

OUR HERITAGE

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Officer Samuel Peter Heintzelman

Our Ensminger Library has a list of Samuel P. Heintzelman's military experiences and they are very interesting. Because Samuel's history is a proud part of Manheim's heritage, his experiences are being printed here for our readers.

Gen. Heintzelman was one of the most experienced officers in the regular army when the Civil War broke out and also one of the most widely traveled officer in the country.

He was born in Manheim in 1805 and at the age of 16 was recommended to West Point Military Academy by James Buchanan.

He entered the service as a 2nd Lieutenant in the 3rd U. S. Infantry on graduation in 1826.

He served in the west, the Tennessee area; in the south, in the Seminole war and was commissioned Captain.

He was in the Mexican War in 1847, and was commissioned a Major, for combat action.

He was ordered to California in charge of the southern district in 1850, and fought in the wars against the southern Yuma Indians, being commissioned Lieutenant Colonel.

After 25 years of service, he was given a brief leave of absence, but recalled to active duty in Texas to head an expedition against Mexican marauders.

When indications of a rebellion became apparent in the south, Heintzelman returned north, and was almost immediately placed in charge of guarding the city of Washington against possible rioting. Shortly afterwards, as Brigadier General of Volunteers and Colonel of the 17th Infantry, he was one of the first Union Generals to lead his forces against the Confederates, a few days before the battle of Bull Run, at Fairfax Courthouse.

At Bull Run, Samuel was severely wounded in the right arm, but refused to even dismount from his horse, and remained on horseback while a surgeon hastily cut out the bullet, after which he galloped into battle again, and it was this incident which verified the nickname he had for many years as "Grim Old Heintzelman." When he got back to Washington, after the battle of Bull Run, he had been on horseback for 27 hours.

With a permanently injured arm, Gen. Heintzelman next was made corps commander of the famous 3rd Corps, with Kearny, Hooker and Porter as his division officers. In McClellan's Peninsular Campaign, Samuel led the battle at Williamsburg, moved on to Fair Oaks, Seven Pines and the Seven Days Battle, and was commissioned Major General as a result of this campaign.

After Union failures, the threat to Washington became stronger, and Heintzelman was assigned to protect the defense south of the Potomac, and then to command the 22nd Corps, which guarded the

Capitol area, took care of recruits, and convalescents during the critical months of 1863.

During 1864, he was assigned to suppress spies and insurgents in command of Ohio, Illinois, Michigan and Indiana.

The end of the war did not end his military career. He was now 60 years old, but was sent to Texas in command of the entire state, to restore order among lawless and rebellious elements. Finally, in 1869, Congress retired him from active service.

It was said that he was hot and impetuous when the battle was on, yet never reckless nor careless of the lives of his men, he had the coldness, the bravery, the unselfishness and the spirit which go to make the true soldier, and his career must be regarded as one of the most distinguished and successful in the army of the Union.

The preceding information is from a speech given at a program, and, unfortunately, we do not know when, where, and by whom it was presented.

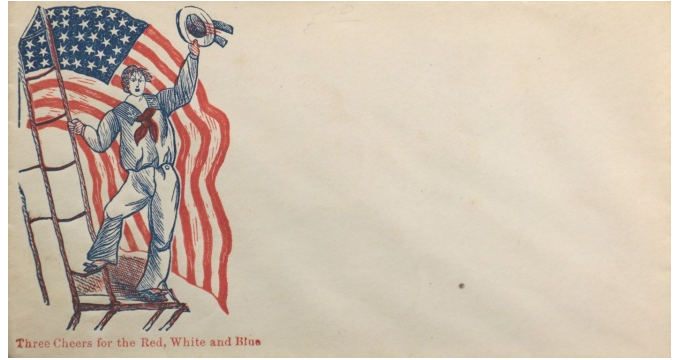


The above CDVs were added to the HMPF collection this year.



NATIONALITY & PROTECTION

Three Cheers for the Red, White and Blue



Pictured above is a Civil War patriotic envelope that expresses loyalty to the north and to the nation.

Perhaps it's time for a company to print patriotic envelopes for our troubled times. Maybe the envelopes could remind us of how great this nation became during the times when the people held higher values.

Those who love this country feel that we are again in a battle to save the nation from evil forces from within who are set on destroying what we cherish.

It appears that most of the evil comes from those who have never served the country as members of the United States Armed Forces. They prefer to serve their bank accounts and their quests for power and influence.



“DEATH BEFORE DISHONOR”



“They can afford to do a wrong, I cannot.”