



Battle Lines



Newsletter of Co. H, 5th Reg't. New Hampshire Vol's.

• Mustered-in September 9, 2018 • Issue No. 29 • February 5, 2021 •

! The Fifth New Hampshire to Gain a Recruit !

Co. H continues to grow. Co. H members Emilie McDonald and Nicolas Tétrault of Moncton are expecting a daughter, it was announced in an email received January 18 from soon-to-be proud grandpa, Sylvain Tétrault. Their due date is May 29 – just in time for Kings Landing! Congratulations to you both!

! Prince Edward Island Answers the Call !

Rick Jamer Appointed Corporal – On Monday, January 11, Rick Jamer was named as our second corporal. This appointment was done following consultation with three members of Co. H, including Sergeant Gavel and Corporal Tétrault. Our Company H Regulations allow for the appointment of regional NCO's. Rick was approached about the position on January 11, and he accepted the nomination the same day.

The appointment runs from January 11 until our fall Annual General Meeting, where both field and executive positions will be voted upon for consideration for a period of two years.

Despite the difficulties presented by Covid-19, Rick has demonstrated a repeated enthusiasm for Company H, has been a tireless recruiter in his home province of Prince Edward Island, and has attended a drill in Sussex, the Windsor military show and the Tomlinson Lake Hike to Freedom last October, the latter having a driving distance of some 480 kilometres.

Although classified as a “regional” corporal, Rick becomes our second company corporal. Having a second corporal helps to ensure that at least one corporal will be present for an event, and if we have both, then we will be fortunate enough to have both a right and a left marker.

We now have, potentially, six members from PEI: Edmond Grenier, Barry Hippenstall, Brannson Hippenstall, Rick Jamer, Ricky Jamer and David Neatby. Having a corporal on the Island will enable members there to drill locally, thus lessening the need for travel. Rick has, however, been asked to let all members know when PEI drills will be held, as it is company policy that all drills are open to all members. Congratulations, Rick!

Potential Recruit – An email received by Lt. Titus on January 5, from Rick Jamer stated that he had a potential recruit in David Neatby, another PEI resident. David is interested in participating in one of this spring's drills and has been described by fellow-Islander, Barry Hippenstall, as a “great fella”. Dave has been added to our email list, and we sincerely hope that he chooses to join us.

Possible Co. H Campsite Near Cavendish Beach – In an email received January 19, Co. H member Barry Hippenstall wrote to Lt. Titus, “I would like to offer up my land to use as a camp, if we would like to set up camp on the island sometime. The land is three acres of woodland and is a 6-minute drive to Cavendish Beach. The offer stands as long as I own the land.” Thank you, Barry! This is indeed great news! We have six current or potential members on the Island and of course, Cavendish is a beautiful part of the beautiful Island for us all to visit!

Box Stencils Available from “Civil War Digital Digest”

At least three Co. H members in recent months have been busy building boxes for use and display in camp. “Civil War Digital Digest”, known for its many quality YouTube videos, is now offering Civil War-era stencils for sale in their on-line store.

Find their website at civilwardigitaldigest.com and from the main page, scroll down to “Store”. Click on the blue bar labeled “Store” and you will find a number of items, including stencils. As of mid-December, they offer five stencils, all shown in photographs on boxes. Available are: “Warrented Extra Pepper Sauce” (\$20.00); “N. Schaeffer Star Candles - St. Louis” (\$20.00); “P. Mills Chocolate” (\$20.00); “St. Louis Arsenal 1861 Ammunition Box Stencil Kit” (\$30.00); and “1864 Watervliet Arsenal Ammunition Box Stencil Kit” (\$30.00).

Other items available for sale include a “Gifford Hardtack Cutter” for \$15.00 and a 7-minute movie, entitled, “Hold My Horse”, a true story about General Israel B. Richardson, commanding officer of the division that included the 5th New Hampshire. General Richardson would die of his wounds suffered at Antietam's “Bloody Lane”.

Halifax Reenactors Discover Shutdown of Facebook Site

An article written by Laura Fraser and posted by CBC on December 22, tell how the Halifax Militia Volunteers had their Facebook page taken down by Facebook officials out of fear that that they are a militia group promoting violence and conspiracy theories. The algorithm used by Facebook to root-out such groups apparently picked up on the use of the word “militia” and labeled their page as “violating community standards”. The article went on to say that this has become a “modern-day problem” for reenacting groups and other organizations promoting history. The Halifax Militia Volunteers is, instead, a group dedicated to promoting Loyalist history and the times surrounding the American Revolution. Their site has since been reinstated by Facebook and the full article about the group may be found on the Fifth New Hampshire Facebook page at “Fighting Fifth New Hampshire Vol’s Co. H”

Musket Prices Continue to Rise

A check on December 18 of musket prices from two sources – one American and one Canadian – revealed that musket prices are steadily increasing. Regimental Quartermaster, located in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, was selling the 1853 Enfield made by Armi Sport for \$950.00 (US). Their Enfield made by Pedersoli had a price of \$1100.00 (US). An Armi Sport 1861 Springfield was available for \$995.00 (US), and the same musket made by Pedersoli was \$1100.00 (US).

Meanwhile, Marstar of Ontario, showed their Pedersoli 1853 Enfield for sale, priced regularly at \$1667.21, but on sale during Christmas for \$1417.63 (Cdn). They do not carry Armi Sport, and their 1861 Springfield was listed as “Out of Stock”. Enfield muskets from Loyalist Arms in Halifax, or a good used Enfield, may be the best option for those in search of a musket.

! News of the War in the East !

- **Kings Landing Schedule** – In a Facebook posting of January 4, Kings Landing again listed their schedule of events for 2021. As part of that schedule, the Military Muster of June 18-20 is listed. We, of course, a a part of that. Make your plans now to be there to support the company and to support Kings Landing!
- **Kings Landing Scenarios** – Kings Landing is anxious for us to be involved in engaging and educational scenarios for the public during our upcoming Military Muster on June 18-20. They do not have to be intricate, but should teach something about the Civil War period. Be thinking, and email your ideas to Lt. Titus at fifthnhvcoh@rogers.com. Each, of course, will have to be approved by officials at Kings Landing.
- **Paul Dudley Re-elected** – An email sent out January 12 announced that Paul Dudley has been re-elected both as President of Co. B, 20th Maine and as their lieutenant. Company H, 5th New Hampshire has a working relationship with Co. B, and we have worked with Paul on several occasions over the years. Congratulations, Paul!
- **Our Condolences to Matt Bray of Co. A, 3rd Maine** – Our condolences to Matt Bray and his family on the loss of Matt’s mother, Gloria Ring Bray, on January 8, 2021, in Brunswick, Maine. Matt is the captain of Co. A, and is our contact with that fine group of Civil War reenactors. Brunswick, of course, was the home of General Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain and is the home of Bowdoin College, where General Chamberlain taught.
- **Nick Skinner Returns to Nova Scotia** – Potential 5th NH recruit, Nick Skinner , has returned home to Nova Scotia from Calgary. Welcome, Nick!
- **Top Five Civil War Movies** – Recently on YouTube, the American Battlefield Trust posted a video of the top five most important Civil War movies of all time. While not all are considered by today’s standards to be “politically correct”, each movie played an important role in shaping the public’s perception of the Civil War. Their list consisted of: (1) *The Birth of a Nation*; (2) *Gone With the Wind*; (3) *Glory*; (4) *Gettysburg*; and (5) *Lincoln*. Added as a “bonus” nomination (as it was a television series and not a movie, was Ken Burns’ award-winning series, *The Civil War*. You can see this video and many other quality videos at the website of the American Battlefield Trust (battlefields.org) or on YouTube by searching for “American Battlefield Trust”.

Canadians in the Ranks of the Fifth New Hampshire

Julius M. Fox enlisted in Co. K at the age of 23. Born in Canada, he was a resident of Tunbridge, Vermont upon his enlistment. He enlisted as a substitute and was credited to Lebanon. He enlisted and was mustered-in on October 12, 1863, as a private. Fox was discharged for disability just four months later, on February 18, 1864, at Point Lookout, Maryland. He gave his postal address as Thornton, New Hampshire.

In Command (3 of 6): The Fifth New Hampshire at Fredericksburg

- ♣ **December 13, 1862**
- ♣ **Army of the Potomac** – Major General Ambrose E. Burnside
- ♣ **Right Grand Division** – Major General Edwin V. Sumner
- ♣ **II Corps** – Major General Darius N. Couch
- ♣ **1st Division** – Major General Winfield Scott Hancock
- ♣ **1st Brigade** – Brigadier General John C. Caldwell (w: 12/13); Colonel George Von Schack
- ♣ **5th New Hampshire** – Colonel Edward E. Cross (w: 12/13); (Lt. James Larkin)

1862 • Timeline of the Fifth Reg't. New Hampshire Vol's. • 1862

- **January 17** – Company A scouts to Burke's Station.
- **March 10-15** – Advance on Manassas, Virginia; attached to First Brigade, First Division, Second Army Corps, Army of the Potomac.
- **March 20** – Reconnaissance to Gainesville.
- **March 28-29** – March to Rappahannock Station.
- **March 28** – At Warrenton Junction.
- **April 4** – Moved to the Virginia Peninsula.
- **April 5-May 4** – Siege of Yorktown, Virginia.
- **May 28-30** – Temporarily attached to Woodbury's Engineer Brigade to construct the Grapevine Bridge over the Chickahominy River.
- **May 31-June 1** – The Battle of Fair Oaks or Seven Pines. The regiment loses 30 men killed and 170 wounded. Colonel Cross is hit in the thigh by a minié ball and in the left side of the face by three buckshot; Captain Richard E. Cross is shot in the left leg and right hand.
- **June 25-July 1** – Seven Days Battles before Richmond.
- **June 28** – Orchard Station.
- **June 29** – The Peach Orchard, Allen's Farm and Savage Station.
- **June 30** – White Oak Swamp and Glendale.
- **July 1** – The Battle of Malvern Hill. Lieutenant Welcome A. Crafts is captured.
- **July-August** – At Harrison's Landing.
- **August 16-30** – Movement to Fortress Monroe, then to Alexandria and to Centreville, Virginia to cover Pope's retreat from the Battle of Second Bull Run.
- **September-October** – The Maryland Campaign.
- **September 14** – The Battle of South Mountain (in Reserve).
- **September 15** – Antietam Creek, near Keadysville.'
- **September 17** – The Battle of Antietam. The 5th New Hampshire enters the battle with 319 men and loses 7 men killed and 120 wounded, including Colonel Cross; during the fighting at the sunken road Colonel Cross, conspicuous with a red bandana on his head, roars for the regiment to "put on the war paint!" while streaking his face with black powder. He then calls for his men to "give 'em the war whoop!" From the brigade monument at Antietam: *Caldwell's Brigade relieved Meagher's [the Irish Brigade] and became heavily engaged with the Confederate infantry occupying the sunken road and, having repelled several attempts to turn its flanks, advanced to the high ground overlooking Piper's house, where it was halted by command of General Richardson.*
- **September 21-October 29** – On duty at Harpers Ferry, Virginia.
- **October 16-17** – Reconnaissance to Charlestown, Virginia.
- **October 29-November 17** – Advance up the Loudon Valley and movement to Falmouth, Virginia.
- **December 12-15 – (December 13)** – The Battle of Fredericksburg. The regiment loses 200 of the 270 men engaged; Captain Welcome Crafts of Company B is shot in the left leg; it was testified that bodies of the men of the 5th New Hampshire, along with those of the 69th New York and 53rd Pennsylvania, advanced closest to the stone wall beneath Marye's Heights. Colonel Cross is severely wounded; General Caldwell is wounded twice by musket balls.
- **December 14** – Captain Charles E. Hapgood of Company I is promoted to lieutenant colonel and Captain Richard Cross of Company K is promoted to major.

A CALL to ARMS!

! Kings Landing • Military Muster • June 18-20 !

Sharps Carbine For Sale at Windsor Militaria Show

At the Militaria Show & Sale held in Windsor, Nova Scotia on November 14, Bill Greig had on display and for sale an original Sharps carbine. As a courtesy to Mr. Greig, and because of its Civil War connections, the offer was made to share information about the Sharps with the membership and friends of Company H, 5th New Hampshire. The editor of *Battle Lines* has no stake in the sale of this firearm, nor can he make any claim as to the authenticity or accuracy of the information provided. Those who are interested in this classic firearm should contact Mr. Greig directly by email at colonelsteeleca@gmail.com. (Note: The image shown (below) is that of an 1863 Sharps sold recently at "The Horse Soldier" in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, and is not the one being sold by Mr. Greig. It is provided only as a reference.) The email that follows was received by Lindsay Titus on November 26, 2020.

Hello Gents, I'm sorry for my tardiness, but I was awaiting an auction on a Medal of Honor specimen. Sadly, I was the unsuccessful bidder, so I can't tease you with an MOH as well.

I enjoyed chatting with you, though I felt surrounded, and liable to capture. What would I tell my dearest Belle, back in Georgia?!

The Sharps was found at Lodgewood Mfg. in Wisconsin recently. I had originally chosen David Stavlo at Lodgewood because he "defarbs" Italian replicas, and makes them look like a period gun. I had sent him a Pietta LeMat to defarb, but then I saw this Sharps of his:

https://www.lodgewood.com/Confederate-Captured-M1863-Sharps-Carbine_p_4933.html

David had problems with Canada Customs and lost pieces, and no longer ships to Canada. I do have a friend in Florida whom I persuaded/begged to have the Sharps sent to him, and my friend mailed it directly to me (with no problems, thankfully).

When I disassembled it for inspection, I found it in excellent mechanical condition. I believe that I cocked the carbine for two of you when you came over. The bore is very clean, and the rifling sharp. The breech locks up tightly. There is a scuff on the left side of the stock from wear against the metal sling. No cracks or missing wood.

The stock behind the end of the trigger guard is stamped Z for Louis Zimmer, who became the Inspector at the Richmond Arsenal when arms from the battles of The Wilderness and Spotsylvania were obtained. A nice write-up about him is in the accompanying book "Captured & Collected Confederate Reissued Firearms". Zimmer's Z is also found on the bottom of the barrel at the breech, beside the serial number. While examining the carbine stripped down, I recorded all of the markings, and that info is also with the gun and book. The sling is original, and marked O.B. North & Co/ New Haven -CT. It's in fine mechanical shape, with surface-only rust.

As an aside, David has in his description,this gun's serial number is 92723, while an I.D.'d Sharps carbine issued to the 13th New York Volunteer Cavalry is serial number 92728.

I paid David \$2995 in US dollars, plus shipping (twice), plus Canada Customs of 15%. All told, that works out to about \$4500 Canadian, for someone to buy this same gun from up here. My hobby alternates between antique guns and military medals, and I'm back in the medals stage of my collecting. Should anyone be interested in the purchase of this Sharps, I require \$3000 Canadian, plus shipping/insurance costs.

A fine Sharps, but my S.C. Robinson Confederate Sharps is the one that I'll keep.

All the best to you, and good health. Cheers, Bill Greig; Bridgewater, Nova Scotia



A Call to Arms!

• DRILL •

Sussex, NB – Saturday, May 15 – 12 Noon
(tentative)