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1861-1865



2011-2015

had ordered a tombstone from the Veterans Administration in 1995 to memorialize Whitaker's Confederate service and mark his grave.¹ Unfortunately, when the tombstone arrived it was damaged and Joyner refused shipment. The delivery truck driver then evidently had simply dumped the marker along the Interstate, where it was discovered by the North Carolina State Police. Major Whitaker still lay undisturbed in his grave. End of story? Yes, but not for me. Several questions still lingered.

The Fare Facs Gazette

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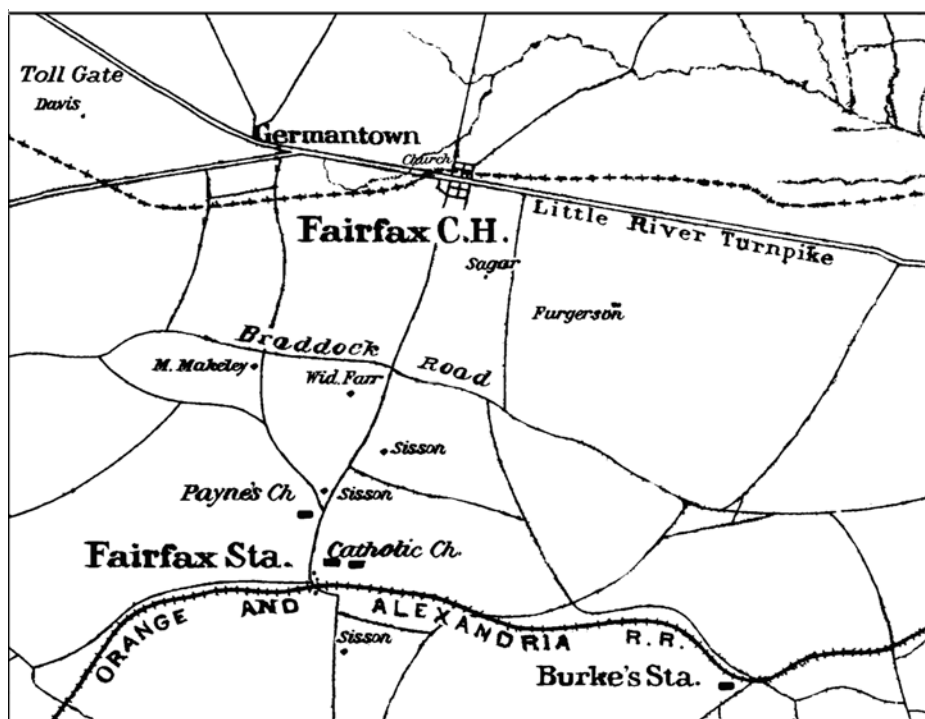
Charge of the Gray Devils

By William Page Johnson, II



In April 1995, an officer of a local heritage association from Jamestown, North Carolina contacted me. He was seeking information about the death and burial of a Confederate officer who had been killed at the *Battle of Fairfax Station* on June 27, 1863. He went on to relate that he thought that the grave of Confederate Major John Henry Whitaker of the 1st North Carolina Cavalry had been desecrated. He was outraged that Major Whitaker's broken and discarded tombstone had been found dumped along side of Interstate 85 in North Carolina. I genuinely wanted to help him but I was completely ignorant of this event. I had never heard of the Battle of Fairfax Station, the death of Major Whitaker, or where he might be buried. Being an avid Civil War historian who had grown up in Fairfax, I was even a little doubtful that the gentleman from North Carolina knew what he was talking about. But I was determined to find out.

Within a few days of that first call, the gentleman from North Carolina called again to say that the mystery was solved. It seems that the great-nephew of Major John H. Whitaker, Whitmel M. Joyner, of New Hill, North Carolina,



Fairfax Court House, Virginia

Adapted from U.S. Military Topographical Map, January 1, 1862



Fairfax, Virginia, June 2013

Message from the President

This has been a very active spring for HFCI, the City of Fairfax Department of Historic Resources and City of Fairfax Civil War Sesquicentennial Committee. On March 9th we had the Reenactment of Mosby's Raid, on April 17th we had a talk by Howard Coffin on the experiences of Vermont soldiers who were serving here during that Raid and on April 27 the City held the Annual Civil War Day at Blenheim. In addition the Museum held a number of talks on historic themes and organized new exhibits.

This fall on September 27, HFCI will be holding the annual Taste of the Vine fundraiser. The wines of Barrel Oak winery will be featured at this year's Taste of the Vine and the appetizers will be provided by Café Italia. We will again have the popular silent auction that features a wide range of gifts, services and other great items. This is our most important fundraising activity and we hope that everyone will plan on attending.

HFCI's support for the restoration of the City's historic properties is also continuing this year. HFCI is contributing \$25,000 toward work at Blenheim house. This work is critical to making the house safe for future expansion of visitation and use. Your continued support for our organization is critical to continuing this important work.

Please check our website <http://www.historicfairfax.org> for information about these events as well as many others.

David L. Pumphrey

At the Fairfax Museum and Historic Blenheim...

Saturday, June 15 – 2 p.m.

“Sunstroke and Ankle-Deep Mud” – Join authors Brian McEnany and Jim Lewis for the untold story of the Union Army's II Corps' arduous march across Northern Virginia on the way to Gettysburg in June 1863. **Location: The Civil War Interpretive Center at Historic Blenheim, 3610 Old Lee Highway. 703-591-0560. Historic Blenheim is open: 12 - 4 p.m., Tuesday–Saturday; guided tour at 1 p.m.**

Saturday, July 27 – 2 p.m.

“Unknown or Unfamiliar Civil War Incidents in Fairfax County”

Listen to local historian Don Hakenson weave these stories of John S. Mosby and more.

Saturday, August 24 – 2 p.m.

Saturday, August 24, 2 p.m.

Program TBA

Saturday, September 23 – 7 p.m.

Fall for the Book Festival Program with GMU

“Black Soldiers in White Regiments”

Dr. Juanita Patience Moss, will share her ten years of research on 2,000 black soldiers who served in white regiments during the Civil War

Second Sunday Series...

Sunday, July 14 — 2 p.m.

“Songs and Stories of the Red, White and Blue.”

Musical presentation by Matthew Dodd tells the stories behind the composition of our most popular patriotic songs. **Location: Program will be at Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax.**

Sunday, August 11 — 2 p.m.

“The Story of Pie.” Illustrated talk by Debbie Waugh, Historic House Coordinator at Green Spring Gardens, Alexandria, and display of cookbooks from the City's Historic Collections showing pie recipes.

Sunday, September 8 — 2 p.m. Looking for Mosby. Guided walking tour of the Fairfax City Cemetery with stops at the graves of men, who served in “Mosby’s Rangers.” Fee: \$5.00. Meet at *the Cemetery, 10567 Main Street, Fairfax.*

Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center, 10209 Main Street, Fairfax. 703-385-8414

Historic Blenheim and The Civil War Interpretive Center, 3610 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. 703-591-0560



Guided Walking Tours of Old Town Fairfax

June 15, July 27, August 24, September 14, and October 26. Tours will start at 11 a.m, step off from Ratcliffe-Allison House, 10386 Main Street, Fairfax, and includes a tour of the historic house. Cost: \$5/adults; \$3/youth, ages 6 - 12. Children under 6 free. Family rate: \$15. Tours last approximately 90 minutes and include stops at the Fairfax County Courthouse (1800) and several antebellum buildings.

Reservations: **703-385-8414**. Tours will be cancelled due to inclement weather.



**Historic Ratcliffe-Allison House,
10386 Main Street, Fairfax
Open for the Season – Saturdays, 11
a.m. – 2 p.m. through October 26.**

Discover the lives of Ratcliffe-Allison House’s many residents and owners—from nineteenth-century tradesmen to a twentieth-century newspaper columnist. See the exhibition: “*Dr. Kate Waller Barrett: Mother to Many.*” **Free.** 703-385-8414. To book youth or adult group tours (\$25), Monday through Friday; please call 703-385-8415.

What was the *Battle of Fairfax Station*? What happened to Major Whitaker, and where was he buried?

The Beginning

On Saturday, June 27, 1863, a cavalry skirmish occurred in Fairfax at the start of the pivotal Gettysburg Campaign. This event, in a small way, influenced the outcome of that decisive battle. By comparison, it was insignificant and completely overshadowed by the larger action in Gettysburg. It was also a lopsided affair. For the Southern cavalymen involved it was but a momentary distraction, a footnote in the overall campaign. But for the Northern horsemen it was a character defining moment, an exclamation, an event of such singular significance the memory of which time failed to dim, even after 50 years.

Today, there are no markers to record this event and the very land does not yield any clues. Local historians do not revel in retelling this tale. Most, in fact, are not even aware of it.

Stuart’s Ride

One of the more controversial aspects of the Battle of Gettysburg, July 1-3, 1863, and a factor that may have contributed to the Confederate defeat, is what has come to be known as “*Stuart’s Ride*,” and the conspicuous absence of the better part of the Confederate cavalry from the battle. For eight days Confederate commander, General Robert E. Lee, was completely out of contact with his cavalry commander General James Ewell Brown “*Jeb*” Stuart.

By the spring of 1863, the Federal army lay opposite Fredericksburg, Virginia along the Rappahannock River. The Confederate army was positioned on the opposite bank. The Federal objective was the Confederate capital, Richmond, Virginia. General Lee wanted to draw the Federal army away from this position, and, if possible, shift the theater of war to the north. Experience had taught him that any movement north, toward the Federal capital, would cause a similar movement in the Union army.

In early June, Lee began moving his army north. As expected, the Union army, under command of General Joseph Hooker, withdrew from Fredericksburg and, being unaware of Lee’s intentions, formed a defensive front in Fairfax County guarding the approaches to Washington. Hooker established his headquarters at Fairfax Court House (now the City of Fairfax).

General Stuart, who had been massing his cavalry forces at Brandy Station, was heavily engaged there on June

9 with Union cavalry. Stuart then moved to support and screen a movement by General James Longstreet on the west side of the Blue Ridge into the Shenandoah Valley. Stuart, with five brigades, remained at the Ashby and Snickers gaps where there was significant fighting with Union cavalry June 17-21.

Stuart, in accordance with instructions from Lee, was to leave two brigades to screen the Confederate advance, and, if practical, move around Hooker's rear, harass him and delay his pursuit.² Lee hoped that by having his cavalry threaten the Union rear he could delay their crossing of the Potomac until he could capture Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. But Stuart's raid was prolonged to such an extent he did not arrive at Gettysburg until the battle was almost over. In his official report of the battle, Lee would later write:

*"In the absence of the cavalry, it was impossible to ascertain his intentions, but to deter him from advancing farther west, and intercepting our communication with Virginia, it was determined to concentrate the army east of the mountains. . . . The movements of the army preceding the battle of Gettysburg had been much embarrassed by the absence of the cavalry. . . . In exercise of the discretion given him... General Stuart determined to pass around the rear of the Federal Army with three brigades.... He marched from Salem [now Marshall] on the night of June 24 intending to pass west of Centreville, but found the enemy's force so distributed as to render that route impracticable. Adhering to his original plan, he was forced to make a wide detour through Buckland and Brentsville, and crossed the Occoquan at Wolf Run Shoals on the morning of the 27th. Continuing his march through Fairfax Court-House and Dranesville, he arrived at the Potomac, below the mouth of Seneca Creek, in the evening."*³

By June 25 the Confederate infantry had crossed the Potomac into Maryland. In the predawn of that morning the Confederate cavalry under Stuart also began to move. Leaving the brigades of generals Beverly H. Robertson and William "Grumble" Jones, to hold the gaps, he proceeded southeast from Salem (now Marshall) with the remaining three brigades of generals Fitzhugh Lee, Wade Hampton

and W. H. F. Lee, with the latter being under the temporary command of Colonel John R. Chambliss. Accompanying them were the 1st and 2nd Horse Artillery with six field pieces, and several ambulances. Altogether this force totaled approximately 5,000 men.

Stuart's objective was to pass between Washington and the main body of Hooker's army still in Fairfax. In moving behind the Union army, Stuart hoped to succeed by relying on stealth and speed. However, Stuart's progress was slowed because his column was too large. In addition, he needed to stop and graze his horses often. After two years of warfare, there was very little forage to be found in northern Virginia. He also encountered Federal troops in so many unexpected places that he had to alter his route.

Arriving at Buckland on June 25, Stuart found his intended route through Haymarket blocked by a large wagon train guarded by Union infantry. He was forced to extend his line of march 20 miles farther south through Prince William and Fairfax counties.

On the night of the June 26 Stuart camped in Prince William County between Brentsville and the Occoquan River. The next morning he crossed the Occoquan River at Wolf Run Shoals and headed toward Fairfax Station. Stuart sent Fitzhugh Lee's brigade to Burke Station with instructions to search for the enemy and any supplies and meet at Fairfax Court House by way of Annandale. Stuart reached Fairfax Station about 10:00 AM where he found several wagons of oats and mixed corn. They stopped and unbridled their horses to allow them to feed. An advance guard of approximately 15 to 20 men was sent ahead to Fairfax Court House.

While these movements were occurring, the Union command had been trying to determine what was happening. They sent out regular cavalry patrols into Fairfax County and the surrounding countryside to gather intelligence on Confederate movements. On June 25 word finally reached Union army commander Joe Hooker that Lee, with his main army, had crossed the Potomac into Maryland and was headed to Pennsylvania. There was still uncertainty, however, as to where all of the Confederate forces were and additional concern for the vast amount of supplies left in Fairfax County by Hooker's army. The 11th New York Cavalry (aka. Scott's 900) was ordered to scout as far as Centreville for this purpose:

"Headquarters Department of Washington,

June 27, 1863 – 2:40 P.M. (Received 4:30 P.M.)

Brigadier-General De Russy, Commanding,
&c., Arlington House:

Five companies of the Scott's Nine Hundred Cavalry have been ordered to report to you as soon as possible. The major-general commanding [Heintzelman] directs that you order this cavalry to make the necessary reconnaissance's in front of the works, and report your orders and the result of the reconnaissance's to these headquarters. . .

Respectfully,

C.H. Potter,
Assistant Adjutant-General"⁴

Scott's 900

The 11th New York Cavalry was organized in the winter of 1861-1862 by Colonel James Barrett Swain (1820-1895) and was made up primarily of men from northern New York and New York City. A significant number of Irish, English and other European immigrants filled their ranks. They were known by the nickname "Scott's 900" in honor of Thomas Alexander Scott, Assistant Secretary of War, who was a friend of Swain. Swain's intention was to organize an elite regiment. The men all wore fancy blue uniforms with distinctive piping. They were well trained,

MILITARY. CAVALRY.

HEADQUARTERS, No. 74 BROADWAY, }
NEW-YORK, NOV. 26, 1861. }

By the authority from the War department, and the sanction of His Excellency, Gov. Morgan, JAMES B. SWAIN, First Cavalry, U. S. A., is now recruiting for a Regiment of Volunteer Cavalry, to serve for three years, or during the war.

By the kindness of His Excellency Gov. Morgan, and of Quartermaster Arthur, the brick barracks, at the Quarantine Landing, have been assigned as the quarters of the Regiment, during its formation.

Lieut. Swain has orders to join the army in the field, for active service, as soon as the different battalions may be organized.

The uniforms, equipments and arms for the Regiment, have been provided, and will be served to the men as fast as they are enlisted.

Officers having parts of companies recruited, will be received, and organized, on application at these headquarters.

As this is probably the last and only Regiment of Cavalry that will be organized in this State during the War, those desirous of joining this branch of the service, must embrace this opportunity.

JAMES B. SWAIN,
First Cavalry, U. S. A., Colonel Commanding.



Colonel James Barrett Swain

11th New York Cavalry, Scott's 900

Source: *The Story of a Cavalry Regiment*, © 1897

but were equipped mainly with sabers and a few pistols. Each company used a different type of horse in order to distinguish one company from another. One company, for example, was given sorrels, another grays, and another bays and so on.

The regiment left New York on May 5, 1862 for Washington. They were attached to the Military District of Washington and the 22nd Army Corps. When they arrived they were stationed at the extreme northern end of 7th Street across from the Soldiers Home. Their camp was called *Camp Relief*, not because it offered any relief to the men, but after the wife of Colonel Swain, Relief Davis Swain. Within the camp was a huge parade ground that was encircled by an oval racetrack that was used for exercising the horses.

Throughout that summer, the regiment trained at Camp Relief and made raids on suspected Confederate recruiting areas in Maryland and Virginia. On their forays into Virginia, James H. Sherman, a native of New York who had moved to Dranesville before the war, befriended them. Sherman, who lived along Leesburg Pike, had remained loyal to the Union. He acted as a scout for the Union cavalry, often guiding Scott's 900 through the Fairfax County countryside.⁵

Many of the men of the Scott's 900 regiment were notorious for getting into serious trouble while in Washington:

*"Philip Wolcott, of 'Scott's 900,' and John Eiche, a citizen, were sent to the Guardhouse by the Provost Marshall Thursday; the first on the charge of stealing a horse, and the latter with receiving it."*⁶

A favorite pastime of many men in the regiment were the infamous Washington brothels:

*"CAPTURE OF ALL IN 'THE BANDBOX.' – Saturday evening, about 8 o'clock, a general muss occurred among females at Madame Wolfe's, corner of Thirteenth and C streets, all about a soger [soldier] boy belonging to Scott's 900. The police were called upon by the neighbors, and Roundsman Tait, with officers Bigley and Parker entered the house and arrested all hands. Justice Clayton, before whom they were taken, fined Madam Wolf \$10 for keeping a disorderly house. Ellen Woods, Emma Richards, Alice Jones, Nellie Scott, Kate Marshall and Kate Coleman were fined \$2.50 each for disorderly conduct. Kate Coleman having the funds, paid all the fines. The house formerly kept by the Madam was known as the 'Den,' but the house she has purchased recently is known as 'Bandbox No. 1.'"*⁷

Private William Dorrington was found guilty in District of Columbia Criminal Court on January 25, 1864, of stealing the coronet from M. Trojsa, a musician. After Judge Olin rendered his verdict he was heard to reply:

"I wish the exigencies of the service would demand that this regiment should be disbanded, or removed out of the District,

*as the courts have had more trouble with them than with the thieves and vagabonds of the city. I have never seen such a band of men congregated before in one regiment, and if they are not soon ordered away from here, I am afraid I will have to sentence the larger portion to the Albany Penitentiary."*⁸

They were not all bad however. On July 29, 1862, the War Department issued General Order No. 91, which disbanded all regimental bands. The officers of the regiment agreed to contribute a percentage of their own pay to sustain what would now be a "volunteer" band.⁹ When Vicksburg fell on July 9, 1863, the Scott's 900 Volunteer Band helped the inhabitants of Georgetown celebrate:

*"THE SURRENDER OF VICKSBURG. – Demonstration in Georgetown. Last night the young men of Georgetown confiscated all the barrels and boxes they could lay hands on, and made a tremendous bonfire in honor of the surrender of Vicksburg. A large company of citizens, headed by the band of 'Scott's 900,' proceeded to the residence of Mrs. Admiral Porter and complimented her with a serenade."*¹⁰

Scout to Fairfax

On Friday afternoon, June 26, 1863, Colonel Swain issued orders for a portion of his command to scout into Fairfax County. An 82-man squadron, comprising companies B and C, left Camp Relief and headed into Virginia late in the afternoon. The squadron was under the command of 31-year-old Major Seth Pierre Remington, the father of future western sculptor Frederic Remington.¹¹ Their objective was Centreville. They crossed the Potomac River at Georgetown and proceeded to Fairfax Court House by way of Columbia Pike to the Little River Turnpike. They arrived at Fairfax Court House about 10 PM and set up camp in the Courthouse yard. They cooked rations for the next day, posted guards and settled in for the night. The men did not sleep well however. Fairfax was bathed in the light of a full moon and the eerie, unsettling glow from hundreds of campfires left burning in the deserted camps of the Army of the Potomac, which had left the day before. Twenty-four-year-old Lieutenant George A. Dagwell of Co. C remembers:

"First in one direction and then in another, a fire would flash up for a moment, as





Major Seth Pierpont Remington

11th New York Cavalry, *Scott's 900*

Source: The Story of a Cavalry Regiment, © 1897

though some unseen hand had replenished it. Some of the lads thought it was powder that flared up as the fire reached it. To say the least it looked weird and uncanny in the darkness... in our imagination, we thought we could see persons flitting by and around some of these fires, but was it our imagination?"¹²

The matter was reported to Major Remington who determined that it was probably some of the citizens of the town. The guard was instructed to keep a sharp eye on any fire that looked as if it was being disturbed. Most of the men did not get more than a couple of hours sleep that night.

The next morning, June 27th, at the same time Confederate General Stuart was crossing Wolf Run Shoals to the south, Major Remington and his squadron were watering their horses in Accotink Creek just below the Court House before resuming their march to Centreville.

The Courthouse Yard Was Full of Johnnies

The New Yorkers arrived at Centreville about 9 AM and found the village nearly deserted except for a few hospital stores left by Hooker's army. Looking off in the direction of Fairfax Station, they saw mounted men moving in and out of the woods. Major Remington assumed these men to be some of Mosby's "*Bushwhackers*"—a term of derision given to Confederate partisan ranger John S. Mosby and his men.¹³ After a short interval, they returned to Fairfax Court House the way they had come. When they reached the intersection of the Centreville Road and the Little River Turnpike (what are now routes 50 and 29 in the City of Fairfax) they were fired on from the left side of the road. Again it was assumed to be either more of Mosby's Bushwhackers or secesh citizens. None of the Union horsemen were hit, but the noise spooked one of the horses, causing its rider, Private Thomas Owens, to fall off. The horse proceeded to run off in the direction of Fairfax Court House. Private Thomas West Smith immediately took off after the riderless horse, which he overtook just as it entered the Fairfax Court House yard. On turning the corner the young trooper was stunned to see perhaps 20 to 30 Confederate soldiers. Or as he would later put it:

"The courthouse yard was full of Johnnies!"

14, 15

The soldiers were Confederate cavalymen, the advance guard of Stuart's army scouting in advance of the main cavalry force. They were apparently taking a rest and engaging in some target practice directly in front of the Court House. They immediately swung their pistols onto a wide-eyed Private Smith and ordered him to surrender. Not wasting an instant, Smith wheeled his mount and spurred himself out of the yard and around the corner of the Court House with pistol balls flying around his ears. As he rode back he hollered for his comrades to come up. The rest of the squad came at a gallop and moved off the road (Main Street) south of the Court House hoping to flank their opponents. Once again, Major Remington assumed the unidentified riders were Mosby and his men.

In the meantime, the Confederate troopers had mounted and had drawn themselves up into a line of battle

on top of the unfinished Manassas Gap Rail Road bed behind the Court House, waiting for the Federals to make a move. The Federals, who clearly outnumbered their opponents nearly 2 to 1, drew their pistols and sabers and charged. The Confederates immediately turned and fled down Chain Bridge Road in the direction of Fairfax Station. Thus began a running cavalry battle.

The Station is Black with Gray Devils

Chain Bridge Road (or the Fairfax Station Road as it was then known) was at that time “*planked*” or “*corduroyed*,” meaning that timbers had been cut and laid down in road, *corduroy-fashion*, to try and eliminate the problem of mud. This corduroy road had been laid the year before by Union General John Pope’s army and was in very bad shape. Some of the logs were missing or, worse, sticking up out of the road at odd angles. This was then a very treacherous route on which to give chase. Private James Malone, a native of Ireland, was seen chasing one Confederate soldier and screaming:

*“Surrender, ye divil, or I’ll shoot the top ave the head ave ye.”*¹⁶

During the flight, three of the Confederates were either killed or wounded and several captured. One rebel whose saddle broke was left sitting in the road. He attempted to flee on foot into the home of Robert T. Sisson, (*the Gr-Gr-Gr-Grandfather of the author*), whose house stood on the west side of Chain Bridge Road where it intersects Zion Road south of what is now the Country Club of Fairfax. The Confederate was shot dead on the steps leading up to the house. Years later Robert Sisson’s brother-in-law, John



Lt. George Albert Dagwell, Co. B
11th New York Cavalry, Scott's 900

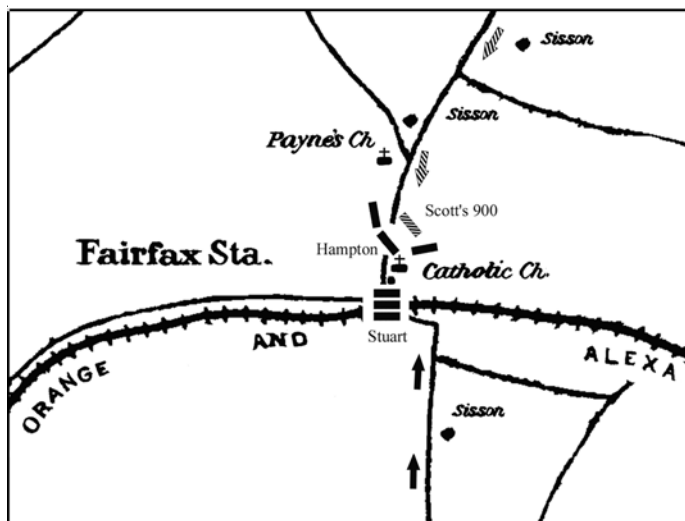
R. Kerns, would recall burying the bodies of several of the Scott's 900 troopers on his father-in-law's farm.¹⁷

Bugler Joseph Da Silva, a Portuguese native from the Island of Maderia, had chased a rebel, whose horse had been killed, up a tree along the side of the road. He was seen standing under the tree trying to make the rebel prisoner surrender and come down, but because his English was so bad the unfortunate man was frozen with fear:

*“I shoote de dam head off, shoote de pop dead sickey, vamoose, piyah, carajoe.”*¹⁸

As a token of surrender, the frightened rebel soldier threw down both of his pistols and his haversack yet did not come down because he thought Private Da Silva was crazy.

Meanwhile, the Union troopers continued their pursuit. They reached a clearing on the left side of the road on a hill above Fairfax Station. As Lieutenant George Dagwell caught up to the group, Private James “Whitey” White stated:



Fairfax Station, Virginia

Adapted from U.S. Military Topo. Map, January 1, 1862

*"Lt. don't go over that hill or ye are a goner. There is more than a thousand rebs beyant that hill. The station is black with the grey divels, and they have artillery wid them too."*¹⁹

Looking down into the station they stared in disbelief at the horrifying sight of a column of nearly 3,000 Confederates filling the road and climbing the rise to meet them. The hapless men of Scott's 900 had run into two entire Confederate cavalry brigades.

The Union troopers knew, owing to the winded condition of their horses, that they could not hope to outrun these fresh enemy horses. So, rather than surrender, Major Remington reformed his ranks as best he could and, in an instant, less than 80 men charged into more than 3,000. The Union men initially drove the Confederates back. Confederate Major John H. Whitaker of the 1st North Carolina Cavalry was mortally wounded in this initial charge. However, the Confederates quickly regrouped, splitting and nearly encircling the much smaller Union force. Confusion reigned. Hundreds of pistols spewed a steady stream of lead into the air. Men and horses screamed as the deadly missiles struck them. Union Private Tom Ryan was pinned under his dying horse. Several horses were seen running across the clearing dragging their wounded riders, whose feet had been caught in the stirrups.

Realizing that the situation was hopeless, Major Remington ordered the remnant of his command to circle to the left and climb a small hill towards the railroad tracks in an attempt to cut their way out. In the confusion most of his men were unable to follow him and were captured. One Union trooper wrote years after the war:

*"[W]e were cut down, ridden down and shot down."*²⁰

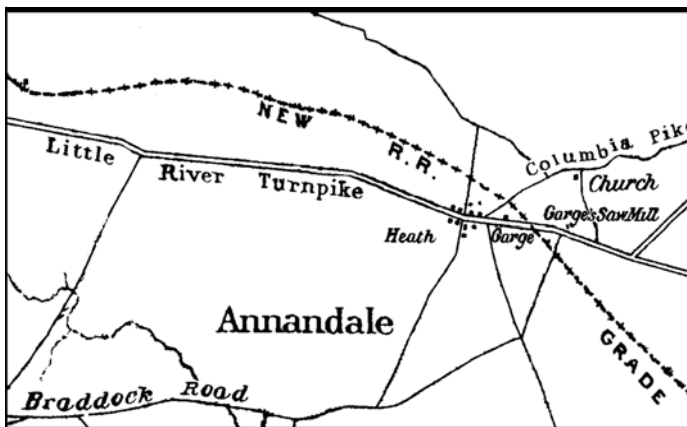
It was also observed at the time that:

*"The fight, from beginning to end, was fierce. Its termination, from overwhelming disparity of numbers, was disastrous."*²¹

The prisoners were rounded up and marched with the Confederate column to Fairfax Court House.

Surprised Again at Annandale

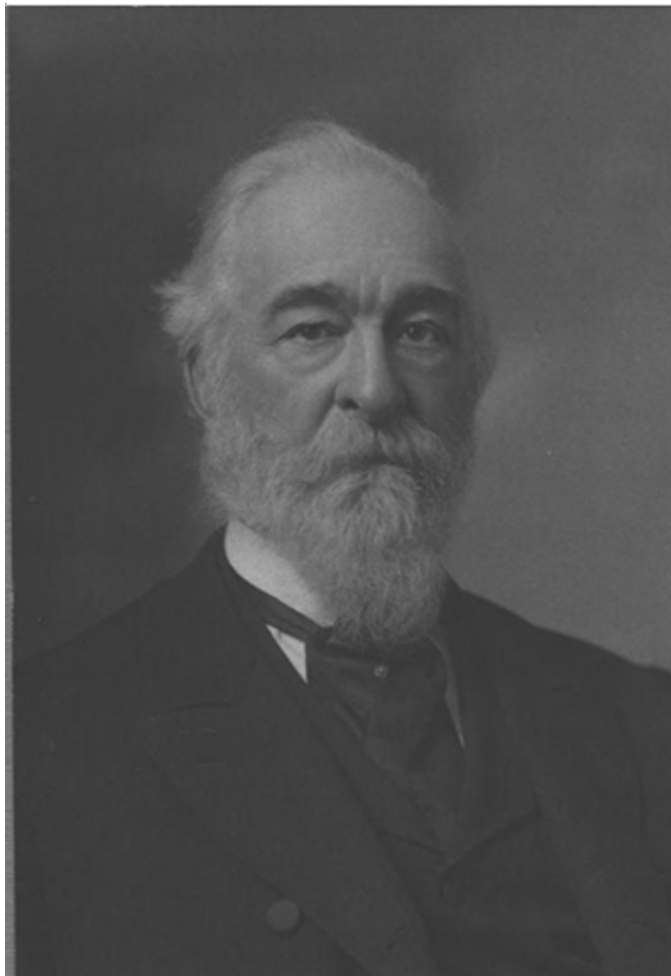
Major Remington and approximately 11 men escaped and made their way back to Washington by following the Orange & Alexandria Rail Road tracks back to Alexandria



Annandale, Virginia

Adapted from U.S. Military Topo. Map, January 1, 1862

and the safety of Union lines. Most of the rest of his command were killed, wounded or captured. Those captured were unable to escape because they were either wounded or their horses had been killed. Individual soldiers



Moses Sweetser 1823-1900. Nearly captured at Annandale, VA

Date Unknown

Photo Courtesy Lynn Historical Society, Lynn, MA

managed to escape during the confusion and over the next several days made their way back to Washington.

One small group of seven or eight men, under the command of Lieutenant Dagwell, escaped by retreating back down Chain Bridge Road to Fairfax Court House. Along the way they managed to pick up five Confederate prisoners of their own. When they arrived at Fairfax Court House they found one of their number, Private Tom Noble, the Union soldier whose horse had bolted at the beginning of the fight. He was astride a broken down old mare appropriated from one of the barns in the town. He had harnessed her with rope and made a saddle of a feather pillow. In spite of the ordeal they had just been through, the Union soldiers had a good laugh at the site of him!

Dagwell's group then headed east on Little River Turnpike toward Washington. Arriving at Annandale, they

stopped for a brief rest at the farm of Elijah Heath. The 150-acre Heath farm was located on the southwestern corner of Ravensworth Road and Little River Turnpike. Elijah Heath and his wife, Sarah Bray Johnson Heath, were both natives of Hunterdon, New Jersey, who had moved to Annandale in 1851.

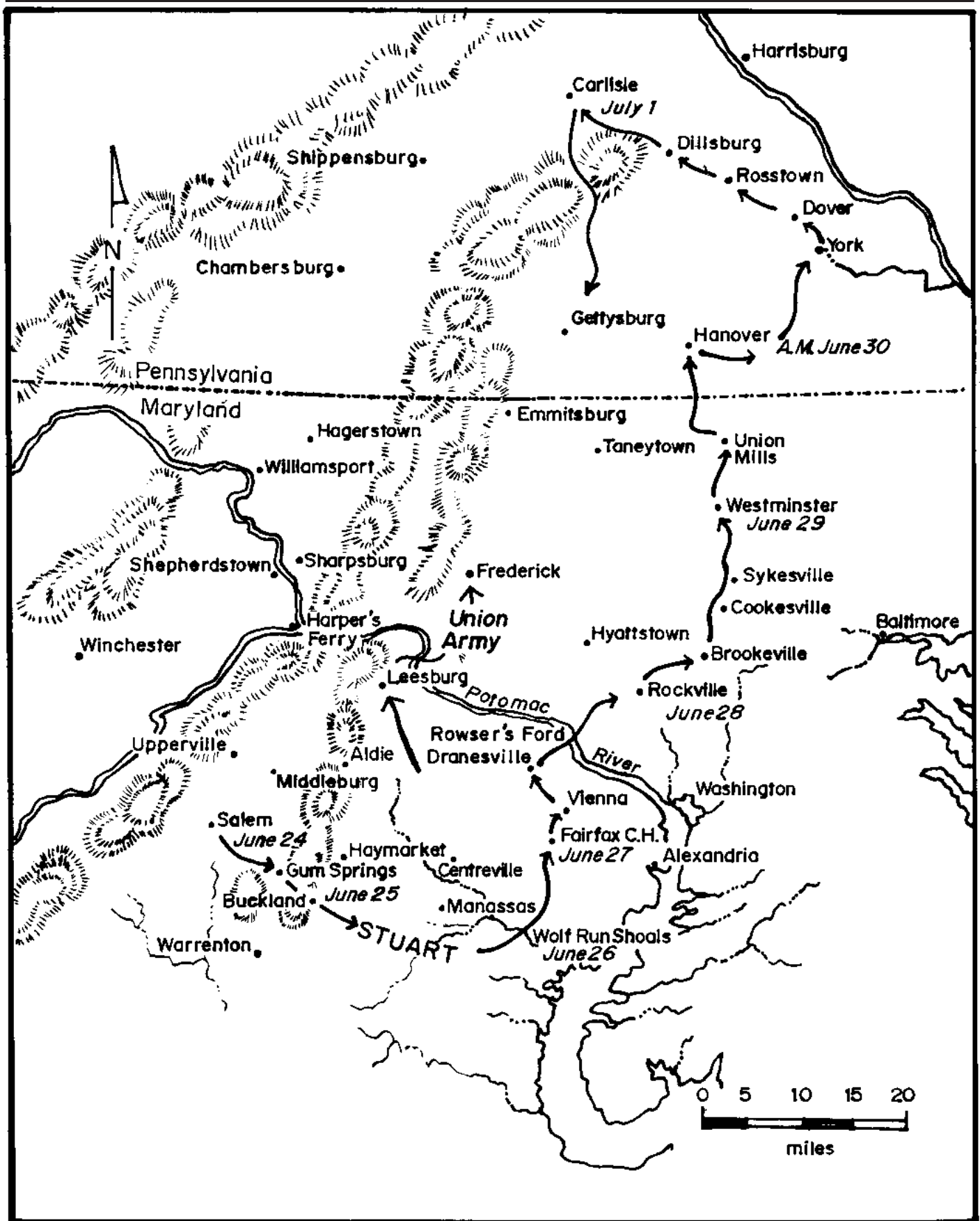
Also at the Heath farm that morning were Moses Sweetser, a Union Army sutler, from Lynn, Massachusetts, and his wife, Elizabeth Foster Sweetser. Sweetser maintained several large storehouses of dry goods and supplies at Fairfax Court House. These items he sold to Union soldiers in the field. When the Union army left Fairfax to pursue Lee into Pennsylvania the loyal Union citizens of Fairfax Court House were left unprotected. Moses, a Union loyalist, loaded up his wife, young son and four or five wagonloads of his stock and headed for the safety of the



FAIRFAX

FIGHT WITH GEN. WADE HAMPTON'S BRIGADE REBEL CAVALRY.

Said to be a war time sketch, but it does not correctly represent the fight on the 27th of June, 1863, which was mainly on the left of the Corduroy road, shown in the picture, where the squadron of Scott's 600, armed with pistols and sabres only, met Hampton's Brigade face to face in its charges instead of exposing its flank to the enemy as shown in the picture. It is regretted that the time and means at the disposal of the makers of this book did not allow them to have a correct picture of the "affair" made that would have done justice to it and to the book.



Route of Confederate Cavalry to the Battle of Gettysburg. On June 27, 1863, Stuart arrived at Fairfax C.H., VA.

Source: Adapted from Map by John Heiser, *Gettysburg Magazine*, v. 21, July 1999.

Union lines inside Washington. The Sweetsters were traveling with a small party of Union Commissary clerks and quartermasters who had ventured out from Washington to secure the vast amount of supplies left by the advancing Union army. As Dagwell approached Annandale, he passed several of these Commissary clerks who were intent on traveling on to Fairfax Court House. Dagwell urged the group to turn back, warning them of the large enemy presence in the area. The clerks ignored his warnings and continued on to Fairfax, where they were later captured.

No sooner had Dagwell's party arrived at Annandale than they were surprised by yet another Confederate cavalry force approaching from the east on Columbia Pike. This was the brigade of Fitzhugh Lee. In accordance with orders from General Stuart, Fitz Lee and his brigade had been scouting in the vicinity of Burke and were now moving east on the Little River Turnpike to rejoin Stuart at Fairfax Court House. The Union line of retreat back to Washington was effectively blocked.

As the Confederates approached, Dagwell and his men took refuge in the Heath's large barn. While Heath and his wife hid in a log pigsty, Sweetser and several of his clerks hid in the Heath house. Dagwell and his men, who were armed only with pistols, engaged in a brief but futile skirmish with Fitz Lee's cavalry. During the exchange Dagwell was wounded in the neck. After several minutes the Federals quickly surrendered. The Confederate prisoners captured by Dagwell in the earlier engagement were repatriated. The Confederates also rounded up Sweetser and his party, and the Heath family as well. Mrs. Sweetser pleaded directly with Fitz Lee for the release of her husband, who had been crippled in a carriage accident in 1861:

"... he [is] unable even if he were willing to do so, (he is lame), to do injury to the Confederate government. She was joined by a minister, who related the part taken by Mr. Sweetser in defending Miss Ford, arrested by the Federal troops as a spy." 22, 23, 24

After hearing this, Fitz Lee, who undoubtedly knew the Fords, released the Sweetsters. A gold watch taken from him was returned. He then wrote out the following pass in one of Moses Sweetser's own account books:

"This is to certify that Moses Sweetser is turned loose to go home and behave himself.

It is done on account of his defense of a harmless lady.

June 27, 1863 Brig. Gen. Fitzhugh Lee"²⁵

Unfortunately, Sweetser's wagons, which contained shirts, boots, straw hats, shoes, chickens, tobacco, cigars, preserves and butter, etc., did not fair as well. The Confederates quickly rifled the contents. What couldn't be carried away was then burned. Fortunately, they did not discover the \$3,500 one of his clerks had hidden in the Heath house.²⁶ However, Mr. Sweetser's loss in goods was estimated at \$4,000. Fitz Lee resumed his march, with prisoners in tow, to join Stuart at Fairfax Court House.

Stuart at Fairfax Court House

After the skirmish, Stuart's cavalry collected the wounded Federal prisoners and resumed their march to Fairfax Court House. Lieutenant Theodore Garnett, an Aide de Camp to Stuart, was among the first Confederates to enter the village. As he did so he stopped a frightened lady driving a wagon:

"It was with great difficulty that I convinced her that the troops she saw approaching were her friends and that she was again in Confederate lines. Her joy at our presence was evinced afterward by many acts of kindness and hospitality." 27

Garnett vividly describes the occupation of Fairfax:

"Riding on into the town a scene soon presented itself which begs description. Mynheer Moses Sweitzer [sic] was 'an Israelite indeed,' but a sutler in whom there was much guile. He was perhaps as widely known as General Hooker himself, and certainly 'kept a better hotel,' though he reckoned without his host on this particular occasion. Moses had two large storehouses in Fairfax Court-House filled with the good things of this world. There was a general stock of dry goods and groceries, embracing a plentiful supply of knick-knacks and notions. There were such luxuries as pickled oysters, sardines and crackers, canned fruits, ginger-cakes by the barrel, shoes, socks, hats, gloves and clothing of every kind. Imagine two brigades of Confederate cavalry turned out in such pasture. The

houses were crowded with scores of laughing, yelling, singing, squeezing, pushing and hungry troopers who rapidly placed this stock where it would do the most good.

General Stuart sat on his horse in the middle of the street enjoying the scene as much as any of those who were actively engaged. One of his staff handed him a pair of new white gloves – which I think he put on – and offered him a box of cigars, which he did not accept, as he was never known to use tobacco in any form. He enjoyed a box of dried figs, however, and drank some lemonade prepared for him by the hands of some of his fair friends. But soon the bugle sounded, the men remounted and our march for Maryland was resumed. General Fitz Lee's brigade, which had made a detour, passing by Annandale returned to the main body, and we pushed on briskly. The column presented a very ludicrous appearance – viewed from the rear – as they [descended] the slope just beyond Fairfax Court-House. Here and there were spotted about in each regiment men who had discarded their own worn-out felt hats and replaced them with new straw ones from Moses Sweitzers [sic] stock in trade. . . .”²⁸

Corporal Edward Prioleau Henderson of Co. B, 2nd South Carolina Cavalry remembered when leaving Fairfax Court House:

“Some of the men [were] dressed in broadcloth suits and beaver hats, others with straw hats, new top-boots and buckskin gauntlets. Everything a Yankee Sutler wagon contained was duly appropriated.”²⁹

Among the Confederate troops in Fairfax that afternoon was Sergeant Charlie Ford, a member of Stuart's Horse Artillery. Charlie was a native of Fairfax Court House and the brother of Antonia Ford. He probably spent time with his mother and father at home.

Stuart's cavalry occupied Fairfax Court House just long enough to help themselves to Sweetser's storehouses. Most of the wounded Federals were left at Fairfax Court House. The rest remained prisoners and were marched

north with their captors for nearly two days. After the cavalry forded the Potomac, a few of the prisoners escaped under cover of darkness by taking the towpath of the C&O Canal down to Georgetown. At some point Stuart realized that the captured men and supplies were slowing his progress. The remaining prisoners were paroled between Brookville and Cookesville, Maryland, on Monday morning, June 29.³⁰

Aftermath

It is believed that the mortally wounded Major John H. Whitaker was transferred by rail to a Confederate hospital in Warrenton where he died two days later on June 29, 1863. Presumably, his body was buried in the Warrenton Cemetery although his actual burial site is unknown. His great-nephew, Whitmel Joyner, did receive another memorial tombstone from the Veterans Administration. Joyner placed the stone in the Old Trinity Episcopal Church Cemetery, Scotland Neck, North Carolina where John's wife, Mary E. Whitaker, is buried.³¹

Four Union soldiers, Private Henry Sommers, Private Edward Hill and Private Thomas McMahon, were also killed in action; Private Henry Kearney would die several days later at Camp Relief of wounds received. Twenty-one Union soldiers and an undetermined number of Confederates were wounded. Forty-six Union soldiers were captured. In total, only 17 men of Scott's 900 returned to their camp in Washington that night. On June 30, three days after the skirmish, it was reported in the *Alexandria Gazette*:

“Thus far, 30 of ‘Scott's 900,’ who went out on Friday night and had the engagement on Saturday, have come in, leaving to be accounted for about 48. With Major Remington, Captain Campbell was the only officer that returned – the three Lieutenants being still out.”³²

In his official report of the action, Colonel Swain identifies the Confederates first encountered at Fairfax Court House as members of the 6th Virginia Cavalry.³³ This is an error as the 6th Virginia was assigned to Jones's Brigade, which was left guarding Snickers Gap. Not long after this disaster, Swain was relieved from duty and Scott's 900 was sent to New Orleans, Louisiana, where they remained until the end of the war.

Years after the war an unknown Confederate major wrote of the episode in an unidentified Southern magazine:

"I think that without exception the most gallant charge, and the most desperate resistance that we ever met from the Federal cavalry was at Fairfax, June, 1863 . . . Our squadron in advance . . . had just reached the Court House when they were attacked with drawn sabers by a squadron of Federal cavalry mounted on magnificent gray horses, which chased them from the Court House, driving them pell-mell back upon the main body. . . . The Federals, though outnumbered ten to one, fought until every man of them was ridden down, shot down, or cut down; none escaped. We ever afterwards spoke of this affair as the 'Charge of the Gray Devils.'" ³⁴

This small skirmish undoubtedly *did* contribute to the delay in arrival of the Confederate cavalry at Gettysburg and, ultimately, in the Confederate defeat in that pivotal battle.

Note: This story, by the same name and author, first appeared in print in the fall of 2005 in the *Yearbook of the Historical Society of Fairfax County, Virginia*, Volume 30, 2005-06.

Appendix

Participants

Union

11th New York Cavalry - **Scott's Nine Hundred**

Co A - NYC, Tarrytown and Tompkinsville

Co B - NYC

Co C - NYC, Utica, Tompkinsville and Binghamton

Co D - Canton, Colton, Pitcairn, Potsdam and Ogdensburg

Co E - NYC, Southampton, Bridgehampton, Quogue, Tompkinsville and Coram

Co F - NYC, Fulton, Lisle and Brooklyn

Co G - NYC, Troy, Lisle and Williamsburgh, and Newark, NJ

Co H - NYC, Brooklyn, Champlain and Watertown

Co I - NYC, Essex and St. Lawrence Counties

Co K - NYC, Auburn, Union Springs, Springport, Ausable Forks, Jay and Seneca Falls

Co L - NYC, Buffalo, Canton, Lewis and Westport

Co M - Buffalo, Canton, Fowler and Gouverneur

Confederate

Hampton's Brigade - B.G. Wade Hampton;

1st North Carolina Cavalry - Col. Laurence S. Baker 1st South

Carolina Cavalry - Col. John L. Black 2nd South Carolina Cavalry

- Col. Matthew C. Butler Cobb's (Georgia) Legion - Col. Pierce

B. L. Young Jeff Davis (Mississippi) Legion - Col. Joseph F.

Waring Phillips' (Georgia) Legion - Lt. Col. Jefferson C. Phillips

Fitz Lee's Brigade - B.G. W. Fitzhugh Lee

1st Virginia Cavalry - Col. James H. Drake

2nd Virginia Cavalry - Col. Thomas T. Munford

3rd Virginia Cavalry - Col. Thomas H. Owen

4th Virginia Cavalry - Col. William Carter Wickham

1st Maryland Battalion - Maj. Harry Gilmore; Maj. Ridgely Brown

W. H. F. Lee's Brigade - Col. John R. Chambliss, Jr.

2nd North Carolina Cavalry - Lt. Col. William Payne

9th Virginia Cavalry - Col. Richard L. T. Beale

10th Virginia Cavalry - Col. J. Lucius Davis

13th Virginia Cavalry - Capt. Benjamin F. Winfield

Robertson's Brigade - B.G. Beverly H. Robertson

4th North Carolina Cavalry - Col. Dennis D. Ferebee

5th North Carolina Cavalry - Col. Peter G. Evans

Jones's Brigade - B.G. William E. Jones

6th Virginia Cavalry - Maj. Cabel E. Flourney

7th Virginia Cavalry - Lt. Col. Thomas Marshall

11th Virginia Cavalry - Col. Lunsford L. Lomax

Stuart's Horse Artillery - Major Robert F. Beckham

Breathed's (Virginia) Battery - Capt. James Breathed

Chew's (Virginia) Battery - Capt. R. Preston Chew

Griffin's (Maryland) Battery - Capt. William H. Griffin

Hart's (South Carolina) Battery - Capt. James F. Hart

McGregor's (Virginia) Battery - Capt. William M. McGregor

Moorman's (Virginia) Battery - Capt. Marcellus M. Moorman

Jenkins' Brigade (on detached service) - B.G. Albert G. Jenkins

14th Virginia Cavalry - Maj. Benjamin F. Eakle

16th Virginia Cavalry - Col. Milton J. Ferguson

17th Virginia Cavalry - Col. William H. French

34th Virginia Battalion - Lt. Col. Vincent A. Witcher

36th Virginia Battalion - Capt. Cornelius T. Smith

Jackson's (Virginia) Battery - Capt. Thomas E. Jackson

Imboden's Brigade (on det. ser.) - B.G. John D. Imboden

18th Virginia Cavalry - Col. George W. Imboden

62nd Virginia Infantry, Mounted - Col. George H. Smith

Virginia Partisan Rangers - Capt. John H. McNeill

Virginia (Staunton) Battery - Capt. John H. McClanahan

Approximate Strengths

Union

Cos. B & C 11th NY Cav. 4 Officers & 78 Men = 82

Confederate³⁵

Hampton's Brigade 178 Officers & 2,032 Men = 2,210

Fitz Lee's Brigade 108 Officers & 1,224 Men = 1,332

W.H.F. Lee's Brigade 90 Officers & 1,439 Men = 1,429

Jones' Brigade Unknown

Robertson's Brigade 67 Officers & 1,068 Men = 1,135

Jenkins' Brigade Unknown

Casualties

Confederate

Killed

Major John H. Whitaker, Co. A, 1st NC Cavalry, killed in action.

Wounded

Unknown

Captured

Unknown

Union

Killed

Saddler Henry Sommers, Co. C, killed in action.



Pvt. Edward Hill, Co. B, killed in action (shot in the head).
 Pvt. Thomas McMahon, Co. C, killed in action.
 Pvt. Henry Kearney, Co. C, died July 4, 1863 of saber wound received at Fairfax.

Wounded

1st Lt. George Albert Dagwell, Co. C, was wded and captd.
 Sgt. Junius Beebe, Co. B, wded (foot) and captd.
 Sgt. George Rork, Co. C, wded and captd.
 Sgt. John Marsden, Co. C, wded and captd.
 Sgt. Henry O. Morris, Co. B, wded.
 Sgt. Richard Ross, Co. B, wded and captd.
 Commissary Sgt. James Geary, Co. B, wded.
 Commissary Sgt. Joseph A. Smith, Co. C, wded and captd.
 Cpl. James S. McDonald, Co. C, was wded and captd.
 Pvt. Albert Gutbrod, Co. B, wded and captd (shot in the chest).
 Pvt. Henry Bishop (alias William Carter), Co. C, wded and captd.
 Pvt. Frederick Clink, Co. B, wded.
 Pvt. Evan Evans, Co. C, was wded and captd.
 Pvt. James Mount, Co. C, wded and captd.
 Pvt. Henry L. Smith, Co. C, was wded and captd.

Captured

1st Lt. Albert B. Holmes, Co. B, captd.
 2nd Lt. Augustus B. Hazleton, Co. B
 Sgt. Myron Cook, Co. B
 Sgt. John Kerwick, Co. C
 Cpl. Alexander Glumer, Co. B
 Pvt. Joseph Burke, Co. C
 Pvt. Thomas Clark, Co. C
 Pvt. Patrick Dalton, Co. C
 Pvt. John Fogarty, Co. B
 Pvt. James Kane, Co. C
 Pvt. James Magee, Co. B
 Pvt. Michael Malone, Co. C
 Pvt. Thomas Noble, Co. C
 Pvt. James Orser, Co. C
 Pvt. Joseph Silva, Co. C
 Pvt. Thomas Schultz, Co. B
 Pvt. James Schurman, Co. C
 Pvt. James Smith, Co. C
 Pvt. William W. Smith, Co. C
 Pvt. Thomas Shelton, Co. C
 Pvt. John S. Walsh, Co. C
 Pvt. James White, Co. C

Biographies

Junius Beebe (1837-1914) b. 10/28/1837 S. Wilbraham, Hampden Co., MA; son of Marcus and Maria A. (Walker) Beebe; res. Wilbraham, Hampden Co., MA, occ. Plow Maker (1860); Enl. as a Pvt., Co. B, 11th NY Cav. 02/08/1862; prom. Sgt., 04/01/1862; wded. (foot) 06/27/1863 at Fairfax Sta., VA; discharged on account of disability 12/25/1863 at Camp Relief, Wash., D.C.; m. Susan Moulton, date unknown; postwar res. Hampden, Hampden Co., MA occ. Carpenter (1880); carpenter (1910); d. 1914. No children.

Joseph H. Burke Enl. as a Pvt., Co. C, 11th NY Cav. 07/06/1863, age of 21; Prom. to Cpl. 12/02/1864 Prom. to Sgt. on 02/01/1865; Mustered out 06/12/1865 in Memphis, TN. NFR.

William Carter aka Henry Bishop Enl. as a Pvt., Co. C, 11th NY Cav. 06/16/1863, age 25; Mustered out 09/30/1865 Memphis, TN.

Thomas Clark Enl. as a Pvt., Co. C, 11th NY Cav. 03/12/1862, age 21;

captured 06/27/1863 at Fairfax Sta., VA; Reenlisted 03/29/1864; Mustered out 09/30/1865 in Memphis, TN; Pen. App. #-1172881; Cert. #-1088624, filed 01/03/1896 from NY.

Frederick Clink Enl. as a Pvt., Co. B, 11th NY Cav. 02/05/1862, age 22; wded. 06/27/1863 Fairfax Sta., VA; Reenlisted 02/11/1864; deserted 03/12/1864, Wash., DC.

Myron Cook Enl. as a Pvt., Co. B, 11th NY Cav. 02/08/1862, age 35; captured 06/27/1863 at Fairfax Sta., VA; Reenlisted 02/12/1864; prom. Sgt. on 02/17/1864; trans. 07/21/1865 from Co. B to Co. D; Mustered out 09/30/1865 in Memphis, TN.

George Albert Dagwell (1841-1906) b. 08/30/1841, Utica, Onedia Co., NY; son of Herbert & Aruilla (Tallman) Dagwell; m. Harriet I. Wade date unknown; Enl. 2nd Lt., Co. C, 11th NY Cav. 12/09/1861; prom. to 1st Lt. 11/01/1862; prom. Capt. 06/17/1864; discharged April 6, 1865; postwar res. Chicago, Cook Co., IL, occ. Painter (1870), Sherman, Grayson Co., TX, occ. Carriage Maker (1880); d. 03/09/1906; bur. New Forest Cem., Utica, NY. Known children: Minnie L. Dagwell b. 1869; Son George A. Dagwell, Jr., b. 1877.

Patrick Dalton Enl. as a Pvt., Co. C, 11th NY Cav. 01/22/1862, age 40; Died of disease 12/01/1864 in Baton Rouge, LA; bur. Baton Rouge National Cem., Baton Rouge, LA.

Joseph Da Silva (1838-1905) b. 06/04/1838, Maderia Island, Portugal; son of Antone Da Silva; m. Ellen Carney 12/15/1861; enl. as a Musician, Co. Band, 70th NY Inf.; 04/17/1861; discharged 07/23/1862; enl. as a Pvt., Co. C, 11th NY Cav. 09/17/1862; deserted Camp Relief, Wash., DC; 08/26/1863; postwar res. of Brooklyn, Kings Co., NY, occ. Shoemaker (1870); Cook in Hotel (1880). Known children: Joseph, Jr. b. 1862; John Henry b. 1870; Sarah Helina b. 1873; Walter b. 1878; Emma Blanche b. 1880.

Evan Evans Enl. as a Pvt. 01/08/1862, age 19; wded. and captured 06/27/1863 at Fairfax Sta., VA; Reenlisted in 02/03/1864; Died of disease 11/29/1864.

John Fogarty Enl. as a Pvt., Co. B, 11th NY Cav. 08/04/1862, age 21; Mustered out 05/28/1865 in Memphis, TN; Pen. App. #-853819, Cert. #-597531, filed 00/05/1890, filed from NY.

James Geary Enl. as a Pvt., Co. B, 11th NY Cav., 08/11/1862, age 24; prom Cpl. Date unknown, prom. Comm. Sgt. date unknown; Mustered out 06/12/1865, Memphis, TN.

Alexander Glumer Enl. as a Pvt., Co. B, 11th NY Cav. 12/19/1861, age of 26; captured 06/27/1863 Fairfax Sta., VA; Reenlisted 01/02/1864; Prom. to Cpl. 02/17/1864; Mustered out 09/30/1865 in Memphis, TN. Pension App. #-459683, No Cert. #, filed 09/13/1889, filed from NY. NFR.

Albert J. Gutbrod (1843-1914) b. Germany; Naturalized American 1861; enl. as a Pvt., Co. B, 11th NY Cav. 01/03/1862, age 19; captured 06/27/1863 at Fairfax Sta., VA; Reenlisted 01/04/1864; Transferred to Co. D 07/21/1865; Mustered out 09/30/1865 in Memphis, TN; m. Louisa A. c. 1891; postwar res. Union, Union Co., OR, occ. Farmer (1880)(1910); Pen. App. #-219405, Cert. #-148748, filed 05/16/1876; Wid. Pen. App. #1037183, Cert. #815958 filed 11/17/1914, both filed from OR. Known children: George A. (b. 1892); Adam (b. 1894).

Augustus B. Hazleton enl. as a Pvt., Co. G, 11th NY Cav. 11/27/1861, age 24; prom. Regtl. Sgt. Maj. on 11/27/1861; prom. 2nd Lt. 04/09/1862; trans. to Co. B, 04/11/1864; prom. 1st Lt. 02/18/1865. Also served Co. E, 12th US Inf. and Co. E, 30th US Inf.; Pen. App. #-1317122; Cert. #-1105602, filed 08/26/1904; filed from IL.

Elijah Heath b. May 17, 1805, Amwell Township, Hunterdon Co., NJ; m. Sarah (Bray) Johnson, a widow, May 30, 1833; moved to Annandale, Fairfax Co., VA 1851; Sold their Annandale farm in 1865, and returned to NJ;? Sarah died January 26, 1867; Elijah died 1870; Known children John B. Heath (b. 1840).

Albert B. Holmes b. 1841 IL, son of William H. & Mary Holmes; Enl. as a 2nd Lt., Co. D, 11th NY Cav. 01/07/1862.; prom to 1st Lt. 08/05/

1862; on det. ser. to Co. B; trans. Co. B 03/01/1864; discharged 08/02/1864; m. Abbie B., c. 1864; 1870 res. Bloomington, McLean Co., IL, age 29, occ. Printer; Pen. App. #-268726; Cert. #-178984, filed 02/24/1879; 1880 res. Bloomington, McLean Co., IL, age 39, occ. Printer; Wid. App. #-686095; Cert. #-474840, filed 11/09/1898; both filed from IL.

James Kain Enl. as a Pvt. Co. C, 11th NY Cav. 01/21/1862, age of 23; Reenlisted 01/25/1864; Mustered out 09/30/1865 in Memphis, TN; m. Margaret, date unknown (1868?); 1870 res. NY, NY, age 30, occ. Laborer; Pension App. #-465959; Cert. #-642379, filed 11/27/1892, filed from NY; Wid. App. #-1009936; Cert. #-767781, filed 06/21/1913; filed from NE. Known children William b. 1868, Marsella b. 1869.

Henry Kearney enl. as Pvt., Co. E, 11th NY Cav. 03/30/1862, age 21; wded. 06/27/1863 at Fairfax Sta., VA; d. of wnds. 07/04/1863 in Camp Relief, Wash., DC.

John Kerwick b. Ireland; enl. as a Pvt., Co. C, 11th NY Cav. 12/19/1861, age 22; Prom. to Cpl. 02/16/1861; Prom. to Sgt. 06/12/1863; captured 06/27/1863 at Annandale, VA; Det. as Wagon Master on 09/23/1864 Prom. to Wagon Master of Cav. Div. on 09/23/1864; Mustered out on 12/29/1864 in New Orleans, LA; postwar res. Worcester, Worcester Co., MA, occ. Policeman (1880); m. Catherine, date unknown; Pen. App. #-225453; Cert. #-254194, filed 09/15/1876; Wid. App. #-808164; Cert. #-577698, filed 06/08/1924; both filed from MA. Known children: Mary (b. 1868); John (b. 1870); Edward (b. 1872); Richard (b. 1874).

James Magee Enl. as a Pvt., Co. B, 11th NY Cav. on 12/28/1861, age 20; prom. to Cpl. Date unknown; Reenlisted 01/02/1864; Mustered out 09/30/1865 in Memphis, TN. NFR.

Michael Malone Enl. as a Pvt., Co. C, 11th NY Cav. 07/07/1862, age 22; captured 06/27/1863 at Fairfax Sta., VA; Deserted 10/08/1863 Great Falls, MD. NFR.

John Marsden (1844-1913) b. 06/05/1844, New Hartford, NY; son of Thomas B. and Jeanette (Robb) Marsden; enl. as a Pvt., Co. C, 11th NY Cav. 01/15/1862, age 18; Prom. to Cpl. 02/15/1863; Prom. to Sgt. 02/23/1864; Mustered out 07/18/1865 in Baton Rouge, LA; m. Martha Cross 1873, Westerly, RI; postwar res. Utica, Oneida Co., NY, occ. Cotton Mill Worker (1870); Slasher in Cotton Mill (1880); Contractor (1910); d. 12/25/1913, NY, NY; Pen. App. #-417801, Cert. #-234912, filed 03/02/1881; Wid. Pen. App. #1030616, Cert. #-784676, filed 07/02/1914. mbr. McQuade Post G.A.R.; mbr. Oriental Lodge A.F. & A.M.; mbr. Schuyler Lodge Odd Fellows; Known children: Arthur B. (b. 1876); Blanche E. (b. 1877); John H. (b. 1879); Herbert C. (b. 1881); Raymond R. (b. 1884); Ralph L. (b. 1888).³⁶

James S. McDonald m. Alice R., date unknown; Pen. App. #-1369584, Cert. #-1142836, filed 01/02/1908; Wid. Pen. App. #-930017, Cert. #-699159, filed 11/05/1909.

Thomas McMahon (1843-1863) enl. as a Pvt., Co. C, 11th NY Cav. 02/03/1862; KIA at Fairfax Station, VA 06/27/1863.

Henry O. Morris (1840-?) enl. as a Cpl., Co. B, 11th NY Cav., 12/26/1861 at NY; prom. to Sgt. date unknown; reenlisted 01/02/1864; transfered 07/21/1865 from Co. B to Co. D; discharged 09/30/1865 in Memphis, TN; m. Elizabeth, date unknown; Wid. Pen. filed 04/25/1902 App. #770789, Cert. #557182.

James F. Mount b. 02/1841, CT; Enl. as a Saddler, Co. C, 11th NY Cav. 01/17/1862, age 21; wded. and captured 06/27/1863 at Fairfax Sta., VA; Mustered out 01/18/1865 Baton Rouge, LA; 1870 res. New Haven, CT, employed as an Harness Maker, age 30; m. Annie R., date unknown; 1880 res. San Diego, Duval Co., TX., occ. Saddler, age 38; 1900 res. Duval Co., TX, occ. Justice of the Peace, age 59; Pen. App. #-1110817, Cert. #-1024836, filed 05/01/1892; Wid. Pen. App. #-731269, Cert. #512541, filed 12/13/1900; both filed from TX. No known children.

Thomas Noble Enl. as a Pvt., Co. C, 11th NY Cav. 01/09/1862, age 19; captured 06/27/1863 at Annandale, VA; Lost at sea 12/22/1864 off FL.

James Orser enl. as a Pvt., Co. C, 11th NY Cav. 08/13/1862, age 19; captured 06/27/1863 at Fairfax Sta., VA; Mustered out 06/12/1865 in

Memphis, TN; Pen. App. #-1137257, filed 11/09/1895, filed from NJ; No Cert. NFR.

Seth Pierrepont Remington (1834-1880) b. 02/19/1834, Ogdensburg, St. Lawrence Co., NY; son of Seth W. & Maria (Pickering) Remington; m. Clara Bascom Sackrider 01/08/1861, Canton, St. Lawrence Co., NY; enl. Capt., Co. D, 11th NY Cav., 03/31/1862; prom. Maj., 09/27/1862; discharged 03/11/1865; b. postwar res. Canton, St. Lawrence Co., NY, occ. Editor *St. Lawrence Plain Dealer* (1870); d. 02/18/1880, Ogdensburg, St. Lawrence Co., NY; bur. Evergreen Cem., Canton, NY; Wid. Pen. App. #-559127 (Clara B. Levis). Known children: Frederic S. Remington, b. 1861 – Famous artist and sculptor.

George Rork (1835-?) enl. as a Pvt., Co. C, 11th NY Cav. 07/11/1862; prom. to Cpl. 08/07/1862; prom. to Sgt. Maj. 03/24/1865; discharged 06/12/1865, Memphis, TN; Pen. App. #591840, Cert. #239306. NFR.

Richard Ross m. Elizabeth, date unknown; Pen. App. #-616639, Cert. #-793569, filed 07/15/1887; Wid. Pen. App. #745531, filed 07/22/1901.

James Schureman b. 1817; m. Mary Winter; enl. Pvt. Co. C, 11th NY Cav. 09/17/1862; captured at Fairfax Sta., VA 06/27/1863; Lost at Sea 12/22/1864 off FL. Wid. Pen. App. #93576, Cert. # filed 05/15/1865, by Mary W. Schureman. Known children: Samuel (b. 1846), Catherine (b. 1851).

Thomas Shelton Wid. Pen. App. #-424788, Cert. #-281524, filed 06/06/1891 from MI.

Henry Sommers (1840-1863) enl. as a Pvt., Co. C, 11th New York Cavalry at Wash., DC, age 22; KIA 06/27/1863 at Fairfax Sta., VA.

Henry L. Smith m. Charlotte J., date unknown; enl. 12/11/1863, age 42; wded. and captured 06/27/1863 at Fairfax Sta., VA; discharged 09/30/1865 Memphis, TN; Pen. App. #-626067, Cert. #-461543, filed 10/15/1887, from CT; Wid. Pen. App. #-673097, Cert. #-551276, filed 11/18/1898, from NY.

Joseph A. Smith b. 05/1841, NJ; enl. as a Pvt., Co. C. 08/16/1862, age 21; prom. to Comm. Sgt. date unknown; reduced to ranks date unknown; prom Sgt. 11/27/1864; prom. 1st Sgt. 02/01/1865; Mustered out Co. C, 11th NY Cav. 06/12/1865 in Memphis, TN; In 1870 res. Orange, Essex Co., NJ, employed as a Dealer in Meat; In 1880, res. Bloomfield, Essex Co., NJ, employed as a Bookkeeper; In 1900, he was employed as a bookkeeper in a Livery Stable in Bloomfield, Essex Co., NJ; Pen. App. #-1314048, Cert. #-1083008, filed 04/13/1904, NJ; Wid. Pen. App. #-905981, Cert. #-726217, filed 05/13/1911, NJ, Mary A. Smith. Known children Olive (b. 1882) Gertrude H. (b. 1885) and Beach E. (b. 1888). **William W. Smith** m. Laura M., date unknown; Pen. App. #-121959, Cert. #-97725, filed 02/04/1867; Wid. Pen. App. #-293055, Cert. #-19880, filed 03/16/1881; Minor's Pen. App. #-314598, Cert. #211828, filed 04/15/1884, all from NY.

James Barrett Swain (1820-1895) b. 07/30/1820, NY, NY; Pvt. Sec. to Sen. Henry Clay 1838-1839; learned the printing business from Horace Greeley; author of *Life Life and Speeches of Henry Clay* (1842) and *A Military History of New York State* (3 vols., 1861-1865); Editor of the *Hudson River Chronicle*, Sing Sing, NY 1843-1849 and again 1876-1885; City Editor of the *New York Tribune* in 1850, of the *New York Times* in 1851-1852; Editor of the *American Agriculturist* in 1852; political contributor to the *New York Times* in 1853-1859, and its Washington correspondent 1860-1861; m. Relief Davis; enl. as Col. 11th NY Cav. 11/1861; discharged 02/12/1864. postwar res. Ossing, Westchester Co., NY, occ. Editor; Pen. App. #-408812, Cert. #-413555, filed 07/16/1880; d. 05/27/1895; bur. Sleepy Hollow Cem., Tarrytown, NY; Wid. Pen. App. #617932, Cert. #442710, filed 07/17/1895, both filed from NY. Known children: Chellis D. b. 1843; James B. b. 1855; Joseph b. 1848; William E. b. 1850.

Moses Sweetser (1823-1903) b. 03/24/1823, Lynn, Essex Co., MA; son of Moses M. and Mary B. Sweetser; Moses m. Elizabeth Dean Foster of Andover, MA 08/02/1847. They had three children Moses Foster, (1848-1897); Frank D. Dean? (1856-1861); and Mary Elizabeth

(1859-1862). In 1850 Moses was operating a Clothing Store in Newburyport, MA. In 1860 he was employed as a Cigar Mfr. and resided in Jersey City, NJ. During the Civil War he lived in Washington, D.C. and worked as a Sutler supplying goods to the Union Army. While in Washington, two of the three Sweetser children were killed in similar accidents. In 1861, Frank Sweetser was struck and killed by a wagon. In 1862, Mary Elizabeth Sweetser was run over by a horse and died. Surviving son, Moses Foster Sweetser, was also struck and severely injured in a separate carriage accident that same year. In 1868, Moses established Sweetser Oil Company with a refinery in Glasgow, KY. He was still living in Wash., D.C. in 1870 working as a "speculator." In 1880, he and his wife were living in Parkersburg, WV and still engaged in the oil business. Sometime after 1880, Standard Oil Company absorbed his business. He returned to Lynn, MA around 1900. He died there 03/05/1903, aged 80, and was interred in the Pine Grove Cem., Lynn, MA.

James White "Whitey" Enl. as a Pvt., Co. C, 11th NY Cav. 06/13/1862, age 21; captured 06/27/1863 at Annandale, VA; Deserted 08/01/1863 at Camp Relief, Wash., DC.

John Henry Whitaker b. 06/19/1827, Halifax Co., NC; son of Spear and Elizabeth Whitaker; Spear Whitaker was a wealthy lawyer and planter, who served as Attorney General of NC 1842-1846; grad. Univ. North Carolina 1847; m. Mary Eliza Anthony (1832-1909), 06/17/1851; enl. as Capt., Co. B, 1st NC Cav. 05/16/1861; prom. to Maj. 07/12/1862; Mortally wded. 06/27/1863 at Fairfax Sta., VA; Died of wnds. on 06/29/1863 in Warrenton, VA. Bur. location unknown; memorial Marker Old Trinity Episcopal Churchyard, Scotland Neck, NC. Known children: Rebecca E. b. 1852; Mattie A. (1854-1864); Mary E. (1856-1862); Henrietta J. b. 1858; Bettie (1860-1863); West (1862-1863).

Endnotes:

¹ The Veterans Administration (VA) will, upon written request, provide a marker for any veteran having served in the armed forces—including Confederate veterans. These are the familiar marble markers which can be seen in national cemeteries throughout this country. In addition to the marker, the VA will arrange for private transport of the marker anywhere, all at no cost.

² U.S. War Department, *The War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies*, Washington, DC, 1889, Series I, Vol. 27, Part III, 913 and 923. [Hereinafter referred to as *OR*.]

³ *OR*, I, 27, II, 316 and 321.

⁴ *OR*, I, 27, I, 359.

⁵ *New York Times*, July 22, 1883, 10.

⁶ *Evening Star*, March 28, 1863, p. 3, c. 1, Washington, DC

⁷ *Evening Star*, June 15, 1863, p. 3, c. 1, Washington, DC

⁸ *Evening Star*, January 25, 1864, p. 2, c. 5, Washington, DC.

⁹ *The Story of a Cavalry Regiment*, Smith, Thomas West, © 1897, Veterans Association of the Regiment, Chicago, IL.

¹⁰ *Evening Star*, July 8, 1863, p. 2, c. 6, Washington, DC.

¹¹ Father of the famous western artist/sculptor Frederic Remington.

¹² Thomas West Smith, *The Story of a Cavalry Regiment*, Chicago, IL: Veterans Association of the Regiment, 1897.

¹³ The Confederate Partisan Ranger, John S. Mosby had, by this time, developed quite a fearsome reputation in the area and to nearly every Union soldier and unidentified horsemen in Fairfax County was probably a Mosby Bushwhacker.

¹⁴ Smith, 77.

¹⁵ *Johnny* was an abbreviation of *Johnny Reb*, Union slang for a Confederate soldier. Conversely, Confederate used *Billy Yank* as slang for a Union soldier.

¹⁶ Smith, 79.

¹⁷ Deposition of John R. Kerns, Southern Claims Commission.

¹⁸ Smith, 79.

¹⁹ *Ibid.*, 80.

²⁰ *Ibid.*, 84.

²¹ *New York Times*, June 28, 1863, 1.

²² *Alexandria Gazette*, June 29, 1863, 4..

²³ *Alexandria Gazette*, June 30, 1863, 3.

²⁴ Moses Sweetser wrote a letter to the editor of the *Evening Star* newspaper in Washington, DC, regarding arrest and treatment of Antonia Ford who had recently been arrested and for her alleged part in the capture of Union Brigadier General Edwin Stoughton by Col. John S. Mosby. The letter was published 18 March 1863, page

2: "THE CASE OF MISS FORD Fairfax Court House, March 18th, 1863- Editor Star: I am sorry to see by the papers of late dates that several correspondents had taken such unwarranted liberties in aspersing the character of a young lady of this town, in connection with General Stoughton. Miss Antoinette Ford is a young lady of refinement, education and great modesty, and I believe as pure and chaste as the 'morning sunbeams,' and universally respected by all. Her father, E.R. Ford, was one of the first merchants in this county, of unblemished character of honest, promptness and gentlemanly deportment, and all will testify to what I have said: and he has educated his daughter in the best manner. His mansion has been the headquarters of Gens. McDowell, McClellan, Pope and others. I do not say but she was a Confederate and secessionist, and her sympathies were with her people, going as most of them do, with her State, instead of the nation; but the esteem patriotism – their State pride, associations &c. lead them to believe it religiously. But I wish to refute the base slanders upon a defenseless female, now incarcerated in our national prison. I have not to apology to make for Gen. Stoughton. He is able to vindicate himself. Many think he was remiss in his duty. The ugliest innuendo against our Provost Marshall, Lieut. L.L. Conner, [Lawrence L. O'Conner] needs no refutation, as all who know him know it to be a base calumny and unjust accusation. He has conducted himself in a gentlemanly, dignified and patriotic manner. I am a Union man from the North, connected with the army, and have taken particular pains to investigate this matter, and my own personal knowledge, compels me to write the above vindication of truth. Yours, &c., MOSES SWEETSER"

²⁵ *Alexandria Gazette*, June 29, 1863, 4.

²⁶ *Ibid.*

²⁷ Theodore S. Garnett, "Theodore Garnett Recalls Cavalry Service with General Stuart, June 16-28, 1863" in *The Gettysburg Magazine* 20:48. Originally published in *Philadelphia Weekly Times*, Feb. 8, 1879.

²⁸ Garnett, 49.

²⁹ Edward Prioleau Henderson, *Autobiography of Arab*, Charleston, SC: Charleston Library Society, 1901.

³⁰ *Alexandria Gazette*, June 30, 1863, 1.

³¹ John Whitaker's death was one of a series of tragedies that befell the Whitaker family during the war. Between 1862 and 1864 four of the six Whitaker children died, only two living to adulthood.

³² *Alexandria Gazette*, June 30, 1863, 4.

³³ *OR*, I, 27, I, 1037-1038.

³⁴ Smith, 84.

³⁵ *OR*, I, 27, II, 27.

³⁶ *Utica Observer Dispatch*, December 26, 1913, Obituary.

³⁷ James Grant Wilson and John Fiske, editors, *Appleton's Cyclopaedia of American Biography*, 6 volumes, New York: D. Appleton and Company, 1887-1889.

Endnotes for Joseph Stiles:

¹ Deed from Selectman to Stiles, April 23, 1853, Fairfax Co. DB T3, pg. 158, Fairfax Co. Cir. Ct. Clk., Fairfax, VA.

² Death Cert. of Sarah (Stiles Pridmore) Steers 1914, Fairfax Co. Circuit Court Clerk.

³ Fairfax Co. Marriage Book 1, p. 6, Fairfax Co. Circuit Court Clerk.

⁴ Fairfax Co. DB Y3, p. 293, Fairfax Co. Circuit Court Clerk.

⁵ Fairfax Co. DB Z3, p. 181, Fairfax Co. Circuit Court Clerk.

⁶ Fairfax Co. DB A4, p. 250 - 253 Fairfax Co. Circuit Court Clerk.

⁷ *Alexandria Gazette*, October 26, 1858, p. 3, c. 7.

⁸ Official Records of the War of the Rebellion, Ser. 2, v. 2, p. 207, © 1897, US Govt. Printing Office, Wash., DC

⁹ Official Records of the War of the Rebellion, Ser. 1, v. 5, p. 949-50, © 1881, US Govt. Printing Office, Wash., DC

¹⁰ The National Republican, *April 1, 1862*, p. 3, c. 2.

¹¹ Official Records of the War of the Rebellion, Ser. 1, v. 21, p. 964, © 1888, US Govt. Printing Office, Wash., DC

¹² Official Records of the War of the Rebellion, Ser. 2, v. 5, p. 822, © 1899, US Govt. Printing Office, Wash., DC

¹³ *Official Records of the War of the Rebellion*, Series II, Vol. 5, p. 822, Letter of Asst. Sec. of War J.A. Campbell to Brig. Gen. John H. Winder, Richmond, VA, January 27, 1863.

¹⁴ *Plain Dealer*, December 29, 1862, p. 2, c. 2.

¹⁵ *Fairfax County Minute Book 1863*, p. 3, January 19, 1863, Fairfax County Circuit Court.

¹⁶ Report of the Joint Committee on Reconstruction, Thirty-ninth Congress, January 31, 1866, v. 1273, Hse. Rpt. 30, p. 31.

¹⁷ Report of the Joint Committee on Reconstruction, Thirty-ninth Congress, January 31, 1866, v. 1273, Hse. Rpt. 30, p. 31.

¹⁸ Fairfax Co. Chancery Suit, Stiles v. Stiles, CFF158 FF, c. 1905, Fairfax Co. Circuit Court Clerk.

¹⁹ Fairfax Co. W B A2 pg. 533, Will of Henry Steers, April 3, 1870, Fairfax Co. Circuit Court Clerk

²⁰ *The Guthrie Daily Leader*, August 24, 1894, p. 4, c. 3.

²¹ *The Guthrie Daily Leader*, July 16, 1895, p. 4, c. 3.

²² *The Guthrie Daily Leader*, June 29, 1899, p. 1, c. 2.

Joseph Stiles, Fairfax County Commissioner of the Revenue, 1862-1866

Joseph Stiles (1830 – 1899) was a Quaker, born in Burlington County, New Jersey. He moved to Fairfax County, Virginia with his parents, Martin and Sarah (Sopers) Stiles, in the spring of 1853. That same year he purchased 80 acres on the southwest side of Ox Road (Rt. 123) at its intersection with Hampton Road.¹ On November 29, 1855, he married Sarah Catherine Pridmore (1832 – 1914)² of Prince William Co.³ Sarah was the daughter of John D. & Sarah (Halley) Pridmore. Over the next several years Joseph and Sarah Stiles increased their land holdings to more than 300 acres, south of and contiguous to his original 80 acre parcel.^{4, 5, 6, 7}

During the early part of the Civil War Joseph Stiles served as guide, scout, and military detective for Union troops operating in Fairfax County.^{8, 9}

*“Our cavalry were guided to the rebel camp by Joseph Stiles, a tried and faithful Union man, of Fairfax county, who for some time past has been acting as guide to Gen. Heintzleman’s corps d’arme.”*¹⁰

He was elected Commissioner of the Revenue for the *Restored Government* of Fairfax County in the spring of 1862.

On December 19, 1862, he was captured on the banks of Occoquan River, near Colchester, Virginia by Confederates troops while leading the 17th Pennsylvania Cavalry on a scouting mission.¹¹

He was sent to Libby Prison and confined there for several months.¹² Confederate Assistant Secretary of War, J.A. Campbell wrote of him to the Provost Marshal of Confederate Prisoners, Brig. Gen. John H. Winder:

*“Joseph Stiles, (is) to be returned as a prisoner. If a case cannot be made out against him as a Spy he will be valuable as a hostage for our citizens held as prisoners.”*¹³

In retaliation for Stiles capture, former Commissioner of the Revenue, John Broadwater Hunter was arrested by Union forces and sent to Old Capitol Prison in Washington, DC.¹⁴

Ever responsive and sensitive to its fiscal needs, the Fairfax County Court appointed an interim Deputy Commissioner to serve “until the Commissioner is able

to return to his duties.” Another Fairfax County loyalist, Job Hawxhurst, was appointed Deputy to fill in for Joseph Stiles.¹⁵

Both men were eventually exchanged. However, Stiles was captured once again in June 1864.

In 1865, Joseph Stiles was appointed Deputy U.S. Marshall and enforced the Federal *Direct Tax* or Income Tax adopted by Congress in 1862 to help pay for the war.¹⁶ This is the same Federal income tax that is still with us today. Property of citizens who did not pay the tax was subject to confiscation. At the end of the war, almost no southern citizens could pay the tax. As a result they were visited by Marshall Stiles. His heavy-handed tactics likely did not endear him to the local populace.

The Loudoun county, (Va.) Mirror of the 19th says:—Mr. Joseph Stiles, Deputy Marshal for John Underwood, was in Loudoun county last week, accompanied by a squad of United States soldiers, serving writs of confiscation upon a number of citizens. In some instances even upon those who have taken the amnesty of President Johnson. Among the number waited upon by Mr. Stiles, we learn, was Colonel E. V. White, Major B. P. Noland, Major C. B. Ball, Capt. H. O. Claget, Dr. Cochran, A. H. Rogers, Jos. Meade and Geo. K. Fox, jr.—this being the second time in the case of Mr. Fox.

Alexandria Gazette, July 26, 1865, p. 2, c. 2.

In 1866, at the first term of the Circuit Court in Prince William County, Joseph Stiles was indicted by a Grand Jury for a horse theft related to a scouting expedition he led in the autumn of 1863 in pursuit of Mosby’s guerillas. He is alleged to have taken “two mules” and “some chickens” from a citizen of Prince William County. A warrant for his arrest was issued. Col. John S. Mosby is alleged to been engaged in assisting the Commonwealth’s Attorney in Prince William County in prosecuting the matter. However, before a trial could take place General Ulysses S. Grant issued orders prohibiting civil courts in the seceded states from prosecuting any person for acts while done in the service of the United States.¹⁷ The case was then apparently dropped.

In 1869, perhaps as a result of this type of persecution, Joseph Stiles sold his land, abandoned his wife Sarah and

infant son, John Pridmore Stiles, and left Virginia for good.¹⁸ Census records indicate that Joseph Stiles moved first to Lathrop, Clinton Co., Missouri and eventually settled in Guthrie, Logan County, Oklahoma. In 1872, Joseph married Martha Frances Steers, his sister-in-law, and half sister of his wife Sarah Catherine Stiles. Martha was the daughter of Henry Steers and Sarah E. (Halley) Pridmore.¹⁹ The two were married in spite of the fact that no record of divorce has yet been found in either Virginia or Missouri. Martha had been residing in St. Louis, Missouri with her sister Harriet, wife of John Dollar, just 260 miles west, in Lathrop, Clinton Co., MO.

In 1878, Joseph Stiles first wife, Sarah Catherine, married her stepfather's brother, her step-uncle, Edward Steers, Sr. (1816–1895), in Fairfax Co., VA.

Joseph Stiles left Missouri about 1890 and moved his family to a farm four miles east of Guthrie, Logan County, Oklahoma.²⁰ Besides other crops, Joseph Stiles farm included 6,000 fruit trees.²¹

In 1892, he was elected Treasurer of Logan County and served two terms until 1896. Joseph Stiles died of a stroke on June 28, 1899 in Guthrie, Oklahoma. He is interred in Summit View Cemetery, in Guthrie, OK.²²

(See Endnotes bottom p. 17)



Photo Credit: Lyn Hutton <http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/>

Fairfax Court House News of 150 Years Ago

Mrs. THOMAS COMMITTED TO THE OLD CAPITOL.—Mrs. Henry W. Thomas was sent to the Old Capitol a few days ago. She was found carrying over the Aqueduct contraband goods. Mrs. Thomas's husband was formerly a State Senator of Virginia, and several times a candidate for Congress. Before the rebellion broke out, he was a prominent Bell and Everett man. Mrs. Thomas is a sister of the notorious Jackson, who murdered Ellsworth at Alexandria. Mrs. Thomas has a mother living in Georgetown.

Daily National Republican, May 23, 1863, p. 3, c. 1.

WAR UPON RELIGION.

Editor Richmond Sentinel: I observe in a late Northern paper an authorized publication, entitled "Instructions for the Government of the Armies of the United States in the Field," in which it says, "Religious edifices are to be regarded as sacred." I desire that it may be seen how far they have obeyed these instructions, and to that end, I hope those informed as to the conduct of our foes in the respective counties now or heretofore overrun by them will furnish to the press a statement, so that it may be made a part of the history of the war. In the county of Fairfax, where, perhaps, they have committed more enormities and atrocities than any other, they have destroyed the following churches:

At Fairfax Court House they have converted the Episcopal Church into a stable.

They have destroyed the Methodist Church and Parsonage at the same place.

At Centreville, they have burned the Episcopal Church, and razed to its foundation the Methodist Church.

At Frying Pan, they have seriously injured the Baptist Church and utterly destroyed the Methodist Church.

Paine's Church, one of the old Colonial churches, has been razed to the ground.

Pohick Church, the church of Washington—the walls are standing—the pulpit, the pews, with the name of Washington, Mason, Lewis, &c., engraved thereon, have all been burned, and the building now used as a stable.

Fall's Church, another colonial church, has been seriously damaged, and used as a hospital:

Lebanon burnt.

Anandale, destroyed, pulled down.

Andrew Chapel, do.

Dranesville Chapel, do.

Mt. Carmel, do.

It is said the only church uninjured in the county was the new Catholic Church near Fairfax station, but the latest information from the county is that it was being used as a hospital, and doubtless it has shared the fate of all the rest. Can the history of the world present a similar record of outrage upon that which the Yankees profess to regard as sacred.

Macon Telegraph, June 9, 1863, p. 2, c. 3.

"Preserving the Past. Protecting the Future."

Return Address - Historic Fairfax City, Inc.
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10209 Main Street
Fairfax, VA 22030



The Newsletter of Historic Fairfax City, Inc.

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