

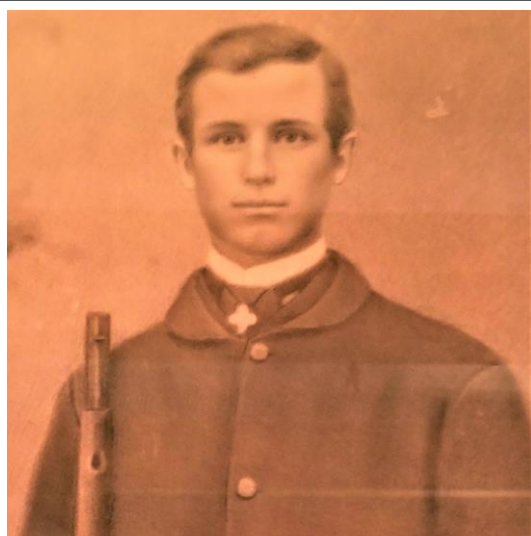
# SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

COL. HANS C. HEG CAMP #15

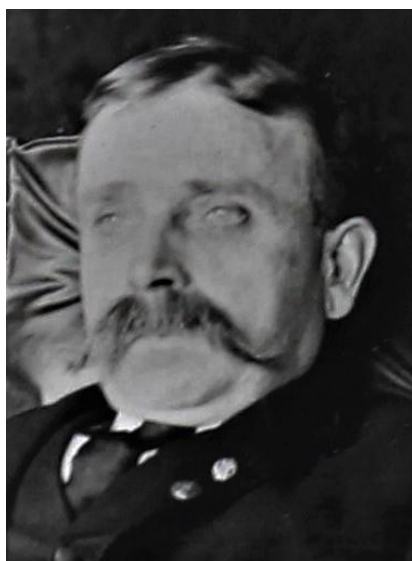
WIND LAKE, WIS.

APRIL 2021

Winner of the Abraham Lincoln Commander-in-Chief Award – Best Camp in the Country



G. Edward Fuller (above) as he looked at age 17 after the battle of Gettysburg. The chalk drawing hangs in the home of Camp #15's Bob Koenecke.



Fuller in middle age, at his home in Chicago. He lived to be 83, dying in 1928.

Photos  
courtesy  
Bob  
Koenecke

## From Gettysburg Hero to Seeing London with Meatpacking King Philip D. Armour

**G.** Edward Fuller was one of the 47 soldiers still standing after the 262 men in the First Minnesota Infantry charged close to two-thousand Rebels at the battle of Gettysburg. The charge decimated the First Minnesota - 215 men lay dead or wounded afterwards. But the charge saved the day - and likely the three-day battle itself, the turning point in the Civil War.

Fuller, who ran away from home at age 15 to enlist in the Union Army, led a colorful life after the Civil War, merchandising coffees, teas and spices in Chicago and becoming a nationally recognized food expert. That expertise landed him spots as a top judge at the Chicago World's Fair in 1893 and the Pan-American Exposition in Buffalo, New York in 1901.

At those high-prestige events, Fuller was rubbing shoulders with the rich and famous - Russian counts, top U.S. officials and the likes of Chicago meat-packing king Philip D. Armour who *(continued next page)*

became a personal friend of Fuller's.

The son of a prominent Grand Haven, Michigan, banker and businessman, Fuller ran away from home in 1861 to Minnesota, two states away, to enlist in the First Minnesota Infantry. Little is known of his education but in the Union Army, he rose from private to corporal. And on the bloody battlefield at Gettysburg, wounded himself, Fuller was promoted to sergeant on the field after his regiment stopped the Rebels cold in a charge that left 82 percent of the First Minnesota dead or wounded – the highest casualty rate of any Union regiment in the Civil War.

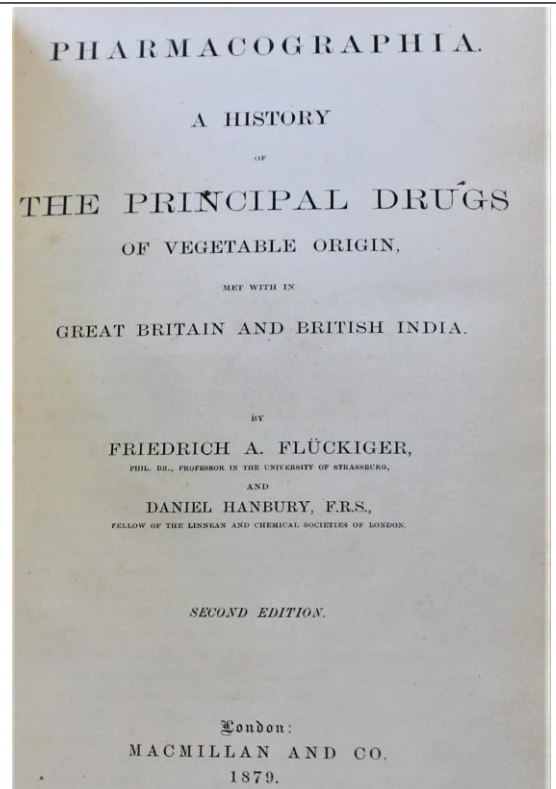
After the war, Fuller married Violette Scott Chubb, a widow with two children. The two lived in Chicago where Fuller worked for E.B. Millar & Co., an importer of coffees, teas and spices. Over the next forty years, Fuller built a reputation as a top food expert and traveled the world, collecting books, (*Continued page 6*).

At some point in his long career, G. Edward Fuller became acquainted with Philip D. Armour, the Chicago meatpacking king and one of the richest men in America at the turn of the century in 1900.

Fuller wrote about Armour and his son Ogden. "Mr. Ogden Armour is a good friend of mine," Fuller noted. "His father and I were shipmates and intimates in the old gentleman's time. In fact, they used to say I was the first to persuade him to wear a silk hat when we were in London Town together. He once saw that I was well paid for some confidential advice I gave him in my capacity as food specialist that made his firm considerable money."

Armour was famous for utilizing all waste products from his meat-packing operations, boasting that he made use of "everything but the squeal." It is likely some advice on how to better utilize different parts of the animals Armour processed that Fuller, the food expert, passed on to Armour that earned him the tycoon's friendship and a hefty payment.

While visiting London in 1892, G. Edward Fuller purchased a copy of *Pharmacographia*, a scientific text on the vegetable origins of the principal drugs of Britain and British India.



**Philip Danforth Armour, the Chicago meat-packing tycoon.**

# Commander-in-Chief Pierson has High Praise for Camp #15

**“Camp #15 remains in my mind an exemplar of what all Camps in the Order should strive to be!”  
- Commander-in-Chief Brian Pierson**



In a March 5<sup>th</sup> e-mail, National Commander-in-Chief Brian Pierson thanked Camp #15 for the camp newsletters mailed to him. “I have enjoyed reading them and keeping abreast of the Camp’s activities,” Commander Pierson wrote. “Camp 15 remains in my mind an exemplar of what all Camps in the Order should strive to be.”

High praise, indeed. Thank you, Commander Pierson. The commander’s words are worth keeping in mind as we wrangle with the difficult issues the SUVCW faces today. At our Wisconsin Encampment last June, Commander Pierson (left) swore in the new Department officers. Now National Commander-in-Chief, Brother Pierson was the National Senior Vice Commander when he visited our Lafayette Church for the June 9<sup>th</sup> Encampment. Commander Pierson also generously donated \$100 for the church.

## **Camp #15 Delegation to the Lincoln Tomb Event**

Half a dozen brothers from Camp #15 are taking part in the Saturday, April 17<sup>th</sup> commemoration of the death of President Abraham Lincoln in Springfield, Illinois. Led by Commander Gerry Drought, attending are Jeff Graf, Bob Koenecke, Brian McManus, Jerry Coveney and Dave Daley.

## **The Camp #15 Newsletter is Looking for Stories and Photos**

Got a story or a photo for the newsletter? Let us know. Send to Dave Daley, Camp #15 Newsletter Editor, 27624 Apple Road, Waterford, WI 53185. 414-418-5112 or [davidddaley@wi.rr.com](mailto:davidddaley@wi.rr.com)



Photo courtesy of Jerry Coveney

## City of Muskego Burns Off Luther Parker Cemetery Once More

The city of Muskego burned off Luther Parker Cemetery on Sunday, March 21. Camp #15's chaplain, Jerry Coveney, was on hand to photograph the burn-off which took about an hour and a half, says Chaplain Jerry. Still unclear is how much damage the flames are doing to fragile, 150-year-old marble and granite tombstones. Muskego is at least now letting our commander, Gerry Drought, and Camp #15 clean the graves of the more than thirty relatives Commander Gerry has buried at the cemetery, as well as the last resting places of three Civil War soldiers there, too.

## We Take Our Hats Off Again to Brother Jon Rupp for Another Church Donation

Brother Jonathon F. Rupp, our Monroe, Wis., member has donated another \$100 to help in the restoration of our Lafayette Church. That brings Brother Jonathon's total donations to \$700 in the last half year. Thank you, Brother Jon - and a collective tip of Camp #15's hats to you for your generosity.

In his home county of Green County, Brother Jon is known as "Mr. Civil War" for his work in identifying some 2,000 Green County men who served in the Civil War. Bravo, Brother Jon.



Thomas Klassy

Brother Jon's donation this month is to honor Thomas Klassy (left), from Washington Township in Green County, Wis.

Klassy, Brother Jon's great-great uncle, fought with the 31<sup>st</sup> Wisconsin Infantry at the battle of Bentonville in North Carolina, the last big battle of the Civil War. Brother Jon has identified half a dozen Wisconsin regiments that fought in that battle.



Brother Jonathon F. Rupp

## Going to the Chapel...And We're Gonna Get Married...



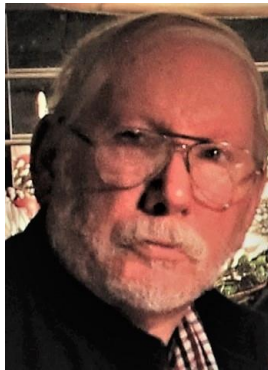
Photo courtesy Brian McManus

Brian McManus, Camp #15's redoubtable secretary-treasurer, is marrying Michele Bock of Greenfield, Wis., on Sept. 10<sup>th</sup> at Veterans Terrace in Burlington, Wis.

Past Department Commander Jeff Graf is serving as best man.

Brian and Michele, congratulations to you both.

Brian McManus and  
Michele Bock



### CAMP #15 NOTES

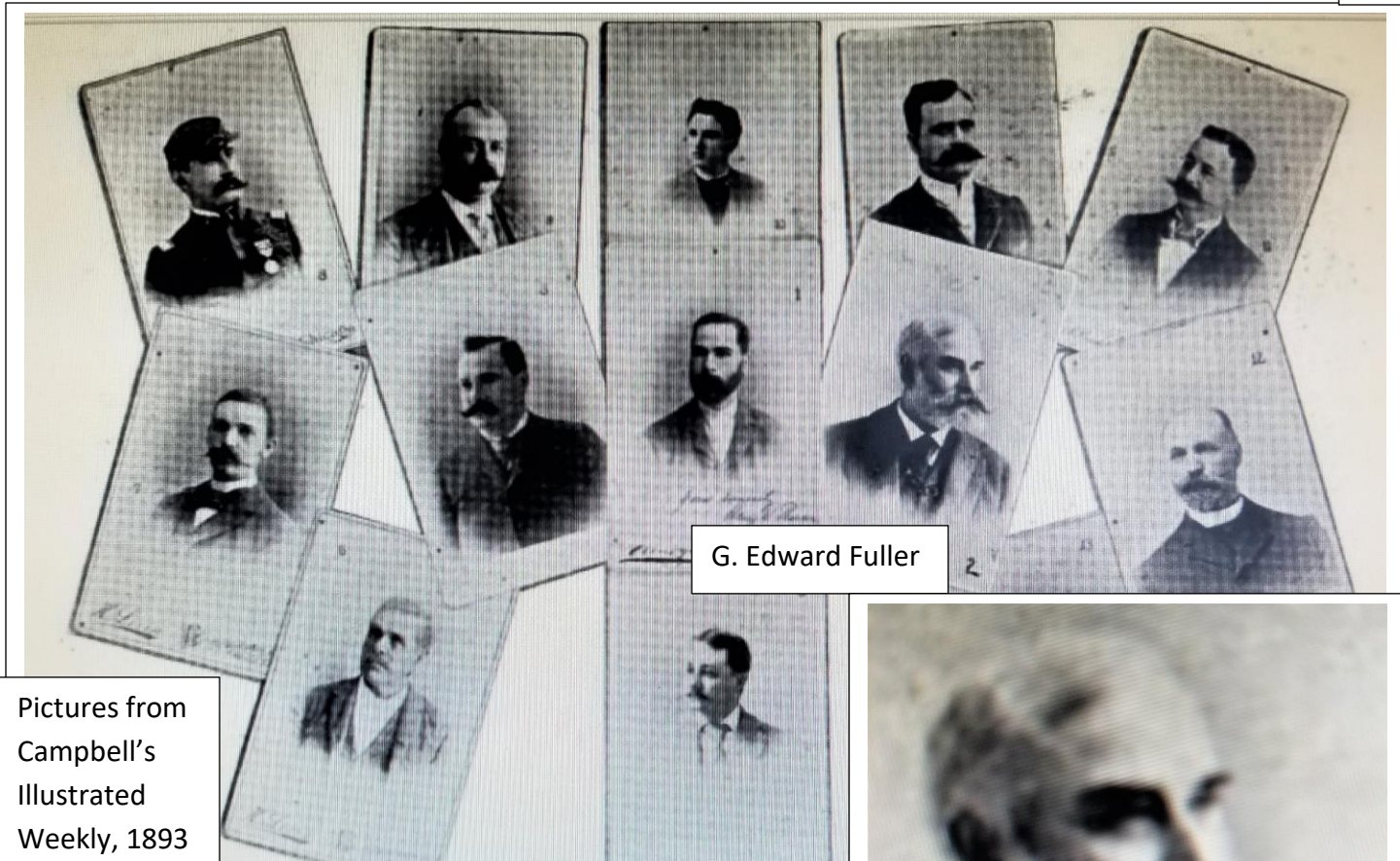
By Newsletter Editor Dave Daley

The cover story in this month's Camp #15 newsletter is the amazing life of G. Edward Fuller, a Civil War soldier who was part of the heroic charge of the First Minnesota Infantry at Gettysburg. Fuller survived that charge and went on to live a long, full life that included palling around London with meat-packing tycoon Philip Danforth Armour, serving as a top food judge at two world's fairs and traveling the world as part of his job as a coffee, tea and spices merchant and food expert.

The story of Fuller's rich life would have been lost but for Camp #15's Bob Koenecke, whose love of history saved Fuller's letters, papers, books and other memorabilia. A relative was ready to toss the material when Brother Bob stepped in, offering to take the items.

That memorabilia includes a full-length chalk drawing of Fuller made on the battlefield at Gettysburg, probably in the aftermath of that immense three-day battle as the enormity of what took place there dawned on the country. That's when photographers, artists, newspaper writers and others descended on the little town of Gettysburg, including the chalk artist who captured G. Edward Fuller's boyish face and sergeant's uniform for the world to later see.

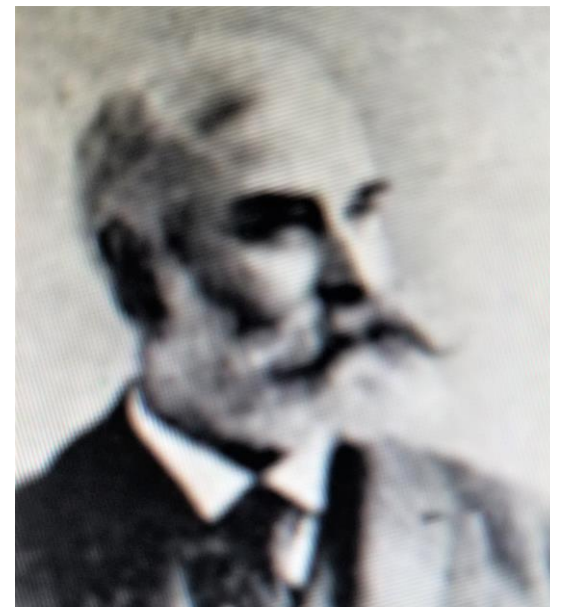
How close G. Edward Fuller's personal effects came to getting tossed on the trash heap is scary. Brother Bob is famous for discovering gems tossed out at his local Wheatland Township dump and picking up useful items at garage sales and auctions. Thank you, Brother Bob - you rescued the letters and memorabilia that help tell the story of G. Edward Fuller's amazing life. You have our thanks - and history thanks you as well.



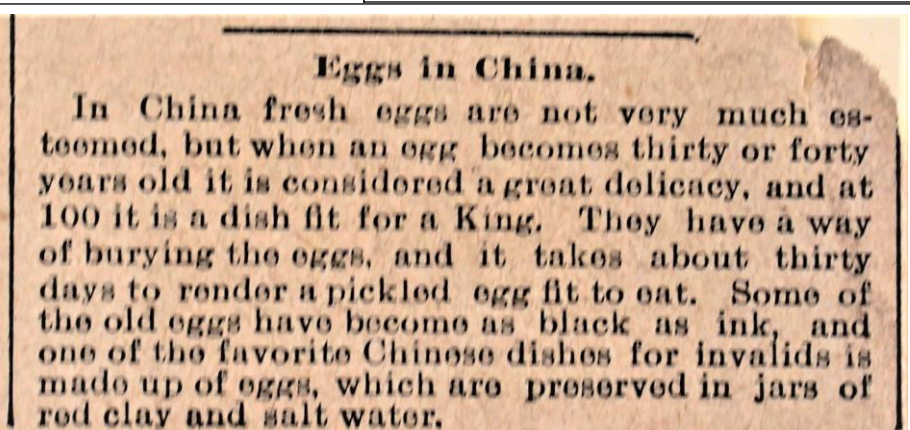
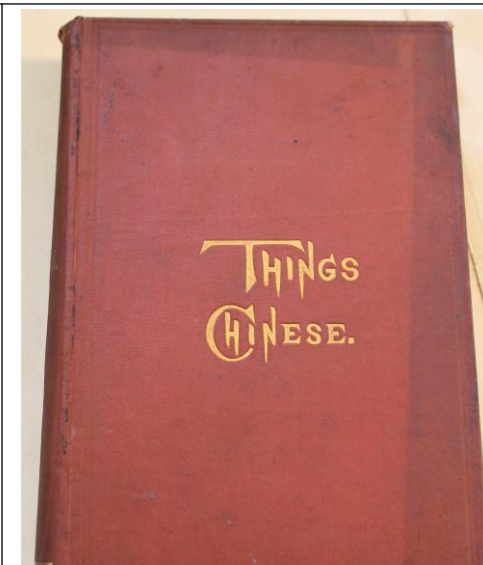
Pictures from  
Campbell's  
Illustrated  
Weekly, 1893

G. Edward Fuller

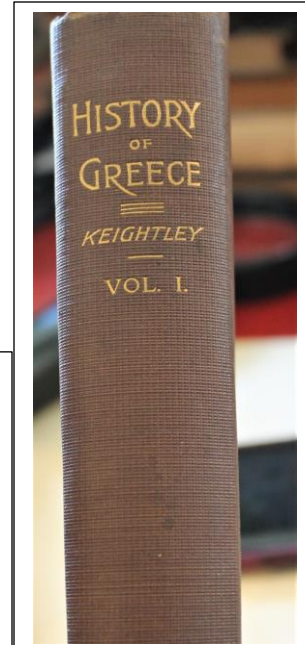
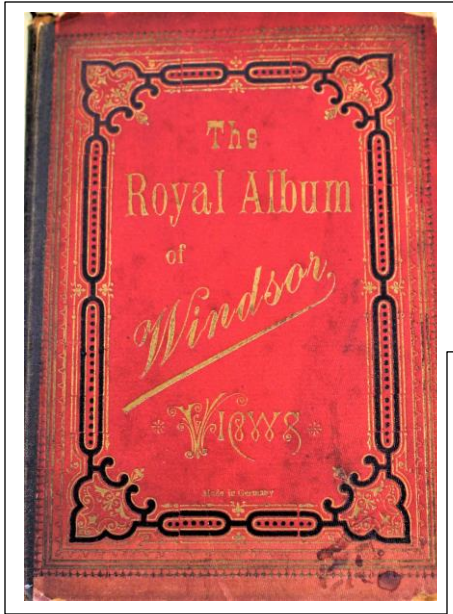
and vacuuming up information on the foods of the countries he visited. In 1893, G. Edward Fuller served as an executive and judge at the Chicago World's Fair (also known as the Columbian Exposition). Fuller (right) was a member of a key committee of the World's Fair, one that included a Russian count and the secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. As a buyer of coffee, teas and spices from around the world, Fuller was a nationally recognized food expert. *(continued on page 7)*



G. Edward Fuller at the Chicago  
World's Fair in 1893.



In his world travels in the 1900 era, Fuller collected books, especially those on foods of the countries he visited. Above, an item on the Chinese reverence for 100 year-old eggs.

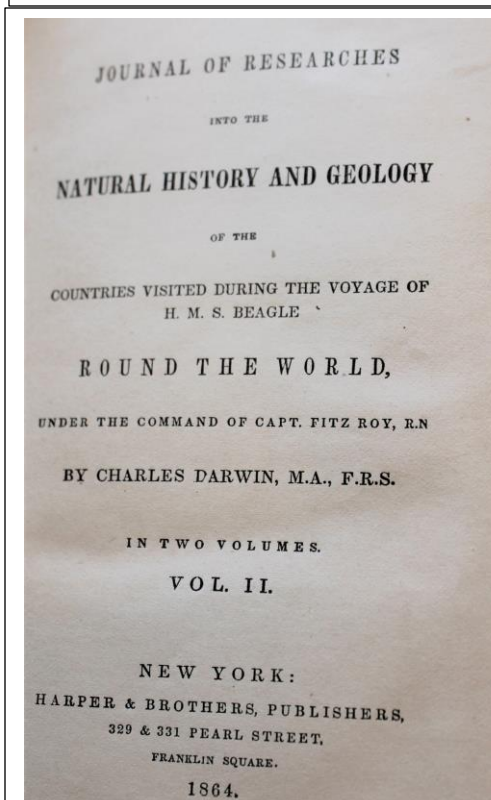


As he traveled the world, G. Edward Fuller collected books and travelogues on the countries he visited. “The Royal Album of Windsor” (left) on England’s royal family, a German guidebook to Berlin (above) and a history of Greece (right).

At the Pan-American Exposition in 1901, Fuller expounded to one writer on the virtues of real coffee over so-called “cereal coffee” made from barley or wheat. The “food reformers” and “cranks,” Fuller told a writer for the *Enquirer*, seem to think that cereal coffee was “very wholesome” because cereal was “food for babies” and “not particularly agreeable.”

In his seventies, Fuller was still active, working with his inventor brother to market a device for the home that dehydrated food so food items could be preserved and later used when water was added. Unfortunately, other inventors beat the two to the marketplace.

G. Edward Fuller lived to 83, dying in 1928 in Evanston, Ill. where his granddaughter lived.



Darwin Says "These lizards, when cooked, yield a white meat, which is liked by those whose stomachs soar above all prejudices."

G. Edward Fuller read the second volume of the famous evolutionist Charles Darwin’s ground-breaking “Origin of the Species,” a book that focused on the lizards of the Galapagos Islands in the Pacific. Food expert that he was, Fuller could not help then noting (above):

“Darwin says “These lizards, when cooked, yield a white meat which is liked by those whose stomachs soar above all prejudice.” Translation - lizard meat is good once you forget it’s meat from a *lizard*. Ah, well - to each his own.



The assassination of President William McKinley in 1901.

## Fuller at the Pan-American Exposition when McKinley Shot

G. Edward Fuller had a knack of being on the spot when history was made, from the epic battle of Gettysburg in 1863 to the Pan-American Exposition in Buffalo, N.Y. in 1901 where President McKinley was shot. Interestingly, only two weeks before the assassination, Fuller was treated by one of the same Buffalo doctors called in to try to save McKinley. The doctors were not successful - McKinley died a week after being shot.



Edna Schulze circa 1925

G. Edward Fuller's personal papers and books now reside in the home of Camp #15's Bob Koenecke. Brother Bob's aunt, Edna Schulze, was a fellow schoolteacher with Fuller's granddaughter, Ann Chubb Fuller. Both taught for years in Chicago area schools, including Evanston, Illinois where G. Edward Fuller died in 1928.

Ann Chubb Fuller and Edna Schulze, both unmarried, lived together for years and when Edna retired in the mid-1960s, both moved to Reedsburg, Wis., Brother Bob's hometown. Ann Chubb Fuller died in 1968 and all her personal effects - including her grandfather's papers and books - went to Edna Schulze and then eventually came to reside with Brother Bob Koenecke.

## LAFAYETTE CHURCH UPDATE



We have now added a sign to the back of the sign that identifies the Lafayette Church as in the care of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. PCC Bob Koenecke drew up the sign and installed it on the reverse side of the existing sign.

The new sign also serves as an advertisement that the church is available for weddings and other social events. Thank you for this, Brother Bob.

And thanks, too, to PDC Jeff Graf who adjusted the security alarm sensors on the doors at the church. We had a false alarm in early March and when Brother Jeff inspected the system, he discovered that the sensors were not properly set.