

SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR



GENERAL JAMES J. BYRNE CAMP 1, FORT WORTH, TEXAS

DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS WITH LOUISIANA

JUNE 2022 NEWSLETTER



CAMP COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

24 July 2022

Brothers!

With summer here, a lot of you are taking some well-deserved time off to go out of town. Consequently, there is not a lot to report this month.

We added one new member this month, and have another prospect that I just referred for approval. The Camp continues to grow, which is good news overall. I hope once we find a meeting venue, things will get even better.

Unfortunately, the Texas Civil War Museum will not be a venue for us. They are now only open Thursday-Saturday, 10am-5pm. Additionally, the room they have is really their auditorium, which would be difficult to use. So, the search is on for another venue. Any suggestions would be welcome.

There will be no August meeting due to vacation schedules, do the next meeting will be via Zoom on 19 September 2022 at 1900 hours. I look forward to seeing everyone there. Again, if you cannot make the Tuesday meeting,

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,



Paul L. Kendall. Ph.D.

Commander
Camp #1, General James J. Byrne
Department of Texas and Louisiana
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War



General James J. Byrne Camp No. 1

June 21, 2022

Meeting Minutes

The Camp's meeting took place on-line, via Zoom.

The meeting was opened by Camp Commander Paul Kendall at 7:01 p.m. with six members and one visitor, Department Signals Officer and our Zoom host Brother John Vander Meulen, in attendance.

Commander Kendall remarked that the pictures of our Memorial Day Ceremony looked good.

The Camp's next event will be a display and recruiting drive on Saturday, July 2, 2022, at the Texas Civil War Museum (760 Jim Wright Fwy. North, Fort Worth, TX 76108). Commander Kendall will talk to the Museum before that date to discuss this with them. Camp members should plan on arriving about 9:00 a.m. to begin setup. Commander Kendall will bring a portable printer so that application forms, etc. can be printed out on-site for interested visitors.

Our goal is to have a hybrid (in-person and Zoom) Camp meeting in July.

Junior Vice Commander Todd Wilber was appointed as the Camp's Graves Registration Officer.

Brother Vander Meulen noted the Camp's comparatively low turnout at the last few Zoom meetings, and asked if anyone had thoughts on how to improve turnout. Commander Kendall noted that he has been emailing non-attending members to see, among other things, if other days or times would be better for increased turnout and participation. He also hopes that converting to hybrid meetings, with members attending in-person and via Zoom, will increase overall attendance.

Looking ahead, we will have our annual General Byrne memorial ceremony in the fall.

The Camp's newest member, Brother Butch Durham, was introduced. He spoke of his Union Civil War ancestor, his second great-grandfather, and of his other similar interests.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 7:35 p.m.

David B. Appleton
Secretary / Treasurer
General James J. Byrne Camp No. 1
Department of Texas with Louisiana
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War



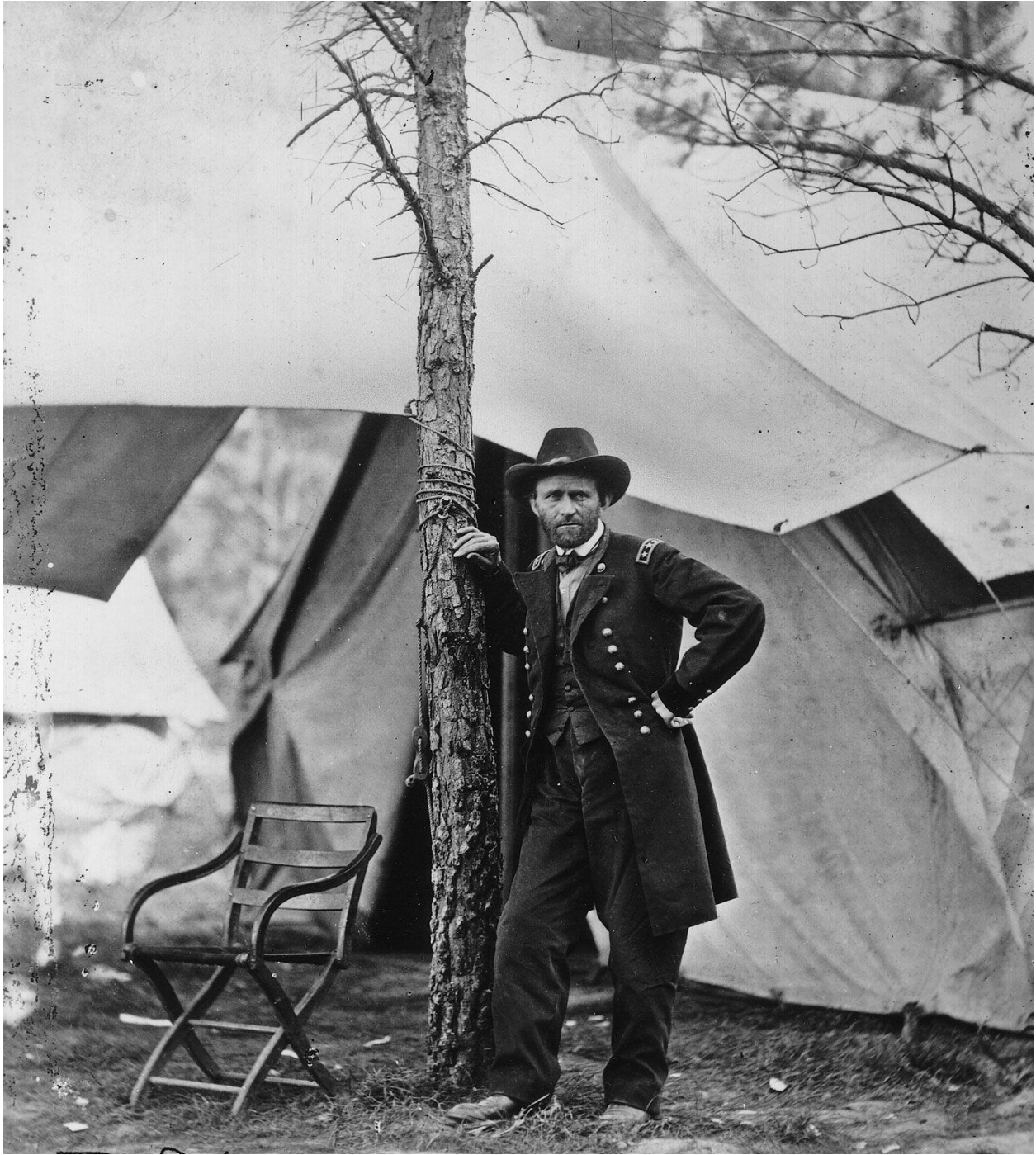
IMPORTANT CIVIL WAR DATE:

Battle of Cold Harbor, (May 31–June 12, 1864), disastrous defeat for the Union Army during the American Civil War that caused some 18,000 casualties. Continuing his relentless drive toward the Confederate capital of Richmond, Virginia, General Ulysses S. Grant ordered a frontal infantry assault on General Robert E. Lee's Confederate troops, who were now entrenched at Cold Harbor, some 10 miles (16 km) northeast of Richmond. The result was Lee's last major victory of the war and a bloodbath for the Union army. An earlier battle at Cold Harbor, on June 27, 1862, is sometimes called the Battle of Gaines's Mill, the First Battle of Cold Harbor, or the Battle of Chickahominy River and was part of the Seven Days' Battles (June 25–July 1), which ended the Peninsular Campaign (April 4–July 1), the large-scale Union effort earlier in the war to capture Richmond; it, too, was a Confederate victory.

The twin battles of Wilderness and Spotsylvania Court House, fought in Virginia in May 1864, produced victory for neither side, but attrition reduced the much smaller Confederate army's numbers and sapped its willingness to fight. Union General Grant became convinced that Confederate General Lee's army was "really whipped," but his own casualties had also been high, and those troops who in 1861 had joined up for three years were now leaving the army in large numbers.

Grant therefore gambled on a final push to take Richmond. Minor skirmishes followed by delays began on 31 May, but the main attack occurred on 3 June, when Grant launched a frontal assault on Confederate defenses. He believed that Lee's men were overextended, but Lee had taken advantage of a delay in Grant's assault to bring in reinforcements and improve his fortifications. The result of his preparations was carnage; the advancing Union troops were soon felled, with those making it through the first line of defenses soon being slaughtered at the second. More than 7,000 Union troops were killed or injured in one hour before Grant halted the attack.

For the next nine days, the two armies faced each other in opposite trenches, often only yards apart, until Grant marched off his army on 12 June to threaten the critical rail junction at Petersburg, near Richmond. His own comment on the battle: "I regret this assault more than any one I have ever ordered."



General Ulysses S. Grant at Cold Harbor, Virginia, 1864.

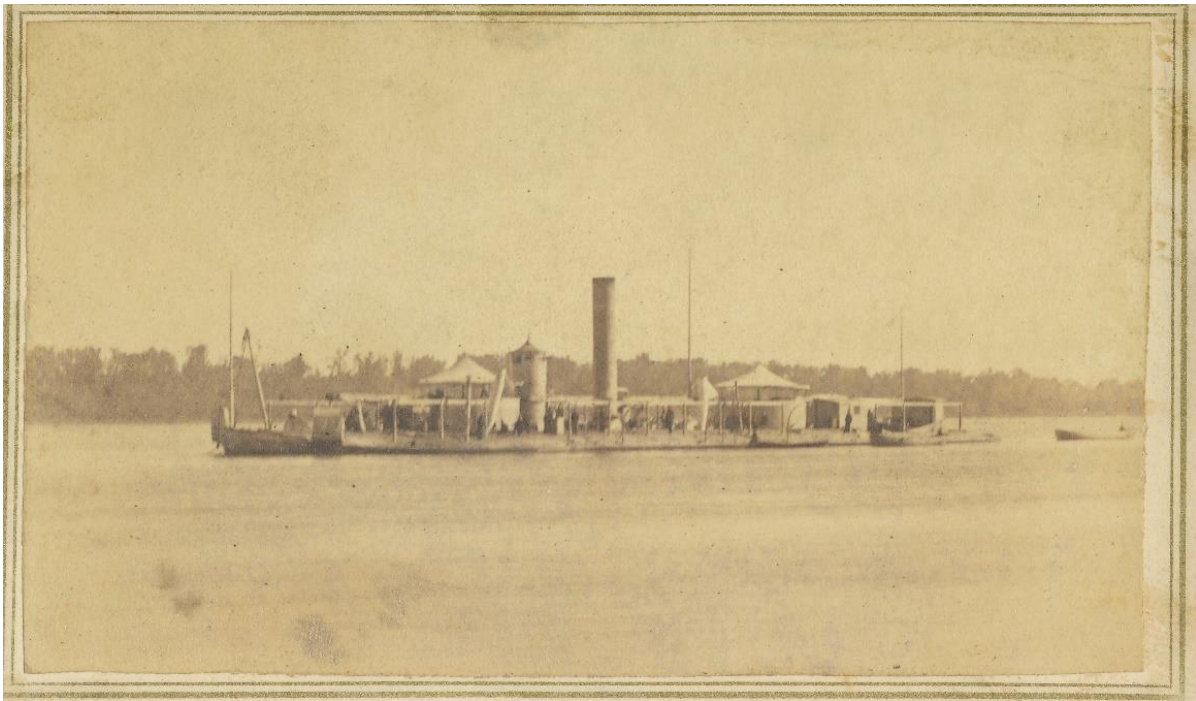


FEATURE ARTICLES:

USS Milwaukee

By

Todd M Wilber



The USS Milwaukee was a double turreted monitor and the lead ship of her class. She was built in St Louis at James Eads' Union Iron Works. The ship was started in 1862 and launched on February 4, 1864. The Milwaukee was commissioned on August 27th, 1864.

Milwaukee was 229 feet long with a beam of 56 feet. She had a draft of six feet and a displacement of 1300 long tons (1456 tons). Her motive power consisted of seven tubular boilers powering two 2-cylinder horizontal steam engines. The ship had a top speed of 9 knots (10.3 mph). Her crew consisted of 138 officers and men.

Milwaukee was armed with four smoothbore eleven-inch Dahlgren Guns with a maximum range of 3,650 yards. The monitor's two turrets were armored with eight one-inch layers of wrought iron. The deck had $\frac{3}{4}$ inch iron plates and the sides of the monitor had three layers of one-inch plates backed by one foot three inches of pine. The pilot house was protected by three inches of iron.

Milwaukee's first assignment was the Mississippi River Squadron. In October, the monitor was ordered to the West Gulf Blockading Squadron and stopped in New Orleans for repairs. By January 1st, 1865 Milwaukee was in Mobile Bay.

Milwaukee's service had been quite sedate until late March when it was sent to intercept a supply vessel going to Spanish Fort from Mobile:

"Late in the afternoon a supply steamer came over from Mobile, and the Milwaukee steamed in as far as we had buoyed the channel to shell her out, and did so effectually, causing her to depart in haste. But in dropping back with the current stern foremost, struck a torpedo, which exploded under her bilge, causing her to sink" (ORUCN, Vol 22, p. 67).

From the report of Lt. Commander J.H. Gillis:

"I take the earliest opportunity to make a report of the sinking of the U.S.S. Milwaukee, under my command, on the afternoon of the 28th instant.

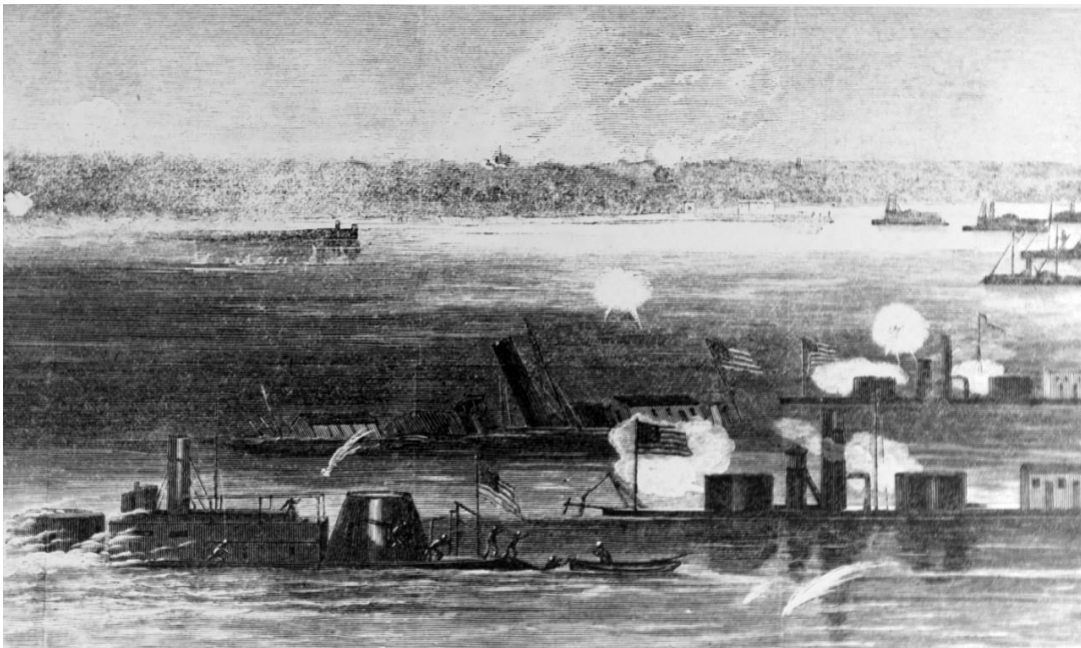
I had proceeded up the Blakely River in company with the U.S.S. Winnebago to within about 11 miles of the lower fort on the left bank of the river for the purpose of shelling a rebel transport supposed to be carrying supplies to the fort; had succeeded in causing the steamer to retreat up the river, and was dropping with the current to resume my former position, keeping the bow of the vessel headed upstream, my object in so doing being to avoid in turning the accident that caused the sinking of the Milwaukee. I had returned within about 200 yards of the U.S. ironclad Kickapoo, then lying at anchor, and supposed the danger from torpedoes was past, as I was where our boats had been sweeping, and also exactly in the same place where the U.S. ironclad Winnebago had turned not ten minutes before, when I felt a shock and saw at once that a torpedo had exploded on the port side of the vessel, abaft the after turret, and, as near as I could determine at the time, about 40 feet from the stern.

My first object, after realizing the impossibility of saving the vessel, was to save the crew, and I am happy to be able to state that this was done without the loss of a single person” (ORUCN Vol 22, p. 71).

The stern of the vessel sank almost immediately, while the forward compartments stayed afloat for almost an hour allowing to the crew to retrieve most of their belongings.

A salvage crew was sent to try and refloat the Milwaukee but she was deemed too badly damaged. The monitor was stripped of its weapons and any usable materials.

In 1868, the Milwaukee was raised and scrapped at St. Louis. The monitor’s recycled iron became part of the Eads’ bridge built across the Mississippi.



The Siege of Mobile--Wreck of the 'Osage' and the Monitor 'Milwaukee.'

Sources

1. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Milwaukee_\(1864\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Milwaukee_(1864))
2. Official Records of the Union and Confederate Navies, Vols 21 & 22.
https://collections.library.cornell.edu/moa_new/ofre.html
3. <https://www.history.navy.mil/our-collections/photography/numerical-list-of-images/nhhc-series/nh-series/NH-59000/NH-59155.html>



William Hardy, 4th Missouri State Militia Cavalry (Union)

By

Todd M Wilber

After the Memorial Day service at the GAR monument, a few of us visited Gen Byrne's grave at Pioneer's Rest. On the way out of the cemetery we came across the grave of William Hardy, 4th Missouri State Militia Cavalry. I did a little research on him.

William Hardy was born about 1826 (or 1823) in Seneca County, Ohio. He was 5'9" with dark complexion, dark hair, and blue eyes. His occupation was mechanic. He enlisted in Co I, 4th MO S.M. Cav on January 16th, 1862 in Jefferson City, MO.

He provided his own horse and equipment and was reimbursed for their use (\$65 for the first half of 1862). His horse and equipment were valued at \$100 during 1863. In 1864, his horse was apparently provided by the government.

Hardy was appointed Corporal on June 24th, 1862 and Sergeant by the end of 1862.

Hardy served honorably until the Fall of 1863. Unfortunately, he deserted on September 27th, 1863 and joined the 15th Kansas Cavalry at Fort Leavenworth on Oct 3rd. He was arrested as a deserter on January 15th, 1864.

Hardy was court martialed on two specifications: 1. He deserted his company and regiment until arrested. 2. He enlisted in another regiment without a proper discharge from the 4th MO. He was found guilty on both counts. He was reduced to the ranks, forfeited one month's pay, and sentenced to three months hard labor. He was confined at Jefferson City starting February 20th, 1864 (per G.O. 15, Hd Qtrs Dist of Central MO, Mar 20th, 1864).

Hardy served out his sentence and returned to his company. He mustered out as a private on January 31st, 1865. He owed the government \$34.45 for clothing advanced and 85 cents for ordnance.

After the war, he moved to Fort Worth, Texas. He filed for an invalid pension in 1881. He passed away on June 28th, 1909 of natural causes at his home on 812 East Bluff Street.

(812 E Bluff no longer extant. It would probably be part of the current Towne Place Suites by Marriott Fort Worth Downtown parking lot.)



CAMP PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTION:

These lyrics were added to the Star-Spangled Banner eighteen years after Francis Scott Key's death. Oliver Wendell Holmes, Sr. added a fifth stanza to the song in 1861, which appeared in songbooks of the era. This version appeared in some newspapers, such as an issue of the Seattle Republican which was published in 1912.

*When our land is illumined with Liberty's smile,
If a foe from within strike a blow at her glory,
Down, down with the traitor that dares to defile
The flag of her stars and the page of her story!
By the millions unchained, who our birthright have gained,
We will keep her bright blazon forever unstained!
And the Star-Spangled Banner in triumph shall wave
While the land of the free is the home of the brave.*



August Patriotic Instruction from Br. Ben Frail, PDC National Patriotic Instructor

Brothers,

The past few months, I have been talking about programs that the SUVCW has that I think we should all be making more of an effort to use. For this month's instruction I want to point out a program that the Order has that I feel is underutilized. The program is Memorial University. For those of you that are new to the Order you might be wondering, what is Memorial University? Well fret no further, I am going to give you all a quick tutorial. Simply, Memorial University is the training program of the SUVCW. This free program is designed for all members, new and old, to be compelled to open and review the CnR and the Rituals and Ceremonies, learn more about the American Civil War and about the Grand Army of the Republic. The more Brothers who understand the history of our Order, history of our Predecessors, and the internal workings of the Order, the smoother our meetings, Encampments, and the overall business we conduct on a day-to-day basis will be. The only thing that remains is how do you get to the course? Well, you simply go to the link www.suvcwu.org or at the bottom of the Projects & Preservation tab on the SUVCW Website, you can click the Memorial University Program and it

will take you to Memorial University. Once you are at the Memorial University Web Page, you will notice a Course Catalog. Within the course catalog page, you will see a few courses that have reference material there but no test currently, these are the American Civil War Studies and the Grand Army of the Republic Studies. These are great informational tools to use for someone who may not be as well versed in one area of the other. The bread and butter of MU is the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War Studies. When you click that you will see 3 courses: Introduction to the SUVCW, Charter, Constitution and Regulations, and Junior & Junior Associates courses. The Intro to the SUVCW is much like the GAR and Civil War courses where we do not have a current test for it but is a great reference tool. The Juniors course is a PDF pamphlet that our Junior members will have assignments that will need an advisor, a full member of the order, who will sign off on each assignment. Once the full pamphlet is completed, the Brother can either scan and email the pamphlet or snail mail the completed pamphlet to the National Patriotic Instructor so they can get full credit. The Charter, Constitution, and Regulations Course is an all-online course. As it is currently constituted, the Charter, Constitution, and Regulations Course covers the basic ins and outs of the Order. If you are wondering what color the Patriotic Instructors Station Banner is (Red in case you were wondering) or the ins and outs of the Department Encampment, well this course covers that. This course does contain an open book, untimed test that you can take the as many times as you need to pass and is an amazing tool to learn all these items. With the current course, you will need a copy of the Charter, Constitutions, and Regulations (CnR) and the Rituals and Ceremonies book to complete. Electronic copies of both are available on the website: Governance – Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (suvchw.org). Upon passing either the CCnR course or the Juniors Course, the Brother will receive from the National Patriotic Instructor a Memorial University Graduation Certificate and a Lapel Pin. Most of my instructions I end with some type of challenge to you all, well this challenge should be obvious, if you haven't already, go enroll in Memorial University! I look forward to seeing more people take a swing at Memorial University as I can say from experience is a great method to learn more about the order and the Civil War.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty, Br. Ben Frail, PDC National Patriotic Instructor



Brother Todd Wilber did some research on the namesake of Parmley GAR Post 4 in Fort Worth, Texas.

William Smiley Parmley. Born: 23 May 1834 Wayne Co, KY. Died: 21 Apr 1885 Fort Worth, TX

On the 1850 US Census in Wayne Co, KY. Married Samantha Long (1835-1882) on 16 Jun 1856 in Keokuk Co, IA. On the 1860, 1870, and 1880 US Census in Keokuk Co, IA.

In the 1885 Fort Worth directory as: Parmley, William S., Carpenter, residence east side of S. Main St between Hattie and Ireland (SW of the junction of I30 and I35W). Cpt Co B, 33rd IA Inf. Wounded slightly at the Battle of Spanish Fort, 1865. Founding member and 1st commander of Post 4.

Yours in Fraternity, Charity and
Loyalty. Brother Mark Parkison,
Patriotic Instructor

