



VAN VOORHEES NIEUWSBRIEF

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Communication: *Nieuwsbrief* is The Word

by Marilyn Van Voorhis Voshall, Editor

We always like to hear from our cousins! Unfortunately we cannot remember all your names, telephone numbers and email addresses. We can get 100s of these without having the time to call back or to open them. Communication is important and now is being grossly misused!

EMAILS

Most of us get 100s of them. It takes forever to check each one to find out which is important and which should be eliminated. The way for us to recognize you is to see the “Subj:” (Subject) listed as *Nieuwsbrief*. It

would save us time and ensure that yours is not accidentally deleted.

TELEPHONE CALLS

We all get unwanted calls – even with the DO-NOT-CALL List, which has numerous exemptions. It is so bad that 99% of the time I do not answer the phone at all. I wait until a message is left. (You will hear my telephone number plus a request for your message.) Your message should have only 3 items – (1) your Name, (2) your Telephone Number and (3), just one word, *Nieuwsbrief*. I will respond as soon as possible.

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Editor’s Note regarding the Civil War Articles

We are grateful to MIKE APGAR, who was our Civil War liaison, for doing the original research for our Civil War data, including the articles in this issue of the *Nieuwsbrief*.

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Andersonville Prison: February 1864
sent by Robt. F. Voorhees (permission given by This Month in History) &
edited by Marilyn Van Voorhis Voshall

The most infamous Confederate prison of the Civil War was at Andersonville, Georgia. It was known as



Camp Sumter when the 1st Union prisoners arrived in February 1864. The original stockade was built to house 10,000 men; but as hundreds of captured prisoners arrived every day, the site quickly reached its capacity and exceeded it. Six months

later, over 32,000 men lived in deplorable conditions inside the prison. In its 14 months of existence, 45,000 men came through the gates. Nearly 13,000 are buried there.

There were 150 prison camps on both sides in the Civil War, and they all suffered from disease, overcrowding, exposure, and food shortages. But Andersonville was notorious for being the worst. Some men agreed to freedom and fought for the South as galvanized soldiers, fearing the dangers of imprisonment to be greater than those of the battlefield. Eventually, General Sherman's [?] occupation of Atlanta forced

officials to move prisoners to other camps in Georgia and South Carolina.

Captain Henry Wirz, Confederate commandant of Andersonville Prison, was the only official executed for war crimes in the Civil War. He was charged with conspiring with others to [?] injure the health and destroy the lives [?] of Union soldiers. While no conspiracy was ever truly proved, public opinion forced a guilty verdict and his execution by hanging.

The National Park Service maintains the prison site, its museum, and Andersonville National Cemetery. Information about the 150th anniversary of Andersonville Prison is available [here](#). Despite the terrible death toll, thousands of men survived Andersonville and related their stories. If you had an ancestor confined to Andersonville, or any other Civil War prison for that matter, their tales may have been passed down over the last century and a half. The military records of the men who survived Andersonville Prison can be found in the documents on Fold3. One survivor, R.K. Sneden of the 40th New York Volunteers, was a prisoner there until April 1864. He drew several [colorful maps of Camp Sumter](#) and its vicinity that include captions and details of interest.

The Andersonville Prison Diary of Alfred H. Voorhees, Co. H, 1st N.Y. Cavalry
a transcription of the original Alfred Voorhees Diary, done by his sister, Rebecca
(sent by John Jay Voorhees and Manning W. Voorhees: edited by Marilyn Van Voorhis Voshall)

Alfred H. Voorhees, enlisted in the 1st NY Cavalry (the "Lincoln Cavalry") on 5 Aug. 1861, was captured in May of 1864 and incarcerated in Andersonville Prison. He died of disease on Aug. 13, 1864. The follow-

ing material is a transcription of the [original](#) (Alfred H. Voorhees Diary, done by his sister, Rebecca.

Editor's Note: The spelling and sentence structure, etc., are edited minimally.

PRIVATE

May 1864:

13th Came from long bridge in the morning crossed the mountains, went to New Market, but got in a trap, 280 of us against 4000 or 5000 men. Took to the mountains. Stopped there all night. Slept on a Rock on the top of the mountain. Rained all night. We thought to make our escape but no go.

14th Came off the mountain and was captured, taken to New Market and there joined many of the boys, there is five of us now left. New Market about 2 P.M. for Staunton. Raining this morning. My feet are so sore I can scarcely walk.

15th On to Richmond to day. Jonnies took everything from me so I must do without them. Kept all night in a church, had a good nights rest for all we

were so wet. I hope I will keep well all the time.

16th [No report]

17th Left Staunton this morning for Harrisonburg. Changed cars at Charlottesville; day fine; am well as can be expected; arrived at Lynchburg. had very good Treatment, only had to lay on the ground without Shelter quite a number of wounded are here. Night fine and Mild.

18th The morning is fine. Was counted for Rations. Received 4 oz. of meat, Some Rice and salt and under close guard. Camped in a Valley, a stream of water Running through the Camp. The Officer in command is a fine Man. Had a little Shower. Some of the 3rd New Jersey came today. Some of the Boys are still

behind. Think we will be sent to Danville. I am in good Spirits. Hope to keep so. Wrote home this morning. The remainder of the boys came in today.

19th Day warm and 950 came in today are all Encamped on Flannery Island. Plenty of lice but not much grub, but cant complain so far. Feel quite well to day. Hope to Remain so as long as I am here. Some of the boys that came today look very bad. Have no shelter. Lay on ground without covering. It is so bad.

20th Left Lynchburg at 10 A.M. took the Southside Rail Road 4 days Ride. Passed through Farmersville, crossed the High Bridge some 200 feel high. The Country is poor and unproductive. Day warm and pleasant. Changed Cars at Rushville Junction for Danville. Travelled all night in box cars. No rest for the weary.

21st Arrived at Danville at sun up, the R.R. runs along the Danville River. Town Situated on the River, are quartered in a large Building, Cant look out of the windows, it is against orders. Rations Issued today, Corn Bread and Bacon (Very good). It's warm here, the Country looks God Forsaken.

22nd Left Danville at 10 A.M. **23rd** I am very sick.

24th Passed Fort Columbus. Changed Cars, Rode all night, arrived at Augusta at 10 AM. day warm and dusty, almost smothered. Changed cars for Macon, arrived at Macon 5 P.M. Changed cars, am better today.

25th Arrived at Andersonville today, the place of our destination. See quite a number of My Regt. here, a hard place it is too, the boys ruff, all kinds of Huts and Shanties. Some have been here 8 Months. Feel a good deal better to day, a close place, 18,000 Men on 10 acres.

26th Dry and warm, fixed a Shanty to keep the sun and Rain out. Feel very weak today. Saw Davy Anderson of the 3rd New Jersey Cavalry. Drew no Rations to day. Caught a Raider, shaved one side of his head and drove him through the camp for a Show.

27th This is one of the hottest southren days. The officer of the day came in for Sewerage and Tunnels, found 6 near done for. Was transferd from 61 to 12 date, feel quite well and in fine spirits. We hear nothing here. Rebs had quite a scare today; had troops under arms and in line of Battle all day, cant see why they need be so affraid of us, we have no arms.

28th Warm and fine. Some of Shermans Men came to camp, a great many die from Exposure. Some hard looking objects. Nothing of any importance to write every day the same. Oh! that we soon may be relieved from this dreadful Prison and Returned to our homes. Have a great distress in my head today (George is well).

29th Warm and fine. More Prisners arrived to day,

the Prison is crowded full. Dont know What they will do with any More. How different from home and Sabbath comeforts, all we can see is filth and dirt. All combined makes it a hard lingering place. Some die, poor fellows from 30 to 40 per day. Hope I will live through this and see home once more. Feel very well to day with the Exception of a slight cold.

30th This is Hell on Earth to day and Yesterday. More Yanks came in today so thick one can scarcely Walk. A number of the boys go out to work on the Stockade to enlarge the Prison. Dont feel Well to day. Some talk of a Parole Soon. Cant feed us With proper food. Oh, that We may soon be relieved. But we must wait, hoping We will not get sick.

31st Warm and dry today. George is very Sick dont feel well myself. The boys commenced a Well to day. Some talk of an armistice for 9 days. How it is dont know, only take us out of this.

June 1864:

1st Clear and Warm, had quite a Shower tonight, am Verry much indisposed today, feel about discouraged and Jerry is Sick too.

2nd Clear and hot most of the day, had a Shower in the evening and continued near all night. Some of the boys have no covering--am no better today, hope to be soon...

3rd Rain to day, cant Eat anything, am very unwell, am getting quite bony.

4th Raining to day, very disagreeable, feel bad yet, George is not well.

5th Cloudy, but no rain, **not s** to prayer Meeting to night, a meeting in this place is not like going to one at home, feel quite Well today, a good many are sick, they die from 40 to 50 per day, Charly and I are better, hope to be so as long as We Remain in this place.

6th Am quite well today. Warm and Showery, 90 died today, no Signs of an Exchange.

7th Clear in the morning, but Rainy all night, a number of prisners came in today-1200. dont feel well today, have gone down a great deal since I came here.

8th Warm and Showery. Some more Yanks came in today. am not well, feel very bad at times. George is very bad too. Two weeks since I came here. it is the hardest 2 weeks I ever spent, it is so sickly, so many die from exposure to rain and sun. No shelter

9th Twas warm to day. Showry again in the afternoon. Night warm, a few more Yanks came to day. Over 21,000 in this place. So thick can scarcely move, feel better today. George is not much better, am afraid he will not come from this place if he don't take care of himself--

10th Warm and dry, a little rain at Evening as usual.

Oh! This Bull Prison, when will we get from here. Some would not go if they could.

11th This has been the hottest day I have experienced since I came in Georgia-at Evening a cool shower came to refresh us poor devils (for a man who is in here is none other than such) had a good dinner today, feel very well. George is no better, would not eat anything.

12th Cool and pleasant, a fine shower, a few more Yanks came to day. About 4 p.m. commenced to rain. Continuing untill dark, then turned into a Regular Storm and Kept it up all night, very hard on the boys who have not Tents. feel bully today, have a good appetite, Some get no beef nor meal, only rice and meat.

13th This has been one of the hardest days With us a cold North East storm. I am thankful for the Shelter we have, oh, how hard it is to see so many men laying in the Storm Without the least thing to Shelter them. poor fellows, but we cant help them. one has all he can do to take care of himself here. Some must surely die if they dont get help Soon.

14th Stormed to last night was a hard one on the boys. Was so cold and So many have no Shelter. I hope to be Exchanged but how Soon, God only Knows. we hear all Kinds of Reports in this Bull Pen, but believe none of them. I feel very Weak (cold I guess). George is very much under the Weather to day, hope Soon he will be better, the Weather is very hard for the Sick, 50 died last night, some days over 100 die, poor Fellows.

15th Cloudy and Rainy this morning, only one day has passed this Month Without Rain and it appears as if it would rain all the Month. Cleard off at 4 P.M. 1100 more prisners came in the Bull Pen to day, none have Tents, a few blankets, poor Fellows, they Will not stand it long Without Shelter. I dont feel well. George is hard up but I hope he Will Recover.

16th Cloudy in the morning and misty all day. More Yanks came in to day. Place so full can scarcely walk. Feel Fine. Father H. is Much under the Weather, lent him Some Money, poor Fellow, he Will not Stand it long if he is not careful. No news of getting away from here.

17th Cloudy and misty all day, camp is in an awful state. So filthy but guess todays rain will clear it some. Rained so hard we could cook nothing. Rained all night, so awful to see so many without Shelter.

18th Rained again to day, this makes 18 days it has rained. Some more of my Regt. came in to day. Yanks are moving, the lot was captured the 19th of May, had a hard time on the march took 5 days, yet they look Well. I feel well to day, George is very bad, yet I

hope he will stand it though.

19th Am very well to day, Raining as usual. Nothing new in camp.

20th Cloudy and rainy all day, this makes the 20th day it has Rained in succession, more or less. feel tolerable to day, cant Seem to make much in trading, yet hope to do better this week, its so Rainy we cant keep dry, more than half the time.

21st Warm and pleasant, did not Rain any, 1st clear day this month, went into the baking business, made 35 dolls among 4 of us, if we could do that every day, will do very well, can live, feel very well but want to get out of this Confederacy into a better land.

22nd Hot and dry in this Prsn, nothing new to write --much the same every day, feel well and hope to outlive the Confederacy yet.

23rd Hot and dry. Rebs played a fine game on us-no Rations, and took from the Wood squad workmen all they brought in for the boys -- some lost as high as \$550. I lost \$10. May the curse of God Rest upon the Rebels & Murderers. cant do nothing else, they must take what little food we can get outside the Bull Pen, dont feel well on this account. I say again may the curse of God follow them all their days.

24th Clear and warm, has the apperence of setteled Weather now. Damned Yanks cant feed us more than half we need, barely enough to keep us alive, I have lost all I had and now am bare, no money, no friends as is the case at all times. Nevertheless I will try and live through the Confederacy to fight them to the end. I am well, so is George.

25th Hot and dry, the Sun is awful in this Bull Pen, enough to take one down, but I manage to Keep under cover as Much as possible. 40 more Yanks came in from Shermans Army. Some talk of a Parole, how soon it come, dont know. hope it will soon be for I want to get out of this, Never more to Return. May the God of Heaven speed the time.

26th This has been another of those hot days, the sun is so hot, We can scarcely stand it. Kept as close as possible in my Shanty, the Sun Kills a great many of our poor boys in this Prison, it Rumered that an exchange will take place soon, that the Rebs prisners are on their way to Savanah, how true it is dont know, but hope it is so feel well to day and in good Spirits, mean to live in hopes if I die in dispair.

27th Verry Warm to day, no Rain for some days past, great talk of an Exchange. Report of Ft. Darling being captured, if it is so Richmond is gone up, feel Well and in good spirits, hope to keep so. So many of the boys are hard up, but hope none will be left behind in Georgia. I want to go home so I do but must

wait till the time comes.

28th Clear and warm till near sundown when a heavy shower came up and cooled the hot air, a few of my Regt. came in to day, they bring a sad account of the Regt. Many are killed and wounded, they lost heavy during those Fights, hope soon to get out of this place. am Well and hope to keep so.

29th Warm and showery today, the Raiders made another assault on the camp. Stopt all Rations untill they are found and given up, the boys caught 14 of them and are to work yet, hope they will find them all..

30th This has been a busy day after the raiders, digging in their tents, find watches, money, knives and such like. they have 91 of them, they are to be tried by a Jury of twelve Men and receive their just dues for they Will deal severely with them. began to Issue Rations again this afternoon, did not get any though.

July 1864:

1st This has been another busy day, the Main ground was opened, have moved over, this gives us plenty of Room to Navigate and the air has free circulation through the camp Which makes it much nicer. am well today. Lynch and Carson are very Sick.

2nd Cool and fine in the Shade but hot in the Sun. Jonny C. died to day, and Lynch is very Sick, tis my opinion We Shall spend our lives in this Bull Pen. Time Rolls on so Swiftly and I hope we may soon be out of this and in a Christian Country where we can get Something better than corn, feel boiling to day--all Kinds of Reports about the Exchange.

3rd Clear and hot. No Rations to day, and some say we not get any for three days, hope the Damned Rebs will all sink in Hell before tomorrow Morning, this is no other than a place of Starvation--a disgrace to any Government. I feel well only not enough to Eat. I hope Soon to get enough and some to spare, this has been a great Sunday for me.

4th Cool and pleasant with Showers all day. I never spent such a day as this. The Sight is awful, had More Rations issued today. Some Mush and maggotty, glad to get even this. Oh! for Revenge.

5th Hot and dry. no news from Richmond, hope it has fallen. Yesterday We got no news that we can depend upon. had Rations issued again to day. I feel well, hope to Keep so as long as I Remain here. George is well, but Lynch is very bad--he gets no Medical treatment, to bad the way we are treated, beasts could be used no worse.

6th Some cooler today, but for the Wind the Sun would Kill us, dont feel well today, 350 more Yanks came in to day, drew no bread nor Meal, only Meat.

Would not take it so I had to do without.

7th Awful hot to day, no news from Grant but any amount of comeforting Reports such as the capture of Fort Darling. Kicked over a number of the Sutlers tables, Robbed and let the boys take what they Wanted. Feel Well if I only got a little more grub.

8th Hot and dry, the hottest weather I ever saw. God keep us thru and bring us safe home from this Prison.

9th Hot and dry, the sand is a hot as fire. I feel well, if I always feel so I can stand it through. toward Night the Heavens became overcast and a heavy shower came cooling the hot air. Near a thousand went outside to go to the H.P. Lay in the sun all day. half died from the heat. Lynch went out and I have not heard from him since. dont know wether he is alive or dead. More Yanks came in today.

10th Hot and dry, apperence of Rain but did not come. More Yanks came in to day, dont feel well. A number of the Raiders are to be hung tomorrow if they are found guilty. I hope they will get their just deserts as a lesson to the Remainder of the gang.

11th Cool and pleasant with a Shower in the afternoon. Some Raiders were hung, the gallows was erected inside camp so every one could see it. At 5 PM. they were brought thru the gate and turned over to our men, who performed the Execution over 30,000.

12th Cool and fine, apperence of Rain but came not but it Keeps the air cool. Some more Yanks came in today, no news of any account, the old Capt. took a gang of Men out to chop wood hope it is for the camp for wood is so scarce and draw half the meal. Plenty of Wood all around us, yet we do not get it. God have Mercy on us and Send us Wood to cook our food.

13th Cool and Pleasant in the morning, but about 10 oclock the sun came down boiling and it was a terable hot day, another Tunnel was discovered and filled up today. Feel well and all Right. May I remain the same as long as I am in this Prison. looked like Rain but did not come.

14th Clear and dry. In the afternoon the Rebel camp of this horrible. Soon I hope to be in the land of the was thrown into quite a confusion. 2 guns were fired as a Signal to arms, they were soon at their posts, it proved to be a false alarm. No friends came in today. Capt says if the boys dont stop tumbling he will fire

15th This has been a terable hot day, a little Rain at night to cool the air. Great God, when will we get out the Camp.free. Am well today.

16th Today has been another of those Sunny South days, hot enough to fry the fat out of all the Rebs in Hell, if they were here. I seem to stand the heat very Well so far. Today the Rebs thought to make another

haul by confiscation of the boys goods but didnt make much. I had some but lost none. Am not well, hope to be better tomorrow.

17th This has been a very pleasant and cool day, the Wind blew cool and Refreshing. had a lovely days Rations and a fine supper, corn bread and Molasses, good food...it for a soldier. guess if I was home dont think I would eat such food, how I do wish I was home tonight, how happy I would be, how would Sister feel if she knew how and where I was. God forbid She should know it, till I get out of this.

18th Cool and quite pleasant with a little Rain in the afternoon

19th [No record]

20th Quite pleasant with a cool breeze, the Rebs began to throw up Redouts and Rifle pits for the protection of the camp, they think things look rather strange and show signs of a raid. Oh, God may they come soon. I feel quite Smart today, loads of peaches and Melons and apples in camp, but they are to cheap for me (over the left) only \$4 to \$8 each, and peaches 50 cts each . Want a fortune to live here.

21st Hot and dry, not Much Wind. Rebs at Work on breast work, a few more Yanks came in from Shermans army. Report a heavy raid for some point, perhaps for this place. God speed the time, am not well today.

22nd Warm and dry. Rebs still at Work on fortifications. More Yanks came in today, bring no news, talk of Early and Ewell being in Maryland and Pennsylvania. Guess they will find some Yanks there, don't believe they'l make much this time. Feel well as usual. Raw Meat and Meal, No Wood to cook with. God keep us safe from death.

23rd Cloudy and cool apperence of a Storm, hope it will not be a long one, the Weather is very changeable

Note from the 1st page of this article: Captain Henry Wirz, Confederate commandant of Andersonville Prison, was hanged. He was the only official executed for war crimes in the Civil War.

CIVIL WAR VOORHEES VOLUNTEERS

sent by Robt. F. Voorhees

US Registers of Deaths of Civil War Volunteers, 1861-1865

Listed in the table are 45 Voorhees that died in the Civil War. Volunteers were typically recruited for a specific conflict, while "regulars" were professional soldiers who served in the standing army. 35% of those who died were from NY, 23% from NJ, 14% from IN, 12% OH, and 16% from other states. Four Voorhees died at Andersonville, GA prison*. 60% of the Voorhees died in 1864, 16% in each of 1862 and 1863, and 8% in 1865. *Note: ibid. 2 preceding arti-

and unhealthy. Father is hard up and will have to be careful if he gets out alive. George has a bad cold. I feel as well as can be expected on forage and Raw Meat.

24th Cool and Pleasant all day, at night it was very cold, came near frost, the coldest night I have experienced in Georgia, drew fresh beef and Rice, dont feel well at all.

25th Very chilly and cold, dont feel well at all, have an attack of the Diarhea, but hope it will not prove serious. Sent out My pen and pencil and thats the last of them and the Negro. Guess he came back on Me. Will make him pay me Something if its only Wood.

26th Cool and pleasant for July. Oh, if I was only out of this place once More, but no Matter how cool and pleasant it is it Seems hard and Rough to be in prison and loose all the comeforts and pleasures of life. Nevertheless I will live in hopes if I die in dispair, am unwell and feel bad, had a small shower.

27th This has been another cold day, and a little rain at night. More Yanks came in today from Hunters Army. am no better to day but hope to be soon

28th Very unhealthy in this place, quite a number die daily. I dont feel well, have the Diarhea very bad. More Yanks came in today Had quite a heavy shower.

29th Hot and dry till night When we had a small Shower. More Yanks came in today 700 from every army. am quite bad to day hope to be better soon, it is very disagreeable to be sick in this place. George is very bad. Talk of a Parole the 6th of August, hope it will be so for I want to go home out of this Bull Pen.

30th and 31st [No report]

August 1864

Editor's Note: The above were Alfred's last notations. He died on 13 Aug. 1864.

cles about Andersonville Prison.

Editor's Note: In the Chart below are 17 spellings of the original name, Van Voorhees. The most common is Voorhees (18). Next is Voorhies (6) and Voris (4). Van Voorhees, Voorhes, Vorhees, and Vorhes are found twice each. The other spellings are found only once: Van Voorhies, Van Vorhies, Voorhis, Voors, Vores, Vorheis, Vorhies, Vorris, and Vorus. Additional spellings are in the Fall *Nieuwsbrief* 2003

CIVIL WAR VOORHEES VOLUNTEERS

continued

on page 12: "Spelling of the Voorhees Name Is Not a Constant Art" by Robt. F. Voorhees. If your spelling is in this Chart, check the local history books in the

County Seat (e.g.: County Library) in the state where this ancestor lived and enlisted. There may be lots of information about him there.

NAME	NAME	DATE			City	Union	Enlist	Rank, Reg., & Company		
<u>Given</u>	<u>Surname</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Mo.</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Regiment</u>	<u>Co.</u>
Charles	Vorhees	1864	Sep	7	Regimental Hospital			Private	80 USC T	E
John	Vorhes	1865	Feb	27	PH Pt Hudson	LA		Private	4 Cav	F
Cornelius	VanVorhies	1862	Apr	6	Shiloh	TN	IA	Corporal	13 IA Vols	H
Thomas	Voorhees	1863	Aug	12	Camp H Vicksburg	MS	IL	Private	28 IL Inf	I
Abram	Voris	1863	July	13	Regimental Hospital		IL	Private	103 IL Inf	A
Ross	Voris	1864	May	11	Andersonville	GA	IL	Private	16 IL Inf	I
John	Voorhees	1862	Dec	24	GH Bardstown	KY	IN	Private	17 IN V	H
Dan L.	Voorhies	1864	Aug	2	2 Div GH	VA	IN	Private	7 IN V	F
Harvey P.	Vorhees	1864	Apr	30	SPH Nashville	TN	IN	Private	17 IN V	D
Marian	Voris	1864	Dec	10	GH Madison	IN	IN	Sergeant	93 IN V	D
Peter	Voris	1864	Jun	10	Guntown	MS	IN	Private	93 IN V	D
Albert M	Vorris	1864	May	6	Wilderness	VA	IN	Private	7 IN V	E
Abram	VanVoorhees	1862	Jun	10	GH Huntsville	AL	MI	Private	Lovnic's Batty	
Charles	Voorhies	1863	Jan	4			MI	Private	22 MI Vols	A
Jackson	Voorhies	1864	Jun	28	2 Div GH	VA	MI	Private	27 MI Vols	J
Stephen	Voorhees	1863	Jan	5	Ascension Hospital	Wash DC	NJ	Private	30 NJ Vols	F
Amos	Voorhees	1864	Sept	19	Opequan	VA	NJ	Private	4 NJ Vols	B
John	Voorhees	1864	July	20	Peach Tree Creek	GA	NJ	Private	33 NJ Vols	D
L.A.	Voorhees	1864	May	8	Spottsylvania	VA	NJ	1st Sgt.	15 NJ Vols	A
Martin	Voorhees	1864	Sep	19	Winchester	VA	NJ	Private	75 NY Inft	F
Richard	Voorhees	1864	Nov	11	Jarvis GH	MD	NJ	Private	15 NJ Vols	B
Stephen	Voorhees	1864	Jun	1	Cold Harbor	VA	NJ	Corporal	14 NJ Vols	K
Wm B.	Voorhees	1864	May	6	Wilderness	VA	NJ	Private	1 NJ Vols	B
Christian	Voorhes	1864	Jan	13	Regimental Hospital		NJ	Private	1 NJ Cav	H
Isaac	Voorhees	1863	Oct	15	PH Yorktown	VA	NY	Private	139 NY	C
Robert C.	Voorhees	1863	May	7	Regimental Hospital		NY	Private	1 NY Cavy	H
A.H.	Voorhees	1864	Aug	13	Andersonville*	GA	NY	Private	1 NY Cavy	H
<i>*Note: ibid. Andersonville Prison: February 1864 & The Andersonville Prison Diary: February 1864</i>										
Charles C.	Voorhees	1864	Jun	21	Armory Sq GH	Wash DC	NY	Corporal	19 NY Cav or 1 Drag	B
E.H.	Voorhees	1864	Nov	11	Florence	SC	NY	Private	8 NY Cavy	A
Evart	Voorhees	1864	May	15	Resaca	GA	NY	Private	136 NY	K
G.B.	Voorhees	1864	Sep	3	Base Hospital Jones Landing	VA	NY	Private	16 NY Arty	A
W	Voorhees	1864	May	6	Wilderness	VA	NY	Private	49 NY Inft	I
L.A.	Voorhees	1864	May	6	Spottsylvania	VA	NJ	1st Sgt.	15 NJ Vols	A
Abram	VanVoorhees	1862	Sep	19	Rey West Barracks	FL	NY	Private	90 th NY	I
E.R.	Voorhies	1864	Sep	26	Andersonville	GA	NY	Private	85 NY Inft	C
George	Voorhies	1864	Aug	24	Andersonville	GA	NY	Private	85 NY Inft	C
Charles J	Voorhis	1865	Apr	2	Regimental Hospital		NY	Private	179 NY	I

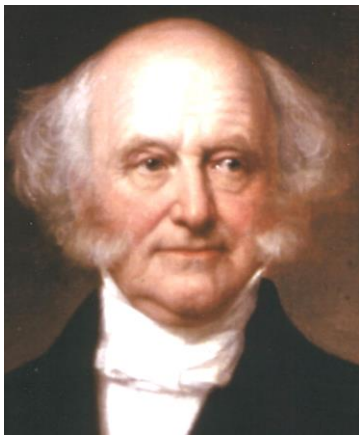
NAME	NAME	DATE			City	Union	Enlist	Rank, Reg., & Company		
<u>Given</u>	<u>Surname</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Mo.</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Regiment</u>	<u>Co.</u>
Robert A	Vorhees	1865	Mar	25	Petersburg	VA	NY	Private	14 NY Arty	E
John	Vorheis	1865	Mar	12	GH Wilmington	NC	NY	Private	104 NY	G
Abram	VanVorhies	1862	Sep	12	Key West Barracks	FL	NY	Private	90 NY Inft	I
Joshua	Voorhees	1863	Jan	4	GH LaGrange	TN	OH	Private	78 OH Inf	H
Samuel	Voorhies	1864	Jun	8	Lincoln GH	Wash DC	OH	Sergeant	122 OH Inft	E
John	Vorus	1864	Aug	12	Sweet Water Bridge	GA	OH	Private	10 OH Cav	A
I.L.	Voorhes	1862	Jun	24	Scotia River	?	OH	Private	85 OH Inft	G
Edward	Voors	1864	Jan	3	GH Murfreesboro	TN	OH	Private	35 OH Inf	K
J.L.	Vorhes	1864	May	12	GH Chattanooga	TN	OH	Private	7 OH Inf	C
James	Vores	1862	Dec	13			PA	Private	5 PA	B

Where did the phrase O.K. come from?

by Robt. F. Voorhees

The term appears to have achieved national prominence in 1840 when supporters of the American Democratic Party claimed during the 1840 presidential election that it stood for "Old Kinderhook," a nickname for a Democratic presidential candidate Martin Van Buren, a native of Kinderhook, Columbia Co., NY, who was Andrew Jackson's protégé. "Vote for OK" was snappier than using his Dutch name. In response Whig opponents attributed OK in the sense of "Oll Korrekt," to Andrew Jackson's bad spelling. The country-wide publicity surrounding the election appears to have been a critical event in okay's history, widely and suddenly popularizing it across the USA.

Martin Van Buren (1782-1862), the first American president with Dutch ancestry, was the 8th President of the US (1837-1841). He was a key organizer of the Democratic Party and the first president who was not of English, Scottish, Irish, or Welsh descent. He is also the only president not to have spoken English as his first language, but he rather grew up



speaking Dutch. Van Buren ran for a second term in 1840 but was easily defeated by Whig William Henry Harrison.

Van Buren was the son of Abraham Van Buren and Maria Hoes, both Dutch. Although a more sophisticated Van Buren would suggest in post-presidential retirement that his ancestors might have been nobles, his father was, in fact, a truck farmer and tavern keeper who fought in the Revolutionary War, served as the Kinderhook town clerk, raised his son in the Dutch Reformed Church, and owned slaves. Little Van, so named because he was only 5 feet 6 inches tall, was not well educated: his education was limited to a few years at a provincial academy. He openly confessed to a secondary intellect. In Feb 1807 Van Buren married a distant kinswoman, Hannah Hoes (who died just 12 years later) and fathered 4 sons.

Van Buren retired to Lindenwald, remodeled Italo-Gothic mansion in Kinderhook. He turned down President Tyler's politically motivated offer of a seat on the Supreme Court. In retirement Van Buren traveled for several years in Europe. Without fear of political retribution, he could poke around his ancestral Dutch towns and indulge himself in the purchase of the European finery he enjoyed so much. In 1861, mourning the commencement of the Civil War, he expressed his confidence in Abraham Lincoln (a Republican).

Voor groot kwaaden sterk hulpmiddel.

For great evils, strong remedies.

Olde Dutch Proverb

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Grand Total including Books, Tax (if any) & Shipping					_____

Through a Dutch Door: 17th Century Origins of the Van Voorhees Family now must be purchased from Heritage Books Inc. The code name is V3758 and the price is \$22.00. The book can be ordered via website www.heritagebooks.com or by mail to the address: Heritage Books Inc.
 100 Railroad Ave., Suite 104
 Westminster, MD 21157
 Attn.: Herbert Bates

The Van Voorhees Association has published the *9th Generation CD* (including 9th generation children).
Members of the Van Voorhees Association: \$29 plus \$3 shipping and handling = **\$32 (total)**; and
Non-members: \$39 plus \$3 shipping and handling = **\$42 (total)**; (Includes Free 1-year Membership).
Important: (1) Please include your email address, if possible, so we may communicate with you as needed; and
 (2) Please address any questions to
Checks or money orders should be made out to the **Van Voorhees Association** and
 Mailed to: **Robert F. Voorhees**

In Memoriam

Richard Cortelyou Boylan, age 85, died 11 Feb. 2013 at Champions Assisted Living in Wilmington, NC. He was born in 1929 in Newark, NJ. He married Mary Salisbury on 10 June 1950 and had 3 children (Nancy Boylan, Richard Cortelyou Boylan Jr., and Douglas Boylan). They were married for over 60 years.



Richard graduated from Rutgers Univ. in 1952 and was a USA Army veteran. He worked for FMC Corp., Miller Chemical, and lastly 22 years at Union Carbide Corp. where he was in marketing and management. He spent 20 of those last years in Asia (Hong Kong, Thailand, Singapore Burma and Indonesia) where he collected many Asian antiques. When possible, he and Mary continued to travel overseas.

In 1986 Richard and Mary retired to Chapel Hill until 1994 when they moved to Wilmington, NC. Afterward they moved to Brunswick Forest in Leland. Everywhere they made friends and were active

Ralph W. Voorhees died 4 Nov. 2013 at age 87 in New Brunswick, NJ, where he was born 4 May 1926.

He was the son of Ralph Whitaker Voorhees (born 1894; died age 33 in 1929) and Jane Drake Manners Voorhees (born 1892; died 1982 age 90). He is the grandson of Oscar Voorhees, founder of the Van Voorhees Assn. He married Barbara Ann Beiser (born 3 Jan. 1928 in Marietta, OH) in NYC on 27 Nov. 1954. They had 4 children (known): Judith Wilson Voorhees (born 16 Sept. 1955), Mark Manners Voorhees (born 7 Feb. 1957), Jane Nevius Voorhees (born 24 Aug. 1959), and Alan Whitaker Voorhees (born 22 June 1961). At his death he lived in Highland Park, NJ. For awhile he had a house in Westport and also Westport Point, MA.

Ralph went to Rutgers University (the college of his father and grandfather), where he was president of his class (1948) for many years. Before graduation, he (#40) played on great football teams in the late 1940s. He also was a baseball pitcher who beat Princeton twice. At Rutgers he was a member of Phi Beta Kappa, the Loyal Sons & Daughters of Rutgers and the Hall of Distinguished Alumni (receiving Presidential Recognition and Loyal Son of Rutgers Awards).

After graduation he was involved with local community boards (New Brunswick Cultural Center, the Robt. W. Johnson University Hospital, United Way of

volunteers. In Wilmington he worked with Meals on Wheels. He was a board member of several organizations (The New Hanover Co. Arboretum Foundation, The Lower Cape Fear Historical Society and the WHQR Community Advisory Board).

He was preceded in death by his wife, Mary (died May 2012), and 2 brothers (John and William). His survivors include his 3 children and 7 grandchildren: Richard Jr. and wife, Ellen, with their 2 children (Mary Ellen Boylan Laughnan of Wilmington and Robert Boylan of Cullowhee, NC); Douglas Boylan and his 2 children, both in Ohio (Anne Marie Boylan Neely and Andrew Boylan); and Nancy Boylan Ball and husband, Tal, in California with their 3 children (Annie, Connor, and Christopher).

His memorial service was on 6 Apr. 2013 at St. Andrews Episcopal Church On-the-Sound. Online condolences can be sent to StarNewsOnline.com or www.andrewsmortuary.com. Memorial contributions may be sent to either New Hanover Co. Arboretum or Meals-on-Wheels.

Central NJ, and Family Counseling Services of Middlesex Co.) as well as Rutgers University. In 1958 he was also a councilman in Highland Park, NJ. At Voorhees College (a black college in Denmark, S.C., founded with money given by his great uncle and aunt), he was a member of the Board of Trustees (receiving the Keeper of the Flame Award).

Ralph and his brother, Alan Whitaker Voorhees, created the Jane Voorhees Zimmerli Art Museum at Rutgers. It was named for their mother, widow Jane Voorhees, who raised 3 children during the depression before getting married to Mr. Zimmerli.

Ralph joined the Van Voorhees Assn. in 1932 at age 6. (Probably his father or grandfather made him a member). He set the guide-lines and a successful structure for a \$40,000 membership fund raiser (achieved in 3 years) necessary for the genealogy work of Florence Christoff. Without this money and Ralph's efforts we would not have the genealogy production we have today – our genealogy books and CDs (**ibid.: BOOK ORDER FORM p. 10**).

Survivors include Fred Zimmerli (stepbrother) of Telford, PA; 4 children in NJ (Alan Whitaker Voorhees of Madison; both Judith Wilson Voorhees and Jance Nevius Voorhees of Princeton; and Mark Manners Voorhees of So. Orange); and 15 grandchildren.

His funeral service was held in Highland Park, NJ at the Reformed Church. Donations can be made to Rutgers University or Voorhees College.

Kimberly Rae Voorhies Schneider died 8 Dec. 2013 at age 46. Born Jan. 11, 1967 in Butte, MT, she



was the daughter of Jay Ellis Voorhies and Denise Elaine (Anderson). A graduate of Anaconda High School, she went to Montana Tech and the College of Great Falls where she made the dean's list.

Her work career included jobs at the Galen State Hospital, Wal-Mart, the Montana State Hospital, and Fairmont. She loved crafts with her children, cooking for others, motorcycle riding and animals (particularly cats). Witty, generous and caring, she was one of the volunteer caregivers for her grandparents.

Preceding her in death were her grandparents (Ellis and Nellie Voorhies; and Edwin and Avis Anderson),

2 uncles (Ben Voorhies and Errol Anderson), and her brother (Zachary Voorhies).

Survivors are Krysta Denise Voorhies (daughter) of Costa Mesa, Calif.; Jesse Allen Mayer (son) and Ray Schneider (husband) of Anaconda, MT; Raymond Schneider (stepson) of Great Falls, MT; Jay Ellis Voorhies (father) and wife Susan of Anaconda, MT; Denise Elaine Anderson of Anaconda, MT; Wesley Voorhies (brother) of Butte, MT; a brother and family (Malachi, Tara, and a nephew, Payden) of Snoqualmie, Wash.; plus many aunts, uncles, and cousins).

Longfellow Finnegan Riddle Funeral & Cremation Service handled her final arrangements. Condolences can be sent to: www.longfellowfinneganriddle.com and www.mtstandard.com/obits.

Memorial donations can be given to: Pintler Pets Humane Society, Box 12204, Anaconda MT 59711.

Rev. Joseph Niel Jarreau, S.J., died at age 87 on



10 Dec. 2013 in Opelousas, LA. Born 10 Sept. 1926 in New Orleans, LA he was the son of Lucien Jarreau and Alice Voorhies Jarreau.

He went to Catholic schools, graduated in 1943, and entered the Jesuit novitiate at St. Charles College, Grand Coteau, LA. He taught at Jesuit High School (1950 to 1953) in Shreveport, LA. His BA in Latin was from Spring Hill College, Mobile, AL where he was ordained a priest in June 1956. At St. Mary's College, St. Marys, **KS.** in 1957 he got an S.T.B. in Theology. In 1958 he was again teaching at Jesuit High School. Afterwards in 1961 he was on the staff of the Jesuit House of studies at Spring Hill College. He was a counselor at Jesuit College Prep (1966-1976) in Dallas, TX and later at Jesuit High School (1976-1982), Tampa, FL. At St. Charles College on 15 Aug. 1976 he said his Final Vows.

From 1983-1990 he was a pastor and assistant director at Ignatius Retreat Center, Atlanta, GA, after which he was the associate pastor of St. Rita Church,

Dallas, TX. for 7 years. In 1997 he was in retreat ministry at Montserrat Retreat House, Lake Dallas, TX. Back in Atlanta, GA. at the Ignatius Retreat Center he was Retreat Director from 2000-2013 until assigned to St. Charles College. He was a Jesuit for 70 years and a priest for 57.

He was predeceased by his parents, Lucien and Alice (Voorhies) Jarreau; Marcelle (sister) Jarreau (Mrs. Dugue) Bendernagel.

Survivors are Audrey (Mrs. Charles) Jarreau (sister-in-law); plus the following nieces, nephews and cousins: Marguerite LeBlanc, Martin Bendernagel, Marie Elise Lester, Marguerite Yvonne Roe, Mimi Buettner, Andre Jarreau, Michael P. Jarreau, Marcel Jarreau, and Lucien Jarreau.

A Funeral Mass on 12 Dec. 2013 in the main chapel of St. Charles College in Grand Coteau, LA was followed by burial in the Jesuit Cemetery.

Memorial donations can be made to the Senior Jesuits Fund of *The Jesuits*, 710 Baronne St., Ste. B., New Orleans, LA., 70113. Melancon Funeral Home of Carencro, 4615 North University Ave., (337) 896-6366, handled all arrangements. To view the obituary and guestbook, ibid: www.melanconfuneralhome.net.

Paul Douglas Van Voorhees died in 2013 at the age of 87. Born 9 June 1926 in Detroit, MI, he was the son of Theodore Parmelee Van Voorhees (born 23 May 1902 and died 23 Oct. 1984) and Sibyl

Naomi Coffin Van Voorhees (born 4 Nov. 1906 and died 21 July 1995). Both parents were members of the VVA. Paul resided in Honolulu, HI; but around the time of his death he moved to Corvallis, OR.

Editor's Note: We can print only what is sent to us.

We would like to have a picture *taken by the family*, the names of the spouse and children, a list of the predeceased and survivors, and information about his/her life, etc. As you can see, the Obits here have many details.

Eugene Capps Vories, age 90, died 8 Feb. 2013.



Born 19 Jan. 1923 in Walsenburg, CO, he was the son of Eugene Stark Vories and Ruby Leon Capps Vories and grandson of Vories with a homestead in CO before statehood.

On his family's ranch he rode horses and learned cattle raising. In high school his family moved to Grand Junction where he became a janitor and lived in the First Baptist Church, where he met and married (20 Sept. 1942) Eunice Marks.

An Army draftee in 1943, he served WWII in Europe. In 1946, a Staff Sergeant, he was honorably discharged. He became a ranch manager, working in Ft. Garland at Columbia Ranch and later in Limon, CO at Lasater Ranch. His Vories Control Co. also involved heating and plumbing. Branch manager of Southwestern Supply Co. in Pueblo and its Grand Junction, he was later instrumental in selling it. He started and ran (25 years) Top Line Supply Co. In 1970 he bought a ranch on Glade Park (his boyhood dream). For 18

Eugene Vrohm Voorhees, age 90, died on 15 Jan. 2014 at Fountain View Manor Memory Care in Granite City, IL. Born 8 Jan. 1923 in Brighton, IL, he was the son of Donald Voorhees Sr. and Harriet Armstrong Voorhees. On 22 Feb. 1946 he married Loraine F. Hamser (died 1 Aug. 2010).



Eugene was a Forklift operator for 33 years at Laclede Steel in Alton, IL He was a US Navy veteran of WWII. His main residence was Godfrey, IL.

He was preceded in death by his wife and parents; 2

Joan Adams Mondale, age 83, died 3 Feb. 2013. Born 8 Aug. 1930 in Eugene, OR, she was the daughter of John Maxwell Adams (born 29 Nov. 1902) and Eleanor J. Hall Adams. Her father's decent was from Elizabeth Voris Harris Archer, whose ancestors included Steven Coerte Van Voorhees and his 2nd wife, Willempie Roelofse Seubering, and her sister Lambertje Seubering. Joan married 28 Dec. 1955 Walter Frederick Mondale, vice-president of Jimmy Carter. Joan and Walter had 3 children: Wm. Hall and Theodore Adams Mondale, and Eleanor Jane Poling (died of brain cancer *Fall Nieuwsbrief 2011*). Joan, a Democrat and Presbyterian, with a BA from Macalester College in 1952 (member of Phi Beta Kappa Epsilon), had a passion for the Arts. Some of her jobs were Asst. Slide Librarian (Boston Museum of Fine Arts

years he rode horses and raised Beefmaster cattle. In retirement he moved to La Veta, CO near his old family ranch and published 17 western fiction novels. A District Governor of Rotary International, he was given the Paul Harris Fellow Award in 1980. As a member of Pikes Peak Range Riders, he rode horseback with them even in his 80s. He made leather items (saddles, chaps, wallets, etc.) for family members.

Eunice Marks Vories (wife) died in 1996. In 1997 Rebecca Ann Vories (oldest daughter) died. Survivors include Lula Amelia Vories Benson (sister) of Canon City, CO; 4 children: Dan Vories (Nancy) of Carbondale, CO; Nancy Uhl (Robt.) of Grand Junction, CO;

Kimery Vories (Dawn) of Wentzville, MO; Carol Ferguson (Waydon) of Albuquerque, NM; 10 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

His funeral was at the First Baptist Church of Grand Junction and burial at Orchard Mesa Cemetery. You can send memorial contributions to Upon the Rock, a Christian Camp, (PO Box 1007, La Veta, CO. 81055) or (2) Hospice & Palliative Care of Western Colorado (3090 N. 12th, Unit B, 81506 Grand Junction, CO).

sisters (Shirley Goss and Nadine Voorhees); 3 brothers (Herschel Voorhees, Clifford Voorhees, and Donald Voorhees Jr.); and niece, Donna E. Chism (daughter of Donald Voorhees Jr.: *Nieuwsbrief Fall 2013*). Survivors include Richard Voorhees (son) of Alton, IL; and Tom & Ruth Voorhees, (brother & sister-in-law) of Rosewood Heights, IL.

The funeral was at Targhetta & Wooldridge Funeral Home-Brighton and burial at Valhalla Memorial Park Cemetery with the Alton VFW Post #1308 Ritual Team providing full military honors.

Note: Data provided by Carol & Joanne Anderson.

1952-3); Education Assistant (Minneapolis Inst. of Arts (1953-7); Tour Guide (National Gallery of Art, Wash. D.C. 1965-74), hostess (Washington Whirl-A-Round (1975-6); and Ambassador to Japan (1993-6). Author of 2 books (*Politics in Art*, 1972, and *Letters from Japan*, 1978 she was on numerous organization boards and a strong advocate for women's causes.

Preceding her in death were her parents and daughter, Eleanor Jane Mondale Poling. Immediate-family survivors include Walter F. Mondale (husband), and 2 sons (Theodore Adams Mondale and William Hall Mondale). Numerous prominent Democratic Party officials attended her Minneapolis memorial service.

Note: Most of the above was in the *Nieuwsbrief Spr. 2011*, p-14, "Political Figures: The Van Voorhees-Mondale Connection" by Marc Hoover.

The International Order of Good Templars in the Voorhees House Hotel

by Robt. W. Voorhees

The International Order of Good Templars was founded in the Voorhees House Hotel, Syracuse, NY, in 1852. The 140 room hotel, known as the Empire House Hotel for most of its 96 years, was owned by James Leslie Voorhees (1794-1865). The hotel on the right was built in the mid 1840s by his son-in-law, John Hubbell Tomlinson (1816-1848). Tomlinson

was killed by a train in Little Falls, Herkimer Co., NY in 1848. Voorhees became the hotel owner and changed the name to Voorhees House. He lost the hotel in the financial crash of 1857 and it was later known again as the Empire House Hotel. It burned to the ground in 1942. The hotel caption (below it) is enlarged on the Left (below).

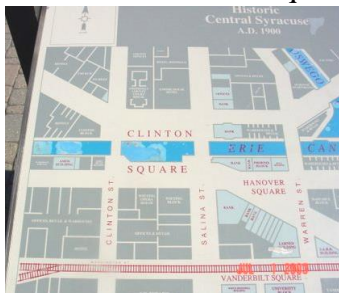


Caption
On the
Hotel.



Several articles in the Syracuse Religious Record newspaper are interesting. These paragraphs suggest the 1840's attitudes toward alcoholic beverages:

“The Empire House hotel to be opened as a Temperance House May 1, 1846. The hotel has an excellent location on Clinton Square (on Map) with the Erie Canal (opened in 1825)



running past its front door and the New York Central railroad station but several blocks away. Captain Miller, the lessee of the new hotel, has undertaken a great

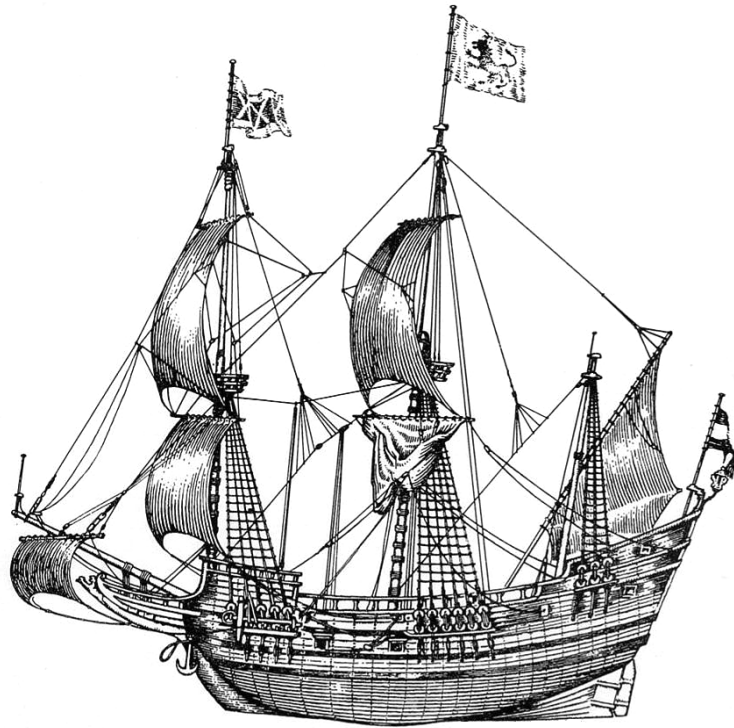
enterprise but seems to possess the requisite degree of energy and spirit. His former steamboat guests of the lakes and Mississippi will be pleased to hear of his permanent location and good prospects. The opening of the Empire House is indeed an agreeable event.”

“The favorable notices which have appeared in the various newspapers in regard to this House—its pleasant location, its large and airy rooms, its elegant furniture, the strictly religious and Temperance principles on which it was to be conducted, and more than all, perhaps, the high praise to which Captain Miller was said to be entitled for the character of the House he had formerly kept at Albany, had, we believe, secured for his new establishment a very large amount of patronage; and, but for some exceptions to his course, the whole religious community would have rejoiced in his prosperity. However sad because danc-

ing and Sabbath-breaking had been allowed, doubt entertained as to whether other sins would not also be countenanced. We are therefore disappointed in the existence of the fact that the Empire House has recently been indicted for selling intoxicating liquor contrary to law. We regret this exceedingly. To do so, with four-fifths of the voters against it, is anything but honorable. This calls down on Captain Miller “the frowns of an injured community.”

“An article in the Syracuse Standard newspaper says that the liquor was sold without Captain Miller’s knowledge; says he gave explicit instructions to all not to allow it to be sold. We (Religious Record) are, and think, the friends of Temperance will generally be rather slow to believe this statement. The Syracuse Standard newspaper also said that the dancing allowed at the dinner party at the opening of the Empire House was a low crowded upon Miller without his previous knowledge. The Religious Record believes that Miller gave his consent. If Mr. Miller does not wish to have intoxicating liquors sold on his premises, and is willing to give a pledge to that effect, the Religious Record would be glad to give his house favorable notices, as it did at the hotel opening.”

The first important society, the Sons of Temperance, founded at New York City in the early 1840s, demonstrated the appeal of fraternal temperance. By the end of the decade the Sons outnumbered the Masons and the Odd Fellows and had been joined by the smaller anti-drink societies such as the Templars of Honor and Temperance and the Good Samaritans,



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