



CHAMPLAIN VALLEY HISTORIC REENACTORS
2nd Vermont Volunteer Infantry, Co. A;
1st Vermont Cavalry, Co. K;
Vermont Brigade Field Dressing Station
and associated Green Mountain Citizens

"I have no purpose, directly or indirectly, to interfere with the institution of slavery in the States where it exists. I believe I have no lawful right to do so, and I have no inclination to do so. Those who nominated and elected me did so with full knowledge that I had made this, and many similar declarations, and had never recanted them."

"In *your* hands, my dissatisfied fellow countrymen, and not in *mine*, is the momentous issue of civil war. The government will not assail *you*. You can have no conflict without being yourselves the aggressors. *You* have no oath registered in Heaven to destroy the government, while *I* shall have the most solemn one to; preserve, protect, and defend it." ~ Part of Lincoln's Inauguration Address March 4, 1861

MARCH 2011

Think Spring CVHR!

Notice how much longer the days are and that the sun is getting warmer each day! The deadline for registering for 150th Manassas is fast approaching. If you want to go, make sure the Treasurer knows. Checks for \$20.00 made payable to CVHRI and your waiver need to be mailed to Jim Buell by March 15!

Potluck Dinner

A huge thank you goes out to the Hendees for the pot luck dinner they put on for CVHR once again! A very good time was enjoyed by all who were able to attend.

Drill - March 1

The first drill of the 2011 season will take place Tuesday, March 1 at the Williston Central School, 195 Central School Dr. The gym will be reserved for 6:30 pm. **Please bring appropriate shoes that will not destroy the gym floor or mark it up!**

INAUGURATION OF PRESIDENT LINCOLN - March 4

~ Bill McKone

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**Jointly sponsored by the 18th Vermont Regiment, Hildene,
and the Chittenden County Historical Society**

2:00 PM – Presentation of political situation on March 4, 1861, by President-elect Abraham Lincoln (portrayed by Bob Bushnell of Fletcher, Vermont), followed by discussion with audience.

2:30 PM – Description of Lincoln's travel to Washington by Seth Bongartz, executive director of Hildene, the Lincoln summer home in Manchester, Vermont. A Lincoln Bible and letter connected to that trip will be on display.

3:00-3:10 Break to examine displays and publications of the sponsoring organizations.

3:10 Frank Rivers, U.S. Regular Army soldier originally from Vermont, who is stationed in Fort Sumter, Charleston, SC, reports to Lincoln on the situation at the fort. This living history role in authentic uniform will be performed by Charles Martin, who will be in the fort during this year's reenactment of the bombardment of April 12-13. Mr. Martin will display copies of the *Harper's Weekly* newspaper reporting on the crisis.

3:45 Status of military preparedness reported by Bill McKone, president of the 18th Vermont Regiment, along with announcements of future commemorative events.

4:00 Formation outside the library of escort for Lincoln to Burlington City Hall with reenactors as color guard, drummer boy, and other participants who care to join.

4:15 Parade down Church Street to City Hall steps

4:30 Lincoln gives first inaugural address and takes the oath of office

5:00 Ceremony ends with loud cheering by audience, adjourns to the RiRa

Hague Drill - April 30 - May 1

~Tom Lapoint

tomlapointe@ymail.com

A weekend long drill has been planned at Tom Lapoint's. From Ticonderoga, head south on Rte. 9n towards Hague(9 miles) and hit the intersection of Rte. 8, Tom's place is 3 miles west on the left on Rte 8. Two camps will be set up, and things will kick off Saturday early, for a full weekend of tactical, living history and drill. Civilian dress is great also, there are plenty of locals that don't even know about the hobby that were interested last year and hopefully more this year, especially with your support. In Tom's own words "I would love to host a great event that will bring us all on the same page and to keep up the passion with #'s making the event fun!! It all takes Yanks and Rebs, that is one thing that I know for sure !!!" The weekend is meant to establish camaraderie, build enthusiasm and get us all on the same "page" so to speak so that we know each other better and can make some more realistic battle scenes for the upcoming season, not to mention realistic camp life. Everyone is welcome... and there is plenty of room for horses as well! If anyone is sure that they can go, please let Tom know right off.. He is just looking right now to just see what kind of numbers he will have.

Brandon's Civil War Days - June 18

~John Peterson

john.peterson@ottertin.com

On Saturday June 18th, 2011 the town of Brandon, Vermont will host a Civil War Days event which features the Champlain Valley Historical Reenactors offering a living history program in the Central Park which includes enlistment activities, running drills, and musket firing demonstrations.

The Civil War ignited conflicts and strong emotions throughout the United States, and even a small town in the Northeast was not immune to the changes sweeping the nation. Especially instrumental during this time period was Stephen A. Douglas, a renowned Son of Brandon and Abraham Lincoln's strongest competitor in the 1860 presidential race. 2011 marks the sesquicentennial of Douglas's death as well as the opening of its town hall. Brandon will celebrate with the second annual Civil War Days event on June 18. In addition, this is the 150th anniversary of the opening of the Brandon Town Hall which still has the armory room for the Allen Grays, the town militia unit named for Ethan Allen and the gray uniforms they wore. The Allen Grays were mustered into the 1st Vermont Regiment and members later went on to join other regiments in the Vermont Brigade after the 1st Vermont mustered out of service. Some members of the Champlain Valley Historical Reenactors will be wearing reproduction of the gray uniforms Vermont soldiers wore as they marched off to war.

A number of Brandon's Civil-War era homes will open their doors to visitors, giving a rare glimpse of what everyday life might have looked like during the 19th century. This is also the 250th anniversary of the town's founding and a town-wide birthday party will

begin at 4 pm with a performance in front of the Congregational Church featuring 250 singers. The party will conclude with a 250-piece birthday cake and other festivities. "Brandon shows us how the anti-slavery movement gained momentum among ordinary people who were fired up by a moral commitment to a cause they believed was holy," said Dr. Kevin Thornton, a University of Vermont Professor of History specializing in the 19th century U.S. "The experiences of this town also show us how common northerners became motivated to fight in the Civil War." Dr. Thornton will be giving talks on the subject in the Town Hall, also celebrating its sesquicentennial this year. In the evening, there will be a special screening in the Brandon Town Hall of the Buster Keaton movie called "The General," which takes place during the Civil War. Jeff Rapsis, who plays piano behind silent films around New England, will be the accompaniment. Brandon is one of Vermont's most inviting small towns with its entire downtown listed on the National Register of Historic Places and recreational opportunities in its backyard. The village of 4,000 has a revitalized downtown with shops, galleries, and restaurants and over 70 miles of back roads to explore. Easily accessible at the crossroads of Routes 7 and 73, Brandon is in the foothills of the Green Mountain National Forest, near the shores of beautiful Lake Dunmore and close to an array of covered bridges. Accommodations for travelers include luxurious country inns, comfortable bed & breakfasts, reasonably-priced motels and clean, scenic campgrounds. For more information, contact the Brandon Area Chamber of Commerce: 802-247-6401. Email at: info@brandon.org or visit www.brandon.org

150 Battle of First Manassas/Bull Run - July 21-24

~Jim Buell
jimmyb658@msn.com

Attention to orders!!

With the recent vote in the South Carolina legislature to secede from the Union and more southern states following, the President has put out a call to all of the states to send militia to Washington and to Virginia to crush this rebellion.

It is thought that this will be a short conflict and the north will be victorious. Then the southern states will see the light and rejoin our glorious union.

Who is with us to go to Virginia to crush these upstarts? Join your comrades to march south and take care of business once and for all.

Let me know if you want your name added to the roster. If so, please make out a check for \$20.00 to CVHRI and send it to me at the following address;

223 Stokes Lane
Shelburne, VT 05482

I will need your check and waiver by March 15th.

I have included the website for the event below. Take a look, there will be paperwork that you will need to complete as it gets closer to the event.

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

What:

Battle of First Manassas/Bull Run

150th Commemoration - July 21-24, 2011

A highlight will be a reenactment of the Battle of First Manassas/Bull Run on July 23 and 24, 2011.

REENACTORS—SORRY, WE CAN NOT ACCOMMODATE WALK-ONS

I would like to get as many folks registered ASAP, and if they are not accepting walk-ons, you must be on the unit's roster that I will be submitting. My goal is to send in our registration by March 15th –please look at your calendars, decide if you will or will not be attending, and if you are planning on attending, mail me your check along with your filled out and signed waiver. **Your waiver must be filled out and submitted with payment**, so please print this out, fill it in and mail it along with your check.

Thanks in advance.

http://www.visitpwc.com/reenactment/pdf/WaiverRelease_Form.pdf

Your humble servant.

Jim B.

CVHRI 2ND VT CALENDAR 2011

March:

March 1- Drill @ Williston Central School

March 3-5 - Gettysburg Cavalry Training Meeting

March 4 - Inauguration of President Lincoln, Burlington

April:

April 5 - Drill @ Williston Central School

April 6th - Farmers Night - Vermont Statehouse, Montpelier, VT

April 30th , May 1st - - Tom LaPointe's in Hague, NY

May:

May 3rd - Drill at Cpl Hendee's, Starksboro, VT

May TBD – Friday education day in Shelburne – possible May 6th or 20th

May 13th – 15th - Plattsburgh, NY

May 21st – Rutland, VT living history

May 28th – Lakeview Cemetery – Burlington, VT

May 29th - Orwell Memorial Day Parade (sleepover in Benson at Brown's)

May 30th - Middlebury Memorial Day Parade

May 30th - Vergennes Memorial Day Parade

June:

June 3rd – 5th - Norlands w/ 3rd Maine - Livermore, ME

June 3rd – 5th Troy, NY

June 7th - Drill at Cpl Hendee's, Starksboro, VT

June 10th 12th Peterboro, NY

June 18th – 19th Brandon, VT Living History – VT Sesquicentennial

Event ***Date might need to be changed to June 25 & 26

July:

July 4th – Richmond 4th of July Parade – Richmond, VT

July 22nd –24th - Manassas, Virginia 150th battle reenactment
(USV Event)

July 29th – 31st - Living history - St. Albans, VT – [Steve Smith]

August:

August 2nd - Drill at Cpl Hendee's, Starksboro, VT

August 12th – 14th Woodbury, CT

August 20th - Hillsborough Cav

August 26th –28th Massena, NY

September:

September 15th – 18th Tunbridge World's Fair, Tunbridge, VT

September 16th – 18th Lewis, NY

September 23rd – 25th – German Flats, NY

September 30th – October 2nd - Old Mill Village, PA

October:

October 4th - Drill at Cpl Hendee's, Starksboro, VT

October 14th – 16th Cedar Creek – Middletown, VA

November:

November 5th - Boy Scouts Veterans Day Parade

November 19th - Remembrance Day Parade Gettysburg, PA

December:

Annual Meeting – date TBA

THE REBEL YELL

~Lt Steven Smith 2nd Mississippi

MY COUNTRY! MY HOME!

Most of the folks that lived around this area were simple farmers with a few acres of corn and other vegetables. Their world was dominated by tending the crops, nurturing their children, and every Sunday attending the small chapel near the village. Every few weeks as needed they would hitch up their wagon and head to town where they would stock up on needed supplies at the general store. There they might meet a neighbor and perhaps discuss events and news that came from the region and even beyond. Most of it was probably local gossip though. News from abroad didn't carry the same appeal. A few recalled that in some year previous, news spread about a territory called Kansas, but nobody paid much attention to that. To them Washington might as well have been a foreign city just like Paris where people talked funny.

Their views on politics were limited as well. Politics were for learned folk like the Colonel who was probably the best known man in the area. Folks here didn't have an opinion about the darkies except that there weren't many around. One would have to travel many miles for the nearest plantation. Some might have believed that owning a darkie was a sign of wealth and status. Some believed that was the natural order

of things as ordained by the edicts of the bible. It's what they had been lead to believe as they grew up which included the generation before them and the generation before that. But for the most part, most simply believed their meager earnings from the sale of a few surplus vegetables and perhaps a few beaver furs would never amount to much. In other words, they were not destined to be plantation owners. Such was the life in Tippah County in northeastern Mississippi.

One day a rider road into town with news of the election. A country man from Illinois had been elected President of the United States. True to form many were indifferent but some had come to believe that this man would bring change which could be possibly harmful and threatening to their families. Soon it wasn't long before folk gathered in town to learn more about this change. Knots of men could be seen in heated discussions some even expressing a desire for war! Prior to all this commotion the Colonel's militia group was viewed almost as a men's club, but now it's numbers grew and the small unit could be seen drilling more and more. People were fearful although many were just unsure. All they knew is that their home their farm and their family was the center of their life. Their world was their community and they would band together to protect themselves from the outside. It didn't matter if that threat was as times past from Indians or perhaps from a new President of the United States. Heck, they didn't even know what the United States was.

Life in and around Ripley changed even more when on another day news arrived that Mississippi had chosen to dissolve the union between itself and those other united states. Visitors arrived into the small hamlet almost daily from that point and loud oratory could be heard even from some who had never been given to public address. Their message was one of war and it was reinforced with loud cannon and music. For the majority of folk who had never before witnessed such racket, it was very exciting.

One such excited person was Samuel Hankins.

"I had entered my sixteenth year, and like most boys my age, felt my importance. At the first war meeting in nearby Guntown, where I lived, I was the first to enlist and was eager for the fray. My father though was bitterly opposed to secession, but unlike many who advocated war freely and took no part therein, he enlisted early and served until the end. Upon learning of my intention to enlist he said: "Why my son you are entirely too young to perform the duties that will be required of a soldier, and as I intend to enlist myself, you should remain at home to look after your dear mother and sisters while I am away. This war is going to be long and severe, and you will have ample time after you have grown older to do your share." I made no reply as I was determined to enlist even without his consent. Upon learning of my determination he consented, which pleased me very much."



Samuel joined a full company of volunteers assigned to the 2nd Mississippi Infantry raised from the small town of Ripley in Tippah County. He was about to embark on the greatest adventure of his life. His first stop on that journey would be another small hamlet called Manassas.

The Civilian Side

~Sue Brown

Children and Education

Parents watched over infants with much care and were extremely happy when a sick infant showed signs of recovery. An infants first step was very much celebrated as it was a sign of good health. As infants grew into toddlers, there were dressed in knee length gowns, boy and girls alike, so that they would not trip on clothing and it provided easy access to napkins (diapers). When looking at period photos of children, the way to tell them apart, the boys hair would be parted in the side, a girls would always be parted in the middle. Infants and toddlers spent all their time in the kitchen or in the yard between the house and garden. They were easily entertained with wooden spoons, corn cobs and other indestructible household items. In most household most playthings were homemade.

At an early age children were given chores to do. Boys were encouraged to take care of animals, work outside or spend time in their fathers shop, while girls were taught household chores.

Sometimes families family finances required the children to be hired out and contribute their earnings to the family income. A lot of times, children and young teens were required to leave school to work.

School was very important in the lives of children. Few states provided universal public education. Communities throughout the nation started their own school thanks to civic minded citizens and church congregations. It was left to the teacher on how to run school. The schools were generally small, with several grades being taught in one room. Corporal punishment was used in the school and encouraged by parents. Children attended schools for several years, unless needed at home for work, where the children were excused. However, children advanced through several grade levels in a year, and by fifth grade they were reading material at a level which today is considered college level.

Most Americans did not marry until their twenties, contrary to popular beliefs of today. So they would contribute to household until they married.

Civil War Quiz



This son of a Methodist preacher, born on September 24, 1824, in Burlington, Vermont, attended Norwich University for two years before entering West Point from where he graduated in 1846. An officer in the 1st U.S. Artillery, he fought in the Mexican War and was promoted to 1st Lieutenant and later was the assistant professor of drawing at West Point. Promoted to Captain on November 22, 1860, he was at Fort Sumter during its bombardment, and was brevetted Major.

By the end of 1861 he was made commander of the 5th U.S. Artillery and assigned to the Camp Curtin, the training camp at Harrisburg, PA. On March 6, 1862 he was made Chief of Artillery for McCall's division of the Pennsylvania Reserves and promoted to Brigadier General of Volunteers on April 28, 1862.

During the Peninsula Campaign, this Brigadier was assigned to the V Corps of the army of the Potomac, and commanded troops at Mechanicsville, Gaines' Mill, and Glendale. When General McCall was captured at Glendale, he was given temporary command of his division in the Pennsylvania Reserves.

This brigade commander was with the Pennsylvania Reserves at the Second Bull Run, and his brigade captured Turner's Gap in the Maryland Campaign of the Army of the Potomac on September 14, 1862. After leading his brigade at Antietam, he was elevated to command of the Pennsylvania Reserves after George Meade became acting corps commander of the V Corps.

Transferred to the department of the South, he was chief of staff to the commanding general, and later commanded a division in the siege of Charleston. The unsuccessful attack on Fort Wagner portrayed in the movie "Glory" was commanded by him. Later he was given command of the District of Florida where his force was defeated at the Battle of Olustee on February 20, 1864.

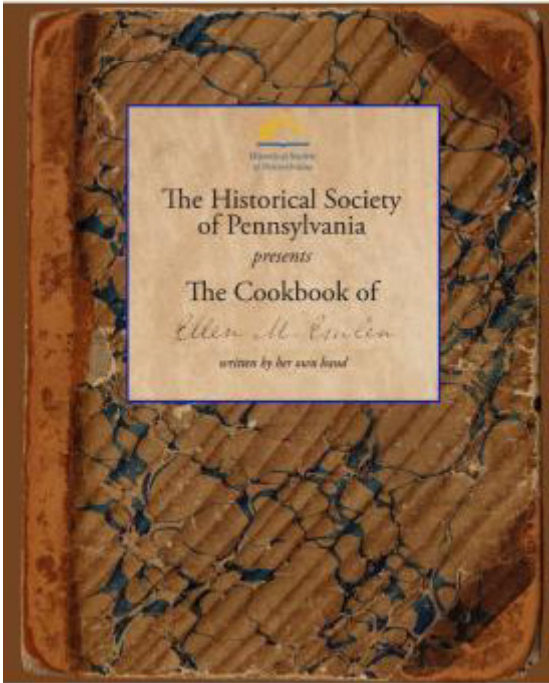
In March of 1864, this general returned to the Army of Potomac and commanded a brigade in the VI Corps where he was captured. After being exchanged he replaced James Ricketts as division commander in the VT Corps and participated in the Shenandoah Campaign, Petersburg, Saylor's Creek and the Appomattox Campaign. He was brevetted Major General of Volunteers and Brigadier General in the regular army both dated from March 13, 1865

Retiring from the army in 1876, he pursued a career as an artist in Europe. He died in Florence, Italy, on October 30, 1891, and is buried there in the Cimitero degli Allori. Much of his work is currently on display at the Richardson-Clark Gallery at 38 Newbury Street in Boston for the first time since his death. His watercolor of Alcala di Guardaira, Alhambra is on the next page -



For Sale

[Ellen Emlen's Cookbook](#)



The Historical Society of Pennsylvania is pleased to present the facsimile of Ellen Emlen's cookbook. Mrs. Emlen, a nineteenth-century Philadelphia housewife, organized her cookbook into thirteen categories of recipes including meats, vegetables, sauces, food for the sick, and desserts. Written circa 1865 and containing well over 200 recipes, this book is a must for any culinary historian, Civil War buff, or American patriot. Among others, Emily was friends with the Meads and McClellans of Philadelphia and she included recipes from these families in her cookbook. Rediscover wonderful tips and tricks for the kitchen and enjoy Emlen's comments on the recipes. This is not simply a how-to book: it is a peek into the American past, into a documentation of years of trial and error, and the desire to remember and preserve that knowledge. This publication is a limited edition of 500 copies.

Available Spring 2011. Pre-order your copy today!

\$19.99

<http://shop.hsp.org/catalog/publications/ellen-emlens-cookbook>

Did You Know??

The first fatality in the Civil War was an accident. After two days of shelling by the Confederates on Fort Sumter causing heavy damage and many fires, there were still no fatalities. After running short on supplies, Union Maj. Robert Anderson agreed to surrender the fort, one of the stipulations being that they be allowed to salute the flag as they took it down. The next day, during the 100 gun salute, a smoldering piece of cartridge landed on a pile of new cartridges causing an explosion that killed Pvt. Daniel

Hough and fatally injured another.