

# ZOUAVE!



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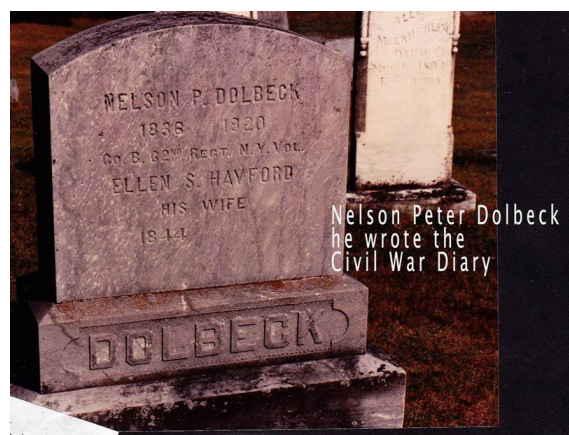
62d NYSV Monument at Gettysburg  
(Photo courtesy of Bill Lincoln on his recent attendance  
at the re-enactment event to commemorate  
the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the battle)

## NELSON P. DOLBECK'S DIARY



Two descendants of 62d NY veteran, Nelson P. Dolbeck have contacted our research page on Facebook. Andrew Lausten and his sister, Rose Lausten-Miller, have kindly supplied AZ Research with a transcript of Dolbeck's wartime diary.

This is a major development in our understanding of the early days of the Anderson Zouaves and as such has given

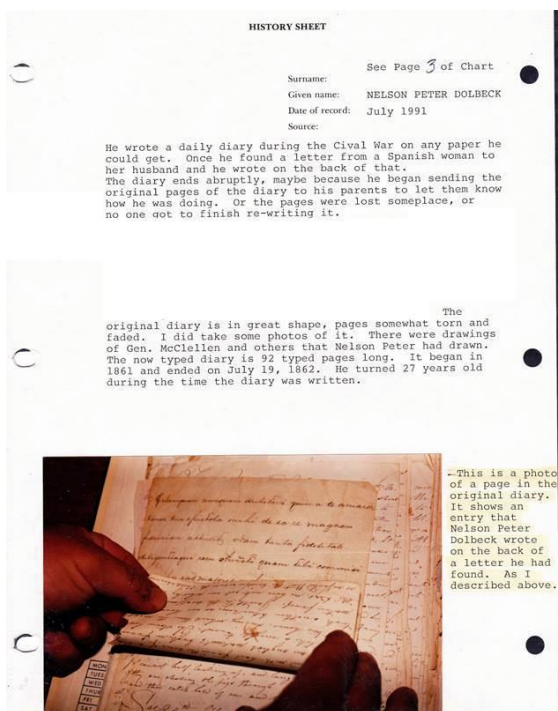


us a wealth of information on this early period. Andrew Lausten has been posting excerpts of the diary on our Facebook page and these I will present below.

The diary was written between May 1861 and July 1862. The diary was written on any paper Nelson could scrounge, including the back of a letter written by a Spanish woman to her husband. The diary includes drawings made by Nelson, including one of General McClellan.

Rose Lausten-Miller explained when she first saw Nelson P. Dolbeck's diary;

"I first saw the diary in 1991 after meeting some relatives. It was passed down through the generations to a woman who was married to a Dolbeck. Then to the person who has it now. I have a couple of photos, & more that I would need to search for, of the diary & Nelson's grave. I will try to send them to you as well as Andy. Someone typed it up & I made a copy of the typed version to bring home to Phx. I'm in touch once a year with the brother of the person who has the original diary... This diary is what hooked me into tracing our family ancestry since 1991. It was exciting to read then as it is now!"



"History Sheet" showing the original diary and explaining some of the history of the artefact.

We at ZOUAVE! and at the AZ Research group are indebted to Andrew and Rose for their generosity in sharing the diary with us and to the family for allowing us to publish its contents here and on our website. We continue to receive information from descendants of AZ veterans and it is of immense value to our ongoing research into New York's "Pet Regiment."

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**EXCERPTS FROM THE  
DIARY OF NELSON P.  
DOLBECK – MAY 1861**  
(Courtesy of Andrew Lausten and Rose Lausten-Miller)

**+**

**May 1, 1861** - I started from home to enlist in the United States Army. I had just rafted 1200 logs to the Ticonderoga Rapids. Thinking my country needed my help, I left my business and all unsettled and enlisted under Capt. Doolittle of Crown Point - and went there by Steamer America.

**Thursday May 2, 1861** - I commenced drilling today with the Company. The time for drilling here is three hours in the forenoon and three in the afternoon, making six hours a day. I like the business well but it is somewhat tiresome.

**Friday May 3, 1861** - Today our company was measured for coats and pants. There is a sewing committee appointed to make the clothes. At 3pm the company was dismissed until Monday morning. I accordingly, went home, and with my heart full I bid farewell to my friends and started back to Crown Point. I arrived there Monday morning.

**Monday May 6, 1861** - Raining and not on drill.

**Tuesday May 7, 1861** - Nothing unusual today, but on drill.

**Wednesday May 8, 1861** - On drill today as usual.

**Thursday May 9, 1861** - My Mother came to see me today. I was on drill as usual, but had time to visit-with my parent and at night, bade her farewell.

**Friday May 10, 1861** - Today, there are many anxious hearts among the volunteers. For what are they anxious, they know not. They know not that they are about to commence their privation. Yes, today, we are to leave our homes and go to Albany. At 12am, we were ordered to march down to Bowman S. We were received with additional music and firing of guns and got an excellent supper. After the ordinary exercises after supper, we were marched to the landing, and then awaited the arrival of the Steamer America.

**Saturday May 11, 1861** - At 2pm, we got aboard all safe for White Hall NY, took the cars there, and arrived in Albany, New York at 10am very tired and hungry. We were quartered for the present in Green Street and was taken in a saloon for dinner. Our dinner was good and we did it ample justice. After dinner, we was told that we would be quartered at the Adams House on Broadway. We accordingly marched to our new quarters, and received one mattress and one blanket apiece. Our room was very filthy. Our supper consisted of baker's bread, beef, and coffee. We did not eat a very hearty supper. After supper we laid ourselves down to rest but the noise of the city and five hundred soldiers under the same roof prevented sleep or rest to us, who was entirely unaccustomed to it.

**Sunday May 12, 1861** - Attended Methodist services today at 10:30am. And at 7:30 our company attended a lecture.

**Monday May 13, 1861** - The majority of our company did not go to breakfast this morning the food was so filthy. Besides we

got nothing but beef and coffee to eat. After breakfast we was marched to our old quarters at Green St. This place is but a trifle better.

**Tuesday May 14, 1861** - As it was rainy today, I kept in doors all day. Nothing new to write.

**Wednesday May 15, 1861** - At 10am, our company was marched up to the Capital, was treated on soda, and returned to our quarters. Our company consists of eighty five, all uniformed, and quite well drilled. We received the praises of the citizens today through the papers.

**Thursday May 16, 1861** - This was a warm day. Our company was called out today and placed on the right of Col. Townsby's regiment, that being the second honorable position, the first being in the center, the third, on the left wing (on the first company on the left of the reg't, we was marched from the steamer docks on Broadway) to the Capital through State St. and back. The parade was then dismissed and we returned to our quarters. This evening, our company was removed on Broadway near the Steamboat Landing.

**Friday May 17, 1861** - Nothing of importance today.

**Saturday May 18, 1861** - Today, our company elected officers for the company, Liut. Doolittle for Capt., Hiram Buck, 1st Luit., and John Wright, 2nd Liut.

**Sunday May 19, 1861** - I went to church at 10:30am. At 7pm, our company was again removed to corner of Canal and Capel St. in an old church. We got our "grub" at the Adams House on Broadway. The "grub" is better now than it has formerly been. The word "grub" is a soldier's phrase for victuals.

**Monday May 20, 1861** - We received orders this morning to be at our quarters at

10am to receive medical inspection; and as the time approached, the company was all ready and anxiously waiting the process of inspection. Very soon, the surgeon came, and clothes was taken off and the inspection took place. Two was found deficient and sent home.

**Tuesday May 21, 1861** - Today our company received (to each man) one cap, one shirt (grey and knit), one pair of shoes and stockings. About 3pm, one of the boys had a horrible fit, the first I ever saw.

**Wednesday May 22, 1861** - Nothing of importance today, except there was two men drummed out of the regiment that was quartered in the barracks for not taking the oath of allegiance.

**Thursday May 23, 1861** - I had a very unexpected visit today (and it was as welcome as it was unexpected) from Rev. Louis G. Boudrye, who lives in Troy, NY. The visit was short, but interesting. I learned today that Capt. Doolittle is trying to resign and go in a req. as Surgeon. We have been promised pay ever since we came here, and have been told so many stories that the company is about discouraged and several are talking of leaving the company. Several have left already. I do not wish to leave until I see the company is really broken up. I have made up my mind to join the Anderson Zouaves reg't in case our company is broken up.

**Friday May 24, 1861** - Captain Doolittle has been gone several days. He left no orders. We learned today that in a day or two, our company must take the oath of allegiance and be placed in the barracks. The boys say they will not be sworn in under another Capt. And if they do not, the company must break up. I with several of the boys joined the Anderson Zouave company that was forming in the city. Companies are designated by letters. Our company is "H". With myself, there was

nine that left Company H. Among them was Moses Boudrye, Henry Ostier, and Robert Hogle. The Company appointed 20 men for guards; (for the Lieutenants had learned that we was going away) but we skipped from them all, took the cars, with a portion of our new company, for Troy, and arrived there at about 8pm. At 9:20, we finally started for NY City, by railroad.

**Saturday May 25, 1861** - After being jolted about all night, I arrived in the great city of NY with my new company at 5am and marched to quarters at 814 Broadway. Our company was accepted into the 1st Anderson Zouave regiment. We had an election of officers today. Wm. D. Ross was named unanimously and elected for Capt. of the company; Horace Pratt 1st Liut.; Wm. Pratt 2nd Liut.; Charles A. Travis, 1st Seargeant. I was elected 1st Corporal. Our boarding place is about five blocks from our quarters on 3rd Avenue. The "grub" is shocking there. It is so filthy that the only way to partaking of our own meal is to starve ourselves to it.

**Sunday May 26, 1861** - Moses and myself took a walk today. We went down to the East River, and visited several quays. I saw ships from almost every country. Our boarding place is changed today to corner of 14th Street 3rd Avenue. We get good "grub" here, and plenty of it. I do not find the city interesting as I expected. Too much noise for me.

**Monday May 27, 1861** - We had eggs, bread, and coffee for breakfast. I went to the general P.O. today at Nassau St.

**Tuesday May 28, 1861** - While I was enjoying myself in the Zouave company, with the boys of my acquaintance, there was ingenious figuring in Co. H to get us back. Capt. Doolittle sent Liut. Wright, our sargeant and one private down to NY to arrest us. Private came into our quarters on the sly. We knew not the game. We received him with cordiality. Private said

he had left the Co. and wanted to join us. After chatting a while, private invited P. Blake and myself to take a walk. We walked down a few blocks on Broadway and to our surprise, met Liut. Wright and sargeant. Liut. Wright told me he had left Co. H and would join any company that had the most of our boys in it. He wanted to take the names of those that was in our co. And as Blake was giving him the names, I left and went back to quarters as soon as possible I saw the game, and gave the alarm. We was immediately drawn up in line to fight for our rights. Co B was drawn in front. In less time than I can write, Liut Wright, with a body of policemen (about 20) came in and demanded of Capt. Ross, the men that ran away. The answer that we gave them was that we would fight before we would give up. The police finally left, and so did our company, or at least the ones that came out of Co. H. We was marched through several streets through Washington Park, (which is the finest park I have seen) and quartered on corner of Thompson and 4th streets in Company G (Capt Dockstader). We are all well satisfied here as this is a beautiful place and our grub is the best we have had since we left home. Co. G lives on rations which is 45 cents per day.

**Wednesday May 29, 1861** – A little rainy this fore noon. Nothing of information today. We enjoy ourselves well with Co G. The most of them are small boys from 13 to 20.

**Thursday May 30, 1861** – At 9am, our company was ordered to meet at our former quarters on Broadway. Orders was to get ready to march at 4pm 3 companies, ours (included) commenced to march for Saltersville, NJ. Just before leaving, a lady sent us some pies. The first I have had since I left Crown Point. After regaling ourselves of the pies, we marched down to South Ferry: was ferried across to Jersey City. Marched through the city, west by south in double file and 4 ranks and after marching about 10 miles, we arrived at the place of disembarkation. We was very tired and hungry. Quartermaster Yates came on foot from Jersey City with us. After getting supper,

we was quartered in Mr. Salter's ballroom.

**Friday May 31, 1861** – This was a very fine morning and I could not remain idle. I rambled about all the fore noon. This is a splendid place. I went down on the dock—the prospect was fine. I had Newark Bay by me, New York City to my right, and Elizabethtown to my left. Distance to both cities, from 10 to 15 miles. After enjoying myself in viewing these distant places, I rambled through the woods and fields and saw many new plants and shrubs. I also found some ripe strawberries, the largest I ever saw. There are but a very few birds here. The timber is chiefly of white wood, chestnut, Pin oak, and red cedar.

(More in our next issue – Ed.)

Source: Diary of Nelson P. Dolbeck  
(unpublished transcript)

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Anderson-Zouaves-Research/544554128930906>

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## THE ANDERSON ZOUAVES IN PEN AND PRESS (July to September 1863)

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### We Have Again Met the Enemy in Battle [July 20 1863]

Camp near Lovitsville Va July 20th, 1863

Dear Aunt -

Many thanks for your kind letter written the day we were engaged in deadly contest with the enemy (the 3rd of this month).

I was deepy grieved to hear of my dear Grandfathers death. Although I have never had the pleasure of seeing him still I had often heard of him an sincerely hoped

he would have recovered his former good health. How badly Grand Pa will feel when he hears of this death. Since I wrote you last we have again met the enemy in battle and caused him to ingloriously fly. Our Heavenly Father in his unceasing kindness still protects me and although many of my comrades were killed and wounded around me yet I passed through unharmed receiving not even the slightest slightest scratch.

We are at present encamped near the small antique town of Lovitsville which is situated about eight miles from the Potomac River which are crossed yesterday making a march of twenty miles I think the object now is to cut off the rebel retreat. This war has now assumed an encouraging appearance. With a few dextrous movements rightly conducted this strife will soon cease. I have written to my Grandfather in London since I received your letter. I wish you would please send me his letter as soon as convenient. I will not close. I would write more but I am somewhat fatigued. With most respectful and affectionate remembrances to Uncle Reuben and all other friends

I remain as ever  
Your loving Nephew  
Covell

P.S.

Address as usual. I regret that I am obliged to send this without a stamp.

A.C.W.

*Letters of Alfred Covell Woods. 62<sup>nd</sup> NYSV Co I  
Homepage*

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## **Troubles, Hardships and Fatigues**

**[30 July 1863]**

Camp near Warrenton, Va.  
July 30th (1863)

Dear Aunt,

I have waited sometime since I received your kind note enclosed with Miss Sarah's for it was but a written you.

I am very thankful to you for writing for I had wondered why the letter which you mentioned enclosing in yours was taken out. However, if it was of any importance I am glad Uncle did not send it. I need hardly tell you Dear Aunt that it is my most earnest desire to obtain a good education. "Knowledge is power" and I feel that I have hardly begun to gain that which I need so much; a true knowledge not only of earthly things but of God.

Since I became a Soldier, my eyes have been opened to realize in a measure the danger of my situation (mentally). Although I fear I am not a true Christian yet, I feel to bless our Heavenly Father for his kindness to me and my daily prayer to Him is that He will give me grace. Teach me to love Him as I ought and give me strength to do my whole duty looking to Him for guidance and support. But oh! it is hard to do right here in the Army where so much sin abounds.

We are at present stopping near the beautiful and pleasantly situated little town of Warrenton which is about half way between the Rappahannock River and Washington. I think we will not remain here long. We have previous to this followed the enemy up very closely and I will not attempt to describe to you our troubles, hardships and fatigues during the past 45 days of almost incessant marching.

Our Regiment is now reduced down to a little over 150 duty men. We are to be filled up soon with drafted men. We were presented yesterday with three new and splendid colors from the state and city. I will now close. Please write me soon as convenient. With many kind wishes and much love to yourself and Uncle I remain as ever your loving Nephew

Covell (Woods)

## **The 62d is a Booley Regt. [24 August 1863]**

Camp near Sulphur Springs, Va.  
August 24th 1863.

Dear Cousin Hen,

I received your very welcome letter of the 19th inst. and was much pleased to see therein that you with the rest of my Folks and Friends, is in good health. Your letter found me as usual in Good health and Spirits, (I dont mean Whiskey spirits). For I think that the Commissary Whiskey will kill a man a dam sight further than the Rebble's Lead, what think you. I would like very much to be down to the Island for 2 or 3 days to have some sport, fishing. For I think that Mrs. Vankliefs Apple Jack and some of her fish hooks would make me catch Week fish like. . . well say, one hundred and thirty five at a tide. Then I would not be played out half as much as I would going on a Division drill. I think you are very foolish if you go on a Transport on the Mississippi, for it is the Dambdest river that ever ran up hill. I am acquainted with 2 or 3 men that has been on the Miss and a person could not get them there again if they undertook to do it with a cable. I am in camp now in a handsome wood near the Selebrated Sulphur Springs of Va on this side of the Rapahanack. But how long the Rebs will let us enjoy it I cannot say for the Gray Backs is dam thick along the Rapadan river.

By the accounts as I see by the New York Papers the draft will be conducted with little if enny rioting and the old Regiments will soon be filled up. Hen, why dont you apply for to get in my Regiment. We want more officers as soon as the Regt is filled with conscripts. By you stating your case to the Governor he wil send you to my Regiment, for he has sent two new 2nd Lieuts here lately. The 62d is a booley

Regt and I would like to have you out here very mutch. I expect my Commishion will be a 1st Lieut instead of 2d when it comes which will be some time this week. I wrote Emma a letter 2 days ago in answer to hers. So after asking you to give my love to inquireing friends especially the young Ladys of the Island. For Instance

Mary Beck

Susan Hooper

and my Richmond Gal, I will close. No I wont either. Hen, I want you to kiss Aunt Betsy for me and give my Respects to all the married women in general. Write as soon as this comes to hand. Then I will Remain your Cousin in love and Friendship

Lieut A. T. Perine 62d Regt N. Y. Vols.  
Washington, D.C. or Elsewhere.

Kerr, M. (1955) *In love and friendship.*

*The letters of Abraham T. Perine, ensign of the  
Anderson Zouaves. 62<sup>nd</sup> NYSV Co. I Homepage*

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## **I am Still Enjoying the Best of God's Blessings [September 6 1863]**

Camp near Warrenton Va.  
Sept 6th, 1863

Dearest Aunt,

I do not know but you will think I write too often but I do love to think of home and hear from there often and as I am at leisure this calm cool day I thought I would improve my time in no better way than in writing. I was last night made the happy recipient of a good letter (from my Grandfather in England in reply to one which I wrote some time ago. Miss Sarah wrote me than you had also received one from him.) He gave me a slight description of my relatives there and how he is situated and begged me to come and see them. He is now stopping for the time in Greenwich

at his country residence where he generally stays from June until October when he goes back to London again at least so he writes. I have thought the matter over and I have concluded that perhaps it will be beneficial to me to go there after I am discharged from the Army if God in his loving kindness should be pleased to spare my life until that time.

I am still enjoying the best of God's blessings: life, health, strength and a clean conscience are mine and who would be otherwise than happy who is thus situated. The weather here at present is quite cool. Autumn is now fairly set in and soon (I think) we shall begin another campaign. I am ready although I wish this war might be settled without anymore fighting. I am sick and tired of seeing so much precious blood spilled, so many lives sacrificed which sacrifice has as yet amounted to nothing. I will now once more bid you Good bye hoping to hear from you soon. Please excuse me for sending this without a stamp but I cannot obtain one at any price.

With much true esteem to yourself and other friends I remain, in great haste, truly your Nephew

Covell (Woods)

*Letters of Alfred Covell Woods. 62<sup>nd</sup> NYSV Co I Homepage*

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Zouave Ambulance, thought to be members of the 62d NY. This will be the subject of a forthcoming article by William Lincoln

## AUSTRALIAN AZ RE-ENACTORS AT GETTYSBURG

by W Lincoln

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Private William Lincoln and Lady Julie Sleigh arrive at Gettysburg on the Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June and took up lodgings at the B&B.

We had spent the previous two weeks visiting Springfield Ill., Shiloh, Chattanooga, Lookout Mountain, Chickamauga, Atlanta, Georgia, SC, NC, Richmond, Williamsburg, Fredericksburg, and Danville.

Springfield Illinois, the home of Lincoln, was very interesting with some great small civil war museums such as the State Museum, GAR Museum and the Illinois State Military Museum.

The battlefields in the west show how evenly matched the opposing forces were and that the western Union and Confederate soldiers were very tough.



Shiloh - Pittsburg Landing

We visited many museums and saw a great number of original artefacts. The original uniforms were very interesting in that various types of materials and patterns were used by the Confederate manufacturers. The Museum of the



Confederacy and Virginia Military Museums are worth a visit.



The Bloody Lane where Union troop stood against repeated Confederate attacks



On Lookout Mountain with Chickamauga in the back ground - J Sleigh and W Lincoln.

At Gettysburg, we went to the registration and were quickly sorted and moved to the Sutler's camp which was a great experience.

We camped with Coy B 2<sup>nd</sup> Rhode Island, messing in with Ivan Page of the Australian based "Blue and Gray." The 2<sup>nd</sup> Rhode Island were in the same division as the 62<sup>nd</sup> of the 6<sup>th</sup> Corps and were on the right and back of the 62<sup>nd</sup> at Gettysburg so it was a great that I could mess with them. We then met George and James from Melbourne (Australia) who were messing in with the 69<sup>th</sup> NY.

On Day One we were formed up and marched off with the union Volunteers as the 14<sup>th</sup> Brooklyn. We marched around the back of our camp and down the hill onto the battle field where we engaged Reb infantry after the Union Cavalry



W Lincoln, J Stallard and G Kyros



W Lincoln's shelter



Ivan Page, W Lincoln and Frank Gussie

disengaged. We fired many volleys and I demonstrated the classic death for the boys in Company B: they all laughed!

After some more shooting we advanced on a line of Rebs and charged - I took a hit as the lead Zoauve.

Day Two we marched out and stayed under cover of the trees. We were not needed, so watched as the 69<sup>th</sup> NY charged a large force of Rebs. It was like a mass of insects moving as one swaying,

falling and crashing mass into other insects, with noise and smoke.



We were then called into line to attack. We advanced, however our support on our right left us and we became exposed on two flanks and fought back to back and retreated with the colours.

We reformed and watched as the 114<sup>th</sup> Pa became engaged with a larger Rebel force. They did well but fell back and then the Rebs turned to us. We formed up and fired many volleys and then charged, however our leading officer was hit and we fell back, reformed and then



charged again. The rebels also charged and we met, however the rebels out-numbered us and took the field.

We chatted and shook hands and we cheered them, they cheered us. It was very emotional for everyone.

On Day Three we marched to the stone wall and waited for the Rebs to attack. The Rebel artillery opened fire for 40 minutes and then the Virginian Infantry with General Pickett advanced from under the trees.

As they advanced our artillery opened up, and as they drew closer the infantry opened up, and then made the final charge towards the angle of the stone wall. It was like a horde of insects moving any which way in violent contortions.

After the battle everyone shook hands, cheers went up around the battle



Waiting before Pickett's Charge

field, very emotional again: an experience I will remember for a long time to come.

After the re-enactment Julie and I went to see the 62<sup>nd</sup> Monument and paid our respects to the Regiment and the Division and corps.



We then went to Harrisburg to visit the acclaimed Museum of the Civil War, which had some great uniforms, in particular the Hawkins Zouaves uniform. Then to Harper's

Ferry, and on to Ohio where General Sherman was born, and back to Chicago.

A wonderful trip, following the Civil War trail and something one must do at least once in their re-enacting life.

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**1<sup>ST</sup> SERGEANT  
EDWARD PRINCE  
62d NYSV CO. F & CO. H**

by Joe Basso



“Tinker, Tailor,  
Soldier, Sailor,  
Rich Man, Poor Man  
Beggar Man, Thief”

This very old English children’s counting game is also symbolic of many of the immigrants sailing to the Western Hemisphere in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> Century. It has been mentioned in several of these biographies and in tens of thousands of history texts throughout the history of this nation, that we are a nation of immigrants.

We brag about it, and on various holidays we remember (hopefully) our ancestors’ struggles to intermix into the mainstream. In America today, some citizens have the same struggle dealing with large numbers immigrants as did many in the 1850s. The Know Nothing Party was founded on an anti-foreigner platform that raised near disastrous results along the Kansas-Missouri border wars, which triggered the outbreak of the Civil War.

All who came here did so on the search for land and the prosperity that it brought and the basic individual freedoms that the Constitution expressed, but was all too often unable to guarantee. The Prince family were no different. Born in England, Edward Prince (b.1815) and Mary Ann Wilmot Prince (b. 1816) brought their rather extensive family including Edward (b. 1837), John (b. 1839), Mary Ann (b. 1842), Eliza (b. 1843), James (b.1846), William (b. 1848), and Charles (b. 1851) and arrived in New York from Liverpool on the ship *Constantine* (under the

command of Peter A. Owens) on October 22, 1855. Disembarking along with 220 other souls, mostly English, the family settled in New York City, with father Edward, as well as his son Edward, finding work within their craft as caulkers.

The youngest children attended public school and began the Americanization process. Children of immigrants would attend school during the day and then go home and teach their family American traditions and American history. The grandchildren of immigrants would be “Americanized” from birth, but may have maintained the native language for use in the home and during festivals.

Whether for love of their new country or desiring to prove themselves to others, immigrants and descendants of immigrants responded to their country’s call in 1861. Edward Prince enlisted in the 62<sup>nd</sup> New York and was mustered in to Co. F and then was transferred to Co. H. on 1<sup>st</sup> May 1861. Enlistment records have him at 24 years of age, 5’3”, grey eyes, brown hair and light complexioned. He was promoted to full corporal on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 1861, saw all the major engagements the 62<sup>nd</sup> was involved in and reenlisted in November 1864 at Halltown, Virginia. He was promoted to 1<sup>st</sup> Sergeant on 11<sup>th</sup> April 1865 and was discharged from service on 30<sup>th</sup> August 1865 at Ft. Schuyler, New York.

Like all veterans on both sides in the war, Edward went home. He married Henrietta B. Prince and had three children, Eida (b.1883), Edward III (b. 1887) and Charles (b. 1892). Edward and family lived at several different street addresses along Forsyth Street between 1875 and 1888 finding employment as a painter and a caulker. He applied for and received an invalid’s pension on August 14, 1890. Upon Edward’s death on June 11, 1910 she received a widow’s pension. After Edwards funeral in Queens, New York she lived with their son Edward, in Brooklyn, until her passing in 1931.

**1<sup>ST</sup> LIEUTENANT  
WILLIAM BARNETT  
62d NYSV  
by Joe Basso**



Like a good many soldiers fighting for the Union during the Great Southern Rebellion, William D. Barnett's story begins overseas. Born in Ashton Under Hill, Gloucestershire, England, in 1836, the second eldest son of Thomas (b. 1806) and Elizabeth (b. 1813) Barnett.

His family would eventually include his older brother Thomas (b. 1834), Joseph (b. 1837), James and Charles (b. 1845), Martin (b. 1847 – 1849), Jane (b. 1852), and Ann (b. 1855). Father Thomas was a mason, which he trained his son Thomas to be and William D. took up the art of blacksmithing. (little known to most people today, there were also whitemiths who specialized in working copper, tin and brass, and bronze. Industrial manufacturing had begun to eliminate this craft by the 1850's).

The family immigrated from Liverpool to New York City and arrived on October 6, 1843, probably on board the ship *Hudson* of the North German Lloyd Line. The family moved to Canandaigua, New York until the outbreak of hostilities. William's brother, Thomas, joined Co. D. of the 126<sup>th</sup> New York Infantry and would be wounded at Maryland Heights, Md., Gettysburg, Pa. and again at Bristoe Station, Va. where he was also captured. He would be paroled and discharged from the hospital at Annapolis, Md. in 1865.

Following the patriotic example of his brother, William enlisted in the 62<sup>nd</sup> New York on 14<sup>th</sup> June 1861 and was mustered into Co. A six days later. The enlistment record showed him to be 5'8"

tall with brown hair, blue eyes with fair complexion.

He was promoted to 1<sup>st</sup> Sergeant of Co. A on 30<sup>th</sup> June 1861 and was then reduced to the ranks on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 1861. This happened to many with the reorganization of the Army of the Potomac under General McClellan (the highest number of desertions from the 62<sup>nd</sup> also occurred between 1861 -1862, afterwards it was a mere trickle by comparison for the next three years). He was then transferred to Co. I on 4<sup>th</sup> December 1861 and was made Sergeant again on 1<sup>st</sup> August 1863.

Before the official termination of the first enlistment on 29<sup>th</sup> June 1864, Sergeant William D. Barnett reenlisted on 1<sup>st</sup> March 1864 and was granted the status of "veteran." On 13<sup>th</sup> April 1864, William D. was promoted to 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant and was transferred to Co. C. Then the bottomed appeared to fall out from beneath him.

Nearly all the records on Lt. Barnett stated that he was discharged on 26<sup>th</sup> August 1864. The term "discharge" has a wide definition in the military during the war, but there was no mention of battle wounds or disease mentioned in his record. Then a small note was found attached to his discharge notice that reads:

*Special Order No. 282  
War Department  
Adjutant-General's Office  
26Aug64*

*By direction of the President,  
1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant William Bennett, 62<sup>nd</sup> NYV  
is hereby dishonorably discharged from  
the Service of the United States, for utter  
worthlessness, inefficiency and absence  
without leave.*

*Order of E.D. Townsend, Asst. Adj. Gen.*

...and that was that. William D. returned to civilian life and became a naturalized citizen on September 6, 1864 with an address shown at 31 Roosevelt Street, New York City. He married Kate and had four

children together; George, William, Marnie and James. According to the Federal Censuses, he remained a blacksmith until around 1880 when his occupation was listed as a machinist. On August 30, 1901, he attempted to receive a Pension benefit as an invalid (request #1274637) but there was no certification number showing acceptance for pension. Probably, he was refused due to Pension Regulations required an Honorable Discharge from service to be eligible.

Here the official record ends. The Census report for 1900 does not exist due to that fire in the Commerce Building in Washington D.C., and the Censuses after that shows no record. No death certificates could be found by this researcher and so the end game for William D. Barnett disappears into the fog of history.

**6 2**

## **CAPTAIN SANFORD DOCKSTADER 62d NYSV CO. I**

by Joe Basso



Sanford J. (I.) Dockstader came to the war late, enlisting in the 62<sup>nd</sup> as a Private on 1<sup>st</sup> April 1864. Official documents indicate that he previously signed up in Co. U of the 59<sup>th</sup> New York, but all additional accounts indicate “for record see 62<sup>nd</sup> NY Inf.”

His enlistment papers show him to be on the short side, even by Civil War standards, measuring in at 5’ 3 1/2 “ tall, with light coloured hair, blue eyes and light complexion. Born in 1837 in Montgomery County, New York, his occupation was listed as “merchant.” Dockstader was mustered in to Co. C on the same date.

Considering that the War would last only for a little more than a year from

the date of his enlistment, his rise through the ranks was rather astounding. He was made 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant on 21<sup>st</sup> April 1864 and full Captain on 15<sup>th</sup> May 1864. As a 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant, he was wounded at the battle of The Wilderness and was sent to New York City to recover and was released and transferred to Co. I in December of that same year. He was later detached and assigned to General John Adams Dix staff in New York.

General Dix had been the Secretary of the Treasury under President Buchanan and when war broke out, ordered any person who attempted to haul down the national colors from any Treasury facility should be shot down. By 1861, Dix commanded the Departments of Maryland and Pennsylvania and had prevented Maryland from seceding. Dockstader remained on Dix’s staff until the end of the War and was discharged from service on 30<sup>th</sup> August 1865 by Colonel J.J. Ambercrombie, who later was a partner in one of the largest department store chains in the U.S.

Sanford was not the only Dockstader who served the Union during the Great Rebellion. Brothers Lansing and Crosby both served as Privates in Co. H of the 9<sup>th</sup> New York, and brother Oscar served as a Private in Co. I of the 1<sup>st</sup> U.S. Infantry.

As interesting as Sanford military career was, his family history is arguably just as interesting or more so. The future Captain Dockstader parents were Mormon. His father George E. Dockstader (1806-1886) arrived in Fultonville, New York in 1836 from Canada, working as a tailor. Sanford was born one year later. Sanford’s mother was Arabella Ann Van Deusen (1810-1876). Arabella was the first of two wives officially married to George E. Dockstader.

According to family accounts, Arabella gave birth to eleven children; Lansing (b.1830), Rachel (b.1833), George (b.1834), Sanford (b.1836), Crosby E. (b. 1838), Helen (b. 1843), Francis J. (b. 1844), Elizabeth (b. 1847), Gerald (1849),

and James Seward (1850). Arabella would die on October 17, 1876. No separation or divorce decree had been issued terminating this marriage.

His second wife, Lovina Myrl Dayton was born in Nauvoo, Illinois, the center of Mormonism, on October 8, 1839. After the death of the Mormon leader Joseph Smith in 1844, her family would move to the Utah Territory and settle in Cedar Fort, Utah. George would later move his family there and married Lovina, age 16, on August 12, 1855. Sanford Dockstader did not follow his father to Utah.

George and Lovina would have an additional nine children; Georgina (b. 1856), Celestia (b. 1858), Permelia Ann (b. 1860), George Hyrum (b. 1862), William Oscar (1864), Estella (b. 1866), George Eugene (b. 1870), Wesley (b. 1873), and Ester Lavaria (1877). Lovina died in 1877 followed by father George in 1886.

Sanford returned to civilian life in New York where his wound apparently continued to be a bother, for he applied and received an invalid's pension on October 23, 1865. For a while he lived in Washington, D.C., but moved to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania where he eventually married Mary Eliza Bampton at the Protestant Episcopal Church on July 13, 1873 Together they lived at 156 North 8<sup>th</sup> Street in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania where they owned a restaurant on 807 Filbert Street. They would have one son, Edwin.

Health issues continued to be a problem and the former Captain Sanford died of pneumonia in Philadelphia on March 26, 1877 and was buried in the Monument Cemetery in Philadelphia. Although he had been out of service for some time, it must have been a major source of pride to him, for his death certificate shows his occupation as "U.S. Army." Mary applied for widow's benefits on September 25, 1885 and lived with her sons in Philadelphia until her own death.

## NEWS IN BRIEF



US based AZ researcher and regular contributor to this journal, Charles Luttmann has provided ZOUAVE! with a new photograph of 62d NY veteran Charles Sterling.



The rear of this photograph has the legend;

*Lieut Charles Sterling Aide de Camp  
January 1864*

The studio stamp reads;

STAYNER & SMITH  
Newbern, N.C.

⑥ ②

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

**Re: Daniel Mittnacht article**

**From: Dana Yee**

Hi there,

I am doing a little family history research and was incredibly excited to come across the Zouave article and picture on my mom's great-great-grand father, Lt. Daniel Mittnacht. I was wondering if you could direct me to the origin of the picture, as well as point me towards some of the sources used in writing the article? It was very exciting to read such a detailed article on my ancestor!

Thank you for your help :)

Dana Yee

**6 2**

### Editor's Note

My apologies for the lateness of the July issue. My mother passed away in June and it has taken me a little while to get back to my editorial work – Ed.

**6 2**

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