

THE  
**drum roll**Volume 34    329th Regular Meeting  
Number 8    April 1, 2016*Copperhead War, Butternut War, Skunk River War*

Friday, April 1 2016, 7:30 p.m.

Arlington Heights Memorial Library  
500 North Dunton Avenue, Arlington Heights, Illinois

## The Talley War

**T**he State of Iowa provided the most men per capita to fight for the Union in the American Civil War. Although no battles were fought between the North and the South on her soils, political divisions and unrest in Iowa led to several incidents of injury and death. The Talley War, also known as the Copperhead War, Butternut War, and Skunk River War, resulted from two political rallies, one Republican and one Democrat, that occurred at the same time, the same day, and in the same place. The Talley War occurred August 1, 1863, and has sometimes been called by historians as the only battle that took place in Iowa during the Civil War. The incident made headlines, twice, in the *New York Times*. Newspapers in Iowa announced “Civil War in Iowa.”

The main street in the little town of South English, Iowa, became a powder-keg of social and political violence. A reported mob of up to 4,000 men threatened to burn out the town and the county seat of Sigourney. The towns prepared to go under siege. Governor Kirkwood sent in the militia and personally stepped in. Trenches were dug and picket barriers were placed around South English. Troops camped for days and ladies cooked meals for the soldiers. Arrests were made from both sides and the grand jury was convened.

The conventional interpretation of the Talley War event has been that Southern sympathizers, instigators from Missouri, bushwhackers, and

“highwaymen,” fomented the Talley event. Dave Jackson offers a fresh view and reinterpretation of history from tracing the many names of the men identified in arrests, personal accounts, and state-wide newspapers, before and after the event.



Dave Jackson

A native of New Jersey, Dave Jackson has lived in Kansas and Iowa for most of his life. He is currently assistant director of facilities management at the University of Iowa. He lives at the site of the ghost town of Hinkletown, Foote P.O., southwest of Iowa City, Iowa. When he purchased his farm in 1995, he did not realize it was the former location of a thriving town during the Civil War. Jackson and his partner, Margaret, quickly realized that something was amiss when they began digging the soil and discovered old bricks beneath the surface, throughout the property. Curiosity led to serious research and the unearthing of a body of work and comprehensive local history.

Jackson is past president of Friends of the Johnson County Museums, Shawnee Mission, Kansas, current president of the English Valleys History Center, North English, Iowa, and past master and current secretary of Farmers Masonic Lodge No. 168, which was organized at Foote in 1863. He has spent over a decade researching the ghost town of Foote and the Talley War.

If you would like to join us for dinner with Dave Jackson at 5:30 p.m. before the meeting on April 1 at Sam’s of Arlington restaurant, 1863 West Central Road, Arlington Heights, please contact me at [splat99@comcast.net](mailto:splat99@comcast.net) or telephone (708) 306-5966 by Wednesday, March 30. — *Pat McCormick*

**Please save June 3 for the annual banquet**

# General Patrick Cleburne's Last Year

By Pat McCormick

**O**n Friday, March 4, 2016, Lee White took us through the final year in the life of perhaps the best divisional commander in the Confederacy — General Patrick Cleburne.

White started us off with a few historical quotes praising Cleburne, the best-known probably being General William Hardee's. Although these statements demonstrated the high regard in which Cleburne was held by his peers — and the contrast between Cleburne and the vast majority of his compatriots in the Army of Tennessee — White cautioned that the common assumption that Cleburne would have made a top-notch corps or even army commander is unknown, citing General John Bell Hood as an example of a leader whose talents peaked at division level.

Despite sympathy with the Young Ireland movement, Patrick Cleburne had been a member of the British Army before emigrating to America, where he lived briefly in Cincinnati before settling in Helena, Arkansas. When war broke out, he chose to join the Confederacy to fight alongside those who had accepted him into their community (rather than for any ideological connection with the Cause). Leading a brigade at Shiloh in 1862, Cleburne established a fighting reputation that earned him divisional command by late in that year.

The main focus of the presentation began with November 1863, when Cleburne's appreciation of terrain and skillful deployment of limited troops first stymied General William Sherman's attack on Missionary Ridge (November 25) and then

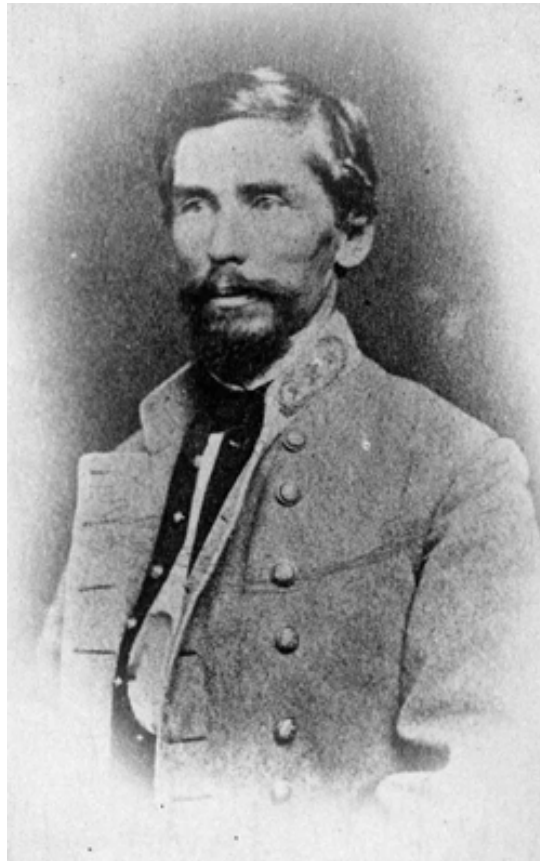
gave the Union pursuit at Ringgold Gap a bloody nose (November 27). His actions earned him the thanks of the Confederate Congress, rare indeed for a foreign-born officer. That ended the combat for the Irishman until spring 1864, but in the meantime he issued a proposal in January that suggested freeing and arming slaves in the Con-

federate cause. (White pointed out that said "freedom" was to be more restricted than the word implies.) Although the proposition was met with horror and quickly squelched, it probably had little to do with Cleburne's stagnation in divisional command.

After soldiering on through the Atlanta campaign, Cleburne then traveled with the rest of Hood's army against Sherman's lifeline in northern Georgia, followed by the move west into Alabama in preparation for the eventual campaign into middle Tennessee. For this stretch of time, White quoted from a partial diary of the general's — a diary originally published in a newspaper decades after the war, with its author being unknown at the time of publishing. Finally, Cleburne

arrived in front of Franklin, Tennessee, on November 30 — just a year and 5 days after his stand at Missionary Ridge. Ordered into the fateful (and futile) attack against the well-prepared Federals, Cleburne remarked to subordinate General Daniel Govan that "if we are to die, let us die like men." The charge that followed fulfilled his prediction.

On behalf of the Round Table I would like to thank Lee White for an engrossing presentation.



*Patrick Cleburne in January 1864*

## April Events

**Through April 17, Butler,** Northlight Theatre, Skokie, IL. Play tells the story of three escaped slaves who seek sanctuary from General Butler. Information is available at [www.northlight.org](http://www.northlight.org) or (847) 673-6300.

**April 2, Home Front Seminar,** Civil War Museum, Kenosha, WI. Dr. Betsy Estilow will speak on Patriots in Petticoats: Southern Women and Medical Care During the Civil War; Kristin Patterson will speak on Extra Pay for Wisconsin Civil War Families; Dr. Margo Anderson, UW-Milwaukee, will speak on Counting Slaves and Free Persons: How the 1860 Census Affected the Civil War; and Scott Wolfe will speak on Putting Up Packages: Ulysses S. Grant and Galena, Illinois. Programs begin at 9:30 a.m.; \$50/\$40 for Friends of the Museum. Information on all Civil War Museum programs is available at (262) 653-4140 or [www.thecivilwarmuseum.org](http://www.thecivilwarmuseum.org).

**April 8, Second Friday Lunchbox Lecture Series,** Civil War Museum, Kenosha, WI. Phil Angelo will speak on Newspapers Report the Civil War, noon. Free program is sponsored by the Milwaukee Civil War Roundtable and the Iron Brigade Association.

**April 8, Chicago Civil War Round Table.** Greg Biggs will speak on Nashville: Siren's Song of the Confederacy.

**April 9, Atlanta: The River Line Through Jonesboro,** Civil War Museum, Kenosha, WI. Greg Biggs will cover General William T. Sherman's campaign to take the southern stronghold of Atlanta, Georgia, 1 p.m.

**April 12, McHenry County Civil War Round Table.** Dave Oberg will speak on Battery H, 1st Illinois Light Artillery.

**April 14, Lake County Civil War Round Table.** David Noe will speak on The Great Camel Experiment.

**April 22, Salt Creek Civil War Round Table.** David Powell will speak on Two Generals at Chickamauga: Alexander McDowell McCook and Daniel Harvey Hill.

**April 23, Faces of the Iron Brigade,** Civil War Museum, Kenosha, WI. Reception, dinner, and theater program celebrate the exhibit, Faces of the Iron Brigade: A Social Network of Soldiers, \$45, \$40 Friends of the Museum members.

*drum roll*, April 2016

## April Saturday Discussion

All members and guests are invited to participate in the session to be held at the Barrington Area Library, on Saturday, April 16, 2016, from 10:00 a.m. until noon. Second vice president Wayne Rhine will lead the discussion on Generals Ulysses Grant and Robert E. Lee.

These discussions are generally held on the third Saturday of the month from September through June. They are held to generate and foster a free exchange of ideas on Civil War events.

### Erroneous Prediction

"The South has too much common sense and good temper to break up the Union," said presidential candidate Abraham Lincoln, 1860.

### Book Discussion Group

The Civil War book discussion group led by Tom DeFranco at the Eisenhower Library, 4613 North Oketo, Harwood Heights, meets on the first Saturday of the month from 10:00 until 11:30 a.m. On April 2 the group will discuss the prelude to the war, from Lincoln's election to Fort Sumter.

### Women's Civil War Book Club

The Civil War book club for women is on hiatus until the spring. At that time they will discuss *Blaze of Glory* by Jeff Shaara. If you are interested in joining the group, contact Denise Limburg at (847) 382-1022 or [dlimburg@prodigy.net](mailto:dlimburg@prodigy.net) or Mary Banks at [zeller1@comcast.net](mailto:zeller1@comcast.net) or (847) 497-3149.

### To Contribute to the Drum Roll

All members are welcome to contribute items to the newsletter. Articles should be whatever length is necessary to cover the subject. If you have information to share, please send it to Sally Smith, 328 Eastern Avenue, Barrington, Illinois 60010 or e-mail [drum\\_roll4@juno.com](mailto:drum_roll4@juno.com).



### 2015–16 Officers and Trustees

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#### Appointed Positions

Book Raffle	Charles Banks
Newsletter Editor	Sally Smith

## March Raffle

The lucky winners at the March book raffle were Brian Seiter, who won *Shiloh: Bloody April* by Wiley Sword; Fred Kitch, who won *April 1865: The Month That Saved America* by Jay Winik; Kathleen Lange, who won *Footprints of a Regiment: A Recollection of the 1st Georgia Regulars 1861–1865* by W. H. Andrews; Danielle Kafka, who won *Port Hudson: Confederate Bastion on the Mississippi* by Lawrence Lee Hewitt; and Phillip Thornton, who won *America's National Battlefield Parks* by Joseph E. Stevens.

Congratulations to the winners and sincere thanks to the donors. To donate Civil War-related books or items, please contact Charlie Banks.

### 2015–2016 Speakers

April 1	Dave Jackson	The Talley War
May 6	Mark Lause	Price's 1864 Raid
June 3	Brian Steele Wills	George Thomas



To learn more about this Round Table  
visit our website at [www.northernlcrwt.org](http://www.northernlcrwt.org)