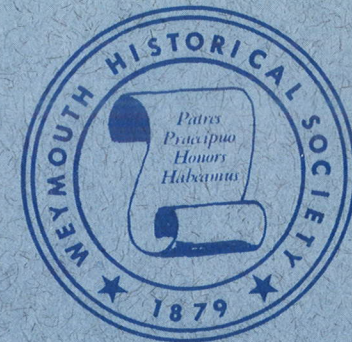


WEYMOUTH



civil war centennial commemoration

WEYMOUTH, MASSACHUSETTS
MARCH 30-31, 1963

THE WEYMOUTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

and

THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN, TOWN OF WEYMOUTH

present

A

CIVIL WAR

CENTENNIAL COMMEMORATION

DISPLAY

EXHIBITION

at

CENTRAL JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
300 Broad Street
Weymouth, Massachusetts

March 30 - 31st., 1963.

Centennial Commemoration Booklet
seventy-five cents

Weymouth Historical Society

WEYMOUTH, MASSACHUSETTS

Founded 1879

HISTORICAL SOCIETY PRESIDENT:

REV. GEORGE W. KELSEY, JR.
48 COLUMBIAN STREET
SOUTH WEYMOUTH, MASS.



1861 - 1865

1961 - 1965

CIVIL WAR CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN:

THOMAS C. HIGGINS
37 CHARLES DIERSCH ST.
EAST WEYMOUTH, MASS.

Dear Visitor:

On behalf of the Weymouth Historical Society and the Selectmen of the Town of Weymouth, I extend the hand of welcome to you.

Our Centennial Commemoration is the result of the work of many persons. We are pleased especially to have the Historical Societies of the neighboring towns of Braintree, Hingham, and Quincy joining with us in presenting displays.

The word "Celebration" has several meanings. Informally, the word has come to mean a gay or festive time. However, one cannot gaily or festively celebrate the centennial of a war which cost our nation the lives of 600,000 men and caused untold anguish to its people. I prefer to use a meaning of "an observance with the proper ceremonies" or the synonym "Commemoration".

The purpose of this two-day Commemoration is that through our displays, exhibits, demonstrations, lectures, and motion pictures, we hope you will gain a new enrichment of knowledge of the War Between the States and an appreciation of the period of history of a century ago.

In this twentieth century we are experiencing a renaissance of our historical heritage. The Weymouth Civil War Centennial Commemoration is a part of this awakening.

Thank you for your attendance.

Sincerely,

Thomas C. Higgins

Thomas C. Higgins, Chairman

Ceremonies of this kind, it seems to me, are most effective and significant when they center around one specific locality. The story of the entire Civil War, as a matter of fact, is nothing more than an infinite succession of small stories about the way the people in various towns and villages responded to the challenge which the war brought, and I have always felt that the best way we can commemorate the war's centennial is to begin by an examination of what was done in the individual community...

Mr. Bruce Catton
 America's Foremost Civil War Historian
 March 15, 1963
 From a letter to the Weymouth Historical Society
 Civil War Centennial Commemoration Committee

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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

SATURDAY, MARCH 30th

Doors Open at 12:00 Noon

Exhibits and Displays 12:00 Noon - 6:00 P.M.

Display and Demonstration of Massachusetts
Ninth Battery from Worcester County 4:00 P.M. and 7:30 P.M.
in the Auditorium.

Motion Pictures: "Currier and Ives"
"U. S. Navy in the Civil War"

"Gettysburg Panorama" by Harry Belcher
(to be shown periodically)

Showing of full-length motion picture "Birth of a Nation" . 8:30 PM
Admission is free;

SUNDAY, MARCH 31st

Doors open at 1:00 P.M.

Exhibits and Displays 1:00 P.M. - 6:00 P.M.

Motion Pictures: "Currier and Ives"
"U. S. Navy in the Civil War"

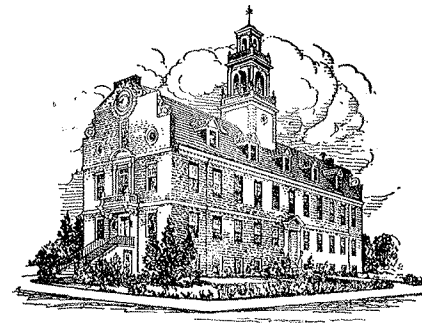
"Gettysburg Panorama" by Harry Belcher
(to be shown periodically)

Showing of full-length motion picture "Birth of a Nation" . 7:00 PM
Admission is free.

SELECTMEN'S DEPARTMENT

FRANKLIN FRYER, CHAIRMAN
FRANCIS L. KELLY, CLERK
RALPH J. AMABILE, JR.
GEORGE E. LANE
HERBERT A. CHUBBUCK

EDGEWATER 5-2000



THE TOWN OF WEYMOUTH
MASSACHUSETTS

1622
Over Three Hundred Years
of Planned Progress



East Weymouth 89, Mass.

CIVIL WAR CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

WHEREAS, The Congress of the United States and the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts have designated the years 1961-1965 as the Civil War Centennial, and that these bodies have requested that appropriate observances be held during these years;

AND WHEREAS, The Town of Weymouth contributed over 900 men as well as needed materials and money to the Union cause during the great War Between the States;

AND WHEREAS, The Weymouth Historical Society, founded in 1879, is sponsoring a Civil War Centennial Commemoration Exhibit and Display on March 30th and 31st which will honor our Town and neighboring towns, and which will provide an enrichment of knowledge to our Townspeople and an expected visitation of thousands to Weymouth,

WE, THE SELECTMEN OF THE TOWN OF WEYMOUTH, do proclaim the week of Saturday, March 30th through Friday, April 5th as WEYMOUTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY CIVIL WAR CENTENNIAL COMMEMORATION WEEK.

Franklin Fryer Chr.
Francis L. Kelly
Ralph J. Amabile, Jr.
Herbert A. Chubbuck
George E. Lane
BOARD OF SELECTMEN

WEYMOUTH IN THE CIVIL WAR

THREE YEARS' ENLISTMENT.	
We, the undersigned, by our signatures herein annexed, do hereby solemnly agree to serve as members of the Massachusetts Volunteer Militia, in the army of the United States, as volunteers, for the term of three years, unless sooner discharged, from the date of our being mustered into said service, in accordance with the terms of the proclamation of the President of the United States, dated May 3d, 1861.	
Dated at Weymouth May 7, 1861.	
Asst. James L. Bates	James D. Shaw
1st Lieut. Charles W. Hastings	1st Lieut. James D. Shaw
2nd Lieut. James D. Shaw	2nd Lieut. James D. Shaw
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In the years preceding the Civil War Weymouth was like many other similarly sized New England towns. However, with Boston a breeding spot for the great abolitionists of the day, certainly their influence was felt in Weymouth. The chief proponent of abolition in New England and one of the most famous in the country was the Editor-Publisher-Lecturer William Lloyd Garrison of the "Liberator." Although the very name of Garrison would send a Southerner's blood boiling and a \$5000 dead-or-alive reward was offered by South Carolina for the esteemed New Englander, such was not the feelings of Weymouthites towards the great abolitionist. Garrison made several speeches in Weymouth as well as did such other able speakers of the same movement as Wendell Phillips, Parker Pillsbury, Edwin Thompson, and Theodore Parker. A favorite spot for their speeches was the Universalist Church in Weymouth Landing. Many of these same names were linked to the infamous John Brown at the time of his attack on Harper's Ferry.

Another interesting sidelight of the pre-war days in Weymouth was the development of an organization known as the "Wide Awakes." This was a Republican organization uniformed in white caps and white capes. They were great torch carriers! Several units drilled as military companies with the threat of Southern secession. The young men of the town, and specially those from college, were prominent members of this society.

The group existed for a comparatively short time, however. After working for the Republican Presidential candidate of 1860, an unknown from Illinois whose ancestors had migrated westward from Hingham many years earlier - Abraham Lincoln - the group disbanded.

On January 5, 1861, another Hingham neighbor - John A. Andrew - was inaugurated Governor of the State of Massachusetts. He immediately put out an order to the militia of Massachusetts requiring each company commander in the militia regiments of the state to revise his muster lists.

Weymouth had no muster roll to revise. The town was without a militia company. The last one had been disbanded for many years before the outbreak of the war. The only soldiers in the town belonged to companies maintained in neighboring towns. The majority of the townspeople considered the prospects of foreign wars slight. Even those who considered the prospects of a Civil War were considered to be alarmists.

Thus, when the call came from Governor Andrew, a special committee of the town recommended to the selectmen that "they be instructed

MUSTER LIST .. FIRST 100 VOLUNTEERS FROM THE TOWN OF WEYMOUTH. THREE YEAR ENLISTMENTS.

WEYMOUTH IN THE CIVIL WAR (Continued)

to pay the sum of \$125 to each inhabitant of Weymouth who has enlisted or who shall enlist within ten days as a volunteer soldier in the service of the United States for the term of three years, unless sooner discharged."

The town meeting, however, upped the sum to \$150 per enlistment and appropriated \$16,000.

On the 22nd of April a Public Meeting was held at Loud's Hall in East Weymouth for the purpose of raising troops. James L. Bates was appointed Captain and Charles Hastings and Francis Pratt were mustered in as Lieutenants.

The sum of \$852.78 was paid by the town for the expenses of this Weymouth Union Guard, Company "H" 12th Regiment while drilling in the town for blankets, fatigue dress, and other necessary articles. Examples of these were the \$222.69 paid to Henry Loud for fatigue jackets and the \$31.00 paid to C. W. Hayden for meat.

The Weymouth Company went to Fort Warren in Boston on May 4th escorted by the Weymouth Band. The company became Company "H" of the 12th Regiment. It left Boston in July for Washington, D.C.

The Weymouth Company "H" of the 12th Massachusetts might possibly be credited with aiding with the creation of "John Brown's Body" as a marching song. Although the refrain "John Brown's Body lies a mouldering in the grave, but his soul goes marching on" had been well-known, they took it up and invented other verses, referring not to the John Brown of Ossawatimie, but to a soldier in the regiment named John Brown. The leader of the regimental band arranged this song as a march, and it became the great marching song of the Northern armies. When the 12th Mass. sang it as they marched down Broadway, New York, on their way to the front, Bishop Mallalieu, who heard it, asked Mrs. Julia Ward Howe to write more "exalted" words to the tune.

Company "H" served in the Army of the Potomac with an excellent record during the war. Engagements included Gettysburg, Fredericksburg and Culpepper.

In August, 1862, Company "A" of the 42nd Regiment was formed in Weymouth and was mustered into the service in September, 1863. It provided creditable service to the country.

Although generous with military expenditures, the town was in a conservative mood during these war years. Part of the Selectmen's Report of March, 1862, bears out this:

JOHN SLATTERY, 18, COMPANY "H", 12th REGIMENT INFANTRY, MASSACHUSETTS VOLUNTEERS. THE FIRST SOUTH WEYMOUTH BOY KILLED DURING THE CIVIL WAR



WEYMOUTH IN THE CIVIL WAR (Continued)

"Owing to the very large expenditure of the town during the past year in aid of the war, we have felt that it was incumbent upon us to re-trench, as far as possible, in those expenses which were in any degree within our control; and we have, therefore, to report that no street or way has been laid out in the town since the last annual meeting. The new street which was laid out from Oak Street to Pleasant Street has been completed at a cost of \$154.11."

Town support for schools in the first year of the war (1861-1862) was \$8500; the Alewife Fund contributed \$252.00; the State School Support gave \$292.11 for a total expenditure of \$9044.11.

In 1861 Mr. Elbridge Torrey had been principal of an experimental high school in South Weymouth which was held in the Universalist Church. Torrey later became a well-known successful Boston merchant.

In 1862 the High School in Weymouth was transferred to the Town Hall with an enrollment which ranged from a high of 69 to a low of 33. This Town Hall-School arrangement continued during the war years of 1863-1864 under Mr. Torrey. The average attendance during these years remained about forty pupils, probably not increasing because of the enlistments of the boys.

Mr. Torrey received about \$800.00 for his teaching-principal service at the High School. Teaching salaries ranged from this high down to \$160 per year for lower grade teachers. The custom was to pay teachers of the same grade level similar salaries.

In August, 1862, Company "H" of the 35th Regiment was formed. This company took part in the Battle of Antietam in September, 1862, in which four men from the town were killed: David Cushing, William Pike, Charles Robbins, and William Smith. It was following this famous battle that President Lincoln issued his Emancipation Proclamation.

In 1863 the town voted to appropriate \$125 for each volunteer.

The Draft Act of 1863 was not "popular" in Weymouth. Twenty-two of those drafted from the town passed the physical. The town contributed to each of these the sum of \$78 for procuring substitutes. Many above the age of 45 sent substitutes to the war as a patriotic duty. Over \$12,000 was raised by private contribution to defray the cost of procuring subs.

Certain factions within the town objected to the methods of screening and enlisting. As a result, a resolution was passed "that this town

WEYMOUTH IN THE CIVIL WAR (Continued)

believed and is fully satisfied that the enrollment for this town is very nearly or quite twenty per cent larger than is the enrollment of the average towns in the district, and that a number of persons have been enrolled in this town who ought not to be enrolled and who are utterly incompetent to perform military service, and the town respectfully requests that the proper authorities revise the enrollment of the town and have the enrollment made up in a manner that shall be equitable."

The differences were resolved, procedures altered, and harmony reigned.

The Board of Selectmen of the Town of Weymouth during the war consisted of Mr. James Humphrey (a familiar name to the school children of East Weymouth), and Mr. Zacharia Bicknell who served the entire war. The other member was Mr. Allen Vining who was succeeded in 1863 by Mr. Noah Vining.

A great patriotic spirit was prevalent in the town during the war. Public gatherings were frequently held; flags flown; Red, white and blue neckties worn by men; red, white, and blue horse rosettes attached to their bridles. There were even several red, white, and blue chimneys in the town. One such colored chimney remained for several years following the end of the war as a reminder of the long conflict.

The reports of the dead and wounded of relatives and friends reached every family in the town. Many of the soldiers sent home as much as \$12.00 per month out of the \$14.00 they received as pay. The State of Massachusetts paid an additional \$8 - \$12 a month dependency allowance.

The last company from Weymouth to enlist was Company "H" of the 4th Regiment of Heavy Artillery which enlisted in 1864 for a term of one year.

The town of Weymouth sent out a total of 936 men to war, including enlistments. 120 of these men did not return. Benjamin Foss was the first man from the town to die. He was killed at the First Battle of Manassas, Virginia, (Bull Run) in July, 1861. The last man was Josiah Pratt who was killed at Manning, South Carolina, in February, 1865.

What names which have lived in the history of our country share the blood of Weymouth men in the great War Between the States? Gettysburg, Frederickburg, Antietam, Andersonville Prison, Culpepper, Rappahannock, Thoroughfare Gap, Fortress Monroe, Wilderness, Petersburg, and Spotsylvania, to name a few.



JERRY QUINN OF LOVELL'S CORNER, COMPANY "H" OF 4th MASS. CAVALRY. HE PULLED DOWN THE CONFEDERATE FLAG AND RAISED THE UNITED STATES FLAG OVER RICHMOND, VIRGINIA, APRIL 3, 1865

WEYMOUTH IN THE CIVIL WAR (Continued)

One of the really outstanding personal stories of Weymouth in the Civil War is the story of Jerry Quinn Company "H" of the 4th Massachusetts Cavalry - the man who pulled down the Rebel flag and raised the U.S. flag over the Capital at Richmond, Virginia on April 3, 1865.

Jerry Quinn of Lovell's Corner had been taken prisoner of the Confederates on New Year's Day, 1863. He had spend imprisonment in the famed prisoner-of-war camps of Andersonville (Georgia) and Libby Prison in Virginia.

No one had captured the scene of Monday, April 3, 1865, more vividly than Bradford Hawes in the "Military History of Weymouth" (THE HISTORY OF WEYMOUTH VOL. 1.)

"Monday, April 3, 1865, was an eventful day for the army of the Union. During the night detonations of exploding gunboats could be heard for miles, the noise and shock of lurid lights adding to the wretchedness of those within the city and the anxieties of those who beheld its burnings from afar, among these the advancing army which was not without uneasy speculations lest Richmond be found as Napoleon found Moscow - in ashes. General Shepley of the United States Army describes the scene witnessed from his position near Petersburg as a most beautiful and awful display of fireworks, the heavens being filled with bursting shells, red lights, Roman candles, and falling stars. The morning light found the Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry under Major Stevens, at the gates of the city and in Company "H" of that regiment were many Weymouth boys, and as soon as it was daylight three scouts were sent into the city, one of whom was Jerry Quinn of Lovell's Corner. Two of the scouts were captured by the rebel soldiers, but Quinn entered the city and went as far as the Franklin Hotel, but feared to go farther. He returned and reported the way clear as far as the hotel, and two companies "E" and "H" rode into the fallen city. As they reached the capitol building the rebel flag was flying above it, and Captain Ray of Company "H", together with Tommy Myers the color sargent, and Jerry Quinn started to pull it down. Myers took with him the regimental quidons, and just outside the capitol he slipped and fell on the slimy pavements. Instantly Quinn seized the flag and rushing to the top of the building pulled down the Rebel flag and raised the United States flag over the Confederate capitol. Thus, the honor of being the first Union soldier in Richmond, as well as the credit of pulling down the rebel flag and raising the Union flag, belongs to a Weymouth soldier."

The feelings of the town at the close of the war are well expressed in the Selectmen's Annual Report of March 1865-1866.

WEYMOUTH IN THE CIVIL WAR (Continued)

We are happy in being able to congratulate the town on the fact that the favorable expectation respecting the future expenditures of life and treasury for the maintenance of the integrity of the Union have been fully justified by the fortunate result. During the year just closed, armed rebellion has been completely crushed and the vanquished rebels subjected to the rightful authority of the government with comparatively but slight additions to the vast sacrifice of wealth and blood which had already been so freely poured in defense of the National Unity.

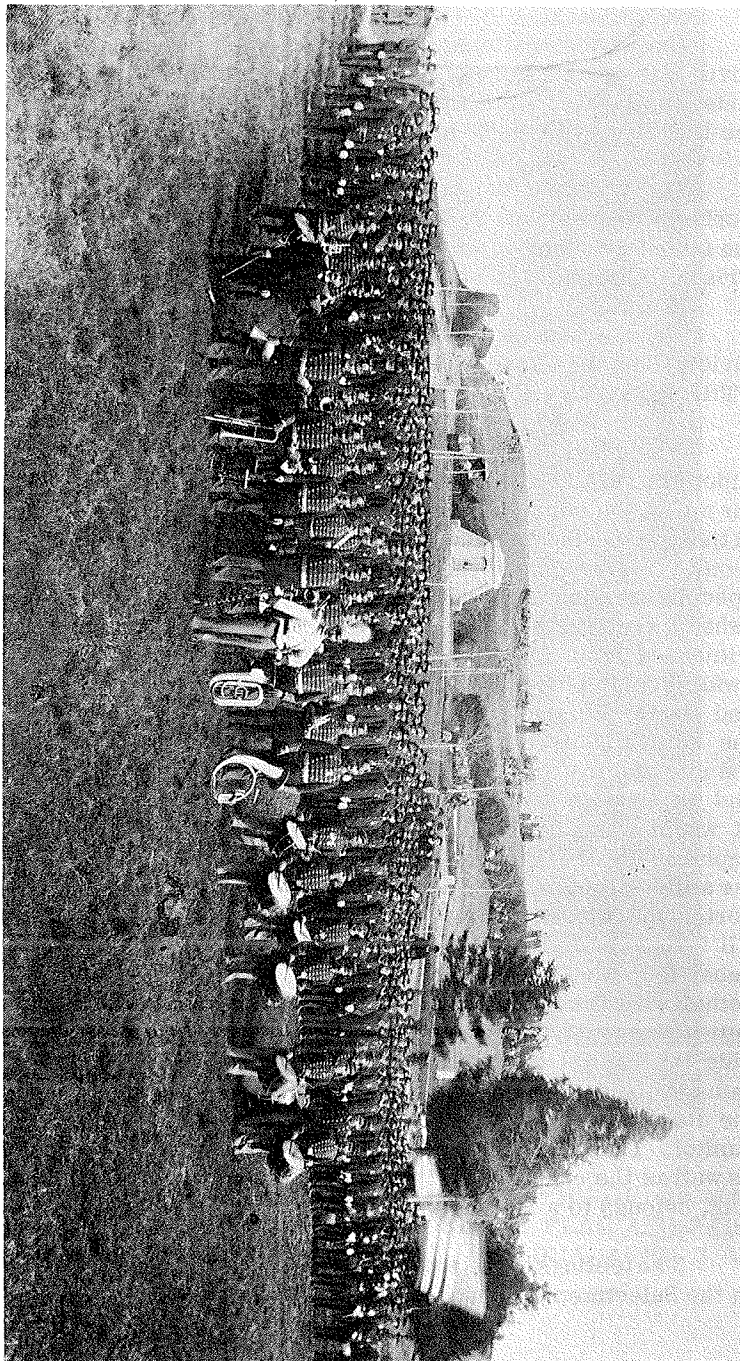
No history of Weymouth in the Civil War period would be complete without a mention of the Grand Army of the Republic. The primary purpose of this body was relief and social. It aimed to collect and preserve historic documents, to aid disabled veterans, and their widows.

The earliest post in Weymouth was organized in North Weymouth in 1868. However, five years later it surrendered its charter and joined with Reynolds Post 58 which had been formed in 1864. The Reynolds Post at one time numbered over 300 members.

James L. Bates was selected as its first Commander. This was the same Bates who had been selected Captain of Weymouth's first 100 volunteers and had gained great fame during the war.

The social history of the G.A.R. was a wonderful period of time in the town. The Grand Army of the Republic Annual Fairs were held at the old Town House located at the Corner of Middle Street and Washington Street. Many famous performers came here. Races were held; rifle contests. Memorial Day was always observed by the Post until 1912. Usually a dress parade was held on the green in front of Old South Union Church in South Weymouth.

The Town of Weymouth can be proud of its long history from the settlement of the Wessagusset Settlement to the present day. The Town's participation and service during the War Between the States is a memorable part of this great history.



POST #58 GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC AT MT. HOPE
CEMETERY



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551 FIFTH AVENUE • NEW YORK 17, NEW YORK

EDITORIAL OFFICES

March 13, 1963

Dear Mr. Higgins:

I want to congratulate your committee on the work it has been doing in connection with the Civil War centennial commemoration. Ceremonies of this kind, it seems to me, are most effective and significant when they center around one specific locality. The story of the entire Civil War, as a matter of fact, is nothing more than an infinite succession of small stories about the way the people in various towns and villages responded to the challenge which the war brought, and I have always felt that the best way we can commemorate the war's centennial is to begin by an examination of what was done in the individual community.

Your committee is certainly to be commended and I am extremely sorry that I cannot be present with you to join in your formal commemorative ceremonies.

Sincerely,

Bruce Catton

Bruce Catton

Mr. Thomas C. Higgins
Weymouth Historical Society
37 Charles Diersch Street
East Weymouth, Mass.

BC/mde

THE BRAINTREE HISTORICAL SOCIETY EXHIBIT

The Braintree Historical Society, Inc. has placed on exhibit a set of 40 large copper plate etchings illustrating the Life of the Union Armies during the years 1862, '63, '64, and '65 by Edwin Forbes, special artist with the Armies of the Union, member of the French Etching Club and honorary foreign member of the London Etching Club. This historical work of art depicts scenes in the everyday life of the soldier of the Civil War in an intimate way seldom captured. It is an eye witness portrayal of things as they were without the distortion of historic idealism. The publisher, Henry J. Johnson of 27 Beekman Street, New York copyrighted this series in 1876 and provided descriptions explaining each plate which have been copied and are attached to each subject.

The Braintree Historical Society was formed in 1930 and incorporated in 1938. In 1957 it was given the old Thayer homestead which had been the birthplace of General Sylvanus Thayer, "Father of the United States Military Academy and Father of Technological Education in America." This historic old saltbox was moved to the town center, restored as a memorial to Braintree's great citizen and as a Community Historical Center and museum. It is used for a program for 5th grade school children developed by the Society in cooperation with the School Department and the Thayer Public Library. It is open to the public with a custodian-guide in residence. Sylvanus Thayer was born in Braintree in 1785 and died there in 1872. He was founder of the Thayer School of Engineering at Dartmouth College and Thayer Academy in Braintree and gave the town its free public library which bears his name.

BIRTH OF A NATION

In 1913 David W. Griffith came to Brothers Roy and Harry Aitken, two of the early motion picture producers and distributors, for the purpose of directing pictures. Soon after he had been with the Aitken Productions he said that he would like to make a long picture and the story was the "Clansman" by Thomas Dixon. The Aitken Brothers agreed to supply him with \$40,000 with which to make the picture. It turned out to be "Birth of a Nation."

This picture is one of the great motion pictures of all times. It impresses you with the bitterness, the gallantry, the destruction, and the suffering in this war between the Union and Confederacy. It explains far better than any other motion picture, and far better than the written word, just way the South was and is what it is...

BIRTH OF A NATION (Continued)

For the use of this film we are greatly indebted to Mr. Martin Phelan of Blackhawk Films in Davenport, Iowa.

And without the help and cooperation of Mr. Roy E. Aitken of Waukesha, Wisconsin, the surviving brother partnership in this great film, "Birth of a Nation" would not have been made available to the Weymouth Civil War Centennial Commemoration Committee.

9th MASSACHUSETTS BATTERY ARMY OF THE POTOMAC

A social group now, the Ninth Massachusetts Battery was once a proud fighting unit of the Union Army. Originally formed in 1863, after the Civil War had started, the Battery was released from service on Gallops Island in Boston in 1865.

The Ninth Mass., as it is now organized, was formed in 1959 for the purpose of honoring American fighting men in all wars. More than that, the group has set up an educational program designed to impress youngsters with their proud heritage of American history.

Who are these men, the men of the Ninth? They are, with few exceptions, all residents of Worcester County. They are teachers, mechanics, insurance agents, students. Although no longer a military outfit, they have organized themselves along lines that were observed by the original Ninth Mass. Their officers are elected by the men. Their gear consists of all original Civil War pieces.

Charles K. Estano of Bolton is Captain of the Ninth.

LINCOLNIA AND MR. LINCOLN - MR. CLAUDE E. SIMMONDS

Mr. Simmonds was born in Minnesota in a Log House, not a cabin. Sparked into the Lincoln interest at the age of ten by an elder brother's disgust on a Lincoln Birthday when he discovered that the younger did not "know why this was a school holiday." Later this interest was fostered by his Mother through the years because of her interest in the Presidents and their wives.

He is member of many historical societies. While not a Charter Member of the Boston Lincoln Group, he was sponsored by the late Robert S. Barton, at the third meeting of the organization, thus making him one of the few senior members.

LINCOLNIA AND MR. LINCOLN (Continued)

He has traveled the complete Lincoln Trail, except parts of Southern Indiana. He has slept in a Lincoln bed at Harrogate, Tennessee, met various descendants of both the Lincoln and Todd families, and has spend many an interesting time in conversation with them.

He has lectured on Lincoln in five states. He has impersonated Lincoln several times, chiefly in February, 1960, when he made the famous walk across Boston Common 100 years to the day and hour when Lincoln covered the same walk. He writes book reviews and has written several magazine articles.

SUPERINTENDENT OF DOCUMENTS UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

Mr. Carper W. Buckley, Superintendent of Documents, has been most helpful in arranging for the display in Weymouth. His division has been working with the United States Civil War Centennial Commission during the centennial period and has prepared several listings of the Government publications available on this subject. Samples of these publications are exhibited. The Division of Public Documents is established by law as the official sales agency for Government publications issued by other departments and agencies.

Quantities of listings have been made available for distribution.

CIVIL WAR TIMES

The Civil War Times Exhibit has been provided by the Civil War Times Illustrated which is published each month except March and September at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, by Historical Times, Inc. The Civil War Times is an excellent non-partisan magazine of American History. The Centennial Committee is pleased to recommend this publication.

HUMBLE OIL & REFINING COMPANY

This map display has been provided by the Humble Oil & Refining Company of Esso. Millions of these and other picturesque Civil War Centennial maps and historical listings have been distributed by Humble-Esso in the first years of the Centennial. This is an outstanding example of public service by one of America's great petroleum leaders.

NATIONWIDE INSURANCE COMPANY

The Nationwide Insurance Company with headquarters in Columbus, Ohio, has provided the public with the film on the Currier and Ives prints of the Civil War Period.

Many thousands of their booklets have been sent to interested persons. The Company has also a traveling collection of 58 Currier and Ives Civil War originals.

SINCLAIR OIL CORPORATION

The Sinclair Oil Corporation of New York is providing the Exhibit with reprints of Civil War Centennial advertisements run in national magazines during the years 1960-1961. Thousands of Civil War Maps have also been distributed by this company.

NEW YORK TIMES

The New York Times has provided another public service with its reprint of nearly forty outstanding newspaper headlines covering the period 1857-1877. Such copies are valuable study aids for students of history.

MICRO-PHOTO, INC.

Micro-Photo, Inc. of Cleveland, Ohio, is furnishing rolls of microfilm as a representative selection of their publications of the Civil War Period. It is a collection of on-the-spot reports of special correspondents, scholarly and illuminating editorials, humorous articles, and the accusations, denials, criticisms, and analyses which filled American newspapers and magazines one-hundred years ago.

The microfilm machine has been provided by the Tufts Library.

ANSCO BRADY DISPLAY

Our outstanding exhibit, "Photography and the Civil War," vividly illustrates the strides that have been made in photographic techniques in the past 100 years. Collected and sponsored by Ansco Division of General Aniline & Film Corporation, Binghamton, New York, the exhibit includes more than 100 Civil War prints.

Mathew Brady, probably the best known photographer of the period, is represented in the exhibit by a collection of battle scenes as well as a valuable collection of his famous portraits. Known as "Brady of Broadway," the most fashionable portrait photographer of his time, he left the security and comfort of an established business to follow the troops and record for posterity the story of the Civil War. He had a vision in recognizing the significance not only of the photos he was taking but of those made by other men; and he set himself the task of collecting all he could lay hands on. Later, through no fault of his own, the more than 7,000 pictures in his collection were all mistakenly attributed to him.

Brady, as well as the other early photo-journalists, operated under far more difficult conditions than the news photographers of today. They traveled with "darkroom" wagons. They had to make their own "films" and develop the exposures immediately. The method was known as the wet-plate collodion process; it was discovered in 1851 by Frederick Scott Archer of England, and in a relatively brief period, replaced the original daguerreotype almost entirely. It involved the use of a glass plate, sometimes as large as 17 by 20 inches, which was coated with a collodion mixture made of gun cotton, sulphuric ether, alcohol mixed with halogen salts of cadmium, ammonia, etc. The plate was then immersed in a solution of distilled water and silver nitrate, to make it sensitive to light. While still wet, the plate was inserted in the camera and an exposure of from ten to forty seconds was made. The photographer then rushed the plate to his darkroom wagon for immediate development, prepared another plate, and went out to make another picture. In the thick of battle, the work often was done in the midst of gunfire and shells.

Most of the photographic supplies used by the photographers of the Civil War were supplied by Edward Anthony, who in 1942 founded the business out of which Ansco grew. His brother joined him in partnership in 1852, and the company became known as the E. & H. T. Anthony Co. In 1901, the firm merged with Scoville and Adams, the photographic division of the Scoville Manufacturing Company, the country's earliest manufacturer of copper daguerrean plates. In 1907, the name of the firm was shortened to the Ansco Company.

For more than 100 years Ansco has had a part in the historical development of our country. The exhibit, "Photography and the Civil War," has been arranged in recognition of the Centennial Observance of the Civil War and is a tribute to the early photo-journalists who pointed the way toward today's news coverage.

Weymouth is proud to display "Photography and the Civil War."

GEORGE A. PORTER, JR., AND
PORTER'S CIVIL WAR MUSEUM

George A. Porter, Jr., of Pembroke became interested in the WAR BETWEEN THE STATES when he was fourteen and has been collecting relics for the last six years. He wishes to display them so that the Public will have an opportunity to appreciate this phase of our heritage. Heretofore, these articles have been stored in attics or in inaccessible libraries and halls.

This collection was started with money earned on a paper route and enlarged with earnings from part-time and vacation jobs.

Now, PORTER'S CIVIL WAR MUSEUM contains over 1100 items, including Union and Confederate uniforms, firearms, edged weapons, medals, coins, bills, postage stamps, patriotic envelopes, newspapers, artifacts, flags and many others. One large Confederate Flag, Stars and Bars, which was flying over the Rebel Fort at Island No. 10 in the Mississippi River when captured by the Union Navy in 1862 is a prize exhibit.

George, a member of the Ninth Battery, Light Artillery Massachusetts Volunteers, a reactivated Civil War Unit, took an active part in the reenactment of the First Battle of Manassas, Va., July, 1961, and also at Antietam, Md., September, 1962.

After two years of research, George wrote an eighty-two page illustrated booklet, GENERAL ROBERT E. LEE OF THE CONFEDERACY.

At present George is stationed with the Armored Division of the United States Army at Fort Knox, Ky.

The exhibit will be presented by George's parents, Mr. and Mrs. George A. Porter, Sr. who will present comparable Union and Confederate articles with appropriate captions and summaries.

MARK KEVITT

Youngest exhibitor at the Centennial will be 13 year old Mark Kevitt, son of Mr. and Mrs. Chester Kevitt of Blanchard Road, South Weymouth.

Young Mark is an eighth grade student at South Junior High School. About three years ago he became very interested in the Civil War Period, especially Lincoln.

MARK KEVITT (Continued)

He has collected together a large number of items. His interest has been further increased by numerous trips to the battlefield sites with his parents.

THE PERIOD ROOM

The Civil War Period Room is provided by the Antiques Committee of the Old Colony Club. Mrs. Harold Olson of South Weymouth is the Chairman of this committee.

THE TUFTS LIBRARY DISPLAY

Through the cooperation of Mrs. Eleanor Cooney, Head Librarian and the Board of Trustees of the Tufts Library, a book display, documents of the early abolitionist movement in Massachusetts, and the microfilm machine have been provided. The suggested book lists have also been made available by the Library.

MRS. REYNOLD RONCI DISPLAY

Mrs. Reynold Ronci was born and raised in Annapolis, Maryland. However, for a number of years she has resided in Weston, Massachusetts. She is an active member of the Daughters of the Confederacy. Her private collection of Civil War materials is extensive. Among the articles on display are two rare pictures of General Robert E. Lee and General Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson in their military uniforms; original newspapers pasted on the back of wallpaper which came from a home in Vicksburg during the siege there in 1863.

THE RICH - WILLHAUCK DISPLAY

This display of Mr. Sheldon Rich and Mr. George Willhauck consists of period guns, uniforms, newspapers, books, and military accoutrements. Mr. Rich is a resident of 114 Franklin Street in Revere. For the past twenty-seven years he has spent a great deal of his time chasing firearms and related items.

He is a member of many Gun Collectors Associations. His Library consists of about 600 texts covering the subjects of firearms through military history.

THE RICH - WILLHAUCK DISPLAY (Continued)

Mr. Willhauck is a resident of 25 Eastman Street in Dorchester. He is a collector of 1800 period carbines, military manuals, and Historical papers. He specializes in Civil War Period research, accoutrements, and associated articles.

He also is a member of many Gun Collectors Associations, including the National Rifle Association, Pennsylvania Antique Arms Collectors, and New York State Arms Collectors.

For the past six years Sheldon Rich and George Willhauck have collaborated and traveled researching military material covering the mechanical and historical aspects of United States Military Americana. This requires attendance at meetings of collecting organizations all over the eastern section of the United States. Sheldon covers the mechanical aspects of historical weaponry while George concentrates on the research accoutrements and related items.

QUINCY IN THE CIVIL WAR EXHIBIT

The exhibition is the joint effort of the Quincy Historical Society that has made the material available, and the Quincy Civil War Centennial Committee that has handled the display. The Committee is a City group appointed by the Mayor in early 1960 through the program of the Massachusetts Civil War Centennial Commission, to handle matters associated with the Centennial in Quincy.

The material displayed is drawn largely from the collection of the Colonel Paul J. Revere Post 88, G. A. R. of Quincy, noted as one of the finest and most extensive of its kind in the Commonwealth - it contains over three hundred items; and the George H. Jones Collection. The newspaper items were contributed by The Patriot Ledger.

The items shown all relate to Quincy and Quincy men in the Civil War, primarily the early days when a local unit participated as part of the famous 4th Regiment Massachusetts Volunteers.

C. B. HAMBLÉN AND SON, INC.

The original company was started back three generations ago in Lexington, Mass. Since that time the company has continued on its various fields of display work.

Due to a large Christmas display company with requests from clientele as to what form of display they could have to commemorate the Civil War, John Hamblén entered the diorama field.

The company has since entered other fields with the diorama medium such as the Revolutionary War and other historic periods of the country's growth. It is now manufacturing the most authentically scaled military miniatures of American history.

Each diorama built takes approximately two months of research. The business is located in Norwell. It employs the finest artists and craftsmen in the various fields of art used in the dioramas. All personnel come from this local area.

The Committee is grateful to C. B. Hamblén and Son, Inc. for their trailer display.

THE TOWN OF WEYMOUTH DISPLAY

The muster lists and materials which are included in the Town of Weymouth Display are a part of the articles displayed and stored at the Weymouth Town Hall on Middle Street, East Weymouth.

THE WEYMOUTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY DISPLAY

This display under the banner of the Weymouth Historical Society is part of many articles and materials owned by the Society which are presently stored on the upper floor of the Fogg Library in South Weymouth. They have been contributed by many persons from Weymouth. For a number of years Mr. Franklin Reed of Torrey Street, South Weymouth, as past President of the Historical Society, took care of the preservation of these articles. To him goes the deep appreciation of the members of the historical society.

At the present time, Mr. Chester Kevitt is Curator of the Museum. He and his committee are currently working to catalog and inventory the many articles and papers there.

FIRST NAVAL DISTRICT

The Public Information Office of the First Naval District in Boston is providing the Exhibit with the two excellent films in color "The U.S. Navy in the Civil War" (Parts 1 and 2).

The Film Library of this office is an excellent source of historical films. The Centennial Commemoration Committee is gratified for the cooperation of the Public Information Office.

GETTYSBURG PANORAMA

Gettysburg Panorama is the creation of Mr. Harry Belcher of East Weymouth. It started several years ago as a school history project for Mr. Belcher's son David. Since then many changes and improvements have been made.

Through a series of over 60 flashing lights properly placed on a large panoramic physical map of the Gettysburg Battleground, one may follow this famous three-day battle of July, 1863. The thirty-minute narrative background has been prepared by the joint efforts of Mr. Belcher and Mr. John Benoit, also of East Weymouth. Mr. Belcher and Mr. Benoit are well-qualified to present their accurate narrative of Gettysburg. Both have visited the battlefield many times and have made detailed studies of research. They also have made trips to many other historical areas in the East.

Mr. Belcher is an electronics technician employed by P. L. Pingree of East Weymouth. Mr. Benoit is a Sargent in the Massachusetts State Police.

THE CLARA BARTON EXHIBIT

The Weymouth Chapter of the American Red Cross with the cooperation of the Boston Chapter is providing the Exhibit of Clara Barton, the Angel of the Battlefield.

THE SCHOOL ART AND PROJECTS

The many excellent art and visual projects on display are provided by the cooperation and work of teachers and pupils of the local schools. Congratulations to these participants!

CIVIL WAR CENTENNIAL COMMISSION

700 JACKSON PLACE, N. W.

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

EXecutive 3-3300, EXT. 3225

ALLAN NEVINS, Chairman

FRED SCHWENGL, Vice Chairman

JAMES I. ROBERTSON, JR., Executive Director



March 5, 1963

Mr. Thomas C. Higgins, Centennial Committee Chairman
37 Charles Diersch Street
East Weymouth, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Higgins:

Speaking on behalf of the full membership of the United States Civil War Centennial Commission, I wish to commend you and your committee for the efforts and pains to which you have gone in the planning and carrying out of your Civil War exhibit.

To be a complete success, this Centennial must remain insofar as possible on the grass-roots level. This places a tremendous responsibility on historical societies and similar organizations; however, the Weymouth Historical Society has shown unequivocally its interest in the American past and its determination to keep that heritage ever living.

We wish for you every success in your program. What you are doing exemplifies fully the highest goals of this Commission.

Yours very sincerely,

James I. Robertson, Jr.
JAMES I. ROBERTSON, JR.
Executive Director

JIR:maw

BRAINTREE IN THE CIVIL WAR

At the time of the Civil War, Braintree was just a village, population 3990. In 1863 the town budget was \$20,200, including a School Budget of \$2961, \$1870 for highways and \$125 for Town Hall expenses, salaries included. The Alms House and other costs for the poor totaled \$1924 and the largest single expense was for aid to Soldiers' families which grossed \$7884. When the war clouds were gathering, Braintree had a company of infantry which drilled regularly. They were quick to answer the call to arms. The fall of Fort Sumpter brought immediate action on April 15, 1861 by Governor Andrew, who issued a call for men to go to the defense of the nation's capital at Washington. Braintree men were ordered to report the next morning, ready to go wherever assigned. On April 16 the Braintree Light Infantry, including 56 Braintree men, Company 'C' of the 4th Regiment of Massachusetts Volunteer Militia, formed at their armory and marched to Boston. A few days later they embarked for Fortress Monroe.

This was the town's initial contribution to the war. But it was only a beginning. General Thayer was at the age of retirement, too old for active duty, but he served as military advisor to the Union Army, and in 1863 was brevetted Brigadier General by President Lincoln. Another of Braintree's prominent sons was just beginning his service for his country. Admiral George F. F. Wilde the following year graduated from the Naval Academy to commence his distinguished career which was to last 41 years. By the war's end Braintree men would have served in 26 fighting units, and Spotsylvania, Five Forks, Cedar Creek, Winchester, Sabine Cross Roads, Malvern Hill, Fredericksburg, Gains Mill, Petersburg, Peebles Farm, Gettysburg, Resaca, Port Hudson, Red River, Hanover Court House and Williamsburg would have all claimed one or more Braintree lives. During the 4 years of the war, Braintree would have suffered losses averaging one of her sons each 29 days.

Many of the volunteers were teen-age boys looking for adventure, like two who wrote in later diaries of climbing out chamber windows and sliding down shed roofs to steal past the rooms of sleeping parents, but the Soldiers' Memorial in Braintree lists most of the men in their 20's and 30's, and two in their 40's. Since green troops could not be whipped into shape in three months, when they were asked by their officers to continue with the army and "have a chance to smell burned powder before going home," many re-enlisted for a nine-months' period, and again for three years. These men were natives of Braintree, but some volunteered from towns as widely separated as Vermont and San Francisco. In Braintree's quota there were very few substitutes furnished by the recruiting brokers in Boston. Seventeen who were drafted hired substitutes; five who were drafted entered the service.

BRAINTREE IN THE CIVIL WAR (Continued)

But most of the participants from Braintree didn't have to be drafted. The total enlistments contributed by Braintree were 506 in the Army, and 44 in the Navy; of these, five were captains, four first lieutenants and six second lieutenants. One surgeon also joined, and some men went as teamsters, cooks, and helpers of various kinds. In addition to the Braintree Light Infantry, the largest concentrations of Braintree men during the war were in the 43rd Infantry (with 27 men for 9 months), the 42nd Infantry (with 57 men for 100 days), the 3rd Heavy Artillery (with 16 men for 3 years) and the 3rd Cavalry, Co "K" (with 45 men).

Many of these men distinguished themselves for their Yankee ingenuity in making life bearable, if not comfortable, in their long marches through swamps, in foraging for food and clean water, or for detouring around enemy traps and road blocks. Two described their escape from prison by removing boards in an outhouse of the stockade and hiding in a nearby tree all day while enemy soldiers and civilians were constantly passing below them. They had no shoes, but while in prison had made soles of knapsack leather to sew on their socks with the ravelings from an old shelter tent. After dark they started their 250 mile journey back to their Union lines, foraging for food as they went.

Many Braintree men were recognized leaders in their groups, and several received special commendation from their officers for their ability to get through enemy lines with messages and even provisions for trapped Union troops. There were a few deserters (7 out of 180 men who enlisted for 3 years) but two later rejoined their regiments. The southern swamps, the bad water and scarcity of food caused more deaths of dysentery than southern bullets. The wounded were often left on the battlefield and died for lack of care. Victims of horrible prison conditions added to the casualties. The hideous life at Andersonville, Florence and Salisbury Prisons claimed a share of Braintree men. Of the men listed on the Braintree Memorial, 19 were killed in action, 24 died of disease or prison conditions.

On the home front the town girded itself to support the war effort. The cotton textile industry was hard hit by their raw material supply being cut off, but the shoe business prospered with war demands. This was the town's principle industry at the time. Warren Mansfield, in South Braintree was busy filling war orders for gun carriages, pontoons and other items. Many families, whose normal bread winner had gone off to war, felt the pinch severely and received public help. The selectmen in 1863 were alarmed that the size of the town debt which had reached the sum of \$20,742, an increase of \$8,800 due to liberal action to help the families of "those who have voluntarily left its borders at their country's call, to suppress the present unholy rebellion."

BRAINTREE IN THE CIVIL WAR (Continued)

The women of Braintree had all sorts of projects to raise funds and make or buy necessities and conveniences for the men at the front. They organized a group for this purpose which met regularly at the Lyceum Hall to sew and knit, quilt bedding and prepare bandages and lint. The moving spirit of this enterprise was Mrs. Bumpus whose son was one of the most gallant officers to serve from Braintree and to die in the Union Cause. Levees were given at Town Hall to aid the soldiers. One summer when money was hard to get a townsman jokingly offered to the ladies a load of hay lying in his meadow if they would come and get it, little thinking they would accept. Men being scarce for such chores, several young women promptly went into the fields, loaded the hay, weighed it on the town scales, which were located next to the Lyceum, and delivered it to the purchaser. The proceeds were used to provide stockings, clothings, shirts, etc. for the men at the front.

The townspeople watched the progress of the war with avid interest. Whenever a soldier returned on furlough or at the termination of enlistment, there were meetings at the Town House to hear the war stories, and diaries of the period were punctuated with references to lectures on the war by visiting officers or dignitaries. One entry, referring to the arrival of news of the fall of Fort Sumpter to General Gilmore in late 1863, says that all our bells rang. News of a Braintree death, which occurred all too frequently, brought the war very close to home, and when a Braintree soldier's body was returned there was much ceremony to honor the dead hero.

The town observed the days of fast and days of thanksgiving proclaimed by President Lincoln and great was the rejoicing when news of the fall of Richmond was followed a week later by the electrifying report of General Lee's surrender at Appomattox. Mrs. Norton Hollis says "bells have rung most all day. Some ring now, at eleven o'clock PM." But less than a week later she writes, "The sad news came this morning that our President was assassinated. Our party was very sad and we almost gave up work."

In February, 1864, the selectmen, F. A. Hobart, Asa French and Edward Avery, reported "the town has furnished its full quota of men for the army, under all calls of the President to this date, and this, too, without the payment of a single dollar either from the Treasury or from individual subscription in addition to the national and state bounties. More than this, the town has actually received, or there is due, in the way of bounties for obtaining recruits, an amount considerably in excess of our recruiting expenses. Our citizens have good reason to be proud of so gratifying a result." Posterity concurs.

BRAINTREE IN THE CIVIL WAR (Continued)

An apparently contradictory record indicates, however, that during the course of the war the town in its corporate capacity paid for the prosecution of the war a sum of \$27,931 in addition to funds refunded by the state or obtained by private contribution. This refers to several votes of the town to provide bountys to volunteers.

Early in 1865 the citizens met to plan for raising funds for a suitable memorial to the soldiers from Braintree who died or were killed in the Union service. A fair was held and a musical, which netted \$1,400. Additional money was given by individuals and the town voted the remaining funds required to erect the fine granite statue surmounting a substantial square stone pedestal. On its base are the names of the men of Braintree who gave their lives to preserve the Union.



Chairman
Sheriff CHARLES W. HEDGES

Vice Chairman
Judge CARL E. WAHLSTROM

Secretary
~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~
Lenahan O'Connell

Treasurer
ALICE F. HARWOOD

Executive Secretary
MARY V. DARCY



Massachusetts Civil War Centennial Commission

ROOM 27 — STATE HOUSE
BOSTON 33, MASSACHUSETTS

Capitol 7-4600 — EXTENSION 35

March 13, 1963

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Senator NEWLAND H. HOLMES
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Speaker of the House
Representative GERALD P. LOMBARD
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ANNA L. SILVA
JESSIE G. WELLS



Mr. Thomas C. Higgins, Chairman
Centennial Committee, Weymouth Historical Society
37 Charles Diersch Street
East Weymouth, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Higgins:

The Massachusetts Civil War Centennial Commission wishes to commend you and the members of your Centennial Committee for your efforts to promote interest in the Civil War and its effect upon our nation, as well as upon our local communities and society as a whole.

Abraham Lincoln once said that "we can't know where we're going unless we know where we've been." In this era of a fast-changing social structure and continuing international crises, it is well for all our citizens to learn more about the past history of this nation so that we may make an intelligent judgment on the problems of the present. Without that knowledge and understanding, it is doubtful whether this government, as we have known it, can long endure.

May we extend our best wishes to you and the Weymouth Historical Society for the success of the centennial exhibit on March 30th and 31st.

Most sincerely yours,

Charles W. Hedges
Charles W. Hedges
Chairman

/mvd



HINGHAM IN THE CIVIL WAR

Fort Sumter was fired upon on Friday, April 12, 1861, and surrendered the next day. On the following Wednesday afternoon the first detachment of Hingham men left for three months' active duty in response to President Lincoln's call. These were the local military organization, the Lincoln Light Infantry, organized in 1854 and named in honor of General Benjamin Lincoln of Revolutionary fame; plus 22 volunteers.

A description of the departure of these men is to be found in Hingham in the Civil War: "The Stars and Stripes waved from the public buildings, and uniformed soldiers were hastening to and fro in busy preparation for their departure. At one o'clock, P. M., of Wednesday, the members and volunteers assembled at the armory at Hingham Centre, where they were met by Rev. Calvin Lincoln, who commended them to the care and protection of the God of their fathers in earnest and impressive prayer. At four o'clock the line was formed; and the company, forty-two in number, took up their line of march, passing down Main Street, attended by hundreds of men, women, and children, amid the ringing of the church-bells, the waving of handkerchiefs from the dwellings as they passed, and cheered by the frequent and hearty huzzas of the gathering multitude. As they halted near the depot, each man was presented with a wreath of flowers by the scholars of the North School. They were also addressed by Col. Charles W. Seymour, Rev. E. Porter Dyer, James S. Lewis, Esq., and Mr. Joel B. Seymour, Rev. Joseph Richardson offered in their behalf a fervent and affecting prayer; when, stepping on board the waiting train, prepared to meet whatever the future might decree, they left the town, followed by the tears, cheers, and benedictions of the assembled multitude."

HINGHAM IN THE CIVIL WAR (Continued)

The Lincoln Light Infantry was sent to Virginia, and in May was increased by 24 men from Hingham and 13 from neighboring towns. It returned to Hingham July 24th, and subsequently all but 19 of the men re-enlisted. The company itself was disbanded September 29, 1863.

Although Hingham in 1860 had a population of only 4351, the number of soldiers and sailors who served in the Union forces from Hingham was 473, plus 28 Hingham natives who enlisted from other states. Of these, 31 men and seven officers were killed or mortally wounded in battle; 27 men and three officers died in the service; one was murdered; six died in prison; and nine men and one officer died later from diseases due to the war.

The Hingham men serving in Massachusetts outfits were scattered through 46 different infantry regiments, seven artillery and four cavalry units. Nearly forty percent, however, served in one or other of four groups, the Thirty-Second Infantry, the Thirty-Ninth Infantry, the Third Regiment of Heavy Artillery and the Fourth Regiment of Cavalry.

The Thirty-Second Massachusetts Infantry included 84 men who were either natives or residents of Hingham. Company A was recruited in Hingham during the month of November, 1861, by Captain Luther Stephenson, Jr., who had commanded the Lincoln Light Infantry earlier in the year. This company contained 24 Hingham men. 54 men from Hingham were enrolled in Companies E and F, and the rest in other companies. The Thirty-Second took part in 23 battles, including Chancellorsville, at which Stephenson, now a lieutenant colonel, was in command; and Gettysburg, where he received a wound that eventually brought about his discharge for disability. Of the Hingham men in this regiment 16 gave their lives.

The Hingham members of the Thirty-Ninth Infantry, all but one of whom was in Company G, suffered more severely, although the regiment was organized a year later than the Thirty-Second and did not take part in any engagement until May, 1864. Of the 38 Hingham men, 14 gave their lives. This regiment took part in eleven battles, was present at the surrender of Lee, and participated in the Grand Review at Washington, D. C., on May 23, 1865.

The Third Regiment of Heavy Artillery contained 20 enlistments from Hingham, 17 of them members of Company A. This outfit was formed in the autumn of 1864, and most of the men in it had seen previous service. There was no loss of life among the Hingham men.

The Fourth Regiment of Cavalry included 25 men from Hingham, four of whom lost their lives.

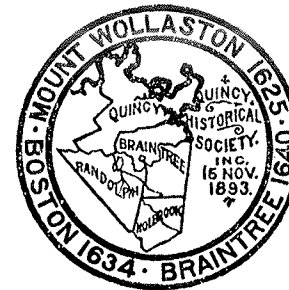
HINGHAM IN THE CIVIL WAR (Continued)

There were 35 Hingham men enrolled in the Navy during the war. Altogether, men from Hingham participated in 29 naval engagements, and something over 170 battles and skirmishes, including Bull Run, Malvern Hill, Second Bull Run, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Rappahannock Station, Wilderness, Laurel Hill, and Weldon Station.

A private of the Thirty-Ninth Infantry, Henry Foster Hersey, was one of several Hingham men who were taken prisoner at the battle of Weldon Station on August 19, 1864. He was confined in Libby Prison, and later at Belle Isle and the Stockade Prison at Salisbury, N.C. His experiences are reported in Hingham in the Civil War: "Mr. Hersey witnessed much suffering among his prison companions...He describes some of the punishments inflicted upon our soldiers as barbarous in the extreme. At Libby Prison men were 'bucked and gagged' for the most trifling offenses. At Belle Isle a cruel punishment was practised upon those who presumed to stand up for their rights, or complained when robbed of their watches, rings, and mementos. The victim was first placed upon a horse made of joist; both legs and arms were fastened in a semi-horizontal position, and there kept for perhaps an hour. When released, after the most excruciating sufferings, the victim would frequently fall to the earth like a dead person. Prisoners were sometimes shot down by the guards. Mr. Hersey witnessed a number of such instances; among them a fellow townsman, the late Mr. Henry C. French, who was killed in this way without the slightest provocation. At Salisbury the prisoners were turned into an enclosed pen of several acres, very much the same as cattle are turned into a field, without shelter from rain or sun. Strict guard was kept along the boundaries of the stockade, and the whole enclosure was commanded by batteries. Those who were well and strong found partial shelter for themselves by digging holes in the ground. Rations consisting of half a loaf of bread, 'black-bean soup,' made from a few Mississippi peas, and yellowish, rancid pork, were served once a day."

Throughout the war the ladies of the town of Hingham met frequently to sew for the men in service, and thousands of dollars were raised as bounty for volunteers and to aid their families.

Of special interest to Hingham is the fact that the Governor of the Commonwealth during the Civil War, John Albion Andrew, was a part-time resident of the town, who married a Hingham girl, most of whose children were born in Hingham, and who after his death in 1867 was buried in the Hingham Cemetery, near the monument commemorating the soldiers and sailors who had died in the war.



QUINCY IN THE CIVIL WAR

The United States entered the Civil War a country of homespun communities, and emerged a mature nation ready for the development that has carried us to world leadership. Quincy shared in this maturing experience along with other towns of the North and of the South. The impact came in many ways to this little Massachusetts town of 6,750 souls, but mainly through the young men who left its granite quarries, its shipyards and shoe shops, the sea and the farm, to return as men with a new and broader outlook on life.

Quincy's active participation in the conflict started at the first call to arms by Governor Andrew on April 15, 1861. On the following day, the local military organization, the Hancock Light Guards founded in 1855, was mustered into Federal service as Company H of the famous Fourth Regiment Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry. The first regiment to leave the State, the troops embarked for Fort Monroe, Virginia, on April 17th with Abner B. Packard of Quincy as Colonel, and Franklin Curtis as Captain of Company H. Some men had substitutes take their place in the ranks, but in all, eighty-three Quincy men left for the South in this first contingent. After a month at Fort Monroe, the Fourth moved to Camp Butler at Newport News. On June 10th, Company H and four other companies took part in the battle of Big Bethel, Virginia. In this engagement, Francis L. Souther of Quincy, son of the prominent Town River shipbuilder John L. Souther, was mortally wounded and died the same day, becoming the first Massachusetts soldier of the War, and one of the first Union men, to lose his life in combat. He was a twenty-four year old ship carpenter and left a wife and two small daughters. Thus, the somber side of the War was brought home to Quincy at a very early date.

QUINCY IN THE CIVIL WAR (Continued)

The Fourth Regiment returned to Boston in July, 1861, and was mustered out, having completed its three months tour of duty. Many of the men immediately reenlisted for active service, but from here on to the end of the War, Quincy men served as individuals and not as a Quincy unit. Before the end of 1861, 221 more had enlisted; in 1862 the count was 260 enlistments; in 1863 it was 47; in 1864, 236. Thus, a total of 847 men from Quincy went into the Union forces, or roughly one-eighth of the total population of the Town. Furthermore, the vast majority of the enlistments were for three years. Of this number, 105 gave their lives, 39 were killed in battle, 18 died in Southern prisons, 3 were drowned, and 45 died of disease.

A large number of Quincy men distinguished themselves as officers, among them three colonels: Abner B. Packard, already mentioned; Charles Francis Adams, Jr. who served for four years and distinguished himself at Gettysburg; Paul J. Revere who lost his life at Gettysburg. For his heroism he was brevetted a brigadier general as of the day of the battle. The local G.A.R. Post was named in his honor.

Quincy is also proud to have given to the nation during the Civil War, Charles Francis Adams, "The Great Ambassador," whose services at the Court of St. James during these crucial years was a major factor in the successful outcome of the conflict.

For those who stayed at home, the War meant much more than just the letters from those in the field. The frequent departures for service and men returning on leave made the war seem very close. These events were occasions for many gatherings in celebration and also to raise funds for relief and to encourage enlistment. When the Hancock Light Guards returned home from Virginia, The Patriot reported that a big parade was held after which a collation was served in the Town Hall. "There were eight toasts to the heroes." It was also noted that the Sixth Maine Regiment passed through on the Fall River Railroad with 23 passenger cars, 12 baggage cars and two engines, the longest train ever to pass through the Town. The halls of the Town were kept busy with social affairs and other meetings of a business nature, but all having to do with the War efforts.

Even when the men in service were away, there was military activity in Quincy. There was a home guard and training unit formed with John Quincy Adams, son of the Ambassador, in command. Boston companies used Mount Wollaston for artillery training with targets on Hangman's Island. It was nevertheless, and rightly, the uniforms of the men home on leave that added the glamour to the Town Hall gatherings.

QUINCY IN THE CIVIL WAR (Continued)

The strong patriotic furor showed itself locally in the fervor for enlistments. While there were many who paid substitutes to take their place in service, a practice that was accepted at that time, there was still strong pressure brought to bear on every young man to enlist. Patriotic rallies were held for the purpose. The Town added encouragement by voting \$15 monthly to each married man in service, and \$10 to each single man. The men drilling at home prior to enlistment received \$1.25 a day. Later the Town voted a bounty of \$75 for each volunteer, and presently raised the amount to \$125, when it was found that neighboring Braintree was offering \$100.

Many needed no encouragement. An example was George H. Jones of Quincy Point, later donor of the Civil War collection that bears his name. He tried to enlist at the age of fifteen and was turned down; so he went to Rhode Island. The conversation at the recruiting office is reported roughly as follows: "Are you sixteen?"; "No, Sir."; "But you will be some day?"; "Yes, sir."; "Sign here.". He served throughout the War.

Of course, there were complaints of high prices. Machinists, carpenters and blacksmiths were making \$1.75 to \$2.00 a day. The Patriot stated that paper had doubled in price, and urged their subscribers to pay their bills promptly.

The ladies were very active from the start. Before the end of April, 1861, a meeting was held in Town Hall to devise means for helping the men in service. The Ladies Soldiers Aid Association and the Ladies Soldiers' Relief Association not only helped in recruiting but sent quantities of food, clothing and supplies to men in the field, to hospitals and to prisons. One grateful soldier closed his thank-you letter as follows: "Please do not pack woollens with jellies as the expressmen are very careless. Remember me to all in Quincy, as the home addresses on the packages make me homesick."

The impact of the Civil War on Quincy did not end with Appomattox. The returning men became influential citizens who served the Community for many years. The first mayor of the City of Quincy, Charles H. Porter, 1889-1891, was a Civil War veteran. Others who had served moved here after the War, adding another 100 or so to the list of Quincy men who took part in the conflict.

Another important post-war influence was the Grand Army of the Republic. Colonel Paul J. Revere Post 88, Department of Massachusetts, was organized in Quincy on June 8, 1869, and disbanded on the passing of its last member, Commander James H. Bishop in 1938. At its height

QUINCY IN THE CIVIL WAR (Continued)

in the 1890s the Post numbered around 150 members. It was a strong, active organization that did much for the relief of needy members and their families, played a leading role in the social life of the Town and City for many years, and stood for patriotism and high ideals for the youth of the Community for sixty-nine years. Its outstanding collection of Civil War momentos, considered one of the finest in the Commonwealth and numbering over 300 items, serves as a fitting but small memorial to G.A.R. Post 88. The collection is in the custody of the Quincy Historical Society.

Quincy is proud of its sons who served in the Civil War, and proud to honor them by participating in the Civil War Centennial alongside the other communities of the North and the South who shared in the great and terrible experience that helped make us a great nation.

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

In addition to the many people of the Braintree, Hingham, and Quincy Historical Societies and the Exhibitors, even at the risk of omitting someone, the Centennial Commemoration Committee would like to express its gratitude to the following:

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Mrs. Eleanor Cooney of Tufts Library, Weymouth
Rev. Donald Robinson of Hingham Historical Society
Mr. Joe Jordan of Kentucky Civil War Centennial Commission
Mrs. Thomas C. Higgins
Press, Radio and Television personnel
Girl Scouts - Mayflower Council, District 2
Special Thanks to Mr. Ronald Disbrow of Lincoln Press,
East Weymouth

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