

8-2015

# Bowling Green Civil War Round Table Newsletter ( Aug. 2015)

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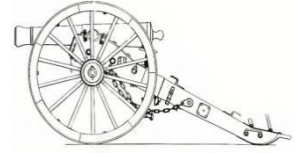
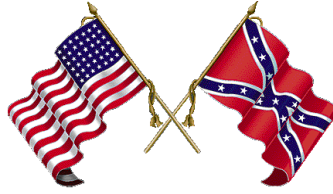
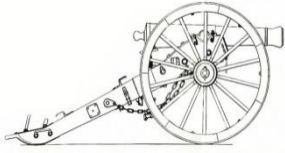
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Founded March 2011 – Bowling Green, Kentucky

# **Bowling Green Civil War Round Table**

President –Tom Carr; Vice President - Jonathan Jeffrey; Secretary – Carol Crowe-Carraco; Treasurer – Robert Dietle;  
Advisors – Glenn LaFantasie and - Greg Biggs (Program Chair and President-Clarksville CWRT)

The Bowling Green, KY Civil War Round Table meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month (except June, July, and December).

Email: [BGCWRT@wku.edu](mailto:BGCWRT@wku.edu)

We meet at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 20 in Cherry Hall 125 on the Campus of Western Kentucky University.

Our meeting are always open to the public.

**Members please bring a friend or two – new recruits are always welcome.**

## **Our Program for August 2015: Greg Bayne** **“Why Didn’t Europe Intervene?”**

The Bowling Green Civil War Roundtable is proud to have Mr. Greg Bayne as our guest speaker this month. Greg will be discussing one of the most interesting and little understood topics related to the Civil War: why Europe chose not to intervene. The Confederate leadership recognized that supply and troop deficits would occur in a prolonged conflict, and looked to “King Cotton” as a guarantee for foreign intervention. Great Britain in particular appeared heavily reliant on Southern cotton, the supply of which decreased in light of the Northern blockading of Southern ports. With their economic interests threatened, the Confederacy believed that Great Britain was sure to side with their cause and thus negate the Union’s industrial and population advantage. Unlike the American Revolution, the European powers chose not to involve themselves in the conflict, ensuring that the Confederacy would be alone in a largely defensive war. However, while Europe did not intervene directly, Greg will provide evidence that less direct actions were pursued by the European powers throughout the conflict.

Bio: Greg Bayne is a Lecturer in Business and Accounting at Canterbury College in the United Kingdom. He is an Accountant and prior to his current position he was a Math teacher for 10 years. His father hailed from Virginia and was in the USAF. Greg spent his first eleven years living in the US until his father retired and moved to England with his English wife. His interest in the Civil war sparked by both receiving the “Golden Book of the Civil War” as a present, and by an early memory of a visit to Harpers Ferry in the mid-1960s. For years he hid his passion until he joined the American Civil War Round Table of the United Kingdom in 2001, and in 2003 became editor of Crossfire, a magazine produced for its members. In 2009 he became President of the ACWRTUK, a position he held until last year.

He has spoken to his Round Table on numerous occasions; highlights include the Battle of Brawners Farm, and Union General Robert Milroy. Lowlights include proposing at one of their annual conferences that PGT

Beauregard was a Confederate Hero not a Zero. The audience was particularly unforgiving that day! He has also written extensively for *Crossfire* magazine and the ACWRTUK website and has two long term projects that he hopes to develop into print. In July 2014 he was invited to join the Editorial Board of the UK Military History Monthly magazine to serve as an advisor on the America Civil War, and other articles related to nineteenth century warfare. Greg will be undertaking a 5 date lecture tour encompassing RT's in Alabama, Tennessee and ending with Kentucky. He will be talking about Henry Hotze at three venues and "Why didn't Europe intervene?" at the last two. This is a unique opportunity to learn more about how the Civil War was perceived on the world stage, and we encourage all of our members to bring guests with them.

### **Our Previous Meeting: May 14th, 2015**

At our last regularly scheduled meeting the BGCWRT was privileged to have two guest speakers, Gordon T. Belt and Traci Nichols-Belt. Gordon opened the presentation and introduced Traci, who gave an expertly detailed account of the importance of religion to Confederate soldiers in the Army of Tennessee. Taken from her book, *Onward Southern Soldiers: Religion and the Army of Tennessee During the Civil War*, Traci indicated that elite ministers like Henry Daniel Polk Hogan were firebrands of the Southern cause, who preached to their congregations the necessity of resisting the "godless" invading foreigners of the North. Early victories in the Civil War appeared to confirm that God favored the Southern cause, while defeats were interpreted as both a lack of piety, and punishment for idolizing Confederate Generals like Robert E. Lee. Traci also discussed the important role of chaplains in the Army of Tennessee. Chaplains experienced hardships alongside the soldiers, and acted as a battlefield link to the Southern soldiers' faith.

Next Gordon Belt discussed the link between the Southern campaign in the American Revolution, and the Civil War. Gordon indicated that observers like George Bancroft, sought to remedy sectional tensions in the years before the war by recognizing the importance of the Southern campaign to American victory over Great Britain. When the Civil War erupted Confederate leaders like Jefferson Davis also appealed to the South's pivotal role in the revolution to conclude that victory was assured. During reconstruction the historical parallels between the Southern revolutionaries and the Confederate cause continued, as indicated by the newfound heroic status of John Sevier. Sevier was the first governor of Tennessee and a veteran of the Battle of King's Mountain, both of which cast him as a heroic example of Southern heroism by 1880, as the South continued to suffer the perceived indignities of reconstruction.

The Bowling Green Civil War Roundtable would like to thank Greg and Traci for their excellent presentations, and extend an invitation for them to return in the near future.

### **"The Atlanta Campaign" Tour Part II**

Please join Greg Biggs and Robert Jenkins as they take you to the sites connected to the siege and capture of Atlanta, Georgia in 1864. From Johnston's River Line through Jonesboro, the tour will cover several key battles: Peachtree Creek and Moore's Mill, Atlanta, Ezra Church, Jonesboro and Allatoona Pass. If time permits we will do a drive through of the Utoy Creek battlefield. There will be several stops at each of the fields.

Other sites include Shoupade Park and other portions of the River Line; the Chattahoochee River Crossings and Roswell, GA, an industrial center; the site of Johnston's headquarters where he was relieved of command; the site of the Potter House and Atlanta defenses and the site of Atlanta's surrender. Also included will be historic Oakland Cemetery, where John Bell Hood's headquarters stood to watch the Battle of Atlanta. Several notable Georgia generals are also buried there as is Margaret Mitchell, author of "Gone With The Wind." Never forget that the biggest selling Civil War book of all time and the best-selling Civil War movie of all time was about the Atlanta Campaign!

We will also see a few museums on this trip with direct Civil War and Atlanta connections including the Marietta Museum; the Atlanta History Center (with one of the three best Civil War collections in the nation); the Road to Tara Museum (which has only one of two remaining Sherman Neck-ties - the melted and bent rails typical of this campaign) along with some "Gone With The Wind" sites including the museum in Marietta and the Margaret Mitchell House. We had hoped to visit the Atlanta Cyclorama but this site is being moved and is now closed for the time being. On the way back home on Sunday, October 25th, we will tie the Atlanta campaign to Hood's Tennessee Campaign with a stop at the Allatoona Pass battlefield in north Georgia. This October 1864 battle was the first fight of the Tennessee Campaign. We will end the tour back in Franklin.

In the evening we will have great presentations by Atlanta historians. Scheduled to appear are Steve Davis, noted Atlanta Campaign author and historian and a very entertaining speaker; a representative of the Georgia battlefields Association will also speak to us one evening about their efforts to save battlefields in that state (and we should pass the hat to give them a nice donation!). Lastly, author Brad Butkovich, author of the latest book on the battle of Allatoona Pass, will speak to us on the first battle of Hood's Tennessee Campaign. These evening programs will be for Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights. Steve and Brad will have their books for sale with them so you can get them signed.

This all kicks off like with a 1 PM departure from the Lotz House in Franklin, TN on Wednesday, October 21st, where we will be boarding the coach for the direct run to Marietta. We will be staying at the Hampton Inn - Marietta as last year. We decided to add a day this time to bring more value and fun to the tour which would be impossible to do in three days of touring. There's just a lot to see including some great museums!

About your guides: Greg Biggs has been a student of military history for over 45 years with many interests from ancient Greece to today's wars. He is president of the Clarksville, TN Civil War Roundtable and an officer of the Nashville and Bowling Green, KY CWRTs. He has studied the Atlanta Campaign for over 30 years and lived in Atlanta for several of those years and has lectured CWRTs across the country on the campaign and been published on some aspects of it. He gave his first Atlanta tour in 1993 and also does tours of several other western campaigns. Greg was one of the guides for the first portion of the Lotz House Atlanta tour in March 2014.

Robert Jenkins is an attorney from Dalton, GA whose office is next door to what was once General Joe Johnston's headquarters. He has spent many years studying the Atlanta Campaign and was a major contributor to saving several sites in and around Dalton, Georgia. His first book on the Battle of Peachtree Creek is the definitive study of that battle and his knowledge of that field is unsurpassed. One of his recent books, *To the Gates of Atlanta: From Kennesaw Mountain to Peach Tree Creek, 1-19 July 1864*, is the definitive account of the Peachtree Creek battle - Hood's first attack. His most current is, *To the Gates of Atlanta: From Kennesaw Mountain to Peachtree Creek, 1-19 July 1864*, which covers the Federal movements towards the Chattahoochee River, the turning of the River Line and the river crossings and concludes with the Battle of Moore's Mill. For those that took the tour in March 2014, Robert was a co-guide for the Dalton phase.

Here's the pricing and rules for booking the tour:

**The package is sold as is.** Our tour hosts are Cavalier Tours who did the tour with us in March 2014 and they offer excellent service!

Terms & Conditions must be accepted upon making reservations. Full payment is due within 7 days of reservation. Please call the Lotz House Museum at (615) 790-7190 to book this tour. **They are taking bookings starting on Monday, August 3rd, 2015.** A portion of your tour fee may be tax deductible as the Lotz House is a 501(c) 3 entity. Proceeds benefit the Lotz House Museum of Franklin, TN.

**No refunds unless the tour does not mature or unless you substitute someone in your place.** More detailed itineraries will be emailed approximately 2 weeks before departure. Each participant will also receive a map packet of the various battlefields.

There will be moderate walking, mostly at the various battlefields we visit and, of course, the museums.

**Tour Package Includes:**

- \* Round trip luxury Motorcoach transportation from Franklin, Tn..
- \* Escort Services of Cavalier Tours
- \* Onboard Civil War Guides – Greg Biggs and Robert Jenkins
- \* Evening speakers - as mentioned above
- \* 4 nights Accommodations
- \* Baggage handling
- \* 4 Breakfasts
- \* 2 Lunches
- \* Admission to Atlanta History Center (One of the three best Civil War museums in the nation. They have a surviving Union Army transport wagon with travel honors painted on it from the campaigns in which it served amongst many other artifacts.)
- \* Admission to Margaret Mitchell House
- \* Admission to Marietta Museum
- \* Admission to Gone With the Wind Museum

\* Admission to Road To Tara Museum (They hold one of the exceedingly few Sherman neckties - the bent railroad track that often represents this campaign - in the country).

**Rates are per person:**

Single - \$685      Double (2 people) - \$555 per person      Triple - \$510 per person

Splitting of rooms will be incumbent on tour participants but let Greg Biggs know at: [Biggs@charter.net](mailto:Biggs@charter.net)- and he will be happy to connect you with others seeking to share a room.

If you wish to fly into Atlanta and meet the tour that is fine - the rates are the same.

**Terms and Conditions - the really important stuff!**

We have 52 sellable seats, and need a minimum of 30 to make the tour happen. The deadline for full payment is September 15, 2015. Refunds are only given if you get a substitution or if the tour does not mature

Cavalier Travel & Tours LLC, Lotz House, their guides and agents act only as an agent of the tour participant in making arrangements for hotels, transportation and/or other services and does not assume any liability for injury, damage, death, loss, accident, or delay to person or property due to act of negligence or default of any hotel, carrier, restaurant, company, or persons rendering any of the services included in the tour, or by act of God. Further, no responsibilities are accepted for any damage and/or delay due to sickness, pilferage, labor disputes, machinery breakdown, quarantine, government restraints, weather or any cause beyond their control. The right is reserved to decline, to accept, or retain any person as a member of any tour, or to cancel, or alter any tour if circumstances require it. Meals, gratuities, entertainment, tax and transfers are not included unless specifically stated.

We will have details about parking your vehicles in Franklin while we are down in Georgia. We are trying to set it up as last year and will let you know.

Hotels for staying in Franklin, TN on Tuesday night, October 20th and Sunday night, October 25th, are on your own so you can get the best deals online.

We will keep you posted as before with any updates and if you have any questions please let me know. Thanks for coming last year - see you in late October for the fall of Atlanta tour.

Don't forget - last year's tour sold out pretty quickly so if you would like to come along with us please call the Lotz House starting on August 3rd, 2015.

## **This Month in Civil War History**

### **1861**

- August 1<sup>st</sup> 1861- Tennessee votes to adopt the Constitution of the Confederate States of America.
- August 6<sup>th</sup> 1861- First confiscation act passed, allowing Union soldiers to confiscate Southern property, including slaves forced to serve the Confederate war effort.
- August 15<sup>th</sup> 1861- General George B. McClellan assumes command of the Army of the Potomac
- August 30<sup>th</sup> 1861- John C. Fremont declares martial law in Missouri and then frees of Missouri Confederates. President Lincoln, recognizing the need to keep the Border States in the Union, orders Fremont to rescind the declaration on September 11<sup>th</sup> 1861.

### **1862**

- August 5<sup>th</sup>- Battle of Baton Rouge occurs when CSA forces under John C. Breckinridge are defeated by Union forces under Brigadier General Thomas Williams. General Williams is killed in the battle and replaced by Colonel Thomas W. Cahill, while Breckinridge's soldiers are forced to retreat under Union naval bombardment.
- August 22<sup>nd</sup>- General Benjamin Butler authorizes the enlistment of free Black men as soldiers in the Union war effort.
- August 26<sup>th</sup>- Fitzhugh Lee captures the Manassas rail depot, marking the first stage of the Second Battle of Manassas (Bull Run). On the following day CSA forces under Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson destroy a Union supply base, forcing General John Pope to withdraw from the Rappahannock.
- August 29<sup>th</sup>- The Battle of Richmond, Kentucky occurs when CSA forces under General Kirby Smith meet William "Bull" Nelson's Union force. At the battle's end Smith was victorious, and over 4,000 Union soldiers were taken prisoner.
- August 30<sup>th</sup>- Pope's army is defeated by General Longstreet and Lee's combined force of 28,000 soldiers, ensuring Confederate victory at the Second Battle of Manassas.

### **1863**

- August 8<sup>th</sup>- Following his retreat from Gettysburg, Robert E. Lee offers his resignation to Jefferson Davis, who refuses to accept it.
- August 10<sup>th</sup>- President Lincoln meets with renowned orator and abolitionist Frederick Douglass to discuss the treatment of Black soldiers.
- August 18<sup>th</sup>- Union General Thomas Ewing issues orders freeing slaves of Missouri Confederates. Unlike Fremont's similar order in 1861, Ewing's orders are not opposed by President Lincoln.
- August 29<sup>th</sup>- The Army of the Cumberland moves east towards Lookout Mountain, marking the beginning of the Chickamauga campaign.

### **1864**

- August 1<sup>st</sup>- General Phillip Sheridan assumes command of Union forces in the Shenandoah Valley. Sheridan's forces defeat Jubal A. Early's CSA army and initiate a "scorched earth policy" dealing irreparable damage to the Confederacy.
- August 14<sup>th</sup>- The Second Battle of Dalton Georgia begins when Joseph Wheeler's CSA force is attacked by Union forces under Major General James B. Steedman out of Chattanooga Tennessee. Wheeler and his cavalry retreat, foiling their efforts to destroy General William T. Sherman's supply lines.
- August 29<sup>th</sup>- Northern Democrats nominate George B. McClellan, former commander of the Army of the Potomac, for president. The party's platform called for a negotiated peace, while McClellan was in favor of continuing the conflict.
- August 31<sup>st</sup>- Battle of Jonesboro occurs: At its end Hood's Army of Tennessee was routed and Sherman occupies Atlanta.

## Civil War Quotes

*"This country, with its institutions, belongs to the people who inhabit it. Whenever they shall grow weary of the existing government, they can exercise their constitutional right of amending it, or exercise their revolutionary right to overthrow it."* - Abraham Lincoln

*"The dissolution of the Union would not give the north a single advantage over slavery, but would take from it many. Within the Union we have a firm basis of opposition to slavery. It is opposed to all the great objects of the Constitution. The dissolution of the Union is not only an unwise but a cowardly measure; fifteen millions running away from three hundred and fifty thousand slaveholders."* - Frederick Douglass

*"The party of Lincoln, called the Republican Party, under its present name and organization is of recent origin. It is admitted to be an anti-slavery party, while it attracts to itself by its creed, the scattered advocates of exploded political heresies, of condemned theories in political economy, the advocates of commercial restrictions, of protection, of special privileges, of waste and corruption in the administration of Government; anti-slavery is its mission and its purpose."* From the Georgia Declaration of the Causes of Secession.

*"African slavery as it exists amongst us the proper status of the negro in our form of civilization. This, our new government, is the first, in the history of the world, based upon this great physical, philosophical, and moral truth."* - Confederate Vice-President Alexander H. Stephens, from his "cornerstone speech" before the CSA Congress (March 1861).

*"Mark me, Franklin. If we give in on this issue, there will be trouble one hundred years hence. Posterity will never forgive us."* - John Adams to Benjamin Franklin regarding the removal of the anti-slavery provision of the Declaration of Independence.

*Charles Hamilton: Are you hinting, Mr. Butler, that the Yankees can lick us?*

*Rhett Butler: No, I'm not hinting. I'm saying very plainly that the Yankees are better equipped than we. They've got factories, shipyards, coal mines, and a fleet to bottle up our harbors and starve us to death. All we've got is cotton, and slaves, and... (glances around) arrogance.*

— Gone with the Wind

*"My Dear McClellan, if you don't want to use the army I should like to borrow it for a while."* - Abraham Lincoln to George McClellan.

*"The President is no more than a well-meaning baboon. I went to the White House directly after tea, where I found "The Original Gorilla", about as intelligent as ever. What a specimen to be at the head of our affairs now."* - George McClellan on Abraham Lincoln

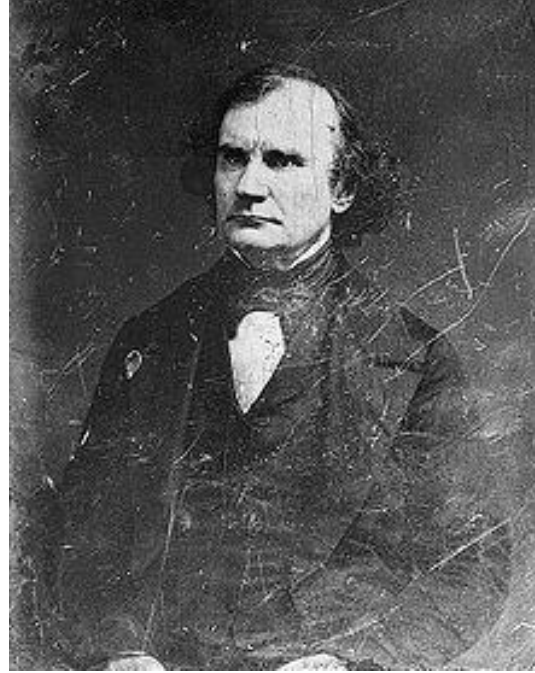
*"So far from engaging in a war to perpetuate slavery, I am rejoiced that Slavery is abolished. I believe it will be greatly for the interest of the South. So fully am I satisfied of this that I would have cheerfully lost all that I have lost by the war, and have suffered all that I have suffered to have this object attained."* - Robert E. Lee

*"The prisoners still keep killing each other, they hung six yesterday, they fight almost every night in the stockade."* - Joseph Williams, a Confederate guard at Andersonville prison.

*"Wednesday, February 1, 1865—"No improvements in our condition - terrible coughs and cramps in the bowels, verging on to chronic diarrhea and inflammation of the bowels."* - Prisoner Eugene Forbes on conditions in Andersonville



## A View of Confederate Officials in Europe



Top Left: Photo of Henry Hotze who served as a Confederate propagandist in Europe  
 Top Right: James Mason, the Confederate Commissioner to the United Kingdom



Bottom Left: John Slidell, Confederate Commissioner to France  
 Bottom Right: Henry Wirz, better known as the officer in charge of Andersonville prison, previously served as a special agent carrying dispatches to both Mason and Slidell

### **UPCOMING EVENTS FOR THE BGCWRT**

- September - Ross Massey, author/historian, Battle of Nashville Preservation Society - "Confederate General William Bate"
- October - Wayne Motts - CEO, National Civil War Museum, Harrisburg, PA, author/historian - "The Civil War Through Artifacts"
- Events for November-May are still tentative, and will be announced in future newsletters.

### **The Civil War in Bowling Green**



Special thanks to Greg Biggs for making both the documents and background information available to us.

Nathaniel R. Chambliss was a West Point graduate in 1860, ranking ninth in his class. A Virginia native, he joined the Tennessee State Army that began forming before the state's secession on June 8, 1861 and continued as an ordnance officer for that force until Tennessee's troops were tendered to the Confederacy later that summer.

Chambliss was posted to Bowling Green, KY later in 1861 and was in charge of ordnance for the Confederate Army of Central Kentucky which defended the city. Chambliss has a series of documents that can be found in his personal file at the National Archives in Washington, DC (Confederate Staff Officers, Microcopy M 331) that pertain to his time there. He will later serve at the Selma, AL and Grenada, MS ordnance depots during the war as an ordnance officer responsible for weapons, powder and other related accouterments being shipped to units in the field. The newsletter will publish a series of these documents as space permits which will give an insight into the workings of the Confederate defenses in Bowling Green. These documents were taken from the subscription web site Fold3.com which has scanned the microfilm from the National Archives.

Ordinance office

Bowling Green Ky Nov 20<sup>th</sup> /61

Col. W. W. Mackal

A. A. Genl.

Sir

I have the honour to request that you will furnish me with the following information needed in making out an estimate of reserve ammunition for the field. Viz. The different kinds of fire arms in the bands of the troops and the entire number of each, and the number of rounds of appropriate ammunition for each.

I would suggest also the propriety of ascertaining the actual number of arms in each regiment and as compared with that of effective men, as it is said that many of the regiments have arms among them unemployed.

Also please direct that requisitions be immediately made to supply the wants of - Cartridge Boxes, Cap Boxes, Bayonet Scabbards, Knives, Haversacks, Gun Slings, Canteens, & Sticks, as all surplus supplies of these articles are to be immediately shipped to Nashville.

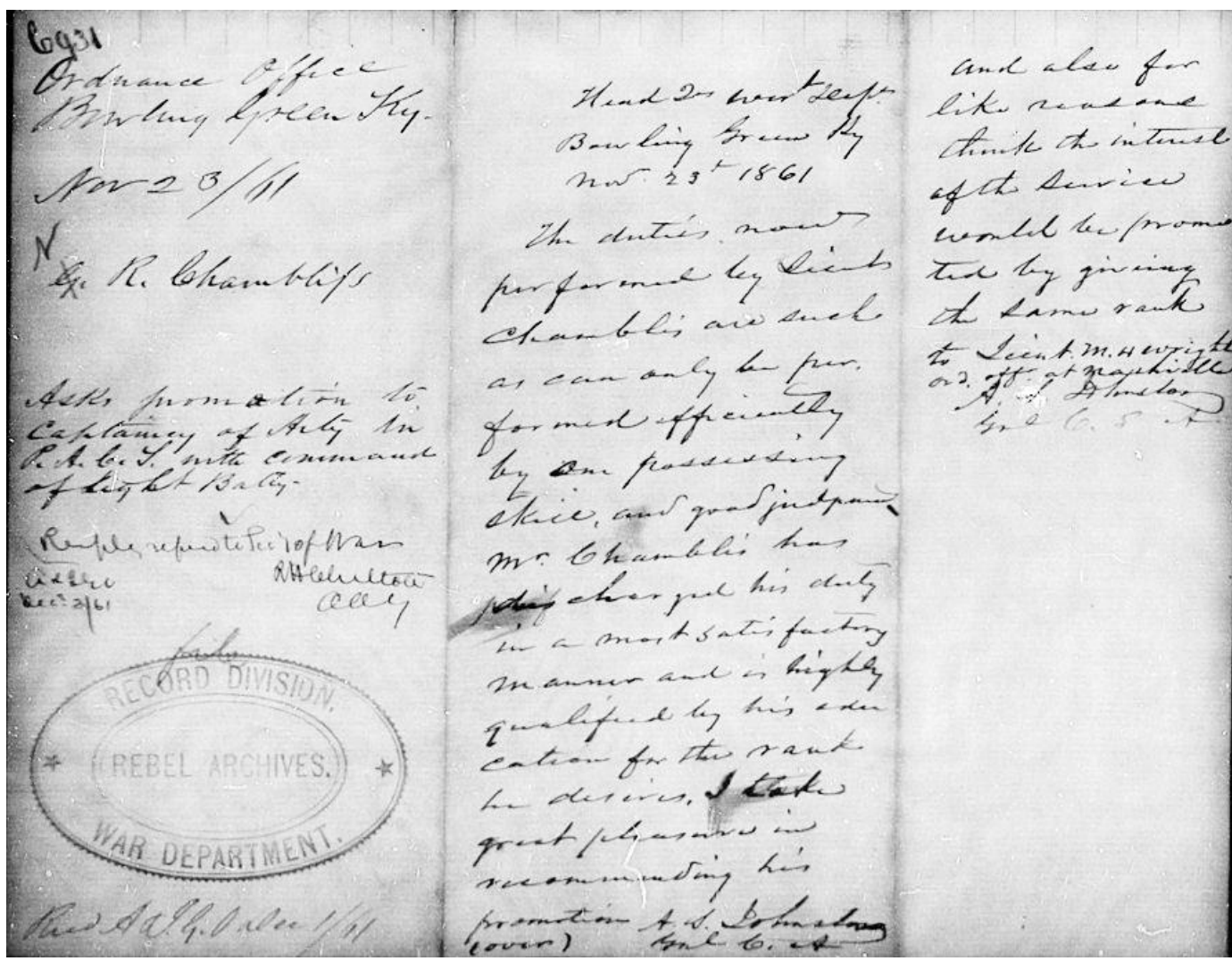
I am Sir your Obedt. Servt.

R. R. Chambliss

Capt. Arty. & Quar.

A. S. Army





### Membership Information

Come join us! If you have friends interested in the Civil War, please bring them along. **January is our fiscal year when dues for the current campaign are due.** If you haven't paid your dues for this season yet please do so. Our dues help us obtain great speakers. With enough members we may also assist with historical preservation in the future.

### Annual dues are as follows:

- Student - \$10
- Single - \$20
- Family - \$30
- Military (active duty and veterans) - \$15 Military family (active duty and veterans) - \$25