

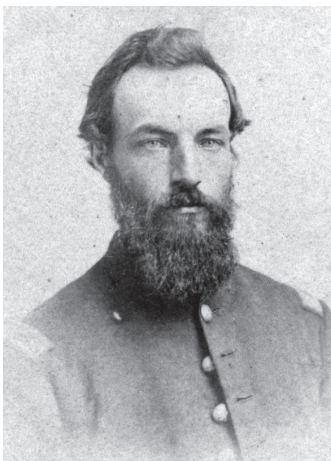


Boeve Image Identified

MI Editor: Subscriber David Morin of Exeter, N.H., has a special interest in portrait photographs of Civil War soldiers from his state. Recently, he identified another one that was published in the feature gallery of images from the Brian Boeve collection (Winter 2015) as an unknown New Hampshire soldier. Accord-



Brian Boeve collection.



Library of Congress.

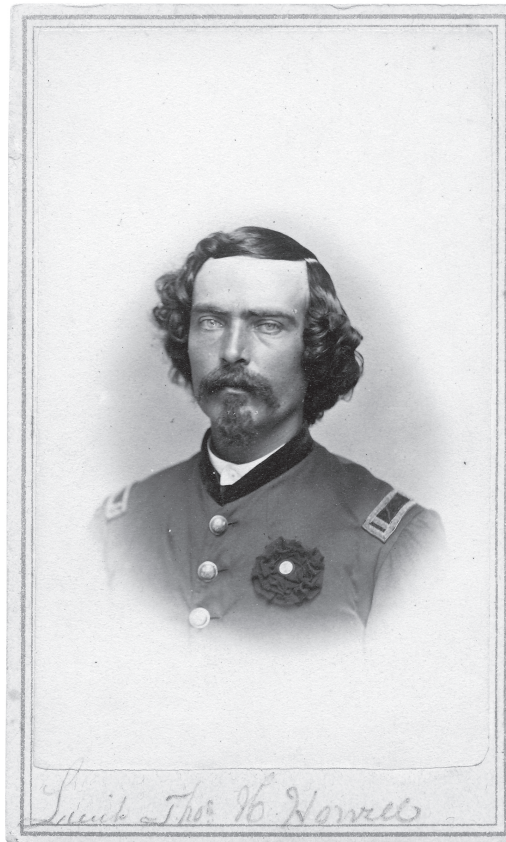
Jasper A. Warren (1831-1912) is pictured, above top, as a corporal in Company A of the 13th New Hampshire Infantry about 1862, and as captain and commander of Company I, 25th U.S. Colored Infantry, about 1864-1865.

ing to Morin, the path that led to the discovery started when *Photo Sleuth* author Kurt Luther made him aware of a Library of Congress album of soldiers. “I was going through the album and one of the images struck me as someone I had seen before,” Morin explained. The soldier was Jasper A. Warren of Wolfeboro, N.H. In the Library of Congress image, left, Warren is pictured as captain and commander of Company I of the 25th U.S. Colored Infantry. Prior to joining the 25th in February 1864, Warren served as a corporal in Company A of the 13th New Hampshire infantry. The ruby ambrotype owned by Boeve pictures Warren at this rank holding his distinctive cap with the infantry horn and regimental identification. Morin remembered Boeve’s image, and as a result the name and face are reconnected. Congratulations to Morin for the fine work.

Lincoln Mourned

MI Editor: “Martyred President,” the photo essay that marked the sesquicentennial of the assassination of Abraham Lincoln (Spring 2015) generated much positive feedback. Among those who responded was subscriber and con-

tributor Jules Martino, who sent this wonderful *carte de visite* of an officer wearing a Lincoln mourning badge. Thomas H. Howell,



Jules Martino collection.

1st Lt. Thomas H. Howell, Company G, 30th Iowa Infantry.

a first lieutenant of Company G, 30th Iowa Infantry, posed for this portrait in Johnson’s Union Photograph Gallery in Washington. Born in Floyd County, Va., Howell survived Lincoln by only a few years. He died in 1868 at age 29 of the effects of chronic diarrhea—one of the many men not counted as a war casualty who died as the result of his experience in uniform. According to his obituary in the *Fairfield Weekly Ledger* of Jefferson County, Iowa, “Lieut. Howell passed unhurt through 22 general engage-

ments, and contracted the disease which terminated his life during the march from Richmond to Washington. He was one of Iowa’s best and bravest soldiers, highly praised for his kindness, especially to the sick and wounded.”

Damn If You Didn’t!

So every issue since you took over I say to myself “can’t do better than that!” and then the next issue arrives and damn if you didn’t... the latest is simply superb in every respect...layout, print and image interest and quality.

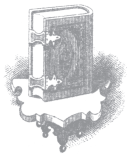
Chris Nelson
Washington, D.C.

MI Editor: I am humbled by Chris’ comments and the many kind words received since becoming editor and publisher starting with the Winter 2014 issue. I accept the compliments mindful that this is the work of not one person. It is a collaborative effort with a wonderful team of editors, contributors and others. All have given generously of their time, experience and knowledge. For this I am grateful. *Military Images* has long been the dominant voice in the larger conversation about early American military vernacular photography in all aspects, from identified soldier and sailor stories to observations about uniforms, weapons and equipment. Those of you who subscribe or purchase single copies allow our voice to continue to be heard, and provide the funds necessary to publish in print and digital. *MI* could not happen without your ongoing support.

Color Sergeants Also Wore the Star

On page 34 of the Winter 2015 issue (“Rally Round the Flag,

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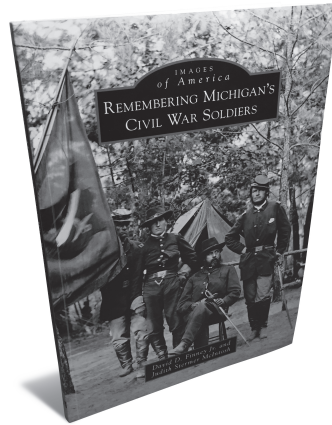


Images of America Remembers the Civil War Soldier

BY RONALD S. CODDINGTON

The *Images of America* books by Arcadia Publishing are ubiquitous. The ongoing series of paperback volumes with their sepia cover and distinctive red and black logo trace the history of the country through vernacular photographs. My first encounter with one of these books was a few years ago, when I discovered the volume for Middlesex, N.J., where I lived from the first grade through my freshman year in high school. I assumed that *Images of America* solely focused on town histories.

As it turned out, my assumption had been way off. Recently, I discovered one of the latest volumes in the series, *Remembering Michigan's Civil War Soldiers*, by David D. Finney, Jr., and Judith Stermer McIntosh. The edition provides an excellent survey of representative portraits of 90,000 Wolverines who participated in the war. According to a note in the introduction, more than 1,000 im-



Images of America: Remembering Michigan's Civil War Soldiers

By David D. Finney Jr. and Judith Stermer McIntosh
Softcover, 128 pages
Arcadia Publishing
List: \$21.99

ages were considered for inclusion. Approximately 191 wartime photographs and 25 post-war images ultimately made the cut. The selections are grouped into seven thematic chapters. One of them, "The Ultimate Sacrifice," features a soldier portrait that is perhaps the most compelling image in the book.

John Egler, a private in the 26th Michigan Infantry, posed proudly for his portrait after he enlisted in the summer of 1862. The photographer's artful composition added to the effect: Egler holds an apple in one hand and rests an arm on a table, upon which sits a backpack personalized with his name. Egler was wounded at the Battle of Spotsylvania on May 12, 1864, and died of his injury a few weeks later.

Remembering Michigan is one of at least 45 Civil War-related volumes in *Images of America*. If they are all this well produced, make room in your library for this collection. ■

Mail Call CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

Boys") the caption identifies the soldier on the right as an ordnance sergeant based on the star over his chevrons. There is evidence, however, that the insignia was also used to designate a regiment's color sergeant. There does not seem to be any distinction in whether these stars were open or solid, pointed up or down. Color of the chevrons would distinguish the ordnance sergeant from a color sergeant wearing that design, the color

sergeant wearing infantry light blue and the ordnance sergeant the crimson of the Ordnance Department.

Steve Rogers
Ithaca, NY

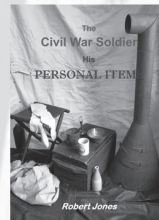
MI Editor: This detail of the *carte de visite* referenced by Rogers shows the chevron and star on the uniform sleeve of an unidentified sergeant holding the national colors of the 34th New York Infantry.



The Civil War Soldier His Personal Items

By Robert Jones

Another first! This book explores and explains the common soldier's daily life and times with over 600 vivid images of original artifacts, photographs, letters and documents. In the chapter "PHOTOGRAPHS: Please send me your likeness", it explains how important it was for the soldier to have pictures of his loved ones and shows many of the images he carried. This book is destined to be THE reference for personal items used by the Civil War soldier.



Battle of Gettysburg The Relics, Artifacts & Souvenirs

By Robert Jones

This is the first published book devoted entirely to Gettysburg artifacts, souvenirs and the stories behind them. Many of the artifacts pictured are from the early museums and collections. It includes battle aftermath, veteran reunions, museums, monuments and Gettysburg today. Over 750 photographs.



ORDERING AND INFO

www.lulu.com/spotlight/civilwarbooks

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