

The Haversack

Newsletter of the 7th Military District, Sons of Veterans Reserve

Commander's Comments

Greetings Gentlemen!

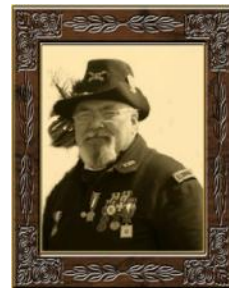
Now that fall is here we can expect cooler weather and it will be much more comfortable in our wool uniforms. Every summer I am in awe of our Union Veterans who fought these campaigns in the south in dark blue wool soaking up the southern sun. I trust that we all had a good summer and I am anxious to hear the stories of your events.

I have heard of the accomplishments of many of our units in the field. Some events were well attended and some were effective with just a few members present. I have heard some members comment that they would participate in an event if there was a good turnout. This attitude feeds on itself because it only takes a few people feeling this way to create a low turnout event where there could have been better attendance. Some leaders will act as though they can never have enough people working for them, irrespective of how many it really takes to have a good event. It is a fallacy and self fulfilling prophecy to believe that all our problems would be solved if only we had more people at an event. Do not use head count as a status symbol or an excuse. Just fully utilize the stalwarts that do show up and you will have a good event.

With the approach of Remembrance Day at Gettysburg I would like to send out a last call to commander's for award requests for their units and soldiers. I do not see your men performing their duties as you company commanders. Please submit any awards to me for approval and forwarding up to the National Command Staff. Be safe, be patriotic, and enjoy the approach of cooler weather.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

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7th Military District, Sons of Veterans Reserve
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XIV Headquarters Guard at Kennesaw Mountain



Major Peterson portraying General Thomas at Kennesaw Mountain, Private Michael Reither behind the table portraying a staff captain.

On September 9th select members of the XIV Corps HQ set up a HQ display not far from where General Thomas' HQ was on the Kennesaw Mountain Battlefield. Soldiers on a Staff Ride from Forts Gillem and Benning were able to speak with General Thomas and staff about the battle of Kennesaw Mountain. They were also given insight into the General's life and leadership up to the battle of Kennesaw Mountain. The groups were then taken by Ranger Jake to Chatham Hill for further instruction on the battle. Civilian Visitors to the park were also treated to a talk with the General and his staff and some joined the soldiers on the rest of their staff ride. It was a successful educational program that we hope to repeat in the future.

Submitted by Major Eric Peterson
XIV Corps HQ Guard, Commanding



Left to Right: Pvt Michael Reither, Major Eric Peterson, Ranger Jake, and Pvt Steve Reilly

Chaplain's Pulpit

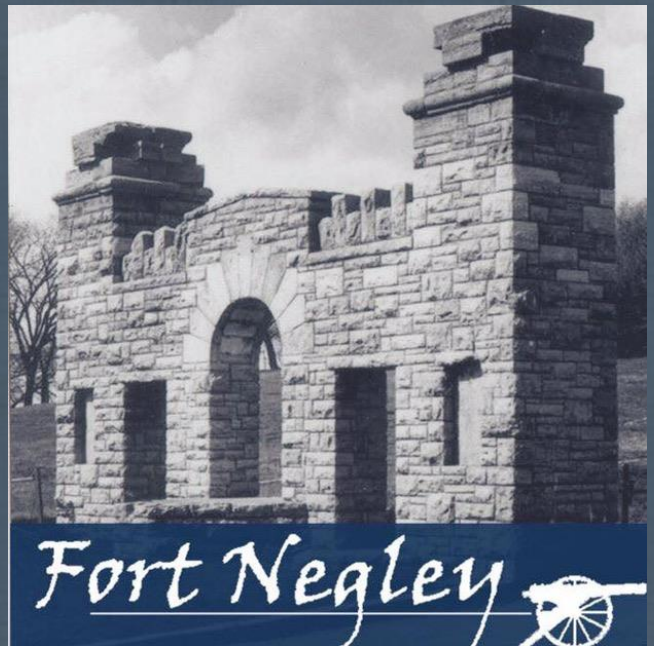
Brothers of the 7th Military District,

Please keep in prayer our families, victims, emergency response, in these tragic storms in Houston, Florida, and Louisiana. We also pray for other countries, and our leaders who are effected by these storms.

We finally ask your prayers for our National, State, and local Organizations, and our Camps across the globe, and their Commanders.

We also ask your continued support for Fort Negley/Greer Stadium Parcel as our National Commander Day indicated in his communication.

Chaplain Gary M. Burke
7th Military District, SVR



Photos of the Friends Of Fort Negley presenting to the Metro Parks Board, our support from Fort Donelson Camp #62. President Clay Bailey and Chaplain Burke speaking at the Franklin Roundtable about Negley. Chaplain Burke, Sharon Kay of Fisk University Radio WFSK 88.1 FM, and Metro Council At Large John Cooper, Brother of Congressman Jim Cooper. Congressman Jim Cooper is an advocate for Fort Negley on the Council.



Fort Negley Update

We are on hold in the process until a legal matter is resolved due to one of the bidders on the project disputed the process in which the project from Metro Government was rewarded.

The Friends Of Fort Negley have been speaking to community groups, boards, and have articles in our local newspapers, local news stories, and local radio shows.

After the legal matter is rectified, the Parks Board would have to approve the Cloud Hill Group Plan(which includes affordable housing, office space, green space, and artist space.

The next step would be Metro Council for approval...if they give approval, then it would go full speed ahead.

This property is Park of Negley's legacy, and the African American labor that worked, died, while building it. My ancestor/our Brother in Blue Pvt. Peter Bailey of the 17th USCT was at Negley in 1865.

Submitted by Chaplain Gary M. Burke
7th Military District, SVR

General Neal Dow – The Temperance General

When the War began, Neal Dow was already the famous Maine prohibitionist, whose name was synonymous with Sobriety and Temperance. Born in Portland, Maine March 20, 1804 to Quaker parents, the “Napoleon of Temperance” was the sworn enemy of drinkers, drunkards, rum peddlers, and tavern keepers. He championed the “Maine Law” outlawing the sale of liquor in 1851. In 1855, as mayor of Portland, Dow used city militia to quell a “rum riot.” He epitomized the political appointee when, at 57 years old, he was appointed colonel of the 13th Maine Infantry in November 1861. Having no practical military experience, Dow wisely surrounded himself with able and battle-tested officers.

The 13th Maine mustered in and encamped in two feet of snow in December 1861, drilling on a frozen river. They quickly became known as the “temperance regiment.” Recruits from other regiments, when arrested for drunkenness on returning late to camp, claimed they belonged to the “Thirteenth,” and could not possibly be inebriated. Encamping in Boston, the Boston Evening Traveler remarked, “[The 13th] is said to be the quietest regiment that has ever been seen in this city.”

Dow and the 13th Maine were organized as part of Gen. Butler’s New England division of the Nineteenth Corps for the Gulf Department. Heading south by steamer, Dow, along with 1600 men and Gen. Butler himself, was nearly shipwrecked off Hatteras and ran hard aground off Cape Fear. They arrived, somewhat worse for the wear, at Ship Island, Mississippi on Dow’s birthday in March 1862.

The time at Ship Island was spent drilling incessantly, and the Maine boys suffered horribly from the tropical heat. Major Seth C. Gordon, surgeon of the 13th, reported at least 1000 cases of diphtheria alone in the 12th – 15th Maine Infantries. Nearly 500 of these men died or were disabled. A general order forbade music at funerals because of the terrible demoralization from disease.

The heat did not affect Dow’s moral zeal however. In a letter from Ship Island he wrote: “I remarked that I had never heard a profane word from any of my officers, that I never permitted a profane word in my hearing from any soldier.... The man from whom I last heard profanity I ordered to stand on a barrel head one hour as a punishment.... One colonel remarked that it would require all the barrels on the island to accommodate the swearers in his regiment. Perhaps the headquarters’ example was not what it should be.”

Dow was promoted to brigadier general in May 1862 and assigned command at Fort St. Philip below New Orleans and served as commander of the District of Florida at Pensacola.

Gen. Dow was a brigade commander at Port Hudson under Gen. T.W. Sherman. On May 27, 1863, Dow’s brigade, comprised of the 6th Michigan, 15th New Hampshire, 26th Connecticut, 128th New York, and 162nd New York, crossed Slaughter’s Field, making two heroic but unsuccessful charges to the Confederate works. Gen. Sherman was shot and Dow became divisional commander but was himself shot in the arm and thigh, before he was even aware of his command. Maj. Seth Gordon patched up the General without so much as ether, chloroform, or a sip of whiskey. Years later, Gen. Sherman said, “Tell General Dow that he is now at an age when an occasional glass will do him good.”

General Dow was captured in June while convalescing at a plantation house and spent 19 months in prisons at Mobile and Richmond. Sent to Libby Prison to be exchanged for John Hunt Morgan, Dow arrived to find Morgan already there. Morgan offered, “General Dow, I am very happy to see you here; or, rather, I should say, since you are here, I am very happy to see you looking so well.” Dow quickly replied, “General Morgan, I congratulate you on your escape; I cannot say I am glad that you did escape, but, since you did, I am pleased to see you here.”

Dow, the highest ranking Union officer in prison at that time, was exchanged for Gen. Fitzhugh Lee in March 1864, returning to Portland, Maine in poor health to a hero’s welcome. He resigned from the army in November 1864.

After the war Dow resumed his labors for Temperance and Prohibition on lecture platforms east to Newfoundland and west to San Francisco. In 1880 he ran for President on the Prohibition ticket, receiving over 10,000 votes.

On “The Grand Old Man’s” 90th birthday, the ex-Governor of Kansas John St. John wrote: “Prohibition will triumph, the saloon will go down and out forever, our homes will rejoice and be glad, and no one will be entitled to greater credit for this result than our brave old leader, Neal Dow.” Although we today know this was not to be, Dow lived his life by living his beliefs. He died at the age of 93½ in his home in Portland surrounded by his family. As Ben Tillet, the English labor leader said, “Neal Dow is one of the few brave men a century can own.”

Submitted by Br. Joe Smyth
10th Tennessee U.S. Volunteer Infantry

Historical Regulations ...

FROM CASEY'S INFANTRY TACTICS

Article II

PART SECOND

LESSON II.

MANUAL OF ARMS.

134. The manual of arms will be taught to four men, placed, at first, in one rank, elbow to elbow, and afterwards in two ranks.

135. Each command will be executed in one time (or pause), but this time will be divided into motions) the better to make known the mechanism.

136. The rate (or swiftness) of each motion, in the manual of arms, with the exceptions herein indicated, is fixed at the ninetieth part of a minute, but, in order not to fatigue, the attention, the instructor will, at first, look more particularly to the execution of the motions, without requiring a nice observance of the cadence, to which he will bring the recruits progressively, and after they shall have become a little familiarized with the handling of the piece.

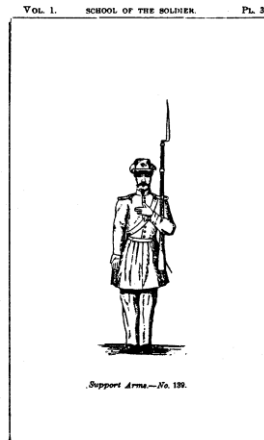
137. As the motions relative to the cartridge, to the rammer, and to the fixing and unfixing of the bayonet, cannot be executed at the rate prescribed, nor even with a uniform swiftness, they will not be subjected to that cadence. The instructor will, however, labor to cause these motions to be executed with promptness, and, above all, with regularity.

138. The last syllable of the command will decide the brisk execution of the first motion of each time (or pause). The commands two, three, and four, will decide the brisk execution of the other motions. As soon as the recruits shall well comprehend the positions of the several motions of a time, they will be taught to execute the time without resting on its different motions; the mechanism of the time will nevertheless be observed, as well to give a perfect use of the piece, as to avoid the sinking of, or slurring over, either of the motions.

139. The manual of arms will be taught in the following progression; the instructor will command:

Support—ARMS.

One time and three motions.



140. (First motion.) Bring the piece, with the right hand, perpendicularly to the front and between the eyes, the barrel to the rear; seize the piece with the left hand at the lower band, raise this hand as high as the chin, and seize the piece at the same time with the right hand four inches below the cock.

141. (Second motion.) Turn the piece with the right hand, the barrel to the front; carry the piece to the left shoulder, and pass the fore-arm extended on the breast between the right hand and the cock; support the cock against the left fore-arm, the left hand resting on the right breast.

142. (Third motion.) Drop the right hand by the side.

143. When the instructor may wish to give repose in this position, he will command:

REST.

144. At this command, the recruits will bring up smartly the right hand to the handle of the piece (small of the stock), when they will not be required to preserve silence, or steadiness of position.

Historical Regulations ...

FROM CASEY'S INFANTRY TACTICS

Article II

PART SECOND

LESSON II.

144. At this command, the recruits will bring up smartly the right hand to the handle of the piece (small of the stock), when they will not be required to preserve silence, or steadiness of position.

145. When the instructor may wish the recruits to pass from this position to that of silence and steadiness, he will command:

1. Attention. 2. SQUAD.

146. At the second word, the recruits will resume the position of the third motion of support arms.

Shoulder—ARMS.

One time and three motions.

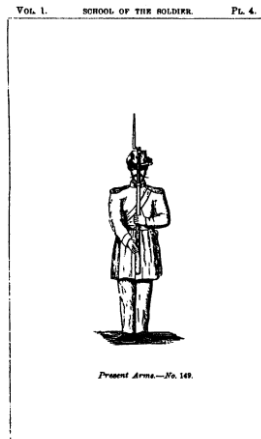
147. (First motion.) Grasp the piece with the right hand under and against the left fore-arm; seize it with the left hand at the lower band, the thumb extended; detach the piece slightly from the shoulder, the left fore-arm along the stock.

148. (Second motion.) Carry the piece vertically to the right shoulder with both hands, the rammer to the front, change the position of the right hand so as to embrace the guard with the thumb and fore-finger, slip the left hand to the height of the shoulder, the fingers extended and joined, the right arm nearly straight.

149. (Third motion.) Drop the left hand quickly by the side.

Present—ARMS.

One time and two motions.



150. (First motion.) With the right hand, bring the piece erect before the centre of the body, the rammer to the front; at the same time seize the piece with the left hand half-way between the guide sight and lower band, the thumb extended along the barrel and against the stock, the forearm horizontal and resting against the body, the hand as high as the elbow.

151. (Second motion.) Grasp the small of the stock with the right hand, below and against the guard.

Shoulder—ARMS.

One time and two motions.

SVR Regulations

ARTICLE VI **Correlated Branches**

1. Organization and command structure of Troops of Cavalry and Batteries of Artillery shall coincide with Article V, Company Headquarters, of these Regulations. Said Units shall be officered with the minimum number of officer consistent with the number of enlisted men.
2. Field Music units or Military Bands may be organized on the same basis as the Company Unit.

ARTICLE VII **UNIFORM AND EQUIPMENT**

1. The uniform and equipment of the SVR shall be patterned from that of the U.S. Armed Forces uniforms 1861-1865. Material of the uniform shall be that of the branch of the Armed Forces for which the unit represents. The color and style of the uniform, trim, and accouterments shall conform to the REVISED U.S. Army Regulations of 1861 or 1863. Footwear and eyeglasses shall conform as close as possible to that of the Civil War era. Exceptions to the above shall include the following:
 - a. The metal or fabric SUV or SVR emblem and wreath, may be worn on appropriate headgear.
 - b. The SVR collar device along with the correct SUVCW medals may be worn on the uniforms.
 - c. The wearing of SUVCW and other medals shall not be inconsistent with that provided for within the Constitution and Regulations of the SUVCW
 - d. The SUVCW crest and SVR buttons may be used on the uniform.
2. SVR Infantry, cavalry and artillery weapons should be of the Civil War era and military design, and shall be appropriate for the branch of service and rank represented. Exceptions to the above shall include NCO and Officer swords that may be Sons of Veterans, Sons of Veteran reserve, Sons of Union Veterans, or Grand Army of the Republic.
3. Naval Units within the SVR shall conform to the **Uniform for the U.S. Navy 1864**.
4. Marine Corps units within the SVR shall conform to **The Uniform and Dress of the United States Marine Corps – October 1859.**

ARTICLE VIII **Artillery Regulations**

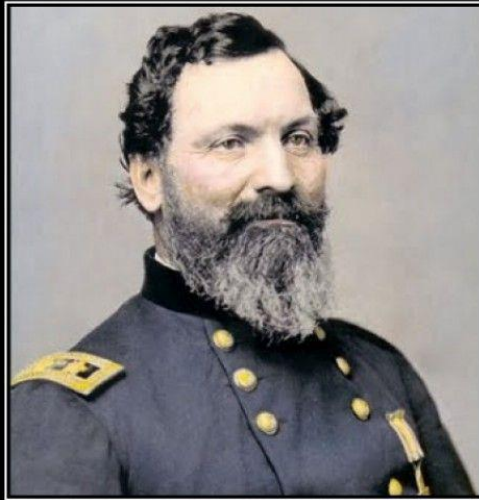
Rank distribution shall be in accordance with Article V, Section 6, of these Regulations with the following exceptions:

1. If the Unit's artillery pieces belong to individuals, one corporal will be assigned to each piece (Usually the owner of the piece).
2. Officers and sergeants may be assigned as Battery Commander and Section Leaders.
3. If an Artillery Unit has more than five (5) pieces, and a minimum manpower of 18, it may have a Captain as Battery Commander, 1st Lieutenant, 2nd Lieutenant and Sergeant as section leaders.
4. Safety Officers (which may be enlisted members) are encouraged with Batteries.

Article IX **Cavalry Regulations**

The organization and rank distribution shall be in accordance with Article V, Section 6 of these Regulations with the Following deviations:

1. To be considered a Cavalry Company, a minimum of six (6) troopers must be mounted.
2. Officers and NCOs may be assigned as Company Commander and Platoon Leaders.
3. If the Unit has a minimum manpower of 15, it may have a Captain as Company Commander and a 1st Sergeant. If the Unit has a minimum manpower of 18, a 2nd Lieutenant may be appointed as Company Adjutant.
4. Each Cavalry Company will have an appointed Safety Officer, which may be an enlisted trooper.



FAMOUS LAST WORDS

"THEY COULDN'T HIT AN ELEPHANT AT THIS DISTANCE!" -GENERAL JOHN SEDGWICK

The Haversack is published quarterly as the newsletter of the 7th Military District, Sons of Veterans Reserve.

The Sons of Veterans Reserve (SVR) is the ceremonial uniformed military component of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW).

The 7th Military District consists of the states of Arkansas, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Tennessee, and South Carolina.

Any letters, articles, etc., published in The Haversack do not necessarily represent the views and/or opinions of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, officers, membership, guests, or the editor/publisher.

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Departments in our District

[Department of Tennessee](#)

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- [Department of Georgia and South Carolina](#)

Camps in our District

- [Gen. John A. Logan #4 \(NC\)](#)
- [Gen. James B. Mcpherson #1 \(GA\)](#)
- [Elias Moon #2 \(GA\)](#)
- [Kennesaw Mountain #3 \(GA\)](#)
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- [Sultana Camp #1 \(TN\)](#)
- [Maj. Gen James H Wilson #1 \(AL\)](#)
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- [Pvt. Richard Taylor #53 \(TN\)](#)
- [Fort Donelson #62 \(TN\)](#)
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Click the link, and "Like" them!

(you'll get lots of updates of what is going on!)

We want articles (with pictures!)

Thanks to all the contributors of this edition!

So... What's needed...?

Articles for the next Edition of the Haversack!

- Unit Activities
- Biographical Sketches
- Research methods
- Civil War era jokes / cartoons

Some editing may be done to long articles to fit in the space available

Email updates and articles (with pictures!) to GAHuttick@netscape.net!

NEXT ISSUE DECEMBER 2017