



MICHIGAN REGIMENTAL ‘WORLD FAMOUS’ AUCTION. It has been 19 months since the MRRT held its last auction in July 2003 which netted \$311.00 for our Treasury. Five previous auctions, beginning in 1996, have totaled \$2995.00. Obviously, this has been a highly successful endeavor and lots of fun as well. It has also been a wonderful opportunity for the entire audience to participate and to obtain some great, bargain-priced Civil War items. We’ve auctioned off as many as 75 items in one evening, with prices ranging from \$1.25 to as much as \$150.00. So bring in any Civil War-related objects—books, buttons, tokens, bullets, prints, coins, shell fragments, gunpowder flasks, pamphlets, maps—and settle in for an evening of fun. And, remember ALL proceeds accumulated fatten our Treasury. Also, keep in mind that the success of such a meeting depends entirely on YOU. So gather up your goods and show up for our meeting: **MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28.**

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If you weren’t in attendance for January’s meeting, you missed a beauty, as **Dr. Weldon Petz** presented “*From Swamp to Glory*,” the story of the Lincoln Memorial. Weldon’s narrative history of the famous structure was enhanced by dozens of slides showing how the memorial evolved from the nasty Washington D.C. wasteland to the glorious edifice that millions visit each year. As always, Weldon held the audience spellbound.

QUIZ: All questions pertain to the month of February.....

1. On February 4, 1861, the Electoral College confirmed Lincoln’s election with 180 electoral votes. What other three candidates did he defeat? [Extra Credit: Who read the results in front of the U.S. Senate?]
2. On February 15, 1861, this naval officer resigned his commission from the U.S. navy. He would become the Confederacy’s most famous admiral. Name him and the first Confederate ship he commanded.
3. On February 3, 1862, Lincoln declined an unusual offer of military assistance from a foreign head of state. Who made the offer and what was it?
4. On February 12, 1862, the grandson of Thomas Jefferson was made a brigadier general in the Confederate army. Name him and the cabinet position he later accepted from Jefferson Davis.
5. On February 20, 1862, Lincoln suffered a personal tragedy. Who died and from what cause?
6. On February 5, 1863, new commander of the Army of the Potomac, Joseph Hooker, eliminated the system of Grand Divisions and created a Corps system to streamline his army. Name 4 of his newly appointed Corps Commanders.
7. On February 25, 1863, which U.S. ship captured a British blockade runner, but was forced to release it rather than risk an international incident? [Hint: it was named for an American multimillionaire.] And, for how much money did this wealthy man sell the vessel to the U.S. navy?
8. On February 14, 1864, a Federal general captured Meridian, Mississippi. Name him and where had he started this expedition on February 3?
9. On February 1, 1865, the first state ratified the proposed 13th Amendment. Name this state and what did the Amendment declare?
10. On February 7, 1865, which Confederate general died who might have stood trial for the mistreatment of Federal soldiers in Confederate prison camps? And on February 20, 1865, the Confederate House of Representatives passed a bill that authorized what radical, but belated, proposition?

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Virtually anyone can identify Gettysburg as the bloodiest battle of the war with its more than 50,000 casualties. After the great battle had ended numerous descriptions of the wounded were given. Here are but a few.....



Nurse Sophrnia Bucklin: *“I visited the battleground....when the evidences of the horrid carnage....lay on every hand in fearful sights. Right above my head, at one place, so close that it touched me, hung a sleeve of faded army blue—a dead hand protruding from the worn and blackened cuff—I could not but feel a momentary shudder. Boots, with a foot and leg putrefying within, lay beside the pathway, and ghastly heads, too—over the exposed skulls of which insects crawled—while great worms bored through the rotting eyeballs. Astride a tree sat a bloody horror, with head and limbs severed by shells, the birds having banqueted on it, while the tattered uniform, stained with gore, fluttered dismally in the summer air. Whole bodies were flattened against the rocks, smashed into a shapeless mass, as though thrown there by a giant hand, an awful sight in their battered and decaying condition. The freshly turned earth on every hand denoted the pits, from many of which legs were thrust above the scant covering, and arms and hands were lifted up as though pleading to be assigned enough earth to keep them from the glare of the day.”*

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Surgeon Bushrod W. James: *“No written nor expressed language could ever picture the field of Gettysburg! Blood! Blood! And tattered flesh! Shattered bones and mangled forms almost without the semblance of human beings! Faces torn and bruised and lacerated....groans and cries, screams and curses, moans and grinding teeth! And the horrible silence of torture beyond all expression....those weeks of sickening work when the cut of the knife and the rasp of the saw....grated on my overtaxed nerves.”*

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An unnamed medical officer: *“My legs swollen and painful, my arms and hands immersed in blood and water so long that it became difficult to hold the knife....my muscles cramped, eyes burning from sun, sweat, and dust, and flies over it all, covering the gore that lay everywhere....the pile of severed limbs nearby that grew with each passing hour....”*

QUIZ ANSWERS:

1. John Breckinridge 72, John Bell 39, Stephen Douglas 12 [Extra Credit: John Breckinridge as Vice President]
2. Raphael Semmes and the *C.S.S Sumter*
3. King of Siam and elephants
4. George W. Randolph and Secretary of War
5. His 11-year-old son, Willie, of pneumonia
6. John F. Reynolds (First), Darius Couch (Second), Dan Sickles (Third), George Meade (Fifth), John Sedgwick (Sixth), Oliver Otis Howard (Eleventh), Henry Slocum (Twelfth), and George Stoneman (cavalry)
7. *U.S.S. Vanderbilt* (after Cornelius) and one dollar
8. William T. Sherman and Vicksburg
9. Illinois and it abolished slavery
10. John Henry Winder and the use of blacks as soldiers

Remember our **AUCTION** will be held on **MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28**. The meeting will begin at 6:30 P.M. at the Farmington Public Library (Grand River and Farmington Road). Don't forget to bring your collectibles! Also, give our website a try: <http://www.farmlib.org/mrrt/>.