

November 2004 Newsletter
Nelson-Garfield Memorial Camp #3
Department of Kentucky
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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- Item 1: The next meeting of the Nelson Garfield Camp of the Sons Of Union Veterans will be held Thursday, December 2nd, 2004, in the board room at the Covington library at 7:00 p.m. Jim Kiger and Steve Clifford will be presenting a talk on The Last Civil War Veterans. Check at the circulation counter to gain access to the elevator gain access to the elevator to get downstairs to the boardroom. This will be our last meeting of the 2004 calendar year. Because the Thanksgiving holiday is the 4th Thursday of November, we've bumped our meeting to the first Thursday in December. There will be no December meeting on the usual 4th Thursday of the month due to the Christmas holiday.
- Item 2: Please make every effort to attend the December 2nd meeting because we will be choosing new camp officers for the Nelson Garfield Camp. Anyone interested in serving in such a capacity can notify the camp commander, Jeffrey Hampton at 356-2095 or e mail @ Eltaeb4@aol.com.
- Item 3: We would like to notify our members that Kentucky Department SUV Commander Dave Adkinson passed away this past month. As a result of his passing Steve Clifford is now second in command for the Kentucky Dept. of SUV. Our sympathies go out to the Adkinson family in their hours of grief and sorrow.
- Item 4: The Nelson Garfield Camp of the Sons Of Union Veterans held their regularly scheduled meeting at 7:00 p.m. at the Covington library in the board room on October 28th. The guest speaker was Mr. Kathy Romero who spoke on the topic "Hooper: The Man Behind Hooper Battery." William Hooper was born November 20, 1812 in Plymouth, England. As a young man, William Hooper wanted to study medicine, but could not gain entrance to Cambridge or Oxford University because he lacked a single course required for entrance to these prestigious universities.
- He came to the U.S. and worked in dry goods before becoming a discount clerk for a bank. When his talents as a financier saved his bank from failure during the Panic Of 1837 he became the president of the bank which he later sold to First National Bank in Cincinnati.
- William Hooper married in 1854 and had one daughter but his wife died very soon afterwards. He remarried in 1865 and had a daughter by his second wife. However, his second wife was not accepted in "society" and she took her daughter and two sons from a previous marriage and moved to Paris, France.
- William had become a very wealthy man as a result of his formidable abilities in finance and he built a huge mansion and lived in east Walnut Hills. Because of his abilities William was active in raising money for volunteers and substitutes when the Civil War broke out in 1861. When Confederate troops threatened to invade northern Kentucky in late 1861 and early 1862, Hooper provided the funds to build and supply one of the 28 fortifications in the hills of northern Kentucky ordered by General Lew Wallace. The fortification was supplied with 2 cannons as well as rifle pits and was named Hooper Battery after benefactor. Hooper also purchased 4 large steamboats to be used by the Union Navy as rams and he served as a Union paymaster with the rank of captain, which allowed him to disperse money.
- William Hooper remained active after the Civil War, involved in a failed attempt to build a railroad from Cincinnati to Chattanooga and working to build Walnut Hills and Woodward schools in Cincinnati. He died in 1894 while on his way to Paris, France to visit his family with whom he maintained a relationship. His will provided generously for charitable organizations including a homeopathic hospital and an orphanage for Negro children. Despite his good intentions, the will was invalidated due to a provision in Ohio law that required it to be drawn at least a year before death.