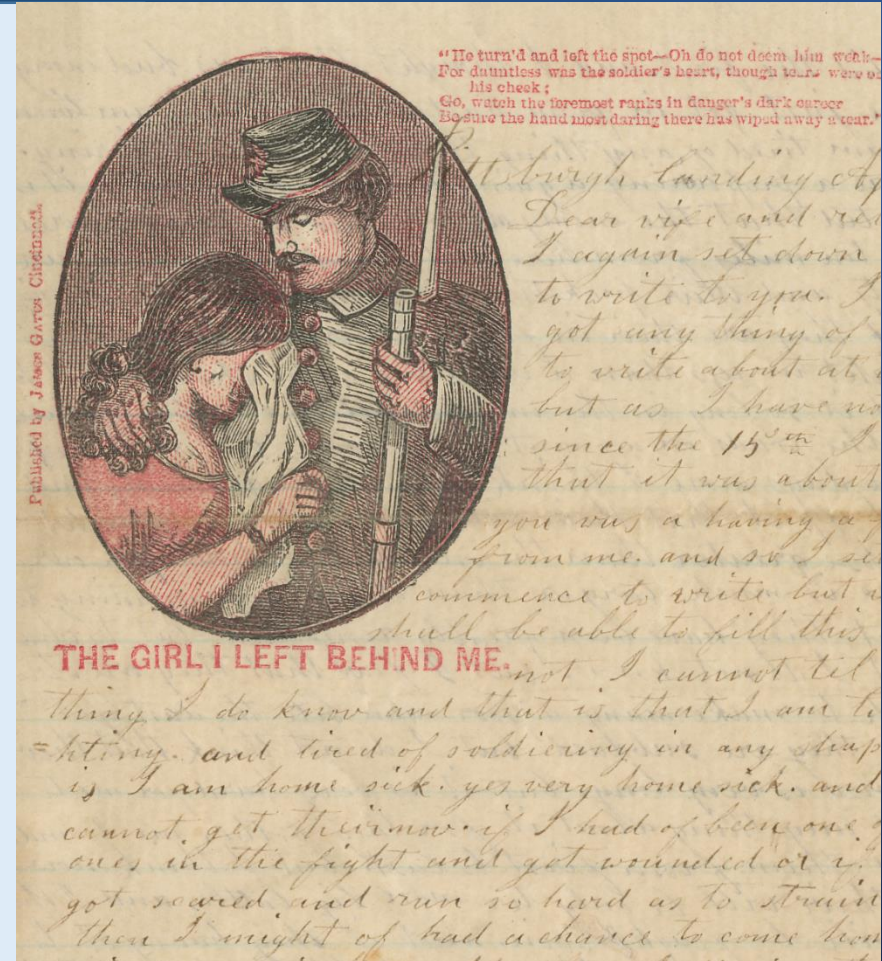


# MUSCATINE & THE CIVIL WAR: The Letters of Daniel Parvin

On September 21, 1861, at the age of 36, Daniel James Parvin enlisted as a Private in Company "H" 11th Regiment Iowa Volunteer Infantry.



# DANIEL PARVIN

Daniel Parvin was born in Ohio. His family came to the Iowa territory in 1839, and his father purchased land from the U.S. Bureau of Land Management in Muscatine County.

Daniel began to learn the trade of cabinet-making in 1845. In 1852, he moved to California to seek his fortune and remained there until 1858.

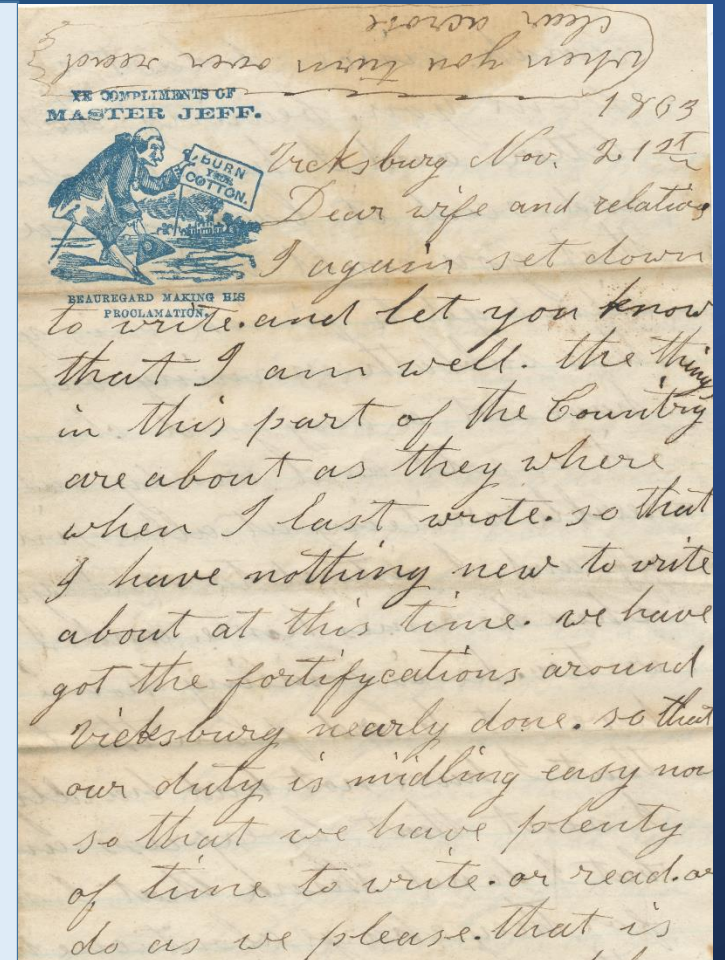
He then returned to Muscatine. Except for his service in the war, Parvin remained here for the rest of his life.



# LETTERS HOME

Most of Daniel's letters are addressed to his wife, Sarah.

The couple had married in April 1860. At the time of Daniel's enlistment, their child, a son named Fred, was under the age of two.





# THE 11<sup>TH</sup> REGIMENT

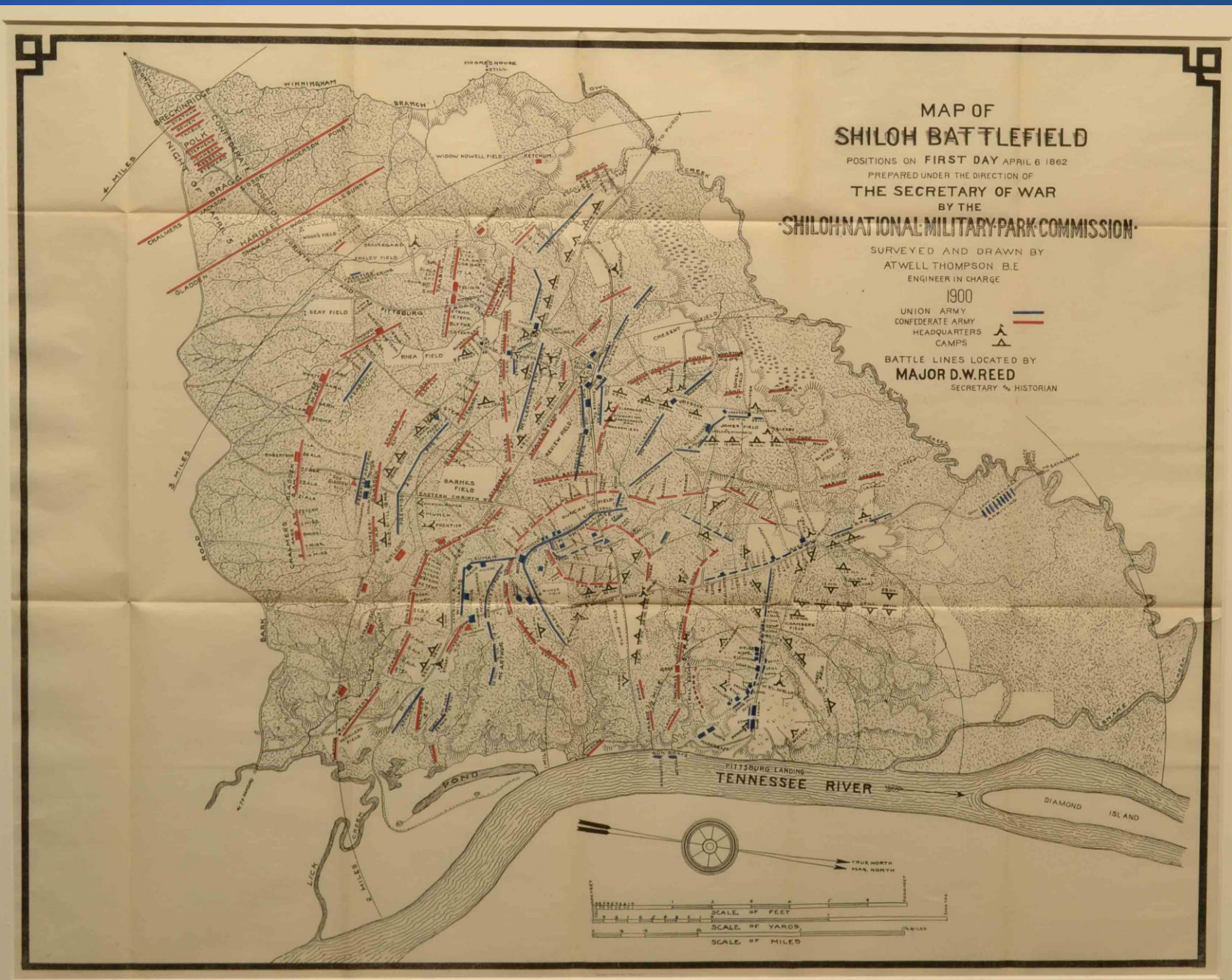
The 11th Regiment was organized at Davenport, Iowa in the fall of 1861 and ordered to St. Louis, Missouri in November 1861.





# SHILOH

Parvin and the  
11th Regiment  
saw action at the  
Battle of Shiloh  
in April 1862.





# VICKSBURG

The 11th Regiment traveled by steamboat on the Mississippi River to Vicksburg, MS, a stronghold for the Confederates. Some describe General Grant's Vicksburg campaign as one of the most brilliant of the war.



# PARVIN RE-ENLISTS

On January 1, 1864, Parvin and many of the men in his regiment re-enlisted as veterans for another three-year term. On August 20, 1864 near Atlanta, GA, Parvin was seriously wounded and was sent to an army hospital. He recovered and was mustered out as a corporal on February 25, 1865.



Minie Ball Cartridge wrapped in paper, 1861-65



Wooden bullet box with 5 bullets  
Circa 1865



# PARVIN'S 11<sup>TH</sup> REGIMENT

The letters of Daniel Parvin provide a glimpse into the life of a Union soldier. Parvin was one of 1,297 enlisted in the 11<sup>th</sup> Iowa Regiment. Over a third of the regiment suffered casualties.

**58 killed in action**  
**154 died of disease**  
**234 wounded**



# MAJOR CORNELIUS CADLE III

## 11<sup>TH</sup> IOWA VOLUNTEER INFANTRY

Cornelius Cadle III of Muscatine enlisted as a 2nd Lieutenant in the 11th Iowa Volunteer Infantry in October 1861 and later became Captain of Company "S" of the 11th Iowa Infantry. At the Battle of Atlanta, Cadle led a company of men on a deadly charge. By April 1865, Cadle was promoted to full Major.

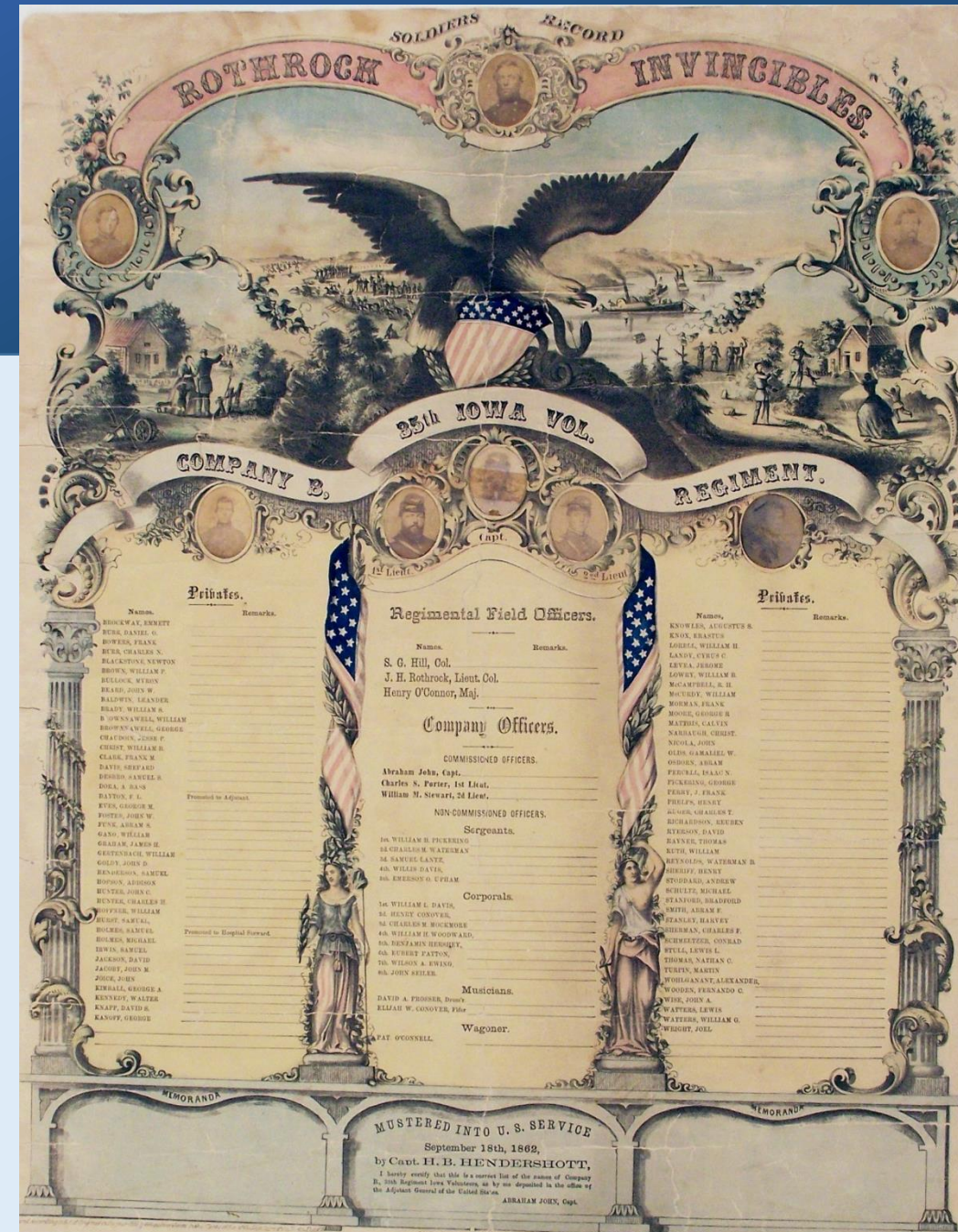
After the war, he was instrumental in establishing a National Park at the Shiloh Battlefield.





# OTHER REGIMENTS

Muscatine men also enlisted in the 35<sup>th</sup> Iowa Regiment. A total of 1,068 men served in the 35th Iowa. Five officers and 44 enlisted men were killed in action or died of their wounds. Another three officers and 185 enlisted men died of disease, for a total of 237 fatalities.





# COLONEL S. G. HILL

In July, 1862, at the age of 42, Sylvester Gardner Hill of Muscatine recruited a company of volunteers forming the 35th Reg. Iowa Volunteer Infantry. In the fall of 1862, he was commissioned as Colonel of the 35th Regiment. He led the 35th in the Vicksburg Campaign and later served with William T. Sherman in the Atlanta Campaign. Col. Hill was wounded at the battle of Pleasant Hill, LA, in April, 1864 and again in October, 1864 at Yellow Bayou, LA.



# CHARLES KNOBLAUCH

Charles Knoblauch was mustered into the 35th Regiment, Iowa Volunteer Infantry in September 1862. He served as both a butcher and a bugler. Just six days before his regiment was to be mustered out he was accidentally killed on board a boat carrying soldiers home. A welcome home party had been arranged in Muscatine, and it was only upon the ship's arrival that Knoblauch's family learned of his death.





# CHARLES T. RUGER

Charles T. Ruger of Muscatine mustered into service at the age of 29 and served as camp cook for Company "B" of the 35th Regiment of the Iowa Volunteer Infantry. The regiment participated in the Sieges of Vicksburg and Jackson, MS. Following the Siege of Jackson, Ruger fell ill and died on September 21, 1863. He was buried in a mass grave.



# 35<sup>TH</sup> IOWA VOLUNTEER INFANTRY

35th Iowa Volunteer Infantry –  
Pocahontas, Tenn, Winter 1863-64

1. Hermann Schmidt - Chief Musician
2. John Huber - Corporal Co. C.
3. Frederick Mayer - Sergeant Co. C.
4. Matthias Becke - Drum Major





# CIVIL RIGHTS LEGACY & ALEXANDER CLARK

Alexander Clark of Muscatine is recognized for his Civil Rights leadership and his successful lawsuit to outlaw segregation in the Muscatine schools in 1868. Prior to this, in August 1862, Clark sent a letter to Iowa Governor Kirkwood offering to raise companies of black troops to serve in one of Iowa's white regiments. Like many other African Americans, he saw the war as a struggle to end slavery and felt that black Iowans should do their part to help.



# FIRST IOWAN AFRICAN DESCENT

The first six companies of the 1st Iowa Infantry (African Descent) were mustered into service on October 11, 1863. Four additional companies were added before the end of the year.

A total of 1,153 men served. There were 344 fatalities – 12 men killed in action or who died of their wounds and another 332 men who died of disease.





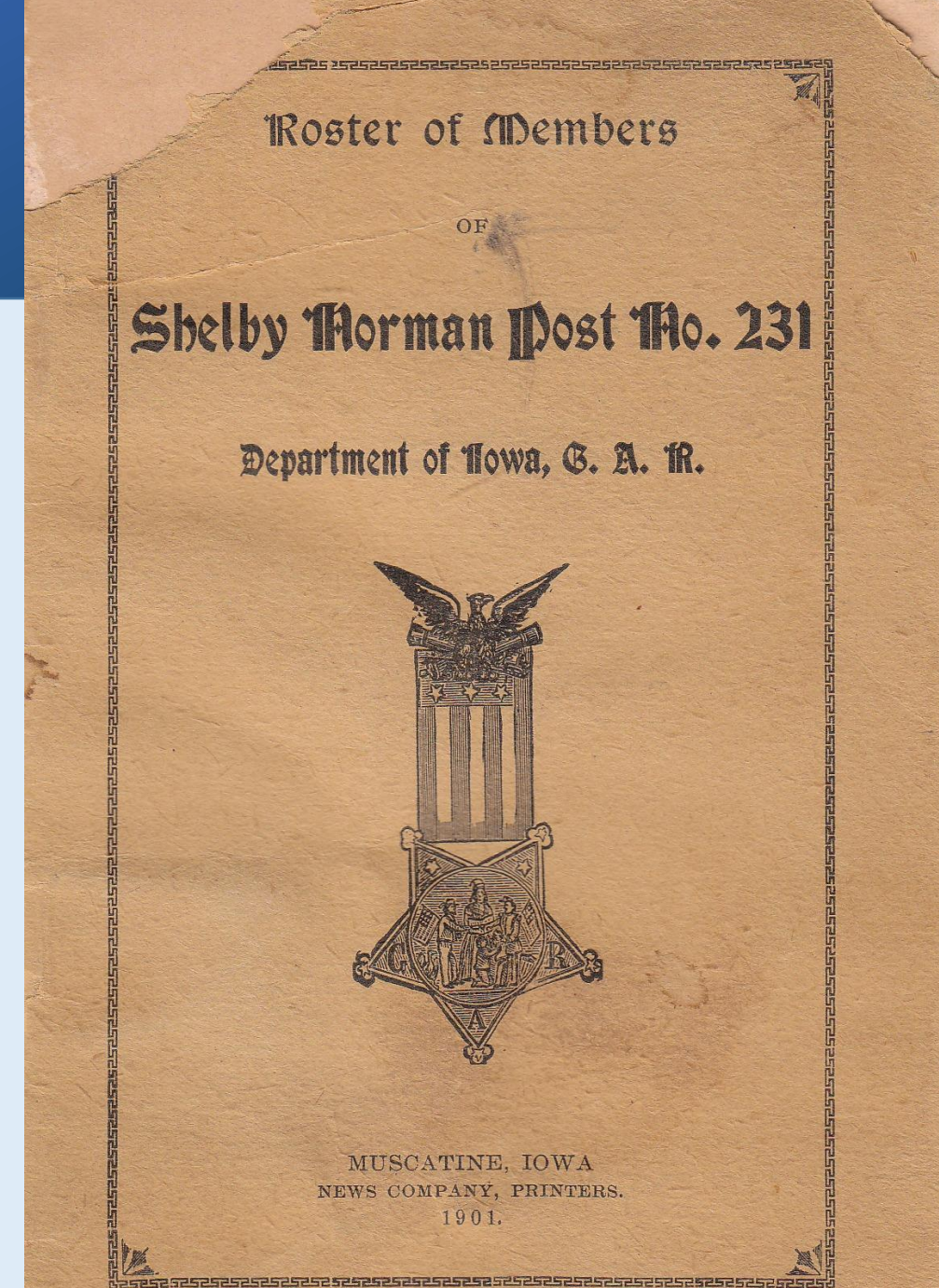
# FIRST IOWAN KILLED

Shelby Norman of Muscatine was the first Iowan to be killed in battle in the Civil War. Norman, 18 years old, enlisted in the 1st Iowa Infantry Regiment and was killed at Wilson's Creek in Missouri on August 10, 1861. Norman was one of four Iowa soldiers depicted in a Civil War monument opposite the Iowa State Capitol in Des Moines.



# G.A.R.

Following the Civil War, many communities organized local posts of the G.A.R. (Grand Army of the Republic). Members were former Civil War veterans. In Muscatine, the post was named after fallen soldier, Shelby Norman.





# REUNIONS

Long after the end of the Civil War, men who served together gathered for reunions. This photo of 35<sup>th</sup> Iowa Infantry reunion was taken in 1886.

