEL AND THE TOPIC

The genial Program Chairman, Bill Ingles, and his doughty associates seem to have come up with a real 10-strike for the meeting. Seeking a lively and interesting, if not to say unsettled, subject, Chairman Ingles persuaded Member Beverly M. Coleman to recruit other authorities to nose dive into official records and come up with comments and information. The Panel:
Col. J. Gay Seabourne (all forces) Thru June 21 and After July 3.
Col. Harry L. Campbell (Union forces) June 22 thru July 3.
Howard C. Westwood (Stuart's Cavalry) June 22 thru June 25.
Capt. Omer A. Kneeland (Stuart's Cavalry) June 26 thru June 29.
Col. James D. Bowlby (Stuart's Cavalry) June 30 thru July 3.
Meredith M. Daubin (Lee's Army) June 22 thru June 25.
RADM. David L. Whelchel (Lee's Army) June 26 thru June 29.
Dr. J. Walter Coleman (Lee's Army) June 30 thru July 3.

Research and Equipment Director: Col. Sidney Morgan
Panel Chairman Coleman had this to say about the presentation:

"The panelists will seek to make clear the activities of Stuart's cavalry during Lee's 1863 Campaign of Invasion of Maryland and Pennsylvania. The presentation will be limited to the facts of the matter as determined by research in the Official War Records, etc., leaving opinion and discussion for the question period."

AND FOR YOUR "FUTURE BOOK"

A series of other excellent programs has been organized to follow the Stuart fracas. President E. M. "Judge" Eller announces:

For December, Dr. Francis A. Lord takes on a broad-scale assignment, "Some Problems Confronting the Federal Army, 1861-1865". (This one ought to take at least a year to deliver.)

January: One of the most articulate and popular of all speakers on the CW -- Dr. Otto Eisenschiml. His topic -- "Unsung Heroes in the Civil War".

February: E.B. (Pete) Long -- "A Reappraisal of the Mississippi Valley Campaign".

There certainly will be a lot of valuable historical lectures coming from the top men in their fields for $4.00 per head with a good dinner thrown in.

AND SPEAKING OF $$$$ 

Every army in The War was accompanied by stumblebums. These gentry lived off the activity of others. Our Treasurer is beginning to wonder if our CWRT also has its quota of freeloaders. In other words, this is an unblemished reminder that if you haven't paid your dues (only $6.00) pay up! Otherwise, in the annual pruning of the membership list, scheduled to take place on a dark night next week, names are going to be chopped off the muster rolls. Are you a Buff -- or a Bum?
THE FORT MONROE CASEMATE MUSEUM

The people down at Fort Monroe, Virginia, are doing a splendid job of maintaining, restoring and otherwise comforting the historic structure. They regularly send up to us notes and literature about Fort Monroe and what they are doing. If any of our local Buffs want to step directly into historic surroundings, they hardly could do better than to take the relatively short jaunt down to Old Point Comfort and drop in to see the Museum. For instance, here's what the Museum had to say in one of its latest publications:

JEFFERSON DAVIS PRISONER IN THE CASEMATE --

America's most famous political prisoner, was held for two years (1865-1867) at Fort Monroe on Old Point Comfort, Va. The cell with its whitewashed stone walls and barred window overlooking the green water of the moat recalls vividly that fateful day of May 22, 1865, when Jefferson Davis entered the cell, falsely accused of plotting the assassination of Abraham Lincoln.

Lt. Colonel John J. Craven, Chief Medical Officer at Fort Monroe in 1865, befriended the captured Confederate President. He gradually succeeded in relieving the harsh conditions of his early imprisonment. Eventually, Dr. Craven was able to get the prisoner moved to a better place in the fort. This kindly Union Army doctor was from Newark, New Jersey.

The outer room of the Jefferson Davis Casemate, once used by Union soldiers guarding the prisoner, now serves as a gallery for thirteen pictures of the adventurous life of the first and last President of the Confederate States of America.

* * * *

THE CAJUN SPEAKS AGAIN

Your Editor's Chair has been most uneasy during the last month because of a matter of research into certain non-warlike activities caused by that remarkable character reported in the last letter, one Pierre Laroux Stoodbind. In going through this astonishing correspondence, there appeared to startled gaze, a mink fur envelope containing a manuscript. The Cajun, from Bayou LaFitte, had somehow made a survey of what is politely referred to as "Camp Followers". This information apparently reached the Milwaukee Civil War Round Table, and between some rounds of fine German beer that made Milwaukee notorious, they printed the report in their own News Letter. Subsequently, the Fort Lauderdale, Florida, RT, probably remarkable for wistful
memories of youth, reprinted this famous screed. In order to bring this unusual piece of genuine Cajun research to the attention of Washington, D. C. Buffs, we tried to persuade the Fort Lauderdale people to send us another copy of their News Letter which had picked up the account ("stolen" in plain language) from the Milwaukee report. The thing apparently was so startling that no response has come from Fort Lauderdale in spite of pleading letters and supplications. (They are probably afraid of Postal Authorities and don't dare sent it through the mails again.) But we are still trying, and one day we may be able to make a report on the subject which will probably disillusion many of our Members about the alleged austerity of their grandpops in the armies.

Walton Onslow
Editor,
CWRT News Letter
1737 De Sales Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20036
AND MAN! THEY WERE SOME PROBLEMS!!

Most of the many members who attended the rousing brawl about JEB Stuart's role in the Gettysburg campaign have now recovered from their bruises. As RT President Admiral (Judge) E.M. Eller put it: "The panel meeting on 19 November brought down the house. It was a Round Table meeting in the truest meaning of our organization."

Our December meeting will turn from that particular problem of the Confederate army to some of the quandries faced by the Federal troops. Our speaker is a distinguished member of our own RT, Dr. Francis A. Lord.

Here is the order of battle:

REGULAR DECEMBER DINNER MEETING

DATE: Tuesday, December 17, 1963
PLACE: NATIONAL PRESS CLUB
PRICE: $4.00 per person

5:45 P.M. Juice Hour
7:00 P.M. Dinner
8:00 P.M. Program

Subject: "Some Problems Confronting the Federal Army 1861 - 1865"

Speaker: Dr. Francis A. Lord

DR. LORD AND THE WAR

Dr. Lord's grandfather and two great-grandfathers fought in the Federal armies in the War. He, himself, is the third generation of his name to enlist in the army at the age of 18 years. His grandfather joined the Union forces at the same age, and an uncle enlisted at 18 in the Spanish-American fracas.
His own military career includes service with the 5th Infantry and the 3rd Cavalry before WW II and four-and-a-half years as an intelligence officer during that war. He is the author of "They Fought for the Union", numerous magazine articles and of a regular column in "Civil War Times Illustrated". He is a member of the Advisory Council for the CW Centennial Commission and a frequent lecturer. Although his subject is as broad as the War was long, Dr. Lord should have some interesting observations to make for the benefit of our Buffs.

"A WORD OF APPRECIATION" DEPARTMENT

President Eller has asked that the News Letter carry word of deep appreciation from the RT to those who are making possible the splendid programs we are enjoying this year, and for the other fine events on the agenda. Says Admiral Eller:

"All who have attended the meetings this fall applaud the fine work of the Program Committee: Bill Ingles, Chairman; Scott Hart, Pat Jones, Victor Gondos, Sidney Morgan, John Sanderson, General Wedemeyer, Howard Westwood and Colonel Bowlby. The meetings have been highlighted by the efficient arrangements provided by the Dinner Committee: Alex Blair, Chairman; Josh Billings, Meredith Daubin and John Sanderson.

"To Col. J. Gay Seaborne, Chairman; Paul Sedgwick and John Sanderson go thanks for the splendid Gettysburg Second Day field trip. For standing firm in the hail of missiles occasioned by the illuminating report on the whereabouts of JEB Stuart during the Gettysburg campaign, kudos go to: Beverley Coleman, whip cracker; Alex Blair, First Lieutenant of the Ship for Arrangements; Col. Sidney Morgan for equipment and logistics; Panel Members Col. Seabourne, Col. Harry L. Campbell, Howard Westwood, Capt. Omer A. Kneeland, Col. Bowlby, Meredith Daubin, RADM David L. Welchel and Dr. J. Walter Coleman."

THE MAJOR DOMO AND THE ANCESTORS

Our genial Major Domo, Rex Magee, and your Editor took a calculated risk a couple of months ago by mentioning the names of some of our RT members who are descended from famous figures of the War. Bruised and battered, the Major Domo has now appealed to the News Letter to say that he has heard from a number of members descended from equally illustrious men and officers in the War whose names we did not mention.

From his bomb shelter, the Major Domo has messaged that he knows that there are many who deserve mention; that he has been besieged with calls and letters of protest about being left out of the listing, and that he is trying to compile a roster of those among our membership who can lay claim to distinguished ancestry. He promises that when the shots stop flying about his bloody but unbowed form, he will try to get such a list to us so that recognition can be given to those to whom recognition is surely due.

HOW ABOUT A FATHER-AND-SON NIGHT?

From the Major Domo comes another suggestion. The Navy Yard meeting in October so pleased those who attended, participated in Navy sides of roast beef, viewed the unique Civil War Displays in the museum and visited
the submarine and the destroyer escort that a return visit has been requested. The Major Domo suggests that a second visit should be the occasion of arranging for Junior Buffs to attend a Round Table meeting at the Navy Yard.

Major Domo Magee has proposed that this be the first of an annual Father-and-Son RT meeting. Says he: "Since I have no red-headed progeny, I would be glad to father for the occasion the young son of a Senator's private secretary. And there are other childless members who could find juvenile buffs."

President Eller would like to know what other members think about the idea. Drop him a line, or give him a call at Division of Naval History, U.S. Navy Department, Washington 25, D.C. or drop a note to the Round Table, address -- Army Navy Club, Washington 6 D.C. If members like the idea it will be set up next spring.

**OUR OWN I. Q. DEPARTMENT**

What obscure young enlisted man obtained his discharge from the army at Fort Monroe in 1829 to enter West Point, and went on to become famous throughout the world, not in the military field, but the literary? (He was a poet.) Answer next month, or that mashed Minie ball to the first who sends the Editor the correct answer.

**OUR RT AT THE GETTYSBURG ADDRESS COMMEMORATION**

Four of our RT leaders participated in the ceremonies at Gettysburg last month at the commemoration exercises on the centennial observance of Lincoln's famed address. The occasion was the representation of the D.C. Centennial Commission at the event.

Paul Sedgwick, Chairman of the D.C. Commission and last year's RT president, officiated and a wreath was presented at the Heroes' Monument from the City of Washington. Col. J. Gay Seabourne delivered the Gettysburg Address. Other RT representatives were Elden (Josh) Billings and Dr. Paul Gantt. Capt. Eugene Breitenberg and Dr. Sedgwick spoke.

Former RT member Congressman George Dondero of Michigan and Congressman Fred Schwengel also participated. The DC group was joined by Norman Larson, Executive Director of the North Carolina Commission and James J. Geary, Director of the Virginia Commission, representing the Confederate States Association, which also presented a wreath.

**TRIMMING THE MUSTER ROLL**

Following the issuance of this letter, the mailing list of RT members will be cut to those who have paid their $6.00 1963-64 dues. President Eller and Treasurer William Hale Evans urge all who have not yet sent in their dues to do so. We do not want to reduce ranks, but now the deadline has been set. Send your check to the Civil War Round Table, Army-Navy Club, Washington 6, D.C. if you still want to be with us and participate in the fine programs slated for the balance of this campaign.

**GRAPESHOT**

The Cleveland RT newsletter reports that of the 425 Confederate Generals appointed by Jeff Davis, 77 were war casualties, one committed
suicide, one was killed in a duel, one was slain by a jealous husband, one shot down in a quarrel and eight were slain after the war.... The divers have been busy on the ironclad gunboat Cairo sunk in the Yazoo river above Vicksburg in December, 1862. All 13 cannon have been raised. Gun carriages and hundreds of small artifacts are being treated for preservation. Small arms and even leather boots have been recovered. The boots were in excellent condition. The big job of raising the gunboat itself is now at hand. It will be placed on a barge and floated to Vicksburg waterfront. The project is being financed through contributions made to Operation Cairo, P.O. Box 849, Jackson, Miss. Donors of $1 or more receive a certificate of membership in the Mississippi Navy. Prince Edward Hotel at Farmville, Va., where General Grant wrote dispatches to General Lee leading to the surrender will be renovated and given its original name, The Randolph House. The Columbus, Indiana, RT has come up with some interesting details regarding the finding of General Lee's famous Special Orders No. 191 which led directly to the battle of Antietam. The orders, wrapped around three cigars, were found by Private B.W. Mitchell of the 27th Indiana Infantry in a field previously occupied by D.H. Hill. The orders, taken to General McClellan, revealed the entire disposition of the Confederate troops west of Frederick, Maryland. Oddly enough, B.W. Mitchell had been enrolled as a corporal, but at the time he made his tremendous find he was a private, and remained a private at his discharge. No promotion was given him for one of the most important discoveries of the war.... When the orders were taken to McClellan, the three cigars were still with them. Querry to historians: Who got to smoke the cigars?

PRIVATE BEERFULL REPORTS AGAIN

Your Editor has been busy in odd moments deciphering more of the correspondence between that remarkable Cajun, "General" Pierre Larous Stoodbind of Bayou LaFitte, Louisiana and Private Franklum Beerfull, CSA. In the process he has made the astonishing discovery that a little bourbon whiskey sprinkled on the time-worn letters goes a long way toward making them more readable.

Latest to be deciphered is a letter from the Private, whose name apparently was "Beerfull", and not "Beerfell" as originally reported. It was a dispatch to his mentor, the Cajun "General" in the Louisiana swamps. Here is the message:

"Dear Generil: All I got to say at this point is that you sure had a lot of nasty cracks to make about that there fracis I tole you about when them fellows knocked over all them beehives at that place I call Shiloh wich really is Pittsburg Landing where I fell into the hole. If you'da been there you'da been runnin yet.

"When that confounded big sargent of ours yanked me outa that hole, he set us to marching, but fast. So a while later on we ended up at some place called Pea Ridge, and believe me, they weren't no sweet peas, either. We wuz getting along alright when what should show up but some more of those guys in blue uniforms, an' all hell bust loose all over again.

"I wuz kinda confused on account of all them bees buzzing all over again, an' I couldn't figer out how them bees got all the way over to where we wuz. It was a long way for bees to fly. (Continued in next News Letter)