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There were 1008 generals who served on the two sides in the Civil War (583 Federals and 425 Confederates). West Point graduates included 217 Union generals and 146 Confederates. Nine Union generals graduated from other military schools while 17 Confederates came from various military institutions (17 from Virginia Military Institute, 4 from South Carolina Military Academy, 2 from other military schools, and 1 from *L'Ecole Militaire* in Paris). Civil War generals in the Mexican War numbered 113 (62 Federal, 51 Confederates). Four generals participated in the War of 1812—Winfield Scott, James Wolfe Ripley, John Ellis Wool from the Union side and David Emanuel Twiggs from the Confederate. Wool was the oldest Federal at 77; Twiggs was 71. The youngest generals were Galusha Pennypacker of Pennsylvania for the North, age 20 when he received his star and William Paul Roberts of North Carolina at 24. Seventy-one politicians were given status at generals (47 Federals, 24 Confederates). Each side produced three generals who had been officers in the U.S. Navy. The longest surviving generals were Federal Adelbert Ames who died on April 13, 1933, at the age of 98 and Confederate Felix Huston Robertson who made it until April 20, 1928, dying at age 89. The last Brevet Brigadier General to survive was Federal Aaron S. Daggett who died on May 14, 1938, one month before his 101st birthday!

Attrition accounted for the loss of numerous generals. Forty-seven (or 8 %) of the Federals were killed or mortally wounded, 7 were incapacitated from wounds or disabling injuries or illnesses, 18 died by accident or natural causes, 1 was killed in a personal encounter, 1 committed suicide, 110 resigned, and 3 were cashiered. On the Confederate side 77 were killed or mortally wounded (a whopping 18 %), 15 were incapacitated from wounds or disabling injuries or illnesses, 15 died by accident or natural causes, 2 were killed in personal encounters, 1 committed suicide, 19 resigned, and 1 was assassinated.

This month—MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24—MRRT member, <u>John Moore</u>, will present "The *Aristocracy and Meritocracy—Promotion and Turnover of Senior Military Officers North and South*." John's thesis will be that the North was far more willing to turnover field commanders at the corps and division levels than the South. As a result, John claims that the overall generalship in the Union armies was of a far better caliber by war's end. His presentation will include statistical analysis, short biographies of interesting individuals with a review of all voluntary (non-casualty) turnover for both sides in the Eastern Theater from 1862-1864. John will present this controversial topic based on six themes: political generals and their benefits, redemption from exile, inflexibility of Robert E. Lee, transfer of officers between infantry and cavalry, innovation in the field, and senior generals from humble origins. I wouldn't miss this one for the world. Hope to see you there.

VICKSBURG FIELD TRIP: Two absolutely beautiful days of sunny weather greeted our Vicksburg travelers on October 11-12. We were even joined by two Civil War Round Tablers from Atlanta. Folks agreed that our guide, Terry Winschel, was one of the best we've had on any of our ventures. Photographs and stories of our trip will gladly be told at this month's meeting. If you were unfortunate enough to have not been along, you missed a wonderful trip.

50TH **ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE:** We will meet in the same room in the Farmington Public Library as our normal meeting, but simply an hour earlier (5:30 P.M.). Please be on time.

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On Saturday, January 17, **Al Oakes** will again hold the "<u>Annual History and Military Memorabilia Show</u>." The address is 2299 W. 12 Mile Road in Berkley (between Coolidge and Woodward, across from the cemetery). Featured articles will include antique arms, a variety of Civil War relics, battlefield finds, Indian artifacts, swords, and much more. This show has been and promises to be a great one. You may contact Al for more information at 248-541-8037.

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QUIZ: Guess the Generals

- 1. Which Confederate general fought on both sides during the war? And, which Union general served on both sides?
- 2. Which Confederate was wounded 3 times during the war, had 16 horses shot from under him, had 36 staff officers fall by his side, and was a major general during the Spanish-American War? And, which Federal was born in Savannah, Georgia, was expelled from Charleston College in South Carolina, married the daughter of Senator Thomas Hart Benton, was the first Republican candidate for the Presidency, and forced Lincoln to intercede when he freed slaves in Missouri which led to his resignation?
- 3. Which Confederate Virginian fought at First Bull Run, but because of shattered health committed suicide on December 26, 1861? And which Federal, a native New Yorker who moved to Michigan as a young boy, was known for his corruption, was cashiered in January, 1863, for "neglect and violation of duty," died in 1897 and is buried in Highland Cemetery in Ypsilanti but has an elementary school in Detroit named for him?
- 4. Which Confederate, the cousin of a Rebel general who was killed at Gettysburg, was the first general on either side to die in battle when he was killed on July 13, 1861, near Corrick's Ford in northwest Virginia? And, which clean-shaven Federal was a graduate of Harvard, severely wounded at Gettysburg, left for dead, and helped by Confederate John Brown Gordon, survived the war and afterward initiated the prosecution of the Tweed Ring?
- 5. Which Confederate was formally promoted to colonel after Antietam at age 22 and to brigadier general less than a year-and-a-half later, was shot through both thighs, the ball severing both femoral arteries, thus bleeding to death, at the Weldon Railroad on August 21, 1864? And which Federal, born in Detroit, was elected the first governor of Minnesota, fought the Indians during the Santee Sioux Uprising in 1862, and died in St. Paul on February 18, 1891?
- 6. Which Confederate, a Harvard graduate, was the son of a Federal general, the brother-in-law of a famous Confederate general, and was wounded 7 times during the war? And, which Federal burned the buildings of VMI in 1864, presided over the court-martial of Fitz John Porter and the Lincoln Conspirators, and went insane after the war ended?
- 7. Which Confederate, a one-time neighbor of Davy Crockett, fought at San Jacinto under Sam Houston and Zachary Taylor in the Mexican War, was killed at Elkhorn Tavern on March 7, 1862, by a Federal sharpshooter? And, which Federal, one of the North's most prestigious generals, was severely wounded at Gettysburg on July 3, presided over the Lincoln Conspirators' hangings, and unsuccessfully ran for the Presidency in 1880?
- 8. Nicknamed "Stovepipe," this Confederate was accidentally shot by his own men at Grubbs Crossroads, Kentucky on August 21, 1864, and lost both of his eyes, but did not die until 1922 at age 89. And, which Federal, a Pennsylvania politician, prior to the war organized California's postal service, was the first mayor of San Francisco, and was territorial governor of Kansas? He was wounded at Bolivar Heights and Cedar Mountain and was later the governor of Pennsylvania.
- 9. This Confederate received the highest grades at West Point until Douglas MacArthur in 1903. He was severely wounded and captured at Fort Fisher. Taken north to New York harbor, he died of his wounds on March 10, 1865. And, which Federal moved to Grand Rapids, enlisted in the 3rd Michigan Infantry, was wounded 5 times, and in the post-war commanded the Michigan Soldiers' Home, died July 10, 1924, at age 95, and was buried in Fulton Street Cemetery in Grand Rapids, becoming Michigan's last surviving general?
- 10. This Confederate was one of P.G.T. Beauregard's 3 emissaries to Robert Anderson at Fort Sumter and was the husband of the Confederacy's most famous diarist. And, which Federal was the only American officer to achieve the ranks of major general and rear admiral in the navy?

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Although Federal General Thomas Leiper Kane was not a well-known officer by today's standards, he was a warrior of the first order. Born on January 27, 1822, in Philadelphia, Kane became a Mormon. At the outbreak of the war he organized the Pennsylvania "Bucktails." On December 20, 1861, at Dranesville, Virginia he received his first wound when a ball hit the right side of his face. The bullet passed through the right cheek, struck the maxillary bone, knocked out one molar and, passing across the other side, knocked out two upper molars. Facial nerves were badly damaged. Within a few weeks, his facial wound produced neuralgia and difficulty with his vision, which added to his suffering. On June 6, 1862, near Harrisonburg, Virginia, he was wounded below the right knee. Faint from shock and loss of blood, he was left on the field. When he tried to sit up after the fight was over, he was struck in the middle of his chest by the butt end of a Confederate's rifle, knocked unconscious, and captured. Paroled in a few days, he was examined in Philadelphia by a surgeon. The wound in his leg had been treated poorly and was in bad condition. The surgeon opened the wound and removed a portion of a split pistol ball along with pieces of bone and shreds of clothing. The ball had entered about two and one-half inches below the knee and about three quarters of an inch from the crest of the tibia and passed to the other side. After striking the bone it must have split, one fragment passing to the other side of the calf and the other passing downwards, lodging in the belly of a muscle. The lower end of the sternum had been broken by the rifle butt. Adding to his woes, Kane later developed a case of diarrhea. When he returned to the army, Kane had to be assisted in mounting and dismounting his horse and could not walk without crutches.

That same month, he had boils and an abscess of his wound. Even after the wound appeared to heal, it continued to intermittently open and suppurate over the next two years. While crossing the Rapidan River on the night of April 28-29, 1863, his horse stumbled, and Kane was drenched and developed pleurisy which later turned into pneumonia. From a hospital bed, he made his way through Confederate lines in citizen's dress before Gettysburg. He reached the battlefield in an ambulance and resumed command of his brigade. Before long, however, his wound reopened, and he gave up his command for further treatment. He resigned from the army in November 1863. He had pains in his depressed sternum, ulceration of the upper jaw, altered vision, and was spitting up blood. Upon returning to civilian life, Kane attended to land in northwestern Pennsylvania, was president of the board of public charities and served as a railroad president.

When he was examined in 1882 there was a small scar over the right lower jaw, and the roof of his mouth was dark red to purple with a tender spot. The sternum was also depressed an inch in depth, and his vision was markedly decreased. Kane died on December 26, 1883, at age 61, in his residence at Philadelphia and was buried in Laurel Hill Cemetery. No one could ever doubt Thomas Kane's toughness.

QUIZ ANSWERS:

- 1. Frank Armstrong and Alfred Thomas Archimedes (A.T.A.) Torbert
- 2. Joseph Wheeler and John Charles Fremont
- 3. Philip St. George Cocke and Justus McKinstry
- 4. Robert Selden Garnett and Francis Channing Barlow
- 5. John Caldwell Calhoun Sanders and Henry Hastings Sibley
- 6. John Rogers Cooke (brother-in-law of Jeb Stuart) and David Hunter
- 7. Ben McCullough and Winfield Scott Hancock
- 8. Adam Rankin Johnson and John White Geary
- 9. William Henry Chase Whiting and Byron Root Pierce
- 10. James Chesnut, Jr. and Samuel Powhatan Carter



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A last reminder for this month's meeting: **MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24,** for **John Moore's** provocative presentation, "Aristocracy and Meritocracy, Promotion and Turnover of Senior Military Officers North and South." The meeting will start at 6:30 P.M. in the Farmington Public Library (Grand River and Farmington Road). See you there.

Also try our website: http://www.farmlib.org/mrrt/.