ZOUAVE!

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LOUISIANA ZOUAVE PRISONERS IN THE GUARD-HOUSE AT FORTRESS MONROE.— [SKETCHED BY OUR SPECIAL ARTIST.]

From Harper's Weekly July 27th 1861
Source: http://www.sonofthesouth.net/leefoundation/civil-war/1861/july/louisiana-zouaves.htm

Newspaper of the 62d N.Y.S.V.V. “Anderson Zouaves” Co. F
(Living History and Research Group)

21st AUGUST
ANNIVERSARY
TRADITION
CONTINUES
by John Tierney

The 148th Anniversary of the Anderson Zouaves was held Saturday 22nd August

2009 at the Concordia German Club, Tempe, NSW, with the day being attended by members and friends of the Anderson Zouaves regiment of Australia.

The anniversary is in commemoration of August 21st 1861 when the regiment embarked upon the steamer Major Anderson and made its way from Riker's Island in the East River, New York, for Elizabethport,
New Jersey and from there to the seat of War in Washington, D.C.

The celebration follows and maintains a tradition established by the veterans of the regiment themselves in the years following the War. A report of one such anniversary celebration appeared in the *Brooklyn Eagle*, on Sunday August 18th 1895 under the heading, "Grand Army News."

The Sixty-second New York, better known as the Anderson Zouaves, Volunteer Veteran association, will hold its thirty-fourth anniversary on Wednesday next [August 21st 1895] at 394 Sixth Avenue, New York. There are quite a number of veterans in this city who are members of the organisation.

However, the similarity between the general celebrations of the Anderson Zouaves veterans of the late 19th century in New York and those that have taken place here in Australia are, quite frankly, uncanny. One of the places which the veterans of the regiment used to gather was the *Concordia* Assembly Rooms while here in Australia the anniversary celebrations and other regular meetings are held at the *Concordia* Club. The following extraordinary report is from the New York Times and appeared on February 11th 1883.

J. L. Riker Post, No. 62, held its twelfth annual dance and masquerade ball at the Concordia Assembly Rooms on Monday evening, and it was unfortunate for the post that a larger hall had not been provided, for the crush was very great. A very large number were in mask. The opening march was led by the Floor Committee, dressed in Charles II costumes, followed by the Anderson Zouaves, Garibaldi Veteran Association, and Sedgwick and Riker Posts. Among those present were delegations from nearly all the New York and Brooklyn posts, also of the Sons of Veterans of New York and Hoboken. Comrades Urback and Bender, proprietors of the rooms, apparently ransacked kitchen and cellar for the benefit of the guests, and that a thoroughly enjoyable affair was had is attested by the fact that the last dance was called at 7:30 o'clock on Tuesday morning. The arrangements were almost entirely in the hands of Comrade Henry S. Trass.

Furthermore, despite what appears to be an apparent ethnic connection with citizens of Irish and French descent, there would appear to have been a strong connection with Germanic traditions as may be seen from the following two newspaper articles the first from the *New York Times*, July 31st 1879, and the second from the *New York Times*, on May 19th 1890.

J. L. Riker Post No. 62, Posts Nos. 32 and 38, the Anderson Zouaves, Bohemian Sharpshooters, the Veterans of the Eighth and Eleventh Regiments, and all of the singing societies who attended the fair of Riker Post last May are to go on an excursion up the Hudson to Sing Sing, Sunday Aug. 17. A steamer and two barges will leave Eighthstreet, East River, at 8.30 A. M., making landings at Delancey-street, and at Tenth and Thirty-fourth streets, North River.

J. L. Riker Post, No. 62, G. A. R., Commander Frederick Seibert, and their escorts will compose one of the divisions on Decoration Day in the Grand Army parade. They will have their ceremonies at Green-Wood Cemetery on the soldiers' plot and tomb of Col. J. L. Riker, after whom this post is named. A boat and barge have been secured for the transportation of their division and friends, which will leave foot of Third-street, East River, at 10 A. M. and
Pier No. 1 North River at 12 M. Comrade James Duncan will deliver the oratory "We strew fresh flowers over thy graves" and "Rest Noble Heroes" will be sung by the singing societies, Oesterreich and New-York Liedertafel. The Anderson Zouaves, Capt. George H. Moeser, and the veterans of the Eighth, Eleventh, and Sixty-second New-York Volunteers will accompany the post and act as their escort.

This year's celebrations were attended by members from Co., A, F and I as well as a number of friends of the regiment.

FROM THE WRITINGS OF JANE SWISSHELM, ABOLITIONIST AND NURSE

Swissvale, August 13th, 1860

Dear Will:—I promised to write you something about the Chicago Zouaves, and intended doing so several days ago; but our excessively hot weather has been displaced by excessive wet. It rains every day and every night.

Everything out of doors is dripping or swimming; and the roads ankle deep in yellow mud, so that I do not go out; and everything indoors is thoroughly penetrated with damp—all the bedding and clothing in capital order for ironing—furniture, books and carpets unwholesome and mouldy; and as I have been so long accustomed to Minnesota air and sunshine, this spell of Pennsylvania weather does not agree with me. The only safe place appears to be in the kitchen beside the cook stove; and this is not a good place for writing. As for personal matters, the prospect now is that I shall get my long standing difficulties satisfactorily and pleasantly settled; but I doubt if my strength will suffice for travelling or lecturing much for some length of time, and I am longing to see St. Cloud and some of the people there; and hope to be there early in September.

Some of the Pittsburg papers spoke of them as small and rather "hard looking customers," and from their forte being personal activity I expected to see them of that class of men who approach the monkey; but was disappointed. They are small men, or their dress gives them that appearance; but their features are generally good, and as some of them removed their little brigand caps I noticed intellectual, gentlemanly heads, and pleasant, laughing faces. They load and fire, making every motion as one man,
or as if they were all moved by one wire. For half an hour they drilled on a full run, turning, wheeling, sometimes all abreast, then single file, or two, five, six, twenty abreast—turning right angles, charging forward, firing, wheeling and retreating at the pace a school boy would chase a ball or butterfly; and never making a misstep or getting into any confusion. Once they formed into two lines, both lying flat on their faces, and a reserve standing back. The forward line popped up their heads like turtles, took aim and fired, then turned over on their backs and loaded, while second line arose to a stooping posture and ran before them, threw themselves on their faces, popped up their heads and fired; and turned on their backs and loaded while the other line ran forward and repeated the operation.—Once they lay on their faces, and at a sign seized each his gun in his teeth, ran forward on hands and knees, fell flat, popped up their heads and fired away in less time than it takes me to write it. But I could not in half a day give you an idea of all the maneuvers they went through in two hours. The drill was on the Fair Ground; and it was estimated that ten thousand persons witnessed it.

I am much interested in it, not so much for its military value as because it appears to me, this Zouave furor must exercise a wholesome influence on the dress and physical training of Young America; and perhaps aid in preventing its becoming Old America at twenty. The Kossuth fever relieved thousands of aching American brains from the ancient necessity of wearing a section of stove pipe; and I hope the Zouave furor will emancipate thousands of feet from stud-toed and narrow-soled boots—let down thousands of half strangle unfortunates who are hanged by the ears on unyielding shirt collars until they are half dead; and bring into healthy use many a set of dwindling muscles. A mixture of Zouave drill would greatly aid the manhood and comfort of American men, and for this I say God speed Zouave exhibitions.

Contributed by Neil Chippendale

Text credit:
http://www.ancestry.com/
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en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jane_Swisshelm

WAR SCENES IN SYRACUSE & ONONDAGA COUNTY IN THE SPRING & SUMMER OF 1861

From; The ANNUAL VOLUME of the Onondaga Historical Association (1915) Onondaga's Part in the Civil War by MRS. SARAH SUMNER TEALL

Certain members of Company D. of the 51st Regiment of N. Y. S. V., left their old company, the Greys, and formed the Syracuse Zouaves, an independent organization.
They seem bound to carry out the stringent resolves which they have imposed upon themselves. They show a determination to emulate the famous Chicago cadets in their military discipline. The company has adopted a strict system of drilling. They have a drill at their quarters in the Armory at 8 o'clock every evening. At ten o'clock the lights are put out; taps sounded. These soldiers — wrapped in rough blankets — sleep perhaps on the floor in the next room. At 5 o'clock in the morning reveille sounds. Everybody is promptly in line for the morning drill, at the conclusion of which each goes to his daily business. This severe discipline is to be continued two weeks, and to be continued at intervals, until the Company reaches the first rank in military art.

This Zouave company is composed of some of the most correct, moral and upright young gentlemen of the city. Active, industrious, resolute, they have adopted a system of conduct by which they will be governed, of most rigorous morals and strict self-discipline, and have scrupulously lived up to it, until they present an appearance of high health and activity, approaching the perfection of manhood. This example is a valuable one to our young men, and our community should give them every encouragement which such an example merits. Captain John Butler has been the leader of this movement. Courteous, magnanimous and kind, he has attached his associates to him by the strongest bonds of friendship and respect. The citizens will honor themselves by the encouragement they give to so worthy a body of exemplary young men.

Source: http://www.archive.org/stream/publications1915ononuoft/publications1915ononuoft_djvu.txt

Picture source: http://www.geocities.com/zouavedatabase/cwuni.html

ILLINOIS ZOUAVE GREYS - LOUIS ROSETTE'S PATRIOTIC LETTER

From Louis Rosette to John G. Nicolay, April 13, 1861. Springfield Ill.

Friend Nicolay--
Reports here say the war has began. In case the President needs assistance we hope he will first call on Illinois -- for we have fought for him once & now will do it again. True muskets & ball are not torches and oil but we are ready with either. We were whipt out at the City election by traitors in our camp -- some who are applicants for federal office are not true Republicans so their votes on the 9th say -- Many of us Republicans here wish Lincoln would appoint
Mrs Grimsley to the P. O. of this City. I believe there could be nothing said to it & think it would give general satisfaction. Of course he will do as he please & would not take my advise. Senator Trumbull arrived here this A.M. Things remain Status quo -- no body getting married or dying -- The Zouave Greys still flourish & are spoiling (some of them) for a fight. I think after Court I will put a shirt in my pockets & come down & see the City. What condition is John Hays black eye in? Give him my respects -- Excuse this scrawl and believe me -- your brother soldier & friend L. Rosette.

Contributed by Neil Chippendale

**CAPTAIN SALLY L. TOMPKINS**

Miss Sally L. Tompkins of Richmond was made a captain of cavalry in the Confederate Army.

She was the only woman ever to hold a commission in the Confederate Army. CSA President Jeff Davis himself awarded Miss Tompkins her commission on 9th September, 1861.

Her commission came about because the hospital she had established after First Bull Run proved to have a remarkable recovery rate.


Picture source: [http://mason.gmu.edu/~rmaggian/hist697/finalproject/images.html](http://mason.gmu.edu/~rmaggian/hist697/finalproject/images.html)

See: [http://mason.gmu.edu/~rmaggian/hist697/finalproject/biography.html](http://mason.gmu.edu/~rmaggian/hist697/finalproject/biography.html)

"THEY WILL PLUNDER AND THEY WON'T FIGHT"

Colonel Lyman, on the staff of General Meade, was surprised how poorly the Germans performed out of their own country.

“They will plunder and they won't fight. Really, as soldiers, they are miserable. Actually a Yankee regiment would drive a brigade of them.” He thought the Irish were good if well officered. “The Pats will do: not as good as pure Yanks, but they will rush in and fight.”

Lieutenant-Colonel A. J. L. Fremantle (later General Sir Arthur Fremantle), Coldstream Guards, who visited the Confederate Army in 1863, said that the Southern troops appeared to esteem highest the north-western Federal troops who came from Ohio, Iowa, Indiana, etc; the Irish Federals were also respected for their
fighting qualities, whilst genuine Yankees and Germans were not much esteemed.


TUNES FROM THE CROOKED ROAD

The Company's band "The Dog Robbers" received an invitation from our friends on "Myspace" to attend the musical event "Tunes from the Crooked Road." Whilst unfortunately, none of our members will be in the States for this event, we are happy to give it some publicity in this newspaper, which has a loyal readership in America.

"Tunes from the Crooked Road" is an evening with Wayne Henderson & Helen White and The Dixie Bee-Liners, presented by the Virginia Historical Society and JAMine.

Wayne Henderson and Helen White have been playing together for years and have toured extensively in the U.S. and Europe. Wayne Henderson is a National Heritage Award recipient for his luthier work and his renowned finger-style Appalachian guitar playing. Helen White is an award-winning singer, multi-instrumentalist, and composer. Concert goers will enjoy Henderson's lightning fast "pinch picking" (and sometimes funny stories) with White's fiddling, singing, and accompaniment on guitar.

The Dixie Bee-Liners' concerts are marked by a high-octane blend of traditional and contemporary bluegrass music. Known for their stunning harmonies, the six-piece band produces a healthy dose of original barn-burners, ballads, and instrumentals, as well as Appalachian standards and American classics.

When:
Saturday, October 17, 2009
3:30 PM to 5:30 PM EDT

Where:
Virginia Historical Society
428 North Boulevard
Richmond, VA 23220

See:
http://events.vahistorical.org/site/Calendar?view=Detail&id=101201

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Dave,

An interesting site if you are a Reb, Confederate Pension Applications 1919 – 1938. The South Carolina Department of Archives and History has a rather simple, but impressive, web site. The site includes images of many original documents as well as
indexes that allow the documents to be found quickly.

http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/onlinearchives/SearchResults.aspx

Neil Chippendale

(Neil is a member of the LHRG, a contributor to ZOUAVE! and an avid Confederate re-enactor – Ed.)

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Visit our website at; http://corpsutler.tripod.com

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