

The Prodigal Son

Newsletter of Co. B 36th Regt. Of Ill Vols.

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Commander's Message

A Ya VYfg'UbX: f]YbXg'cZh\Y" *h\z'

K Y'Vta Y'hc'h\Y'&\$% 'F YYbUM]b['gyUgcbz'UbX'h\Y'Z]fghibYk ']ggi Y'cZH\Y' DfcX][U'Gcb]b'ei]h'gca Y'h]a Y''@cc_]b['Uih\Y'i dVta]b['gyUgcb'h\YfY'UFY' a Ubmi'h]b['g'hc'`cc_'Zcfk UfX'hc'"DUfh]W`UF`mci f'Yj Ybhk Y'UFY'\cgh]b[']b' a UnzD][g'UbX'Hca UhcYg''`cc_'hc'&\$%'hc'Vt'bh]bi Y'hc'VY'U'mYUf'cZ[fck h'" H\Y" *h\ 'g'icbY'cZH\Y'Zyk 'cf[Ub]nUh]cbg]b'h\Y'\cVvmih\Uh'Vb '\cbYgh'mi VcUghicZgc`]X[fck h']b'a Ya VYfg\]d'UbX'dUfh]V]dUh]cb'"Mci 'g\ci `X'U`VY' dfci X'cZH\Uh'UbX'Vt'bh]bi Y'hc'k cf_'hc'Z]bX'bYk 'a Ya VYfg'h\Uhig\UfY'ci f' j]g]cbz'UbX'YbVti fU[Y'h\Y'c'XYf'a Ya VYfg'hc'[YhVUW_]b'h\Y'Z]Y'Xz]ZYj Yb'Zcf' U'XUm'i&\$% '@Zhi'h\Y'i b]h]b['fYUhg\UdY''

K Y'\UX'U'[fYUh`cW'gyUgcbz'UbX'U'cb['k]h'ci f'[fYUhZ]YbXg'Zfca 'Ufci bX' h\Y'UFYU]b'&\$%'k Y'k YfY'UV'Y'hc'hU_Y'h\Y'g\ck 'cb'h\Y'fcUX'UbX'dfcj]XY'h\Y' Yl Ua d`Y'hc'h\Y'fYghicZh\Y'\cVvmicb'\ck 'K YghYfbYfg'UM'iUh'K U' \UH\Y]' Bch]b['a UXY'a Y'a cfY'dfci X'h\Uh'hc'gYY'mci 'U`Vt] YfYX']b'a i Xz'Vt'Xz' gcU_YX'hc'h\Y'g_]b'z'UbX'gh]`Ui [\]b['z]g]b[]b['gcb['gzhYUg]b['YUW'ch\Yfz'UbX' VY]b['fYUXmiUh'U'a ca Yb'g'bch]W'hc'ZU`]b'"K Y'\Uj Y'gca Yh\]b['gdYV]U [c]b['cb'\YfY']b'h\Y'a]Xk Ygh'@Yfhg_'Yd']h[c]b["'Gc'\YfY']g'hc'h\Y'bYk 'gyUgcbz' bYk 'a Ya cf]Yg'z'UbX'bYk 'Vta fUXYg\]d''

Gm@]Vvmi

7ca a UbXYf" *h\ `7c"6'

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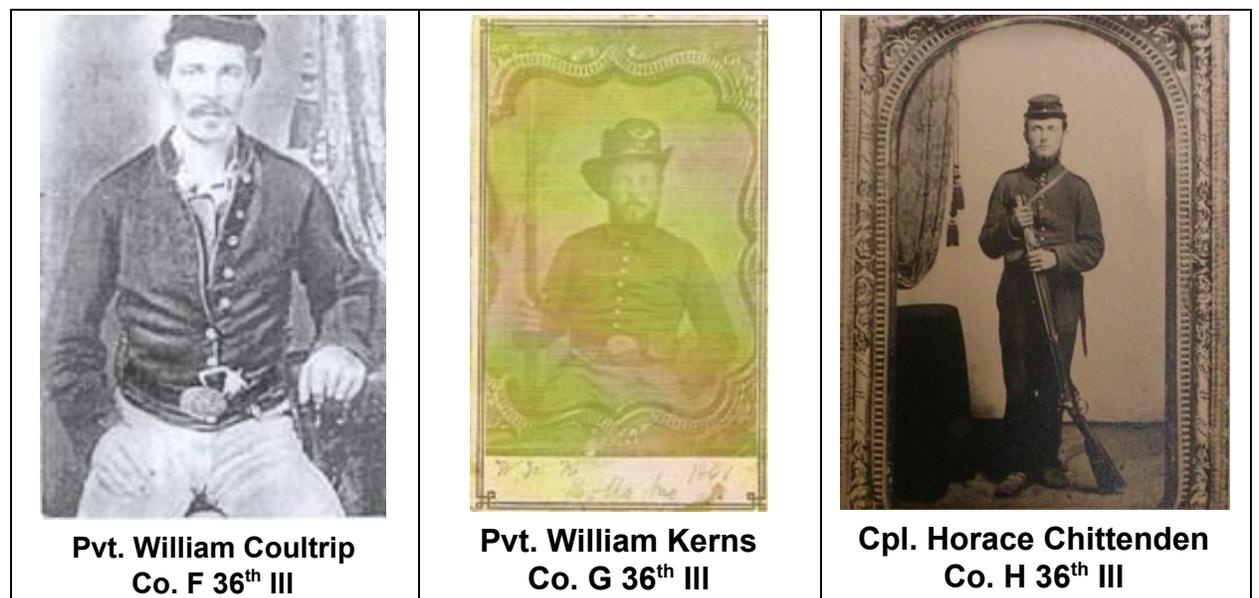
Letter from the Editor

A Ya VYfg'cZ\h\Y" *h\z

K YVta YVUW'hc H\Y'DfcX][U'Gcb°5Z\Yf'U\]Uhi g'h\Y' bYk g'YthYf'Zcf'h\Y" *h\ \Ug'fYhi fbYX" =b'h\Y'Zi hi fY`cc_ \YfY'Zcf'a cfY']bZcfa Uh]cb'UVci hi]a dfYgg]cbgž`c[]gh]Vg'UbX'ch\Yf']bZcfa Uh]cb'UVci hici f' i dVta]b['Yj Ybhgž'bYk 'fYgYUfW\ 'UVci h'h\Y" *h\ 'UbX' [fYUh'Ufh]VWg'dYfhU]b]b['hc'h\Y" *h\ 'UbX'7]j]`K Uf'<]ghcfm' =Zmci \Uj Y'UbmiUfh]VWg'mci \Uj Y'k f]thYb' h\Uhmci 'k ci `X`[_Y]bW\ XYX]b'UbmiZi hi fY]ggi Yg'ZY' ZFY'hc'gYbX'h\Ya 'hc' a Y'Uh\YggXU\$%4 [a U]'Vta ""

=b'h\]gYX]h]cb'mci 'Wb`cc_ Zcfk UfX'hc'ci f'&\$% 'GWYXi `YzU' Vf]YZ\]ghcfmcZ\h\Y" *h\ 'UbX'h\Y'< ci ghcb'9I dYX]h]cbzU' [fYUh'Ufh]VW'Vm GvthiG\YYhg'UVci hi: YXYfU'5Wti hfYa Ybhg'UbX'U'k cbXYfZi ``YthYf'Zca 'U' a Ya VYf'cZ7ca dUbm: ""=]bhYbX'h\UhH\Y'DfcX][U'Gcb'VY'U'gci fW'cZ]bZcfa Uh]cb'Zcf'i dVta]b['Yj Ybhgž'bYk 'fYgYUfW\ 'UbX`cc_]b['VUW'Uh'h\Y' \]ghcfmcZ\h\Y" *h\ h\ fci [\ h\ fci [\ df]a UfmXcW'a Ybhg"9b`cmh\]g]ggi Y'cZ H\Y'DfcX][U'Gcb`°

Mci fg'Hfi `nž
< YbfmF]VVYmfBi hWnt'
5X↑ hUbh" *h\ '=@@]c`g"



&\$% '9j Ybhg'

D`YUgY`cc_`Zcf`a cfY`]bZcfa Uh]cb`UVci hi dVta]b[`Yj Ybhg`h\ fci [\ci h`h\Y`
mYUf`]b`Zi hi fY`]ggj YgicZH\Y`DfcX][U`Gcb`Ugk Y`Ugci f: UWWcc_`dU[Y`K Y`
k]`VY`dfcj]X]b[`a cfY`]bZcfa Uh]cb`UVci hYUW`Yj Ybh`fY[UfX]b[`]a dfYgg]cbg`
UbX`ch\Yf`c[]gh]Vg`Ug`h[Yhg`WcgYf`"Dfcj]XYX`VY`ck `]g`h\Y`gW`YXi `Y`cZYj Ybhg`
Zcf`h\Y` *h`Zcf`&\$% ""=Znci `Uj Y`ch\Yf`Yj Ybhg`nci `k ci `X`]_Yi g`hc`_bck`
UVci hgYbX`h\Ya `hc`8Ub`< YggUh`YggXU\$%# [a U]`Vta`"

(POC= Point of Contact)

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36TH Illinois Events:

Pigs and Tomatoes: The 1861 Houston Expedition -

A Um%#!% `bXYdYbXYbW`J]`U[Y`C U `UbX`≡`]bc]g`fDC 7 `GW`thiG\YYhgk`

Memorial Day - TBD

K`YY`YbX`Yj Ybhcf`dUfUXY`k]`VY`UXXYX`UZhf`Zi fh\Yf`VcUfX`X]gW`gg]cb`

Lake Bluff Independence Day Parade -

>i `m(!`@U`Y`6`i`Zz`≡`]bc]g`fDC 7 `GW`thiG\YYhgk`

This is our biggest fundraiser of the year and helps pay for rations at our events throughout the year. The more people that attend the more money we raise towards rations and other event expenses.

Wauconda -

>i `m%#!% `@U`Yk`ccX`: cfYgh`DfYgYfj`Y`K`Ui`VtbXU`=@`fDC 7 `GW`thiG\YYhgk`

Missionary Ridge Immersion Event -

B`cj`Ya`VYf`,`!%\$`7\]WUa`Ui`[Uz`: Ycf[]U`fDC 7 `GW`thiG\YYhgk`

Other Events with Member Involvement:

Civil War Museum Homefront Seminar - ? Ybcg\UžK =! 'A UfW % ''
8Ub]Y' < Ygg]g'U'ZYUhi fYX'gdYU_Yf'Ug'k Y''Ug'hk c'ch\Yfg'Zcf'h\]g'Yj Ybh'fDC 7 '! '8Ub < Ygg]g'

St Patrick's Parade - DYcf]Už=``]bc]g' 'A UfW % 'fDC 7 '>Ua Yg'6YUj YfžHca
HfUj]g]g'

Fort Blakely - A cV]'Yž5`UVUa U'5df]'`)! +fDC 7 'F cV'K UffYbŁ'

WWI Turk - F cW_ZcfXž=``]bc]g'5df]'`)! +fDC 7 'GYUb'7ck [Yf!'9nfU'DUf_YfŁ'

Spring Drill - DYcf]Už=``]bc]g'5df]'` &+! & , fDC 7 'H]a 'J Ufj]'Ł'

US Grant Pilgrimage Living History at Grant Home - ; UYbUž
=``]bc]g'5df]'` &+fDC 7 'F cV'; cVhcdŁ'

Memorial Day Grave site visitations of 36th Members fDC 7 'GYUb'
7ck [Yf!'9nfU'DUf_YfŁ'

Pittsfield Lincoln Days reenactment - D]hrg]Y'Xž=``]bc]g'>i bY'%&
fDC 7 '>Ua Yg'6YUj YfžA Uf_ < Ygg]g'

Kenosha Civil War Museum Living History Day - ? Ybcg\UžK =''
>i bY', !- fDC 7 '5bXm5W_YfŁ'

Elgin Civil War Experience - 9` []b'='`]bc]g'>i bY', !- fDC 7 '5XUa '
GUbXYfg]': fUbV]g'7\Udd'YŁ'

General Wallace Days - GybYWž=``]bc]g'5i [i gh!(!&) fDC 7 ': YXYfU'
5XUa 'GUbXYfg]': fUbV]g'7\UddY''/7cbZYXYfUHY'F cV'K UffYbŁ'

Wade House Civil War Days - ; fYYbVi g\žK]gWcbg]b`GYdhYa VYf`& !&-`
fDC 7`7cbZYXYfUHY`F cV`K UffYb/K]bhYf`E i UfhYfg`9f]W, YYgy!9f]W, ccgyŁ`

Hainesville Reenactment - < U]bYgj]`Yž`=`]bc]g`C VtVYf`% !&\$`fDC 7`
5XUa`GUbXYfg! : fUbV]g`7\Udd`YŁ`

Winter Quarters - DYcf]Už`=`]bc]g`Bcj Ya VYf`fDC 7`H]a`J Ufj]`Ł`

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"It isn't a pig sir, It's tomatoes"

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C'ðt lghj kwqt { 'qh'vj g'3: 83'J qvuvqp'Gzr gf kskqp'''

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d{ 'Ugcp'Egy i gt'''

"

Kp'Qevdgt'3: 83'vj g'58vj "Krkpqlu'j cf 'ugwrgf 'kpv'eco r 'kp'Tqmc'O kuqwtk'*mpqy p'cu" Eco r 'Tqmc-0Vj g'g'vj g{ 'ur gpvc'rti g'r ctv'qh'vj g'vko g'f tknkp "cpf 'y qtnkpi "qp'HqtvY { o cp0' Ceeqpwu'eqpvkpwcm{ 'vcm'qh'Wpkqp'o gp'htqo 'O kuqwtk'uj qy kpi 'wr 'kp'eco r 'chvgt'dgkpi 'f tkxgp' htqo 'vj gk'j qo gu'cpf'j cxkpi 'vj gk'hc'o k{ u'j ctcuugf 'qt'o wtf gtgf 0Vj ku'rgf 'vq'tgr qtwa'qh'rti g' hqtegu'qh'eqphgf gtcvgu'y kj kp'42"o kgu'qh'Tqmc'kpenw kpi 'vj g'hc'o gf 'Lgh'Vj qo r uqp'Kp'Ncvg" Qevdgt'Eqr0I tgwugn'y cu'cungf 'y kj 'vknkpi 'c'hqteg'cpf "cuuguukpi 'vj g'vj tgcv'kp'Vgzcu'Eqwpv{ " O kuqwtk0F gcej o gpw'htqo 'dqj 'Ecxcit { 'eqo r cplgu'qh'vj g'58vj "Krkpqlu'y kj 'dqj 'Eqo r cplgu'D" cpf 'G'qh'vj g'kphcpt { ".422"o gp'htqo 'vj g'6vj "Kqy c'kphcpt { 'c'r qtvp'qh'vj g'Mcpucu'Tcpi gtu'*" O kuqwtk'Ecx+'cpf 'c'dewgt { 'qh'8"o qwpv'k'j qy k' gtu'y j gtg'ej qugp'ht'vj ku'rkwrg'eco r cki p0CV' 6r o "qp'P qx'3uv'vj g'722"o cp'hqteg'rgv'qp'ku'htuv'cev'kp'ci ckpu'cp'gpgo { "

"

"0Vj g'o gp'hm'kpv'kpg.'gcej 'y kj 'hpcr ucem'eqpvk'kpi "drcp'ngw.'gz'vc'co o wpkkqp'cpf 'vj tgg'qt" hqt'f'c{ u'0' ctej kpi 'tcv'kpu'0Vj g'Eqo r cplgu'y j ggrgf 'kpv'eqnw p=vj g'f' two u'dgcv'cp" g'zj k'ctc'kpi 'c'k=vj g'tcwg'qh'ucdgtu.'vj g'erk'kpi 'qh'j qtugu'uj qgu'qxgt'vj g'uv'p{ 'tqcf.'cpf 'vj g' o gcuw'gf 't'gcf 'qh'vj g'kphcpt { 'cu'k'k'rgf 'qxgt'vj g'j kmu.'r' t'gug'p'gf 'c'o qtg'y c'rkng'cur gev'vj cp" cp{ vj kpi 'vj g'58vj 'j cf { 'g'v'dggp'ceewu'qo gf 'vq0"

"

"Kp'vj gug'pgzv'f'c{ u'vj g'o gp'rgctpgf 'y j cv'k'y cu'rkng'vq'dg'cy c{ 'htqo 'v'gpv'cpf 'eqo hqt'v0' Vj g{ 'eqpv'kpwgf 'r cuukpi 'f gugt'v'f'j qo gu'qh'hr'ggkpi 'ugegu'k'k'p'ku'cpf 'vj g'dwt'p'gf 'j qo gu'qh'Wpkqp" o gp'0Q'f'f'nf 'vj g'cev'qh'htq' kpi 'y cu'kp'hw'ni'uy kpi 'kp'c'0W'p'k'p'o'U'cv'g'0C'p'Q'hh'egt'htqo 'vj g'6vj "Kqy c' p'q'v'egf 'c'58gt'vj kj 'c'f'gcf'j'qi 'y tcr'rgf 'wr 'kp'j ku'Drcp'ng'0'

"

"\$J gmq.'o { 'b cp.'y j gtg'f'kf { 'qwf' gv'vj cv'r ki A\$'j g'j c'k'rgf 'vj g'uv'f'kgt'0Vj g'uv'f'kgt'tgr'rkf "0kup)'c" r ki .'ukt.'k'u'v'qo cv'gu'0[qw'f'qp)'hpqy .'ukt.'j qy 'j ctf 'k'ku'v'v'gn'r ki u'htqo 'v'qo cv'gu'k'p'vj ku'drc'v'gf " eqv'p't { 0'Vj g'qh'hegt'cf'lw'v'gf 'j ku'ur'gevc'ngu'cpf 'f'gek'f'gf 'p'qv'v'q'r wuj 'vj g'o c'wgt'hw'ty'gt'0"

"

Vj g'6vj "Kqy c'p'q'v'gf 'vj g'58vj "Krkpqlu'j cf 'c'un'k'ni'ht'up'k'k'kpi "q'w'j co u.'f'wem'cpf 'q'vj gt'uw'p'f'k'gu'0' Rtk'xc'v'g'Dgn'ku'qh'vj g'6vj "Kqy c'tgo go dgtgf'''

"

0Vj g'uv'f'kgtu'o ctej gf "qp'cpf 'vj g{ 'uecx'gpi gf 'y j cv'vj g{ 'eqw'f'0G'x'gp'wcm{ .'vj g{ 'y gtg'uv'j' g'cx { " rcf gp'vj g{ 'y gtg'j' ctf 'r' t'gu'gf 'v'q'o ctej 's'w'k'em{ 0G'cej 'v'ko g'vj g{ 't'g'cej gf 'c'v'ut'gco .'vj g'eqo o cpf gt" qtf gtgf 'vj go 'v'q'rg'cx'g'vj gk'r't'qx'k'k'q'pu'cv'vj g'uj q'tg'cpf 'vj g{ 'b' q'x'gf "qp'0Vj g{ 't'gd'g'm'gf 'cv'vj g'vj k'f' " t'k'x'gt'0U'g'x'gt'cn{ 'g'm'gf '\$P'q' { 'q'w'f'qp)'U'k'0Y' g'c'k'p'v'i'q'kpi 'v'q'rc' { 'f'qy'p'cp{ vj kpi 'p'qy'0Y' g'j' cx'g'rgf "

vj cv'58vj "Krkpqku'iqpi "gpqwi j 0\$Vj g'58vj "Krkpqku'y cu'hqmqy kpi "vj g'Hqwtvj "{qw'ugg."cpf "vj g{ " r kengf "wr "vj g'uy ggv'r qcvqgu."ej kengpu"cpf "qvj gt'kgo u'vj g'Hqwtvj "j cf "cdcpf qpgf 0"

Vj g'Ecxrit { "cpf "hknr { "vj g'J qy k' gt"dcwgt { +y gpv'cj gcf "vq'J qwuxp'r wuj kpi " eqphgf gtcvgu'cj gcf "qh'vj go "cpf "ecr wtgf "c'Hrci . "f two . "r tkuqpgtu."cpf "eqpvkpwgf "f gr tkxkpi "vj g" vckxqtu'qh'hqaf 0Vj g'kphcpvt { "qeewr kcf "vj g'vqy p'qh'Nlenkpi . "c'uo cm'htqpvtg't"vqy p'hpqy p'ht'ku" ucm'f gr quku'0Wukpi "Nlenkpi "cu"dcug'qh'qr gtcvqpu'vj g{ "ugv'vq'f kucto kpi "vj g'uwttqwpf kpi "ctgc" cpf "cttgukpi "ugeguukqpkuu"cpf "cp{ "0eqphgf gtcvgu0'vj g{ "eco g'cetquu0Vj g{ "cnuq'r w's wkg'c'f gpv' k'vj g'hqecnrkxguxqem'r qr wr'vqp0Vj gtg'y cu'cv'rgcu'4'o gp'hknrgf "d{ "vj g'Ecxrit { "y kpi "cpf "qpg" o cp'vj qv'k'vj g'p'genly j q'r tqdcdn' "f kcf "chvgt"j g'gucr gf 0Eqr0I twugun'j cf "vj g'hqmqy kpi " r tqemx cvkqp'tgcf 0"

0RTQENCO CVKQP ""Vq'vj g'r gqr rg'qh'vj g'vqy p'qh'J qwuxp."cpf "Eqwv' { "qh'Vgzcu."k'vj g'Ucv'g'qh' O kuqwtk0"

"Kj cxg'vj ku'f c { "r megf "wr qp" { qwt "dgcwkhwiEqwtvj qwug."0Vj g'Hrci "qh'qwt "Wpkqp0""Krgcxg'k'k'p" { qwt "ej cti g'cpf "r tqvgevkqp0"K'vcnrg'f qy p'd { "tgdgn'j cpf u."Ky kn'rgwtp"j gtg'cpf "r kn'ci g'gxgt { " j qwug'k'vj g'vqy p."qy pgf "d { "ugeguukqpkuu"qt "vj qug'y j qug'u { o r cvj kgu'ctg'y kj "tgdgn0"Cp { " qwtci g'j gtgchgt "eqo o kvgf "wr qp "Wpkqp"O gp'qt "vj gk' "hco kkgu."y kn'dg'tgwtpgf "wr qp" ugeguukqpkuu'vy q'hqf 0"Cm'r tqr gtv' "vcnrg'htqo "Wpkqp"o gp'd { "tgdgn'k'qt "qwt'qh'vj g'eqwv' . " o wuv'dg'tgwtpgf "ko o g'f kcvgn' 0"Kj gtgd { "i kxg'vj g'tgdgn'v'gp'f c { u'vq'o cnr'i qqf "cm'vj g'iqwgu" uwxckp'gf "d { "Wpkqp' "hco kkgu'k' "Vgzcu'Eqwv' =k'h'vj ku'dg'eqo r rkgf "y kj ."r gceg'y kn'dg'tguxq'gf "vq" { qwt "eqwv' 0"K'ipgi rgev'f . "vj g'eqpugs wpegu'dg'wr qp" { qwt "qy p'j gcf u0"Kuj cm'v'q'p' "tgwtp"vq" { qwt " eqwv' . "cpf "ugg'vj cv'vj ku'r tqemx cvkqp'ku'eqo r rkgf "y kj "vq'vj g'rgwgt0"K' { qw'y ck'hqt"o g'vq" gzgewg'k'."Ky kn'f q'k'y kj "c'xgpi gcpeg0" "

P 0I twugun' " " Eqr0Eqo o cpf kpi "Gzr gf k'kqp0" " " J qwuxp."Vgzcu'Eqwv' . "O q0'P qx07."3: 830"

"Vj g'g'zr gf k'kqp"o cpci gf "vq'cxqkf "cp { "ecuwcnkgu"cpf "tgwtpgf "y kj "c'rci g'pwo dgt "qh'r tkuqpgtu." Eqphgf gtcv'g'o cki'cpf "f kur cvej gu."y ct "tqr j kgu'cpf "cv"rgcu'837222"fqmctu'y qt'vj "qh'hkxguxqem'icpf " qvj gt "i qqf u0Hqt"uqo g'tgcuqp'vj g'6" "Kjy c'y cu'r w'k'p'ej cti g'qh'vj g'hkxguxqem'iq'vj g'tgwtp"tkr "vq" Tqmc0"

Y j gp'vj g'g'zr gf k'kqp'tgwtpgf "qp'vj g": vj "qh'P qxgo dgt."vj g'r tkuqpgtu"cpf "ur qknu'qh'y ct'y j gtg'vj g" vcm'qh'Tqmc0"Cpf "vj g'58vj "Krkpqku"j cf "ku'hku'v'rgu'qp'qp'htci kpi "k'p'gpgo { "eqwv' { "c'rgu'qp'vj cv' y qwf "ugt'xg'k'y gm'f w'kpi "ku'6" { gctu'qh'ugt'xleg0"

Pattern changes of Federal Accoutrements

of the Civil War

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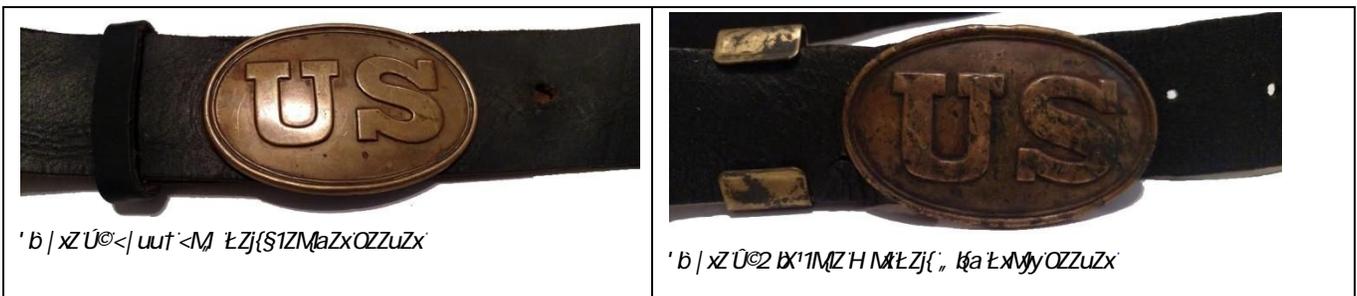
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The wide variety of Federal accoutrements used during the civil war can often prove confusing to even the most seasoned living historian. This article will present the various patterns of waist belts, cap boxes, cartridge boxes, slings and bayonet scabbards as well as a time of when each pattern became available and recommendations for use in recreating the common soldier of the 36th Illinois.

Infantry Waist Belts

The regulation belt of the civil war was supposed to be made of blackened buff leather measuring 1.9 inches wide and 38.5 inches in length with a standing loop at one end¹. However, due to the time consuming and costly nature of buff leather the Ordnance department allowed waxed flesh leather to serve as a substitute as early as 1857². Buff leather shows a rough texture on both sides while waxed flesh was dyed black and waxed on the rough side with the smooth or hair side facing in toward the body. Grain leather, which was dyed and finished with the smooth side out, began to be used for waist belts some time during 1862 and lasted through the end of the war³

The so called Puppy Paw buckle is typically seen on belts featuring a standing leather keeper loop. Most puppy paw buckles have a distinctive block letter appearance to the US stamping on the plate. The arrow hook belt buckle typically had a more stylized US stamp and was a more elliptical shape overall. The switch to arrow back buckles officially took place in January of 63 and was commonly found on grain leather belts featuring the often seen brass belt keeper which was adopted in place of the leather loop at around the same time⁴.

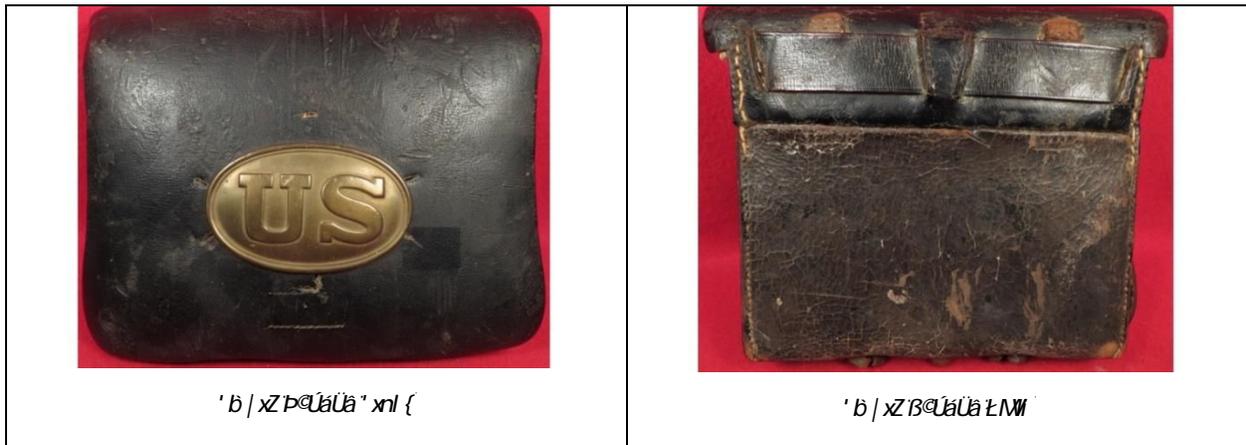




Cartridge Boxes

Pattern of 1839

The Pattern of 1839 Cartridge Box was a .69 caliber round ball cartridge box that became the basis for all subsequent cartridge box patterns through the civil war. The 1839 box was made for carriage on a shoulder belt only with no loops for a waist belt on the back of the box⁵. The box featured a brass oval US plate on the flap which would stay in use until 1864. The 1839 pattern box was phased out of use in the regular army in 1857 when a new pattern was adopted. By the time of the civil war the only source for remaining 1839 pattern boxes would be state arsenals and existing militia companies.⁶



Pattern of 1857

The Pattern of 1857 cartridge box was developed in response to the US army moving towards all rifled weapons.⁷ The Pattern of 1857 cartridge box retained the same basic shape as the 1839 box but was initially only produced in .58 and .69 caliber elongated ball versions.⁸ Belt

loops were also added to the rear of the box in response to a common problem of soldiers cutting slits into the rear of their 1839 boxes to allow for wear on the waist belt.⁹ The outbreak of the civil war forced the Ordnance Department to once again issue .69 caliber round ball weapons and required the addition of a cartridge box to carry the ammunition for these weapons. In April of 1861 the ordnance department began contracting for a Pattern 1857 Cartridge Box sized to carry .69 caliber round ball ammunition. The prevalence of .69 caliber weapons in use early in the war made the Pattern of 1857 caliber .69 round ball and elongated ball cartridge boxes the preferred box contracted for by the US Ordnance Department.¹⁰



Pattern of 1861

The Pattern of 1861 was adopted in November of 1861 and contracts for this pattern we let out beginning in January of 1862.¹¹ The distinguishing feature of the Pattern 1861 cartridge box was the addition of a brass rivet to both ends of the waist belt on the rear of the box. The .69 caliber round ball box was also eliminated with the new pattern. The Pattern of 1861 cartridge box was the most commonly produced cartridge box of the civil war and remained the standard pattern until March of 1864.¹²



Pattern of March 1864

By 1864 the Ordnance Department had finally caught up on supplying equipment to the army and began developing a pattern designed the address deficiencies noted from use in the field. The Pattern of March 1864 retained many features of the Pattern of 1861 with the addition of a brass rivet to the closure tab on the front of the box. The two shoulder belt buckles on the bottom of the box were reinforced by a brass rivet in addition to an elliptical stitching pattern surrounding the rivet. The brass closure finial was changed from the round shape on previous patterns to a more pear shaped finial. The Pattern of March 1864 was contracted from March of 1864 until July of 1864.¹³



Pattern of July 1864

The pattern of July 1864 was an attempt to simplify production. Most of the features of the Pattern 1864 were retained however the brass US box flap plate was eliminated and was replaced by an embossed US design. Initially 60,000 cartridge boxes were contracted for without an inner cartridge box flap. This flap was almost immediately added back to the pattern and was produced in this manner until the end of the war.¹⁴



Cartridge Box Shoulder Belts

The standard pattern shoulder belt leading up to the civil war as a 55.5inch long 2.25 inch wide blackened buff leather belt terminating in 4.25 inch billets measuring .0875 inches wide to pass through the shoulder belt buckles on the bottom of the cartridge box.¹⁵ The shoulder belt featured round brass lead backed plate with an eagle design to be worn on the strap centered over the chest.

The difficulty in obtaining buff leather even in prewar years led to the Ordnance Department contracting for shoulder belts in waxed flesh, or rough out, leather. Shoulder belts made in waxed flesh would be the most common shoulder belt through 1862. Beginning in July 1862 The Ordnance Department began contracting for shoulder belts made of grained, or smooth out, leather.¹⁷ Other than the specific type of leather used the basic pattern of the shoulder belt did not change until July of 1864. Coinciding with the more simple design of the July 1864 Cartridge Box the Ordnance Department decided to eliminate the round eagle breast plate and narrow the belt from 2.25 inches to 2 inches.

Due to the shortage of buff leather, and the more urgent need to supply cartridge boxes and other required accoutrements it was decided in April of 1861 that the shoulder belt could be omitted from a set of accoutrements in order to save time, money and materials.¹⁸ The St. Louis arsenal received explicit instructions on June 15th 1861 to eliminate the shoulder belt from its contracts and require soldiers to wear their cartridge boxes on their waist belts for the time being.¹⁹

Cap Pouch Patterns

The 1850 Ordnance Manual contains the first specifications for a cap pouch for the US army. It lists;

Pattern 1850 Cap Pouch

Cap pouch: (black bridle leather,) length and depth 3 inches ; width 1.25 inch — inner cover, with end pieces— flap, made of the same piece as the back, with a button hole strap at the bottom — brass button, riveted under the bottom of the pouch — 2 loops, sewed to the back, 2.25 inches long, to admit a waist belt, of 2 inches — lining : a strip of sheepskin, with the wool on, 1 .5 inch wide, glued with fish glue, and sewed to the back, at the mouth of the pouch. Cone pick: (steel wire, No. 18,) 1.5 inch long, with a ring handle 0.5 inch diameter ; it is carried in a loop in the inner left hand corner of the cap pouch²⁰.

Pattern 1855

The Pattern 1855 Cap Pouch was introduced sometime in 1855 for use with the new rifleman's belt. The pouch has been described as the "full front" and "Shield Front" pouch. These pouches can be seen often in early war images. Two pouches of this pattern in the Author's personal collection show both pre-war and wartime features. The prewar pouch is of an entirely sewn construction with large belt loops to fit the 1855 rifleman belt. The wartime pouch shows rivets added to the belt loops for strength. These pouches were likely on produced till the end of 1862.²¹

Pattern of 1862

The Pattern of the 1862 Cap Pouch was essentially an updated version of the Pattern of 1850 with wider, rivet reinforced belt loops and a wider front flap. The general features of the Pattern 1862 Cap Pouch would remain through the end of the war, however there was a general shift towards a wider and longer front flap as the war progressed.²²



'b | xZ'ÚP© xnk 'Anu'1Z_{f}{n?b a{'

Pattern 1850, Patern 1855
 Wartime Pattern 1850, Wartime Pattern 1855
 Pattern 1862



'b | xZ'ÚB© xnk 'Anu'1Z_{f}{n?b a{'

Pattern 1850, Patern 1855
 Wartime Pattern 1850, Wartime Pattern 1855
 Pattern 1862

Bayonet Scabbards

Bayonet scabbards have been generally described amongst reenactors by the lack of or presence of rivets in their construction. The first pattern of bayonet scabbard we are all familiar with was listed in the 1850 Ordnance Manual as;

Bayonet scabbard: (black bridle leather.) Length, including the ferrule and tip, for the bayonets of the model of 1822, 18 inches; for bayonets of model of 1840, 19.5 inches. Ferrule and tip, brass. Frog: (buff leather,) sewed to a socket of black leather which is fastened to the top of the scabbard — the frog slides on the waist belt.²³

As with other items requiring Buff Leather the Ordnance Department commonly accepted Waxed Flesh. 2 brass rivets were added to the belt loop frog in 1859 to reinforce the stitching.²⁴ 2 rivet bayonet scabbards would have been the most commonly available pattern early in the war. Surviving scabbards of this pattern are seen with both waxed flesh, and grain leather frogs.

The seven rivet model scabbard was approved for use in February of 1863 and began production.²⁵ The seven rivet scabbard replaces the stitching on the frog with rivets for better

strength and speed of production. Waxed flesh frogs also fell out of production with this model; surviving scabbards are typically seen in bridle leather. One final rivet was added sometime in 1864 to connect the bayonet scabbard to the frog.



'b/xZUa@Mnl Z{ @MUNXy'

From Top to Bottom: No Rivet, 2 Rivet, 7 Rivet, 8 Rivet

Maker and Ordnance Markings

Due to the rapid increase in the amount of contractors supplying accoutrements during the first year of the war the Ordnance Department was faced with a huge problem in identifying contractors that were supplying sub-standard items. As early as October of 1861 the department began discussing requiring contractors to mark their items with the name of the company. The US Senate passed a resolution in July of 1862 that required all items supplied to the government to bear a maker mark.²⁶ The only exemption to marking accoutrements were the federal arsenals which were not required to mark items made in their own shops. Reproductions representing contrac accoutrements from late 1862 through the end of the war should bear a maker mark.

The Ordnance Department was also required to mark accoutrements with their own inspection stamp. Surviving items rarely bear these inspection stamps, and it is supposed that complete crates of equipment were instead marked as opposed to each individual item. One exception is the common oval inspection stamp seen on late war items. Based on surviving

examples the oval inspector stamp can be dated to July of 1864 through the end of the war. This oval stamp should not appear on reproductions of items earlier than the July of 1864 cartridge box, or other items representing earlier construction.²⁷



Recommendations for Use in the 36th Illinois

Initial Issue

Waist Belt: Waxed Flesh standing loop belt with Puppy Paw plate
Cap Pouch: 1855 Shield Front Cap
Cartridge Box: Pattern 1857 or 1861 .69 caliber worn on waist belt
Bayonet Scabbard: 2 rivet pattern

Mid 1862 to Mid 1863

Waist Belt: Waxed Flesh or Grain leather with standing loop and puppy paw buckle
Cap Pouch: Pattern of 1862 or 1855
Cartridge Box: Pattern of 1861 in .58 or .69 caliber, shoulder belt optional
Bayonet Scabbard: 2 Rivet Pattern

Late 1863 till End of War

Waist Belt: Grain leather belt with arrow hook buckle and brass belt keeper
Cap Pouch: Large flap version of Pattern 1862
Cartridge Box: Pattern 1861, Pattern of 1864 boxes allowed in late 1864. Shoulder belt optional
Bayonet Scabbard: 7 rivet, or 2 rivet pattern. 7 rivet would quickly become more common.

Sources

1. 1862 US Army Ordnance Manual pg. 228
2. Paul D. Johnson, *1862 US Army Ordnance Manual*, Pg. 266
3. John E. Tobey, *1862 US Army Ordnance Manual* Spg. 135
4. John E. Tobey, *1862 US Army Ordnance Manual* Spg. 135
5. Ibid, Pg. 40
6. Ibid, Pg. 86
7. Ibid, Pg. 58
8. Ibid, Pg. 82
9. Ibid, pg. 63
10. Ibid, Pg. 98
11. Ibid, Pg. 160
12. Ibid, Pg. 212
13. Ibid, Pg. 221
14. Ibid, Pg. 235
15. Ibid, Pg. 261
16. Ibid, Pg. 267
17. Ibid, Pg. 272
18. Ibid, Pg. 268
19. Ibid, Pg. 113
20. 1850 US Army Ordnance Manual Pg. 201
21. Notes on federal Cap Pouches by Frederick Gaede
22. Notes on federal Cap Pouches by Frederick Gaede
23. 1850 US Army Ordnance Manual Pg. 202
24. Paul D. Johnson, *1850 US Army Ordnance Manual*
25. Paul D. Johnson, *1850 US Army Ordnance Manual*, Pg. 182
26. Ibid, Pg. 250-252

Photographs

Fig. 1-6, 9-19, Scott Sheets Collection

Fig. 7&8, Private Collection

Letter of Pvt. John Green Co. F 36th Illinois

Camp of the 36th Ill Vols
Near Dallas

Dear Friend Susanna H

I take a few leisure moments to let you know that I am well after three weeks of hard campaigning. The enemy has been in retreat and with the help of God we shall win our cause for it is just. We are very near the Rebs and we have dug us good rifle pits. We have been under fire for days but whenever there is a pause in the fighting we are close enough to the enemy lines to talk to them.

We have had many men wounded also and they are under treatment at the Division Hospital about one mile to the rear of the line of battle. Lt. Southworth was recently wounded in the arm but he is recuperating well, at least the surgeon said that he will recover. This close quarters with the Johnnies is really bad for the nerves and there is a lot of sickness in the Camp mostly diarrhea but also nervous exhaustion. God willing soon this terrible ordeal will be over and we all can come home to our loved ones. I am tired of the fighting as I have had enough.

Remember me to all my friends. I remain your devoted admirer.

John Green
Co. "F"

"Rtkxcvg'Iqj p'I tggp'gprkuvf 'lp'Eq0H'qh'y g'58^y 'Krkpqu'qp'Ugr v034'3: 83'cv'y g'ci g'qh'470'
I tggp'y cu'c'Heto gt'htqo 'Cwtqtc'Krkpqu'J g'uqqf '7o6o'cm'j cf 'fctmj ckt'cpf 'dnwg'g{ gu'
Rtkxcvg'I tggp'ugtxgf 'y kj 'y g'tgi ko gpv'cpf 'tggprkuvf 'cu'c'xgvctcp'lp'Lcpwct{ 'qh'3: 860'Iqj p"
I tggp'ku'rkuvf 'cu'nkrkf 'pgct 'F cmcu'I c'qp'O c{ '9^y '3: 860''Cp'gzco kpcv'qp'qh'y g'o wvgt 'tqmi'ht"
N0Uqwj y qt y 'uj qy u'3''N0Nctwg'Uqwj y qt y 'qh'Eq0H'58^y 'Krkpqu'N0Uqwj y qt y 'gprkuvf 'lp'
Cwi wv'qh'3: 83'cu'c'Ugti gcpv'lp'Eq0H0'J g'y cu'r tqo qvgf 'vq'4^{pf} 'Nkgwgp'cpv'lp'O ctej 'qh'3: 85'cpf "
vq'Iwv'y q'o qpj u'rcvgt 'lp'O c{ 'qh'3: 850'N0Uqwj y qt y 'ugtxgf 'y kj 'j ku'eqo r cp{ 'wpv'ki'Cr tkr'qh'
3: 87'y j gp'j g'y cu'cuuki pgf 'cu'y g'Tgi ko gpv'ri'S wctvto cvgt0"
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"Vj g'ngwt'cdq'xg'ku'y tkwgp'lp'r gpeki'qp'c'ukpi ng'uj gg'v'qh'wp'p'gf 'r r'clp'r cr gt0''Y j kg'y g'ngwt'ku"
uj qt v'k'ur gcmi'xq'no gu'qh'y g'ucet'k'eg'y g'o gp'qh'y g'58^y 'i c'xg'lp'ugtx'leg'qh'y g'Wp'k'qp'cpf 'y gkt "
Ecvug0'Rtkxcvg'I tggp'r'clp'u'c'xl'kf 'r lewt'g'qh'y g'uwh'ht'kpi 'cpf 'gzj cwv'k'qp'qh'cm quv'y tgg'g'gct'
qh'y ct0'Rtkxcvg'I tggp'au'ngwt'dt'kpi u'vq'o kpf 'y g'dcwg'hc'ki wg'y cv'ku'uq'eqo o qpn' 'y tkwgp'cdq'w'
uq'f'kgt'u'qh'y g'y ctu'qh'y g'42^y 'Egpwt { 0Vj g'hc'ki wg'qh'p'gctn' { 'eqpu'cpv'eqo dc'v'ku'uqo gy j cv'qh'cp'
cpqo cn' { 'lp'y tk'kpi u'qh'y g'Ek'ki'Y ct.'dw'ergctn' { 'ch'gevgf 'y g'Ek'ki'Y ct'uq'f'kgt'Iwv'cu'f'ggr n' 'cu'
y qug'qh'rcvgt'y ctu0'I tggp'g'zr tgu'gu'c'f'gukt'g'ht'cp'gpf 'vq'y g'hi j v'kpi 0''Ucf n' 'Rtkxcvg'I tggp"

