



**Volume 54, No 12  
December, 2014**

**2014 Officers:**

**Anne M. Peasley, President**  
(530) 320-5112  
[apeasley22@gmail.com](mailto:apeasley22@gmail.com)

**Robert E. Hanley, IPP**  
(805) 796-5895  
[acivilwar@aol.com](mailto:acivilwar@aol.com)

**Donald J. Hayden, Vice  
President**  
(916) 485-1246  
[djhbooklover@yahoo.com](mailto:djhbooklover@yahoo.com)

**Silver N. Williams,**  
Program Director  
(916) 408-4574  
[snw5678@aol.com](mailto:snw5678@aol.com)

**Paul G. Ruud, Secretary**  
(530) 886-8806  
[ruud@starband.net](mailto:ruud@starband.net)

**George W. Foxworth,**  
Treasurer  
(916) 362-0178  
[gwoffoxworth@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gwoffoxworth@sbcglobal.net)

**Nina L. Henley, MAL**  
(916) 481-4146  
[whenley@surewest.net](mailto:whenley@surewest.net)

**Wayne J. Henley, MAL**  
(916) 481-4146  
[whenley@surewest.net](mailto:whenley@surewest.net)

**VACANT**  
Editor

**SCWRT Website**  
[www.sacramentocwrt.com](http://www.sacramentocwrt.com)

**Kim Knighton, Webmaster**  
[webmaster@digitalthumbprint.com](mailto:webmaster@digitalthumbprint.com)

# Battle Cry

Founded 1961,  
Newsletter of the Sacramento Civil War Round Table  
P.O. BOX 254702  
Sacramento, CA 95865-4702  
<http://sacramentocwrt.com/>



## President's Message

Holiday Greetings to One and All!

This month, on December 10<sup>th</sup>, we are happy and fortunate to welcome back as our speakers, Tim and Ginny Karlberg, who are regulars on our and many other CWRT presenter lists. They are members of the Elk Grove CWRT and live in Discovery Bay. The Karlbergs are retired and are avid travelers to Civil War sites bringing first-hand knowledge to their presentations. They also frequently overlap re-enactors, to a certain extent, appearing in costume. So much fun. This month, they are examining Captain John Groetsch.

Our West Coast Conference was a smashing success, with Craig Symonds stepping in for Harold Holzer, as well as his own presentations. We had a special treat as well: A preview of his D-Day Program. Each other presenter was exceptionally engaging and graciously accessible to conversation throughout the Conference. I couldn't pick a favorite from among them all. Ron Perisho shared his amazing 3D slideshow. Thomas Cartwright's accent was enough to swoon over. Jim Stanbery gave us his customary "BOOM!" and Ted Savas gave us a talk on the Augusta Powder Works that blew our minds.

We will hear about our finances from George Foxworth, but he has preliminarily assured us that we have paid our bills. What could be more comforting than that? Our thanks again to Silver Williams for a beautiful and professionally produced program, and the other committee members who all worked so hard. Nina and Wayne were masterful in wrangling that unholy raffle. George and Don who worked quietly and efficiently behind the scenes. And Paul, who made it all happen.

And best of all...WE WON THE JERRY RUSSELL AWARD!!!!!!

We have much to celebrate this December. Hope to see all of you at our meeting.

Merry Christmas.

**Anne Peasley, President**

**MINUTES**  
**SACRAMENTO CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE**  
**Wednesday, November 12, 2014**  
**HOF BRAU RESTAURANT, 2500 WATT AVENUE, SACRAMENTO**

**ATTENDANCE – 35**

**MEMBERS – 26:** Anne M. Peasley, President, Donald J. Hayden, Vice President, George W. Foxworth, Treasurer, James M. Armstrong, Fred Bohmfalk, Harvey Cain, Alice C. Corley, Alan Geiken, Jim Harper, Scottie Hayden, Nina Henley, MAL, Wayne Henley, MAL, Bill Jackson, Jane Jackson, Marsha Jutovsky, Dennis Kohlmann, Arnold Kunst, Barbara Leone, Rick A. Peasley, Horst Penning, John Rice, Nicholas Scivoletto, Roxanne E. Spizzirri, Bob Williams, John V. Zasso, Vivian Zasso.

**GUESTS – 9:** Esther Boeck, Aubrey Currington, Chris Highsmith, Sally Phonthachack, Larry Spizzirri, Richard Spizzirri, John Schade, Ray Valdez, Don A. Zajic

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:58 PM by President Anne Peasley.
2. President Peasley led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. President Peasley gave a recap of the just ended West Coast Civil War Conference which was hosted by the Sacramento CWRT. They are:
  - A. President Peasley shared the story of Dennis Kohlmann's ticket being selected twice at the 2014 West Coast Civil War Conference for the reproduction quilt made by Garda Kohlmann, Dennis's wife. When Dennis's name was called the second time, he accepted the quilt.
  - B. The Jerry Russell Award was presented to the Sacramento CWRT by Phillip Blake of the Stanislaus Civil War Association.
  - C. President Peasley then gave recognition to Wayne and Nina Henley for a successful raffle at the Conference. A special thank you was also given to Tammy Hayden, the point person for selling the raffle tickets. Over \$1,000.00 was collected for the raffle.
4. The guests were introduced.
5. President Peasley introduced H. James (Jim) Harper who spoke on Abraham Lincoln/Stephen Douglas' Peoria, Illinois debate/speech on October 16, 1854. At this time, Lincoln was a Whig. He later became a Republican. A few highlights from Jim's informative and entertaining presentation follow:
  - A. The 1854 Kansas-Nebraska Act, written to form the territories of Kansas and Nebraska, was designed by Stephen A. Douglas, then the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Territories. The Act included language that allowed settlers to decide whether they would or would not accept slavery in their region. Lincoln saw this as a repeal of the 1820 Missouri Compromise which had outlawed slavery above the 36°30' parallel.
  - B Lincoln was compelled to argue his case against the Kansas-Nebraska Act in three public speeches during September and October 1854, all in direct response to Douglas. The most comprehensive address was given by Lincoln in Peoria, Illinois, on October 16.
  - C. Lincoln was not an abolitionist; he advocated colonization to Liberia; he did not want to repeal The Missouri Compromise; he wanted to be a Great Compromiser; and he changed over time.
  - D Lincoln admired and was influenced by Henry Clay, John C. Calhoun, and the Declaration of Independence.
  - F The three hour speech, transcribed after the fact by Lincoln himself, presented thorough moral, legal, and economic arguments against slavery, and set the stage for Lincoln's political future.
7. President Peasley thanked Jim Harper after a question/answer period.
8. John Zasso sold additional raffle tickets and read the lucky numbers.
9. The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 PM.

**George W. Foxworth acting for Secretary Paul Ruud**

**Treasurer's Report**

The cash balance following the November 12<sup>th</sup> meeting was \$4,531.36. Thanks to John Zasso, other members, and guests, the raffle brought in \$49.00.

**George W. Foxworth, Treasurer**

<b>Coming Programs for 2014 and 2015</b>		
<b>Date</b>	<b>Speaker</b>	<b>Topic</b>
December 10th	Tim & Ginny Karlberg	“Captain John Groetsch”
January 14 <sup>th</sup>	Erin McCabe	“Women Who Fought in the Civil War”
February 11th	Donald J. Hayden	“Oliver Wendell Holmes, Father and Son”
March 11th	George Beitzel	“The Worst Seat in the House”
April 8th	Richard Sickert	To Be Determined
May 13th	Paul Ruud	To Be Determined
June 10th	Nancy Samuelson	“Nathan Bedford Forrest”
July 8th	Joe Maxwell	George Armstrong Custer, Part II
August 12th	Bob Hubbs	To Be Determined
September 9th	Fred Bohmfalk	“A Personal Look at the Lives of Grant, Sherman, and Sheridan”
October 14th	To Be Determined	To Be Determined
November 11 <sup>th</sup>	To Be Determined	To Be Determined

### **2015 Membership**

The 2015 membership renewal is due as of January 1, 2015. The dues are \$20.00 and you can renew at a monthly meeting or send to the Treasurer through the mail. For all checks, make them payable to **Sacramento Civil War Round Table** and send them to

George W. Foxworth  
 9463 Salishan Court  
 Sacramento, CA 95826-5233

Remember, you can also pay at a monthly meeting.

### **NEWSLETTER CIVIL WAR ARTICLES**

Civil War articles/book reviews are welcome. The submission deadline is the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month for that month’s **Battle Cry**. Please submit your items in Microsoft Word or regular email to:

[gwfoxworth@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gwfoxworth@sbcglobal.net)

Do not submit scanned files since I need to edit files to combine the **Battle Cry**.

The **Battle Cry** is the monthly newsletter of the Sacramento CWRT. Submissions are subject to availability of space and size limitations. Submissions do not necessarily reflect the views of the organization or the Editor. The official address of this organization is: Sacramento Civil War Round Table, Post Office Box 254702, Sacramento, CA 95865-4702. <http://www.sacramentocwrt.org> is the web site address. Check the web for past newsletter editions and information about the group.

## **A Report on the 30th Annual West Coast Civil War Conference** **By George W. Foxworth**

The 30th Annual West Coast Civil War Conference was held on November 7 - 9, 2014, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel Northeast in Sacramento, California.

The Conference was hosted by the Sacramento Civil War Round Table (CWRT). **"1864"** was the theme and many enlightening presentations by the distinguished speakers filled the weekend. The speakers were Dr. Craig L. Symonds, Thomas Y. Cartwright, James Stanbery, Ted Savas, and Ron Perisho. Also in attendance were Lee Meredith, Brian Clague, Bob Hubbs, and other Civil War enthusiasts throughout California.

The Elk Grove CWRT was represented by George and Joan Beitzel, Hal Clark, Tim and Ginny Karlberg, and Susan Williams.

The Sacramento CWRT was represented by Jim Armstrong, George and Joan Beitzel, Roy Bishop, Walt Bittle, Fred Bohmfalk, Mitch and Ardith Cnota, Gordon Coleman, Alice Corley, Jerry Cress, George W. Foxworth, Alan Geiken, Barry and Irene Grenier, Bob Hanley, H. Jim Harper, Don and Scottie Hayden, Wayne and Nina Henley, Bill and Jane Jackson, Dennis and Garda Kohlmann, Kim Grace Long, Jim Middleton, Rick and Anne Peasley, Ron and Kathy Perisho, Jim Rathlesberger, Paul and Patty Ruud, Nancy B. Samuelson, Brad Schall, Nicholas Scivoletto, Richard Sickert, Michael Werner, Silver Williams, and Susan Williams (a total of 41).

All presentations were excellent. Craig L. Symonds spoke on "Naval Battles of 1864," "Lincoln and the Election of 1864," and "Cleburne's Proposal to Free Slaves." Thomas Cartwright spoke on "The Tennessee Campaign" and "Nathan Bedford Forrest." James Stanbery spoke on "The Atlanta Campaign" and "Sherman's March to the Sea." Ted Savas spoke on "Colonel George W. Rains – Augusta Powder Works." On Saturday, Paul Ruud moderated a panel for the Conference using written questions from the audience to the speakers. At the conclusion on Sunday, Mr. Symonds spoke on "The Navy and D-Day." It was a preview of a speech that was given at Fordham University in New York City on November 11, 2014.

On Friday night, the Conference began with an excellent dinner and then an outstanding presentation by Ron Perisho, "1864 in 3D." Also, James Stanbery and technician (Doug van der Weyde) supplied us with outstanding fireworks on their PowerPoint presentations. All were pleased.

The Conference was a complete success and the Sacramento CWRT is commended for their excellent work. Special recognition goes to Wayne and Nina Henley and Tammy and Caitlin Hayden for their outstanding work on the Conference Raffle.

Looking ahead to 2015, the 31st Annual West Coast Civil War Conference will be hosted by the San Joaquin Valley CWRT. The topic is **"1865"** and will be at the Tulare City Historical Museum in Tulare, CA.



## Lieutenant William Cushing, US Navy And Lieutenant Alonzo Cushing, US Army

Under the innovative leadership of Steven Mallory, CSA Secretary of the Navy, the Confederacy completed 22 casemate-type Ironclads during the Civil War, and 28 others were under various stages of construction. Considering the limited technological and manufactory resources that the South possessed, this was indeed a miraculous accomplishment. The majority was uniform in appearance with sloping ironclad sides set at about 35 degrees angle for deflecting incoming shots, but in other respects with few exceptions, they varied significantly in size, draft, armor, and armament. Only two of these vessels survived the War. They were the CSS *Tennessee* and *Atlanta*, which surrendered at Mobile Bay and Savannah, respectively. All others were destroyed by their own crews to prevent capture, except one, the CSS *Albemarle*. *Albemarle* was the only rebel ironclad ram to gain the distinction of being sunk by enemy action. That action was taken by U.S. Navy Lt. William Cushing and a crew of 28 sailors, all volunteers, in a torpedo boat raid on the night of 27 October 1864.

The CSS *Albemarle* was one of the smaller, but some say better built, of the southern ironclads. She was 376 tons, 152 feet long, 8 foot draft, 4-inch iron plate, and armed with two 6.4-inch Brooke rifles in pivot mounts, each firing through three gun ports, fore-aft and/or either broadside. Speed was up to 6 knots which was better than most. Her main duties were to protect the entrance to the Roanoke River at Plymouth, NC. and this she did well. In earlier engagements, she had beat off a swarm of very versatile, but unarmored Union Gunboats of the “double-ender” type; sinking the USS *Southfield*. She was almost sunk by the USS *Sassacus*, however, who rammed and partially submerged the rebel ship; but somehow *Albemarle* worked free and went on to win that earlier encounter.

\*\*\*\*\*

William Barker Cushing was born 4 November 1842. He had three older brothers, the youngest of whom was Alonzo Hersford Cushing, born January 1841. The family lived in the Milwaukee vicinity and Chicago when their father, a physician graduate of Colgate, died in 1846. The young family then moved to Fredonia, New York to

be near other family members who provided care and other assistance. Although pressed financially, the family lived an upper middle-class life, the boys attending the Fredonia Academy, an upscale secondary school. Upon graduation, “Will,” at age 14, was appointed a Page in the U.S. Capitol by his uncle, Congressman F. S. Edwards; and in 1857, the Congressman followed up with a further appointment for Will to the U.S. Naval Academy. (Another relative, Mrs. Cushing’s cousin, Commodore Joseph Smith, participated in obtaining that appointment.) During this same period, the Congressman also obtained an appointment for Alonzo, now known as “Lon,” as a cadet at West Point to be a member of the class of 1861. Thus the two young Cushing brothers left home in September 1857 for Annapolis and West Point, calling each other a “tar” and a “sojer,” respectively. (The following is mainly about Will, but a few comments will be included pertaining to Lon, for he well deserves and will receive an entirely separate discussion for reasons to be set forth later herein.)

Commodore Smith, Chief of the Navy Yards and Docks, had been quick to point out to William that what was then called “Navy School” was not a place for lazy or mischievous boys, but that was slow in sinking in. Will, a born prankster simply had one hell of a good time. It required 200 demerits for misconduct during any one year to be expelled, or as the saying went, “to restore one to ones friends.” Cushing received 99 his first year. Not bad, but he was still learning. The next year, he did much better receiving 188. In June of that year, he almost went over the line, when he was discovered scaling the wall after spending the evening with a girl in town. When it was determined that this would put Will over the limit and he would be dismissed, another midshipman with a lower total count admitted the “crime,” so Will was safe for another year. During his third year he managed to collect only 155 demerits; but this did not mean that his deportment was improving; only that he was getting cleverer.

Considering the amount of time Will spent in an array of practical jokes and attempts to outwit the authorities, it is surprising that he had enough time left to do the required academic work. But the facts were that he was not doing badly at all, despite being the youngest member of his class of 37. In his second year, he stood 3 in gunnery, 8 in ethics, 13 in astronomy, and 9 in general order of merit, *but* 37 in conduct. The February 1861 exams found him 6 in ethics, 7 in gunnery, 9 in artillery, 11 in philosophy, 26 in modern languages, and 6 in general order of merit. Conduct was not mentioned, but it was undoubtedly high! In his fourth year at mid-term, he had racked up 147 demerits; but he had gone over the line so far as the faculty was concerned, by pulling the old “bucket of water above the door” trick on his Spanish teacher, consistently mimicked his drill instructor who stuttered, “H-h-h-h-h-h-halt, R-r-r-r-r-right face, At-t-t-t-t-



t-ten-shun, etc. Additionally, he managed to shoot up the fence at the superintendent's residence with a six-pounder during artillery target practice. That did it! The following report went to the Navy Department from the Superintendent, "Deficient at February 1861 semi-annual examination; Midshipman William B. Cushing. Deficient in Spanish. Aptitude for study: good. Habits for study: irregular. General conduct: bad. Aptitude for Naval Service: not good. Not recommended for continuance at the Academy." Will was ordered to leave the Academy and his enforced resignation as midshipman was signed 23 March 1861. To dismiss a first classman, standing high in his class for being unsatisfactory in Spanish seemed rather unusual and mysterious. Some credit it to the signs of the time. The Southerners were leaving, security fears existed, the Academy and remaining students were relocated to Newport, RI; and all first, second, and third classes were graduated in early May and sent on active duty.

Will Cushing was stunned by the action taken and ashamed for letting it happen. He went to Washington and stayed with Commodore Smith, who was critical of both the Navy and his young second cousin for the events that occurred. Smith made arrangements for Cushing's reinstatement "at the appropriate time," and in the interim for him to serve as an Acting Masters Mate on board the USS *Minnesota*. (Masters Mate, I believe, would have been equivalent to either a warrant officer or chief petty officer in today's navy.) The appointment was not made without difficulty, however, and even required an interview with Gideon Wells, Secretary of the Navy. (Wells and Cushing would get to know each other much better three years hence.)

Cushing's service as a Masters Mate aboard *Minnesota* was judged to be meritorious. This, coupled by that fact that his former commandant at the Naval Academy had relented and now thought Will could become a good naval officer resulted in his reinstatement as a passed midshipman on 19 October 1861, the warrant to be dated 1 June 61. He was ordered to duty on the USS *Cambridge*. His 1861 Class standing was set at 21<sup>st</sup> among the 26 remaining class members. In this interim, Alonza had graduated from West Point (12-34) 24 June 1861, had been a cadet captain, was assigned to the 4<sup>th</sup> U.S. Artillery, and was currently serving as a brevet captain on General Sumner's staff. Will's performance continued to be highly satisfactory in the eyes of his superiors, although he was personally finding blockade duty to be extremely boring. He, of course, was not alone in such feelings. Increases in naval personnel were again offering opportunities of promotion. Will hoped to receive one to Ensign or perhaps even Master. To his surprise in August 1862, he was elevated to Lieutenant, a grade that placed him above the majority of the class of 1861 from which he had been a member, but had not graduated. In addition, he was given the right to choose what officer he wished to serve under.

He chose Lieutenant Commander C. W. Flusser; a former Academy teacher who had remained more loyal to him during his period of difficulty than he probably deserved. Accordingly, Cushing was named ExO of Flusser's ship, the USS *Commodore Perry*, a smallish side-wheel steamer with a crew of only 29 and four guns but good for upriver fighting, which was then becoming more and more necessary.

Cushing's high proficiency continued and he was soon given independent command of the USS *Ellis* and then the heavily armed USS *Commodore Barney*. He was also given "roving" assignments as differentiated from purely blockade duties, and this led to a number of "commando" and/or "navy seal" type operations on Cape Fear River and elsewhere. (Well before those words were coined into the English language during the Boer War of 1899 and WWII, respectively.) Indeed, he was becoming well-known in the "front office" for his daring, bravery, and good judgment in those matters. By spring 1864, CSS *Albemarle* remained queen of the North Carolina coastal waters. She was stationed just above the bar on Roanoke River where the deeper draft USS Monitors could not reach her. She had fought several battles with unarmored Union gunboats and won them all. (In the last one, Cushing's close friend, Commander Flusser had been killed.) Accordingly, Admiral S. P. Lee asked Will Cushing his views on how the ram could be destroyed. Will suggested two ways: 1) He would lead a boarding party at night, capture the ironclad, cut her loose, and float downstream to Union lines, if possible, or if not, set her on fire, or 2) using a small steam launch, equipped with a spar torpedo blow her up where she sits. The Admiral told Lt. Cushing to put his thoughts in writing and dispatched him to Washington on 27 July 1864 to talk with Fox and Wells. Assistant Secretary Fox was not enthusiastic. He disapproved the first approach as much too risky and expressed strong reservations about the second; but he knew something had to be done, and he could not dampen Will Cushing's ardor. Cushing turned to him, his eyes beaming, and said, "I'll try it, sir; I'll do my best." Fox wrote a note to Wells and an order for Cushing to obtain the small boats and torpedo equipment from the Brooklyn Navy Yard. The mission would be undertaken.

At the Navy Yard, Will found two open launches 30 feet long with small engines and screw driven. Each vessel was fitted with a 12-pounder howitzer and a complicated spar torpedo device. While the boats were being prepared and delivered to Norfolk under command of his subordinates, Ensigns Howorth and Stockholm, Will traveled to Fredonia to visit his mother. This was unfortunate in the sense that when he arrived in Norfolk separately, he discovered that one of the boats had been lost in route due to lack of experience of the ensign commanding. He decided to continue anyway, and left Norfolk, 20 October with 6 men: Howorth; Stotesbury, engineer; Higgins, fireman; Deming; Wilkes; and King.

Upon arriving at the Squadron, he picked up 8 additional volunteers: Woodman, Steever, Hamilton, Smith, Harley, Swan, Houghton, and an old friend Ensign T. S. Gay. In addition, Cushing decided that, in the absence of the planned second launch, he would tow a cutter with 13 additional volunteers under command of Masters Mate W. D. Burlingame to be used as pickets, if necessary.

At 11:30 p.m., 27 October 1864, the launch, with the cutter in tow, headed up the Roanoke River (15 in the launch and 13 in the cutter). It would take two hours to reach the *Albemarle*. There was to be no talking and the sound of the steam engine was muffled with a canopy. Cushing had still hoped to remain undiscovered and be able to board and capture the Ironclad, but a barking dog awakened the sentries. He cast off the cutter to move downstream to picket the wreck of the *Southfield*, if needed. When approaching the Ram he noticed that it was protected with a log boom around its anchorage. Thinking that the logs were probably slimy and slippery from being in the water some time, he decided to try to ride over them. Gaining as much speed as possible, he partially did so, reaching a point close enough to the Ram that he could place the long spar with torpedo under her.

All of this was occurring in the hail of small arms fire and the Ram crew's preparation to fire one of its 6-inch Brookes rifles at a point blank range. Cushing pulled the light rope attached to the release mechanism. He slowly counted to five to allow the torpedo to rise against the wooded hull. Bullets were tearing into his jacket and a shoe, but not himself. Then he slowly pulled the lanyard to the firing device, and a massive explosion occurred. Almost simultaneously, the Brooke's rifle fired. Fortunately, it could not have been depressed sufficiently to strike the launch directly, but the air pressure flattened everything. Again came the call to "Surrender." Will had not noticed it before, he was busy. He shouted back "Never, I'll be damned first." "Men, save Yourselves." He threw off his sword, revolver, ripped up jacket and shoes, and dived into the cold water of the River. Several of the crew followed him, but they were soon separated.

Cushing, a strong swimmer, swam across and down River some distance to a cypress swamp where he hid out until the next day. He talked with a Negro who verified that the *Albemarle* had indeed been sunk. Elated, he "borrowed" a small skiff left by a search party who were looking for him; rowed to the mouth of the River into the Bay, and fortunately was discovered at 10:15 p.m. by crew of the USS *Valley City*. He was not in a very good condition, but rapidly recovered the next day. Three of the crew drowned and the remainder were captured and sent to Libby Prison.

Honors were poured upon William Cushing. He was voted the "Thanks of Congress" (the only sailor ranking below Flag Officer to receive that honor); promoted to Lieutenant Commander (at age 22, the youngest in the Navy); and was granted a total of \$56,000

in prize money (about \$780,000 in today's dollars). His was an extreme act of heroism and his country remembered him well. Since 1890, the Navy has named six Destroyers for William Barker Cushing. Why did he not receive the Medal of Honor? Because that award was not given to Naval Officers until 1915. On 15 Jan 1865, Cushing followed up this action by leading a force of sailors and marines against the seaward face of Fort Fisher (key rebel defense of Wilmington, NC). Remaining in the Navy and commanding the USS *Wyoming* in 1873, he intervened with Cuba's Spanish government to prevent the killing of American sailors detained at Santiago. His extended bravery may well have taken its toll on his health, however. While serving as ExO of the Washington Naval Yard, Commander William Cushing died, 17 December 1874. He was 32. He was buried at Annapolis. Lieutenant and Brevet Lt. Col. Alonzo Cushing was killed near the Angle at Gettysburg, 3 July 1863. He was 22 and was buried at West Point.

On 6 November 2014, the President is scheduled to award Alonzo Cushing the Congressional Medal of Honor for his actions at Gettysburg, 151 years ago. These actions will be discussed in a later article.

Lon Cushing was killed only a few paces from where CSA General Lewis Armistead was mortally wounded.

**References:** "Lincoln's Commando – Biography of W. B. Cushing" by Roske & Van Dorn, 1957; "Battles and Leaders of the Civil War, Vol. 4 p 625;" "ORN's" S.1 Vol.10 & 11; "Cushing of Gettysburg" – Biography of A. H. Cushing by K. M. Brown, 1993

**Bob Williams:** 4-24-05; rev 11-15-14





Christmas Eve 1862 from Harper's Weekly

