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SIGNIFICANT EVENTS AS WAR DEVELOPS

Oct. 1—Southerners, in a threat to recapture Hatteras Inlet, get together a small fleet and attack Federals at Chicamicomico, N.C., and capture gunboat Fanny.

Oct. 2—Reports the New York Times: "We are now far enough advanced in the season to see that the total value of importations of foreign merchandise, exclusive of bullion, into the United States, for the year ending Dec. 31, will not exceed $175 million, which is 50 per cent less than in 1860... We have suddenly ceased to consume a great many articles of foreign manufacture."

Oct. 3—As fall advances, the press observes: "Cold, chilly nights in Virginia—frost already appearing in the low grounds! This is a meteorological fact, full of meaning for the two armies."

Oct. 8—A giant review of 21 batteries of artillery and 57 companies of cavalry is held on the plain east of the Capitol at Washington, with Lincoln and his Cabinet as observers. Gen. McClellan appears with a large staff and a bodyguard of 150 men. A newspaper correspondent writes of it: "I have before alluded to the dally, heavy manner in which Gen. McClellan conducts these reviews. It is a stupid performance generally, and today's was an aggravation of all previous defects."


Oct. 15—The aged mother of James Jackson, slayer of Union Colonel Elmer E. Ellsworth at Alexandria, Va., in May, is released from prison after taking the oath of allegiance.

Oct. 17—The New York Herald erroneously reports that the Rebel steamer Nashville has escaped from Charleston with the Confederate commissioners to England and France. James M. Mason and John Slidell, on board. Meanwhile, the commissioners sail away in the Theodora, formerly the Gordon.

Oct. 20—The quiet of the Sabbath in Washington is reported unbroken, owing chiefly to the departure of more Federal troops for points in Virginia. "None of the pomp and circumstance of glorious war was observed in the streets," one account states.

Oct. 21—Federals push across the Potomac at Bails Bluff, in the neighborhood of Leesburg, Va., and are repulsed with great slaughter. Lincoln’s friend, Col. Edward Baker, is among the Union dead.

Oct. 29—A Union fleet made up of 30 ships under Commodore Samuel F. du Pont sails from Hampton Roads, its destination rumored to be Port Royal, S.C.

ANNUAL ASSEMBLY WITH ACCENT ON HISTORY

AN ANNUAL ASSEMBLY WITH ACCENT ON HISTORY, especially the uncovering of new Civil War material, is now is projected for the Centennial Commission next year. The meeting will be held at Columbus, Ohio, possibly during the early part of May. This will be the fifth annual gathering of the Commission and its supporters, including representatives from all of the various states, among them the 46 with Centennial commissions of their own. Other assemblies were held at Washington, D.C., in 1958; Richmond, Va., 1959; St. Louis, Mo., 1960, and Charleston, S.C., 1961.

A National Assembly Program Committee already is at work on plans for the Columbus meeting. It is composed of Dr. David Mears, Washington; Hon. Robert G. Stephens, Jr., congressman from Georgia; Carl Haverlin, New York; Dr. Bell I. Wiley, Atlanta, Ga., and Erwin C. Zepp, Columbus, Ohio.

An all-day session of the full group recently was held in Washington at the office of the Commission’s vice chairman, Congressman Fred Schwengel, at which time tentative suggestions for a program were agreed upon. These will be submitted to the Executive Committee for approval and will be announced later.

In addition to stronger accent on history, it is understood that the recommendations also propose that the assembly this year be divided into both panel and plenary sessions.

ONE OF THE LARGEST EXHIBITS ON THE CIVIL WAR ever arranged by a museum will be opened to the public without charge at Washington’s Corcoran Art Gallery, Nov. 18. It will remain open from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily through Dec. 31.

Made up of both pictures and sculpture, some prepared by the soldiers themselves, it will cover the entire period of the war. Much emphasis will be placed on the participants and their daily life. After the exhibit closes in Washington, it will be opened at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, Massachusetts.
UDC STARTS MEDAL DRIVE

The Southern Cross of Honor shown at right, a token of esteem for their valor presented Confederate veterans by the United Daughters of the Confederacy around the turn of the century, is to have the spotlight turned on it.

A national drive now is under way to locate those which were not buried with the veterans. Each UDC chapter has been asked to take part and to place those found, either singularly or in groups, on display in museums, public libraries, or other suitable places.

"It is readily seen," the UDC advises, "that such a search may reveal many valuable historical papers, pictures, and relics of various kinds."

A $5,000 LITERARY AWARD for an unpublished book-length literary production on the subject of the Civil War or events leading to it has been offered by the Military Order of the Loyal Legion. The competition is open to both professional and non-professional writers. Entry blanks, available at 1805 Pine Street, Philadelphia, must be filed before Dec. 1, 1961.

The award will be made to the winner at Gettysburg July 3, 1963, at which time the Loyal Legion will contribute a 13-acre tract to the park there.

MONUMENTS TO HER NATIVE SONS WHO DIED in the battles of Antietam and Gettysburg recently were presented the nation by the State of Georgia in ceremonies at the respective battlefields. The presentation was made by Governor S. Ernest Vandiver of that state, who in turn was presented an award by the Gettysburg Battlefield Preservation Association.

A NEW ROSTER OF NORTH CAROLINA TROOPS, expected to list 185,000 names, now is under preparation at the direction of the North Carolina Confederate Centennial Commission. It may include 10 volumes and require four years of work.

THE MORMON TABERNACLE CHOIR OF SALT LAKE CITY has voluntarily made its contribution to the Centennial commemoration. It's a record, now distributed by Columbia Records, reproducing 13 of the most popular Civil War songs sung by the choir.

'POTOMAC', a weekly rotogravure magazine in full color issued every Sunday by the Washington Post, has recently completed a series of 13 illustrated articles by Walter W. Hubbard of AAA. Each includes a map showing the best route to the particular area involved.

THE INDIAN NATION that produced a military secretary for General U.S. Grant -- Ely Samuel Parker, Seneca Indian and "last Grand Sachem" of the Iroquois -- recently received the general's grandson, Maj. Gen. U.S. Grant, 3rd, as a "blood brother" in ceremonies at the New York State Fair at Syracuse, N.Y.

'THE SITES OF WAR,' a 32-page guide to 24 of the major battle areas reviewed in the travel pages of the Washington Star, has just been printed in booklet form and is available at 30 cents per copy, plus 10 cents postage.

THE CIVIL WAR MAY NOT HAVE REACHED COLORADO to the same degree it did some other states, but the interest of its residents in the Centennial is strong. At Florence, Colo., The Citizen, a weekly newspaper, recently was published in a special edition dedicated to those who fought and died in the war.

FUNDS TO PURCHASE THE INTERIOR FURNISHINGS OF THE ORIGINAL DUNKER CHURCH, a historic landmark on which work of reconstruction recently was started, are sought by a special Dunker Church Reconstruction Fund Committee, headed by Chairman Page T. Otto of Sharpsburg, Md. All contributions should be forwarded to the Sharpsburg Bank. Each donor will receive a certificate recognizing his assistance.

'WHY WE STUDY THE CIVIL WAR,' That was the theme used by Arnold Gates, secretary-treasurer of the New York Round Table, in talks made on a recent European junket before library audiences in London, Paris, Rome and Madrid.

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