

ACWRTQ **THE BUGLE 77.** ACWRTQ

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AMERICAN WAR BETWEEN THE STATES

History Alive at Rocklea



The Saturday 'arvo' ACWRTQ group at History Alive 2019. Happy for it to be the end of the first day of the event 2019.  
(L to R) Aidan Smith, Bruce Dodd, Brenda Ford, Danny Allsopp, Tom Maynard, John Lawson, John Duncan-Jack.

**Editor:** Large parts of this journal were prepared in *Rarotonga* in the *Cook Islands*. Even here, I have discovered a veteran of the War Between the States, *Charles Wells Banks*. Too many are buried in unmarked, or suitably dedicated, graves and scattered around the world. A story on this most unusual of veterans is included in this issue. The annual Australian event "*History Alive*," has had remarkable public attendances in previous years. ACWRTQ has dutifully attended the venue at the *Fort Lytton* historic site. I was saddened to hear that the nearby oil company and refinery, that helped so much in the past by cooperating with event organizers and providing access to the historic site, withdrew support. With no parking available for general public, it became impossible to stage, what is the most significant and hugely attended event in Queensland at the Fort. This meant organizers had to desperately search for another venue and opted for the area at *Rocklea*, famed for

sports fields, vegetable and craft markets and plentiful parking. On the surface it may have seemed like a good venue, being close to a railway station. Alas it was not to be, attendance, by all reports from *The Bugle* scouts, reveal a disappointing event, dogged by bad weather. It didn't prevent ACWRTQ from dutifully mounting its display and providing the usual public relations service, helping inform the general public about a war that not only shaped America but had far reaching effects on life here in Australia and New Zealand and why we continue to tell the story from our Australian perspective. For our American readers you will be interested to know it was a multicultural war. Your much lauded veterans came from nearly every country in the world, in this way it was our war too. Those monuments, wantonly destroyed by uncaring, ill-informed, poorly educated local government departments in various Southern States, were also our monuments and we are appalled by their callous actions in removing monuments to our fore-fathers, as indeed we are to the desecration of any war graves or monuments anywhere. There can be no 'politically correct' war memorials. '



The winners of our hand-made Owen Gun raffle with John Duncan on the left. As usual, we went home with wet tents and costumes plus any paper-based signage ruined. But it was still fun-Jack Ford.

**B**ack to the *History Alive* event, I participated in many such events in *Brisbane* and in fact is how this editor of *The Bugle* first encountered the illustrious ACWRTQ and to me it was the answer to a prayer. Not only did I find a 'Band of Brothers and Sisters' but a former commanding officer of the *Confederate High Command* in Perth, *John Couzens*. John is a country singer of some note but more than anything else he totally immerses himself in re-enacting and is the man who most inspired me and my interest in all things Confederate back in 1970 in sunny *Perth, Western Australia*. So this ability to reunite former comrades, is without doubt, the real value of *History Alive*. Of course the public get a great kick out of it but for we participants it is an opportunity to leave this modern world behind and slip back in time to our dedicated era and at the same time reach out to the general public and try to enlighten them on the truth of our epoch and a war that so tore America apart.

**S**ome of our members had relatives who fought in the war and *Aidan Smith* has brought his many talents to the group, not the least being ACWRTQ President for some years but his crafting of corn-pipes and toy wooden guns has been a good fund raiser at events. It is essential to raise funds for the extensive work we do in restoring the graves of former veterans in Queensland both North and South. Now *John Duncan*, a former ACWRTQ President, is a carpenter also of some repute but apart from his dead eye for target shooting has taken a leaf out of *Aidan's* book and crafted a wooden version of the famed Australian invention the *Owen Gun*. It was produced in small numbers before the last world war but its hardiness in jungle conditions, where it proved to still operate after being submerged in mud, sand or salt water, quickly made it the machine gun of choice for the Australian army fighting Japanese in the Pacific. *John's* replica is bang on accurate and was raffled at *History*



*Alive* to help raise funds for our group. World War I & II buffs bought up heaps of tickets and above is the successful winner, wearing a World War I uniform. Well done John.

## Report on History Alive 2019

**By Jack Ford**

This year's *History Alive—A Journey Through Time* event was held over the weekend of Saturday and Sunday 15-16 June. This is the 17th year that the A.C.W.R.T.Q. has attended the annual event. For the first time the venue was changed from the Queensland state heritage-listed *Fort Lytton National Park* to the Brisbane City Council heritage-listed Rocklea Showgrounds. This change was caused by the total unavailability of public parking at the national park plus the total absence of any public transport to the site. This caused both a drop in public attendances and an increasing financial burden to the H.A. organisers, caused by having to hire a private bus to get the paying-public to and from the nearest available public transport, at Hemmant Train Station.



Unfortunately for the *American Civil War Round Table*, the change in venue did not lead to an improvement in the event's organisation. It actually was worse than last year's event! The *Rocklea* event was a bit of a shambles, from the A.C.W.R.T.Q.'s point of view. On the first morning (the Saturday), the arrival and parking times and arrangements that the H.A.2019 had emailed to the various member groups of the *Queensland Living Federation*, failed to materialise. The promised parking attendants did not appear and so it became "First-in, Best-served" parking in the *Rocklea School* ground's participants' car park area. Luckily, everyone co-operated and so the parking sorted itself out but the school's 'Hop, Skip & Jump' sandpit got excavated by the participant's 4WDs. The advertised 'witch's hats' that were meant to mark and so protect this school facility were nowhere to be seen so you cannot really blame the HA2019 groups for the damage. The advertised closing times of the school gates also did not happen but at least it meant that participants could still find a parking spot if they arrived after the closure time of 8.30 am, which was an hour and a half before the public could enter the event site that was across the street.

But the biggest stuff-up and the one that directly affected A.C.W.R.T.Q.'s main contribution to H.A. 2019 was the complete and utter non-organisation of the advertised *Public Talks* program. The A.C.W.R.T.Q. agreed to offer two different public talks, with *Danny Allsopp* giving an address on *Technological Advances During the Civil War* and *Jack Ford* presenting *23 Civil War Veterans Buried Across Queensland*. Thus the lack of organisation of the programmed Public Talks affected us, as the ACWRTQ was scheduled to give 2 (morning & afternoon) talks, per day, in a designated The Forum area. The Forum was just an unused, small grassed spot without any identification signage, chairs, power points etc. Thus, no-one could easily find where the scheduled Public Talks were being held and, as a result, the H.A.2019 full day's program of history talks, by different groups immediately collapsed! After the first morning, when the Announcer, in control of the public address system, continued to fail to advertise any of the talks, most groups gave-up on *The Forum* area and held their programmed *Public Talks* within their encampments.



Dan Allsopp dutifully took up position for his Talk, but as it wasn't announced no one knew It was on-Editor.

After the public left the site, late on Saturday afternoon, many groups (*including the A.C.W.R.T.Q.*) complained to the H.A.2019 organisers and the Announcer about the many problems with the programmed *Public Talks*. We were all assured by them that it would be remedied for Sunday's program. But nothing was done and it actually got worse, on the next day! At the appointed start-time, on Sunday afternoon, the A.C.W.R.T.Q. sent its scheduled speaker across to The Forum, and, of course, no-one was there. Waiting around for 10 minutes, our people returned to our display tents site. Then, 10 minutes BEFORE the A.C.W.R.T.Q. talk was set to finish, the Announcer finally advertised the START of the club's Public Talk. 'To Add Insult To Injury', he then made an insulting remark about the small size of the A.C.W.R.Q. and how it did only history (i.e. it did not put a show for the public to watch).

The ACWRTQ could only manage nine to staff our tent display as our type of re-enacting has fallen due to the increasing expense of gun-ownership in Queensland. So, the History Alive events are now dominated by "the sword groups", who have grown more popular due to "Game of Thrones". Their members don't need weapons licences to perform in public so it's reasonably easy for them to attract new, young re-enactors. The A.C.W.R.T.Q. is one of the few groups to giveaway free history information to the public, rather than putting on shows for the paying punters. An A.C.W. Quiz for adults and another for the kids was distributed, as was a sheet detailing modern words that came from the Civil War. Examples of these 'freebies' are published elsewhere in this issue. As well, our member *John Duncan* used his considerable wood-working skills to manufacture a replica WWII Owen Gun for a club fund-raising raffle. It is thus clear, that the A.C.W.R.T.Q. no longer fits the *Queensland Living History Federation's* membership profile anymore. It is only interested in performing groups, who can entertain the paying punters and we are a history discussion club, just like most ACW roundtables. Sadly, it is likely that the recent H.A.2019 will be the last such event that the A.C.W.R.T.Q. attends, after 17 years of its participation in this annual event.

The venue site from the previous 16 years, that is Fort Lytton National Park, always attracted storms for H.A., due to that site's proximity to the mouth of the Brisbane River and Moreton Bay. But the tradition was still up kept this year, when a big thunderstorm hit Rocklea on the Sunday afternoon. It sent the public scurrying home and so closed the event an hour early. You could see how the site quickly emptied as the storm rapidly approached. So, as usual, we went home with wet tents and costumes plus any paper-based signage ruined. But it was still fun!

## CIVIL WAR EXPRESSIONS USED TODAY

Jack Ford.

"Break a Leg." From U.S. President Abraham Lincoln's assassination near War's end. On 14 April 1865, Lincoln was watching the play *"Our American Cousin"* from a private box, in *Ford's Theatre in Washington D.C.* A well-known but pro-Confederate actor, *John Wilkes Booth* entered the box from its balcony door and shot Lincoln. Wilkes then climbed onto the railing of the box and shouted the Latin phrase *"Sic semper tyrannis!"* (meaning "ever thus to tyrants!") before leaping onto the stage but breaking his leg in the process. The public response was to view all actors as untrustworthy and detestable so actors came-up with the derisive greeting *"Break A Leg!"* as a perverse way of wishing other actors Good Luck as they were about to go on-stage to face the public.



*'Line'* became famous during the reporting of *Wirtz's* postwar trial (*he was later hanged*) and it soon became a newspaper expression. (*Continued on page 10.*)

"Deadline." Derives from the notorious prisoner-of-war camp, *Andersonville, Georgia*. This POW Camp held up to 30,000 Union army and navy prisoners in filthy, overcrowded conditions. From February 1864 to April 1865, the men were held inside a sprawling stockade, with guard posts located along its walls. To prevent escape by prisoners undermining the wooden walls, *Commandant Henry Wirtz* created a 'Dead Line', inside the stockade. The line was drawn 5.8m from the walls and marked with railings and if a prisoner *"stepped over the line"* then they were shot by Confederate guards. The 'Dead



# CLASSIC BALLAD- TWO POPULAR VERSIONS

Jack Ford (ACWRTQ)



**T**he Night They Drove Old Dixie

*Down* became a much-loved ballad and is about the terrible *civil war*. Written by *Canadian Robbie Robertson* and *Arkansas's Levon Helm*, members of *Bob Dylan's* rock backing-band, they were simply called "*The Band*." They wrote the popular song while at the *Woodstock Festival*, it details hardships experienced by a Southern civilian rail-worker and a farmer during the last months of the War Between the States. While *Robertson* was the principal song-writer, *Helm* helped him, particularly with *civil war* history. The song references *Union General George Stoneman's* cavalry raids into south-west Virginia in 1864 and 1865 but erroneously places *General Lee* in *Tennessee*, where he never served. Perhaps

*Virgil Caine's* wife mistook *General Longstreet* for *Lee*, as *Longstreet* was sent to *Tennessee* from September to December of 1863.



General Stoneman (standing centre) and cavalry staff



Confederate soldier in rags returns home, finds his family gone, life in ruins, like his home. This is the mood captured in the song. Painting entitled "The Lost Cause" by Henry Mosler 1883. Can you begin to understand the war in its true light?-Editor.

**L**evon Helm was chosen as the song's vocalist due to his authentic Southern accent. *T.N.T.D.O.D.D.* was first recorded in 1969 and released on the group's second L.P. album "*THE BAND*". On 22 September 1969 it was released as a B-side to the single *Up On Cripple Creek*, that then became a hit-song. Thus *T.N.T.D.O.D.D.* became well-known to many fans because of the rising sales of *Up on Cripple Creek* and the *civil war* ballad became a staple of concerts performed by *The Band*. It now sits at No. 245 on *The Rolling Stone* magazine's "500 Greatest Rock Songs of All Time". It's also listed by the *Rock and Roll Hall of Fame's* "500 Songs That Shaped Rock and Roll" plus *TIME* magazine's "*All-Time 100*". Perhaps, the best footage of *The Band's* version of *T.N.T.D.O.D.D.* is seen in the 1976 *Martin Scorsese* film *THE LAST WALTZ* (released 1978), that was a documentary about the group's final farewell concert.

**N**early two years after its initial release a different, slightly amended version of *T.N.T.D.O.D.D.* was recorded and released by *Joan Baez*, a confidante of folk singer *Bob Dylan*. *Joan Baez* had heard the song while listening to *The Band's* second L.P. but had never seen the lyrics so she recorded a version of *T.N.T.D.O.D.D.* based upon her own mis-hearing of the lyrics on her personal copy of the record. It is this *Joan Baez* version that most Australians are more familiar with, released as an A-Side single, being 'Country radio' friendly it got lots of air-play, particularly outside of Australia's capital cities. The *Baez* version removes historical references such as *Stoneman cavalry* raids (see picture previous page) that would have been unfamiliar to Australians. This version turned *Virgil Caine* from a desperate civilian into a defiant rebel soldier, more appealing to young record-buyers. This second version was released in the U.S.A. August 1971 and by 4 December that year the *Baez* version reached No. 5 in the *Australian Billboard* (popular music) charts. After filming of *THE LAST WALTZ*, *Levon Helm* has refused to sing *T.N.T.D.O.D.D.* reputedly because he so disliked what *Baez* had done to the original lyrics. Currently, *Joan Baez* sings the original lyrics to *T.N.T.D.O.D.D.* and not her own 'playing-it-by ear' version. Produced below are the lyrics to the two versions of *T.N.T.D.O.D.D.*, with the word changes made in the *Joan Baez* 1971 version shown in bold and *italics*.



**LEVON HELM (THE BAND's) VERSION as sung in the film *The Last Waltz***

Virgil Caine is the name and I served on the Danville train,  
 'till Stoneman's cavalry came and you tore-up the tracks again!  
 In the winter of '65, we were hungry, just barely alive!  
 By May 10, Richmond had fell;  
 It's a time I remember oh so well!

Chorus:

The Night They Drove Old Dixie Down;  
 When all the Bells were Ringing;  
 The Night They Drove Old Dixie Down;  
 And the People were Singin';  
 They went- Nah, Nah-Nah-Nah-Nah-Nah,  
 Nah, Nah, Nah, Nah, Nah, Nah!

Back with my wife in Tennessee, when one day she called to me,  
 Virgil! Quick come-and-see! Say, there goes a Robert. E. Lee!  
 Now, I don't mind choppin' wood, and I don't care if the money's no good,  
 You take what you need and leave the rest,  
 But they should NEVER have taken the very best!

CHORUS again

Like my father before me, I worked the land,  
 And like my brother before me, who took a rebel stand!  
 He was just 18, Proud and Brave, but a Yankee laid him in his grave!  
 And I swear by the mud below my feet, You can't raise a Caine back up, when he's in defeat!

Repeat CHORUS twice again

**The JOAN BAEZ (A-Side single) VERSION:**

Virgil Caine is **my** name and I **drove** on the Danville train,  
 'till **so much cavalry** came and [~~deleted 'you'~~] tore-up the tracks again!  
 In the winter of '65, we were hungry, just barely alive!  
**I took a train to Richmond, that fell;**  
 It **was** a time I remember oh so well!

Chorus:

The Night They Drove Old Dixie Down;  
**And** all the Bells were Ringing;  
 The Night They Drove Old Dixie Down;  
 And the People were Singin';  
 They went- Nah, Nah-Nah-Nah-Nah-Nah,  
 Nah, Nah, Nah, Nah, Nah, Nah!

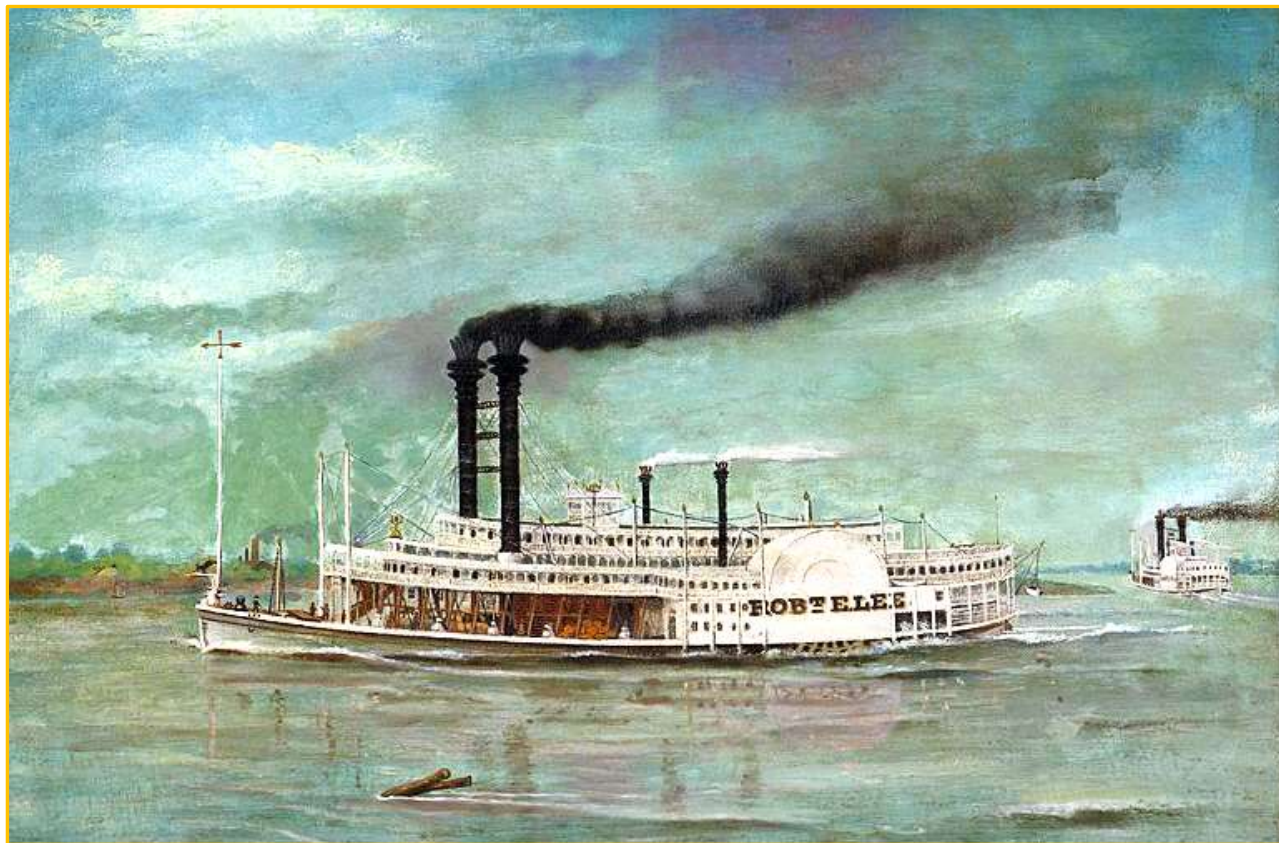
Back with my wife in Tennessee, **and** one day she **said** to me,  
 Virgil! Quick **come-see!** [~~deleted 'Say'~~], there goes a Robert. E. Lee!  
 Now, I don't mind **I'm** choppin' wood, and I don't care if the money's no good,  
 Just take what you need and leave the rest,  
 But they should NEVER have taken the very best!

CHORUS again

Like my father before me, **I'm a working man,**  
 And like my brother before me, **I** took a rebel stand!  
 He was just 18, Proud and Brave, but a Yankee laid him in his grave!  
 And I swear by the **blood** below my feet, you can't raise a Caine back up, when **it's** in defeat!

Repeat CHORUS *once* again

Editor: Excellent story Jack but I always understood the *Robert E. Lee* referred to was a river steam boat. The objection being that they took *General Lee's* name for a riverboat. It may also refer to the fact that the boat was burnt, many at the time believed it was a deliberate arson attack by Yankees who carried a grudge for the South and its lauding of the beloved General. This explains how *Robert E. Lee* got to Tennessee, on the Mississippi. This highlights the benefits of sharing our knowledge in this journal as it is inspirational, a spur that drives us to look a little deeper. I am grateful to Jack because I had often wondered at the meaning of the lyrics of this song.



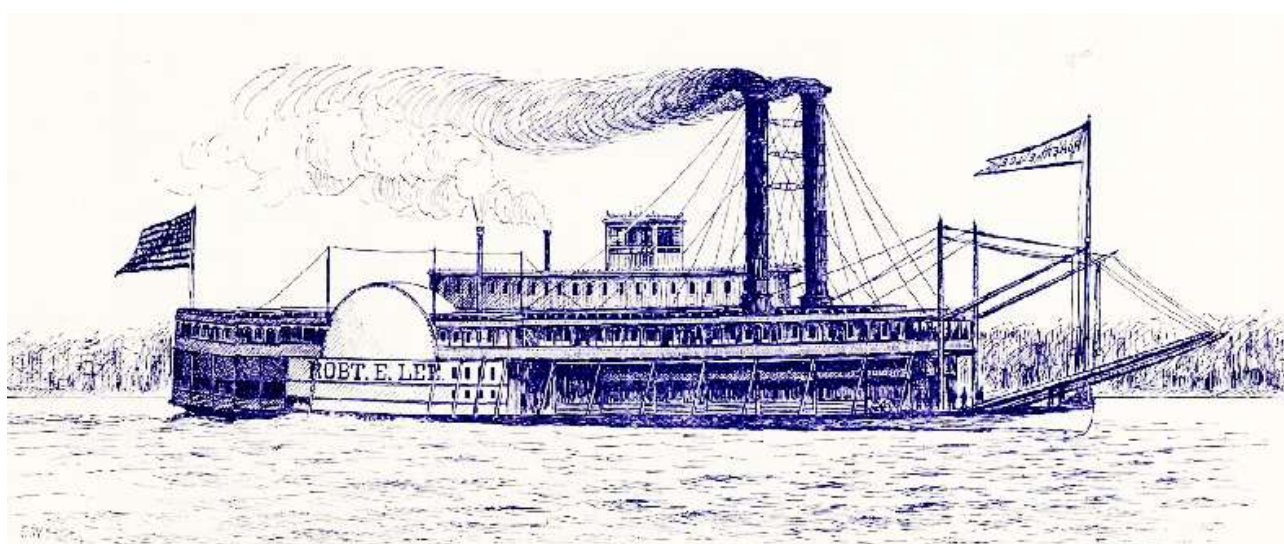
The Robert E. Lee navigates shallows, bends and numerous obstacles of the Mississippi. Painting by August Norieri-Editor.



In 1912, at the time of the *Titanic* sinking, *Lewis F. Muir* and *L. Wolfe Gilbert* composed the still famous song "Waiting for the Robert E. Lee." The song describes a steamboat sailing down the *Mississippi* to *New Orleans*. *Al Jolson*, who probably needs no introduction, even after all these years, followed the minstrel tradition of blacking his face, a practice frowned upon today. He performed the song in the first sound feature film "*The Jazz Singer*" in 1927.

As Jack points out, the beautiful steamboat is confused by some as the Confederate military leader *General Lee* when it's mentioned in *The Bands'* song "*The Night they drove old Dixie Down*." The word 'The' in the song indicates a reference to the steamboat, rather than a general, while unclear on the album version of the song, is clearly audible in the live performance on "*Before the Flood*" and more so in "*The Last Waltz*." The steam boat is featured in numerous songs like "*I wanna go back to Dixie*" by *Tom Lehrer* and "*You Aint Just Whistlin' Dixie*" by *The Bellamy Brothers*.





In 1870 she flew the stars and stripes but the name may have irritated some with sour memories of the war-Editor.

**T**he steamboat was nicknamed "*Monarch of the Mississippi*" for good reason, she reigned supreme on the Mississippi River. Built in 1866 in *New Albany, Indiana*, the hull was designed by *DeWitt Hill*, and cost more than \$200,000 to build. To the ire of many Northerners, it was named for *General Robert E Lee*, General in Chief of the Armies of the Confederate States. The steamboat attained its greatest popularity for racing and beating the then-current speed record holder, *Natchez* in an 1870 steamboat race. This completely won the vessel over to the hearts of dispirited Southerners. An elegant workhorse is what she really was, with a capacity for 5741 bales of cotton and passengers accommodated in relative luxury. Perhaps the best description of the steamboat was printed in a *New Albany* newspaper of the time.

*"The cabin and outfit of this great southern steamer surpasses that of any boat that has yet graced the trade, her accommodations are on the same scale of grandeur and magnificence. She has sixty one staterooms in the main cabin, twenty four extra rooms for passengers, a nursery for servants and children and a cabin adjoining the nursery in which are staterooms for fifty passengers. The main cabin carpet is a single piece 17 ½ feet wide and upwards of 225 feet (69m) in length, a royal Winton velvet purchased in New York and made to order. The furniture, also made to order is of modern style and costly materials, in fact solid rosewood, the chairs, sofas, sociables, etc., most artistically and elaborately carved. The cushions of all seats are heavy crimson satin and the style of the furniture is of new and original design. She has 20 extension dining tables in the main cabin, each to accommodate twelve guests; thus seating 240 for dinner with plenty of room for extra side tables. The machinery of the ROBT. E. LEE consists of feet stroke, the largest high pressure engines on the river. The boat is also furnished with three separate pumping fire engines with an abundance of hose to use in case of fire. She has wrought iron shafts weighing 18,750 pounds, the shafts being each 23 feet (7.0 m) in length, with the journals 18 inches (460 mm) in diameter. Each of the cranks, which are also of wrought iron, weigh 6,000 pounds. These were all made east of the Alleghenies and are the largest ever constructed for a western steamer. The 'Texas' is a structure or section of a steamboat that includes the crew's quarters. It is located on the so called 'Hurricane Deck,' or also referred to as the 'Texas Deck.' (These terms are lost to us these days in Australia and New Zealand but may still be in use on some Mississippi boats-Editor.) A long narrow cabin is near and may be surmounted by the pilothouse. 'Texas' is 140 feet (43m) in length, with 24 passenger rooms in addition to accommodation for officers. She also has two immense baggage rooms, all under guard to obviate the necessity of carrying baggage in the cabins. The cabin with its rich garniture and splendid furniture, dazzling chandeliers, arched and fretted ceilings, etched with gold, stained glass skylights, immense mirrors, the velvet carpet, the pure zinc white of sides, the rosewood state room doors, and the imitation Egyptian marble stills, all combined to make it bear an appearance of Oriental luxury and splendor seldom conceived and never before seen floating the wild waters of this so-called semi-barbarian western world."* (Editor: Yankees cant' resist putting in a barb.)

**I**n the summer of 1870, when *Robert E. Lee* won the much lauded steamboat race against *Natchez*, from *New Orleans* to *St. Louis, Missouri* the boats covered a distance of 1,154 miles (1,857 km), in

3 days, 18 hours and 14 minutes. Some biased reports of the time say *John W. Cannon*, the captain of *Robert E. Lee*, ensured victory by removing excess weight, carrying only a few passengers, and using prearranged barges to increase the speed of refuelling. This is hinting that the captain cheated. *Natchez* finished the race several hours later but had been delayed by fog for six hours, and had numerous passengers to weigh it down. This account was disputed by a steamboat captain and historian, *Frederick Way Jr.*, who quotes *Johnny Farrell*, second engineer of *Natchez*, "This old idea about the two boats preparing for days for the race, tearing down bulkheads, putting up wind sheaves, and a lot of other stuff, is not true. When I went aboard *Robert E. Lee*, all they had done was to move the coal bunkers a little forward. On our boat there was absolutely no preparation whatever. There was no such thing as colors flying, bands playing, and the decks of both boats crowded with ladies and gentlemen-Frederick Way Jr.," Way also said, "At Vicksburg, both boats took fuel flats in tow and emptied them under way. In addition, both vessels advertised, before the race, that they would accept freight and passengers." To this day no commercial boat has beaten the speed record set by *Robert E. Lee* during the race, however a 1929 motor boat "*Bogie*" beat *Robert E. Lee*'s record.

**T**he *Robert E. Lee* usually ran between *New Orleans* and *Natchez* on the *Mississippi* but would sometimes take in *Louisville, Kentucky*. Tragically At 3:30 a.m. 30 September 1882, *Robert E. Lee* caught fire thirty miles north of *New Orleans*, at *Point Pleasant*, killing 21 people. It had left *Vicksburg* and was heading south for *New Orleans* on its first voyage since being repainted. The fire started in a pantry and quickly spread, destroying nearly everything on board, including the ship's books, mail, and 500 bales of cotton. While some crew believed the fire to be accidental, many others and the general public suggested and firmly believed it was deliberately set. "They should never have taken The *Robert E. Lee*." When the fire was discovered, the boat headed to shore at the *Yucatán Plantation, Louisiana*. The captain was *W.S. Cannon* (son of *Capt. John Cannon*, owner of the steamboat), and the pilot, *John Stout*, was credited with saving many lives. Survivors were rescued by the *J. M. White*, and taken back to *Vicksburg*. Three chandeliers, originally on the *Lee* are currently at the *First Presbyterian Church of Port Gibson, Mississippi*. Another chandelier is in the *St. Louis Cathedral, New Orleans*. Additional items, originally from the *Lee*, are at the *Howard Steamboat Museum in Jefferson, Indiana*. While these relics of the once proud "*Monarch of the Mississippi*" are scattered around America, the song, *The Night they drove old Dixie Down* took *The Robert E. Lee* to the world and still gives us pause for thought all these years later, as indeed all relics from the past do. It is their prime purpose now, to make us remember our past and the grand deeds of others. There is everything to be proud of, no matter whether you are North or South, Australian or New Zealanders, we are all awed by the magnificent history of America. Remember please that no one soldier was in charge of his or her destiny, politicians were. Service was mandatory and Americans, new and old were not lacking in service to their country's call. Lest we should forget.

#### SOURCES:

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<https://michaelkleen.com/2017/05/04/civil-war-ballads-the-night-they-drove-old-dixie-down/>  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jREUrbGGrgM>

(Continued from page 4)

"His Name is Mud." From what happened after Lincoln's assassination. After *Wilkes* escaped from *Ford's Theatre*, he sought medical aid for his broken leg, from a doctor, who had nothing to do with the Lincoln Assassination Plot. *Dr Samuel Mudd* thought that the famous actor had simply hurt himself in a horse-riding accident and so he strapped Wilkes' leg, before the assassin fled into the night. With so much paranoia and suspicion arising from Lincoln's assassination, *Mudd* was soon arrested as one of the suspected plotters. He was convicted of treason and spent 4 years in prison, before receiving a presidential pardon in 1869. Hence, the name *Mudd* (or *Mud* for short) became associated with a person who has committed such an act that he/she is publicly disowned and disgraced.

Dr Mudd as he appeared while working in the carpenter's shop in the prison at Fort Jefferson, circa 1866-1867.

(Continued On page 12.)



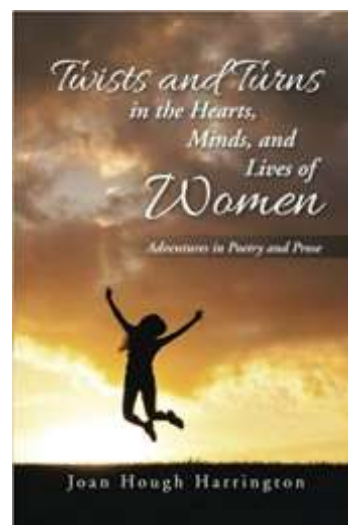




## Letter to the Editor.



Editor:-*Joan Hough* featured in an earlier issue of *The Bugle International* with a story on her theatre group that addresses distorted history. *Joan* writes and directs stage plays that highlight injustices and attempts to correct the historic account of the occupation of Southern States in America by *Abraham Lincoln's* invading Union armies. *Joan*, at 88, was recently honoured by the *United Daughters of the Confederacy* in recognition for her services to history and art, an award that has been given only five times since the UDC was formed. *Joan* is also a poet and we share poems with each other, an admirable woman who fights ignorance with her pen and many stage productions. Congratulations *Joan*, an award well deserved.



“Dear Robert Taylor, As always your publication (issue 76) is extremely interesting. (With reference to ‘General Focus’) Yankee General Banks has long been seen as a repulsive villain by historically knowledgeable Louisianans, of whom I am one. His deliberate burning of Alexandria, La., my husband’s home town and the site of our marriage, is known for precisely what it was, “a fit of pique” because Banks was infuriated at being beaten to a pulp in Mansfield by a bunch of pitchfork throwing farmers and their Texas cowboy buddies. What was merely a bunch of mostly Southern civilians beat Banks and his ‘magnificent Yankee army.’



Sherman’s analysis of Banks’ military acumen is most accurate.

Undoubtedly Banks profited financially during his “visit” to Louisiana, but not nearly as much as did his Yankee predecessor ‘Beast’ Butler and Butler’s “bubba” brother, two master thieves. General Butler’s thievery included the entire furnishings from many of Louisiana’s finest homes, everything from rugs to draperies, as well as anything and everything with even a hint of silver, including spoons, all shipped north on U.S. Naval ships! Butler’s crookedness, long in existence, enabled him to take over the Massachusetts government and be among the ‘Dictators’ of the Republican Party’s Presidential platform of 1860.

Interestingly, while totally in charge of much of Louisiana, Butler freed not a single Negro, but instead put those slaves into labor, harder than anything they had ever previously experienced. They slaved daylight to dark, lengthy heat filled hours on his plantations scattered about some fourteen of Louisiana’s most Southern parishes. He separated men from their families and sent males to his plantations. He termed them, ‘Union plantations’ but the money trail said otherwise.

Before Butler and Banks, before the Marxist-Republicans’ Reconstruction, Louisiana was extraordinarily rich, in the top three richest states in the nation. As everyone knows, not one of the Confederate nation’s states has ever achieved what was lost to Yankee thieves after the War of Northern Aggression. It is a sad truth that Louisiana and Mississippi both continue, over a century and a half since their lands were raped, to wallow in the very depths of impoverishment. Taxes tripled, personal money stolen. Louisianans in most cases even lost the dirt from under their homes to brave Yankee soldiers still here and to the throngs of ‘noble’ Republican carpet baggers arriving on train after train to reconstruct our Southern minds and fill their Yankee pocketbooks. (Not a Marshall; with a Marshall plan among them.) Belying its claim to be a great humanitarian nation that fought a

*war to free slaves, the grand ship of U.S. government, with slave-owner Ulysses Grant at its mighty helm, continued to do business with two slave owning nations in our hemisphere. In fact that business continued long after Grant was out of the Oval Office for a total of 20 years-Joan Hough."*

Thank you Joan for your frank views. Always good to get feedback from our readers and to hear from my good friend. Louisiana by the way was French territory, purchased by the Union. At the time, it had free African Americans due to slavery being banned by France. There were more Free African Americans living there than anywhere in America, North or South. Makes you think doesn't it?-Editor.



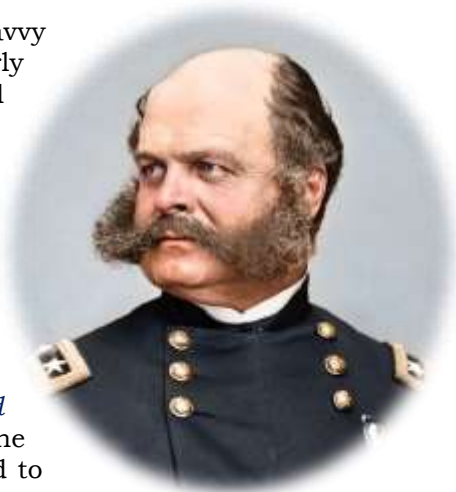
*(Continued from page 10)*



The young General Corse.

"Hold the Fort." A famous telegraph order sent to a besieged Union Army garrison. Before the *Battle of Altoona, Tennessee*, on 5 October 1864, Union General Sherman sent reinforcements, under *Brigadier General John M. Corse*, to its garrison to meet an expected Confederate attack. Sherman wired Corse with orders to "hold out, relief is coming!" Corse's garrison successfully defended Altoona in a bloody battle and the Confederates retreated as a Union relief column approached. Newspapers reported this success but they were so enthused by Corse's stubborn determination to retain Altoona for Sherman, that the telegraph message was misreported as "Hold the Fort!"

"Sideburns" This comes from the sense of fashion of a media-savvy Union Army general. *Ambrose Burnside* was not a particularly adept general but he did become well-known because of his facial hair. He had spectacular side-whiskers growing below his ears and this started a facial fashion craze, as civilian men copied the general's 'look', as reported in newspapers. But Burnside, as a general gained a reputation for his military reversals. Thus, on 30 June 1864, he had planned an assault on Confederate trenches around *Petersburg, Virginia* by blowing-up the trenches with a big land mine. Unfortunately, the mine just blew a deep hole in the ground and the trapped Union assault troops were then slaughtered in what became known as *'The Battle of the Crater,'* as seen in the 2003 film *"Cold Mountain."* So, Burnside's military 'prowess' ensured that the name of the men's facial fashion that he inspired, was reversed to become known as a *'Sideburn'.*



Gen. Burnside Bedecked with bushy whiskers.

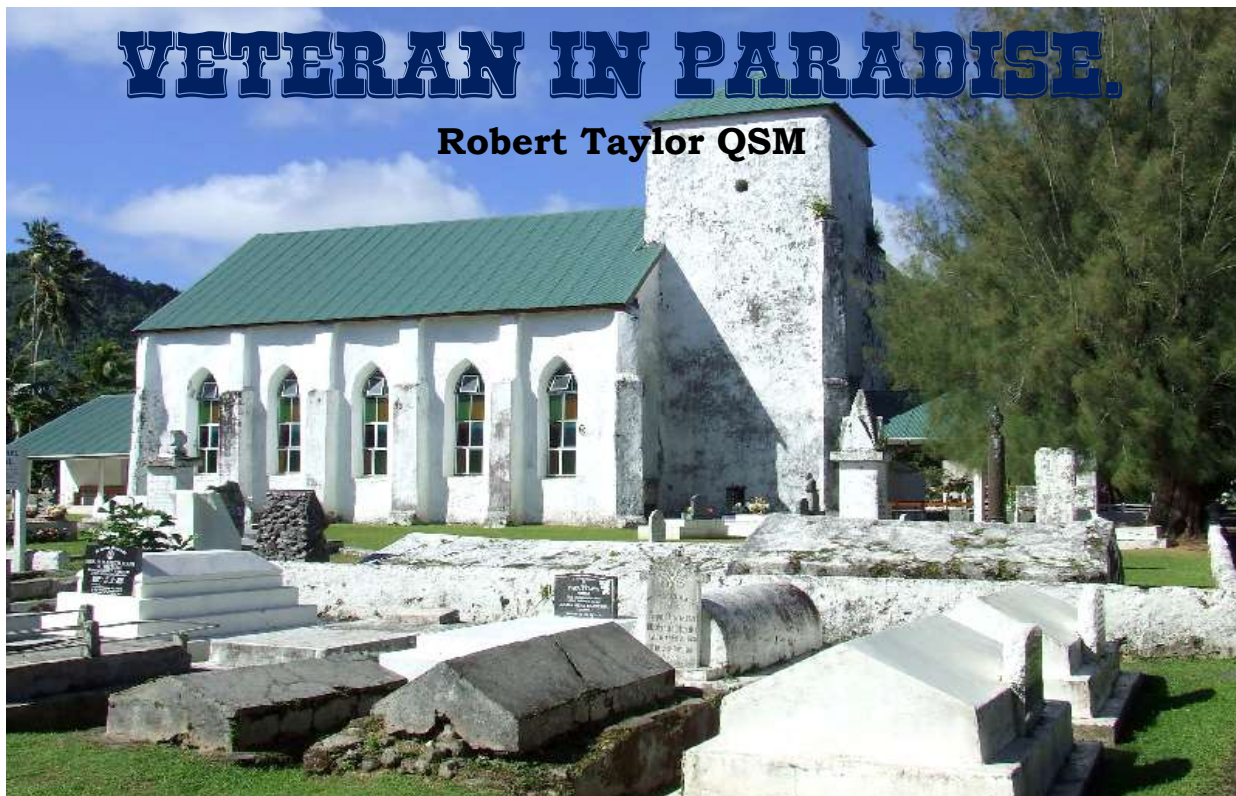


Torpedo. The first term applied to the explosive device now known as a naval mine. The Confederacy used such devices to aid defense of their ports and rivers and the government department established to manufacture these weapons was named the *"Torpedo Bureau'.* Usually black gunpowder was held in a barrel or cylinder that was chained to a weight holding it in place. The fuse inside the floating device was then connected to an electrical wire that ran to the shoreline, from where a spotter could send a charge across to the fuse, once an enemy vessel approached. Confederates called these devices *'torpedoes'* and began attaching such devices to long, wooden spars on the front of warships. On 17 February 1864, the Confederate Navy's submersible ship *Hunley* used such a spar torpedo to sink the sloop *U.S.S. Housatonic* off *Charleston, South Carolina.* This was the first sinking of an enemy vessel by a submarine. Hence the term *'torpedo'* became associated with this new form of naval attack, which did not involve the traditional exchange of cannon fire.



# VETERAN IN PARADISE.

Robert Taylor QSM



The beautiful CICC church and cemetery of coral and locally made lime. Banks is buried near the rear of the church. I attended Sunday service here in 1989. Being Rarotongan, classes Banks a New Zealand veteran. My photo July 2019-Editor.



ne of many surprises here on *Rarotonga* is the presence of an American *civil war* veteran who became marooned on the outlying island of *Atiu*, too afraid to leave for fear of being arrested by *Wells Fargo*. In a glossy magazine, produced in

the *Cook Islands* entitled "*Escape*" (Issue 29) is a review of a new book released on the island by A. A. (Tony Tongaiti) Monteith, entitled "*Prisoner in Paradise*." It's an amazing story of intrigue involving English born *Charles Wells Banks*, who was 15 when he arrived in the United States. He fought for the Union and was wounded in the leg at the *Battle of Pleasant Hill* during the so called *civil war*. *Banks* claims to have fired his musket many times but in the fog of war never confirmed whether he hit anyone. He also says, "*I fixed bayonet many times but never got to stick anyone with it.*" Unfortunately the author has taken what factual details he has from a few diaries kept by *Banks* and married them to a novelist style first person account, as if *Banks* was speaking to us from his diary. Where fact gives way to fiction is therefore difficult to ascertain. The book has two pictures of *Banks*, the above is restored by the Editor and was taken before he left *San Francisco* and one in old age, also restored by the Editor, shown later in this article. Otherwise the book is lavishly illustrated with photographs of scenic *Rarotonga* and other historic tribal and Chieftain figures of the period. Because this veteran featured in some disputes, several years ago in Brisbane, I was inspired to authenticate the data available and delve a little deeper. Being a Rarotongan resident classes *Banks* a New Zealand civil war veteran and he'll be added to my list as such. Cook Islanders enjoy New Zealand citizenship.



**C**harles Wells Banks was born near *Birmingham, England* 3 June 1839, as a boy of 14 he ran away to sea, possibly as a deck hand. I remembered that this was the same veteran former ACWRTQ member *James Gray* had ordered a bronze marker for from the US to be placed on *Banks'* grave.

**B**anks was in *New Orleans* during the eventual emancipation of slavery, in the aftermath of the war. *Louisiana* was already a *Free State* before the American Purchase, long before the war it had the largest number of free African Americans of any other State, North or South, it even had its own African American military companies before and during the war. *Banks* gained American citizenship, 14 May 1867 in *New Orleans*, before moving to *San Francisco* and eventually gaining employment in the finance department of *Wells Fargo and Company*. Life looked good, he married, became quite well off, attaining a position of status in society he also had a strong interest in the sciences.

**H**e owned property and numerous investments, including a house of ill repute. *Banks* wasn't one to turn down any opportunity when it came to money and enjoyed dallying with women, to such an extent he earned the reputation of being a philanderer; as is usually the case, it would lead to his demise. He embezzled a large sum of money and then decided to abscond from the United States to the *Cook Islands* in the *South Pacific* where he hoped to remain in obscurity. A person could hide easily in those days by simply adopting another name.

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### Charles Wells Banks' Extraordinary Journey through Life



by Alex Gundel

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for *Banks* to leave the lovely *Cook Islands*, in this way he became a "*Prisoner in Paradise*" where he lived out his days in relative comfort.

**B**anks ended up marrying an *Atiuan* woman called *Ngakapu*, whose descendent is married to the writer of the book. *Banks* died on *Rarotonga* and is buried at the historic *CICC Cemetery*. The writer's son, *Wayne Monteith*, who published the book, said his father learned the story about *Banks* through the late *Ina Scott* but there are many books published on *Banks*. *Wayne Monteith* also said his father spent much time going through *Banks'* diaries that are available at the *Cook Islands Library and Museum*. "*While there are lots of stories about Banks, this story has the history of the Cook Islands and a lot of the happenings of the 1800s. It also talks about famous events like a tsunami, about various visits of warships from New Zealand and Australia. Tony had certain facts but had to fill the gaps with some fiction to make up the story-Wayne Monteith.*" "*Prisoner in Paradise*"

**W**hile in *San Francisco*, *Banks* became obsessed by the ravishing charms of *Polynesian Princess Mokoroa*, who was in *San Francisco* seeking a cure for consumption. *Charles Banks* adopted a false identity and took the name *John Scard* before travelling to the small remote island of *Atiu*. Sadly, hopes for island romance with the princess were dashed when her father, a Chief, forbade the wedding because she would be marrying below her status to a commoner. The princess died, no doubt from consumption but local legend has it that *Princess Mokoroa* died from a broken heart.

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This book's cover image shows *Banks* leaning on the front porch post. He favoured his right leg because of the wound in his left leg, received at Pleasant Hill-Editor.

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**M**okoroa's mother was also a high chief on the main island of *Rarotonga*, out of respect for her daughter she saw to it that *Wells Fargo and Company* detectives couldn't extradite *Banks* to America. In retaliation, they placed arrest warrants in all surrounding countries making it impossible



is a heavy volume, soft cover and what I was able to read is quite riveting, it is available at the *Bounty Bookshop* on *Rarotonga* but I am sure you will find places on the web where you can purchase a copy.

**I**t's always disappointing for us to discover that a story has been embellished but I think you will find enough factual material derived from those diaries to make it a good read. I searched the *CICC* cemetery but most of the headstones are badly weathered and many of the older graves have dedications that are impossible to read. I should have persevered, as I have now discovered that when the late *Terry Foenender* researched this veteran, he discovered a photograph of the headstone I couldn't find. Seems I am doomed to be baffled by headstones that hide from view as *John Duncan* will attest. I also discovered, from another source, that *Banks* is buried at the back of the church near the famed *Ettie Rout (1877-1936)*, a controversial pioneer of safe sex in France for New Zealand

troops during World War I, *Ettie Rout* also devoted her efforts to educating New Zealand soldiers in Egypt during WW1 about the dangers of sexually transmitted diseases.



I discovered a photograph of Banks' pistol complete with engraving, it has recently come up for sale. It is a *Marling spur trigger* revolver engraved on the back strap "C.W. Banks."

spur trigger engraved *W.F. & Co. S.F.* on left side, *SW Banks* on grip strap. An 1876 Philadelphia Exhibition guide book with *CW Banks* on 1st page in pencil, *No. 11 Oakland Commandery ribbon, 1897-1898*, *Charles W. Banks'* diary on film and numerous books with the history of Banks, including his civil war records, correspondence with Wells Fargo and more. There is no way to completely authenticate the revolver and it is being sold as is.

**I**t was after his discharge that *Banks* accepted a civilian post as *Quartermaster Clerk in New Orleans*, was later *Chief Clerk of the Freedman's Bureau in Washington D.C.* and still later a *U.S. Customs Inspector in New York*; before arriving in *San Francisco* in 1871. In addition, he was a *Republican*, a respected *Knight Templar*, a member of the very exclusive *Union and Bohemian Clubs* and a member of the *Oakland Commandery No. 11 of California*. Following his hobby of science, *Banks* had become a member of the *Microscopic Society of San Francisco* and owned one of the first oil-immersed instruments on the Pacific.



**A**fter the war and while living in *San Francisco*,

*California*, *Banks* worked for *Wells, Fargo and Company* as head Cashier, handling large sums of money. As it turned out however, 1886 would be a bad year for *Wells, Fargo and Company*. On 1 November 1886 head of the *Wells Fargo Chief of Detectives James B. Hume*, (seen left) discovered that the trusted cashier of the company's express department, *Charles Wells Banks*, had vanished after leaving for a fishing trip to the *Russian River*, just north of *San Francisco*. He realized there was no foul play involved, because at about the same time he discovered that his associate had embezzled over \$20,000 and the deeper he dug into it, the more it looked like the amount missing would exceed \$100,000.



**O**n 8 November *Hume* put up a reward of \$1,000 for the arrest and delivery of *Banks* to any jail in the U.S., with an additional 25% reward of any monies recovered. *Banks* at the time was a forty-seven year old distinguished Englishman who had been naturalized an American citizen, hardly the criminal type. He was 5 feet 9 inches tall, weighed 145 pounds, had thick, curly slightly greying black hair and was both well-known and highly thought of. He was said to have a limp from the leg wound received during the war, suffered from varicose veins and wore false teeth. It is claimed his disposition was one of quick movements and nervousness. He was inquisitive, but controversial by nature, was never inclined to question prices quoted by tradesmen, was always open handed, only purchased good quality products, had a streak of kindness about him, was vain in appearance, enjoyed notoriety and was familiar with all brands of liquors, wines and French dishes. He smoked tobacco but didn't chew, sniffed snuff occasionally and had a slight English accent. He was said to always dress neatly with his collar turned down and carried himself well. He was very well educated, a first class accountant, once for an iron establishment and once worked as a clerk in the artificial flower house industry. He went under an assumed name, *John Scard*, first to *Tahiti* and *Papeete* and from there, with the next available ship, *S.S. Janet Nicoll* to *Rarotonga*, the main island of the *Cook Islands* group. His disappearance from *San Francisco* was a complete surprise to all who knew him. *Banks* was a diarist in the *Cook Islands* where the museum preserved most of his diaries and they give an insight into his life and feelings.

BANKS, CHARLES W.—Age, 23 years. Enlisted, August 30/ 1862, at New York city, to serve three years; mustered in as sergeant, Co. I, September 6, 1862; returned to ranks, November 25, 1863; discharged for disability, December 30, 1864, at New Orleans, La.

**O**f course, as members of ACWRTQ we are perhaps more interested in his service during the war. Leading Australian researcher, the late *Terry Foenender*, sent details of *Banks*' service to me many years ago and I have since lost that file. Some research, claims *Banks* enlisted 31 August 1862 at age 23 as a sergeant. I was able to find positive sources and a muster roll, (see *Sources*) that clearly identify *Banks* being inducted a sergeant into Company I, 131st Infantry Regiment New York on 30 August in *Lt. Hinchman's* company. It was generally known as the *1st regiment, Metropolitan Guard* and was recruited in *New York City* under the auspices of *Metropolitan Police* and mustered into U. S. service for three years. The *7th N. Y. militia* furnished a large number of its officers. The *131st Infantry* left New York 14 September and went to *Annapolis, Maryland*, before sailing for *Louisiana* as part of the *General Banks* expedition.



Original Flank flag of the 131<sup>st</sup>-Editor

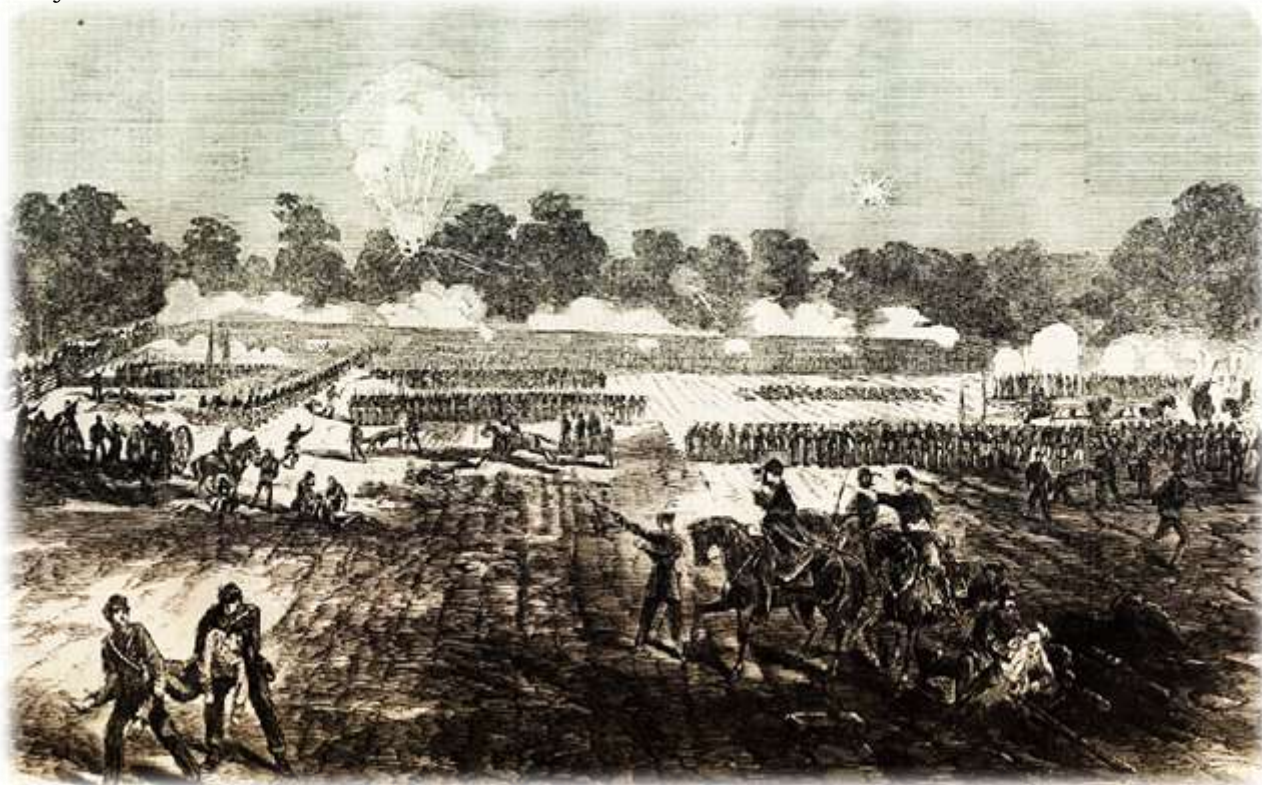
**T**he blue, silk flank markers carried by the *131st Regiment* feature painted inscriptions in gold, shadowed in red, along the top and bottom. Also, each includes a red painted shield in the centre, framed with a gold painted border, and the regiment's numeric designation painted in gold and shadowed in crimson. "*N.Y.S.V.*" and "*REGIMENT.*" are in mirror image on the reverse while the numeric designation reads left to right on the reverse. The regiment deposited these flank markers with the state on 24 August 1865.

**O**n arrival at *New Orleans* *Banks* was assigned to the *1st brigade, Grover's division, Department of the Gulf*. It sustained its first loss in April 1863 at "*Irish Bend*" or "*Nerson's Woods*" as it was known by Confederates and was engaged without loss at *Vermillion Bayou* on the 17th. The following month the investment of *Port Hudson* was completed and the *131st* participated throughout the siege of that stronghold, sustaining most of its losses in the assaults of 27 May and 14 June.

**A**fter the surrender of *Port Hudson*, *Banks*' unit was engaged for several months in post and garrison duties and in various expeditions and reconnaissance and was again engaged at *Vermillion*



*Bayou* in October, and at *Carrion Crow Bayou*. In the summer of 1864 it left the Department of the Gulf and joined *General Butler's Army of the James at Bermuda Hundred*; then joined the *Army of the Shenandoah under General Sheridan* and participated in his campaign of destruction in the Valley.



Charles Banks was at "Battle of Irish Bend" or "Nerson's Woods" as it was known by Confederates. Sketch is by William Hall, of 22 Maine-Editor.



Battle of Pleasant Hill, April 1864 where Charles Banks received his leg wound. It would give him trouble all his life. The picture is a distorted depiction of the battle showing the Union army in complete control. Seldom did General Banks have such results, this battle actually had a disastrous outcome for him. Coloured Lithograph Wikipedia-Editor.



**C**harles Banks received a serious wound to his left leg during the “*Battle of Pleasant Hill*”, *Mansfield* this would be during the *Red River Campaign*. The wound plagued him all his life. The Battle on 9 April 1864 took place between *Maj. Gen. Nathaniel P. Bank’s Red River Expeditionary Force*, the *Union’s Department of the Gulf and the Confederate District of West Louisiana* in a failed push to capture the town of *Shreveport, Louisiana*. *General Banks* was our featured officer in “*General Focus*” in the previous issue of *The Bugle* and is also mentioned in our “*Letters to the Editor*” section.

**B**anks participated in operations in *Western Louisiana* from 9 April through to 14 May, the *Teche Campaign* from 11 April through to the 20th, at *Fort Bisland* on 12 and 13 April at *Madam Porter’s Plantation at Indian Bend* 13 April, at *Irish Bend* 14 April, *Bayou Vermillion* 17 April then marched to *Opelousas* on 19 and 20 April, *New Iberia* 25 April, participated in the *Siege of Port Hudson* from 24 May through to 9 July, assaults on *Port Hudson* 27 May and 14 June, was in action at *Plaquemine* on 18 June, the eventual surrender of *Port Hudson* 9 July, was at *Kock’s Plantation at Bayou La Fourche* on 12 and 13 July and participated in the *Red River Campaign* from March 25th through May 22nd. This is truly a remarkable record of battles and says much about the devotion to duty of *Banks* making his later actions at *Wells Fargo* even more puzzling. I have long pondered the actions of a man with such an honourable and heroic background and have come to the conclusion that he was no doubt influenced by the thieving of his peers and commanding officers during the war in *Louisiana* and elsewhere. The opportunity to embezzle such a large amount of money would have seemed, to him, quite a natural thing to do, the ‘*American Way*.’

**B**y April 1864, *Maj. Gen. Nathaniel P. Bank’s Red River Expedition* had advanced about 150 miles up *Red River*. Commander of the Confederate forces in the area, *Maj. Gen. Richard Taylor*, decided without any instructions from his commander, *General E. Kirby Smith*, that it was time to stem the Union drive. *Taylor* had earlier gained a victory at *Mansfield* and *Banks* had withdrawn from the battlefield to *Pleasant Hill*, knowing that fighting would resume the next day. Early on the 9th, *Taylor’s* reinforced army marched toward *Pleasant Hill*, hoping to finish off the destruction of the Union force. Although outnumbered, *Taylor* felt the Union army would be timid after the *Mansfield* drubbing and that a well-coordinated attack would be successful. The Confederates, however, closed up, rested for a few hours and attacked at 5:00 pm. *Taylor* had planned to send a force to attack the Union front as he rolled up the left flank and moved his cavalry around the right flank to cut off their escape route. The attack on the Union left flank, under the command of *Brigadier General Thomas J. Churchill*, succeeded in sending enemy troops fleeing for safety. *Churchill* then ordered his men ahead, to attack the Union centre from the rear. Union officers realized the danger and attacked *Churchill’s* right flank; forcing their retreat. *Pleasant Hill* was the last major battle of the *Louisiana* phase of the *Red River Campaign*. Although *General Banks* won the battle he retreated, wanting to get his army out of west *Louisiana* before something worse occurred. The battles of *Mansfield*, and *Pleasant Hill*, influenced a rather reluctant *General Banks* to forget his objective of capturing *Shreveport*. His failure in numerous battles would eventually see him removed from active campaigns.

**C**harles Banks went on to participate in actions at *Mansura*, *Bermuda Hundred*, *Deep Bottom*, *Sheridan’s Shenandoah Valley Campaign* and the *Battles of Winchester and Cedar Creek*. After enlisting as a sergeant, *Banks* was reclassified a full private 25 November 1863. He was discharged as a result of his wound as a private, in *New Orleans, Louisiana* 30 December 1864. His Regiment was mustered out at *Savannah, Georgia* on 26 July 1865.

**A**fter robbing his office in 1886 *Charlie Banks*, as he was sometimes called, booked passage for *Australia* under an assumed name and ended up on *Rarotonga* where many years later he would die penniless. In the *Cook Islands*, where *Banks* married the *Atiu* woman, they had no children of their own. *Banks* was not exactly a ‘prisoner’ he left the *Cook Islands* once in 1902 when the former British residents of the *Cook Islands*, *Frederick J. Moss*, and *A. B. Donald*, who he worked for on *Rarotonga*, invited him to New Zealand. He stayed in New Zealand for about six weeks. Little is known of *Banks’s* last years, but according to island rumours he went blind around the turn of the century and lingered on until 1915. *Charles Banks* died on *Rarotonga*, 21 March 1915 and was buried in the magnificent Mission Cemetery at *Avarua*, with an elaborate headstone; unfortunately it was badly broken into scattered pieces over time but has recently been gathered together.





**A**long with the restoration, a bronze memorial plaque was acquired for the family by *American James Gray* who lives in Queensland and the *American Civil War Round Table of Queensland, Australia, Inc.*, it was placed predominately on his tomb. The dispute at the time was that ACWRTQ was not empowered to approve the placement of a plaque because the grave already had a marker and ACWRTQ did not approve of its name being included on plaques. That his original headstone lay in shattered ruins meant he qualified for the American plaque.



Above: The shattered headstone of C W Bank's grave. The dedication below the acknowledgement of his civil war service is lost to us, more's the pity. Left: Someone is still leaving flowers on his grave. Photo Pam and Morris Richards-Editor.

**B**ecause of the need to install the ACWRTQ plaque, the local people decided to tidy up the grave and restore the headstone as best they could. As you can see all they could do was gather together the scattered pieces and lay them on the grave. All of the graves in the islands are built above the ground. However our members should realise the positive effects of our work in ensuring veterans are suitably honoured. I can, without doubt, now say that the veteran is 100% genuine and his story is one of the most interesting of all the veterans we have in our part of the world. He has now become a legend on the island and the recent book is raising awareness amongst the many tourists visiting Rarotonga.



**I** am proud that ACWRTQ has a part in memorialising this man, even though he proved to be a rascal. You can't choose your historic legends, just as you cannot choose the memorials left to us by previous generations. You just have to look, learn and expand your knowledge of the era in which they lived and the things that motivated them. Moral values of their times have no place in today's history with today's students, but we need to understand them to fully appreciate the stories they relate and the people who played out their lives under the governance of their times.



The bronze plaque ordered from the Veterans' Association in America by James Gray at no cost. Set nicely on a raised plinth. Photo credit Pam and Morris Richards-Editor.

**T**he island of *Rarotonga* and many surrounding islands owe everything to American Army engineers who constructed roads and airfields on *Rarotonga* and *Aitutaki* during WW2, these now provide essential links to scattered *South Pacific* island communities and allowed the islands to develop as highly popular tourist destinations. A positive spin off from another war that reached out to the *South Pacific* paradise.

### **Sources:**

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[Rarotonga Grave photographs courtesy Pam and Morris Richards.](#)





During the 155<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Battle of Crater, Shane Hubbard took a series of excellent pictures during the weekend event on 28 July 2019. Shane says it was a very hot weekend and Generals Grant and Lee had to wear their wool uniforms. Dr Curt Fields has become a master of portrayal, touring the U.S. and giving lectures on General Grant, he is a life member of ACWRTQ. Thomas Jessee devotes his life to portraying General Lee. Re-enacting is what keeps history alive. 155 years on and we should be able to embrace our former enemies and bury the animosity. If we are to march forward we must march together-Editor. Generalgrantbyhimself.com

You may not always agree with what is expressed in this journal but every attempt is made to tell the truth as the Editor and contributors see it. From time to time, independent contributors may present their own personal opinions, or research; this is not necessarily the opinion of the Editor, or of the ACWRTQ Committee, research data of others is not verified. The content is presented under 'Freedom of Expression' and 'Fairly held Opinion,' sources are always given to enable further research. ACWRTQ Website Dropbox is an archive of past issues.



## Sites worthy of regular visits

[https://www.facebook.com/deovindici/?ref=aymt\\_homepage\\_panel](https://www.facebook.com/deovindici/?ref=aymt_homepage_panel)

**Annual event:** <http://www.historylive.com.au/contact-us/>

[http://bullyforbragg.blogspot.com.au/2009\\_11\\_01\\_archive.html](http://bullyforbragg.blogspot.com.au/2009_11_01_archive.html)

<http://clicksy pics.com/2012/03/10/video-a-war-of-color/>

<http://brunswickcivilwarroundtable.com/>

<http://www.cfcwrt.org>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tAt5O8ax0l0&feature=youtu.be&hd=1>

[http://civilwarcavalry.com/?page\\_id=2586](http://civilwarcavalry.com/?page_id=2586)

<http://www.old-picture.com/civil-war/Ambulane-Wagons-Civil-War.htm>

[http://books.google.com.au/books?id=RRKXDxZhVUUC&pg=PA529&lpg=PA529&dq=John+Bell+Hood+Christmas+1862&source=bl&ots=zoWJLi8j\\_c&sig=BBQ8jWqGV6HQqV\\_b29WRNeaZz28&hl=en&sa=X&ei=xYeUUObvPK-](http://books.google.com.au/books?id=RRKXDxZhVUUC&pg=PA529&lpg=PA529&dq=John+Bell+Hood+Christmas+1862&source=bl&ots=zoWJLi8j_c&sig=BBQ8jWqGV6HQqV_b29WRNeaZz28&hl=en&sa=X&ei=xYeUUObvPK-)

<https://www.moc.org/catalog/replicas-and-belt-buckles/reproductions-museum-confederacy-artifacts>

**Must visit websites:** [http://the-glorious-cause.blogspot.com.au/2010\\_08\\_01\\_archive.html](http://the-glorious-cause.blogspot.com.au/2010_08_01_archive.html)

<http://thecivilwarparlor.tumblr.com/page/73>

**Highly recommended:** [http://www.factasy.com/civil\\_war/](http://www.factasy.com/civil_war/)

<http://youtu.be/YF-QlJyLhKQ>

[http://blackconfederatesoldiers.com/authentic\\_photographs\\_black\\_confederate\\_soldiers\\_36.html](http://blackconfederatesoldiers.com/authentic_photographs_black_confederate_soldiers_36.html)

**Very important navy site:** <https://sites.google.com/site/290foundation/home-1>

<http://www.regtm.com/category-s/62.htm>

<http://www.css-alabama.com/news.html>

<http://www.angelfire.com/va3/southernrites/18roster.html>

**Excellent source for Confederate flags:** <http://www.confederate-flags.org/>



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**Meetings: Coorparoo RSL. 3rd Thursday each month. 7.30PM. Visitors always welcome**