



Battle Lines



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

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A Report from Kings Landing

For the second consecutive year, on June 17-19, the sharp reports of musket fire rattled the windows of Kings Landing and echoed across the grey waters of the St. John River, as a combined battalion of Fifth New Hampshire, 20th Maine and Revolutionary War troops, led by DeLancey's Brigade, marched and set up camps to form the Military Muster at Kings Landing, in overcast and rainy Prince William, New Brunswick.

The Civil War camp was set up across from the Ingraham barn, which serves as the settlement's theatre. We have encamped at this location previously. From there, the view of the St. John



River was excellent and access to the Grant General Store and several area homes was within an easy march.

On the muster-roll for Co. H were Dave Adams, Leigh Gavel, Loran Gavel, Stephen Norman, Sylvain Tétrault and Lindsay Titus. Co. I, 20th Maine was represented by Greg Fekner, Amanda Middleton, Arya Middleton, Jason Middleton, Troy Middleton and Bryan Taylor. Steve Fowler had anticipated nearly 30 civilian and military reenactors in the Revolutionary War camp and, although the numbers were lower than anticipated, DeLancey's, as the Rev War host, still had good numbers.

Rain was predicted for the weekend, but it largely held off on Thursday (set-up day), Friday (student day) and Saturday, with Saturday, especially, turning out to be warm and mostly-sunny. Sunday was overcast, with showers, but when it was time to break camp and head down the road, the steady rain became a downpour.

On Friday, June 17 – the student day – Kings Landing expected between 300-400 students to visit the site, although one staff member was heard to say that nearly 500 students had been in attendance. Students seemed engaged and attentive. Musket fire will do that. A bonus this year was the presence of Stephen Norman and his Civil War medical display and discussion. His is a gruesome business, but it is important that both students and the public learn and understand that war is not a game, and that people get seriously and grievously wounded, and that death is ever-present. A special thank-you, too, to Stephen for driving his tired, old captain to the main gate in search of assistance after discovering that our washroom (and the gate) had been locked. Your efforts on, and off, the field were greatly appreciated, as always, Stephen!

Thanks are also extended to Leigh Gavel for his leadership on the field all weekend, although it was noted that our noble 1st sergeant disappeared from time to time, engaging, it would seem, in foraging expeditions for rhubarb cake that he claimed didn't exist. Meanwhile, Corporal Tétrault, who accompanied 1st sergeant Gavel's foraging expeditions, let it slip that the "non-existent" cake was "delicious."

Kings Landing, continued...

All Co. H participants set up, and broke camp, in the usual spirit of camaraderie that was shown all weekend. The men also marched, drilled and fired with precision; only a little surprising, considering the lack of drill this season. If the numbers are present, we will look good for our next encampment at Air Show Atlantic in Debert, in August.

A wedding on Friday precluded afternoon musket-firing, so the “boys” were given the opportunity to drill, or to go to the Kings Head Inn to meet and interact with our brethren from the Revolutionary War. Most chose the Inn, much to the shock of Captain Titus. During that time, visitors continued to visit the camp, where those remaining shared stories of Canada’s colourful and critical Civil War history.

Three musket-fire demonstrations greeted visitors on Saturday. Volleys were crisp and marching was precise. Although we had to delay some demonstrations due to activities taking place in the nearby Ingraham barn, the audience exiting from the barn quickly became part of the crowd watching the firing demonstrations – something to note for future encampments.

On Saturday afternoon, Captain Titus introduced the Civil War group to the waiting audience, but neglected to include Co. I, 20th Maine as forming part of the battalion, an oversight that resulted in two troubling comments by an individual from outside our group. Greatly upset by the comments, Dave Adams suddenly decided to leave Kings Landing, and by Saturday evening, he had packed up and left the site. On Monday, June 20, he submitted his resignation from Co. H, Fifth New Hampshire, although the resignation was not accepted by Captain Titus.

Although there was talk of some departing early on Sunday if the rain arrived (it did), all five remaining members – Leigh Gavel, Loran Gavel, Stephen Norman, Sylvain Tétrault and Lindsay Titus – stood their posts on-site until the 5 o’clock church bell rang out, signalling the day’s end. Rain kept visitor numbers down, as only about ten people visited what remained of our camp on Sunday, but it says so much about our membership that they stayed all day despite the weather. Although, in retrospect, it may have been more the promise of scones, and the reality of hot tea and rhubarb cake served in front of a hot, open fire that kept the boys in the settlement. Whatever the motivation, they were nearby if those troublesome rebels came ’round, but, alas, the only trouble came when a local lass received two proposals of marriage (including one from Private Gavel), a situation that is yet to be resolved.

Many thanks to Kings Landing personnel for the invitation to be a part of their season, and for the hospitality shown throughout the weekend, with a special “hurrah” to Cristina Furey for her presence, several times, at the camp and elsewhere on-site. The meal prepared by the Kings Head Inn was again a big hit, according to all participants. It is our sincere wish that Kings Landing personnel, students, and guests found our work there during the weekend to be an educational and valuable experience.

Dave Adams

A busy Saturday at Kings Landing was marred by the sudden departure from the site by Co. H member Dave Adams. Visibly upset following encounters with a person from outside our group, Dave packed up and, by evening, had left for home. Members of Co. H were stunned by this sudden turn of events.

On Monday, June 20, Dave submitted to Captain Titus by email a letter of resignation from Co. H. At Dave’s request, the letter was forwarded to the Co. H membership, with Captain Titus stating that he was not accepting Dave’s resignation. Additional emails were exchanged, and on June 21, Dave wrote: “I will stay on as a member”, although his present plans are to be inactive for the summer, and use the coming winter to examine his future with the company.

Dave is a founding member of Co. H, and serves the company on the executive as a member-at-large. His value to the group is immeasurable, and it goes without saying that we want, and need, Dave’s dedication and deep interest in Civil War history, back in an active capacity.

Meal Money to Sylvain & Suzanne

This is a reminder to those members who wished to partake of the meals offered by Suzanne Guay and Sylvain Tétrault at Kings Landing, that there was a cost of \$5.00 per person for those meals. It is understood that weather prevented all meals from being served, but the meals were prepared, and thus costs incurred. As far as Captain Titus is concerned, the jar of jam we each received, alone is worth the cost! Thank you, Suzanne, for your efforts on behalf of Co. H, and to Sylvain, for your work in meal delivery and preparation. It was all excellent once again, although, Suzanne, you were missed around the camp and campfire!

No Events in July

Due to unprecedented high fuel prices, the drill tentatively scheduled for July 30, is cancelled. This means that we have no events scheduled between Kings Landing (June 17-19) and Air Show Atlantic (August 27-28). Members are urged to use this time to order new kit, get in good physical condition, arrange your fall schedules, and check over uniforms, equipment, tents, etc., for use this fall and prior to putting them away for the winter, as fits your situation.

August 27-28: Air Show Atlantic

Our next event is Air Show Atlantic, scheduled for the weekend of August 27-28, at the airfield in Debert, Nova Scotia, near Truro. This will be a big event, with thousands of spectators taking in the sights, and most of them will be Maritimers – making this an excellent opportunity to recruit new members to Co. H. Plus, you will have an excellent view of all the activities! Lunch and supper will be provided, and additional details are in discussion. More information will be included in the August issue of “Battle Lines”. We have no events scheduled for July, so make plans now to be a part of this exciting and new (to us) event! Thanks go out to Leigh Gavel for first suggesting this event, and to Steven Cochrane for his work in making contacts with air show representatives.



Membership Status

On June 23, 2022, a completed application form, a membership list, and a cheque in the amount of \$215.40 for NFA group membership and liability insurance was mailed to NFA headquarters in Edmonton, Alberta. As of this date, our membership for 2022-23 stands thus:

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| 1. Dave Adams – <i>paid; insured</i> | 10. Rick Jamer – <i>paid; insured</i> |
| 2. Aaron Bouma – <i>paid; insured</i> | 11. Bob Keretschko – <i>paid; insured</i> |
| 3. Steven Cochrane – <i>paid; uninsured</i> | 12. Marie Keretschko – <i>family member</i> |
| 4. Evelyn Fidler – <i>paid; uninsured</i> | 13. Stephen Norman – <i>paid; insured</i> |
| 5. Leigh Gavel – <i>paid; insured</i> | 14. Elodie Tétrault – <i>family member</i> |
| 6. Loran Gavel – <i>paid; insured</i> | 15. Nicolas Tétrault – <i>paid; insured</i> |
| 7. Joe Gee – <i>paid; insured</i> | 16. Sylvain Tétrault – <i>paid; insured</i> |
| 8. Suzanne Guay – <i>family member</i> | 17. Lindsay Titus – <i>paid; insured</i> |
| 9. Barry Hippenstall – <i>paid; insured</i> | |

A Return to Ross Farm

Ross Farm, in New Ross, Nova Scotia will see a return by Co. H, 5th New Hampshire on the weekend of September 24-25. In June, Leigh Gavel, Loran Gavel, Sylvain Tétrault and Lindsay Titus were in uniform, representing the company. Also present, but serving in other capacities, were Steven Cochrane and Bob Keretschko. Described by 1st Sergeant Gavel as “a mini-Kings Landing”, Ross Farm is a perfect site for our purposes, as it is a nineteenth century farm established by a veteran of the War of 1812. It will be the pumpkin harvest weekend at Ross Farm, so a large public turnout is expected. Make your plans now!

Honouring General Caldwell

The hope is to one day honour General John Curtis Caldwell each year at his gravesite in St. Stephen Rural Cemetery in New Brunswick. It is only logical that if we are in the area for the Charlotte County Fall Fair, we should stop at his grave on the Friday of our arrival for camp set-up day. In 2022, this would be on Friday, September 16. The last time we did this (pre-Covid), Dave Adams, Stephen Norman and Lindsay Titus met at the cemetery at 2 PM to provide a quiet, informal tribute. General Caldwell was the brigade or division commander of the 5th New Hampshire for nearly two years, and may be the only Civil War general buried in Canada.

Charlotte County Fall Fair

The Charlotte County Fall Fair (CCFF) is an annual event held at the Ganong Nature Park, near St. Stephen, New Brunswick. This year it is running during the weekend of September 17-18 and, if the weather is cooperative, is a potentially good recruiting event.

Stephen Norman and Lindsay Titus have already committed to participating in this event, although due to high fuel prices and a busy schedule in September and October, it is recognized that our numbers for this event may be low.

Charlotte County Fall Fair, continued...

The Charlotte County Fall Fair is the first of three back-to-back-to-back events scheduled for this fall:

- CCFF – Weekend of September 17-18
- Ross Farm – Weekend of September 24-25
- Tomlinson Lake Hike to Freedom – Saturday, October 1

The Tomlinson Lake Hike to Freedom



Hike to Freedom founder, and Co. H member, Joe Gee.

The annual Tomlinson Lake Hike to Freedom is scheduled this year for Saturday, October 1. Our location, at the entrance to the trail, is found at 250 Glenburn Road; Carlingford, New Brunswick, near Perth-Andover. The trail marks the location of the northern-most route of the famed Underground Railroad, which brought escaped slaves to freedom in Canada.

Troy Middleton, president of Co. I, 20th Maine recently expressed interest in joining Co. H there this year. However, it is understood that distance and high fuel prices may keep some members of both groups away this year. A Call to Arms for this event will be sent out as we approach the October 1 event.

“Rally ’Round the Flag, Boys!”



- **Company Drill (No. 3)** – Saturday, July 30 – CANCELLED!
- **Air Show Atlantic** – Debert, NS – Weekend, August 27-28
- **General Caldwell Graveside Visit** – St. Stephen, NB – September 16 (tentative)
- **Charlotte County Fall Fair** – St. Stephen, NB – September 17-18 (tentative)
- **Battle of Antietam 160th** – Gettysburg, Pa. – September 16-18
- **Ross Farm** – New Ross, NS – Weekend, September 24-25
- **Tomlinson Lake Hike to Freedom** – Carlingford, NB (near Perth-Andover) – Saturday, October 1
- **Co. H Annual General Meeting** – Date & location to be determined.
- **Fredericton North Heritage Fair** – tentative
- **Saint John Heritage Fair** – tentative
- **Prince Edward Island Drill** – tentative
- **The Halifax Citadel** – 2023

! News of the War in the East !

- **Roll Out the Barrel** – Nova Scotia’s Ross Farm is an excellent source of period-correct barrels. In fact, barrels used at other historical settlements (NB’s Acadian Village, NS’s Sherbrooke Village, and others) all use barrels made at Ross Farm. They are available at their visitors’ centre & gift shop, and come in a variety of sizes and prices.

Canadians in the Ranks of the Fifth New Hampshire

Stephen Shepard was born in Canada and was a resident of Canaan. At the age of 44, he enlisted in the regiment on September 12, 1861. He mustered-in a month later on October 12, 1861 as a private in Co. C. Shepard was killed on June 1, 1862, at the Battle of Fair Oaks, as part of the failed Peninsula Campaign to capture Richmond.