

The *RUNNER*

Newsletter of the Cape Fear Civil War Round Table

Editor **Tim Winstead**

Our next meeting will be **Thursday, 12 December** at St. Andrew's On-the-Sound (101 Airlie Road). Social Hour begins at 7:00 p.m., meeting at 7:30.

Please join us at our December meeting. Visitors are always welcome – ***bring a friend or two***. Each of our speakers strives to enlighten, entertain, and add to our knowledge of Civil War history. This serves our mission of encouraging education and research into that historic conflict.

***** December Program *****

The Battle of South Mountain

Join us on December 12, 2013 when **Rex Hovey**, reenactor and Civil War sutler, will discuss the Battle at South Mountain and the North Carolina Monument erected to honor those troops who served there.

On Sunday, September 14, 1862, rear guard elements of the Army of North Virginia were involved in a desperate encounter on the crest of South Mountain, between Middletown and Boonsboro, Maryland. The battle on South Mountain began when the vanguard of General George McClellan's Army of the Potomac, emboldened with discovery of Robert E. Lee's Special Order 191, moved to strike the Confederates before their widely scattered forces could be re-concentrated. This often overlooked battle, which could have precipitated the possible destruction

of Lee's Army, was the prelude to the Battle of Sharpsburg on September 17th.



Hovey

Rex Hovey is the President of the Living History Association of Mecklenburg County, Inc. This association reenacts as the **13th North Carolina** and the **136th New York** on battlefields throughout the Eastern Theater. Rex is a retired Fire Captain from the Charlotte Fire Department. Rex and his wife, Bonnie, live in Mint Hill, NC.

Editor

******* Raffle Winners *******

Raffle Master: Ed Gibson

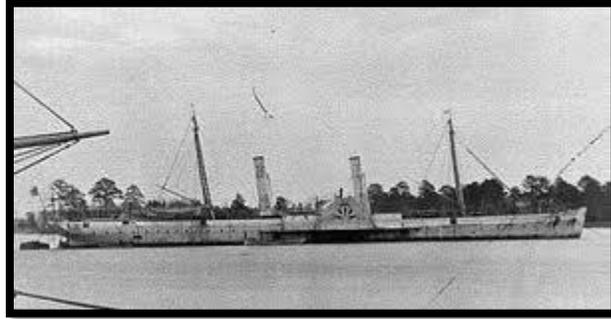
If you have books, prints, or other items that you would like to donate to the CFCWRT Raffle, contact Ed Gibson (egibson759@aol.com) before our next meeting. The raffle is one of the components which allow the CFCWRT to fund our activities and our speakers. Please take part in our raffles by contributing items to the raffle or purchasing tickets.

<i>Civil War in Depth</i>	- Dick Covell
<i>Encyclopedia of the Civil War</i>	- Joseph Hack
<i>General A.P. Hill</i>	- Dan Geddie
<i>Lethal Glory: Dramatic Defeats of the Civil War</i>	- Thomas E. Taylor
<i>Soldier Life</i>	- Thomas E. Taylor
<i>Action at Aquila</i>	- John Winecoff

******* Trivia Questions for December *******

- 1 – Who commanded the Confederate forces at the Battle of South Mountain?**
- 2 – Confederate and Union troops fought at three gaps that led through the South Mountain range. What were the names of these gaps?**
- 3 – When was IN GOD WITH TRUST first shown on United States currency? Who proposed those exact words?**
- 4 – The Sea Mine or Torpedo had been conceived as early as the 16th century by the Dutch as a defensive weapon to be used against the ships of an opposing country's navy. American, David Bushnell, became known as the father of mine warfare during the American Revolution. Robert Fulton, another American engineer and inventor, was hired by Napoleon and then the British to design naval weapons including the submarine *Nautilus* and naval torpedoes. Samuel Colt, yet another American, first used an electrical current to detonate a mine in the Potomac River in 1844. During the late 1850s, British scientists, Charles Wheatstone and Frederick Abel, perfected the Wheatstone magnetic exploder and the Abel fuse as a practical way of exploding a sea mine. When the Confederate Secretary of Navy, Stephen Mallory directed that the Confederate Navy develop defensive weapons to destroy Union warships, whom did he choose as the leader of the Confederate efforts?**
- 5 – How many Union naval vessels were sunk by Confederate torpedo mines? How many Confederate vessels were sunk by Union torpedo mines?**
- 6 –Who was R.O. Crowley?**

***** **Member News & Activities** *****



Robert E. Lee

If you have member news or news about Civil War events that you think would be of interest to CFCWRT membership, send me an email with the details. Thanks.

1 – The Cape Fear Civil War Round Table would like to welcome new member, **Clyde Peer**, and returning members to the Round Table. If you know someone with an interest in history, invite them to a meeting. You might bring in a new member.

2 - Our **CFCWRT Annual Dinner Meeting** will be held in the Madeline Suites on the campus of UNCW on Thursday evening, 13 February, 2014. The featured speaker is noted historian and author, Rod Gragg, who will discuss his latest work: *The Illustrated Gettysburg Raeder: An Eyewitness History of the Greatest Battle of the Civil War*.

Tickets for the event are \$30 and include one raffle ticket that features a Kurz & Allison (1890) print of the *Second Battle of Fort Fisher* or one of two Brian Kraus prints (*33rd North Carolina at the Battle of New Bern* or *First Shot in the Civil War*) Additional raffle tickets (\$5) may be purchased prior to the event.

Tickets will be available beginning at the scheduled 12 December meeting (Rex Hovey and the *Battle of South Mountain*) on a first come first served basis since seating in the Madeline Suites is limited to about 100.

3 – Our gift to the Civil War Trust has been acknowledged:

To The Members of the Cape Fear CWRT, Dear Fellow Preservationists, I cannot adequately express just how much I appreciate your support in the form of your recent \$600 gift (10/17/13) to the Civil War Trust for our preservation efforts at Gettysburg, Glendale, Malvern Hill and Deep Forests battlefields. . . . I commend you and hope that you take great pride in your accomplishments. Signed: Hannah Sise, Development Associate, Civil War Trust. (Hand written note: “Thank You All for your wonderful generosity”

4 - The **Cape Fear Revolutionary War Round Table** will host its Annual Dinner Meeting on **December 4th** at the Madeline Suite – UNCW. Doors open at 5:30PM with dinner at 6:30PM. Ken Money will give a power point presentation on his work to

preserve the family cemetery and grave site of General Alexander Lillington of Moores Creek. Tickets will \$30.00 per plate.

Please call Connie Hendrix (910-278-6705) with your reservation **by Nov. 26th**.

5 - Do you have guests coming to town? Do you want to do something a little different and share some history of the area? Consider visiting the **Fort Fisher State Historic Site** where Site Interpreter **Ray Flowers** gives a special 45 minute tour that covers the fort, its history, and its people. The \$10 tour begins at noon. Contact 910-458-5538 for additional details.

6 – Fort Fisher State Historic Site *Holiday Open House* – December 10th: Tuesday 10 am – 4 pm. Join us in celebrating the season at Fort Fisher State Historic Site. Enjoy seasonal refreshments, decorations, and entertainment throughout the day, including musical performances guaranteed to delight, and discounts in the museum store. Admission is free, and open to the public. Sponsored by the Fort Fisher chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy and the Friends of Fort Fisher and its sustaining members. Please call the site for more information at 910-458-5538.

7 – Fort Anderson State Historic Site “An 18th Century Christmas” – December 15th: Sunday 1 – 5:30 pm. This seasonal program allows visitors the opportunity to experience what life may have been for the citizens of Brunswick at Christmastime. Costumed interpreters will provide tours of St. Philips Church and historic Brunswick Town. Visitors will have the opportunity to try their hands at crafting a traditional Moravian star, play 18th century games, create stenciled ornaments, and enjoy colonial-era refreshments in the Visitor Center. The highlight of the evening will be a period candlelit service in the ruins of St. Philips Church. Service will begin promptly at 5:00pm. Admission is free, and open to the public.

8 – Our friends at the Brunswick Civil War Round Table will meet on Tuesday, **December 3th** at 6:30pm. They meet at the Trinity United Methodist Church, 209 E. Nash Street, Southport.

Richard McMurray, Civil War historian and author, will speak about the “A Georgian’s View of Sherman.”

***** **Difference Makers** *****

The Gallant Pelham

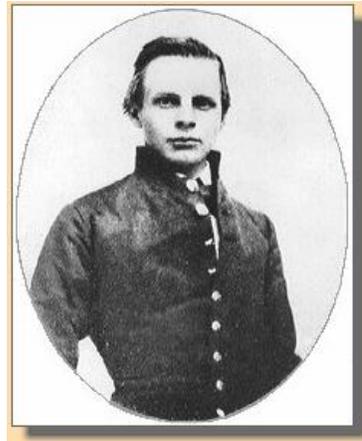
Few men have been as noted for their courage in battle as was John Pelham of Alabama.

Pelham was at West Point when he made the difficult decision to serve his home state in the coming war. He served as commander of Jeb Stuart’s six-gun horse artillery battery in more than 60 actions before he was killed at Kelly’s Ford in March 1863. At Fredericksburg in December 1862, Pelham gained lasting fame when Robert E. Lee

observed Pelham's two gun battery as it fired for over an hour from an exposed position on the Union line and noted: "It is glorious to see courage in one so young."

Upon Pelham's death, Jeb Stuart wrote: "The noble, the chivalric, the gallant Pelham is no more How much he was beloved, appreciated and admired, let the tears of agony we have shed, and the gloom of mourning throughout my command bear witness. His loss to the country is irreparable."

Pelham observed war in a different context. He always served, even in the direst of situations, with courage and determination. After the first Battle of Manassas, Pelham wrote about his observation of warfare:



Lt. Col. John Pelham

I have seen what Romancers call glorious war. I have seen it in all its phases. I have heard the booming of cannon, and the more deadly rattle of musketry at a distance – I have heard it all nearby and have been under its destructive showers; I have seen men and horses fall thick and fast around me. I have seen our own men bloody and frightened flying before the enemy – I have seen them bravely charge the enemy's lines and heard the shout of triumph as they carried the position. I have heard the agonizing shrieks of the wounded and dying – I have passed over the battle field and seen the mangled forms of men and horses in frightful abundance – men without heads, without arms, and others without legs. All this I have witnessed and more, till my heart sickens; and war is not glorious as novelists would have us believe. It is only when we are in the heat and flush of battle that it is fascinating and interesting. It is only then that we enjoy it.

Pelham had no illusion about the gloriousness of war; however, he believed in his course of action: "I see the horrors of war, but it is necessary: We are battling for our rights and our homes. Ours is a just war, a holy cause. The invader must meet the fate he deserves and we must meet him as becomes us, as becomes men."

Agree with Pelham's reasoning or not, his actions always supported his beliefs. John Pelham was a difference maker.

Source: http://opinionator.blogs.nytimes.com/2013/04/01/the-gallant-pelham/?_r=0 (accessed November 1, 2013). http://www.usa-civil-war.com/Civil_War/pelham.html (accessed November 1, 2013).

******* December 1863 *******

The armies on both sides of the American Civil War were effectively driven to a halt by the weather. The impact on the soldiers in the field was huge with scurvy and dysentery affecting many.

December 1st: Meade decided to withdraw the Army of the Potomac away from Richmond. In the previous few days, his army had suffered badly from the very poor weather.



George Meade

Bragg offered his resignation to Jefferson Davis after the defeat at Chattanooga. Even now, in the aftermath of a significant defeat, Bragg chose to blame others in his army, namely Major-General John Breckenridge, who he described as a drunk, and Cheatham who Bragg claimed was unfit for duty.



Braxton Bragg

December 2nd: Lieutenant-General W H Hardee was appointed on a temporary basis to succeed Bragg as commander of the Army of the Tennessee.

December 3rd: General Longstreet concluded that he did not have sufficient resources to take Knoxville, so he ordered his army to withdraw to its winter quarters at Greeneville.

December 4th: Persistent heavy rain made Longstreet's withdrawal very difficult for his troops who had to endure very harsh conditions.

December 7th: The fourth session of the Confederate Congress met in Richmond. Despite brave words from Jefferson Davis, all present knew that it had been a bad year for the Confederacy.

December 8th: President Lincoln announced the Proclamation of Amnesty and Reconstruction to Congress. He offered a full amnesty to those who fought for the Confederacy except to former Federal army officers who had resigned their commission to fight for the South. Anyone who was found guilty of mistreating Union prisoners was also exempt from any Presidential pardon as were senior government officials. Lincoln also promised that all property in the South (except former slaves) would be restored to their legal owners. He also guaranteed that any Southern state would be allowed back into the Union if just 10% of those in a state swore allegiance to the Union. Each of these states would also have to abandon slavery.

December 10th: The Army of the Potomac went into its winter quarters as no more manoeuvres were expected in view of the weather and the great difficulty this placed on movement.

December 15th: The lack of money available to the Confederacy was all too clear to Brigadier-General E P Alexander, part of Longstreet's command, when he noticed men marching in their bare feet as there were no replacements for broken shoes. Longstreet

ordered his men to exchange their footwear with the boots worn by captured Union soldiers.

December 16th: General J E Johnston was appointed commander of the Army of Tennessee. General Bragg went to Richmond and became the military adviser to President Jefferson Davis.



Joseph E. Johnston

December 18th: Union troops were suffering the same hardships as those in the South. Union troops at Knoxville had no winter clothing and they slept under their ponchos as no tents had been sent there. Both North and South had more casualties as a result of ill-health and disease as opposed to actual combat. Despite their hardships, General Grant applauded the work done by the men at Knoxville and praised Burnside's leadership.

December 21st: By this day most military operations had ceased because of the weather.

December 26th: The strength of the Confederacy was put at 465,000 men but only 278,000 were actually present at their colours. The discrepancy was accounted for by those men off through illness and the many thousands who had deserted. Those that remained at their colours were experienced soldiers. The North was not in a particularly good position either as it was having major problems enforcing conscription.

December 29th: The first signs of scurvy were reported in both camps along with frequent outbreaks of dysentery.

Source: <http://www.historylearningsite.co.uk/december-1863-civil-war.htm> (accessed October 21, 2013).

***** **December 1863** *****

In God We Trust

The motto IN GOD WE TRUST was placed on United States coins largely because of the increased religious sentiment existing during the Civil War. Secretary of the Treasury **Salmon P. Chase** received many appeals from devout persons throughout the country, urging that the United States recognize the Deity on United States coins. From Treasury Department records, it appears that the first such appeal came in a letter dated November 13, 1861. It was written to Secretary Chase by Rev. M. R. Watkinson, Minister of the Gospel from Ridleyville, Pennsylvania, and read:

Dear Sir: You are about to submit your annual report to the Congress respecting the affairs of the national finances.

One fact touching our currency has hitherto been seriously overlooked. I mean the recognition of the Almighty God in some form on our coins. You are probably a Christian. What if our Republic were not shattered beyond reconstruction? Would not the antiquaries of succeeding centuries rightly reason from our past that we were a heathen nation? What I propose is that instead of the goddess of liberty we shall have next inside the 13 stars a ring inscribed with the words PERPETUAL UNION; within the ring the allseeing eye, crowned with a halo; beneath this eye the American flag, bearing in its field stars equal to the number of the States united; in the folds of the bars the words GOD, LIBERTY, LAW.

This would make a beautiful coin, to which no possible citizen could object. This would relieve us from the ignominy of heathenism. This would place us openly under the Divine protection we have personally claimed. From my hearth I have felt our national shame in disowning God as not the least of our present national disasters.

To you first I address a subject that must be agitated.

As a result, Secretary Chase instructed James Pollock, Director of the Mint at Philadelphia, to prepare a motto, in a letter dated November 20, 1861:

Dear Sir: No nation can be strong except in the strength of God, or safe except in His defense. The trust of our people in God should be declared on our national coins.

You will cause a device to be prepared without unnecessary delay with a motto expressing in the fewest and tersest words possible this national recognition.

It was found that the Act of Congress dated January 18, 1837, prescribed the mottoes and devices that should be placed upon the coins of the United States. This meant that the mint could make no changes without the enactment of additional legislation by the Congress. In December 1863, the Director of the Mint submitted designs for new one-cent coin, two-cent coin, and three-cent coin to Secretary Chase for approval. He proposed that upon the designs either OUR COUNTRY; OUR GOD or GOD, OUR TRUST should appear as a motto on the coins. In a letter to the Mint Director on **December 9, 1863**, Secretary Chase stated:

I approve your mottoes, only suggesting that on that with the Washington obverse the motto should begin with the word OUR, so as to read OUR GOD AND OUR COUNTRY. And on that with the shield, it should be changed so as to read: IN GOD WE TRUST.

The Congress passed the Act of April 22, 1864. This legislation changed the composition of the one-cent coin and authorized the minting of the two-cent coin. The Mint Director was directed to develop the designs for these coins for final approval of the Secretary. IN GOD WE TRUST first appeared on the 1864 two-cent coin.

Source: <http://www.treasury.gov/about/education/Pages/in-god-we-trust.aspx> (accessed October 28, 2013).

***** **November Program** *****

Fort Anderson's Torpedo Defenses

Jeff Bockert provided those present at his presentation with a fascinating history of the development of the torpedo in its various forms.

Secretary of the Confederate Navy, Stephen Mallory, directed the first efforts by the Confederate government to protect against the Union Navy's passage up the James River to attack Richmond. Mallory selected Matthew Fountaine Maury to command the Submarine Battery Service, (Note that the Torpedo Bureau was headed by Gabriel F. Rains). Initial experiments with galvanic torpedoes were carried out by the small group of 50 men who made up the service. The men assigned to the service were sworn to secrecy and they carried special credentials that called for exchange for general officers if they were captured by Union forces.

After Maury was sent to Europe to secure materials (copper and platinum wire, Wheatstone magnetic exploders) then in short supply in the Confederacy. Lt. Hunter Davidson assumed command of the service. Davidson and his men developed several different types of mines that were used to defend the James River. The men of the torpedo division performed their task successfully for the Union Navy was never able to breach the James River defenses.

detonation wires between the fort's exploder device and the mines.

Recognized as critical to the Confederate war effort, elements of the Torpedo Division were sent to the Cape Fear area during August 1864. R.O. Crowley and others mined New Inlet at Fort Fisher where they placed seven 2000 pound boiler torpedoes served from a battery station at Battery Buchanan. Crowley and his men also buried 100 pound copper land mines in front of the land face at Fort Fisher – these land mines were rendered useless when the heavy naval bombardment cut the



Jeff Bockert

After the fall of Fort Fisher on January 15, 1865, J. Pembroke Jones and members of the service mined the river off Fort Anderson. The Confederates placed four boiler and thirty keg torpedoes in the waters near the fort. William B. Cushing attempted to entice the Confederates to

prematurely explode their mines by launching a “mock” ironclad *Old Bogey* during the dark of night. The Confederates probably exploded few of their mines on the hardly secret “mock” ironclad scheme; however, the Union Army made the concentrated grouping of mines a moot matter when they flanked the land defenses of Fort Anderson. The Confederates evacuated Fort Anderson early on February 19th and they surrendered Wilmington within a matter of days.

The Confederate torpedo defenses caused the Union Navy many concerns for their ships being blown out of the water. The Union land campaign proved the determining factor in the fall of Wilmington. As it happened after Wilmington fell, the navy had been correctly concerned about the torpedoes: three Union naval vessels were damaged or sunk by the “infernal machines” of the Confederate Navy’s Submarine Battery Service/Torpedo Division.

***** Winter Wanderings *****

It’s December. The golf course has turned brown and the garden (such as it is) is more or less dormant. What to do with all that excess time? For the next three months, this column will review Museum options for your consideration, all within a day’s drive.

We start with the Military Museum located at the west end (river side) of the Air Force Recreation Area and NC National Guard Training Site at Kure Beach. This is a no brainer being only 30 minutes from any Wilmington location. The site is not an active military reservation thus there are no access limitations. There is no admission fee.

Sponsored by the North Carolina Military Historical Society, this hidden gem contains a wealth of military memorabilia dating back to the Civil War. The collection contains a significant amount of WW II equipment as well as uniforms and small arms from both WW I and WW II. The German uniform collection is particularly impressive.

The Museum library contains extensive research material on military matters in general plus specific material on the 30th Infantry Division, NC National Guard.

Winter hours at the Museum are Friday and Saturday 12 to 4 PM however, special arrangements can be made for specific openings to accommodate your special group. Please contact our Round Table members Dan Geddie (799-5338), John Winecoff (253-0883) or the undersigned for details. Dan and his team of curators can accommodate your group but we do ask that you provide us a two week lead time.

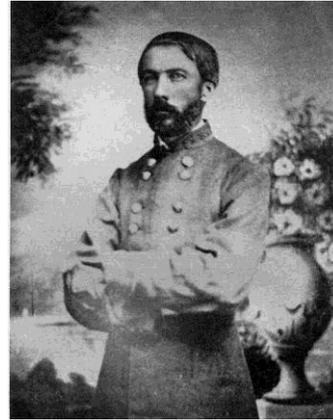
North Carolina is a state with a rich military heritage. Much of it is on display at this convenient Kure Beach museum. Next month, Fayetteville.

Bruce Patterson

***** Trivia Questions for December *****

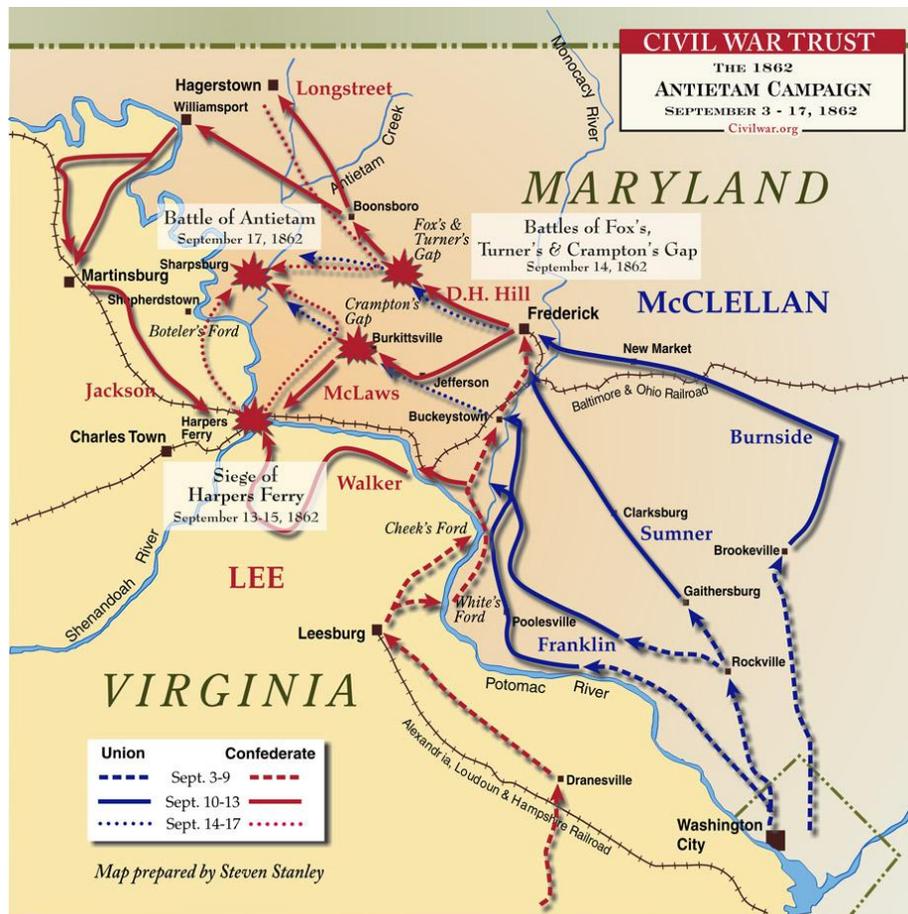
1 – Who commanded the Confederate forces at the Battle of South Mountain? Per article 7 of Lee’s Special Order 191, **General Daniel Harvey Hill**’s Division formed the rear guard of the army.

General Hill was the overall commander of the 5,000 soldiers who initially resisted the Union advance. Hill filled his thin line with teamsters, cooks, and staff officers. The Confederates barely held the line until additional units (included those of John Bell Hood) arrived on the scene. Hill eventually had 10,000 men to oppose a Union force of 25,000. After darkness descended on the battlefields, Lee ordered Longstreet and Hill to withdraw and move toward Sharpsburg. Lee's Army was able to begin a re-concentration only because of the tenacity of the Confederate defenders and caution by the Union commanders.



D.H. Hill

2 – Confederate and Union troops fought at three gaps that led through the South Mountain range. What were the names of these gaps? From north to south, Turner's, Fox's and Crampton's Gaps.



Source: <http://www.civilwar.org/battlefields/southmountain/maps/cramptongapmap.html> (accessed November 15, 2013).

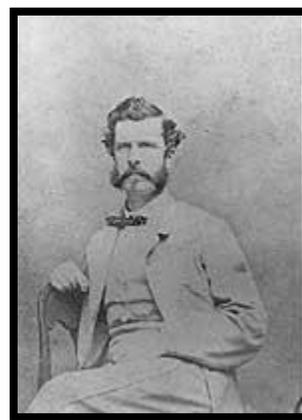
3 – When was **IN GOD WITH TRUST** first shown on United States currency? Who proposed those exact words? **IN GOD WITH TRUST** first appeared on the 1864 two-cent piece. Salmon P. Chase, Secretary of the Treasury, proposed those words in a letter to James Pollock, Director of the Mint, on December 9, 1863.

4 – The Sea Mine or Torpedo had been conceived as early as the 16th century by the Dutch as a defensive weapon to be used against the ships of an opposing country's navy. American, David Bushnell, became known as the father of mine warfare during the American Revolution. Robert Fulton, another American engineer and inventor, was hired by Napoleon and then the British to design naval weapons including the submarine *Nautilus* and naval torpedoes. Samuel Colt, yet another American, first used an electrical current to detonate a mine in the Potomac River in 1844. During the late 1850s, British scientists, Charles Wheatstone and Frederick Abel, perfected the Wheatstone magnetic exploder and the Abel fuse as a practical way of exploding a sea mine. When the Confederate Secretary of Navy, Stephen Mallory directed that the Confederate Navy develop defensive weapons to destroy Union warships, whom did he choose as the leader of the Confederate efforts? Mallory was a good judge of talent for he selected Captain **Matthew Fontaine Maury**, "Pathfinder of the Sea." Maury, who was one of the leading scientists of his day, began experiments on the James River. Maury formed what would be the Submarine Battery Service/ Torpedo Service with a small group of about 50 men. When Maury was sent to Europe to gain critical supplies and materials Lt. **Hunter Davidson** succeeded Maury.

Davidson and his Submarine Battery Service made the James River one of the most dangerous places in the Confederacy in which the Union Navy navigated.



Matthew F. Maury



Hunter Davidson

Source: http://www.history.navy.mil/museums/keyport/The_History_of_the_Sea_Mine.pdf (accessed November 15, 2013),

5 – How many Union naval vessels were sunk by Confederate torpedo mines? How many Confederate vessels were sunk by Union torpedo mines? Twenty-two Union ships were sunk and twelve were damaged by Confederate torpedoes, while six Confederate ships were destroyed by Union Navy torpedoes.

Both Confederate and Union navies further developed the torpedo as an offensive weapon. The CSS *David* steam torpedo boat was the first spar torpedo equipped vessel to attack a Union warship when it damaged the USS *Ironsides* at Charleston during August 1863. The most famous spur torpedo attack was against the CSS *Albemarle* by William B. Cushing during October 1864.

Source: <http://www.history.navy.mil/museums/keyport/html/part1.htm> (accessed November 19, 2013). <http://www.charlestonillustrated.com/hunley/david.htm> (accessed November 19, 2013), Gabriel J. Rains and Peter S. Michie, *Confederate Torpedoes: Two Illustrated 19th Century Works with New Appendices and Photographs*, ed. Herbert M. Schiller [Jefferson, North Carolina: McFarland & Company, 2011] 139-167.

6 –Who was R.O. Crowley? Crowley was an electrician with the Confederate Torpedo Division. He wrote an account of his service for the June 1898 issue of the *Century* quarterly. The article, “The Confederate Torpedo Service,” provided an interesting history of his service on the James River and in the Cape Fear region at both Fort Fisher and Fort Anderson. Crowley also provided information on the use of “mechanical torpedoes” usually placed by local army officers at Charleston, Savannah, Mobile Bay, and the Yazoo River.

Crowley concluded his article with his experience shortly after the fall of Richmond. Crowley was summoned by armed guards to General Terry’s headquarters and told that he was required at Admiral Porter’s flagship immediately. Fearing the worst about the persistent rumor that Torpedo Division personnel would be hung, Crowley was much relieved to be escorted by only a lieutenant to the *Malvern*. Per Crowley’s account, when he entered Porter’s cabin, he came face-to-face with Abraham Lincoln.

After introduction myself, and stated the occasion of my visit, Mr. Lincoln called for Admiral Port. When he came in, Mr. Lincoln said, “Porter, here is the young man you were expecting.” This looked ominous to me. Why had I been expected?

Porter informed Crowley that he wanted the location of all torpedo stations along the James River to be shown to Union Navy officers so that the river could be made safe for navigation. Crowley told Porter that the regular torpedo service torpedoes were harmless because the batteries and insulated wiring had been destroyed. Porter should be aware that the army had placed many “mechanical torpedoes” that were still dangerous to all shipping.

Note: Lincoln and his son Tad did tour Richmond on April 4, 1865. His arrival was far from a grand entrance, Lincoln, Porter accompanied by a small escort were rowed ashore by twelve sailors. William H. Crook, Lincoln bodyguard, reported, “On either side we passed so close to torpedoes that we could have put out our hands and touched them.” They arrived around 2:00 P.M. and departed around 6:30 P.M. Lincoln stayed on the *Malvern* the night of April 4th. Maybe Crowley did meet the President of the United States. Si non e vero, e ben trovato.

Source: R.O. Crowley, “The Confederate Torpedo Service,” *The Century* 2 [June 1898]: 290-301, Doris Kearns Goodwin, , *Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln* [New York: Simon & Schuster, 2005], 718.