

G.R. #640

*Archives*

RECEIVED

SEP 16 1970

RUDOLF J. FRIEDERICH  
RIDGE ROAD  
HIGHLAND MILLS, NEW YORK 10930

LT. GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

September 12, 1970

Lt. Governor Eugene D. Bookhammer  
The Capitol  
Dover, Delaware

Dear Lt. Governor:

NEW MEDAL OF HONOR MEN FROM DELAWARE

The following men may be accredited to the state of Delaware. In all present official Medal of Honor publications they are not accredited to Delaware. I was not able to note whether they were included in the Delaware Acre dedication at Valley Forge on September 12th. In any event it is my opinion that they are creditable to your state. Documentation for my findings are found in MEDAL OF HONOR CITATION SUPPLEMENTS by Rudolf J. Friederich, 1968.

David E. Buckingham born Pleasant Hill, Delaware (Feb. 3, 1840). His entrance residence still remains unknown to me. In all official books his name is listed in the "Unknown Locale" category as BOTH his birthplace and residence were not known to archivists.

John Shilling born born Halstead Parish, London, England (Feb. 15, 1832) and entered the service from Felton, Delaware. In all official books his name is listed in the "Unknown Locale" category (see note above). In cases where the birthplace is unknown or foreign the state of residence is entitled to accreditation.

Bernard McCarren entered service as resident of Wilmington, Del. Official records record his birth as Ireland. See note above on foreign born.

Charles B. Tanner entered service as resident of Wilmington, Del. Official records credit his service to Pennsylvania by virtue of birth in lieu of unknown entrance residence. I note that Freedoms Foundation accredited Alexander Nininger, a known Georgia birthplace to the Florida acre by virtue of his Florida residency at time of entering the service. I see no reason why this determination occurred since I was given to understand that birthplaces, if U.S.A. would govern placement but since it appears to be a change in Freedoms Foundation policy McCarren and Tanner are due Delaware accreditation.

RUDOLF J. FRIEDERICH  
RIDGE ROAD  
HIGHLAND MILLS, NEW YORK 10930

-2-

The following two Medal of Honor men birthplaces have been determined in the course of my research as natives of Delaware, heretofore, their birthplaces were listed as unknown.

Col. William J. Palmer 15th Penn Cavalry , born Leipsic, Del.  
1LT Louis J. Sacriste 116th Pennsylvanic Infantry , born New-  
castle County, Del.

The DoD accredits by virtue of entrance residency which in the above two cases are non-Delaware. If Freedoms Foundation continued to have the recipient's birthplace govern these two men should be included in the Delaware acre dedicated today.

It was a pleasure to briefly meet you,

Respectfully,



A NEW BOOK , INDISPENSABLE TO THE STORY OF THE MEDAL OF HONOR HISTORY

# MEDAL OF HONOR CITATION SUPPLEMENTS

by

Rudolf J Friederich

ORANGE COUNTY POST

April 21, 1969

ARMY TIMES

June 4, 1969

THE MEDAL COLLECTOR

April 1969

—JOHN ROMER

## The Top Award

*MEDAL OF HONOR CITATION SUPPLEMENTS* by Rudolf J. Friederich. Orders and Medals Society of America Monograph No. 2, 110 pages, illustrated, paperback 11½x11", \$7.50.

One of the foremost authorities on the Medal of Honor, Friederich has compiled quite a reference guide for the sole purpose of setting the record straight.

Within the pages of this oversized paperback, containing several rare photos, the author reports that the "Medal of Honor Recipients, 1863-1963," published by the Government Printing Office, contains some glowing errors.

For instance, he points out that the Medal of Honor can and indeed has been presented to the wrong man. In the case of a Civil War soldier, Sgt. Daniel Miller, the Medal was given in error to a Cpl. John Miller.

In addition to amending, revising or correcting 682 citations of Army Medal of Honor winners, Friederich has found a residence or birthplace (sometimes both) for the 195 soldiers listed in the scrolls' "Unknown Locale," eliminating that lonely category.

The net results of Friederich's research are that Virginia has lost eight Medal recipients originally credited to the Old Dominion. Illinois, on the other hand picks up 56, the largest gain among the states. The project, which spans the century beginning with 1863, is confined to Army Medal

## FRIEDERICH'S MATERIAL NOT IN SENATOR KENNEDY MH REPRINT

The new reprint of "Medal of Honor Recipients, 1863-1968" does not include the new information found in OMSA's MEDAL OF HONOR-CITATION SUPPLEMENTS by Rudolf Friederich.

MoHR was prepared by the Senate Subcommittee on Veterans' Affairs and distributed by the Government Printing Office in February, 1969

## ILLINOIS STATE HISTORICAL LIBRARY

**PURCHASE  
ORDER**

Author Friederich, Rud  
Title Medal of Honor-c  
supplement.

(OMSA monograph no.

Cat. Item List Pri

of Honor winners.

The format is excellent for those seeking information about a particular individual. The recipients are listed alphabetically preceded by the entry number as they appear in the official documents.

\$7.50 postpaid

## Get 'Medal' Book

HIGHLAND MILLS - - The Orders and Medals Society of America announced last week that a 110 page monograph entitled Medal of Honor-Citation Supplements by Rudolf J. Friederich, Highland Mills, is being distributed to OMSA members.

Mr. Friederich is regarded as one of the leading authorities on the history of the Medal of Honor, America's highest decoration for valor. His work, a paperback, revises, amends, or corrects 689 official citations as now appear in official government publications. Each citation change is documented and book is illustrated with several rare photographs.

In addition to changing about one of every three U.S. Army citations this work eliminates the category of the U.S. Army men in "Unknown Locale." The present edition of government publications indicates that 195 men can not be accredited to home states as both their birthplaces and pre-service residences are "unknown." The author has found a "home" for each of these 195 unclaimed national heroes thus eliminating the entire category on official records.

The changes in "state accreditation" of recipients of the MH number 559 as a result of this book. Illinois leads the nation as it add 56 men to her list of accredited national heroes. Virginia loses eight due mainly to changes to West Virginia who adds 14 more.

Could our nation's highest award be issued to the wrong man, to a man no where near the cited action while overlooking two men who lost their lives in the cited action? Medal of Honor-Citation Supplements claims they were.

(Medal of Honor-Citation Supplements by Mr. Friederich, OMSA Monograph No. 2, 1968, 110 pages, illustrated, paperback, 8½ x 11", \$7.50)

RUDOLF J. FRIEDERICH  
RIDGE ROAD  
HIGHLAND MILLS, N. Y. 10930

August 25, 1970

Mrs. Elizabeth Henry  
Development Department  
Dover, Delaware 19901

Dear Mrs. Henry:

At your telephoned request we have examined our files for Delawareans who have been awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor. Our list, assembled from various sources, includes the names of <sup>fifteen</sup> ~~fourteen~~ persons either born in Delaware or serving with a Delaware unit at the time of the gallant action recognized by the award.

Those in the Civil War were:

✓ Col. Henry A. duPont	5th U.S. Artillery
✓ Sgt. John Shilling	3rd. Delaware Infantry
✓ Capt. S. Rodman Smith	4th Delaware Infantry
✓ Lt. David E. Buckingham	4th Delaware Infantry
✓ Capt. James Parke Postless	1st Delaware Infantry
✓ Pvt. John B. Mayberry	1st Delaware Infantry
✓ Pvt. Bernard McCarren	1st Delaware Infantry
✓ Wagoner Griffin Seward	8th U.S. Cavalry
✓ Quartermaster Allexander Hand	U.S. Navy
✓ Coal Heaver Charles Baldwin	U.S. Navy

In the Spanish-American War:

✓ Pvt. Charles Pierce, Delaware City	22nd. U.S. Infantry
Seaman Leonard Chadwick	U.S. Navy
During a peace-time naval disaster:	
✓ Ensign Henry Clay Drexler	U.S. Navy

Two Delawareans were cited for World War II services:

✓ Sgt. William L. Nelson
✓ Sgt. James P. Connor

-over-

Mrs. Elizabeth Henry -2-

August 25, 1970

We hope this information may be helpful.

Very truly yours,

State Archivist

LdeV-vs-mw

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MRS. HENRY RIDGELY, PRESIDENT  
DOVER

J. ERNEST SMITH, VICE-PRES.  
WILMINGTON

JAMES E. GOSLEE, SECRETARY  
STOCKLEY

FRANK S. HALL, D. D. S.  
DOVER

MISS LAURA S. RICHARDS  
GEORGETOWN

MRS. EDWARD W. COOCH  
COOCH'S BRIDGE

State of Delaware



Leon deValinger, Jr.  
State Archivist

The Public Archives Commission  
Dover, Delaware

*See also Drexler, Henry C.*

September 20, 1944

Bureau of Medals and Awards  
The Adjutant General's Office  
War Department  
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

On December 15, 1943 the posthumous award of the Congressional Medal of Honor to Sergeant William L. Nelson was received by his wife, Mrs. Rebecca P. Nelson, at Fort duPont. At the time it was claimed that he was the first Delawarean to receive this highest honor that our Country can bestow. Since then it has come to our attention that Brevet Major S. Rodman Smith received the Congressional Medal of Honor on February 5, 1865. We also find that Ensign Henry Clay Drexler, U.S.N., was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor posthumously, following his death in 1924.

We would appreciate very much having copies of the citations of these two men and of any other Delawareans which your files may disclose have received this high honor.

Thanking you, I am,

Very truly yours,

LdeV/b

State Archivist

#640

## Seven Del. Men Won Con. Medal During Civil War

STAR 2-24-46

### Members of State Regiments Honored For Brave Deeds

Seven gallant Delaware soldiers won the coveted Congressional Medal of Honor during the Civil War. It is revealed by an examination of the records, contrary to the locally published story that Major S. Rodmond Smith was the sole winner of this decoration prior to World War II. The erroneous information was printed in conjunction with the conferring of the medal upon Sgt. James P. Connor, of this city, and posthumously upon Sgt. William L. Nelson, of Middletown.

Those who received the decoration in the days of rebellion were Capt. James Parke Postles, Second Lt. Charles B. Tanner, Capt. S. Rodmond Smith, First Lt. David E. Buckingham, 1st Sgt. John Shilling, Pvt. Bernard McCarren, and Pvt. John B. Mayberry.

The information given about these medal winners is very scanty, and place of birth and place of residence are general omitted, but all were members of Delaware regiments at the front. It is possible that there may have been one or two Delaware natives who served in regiments of other states.

James Parke Postles was a well known Wilmingtonian, who was a prominent leather manufacturer here after the war, and became Adjutant General of Delaware. Capt. Postles, of Company A, First Delaware Infantry, was decorated because at Gettysburg, July 2, 1863, he "voluntarily delivered an order in the face of heavy fire of the enemy."

Second Lt. Charles B. Tanner, of Company H, First Delaware Infantry, received his medal for gallantry at the battle of Antietam, Md., on September 17, 1862, when "he carried off the regimental colors which had fallen within 20 yards of the enemy's lines, the color guard of nine men having been killed or wounded; was himself three times wounded." At the for-

mation of the regiment, Tanner was listed as Sergeant Major. Further information about Tanner is not available.

Capt. S. Rodmond Smith, of Company C, Fourth Delaware Regiment, and First Lt. David E. Buckingham, of Company E, same regiment received their honors at the same engagement for the same exploit. It happened at Rowanty Creek, Va., on February 5, 1865. Both Smith and Buckingham "swam the partly frozen creek under fire in the attempt to capture a crossing." Smith, born in the city and a son of the well known Albert W. Smith, began his soldier's career as First Lieutenant of the Fourth Regiment, and was brevetted Major. After the war he served long as Clerk of the United States Court in this city. Lt. Buckingham is identifiable because Richard Buckingham was First Sergeant in his company, and Richard G. Buckingham, of Mill Creek Hundred, lived to a ripe old age, and was well known to many citizens of today for his service in the General Assembly and as one of the oldest members of the G. A. R.

First Sgt. John Shilling of Company H, Third Delaware Infantry won his medal by the capture of a flag at Weldon Railroad, Va., on August 21, 1864. He is listed as First Lieutenant of Company H in Scharf's History of Delaware. No further information is available.

Pvt. Bernard McCarren, of Company C, First Delaware Infantry, likewise won his decoration by the capture of a flag, this time at Gettysburg, July 3, 1863. No information is available about McCarren except that he was born in Ireland. Scharf lists a Pvt. Charles McCarren in Company C, but no Bernard.

Pvt. John B. Mayberry of Company F, First Delaware, captured a flag at Gettysburg on July 3, 1863, at Gettysburg. He is listed as having been born at Smyrna, Del. Scharf lists a Sgt. John B. Mabery in Company F.

Two thousand Congressional Medals were ordered struck by act of July 12, 1862, to be awarded to those who "distinguished themselves by their gallantry in action and other soldier-like qualities." This number of medals was ordered increased before the war ended. It will be noted that the language of the act differs somewhat from the present one, which employs the notable phrase "beyond the call of duty"

So far as can be ascertained, no Delaware man won the Congressional Medal of Honor during World War I. Several Distinguished Service Medals were won, however, and among the recipients were Lt. Thomas D. Amory, killed, and Lt. John W. O'Daniel, of Newark, who became Major General John W. O'Daniel under Gen. George Patton.

October 8, 1945

Bureau of Medals and Awards  
The Adjutant General's Office  
War Department  
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

Some months ago you very kindly supplied us with copies of the citations issued in connection with the awarding of the Congressional Medal of Honor to Delawareans. Recently it came to our attention that we had overlooked one of the recipients.

It is our understanding that Colonel Henry A. du Pont was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor, March 22, 1898 for gallantry at the Battle of Cedar Creek, Virginia, October 19, 1864. If my information is correct, will you please supply us with a copy of the citation which accompanied his award of the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Very truly yours,

State Archivist

LdeV/r

March 13, 1945

Captain H. G. Patrick, USN (Ret.)  
Medals and Awards  
Bureau of Naval Personnel  
Navy Department  
Washington 25, D. C.

Refer: Pers328-MAC/hby

Dear Sir:

Thank you very much for your recent courteous letter with which you explained why it was not possible to send us a list of all Delawareans who have been awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor. We also wish to thank you for the enclosed copy of the citation accompanying the award of the Medal of Honor to the late Ensign Henry Clay Drexler, United States Navy.

Very truly yours,

LdeV/b

State Archivist

In reply address not the signer of this  
letter, but Bureau of Naval Personnel,  
Navy Department, Washington, D. C.

Refer to No. Pers328-MAC/hby

6 March 1945

NAVY DEPARTMENT  
BUREAU OF NAVAL PERSONNEL  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.



Mr. Leon de Valinger, Jr.  
State Archivist  
The Public Archives Commission  
Dover, Delaware

Dear Mr. de Valinger:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter dated 1 March 1945 requesting  
copies of all citations of Medals of Honor awarded Delawareans.

A review of the list of Medal of Honor awards for this war does not  
disclose that any person from the State of Delaware has been so  
honored.

Medal of Honor awards prior to this war have never been compiled  
by States. Therefore, compliance with your request for a complete  
listing of Medals of Honor awarded to Delawareans is not possible  
at this time.

Attached is a copy of the citation accompanying the award of the  
Medal of Honor to the late Ensign Henry Clay Drexler, U. S. Navy.

By direction of the Chief of Naval Personnel.

Sincerely yours

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "H. G. Patrick".

H. G. PATRICK  
Captain, USN, (Ret.)  
Medals and Awards

Encl.

C O P Y

"For Extraordinary heroism in the line of his profession on the occasion of a fire on board the U.S.S. TRENTON. At 3:35 on the afternoon of 20 October 1924, while the TRENTON was preparing to fire trail installation shots from the two six inch guns in the forward twin mount of that vessel, two charges of powder ignited. Twenty men were trapped in the twin mount. Four died almost immediately and ten later from burns and inhalation of flame and gases. The six others were severely injured. Ensign Drexler, without thought of his own safety, on seeing that the charge of powder for the left gun was ignited, jumped for the right charge and endeavored to put it in the immersion tank. The left charge burst into flame and ignited the right charge before Ensign Drexler could accomplish his purpose. He met his death while making a supreme effort to save his shipmates."

March 1, 1945

Chief of Naval Personnel  
Navy Department  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

We are attempting to obtain for our reference files copies of the citations of all Delawareans who have been awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor. Brigadier-General Robert H. Dunlop of the Adjutant-General's office has sent us copies of the citations for those Delawareans who served in the United States Army.

It is our understanding that Ensign Henry Clay Drexler, U.S.N., received this high award posthumously following his death in 1924. We would appreciate very much having a copy of the citation relating to this award and to any other Delawareans serving in the United States Navy who may have received it also.

Thanking you, I am,

Very truly yours,

State Archivist

Ldev/b

November 4, 1944

Refer: AGPD-C 200.6  
(20 Sep 44)

Brig.-Gen. Robert H. Dunlop  
Acting The Adjutant General  
War Department  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Sir:

We wish to thank you very much for your letter of October 30th with which you very kindly enclosed copies of the citations of the Medals of Honor awarded to William L. Nelson and S. Rodman Smith.

We are quite pleased to add this information to our files.

Very truly yours,

State Archivist

LdeV/b



LBL/2513



IN REPLY REFER TO:

AGPD-C 200.6  
(20 Sep 44)

WAR DEPARTMENT  
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

30 October 1944.

- Mr. Leon DeValinger, Jr., State Archivist,  
The Public Archives Commission,  
Dover, Delaware.

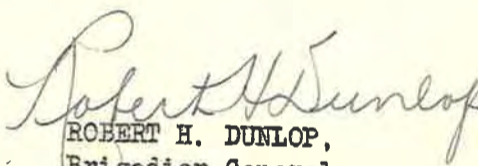
Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter of 20 September 1944, requesting copies of citations relating to awards of the Medal of Honor.

There are inclosed herewith extract copies of citations relating to the award of the Medal of Honor in the case of William L. Nelson and S. Rodman Smith.

Inquiry regarding the award of the Medal of Honor to Ensign Henry Clay Drexler, USN, should be directed to the Chief of Naval Personnel, Navy Department, Washington, D. C.

Very truly yours,

  
ROBERT H. DUNLOP,  
Brigadier General,  
Acting The Adjutant General.  
By: *HR*

2 Inclosures:  
Citations.





LBI/S13

WAR DEPARTMENT  
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.



IN REPLY REFER TO:  
AGD-C 200.6  
(20 Sep 44)

30 October 1944

Mr. Leon DeValinger, Jr., State Archivist,  
The Public Archives Commission,  
Dover, Delaware.

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter of 23 September 1944, requesting  
copies of citations relating to awards of the Medal of Honor.

There are inclosed herewith extract copies of citations relating  
to the award of the Medal of Honor in the case of William L. Nelson and  
S. Rodman Smith.

inquiry regarding the award of the Medal of Honor to Ensign Henry  
Clay Drexler, USN, should be directed to the Chief of Naval Personnel,  
Navy Department, Washington, D. C.

Very truly yours,

*Robert H. Durrice*  
ROBERT H. DURRICE,  
Brigadier General,  
Adjutant General.

2 Inclosures:  
Citations.



WAR DEPARTMENT,  
Washington 25, D. C., 17 December, 1943.

GENERAL ORDERS, )  
NO. 85 )

MEDAL OF HONOR--Posthumous awards. . . . . Section I.

\*\* \*\* \*

I. Medal of Honor. By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 9 July 1918 (Bull. 43, WD, 1918) a Medal of Honor was posthumously awarded by the War Department in the name of Congress to the following-named officer and enlisted men:

Sergeant William L. Nelson (Army serial No. 32065506), Infantry, United States Army. For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at risk of life, above and beyond the call of duty in action involving actual conflict at Djebel Dardys, Northwest of Sedjenane, Tunisia. On the morning of 24 April 1943 Sergeant Nelson led his section of heavy mortars to a forward position where he placed his guns and men. Under intense enemy artillery, mortar, and small arms fire, he advanced alone to a chosen observation position from which he directed the laying of a concentrated mortar barrage which successfully halted an initial enemy counter attack. Although mortally wounded in the accomplishment of his mission, and with his duty clearly completed, Sergeant Nelson crawled to a still more advanced observation point and continued to direct the fire of his section. Dying of hand grenade wounds and only 50 yards from the enemy, Sergeant Nelson encouraged his section to continue their fire and by doing so they took a heavy toll of enemy lives. The skill which Sergeant Nelson displayed in this engagement, his courage, and self-sacrificing devotion to duty and heroism resulting in the loss of his life were a priceless inspiration to our armed forces and were in keeping with the highest traditions of the Army of the United States.

\*\* \*\* \*

By order of the Secretary of War:

OFFICIAL:

J. A. ULIO,  
Major General,  
The Adjutant General.

G. C. MARSHALL,  
Chief of Staff.

MEDALS OF HONOR

ISSUED BY THE WAR DEPARTMENT UP TO AND INCLUDING OCTOBER 31, 1897.

S. Rodman Smith, Captain, Company C, 4th Delaware Infantry

Date of issue

8 April 1895

Action

Place	Date	Ground of Award
Rowanty Creek, Virginia	Feb. 5, 1865.	Swam the creek under fire to establish a crossing.



IN REPLY REFER TO:

AGPD-C 201 du Pont, Henry A.  
(8 Oct 45)

WAR DEPARTMENT  
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

15 October 1945



Mr. Leon deValinger, Jr.  
The Public Archives Commission  
Dover, Delaware

Dear Mr. deValinger:

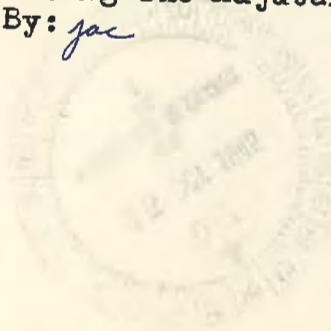
Reference is made to your letter dated 8 October 1945 in which you request a copy of citation concerning the Congressional Medal of Honor awarded Colonel Henry A. du Pont for services rendered during the Civil War.

There is inclosed herewith an official extract copy of the citation announcing this award.

Sincerely yours,

*Edward F. Witsell*  
EDWARD F. WITSELL  
Major General  
Acting The Adjutant General  
By: *jac*

1 Incl  
Citation.





WAR DEPARTMENT  
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

IN REPLY REFER TO:

15 October 1945

AGPD-C 201 du Pont, Henry A.  
(8 Oct 45)

Mr. Leon deValinger, Jr.  
The Public Archives Commission  
Dover, Delaware

Dear Mr. deValinger:

Reference is made to your letter dated 8 October 1945 in which you request a copy of citation concerning the Congressional Medal of Honor awarded Colonel Henry A. du Pont for services rendered during the Civil War. There is inclosed herewith an official extract copy of the citation announcing this award.

Sincerely yours,

*Edward F. Witsell*  
EDWARD F. WITSELL  
Major General  
Acting Adjutant General  
By:



Incl  
Citation

November 13, 1945

Re: AGPD-C 200.6  
(29 Oct 45)

Major General Edward F. Witsell  
Acting The Adjutant General  
War Department  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Thank you very much for your letter of November 7th in which you very kindly sent us information regarding the awarding of the Congressional Medal of Honor to Pvt. Charles Pierce, Pvt. John B. Mayberry, Capt. James P. Postless and Wagoner Griffen Seward. We are indeed pleased to have this information for our files.

Very truly yours,

State Archivist

LdeV/t



IN REPLY REFER TO:  
AGPD-C 200.6  
(29 Oct 45)

WAR DEPARTMENT  
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.



7 November 1945.

- Mr. Leon DeValinger, Jr.  
The Public Archives Commission  
Dover, Delaware.

Dear Mr. DeValinger:

Reference is made to your recent letter in which you request copies of citations for recipients of the Medal Of Honor.

Copies of the citations, announcing the award of the Medal Of Honor to the following individuals, are listed below.

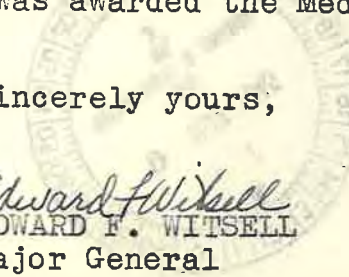
PVT. CHARLES PIERCE, Company I, 22nd U. S. Infantry.  
CITATION: Held a bridge against a superior force of the enemy and fought, though severely wounded, until the main body came up to cross. (Near San Isidro, Luzon 19 Oct 1899). Private Pierce was awarded the Medal Of Honor 7 Feb 1902.

PVT. JOHN B. MAYBERRY, Company F, 1st Delaware Infantry.  
CITATION: Capture of flag. (At Gettysburg, Pa.). Private Mayberry was awarded the Medal Of Honor 1 Dec 1846.

CAPT. JAMES P. POSTLESS, Company A, 1st Delaware Infantry.  
CITATION: Voluntarily delivered an order in the face of heavy fire of enemy. (At Gettysburg Pa., 2 Jul 1863). Captain Postless was awarded the Medal Of Honor 22 July 1892.

WAGONER GRIFFEN SEWARD, Company G, 8th U. S. Cavalry.  
CITATION: Gallantry in action. (At Chiricahua, Mts., Arizona). Wagoner Griffin was awarded the Medal Of Honor on 14 Feb 1870.

Sincerely yours,

  
*Edward F. Witsell*  
EDWARD F. WITSELL  
Major General  
Acting The Adjutant General  
By: *jac*



WAR DEPARTMENT  
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE  
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.



IN REPLY REFER TO:  
AGPD-C 200.6  
(29 Oct 45)

7 November 1945

• Mr. Leon DeValinger, Jr.  
The Public Archives Commission  
Dover, Delaware.

Dear Mr. DeValinger:

Reference is made to your recent letter in which you request copies of citations for recipients of the Medal Of Honor. Copies of the citations, announcing the award of the Medal Of Honor to the following individuals, are listed below.

PVT. CHARLES PIERCE, Company I, 2nd U. S. Infantry.  
CITATION: Held a bridge against a superior force of the enemy and fought, though severely wounded, until the main body came up to cross. (Near San Isidro, Luzon 19 Oct 1899). Private Pierce was awarded the Medal Of Honor 7 Feb 1902.

PVT. JOHN B. MAYBERRY, Company I, 1st Delaware Infantry.  
CITATION: Capture of flag. (At Gettysburg, Pa.). Private Mayberry was awarded the Medal Of Honor 1 Dec 1846.

CAPT. JAMES R. POSTLESS, Company A, 1st Delaware Infantry.  
CITATION: Voluntarily delivered an order in the face of heavy fire of enemy. (At Gettysburg Pa., 2 Jul 1863). Captain Postless was awarded the Medal Of Honor 22 July 1892.

MAJOR GENERAL GRIFFIN SEWARD, Company G, 8th U. S. Cavalry.  
CITATION: Gallantry in battle. (At Gettysburg, Pa.). Major General Griffin was awarded the Medal Of Honor on 14 Feb 1870.



Major General  
Acting The Adjutant General  
By: [Signature]

October 29, 1945

Major General Edward F. Witsell  
Acting The Adjutant General  
War Department  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Since writing to you on October 8th regarding a copy  
of the citation for the Congressional Medal of Honor awarded  
to Col. Henry A. duPont, it has come to our attention that  
the following were also awarded the Congressional Medal of  
Honor:

Pvt. John B. Mayberry, (Smyrna, Del.)-- award for  
action at Gettysburg, Pa., July 3, 1863.

Pvt. Charles H. Pierce, (Cecil Co., Md., lived in  
Delaware City)--award for action near San Isidro, Luzon,  
P.I., October 19, 1899.

Capt. James Parke Postles, (residence in Wilmington;  
born, no residence)--award for action at Gettysburg, July  
2, 1863.

Wagoner, Griffin Seward, (born in Dover, Del.)--  
award for action at Chiricahua Mountains, Ariz., Oct. 20,  
1869.

In order to complete our files on this subject we would  
appreciate an official copy of the full text of their

citations.

-over-

Major General Edward F. Witsell -2- October 29, 1945

in order to compare our list on this subject with the list of citations for Col. Henry A. duPont, Capt. S. Rodman Smith, Sgt. William L. Nelson and Sgt. James P. Connor.

Your office has already supplied us with a copy-

of the citations for Col. Henry A. duPont, Capt. S. Rodman Smith, Sgt. William L. Nelson and Sgt. James P. Connor.

If there are any other Delawareans who have received the Congressional Medal of Honor, will you please supply us with their names so that we may have a complete list on this subject.

Thanking you, I am,

Very truly yours,

State Archivist

Ldw/b

Major General Edward F. Witsell

October 29, 1945

October 18, 1945

Re: AGPD-C 201 duPont, Henry A.  
(8 Oct 45)

Major General Edward F. Witsell  
Acting The Adjutant General  
War Department  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Thank you very much for your letter of October 15th with which you very kindly sent us an official copy of the citation concerning the Congressional Medal of Honor awarded to Col. Henry A. duPont. We are indeed pleased to have this for our reference collection.

Very truly yours,

State Archivist

LdeV/t

DECORATIONS UNITED STATES ARMY-1862-1926-

CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR

Awarded for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity  
above and beyond the call of duty in action with  
the enemy.

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\*\*\*

Henry A. Du Pont  
At Cedar Creek, Va., Oct. 19, 1864.  
R-Wilmington, Del.  
B-Delaware.

Captain, 5th U. S. Artillery.

By his distinguished gallantry, and voluntary exposure  
to the enemy's fire at a critical moment, when the Union  
line had been broken, encouraged his men to stand to their  
guns, checked the advance of the enemy, and brought off most  
of his pieces.

## DELAWARE STATE GUARD

STATE ARMORY  
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE

### THEY WEAR THE MEDAL

MEN WHO HAVE WON THE TROPHY FOR HEROIC AND GALLANT  
DEEDS MEET IN CONVENTION - WILMINGTON REPRESENTED.

The opening session of the convention of the National Medal of Honor Legion began in Philadelphia to-day and the wearers of these tokens of bravery and heroism are very much in evidence in the city of Brotherly Love. Up to the war of the rebellion only eighty six medals of this class had been given, and among the holders was General Washington, for wise and spirited conduct in the seige of Boston.

After the war General Grant received the first and Cornelius Vanderbilt the second, while the third was given to George Foster Robinson for saving the life of Secretary of State Seward. The last issued was to Brevet Major S. Rodmond Smith, of this city for bravery in swimming the Rowanty river in Virginia. The medals bear the same significance as the Iron Cross, of Germany; the Victoria Cross, of England; the Cross of the Legion of Honor, of France, and the Cross of Saint George, of Russia.

The reunion to day is in celebration of the thirtieth anniversary of the surrender of General Lee, to General Grant at Appomattox.

Ex-State Commander Joseph E. Vantine, General J. Parke Postles, and Colonel John Wainwright, of this city, are attending the convention.

(NAVY) MEDAL OF HONOR WINNERS, STATE OF DELAWARE

**CIVIL WAR**

**HAND, ALEXANDER, QUARTERMASTER, USN.**  
*Born 1836, Delaware. Accredited to Delaware.*  
(G. O. 11, 3 April 1863.)

Served on board the U. S. S. *Ceres* in the fight near Hamilton, Roanoke River, 9 July 1862. Fired on by the enemy with small arms, HAND courageously returned the raking enemy fire, and was spoken of for "good conduct and cool bravery under enemy fire," by the commanding officer.

**SPANISH AMERICAN WAR**

**CHADWICK, LEONARD, APPRENTICE FIRST CLASS, USN.** *Born 24 November 1878, Middletown, Del. Accredited to Delaware. (G. O. 521, 7 July 1899.)*

On board the U. S. S. *Marblehead* during the operation of cutting the cable leading from Cienfuegos, Cuba, 11 May 1898. Facing the heavy fire of the enemy, CHADWICK set an example of extraordinary bravery and coolness throughout this period.

Data Sought on Winners

July 14, 1959 67711

## State High on Medal List

Ten of the initial winners of the Medal of Honor, first decoration formally authorized by the American government to be worn as a badge of honor, were accredited to the State of Delaware.

This was revealed yesterday by the District of Columbia Civil War Centennial Commission in connection with its nationwide search for descendants of the original winners. Tribute will be paid the memory of the recipients in a special commemorative ceremony at the Washington Cathedral at some date during the centennial.

Congressional records show that the U. S. Navy was the first to provide for such a medal. Dec. 9, 1861, Senator James W. Grimes of Burlington, Iowa, introduced a mea-

sure calling for the award and appropriating \$1,000 to pay for its design. A little more than two months later, on February 17, 1862, Senator Henry Wilson of Massachusetts, chairman of the Senate Committee on Military Affairs and the Militia, presented a joint resolution calling for similar action in behalf of the Army.

The search for descendants of the initial winners was started recently in the hope that a majority of them can be located and invited here to participate in the commemorative program. Already numerous replies have been received from citizens throughout the country.

### State Winners Listed

According to an official publication of the Department of the Army, the following winners of the medal were born in the State of Delaware:

Capt. Henry A. du Pont, Fifth U. S. Artillery; John B. Mayberry, Company F, First Del. Infantry; Wagoner Griffin Sew-

ard, Company G, Eighth U. S. Cavalry; Capt. S. Rodman Smith, Company C, Fourth Del. Infantry.

The birth place of the following winners cannot be established by the Department of the Army, but the records indicate they served with Delaware units:

First Lt. David E. Buckingham, Company E, Fourth Del. Infantry; Capt. James Parke Postles, Company A, First Del. Infantry; First Sgt. John Shilling, Company H, Third Del. Infantry.

The winner of the medal listed below was foreign born, but served in a unit from the State of Delaware: Bernard McCarren, Company C, First Delaware Infantry.

Records of the U. S. Bureau of Naval Personnel show that winners of the medal who served in the Navy from the State of Delaware include Coal Heaver Charles Baldwin and Quartermaster Alexander Hand.

# 10 Heroes' Descendants Are Sought

By JOHN S. SPRUANCE  
Staff Writer

A search is under way for descendants of the 10 men from Delaware who won the Congressional Medal of Honor during the Civil War.

Two who have been located are members of this state's Civil War Centennial Commission. They are Henry F. du Pont of Winterthur and Dr. John Shilling of Dover, a retired state superintendent of public school secondary education.

Mr. du Pont's father, Col. Henry A. du Pont, who commanded an artillery brigade in Sheridan's Shenandoah Valley campaign, received the medal for "most distinguished gallantry" at the battle of Cedar Creek, Va., Oct. 19, 1864.

Dr. Shilling's ancestor, of the same name, was first sergeant of Company H, Third Delaware Infantry Regiment.

The nationwide search for descendants of winners of the medal, which is the first decoration authorized by the federal government to be worn as a badge of honor, is being conducted by the District of Columbia Centennial Commission.

Other Delaware medal winners who served in various Union Army units during the war were:

Capt. S. Rodmond Smith, Company C, Fourth Delaware Infantry; First Lt. David E. Buckingham, Company E, same regiment; Capt. James Parke Postles, Company A, First Delaware Infantry; John B. Mayberry, Company F, same regiment; Bernard McCarren, Company C, same regiment; and Wagoner Griffin Seward, Company G, Eighth U. S. Cavalry.

Bureau of Naval Personnel records show that medal winners from Delaware in that branch of the service were Quartermaster Alexander Hand and Coal Heaver Charles Baldin.

Captain Postles, who died in 1908, was adjutant general of Delaware, a morocco leather manufacturer, and active in fraternal orders.

The District Commission, the Delaware Commission, and the Civil War Round Table of Wilmington are interested in locating other Delaware descendants of medal winners.

Tribute will be paid the memory of recipients from Delaware and other states in a commemorative ceremony in the Washington Cathedral at some date during the Centennial, which begins in 1961. Descendants of medal winners will be invited to the ceremony.

The Congressional Medal first was awarded survivors of the famous Andrews raid in 1862, in which federal soldiers seized a locomotive and made an unsuccessful try to get through Confederate lines in Georgia. The event has been publicized by the Walt Disney film, "The Great Locomotive Chase."

Shaped like a five-pointed star, the medal has on each of its points a crown of oak and laurel, and in its center an image of America repulsing discord in the form of two snakes surrounded by 34 stars. The clasp consists of the American eagle nestling upon two crossed cannon and a sword.

Journal - E.E.  
July 14, 1959

Gen. Ref.  
# G40

Gen REF

Medal of Honor  
Winner

Gen Reference  
# 640

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

COMMEMORATING THE DISTINGUISHED AND COURAGEOUS SERVICES OF  
SERGEANT JAMES P. CONNOR RENDERED AT CAPE CAVALAIRE,  
SOUTHERN FRANCE, ON D-DAY AUGUST 15 A. D. 1944 IN  
WORLD WAR II.

WHEREAS, it appears by the announcement of the War Department released March 12, 1945, that Sergeant James P. Connor, of Wilmington, Delaware, made a forced landing on D-Day, August 15 A. D. 1944 on Cape Cavalaire, Southern France, with a battle patrol of thirty-six men selected from among the invasion-trained veterans of the 7th Regiment of the 3rd Infantry Division; and

WHEREAS, because of the mine infested areas, machine gun nests, artillery and mortar positions around Cape Cavalaire, rated high in its importance by the Germans for defensive purposes, the battle patrol of the American Forces was soon cut to shreds and reduced by one-half of its men, including the platoon Lieutenant, who was killed by a mine explosion while standing near Sergeant Connor who also sustained his first serious wound therefrom; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Connor, fully realizing the tremendous importance of the mission of his patrol, took over the leadership of the remnants thereof and through his indomitable fighting spirit and fearless disregard for his own life, though now having suffered his second serious injury by being shot through his left shoulder by a German sniper, continued to give orders and commands for attack, ever pressing forward, by striking down the continued resistance of an enemy overwhelmingly superior in number until Sergeant Connor was again shot in the knee by a German sniper, thereby sustaining another serious

injury, this being his third wound; and

WHEREAS, though seriously wounded and advised by his comrades, who now counted about a dozen in number, to seek cover and await medical attention, Sergeant Connor nevertheless again gave orders for flanking attacks and, while shouting words of encouragement to his comrades, said --

"They can hit me, but they can't stop me".

His comrades, though now reduced to nine in number and thus imbued with the fighting inspiration of this fearless son of Delaware, went on to complete the successful mission of a most dangerous undertaking in total disregard of their own lives and bringing back with them forty German prisoners; and

WHEREAS, as the result of the successful completion of this very important mission, Sergeant Connor has been honored by his Country and has been awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor, the highest award that can be bestowed upon an American fighting man and probably the second time that this award has been made to a Delaware soldier;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

Section 1. That public acknowledgment be made by the citizens of Delaware and grateful appreciation be expressed at some future time to be fixed and arranged by the Commission hereinafter authorized commemorative of the distinguished and honorable services of a son of Delaware, whose heritage and fighting words

"They can hit me, but they can't stop me", flung at his enemy after having been wounded three times while on one mission, is an inspiration to this and future generations.

Section 2. That the Governor be and he is hereby authorized and requested to appoint a commission to be known as the

"Sergeant James P. Conner Commission", composed of three members and of which the Governor shall be a member ex officio, to commemorate in a fitting way the memorable services which Sergeant James P. Connor rendered to his Country and his Country's allies at Cape Cavalaire, Southern France, August 15 A. D. 1944 in World War II.

Section 3. That the sum of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) be and the same is hereby appropriated to the "Sergeant James P. Connor Commission" to be used for the purpose of defraying expenses and the procuring of a suitable plaque commemorating the foregoing event at a time and place to be fixed by said Commission and to place such plaque in such place as may be fitting the circumstances of the event according to the judgment of the said Commission; that the said money be paid to the said Commission by the State Treasurer at such time as the Commission may issue a warrant signed by its chairman.

Section 4. This House Concurrent Resolution shall be deemed and taken to be in the nature of a Supplementary Appropriation Act and the funds hereby appropriated shall be paid out of the General Funds of the State Treasury not otherwise appropriated.