



Program Notes for the

5th Michigan Regiment Band

Attached to the
Army of the Potomac
3rd Corps
1st Division
3rd Brigade
“Fighting Fifth”



v2.0 - August, 2008



Song List

Symbols

26th North Carolina Waltz	6
7th Regiment Drum Corps	6

A

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God	6
Abide With Me	6
Amathusia	6
Amazing Grace	6
Andante and Waltz	6
Annie of the Vale	6
Atlantic Telegraph Schottische	6
Aura Lea	6

B

Battle Cry of Freedom	6
Battle Hymn of the Republic	7
Bonnie Blue Flag	7
Brightest Eyes Quick Step	7
Bristol March	7

C

Call Me Not Back from the Echoless Shore	7
Cape May Polka	7
Captain Shepherd's Quick Step	7
Cavalry Quick Step	7
Cheer, Boys, Cheer	7
Come Dearest the Daylight is Gone	7
Cumberland March	7

D

Dixie's Land	7
--------------------	---

F

Fairy Waltz	8
Flow Gently Sweet Afton	8

G

General Grant's Grand March	8
God Save the South	8

H

Hail Columbia	8
Hold the Fort	8
Home, Sweet Home	8
Hurrah Storm Gallop	8

I

I'll Be a Sergeant	8
In the Sweet Bye and Bye	8
Invalid Corps	8

J

Just Before the Battle Mother	9
-------------------------------------	---

K

Kingdom Coming	9
Kossuth's March	9

L

Listen to the Mockingbird	9
Little Brown Church in the Vale	9
Louisville March	9

M

Marching Along	9
Marching Through Georgia	9
Martha Quick Step	9
Mother Dear	9
My Shepherd Will Supply My Need	10

N

Nearer My God to Thee	10
-----------------------------	----

O

O God, Our Help in Ages Past	10
Ocean Telegraph March	10

Old Kentucky, Kentucky 10
 Old Log Hut 10
 Our Quickstep 10

P

Parade March 10
 Picket's Charge 10
 President Johnson's Grand March . 10
 Prima Donna Waltz 10

R

Red, White, and Blue 10

S

Shenandoah 11
 Sherman's Advance on Savannah . 11
 Signal March 11
 Star Spangled Banner 11
 Sunny Hours 11
 Sword of Robert E. Lee, The 11

T

Tenting Tonight on the Old Camp
 Ground 11
 Tramp! Tramp! Tramp! 11
 Twinkling Stars Far Away 11

U

Unnamed Quick Step 11

V

Vacant Chair 11

W

Washington Grays 12
 We are Coming Father Abra'am 12
 Weeping, Sad, and Lonely 12
 When Johnny Comes Marching
 Home 12
 When This Cruel War is Over 12
 When Upon the Field of Glory 12

Who Will Care for Mother Now? ... 12

Y

Yankee Doodle 12
 Yellow Rose of Texas 12

History of the 5th

The roots of the Fifth Michigan Regiment Band go all the way back to August of 1861. At that time, the Fifth Volunteer Infantry, made up of men from the Livingston, Oakland, and Wayne County area, mustered through old Fort Wayne in Detroit. The Regimental band, some twenty members strong, was made up of musicians from within the infantry regiment—foot soldiers first, musicians second. For nearly four years, the 5th Michigan was involved in the war, suffering the 47th highest casualty rate. Time and time again, it displayed courage and valor well beyond the call of duty. Colonel John Gilluly, a Brighton resident, and the 5th Michigan's first field grade commander, was killed at the Battle of Rappahannock and is now buried in Brighton, Michigan.

The 5th was attached to Phil Kearney's 1st Division of the 3rd Corps, Army of the Potomac. At the Battle of Gettysburg, the 5th



Michigan fought from the beginning and in one hour lost 105 men killed or wounded, or about one-half of the number in the regiment.

When the Army of the Potomac was reorganized under General Grant, the 5th was moved to General Hancock's 2nd Corps. At the end of the



War, it was estimated that over 75 percent of the men who had left their home in Livingston County ended up as casualties of the War. No other war in our history has claimed such terrible losses.

The Current Band

The 5th Michigan Regiment Band was once known as the 5th Michigan Infantry Band. For 108 years, from 1865 - 1973, it was just a memory. Then, as a State of Michigan Bicentennial project it was recreated in the form of the Fifth Michigan Regiment Band. In keeping with the authenticity of the Civil War “field” regimental bands, the present band consists of musicians, color guard, and support personnel. The band’s repertoire of the 1860s includes marches, polkas, schottisches, waltzes, and hymns arranged for the

group by Lt. Col. Guy Smith, Conductor. The present band plays on antique and replica Civil War instruments at reenactments, concerts, parades, festivals, and other special events. The Fifth Michigan Regiment Band is a nonprofit organization. Stipends charged for performances are based on the distance and length of time involved. All income is used for operating expenses and instruments. The Band is managed by a board of directors. Members are volunteers.

Highlights of Previous Performances		
July 22, 1986	First Bull Run Reenactment	Manassas, VA
May 19, 1990	125th Anniversary Grand Review	Washington, D.C.
November 1, 1992	Re-dedication, Michigan State Capital	Lansing, MI
June 19, 1993	West Virginia's 130th Anniversary of Statehood	Wheeling, WV
July 1995, 1997 & 1998	Battle of Gettysburg Reenactment	Gettysburg, PA
October 1998 - 2007	Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center	Fremont, OH
November 1999	Statue Dedication for Johnny Clem	Newark, OH
July 2001 & 2002	Patriot Programs with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra	Milford & Mt. Clemens, MI
July 2000 & 2003	National Civil War Band Festival	Campbellsville, KY
February 2003	World Premier Showing of <i>Gods and Generals</i> with Jeff Daniels	Jackson, MI
August 2005 & 2006	Civil War Music Muster	Gettysburg, PA
July 2006 & August 2007	Summer concert Series	Mackinaw City, MI
July 2006-2008	Reenactment	Historic Fort Wayne, Detroit, MI

Program Notes

***7th Regiment Drum Corps, #18** - The lyrics were penned by John Newton, a bold abolitionist minister who, in his youth, had owned a slave ship. His words tell the powerful and moving story of his conversion and repentance during a storm at sea. This march celebrated the arrival of Grafulla's 7th New York Regiment Drum Corps into Washington in 1861. This was the first organized regiment to arrive in the capital in response to the President's call for troops.

The 26th North Carolina Waltz - Composed and arranged by Goodwin in 1861. The present Fifth has enjoyed working on this piece, which has become one of its favorite compositions. The 26th North Carolina Band was considered one of the best bands in the Confederate army, and one of the few Confederate bands whose bandbooks have survived.

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God - Annie of the Vale was one of many popular heartthrob Confederate songs written before the Civil War. Soldiers sang it in camp, reminding them of their loved ones left behind. Composed by Martin Luther. This is the best known hymn of the Protestant Reformation.

Abide With Me - A Christian hymn composed by Henry Francis Lyte in 1847. Lyte wrote the words while succumbing to tuberculosis. He lived three weeks after completing the hymn. Today, the lyrics are sung to William Henry Monk's "Eventide" rather than to Lyte's music.

Amathusia - A beautiful melody that illustrates the tradition of "shape note hymns," which were a unique fusion of conventional hymns and spirituals. It created the distinctive 19th century American musical flavor. Little is known about this lively piece. The only information found about this odd name is a reference to Amathusia phidippus, a butterfly indigenous to Thailand.

Amazing Grace - A comforting American folk hymn published in 1835 in *W. Walker's Southern Harmony*. This song was also known as *Rally 'Round The Flag Boys*. It was first performed at a war rally and was an instant success. Union soldiers sang

it with gusto throughout the war.

The Battle Hymn of the Republic

- Julia Ward Howe wrote the words of this song during a visit to army encampments near Washington in November 1861. True to the spirit of the times, she set her lyrics to the melody of a well-known song, *John Brown's Body*. It continues to be famous and moving to this day.

The Bonnie Blue Flag- Next to *Dixie*, this was the most popular song in the South and with the Confederate army. The words tell the story of secession and invite other states to join in. The title refers to an early Confederate flag.

****Brightest Eyes Quick Step, # 27*** - The melodic line of this quickstep is from a popular song written in the 1860s.

Bristol March - Orchestrated from an 1864 piano score found in a collection by Stephanie Bougere of New Orleans.

****Call Me Not Back from the Echoless Shore, #11*** - A sentimental ballad believed to be one of Stonewall Jackson's favorites. It was written by Henry Tucker.

****Cape May Polka, #46*** - A polka written by Rowbotham and arranged by C. S. Grafulla in 1861.

Captain Shepherd's Quick Step -

In 1861 Grafulla and his musicians went to war with the 7th New York Regiment. Captain Shepherd probably served in the same regiment. C. S. Grafulla dedicated this quick step to Shepherd.

****Cavalry Quick Step, #6*** - Composed by C. S. Grafulla.

Cheer, Boys, Cheer - In the South this song may also be known as *Southern Boys*. For both armies it celebrated boyish bravado, defense of family, and commitment to duty.

Come Dearest the Daylight Is Gone - This was a very sentimental song and moved many a soldier to tears while sitting around the campfire. It is said to have been one of General Lee's favorites.

The Cumberland March - The original score was found in a collection of Civil War era piano music accumulated by Mary Bruner of Philadelphia.

Dixie -Originally composed by Daniel Emmett, from Ohio, for a minstrel show. He named it *Dixie's Land*. It was subsequently adopted by the South as its national rallying song and was called *Dixie*. It became wildly popular and remains a favorite of all Americans to this day.

****Fairy Waltz** - This music is an example of the popular parlor songs played in homes during and after the Civil War. These songs romantically idealized this world's beauties and ecstatically imagined them beyond the grave. Song covers of the period often portrayed such visions of musical euphoria.

Flow Gently Sweet Afton - This song was composed in 1791 by Alexander Hume, who set to music a poem by Robert Burns. The lyrics celebrate a beautiful home and its lovely setting on the banks of the Afton River in Scotland.

General Grant's Grand March - Although this famous General and President did not have an ear for music, this march was written in his honor.

God Save the South - This hymn was very popular during Confederate times. Some say it was the National Anthem of the South. The lyrics and music reveal the religious spirit of faith and devotion to the rightness of the struggle.

***Hail Columbia, #34** - The present day official Vice President's song. In the 1860s many Americans thought of it as their National Anthem. It was one of Lincoln's favorite tunes.

Hold the Fort - This spirited song is

based upon an 1864 standoff near Kennesaw Mountain. The Union commander saw a flag signal sent by General Sherman that said, "Hold the fort for I am coming."

Home, Sweet Home - Written in 1823 for a musical drama by an American actor who never owned a home in his life. This was perhaps the most beloved song of 19th century America.

***Hurrah Storm Gallop, #42** - It was composed and arranged by C. S. Grafulla. A favorite of the present Fifth because the players can involve the audience in the music.

I'll Be a Sergeant - This is the American cousin of the British Army marching song *I've Got a Sixpence*.

In the Sweet Bye and Bye - The music of this hymn was written by Joseph Webster, a morose musician prone to moods of depression. During one such mood he visited his poet friend S. Fillmore, who asked him, "Webster, what is the matter now?" Webster replied, "It's no matter. It will be all right by and by." At that moment the idea of a hymn came to Fillmore, who immediately wrote the lyrics while Webster composed the music. In thirty minutes they completed and sang the hymn.

The Invalid Corps - A humorous

song about a reluctant conscript who hoped to be rejected from the army by alleging he was an invalid. He was examined by the medical officer, got his “4F,” and celebrated in song.

Just Before the Battle Mother - This song sets to music a letter written home by a young soldier. He wrote that if he was killed in the battle he should not be mourned, but remembered in happier times. He was mortally wounded in the battle.

Kingdom Coming - Written by Henry Clay Work, an active abolitionist. It was introduced with great fanfare in Chicago on April 23, 1862 by the famous Christy Minstrels.

The Kossuth’s March - This piece was first found on a piano score and was subtitled *The National March of the Hungarians*, comparable to *The Marseilles* of the French and *Hail Columbia* of the Americans.

****Listen to the Mockingbird, #47*** - This was a popular parlor song during the Civil War era. Listen for the mockingbird’s distinct trill in this energetic arrangement.

The Little Brown Church in the Vale (The Church in the Wildwood) - This hymn was composed in 1857 by William Pitts. He was a musician who had stopped to rest in a beautiful vale while traveling in Iowa. Later

he discovered a church had been built there and wrote a hymn about the church. The church later was abandoned. When it was revived in the 20th century, the hymn became popular. The Little Brown Church is now a famous tourist attraction in Nashua, Iowa.

Louisville March - Taken from *The Peter’s Saxhorn Journal* of 1859. It was sometimes referred to as the Stars and Stripes of the 1800s.

Marching Along - A rallying song used by General McClellan when he assumed command of the cowering Union troops after their rout at Bull Run in 1862.

Marching Through Georgia - This song commemorates one of the most striking and terrifying episodes of the war, that of the famous march of Sherman from Atlanta to the sea.

****Martha Quick Step , # 4*** - This arrangement by C. S. Grafulla is based upon the opera *Martha*, composed by Friedrich von Flotow.

*****Mother Dear*** - Although soldiers on both sides sang about the trials of army life, the most popular songs were often sentimental, lugubrious tunes about tender mothers. An entire genre of songs was devoted to “Mother,” more than in any other period in history.

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need - An old Scottish hymn, typically sung in the 1800s.

Nearer My God to Thee - This is a hymn based loosely on Genesis 28:11-19, the passage that describes Jacob's dream of climbing a ladder to heaven. It is immortalized as the hymn played by the band of the RSM Titanic as it sank in 1912.

O God, Our Help in Ages Past - The text of this hymn is based on Psalm 90, verses 1-5. It dates back to the 17th century.

The Ocean Telegraph March - A march composed in 1858 to commemorate the laying of the Atlantic telegraph cable.

****Old Kentucky, Kentucky, #40*** - The composer and significance of this song are unknown. It can be found in the band books of the *3rd New Hampshire Regimental Brass Band*, Number 40.

The Old Log Hut - Some call it "the granddaddy of brass choir music." It was the first brass sextet piece published in 1853. It is a lively foot stomper.

****Our Quickstep, #29*** - The 3rd New Hampshire Volunteer Infantry, whose bandmaster wrote this quick step, was stationed at Port Royal, South Carolina. The quickstep was

a performance tempo (q=104) listed in *Dodworth's Brass Band School* instructions.

****Parade March, #13*** - This is an example of the majestic songs that were played for parades, reviewing the troops, and grand marches at balls.

Picket's Charge - During the July 1863 battle in Gettysburg, General Pickett led the ill-fated Confederate charge to the infamous High Water Mark. This was the farthest point the Confederate Army advanced into the North in the entire Civil War. Of the many songs written about this tragic advent, *Picket's Charge* is the best known.

President Johnson's Grand March - Many of the grand marches composed at the time were named after famous military officers and political figures. Andrew Johnson became the 17th President after Lincoln was assassinated.

Prima Donna Waltz - This waltz brings to the mind's eye a beautiful ballroom with ladies in full hoop skirts whirling across the floor, led by their soldiers in full dress uniforms. What an elegant scene!

Red, White, and Blue - Today's audiences will recognize this spirited, foot stomping patriotic song as

Columbia, Gem of The Ocean. The melody was composed in England in 1843.

Shenandoah - Both the origin of this song and its spelling have long been disputed. Some say it was first sung by Missouri River boatmen. Others say it was derived from a white trader's love for the daughter of an Indian chief, her name being Shenandoah or Shennodore.

Sherman's Advance on Savannah - Composed to commemorate Sherman's March to the Sea, the famous campaign of 1864.

Signal March - One of the early written marches, it can be found in the 1854 *Brass Band Journal* published by Firth, Pond and Co. NY.

**The Star Spangled Banner, #41* - The band plays a Civil War version of the song. It was officially adopted in 1931 as the National Anthem.

The Sword of Robert E. Lee - This song sets to music a famous poem written by Abram Ryan about Robert E. Lee. Even in defeat, General Lee was highly respected by both sides and is a great hero of the South.

Sunny Hours - A favorite waltz copyrighted in 1859 and found in the *Peter's Saxhorn Journal*.

Tenting Tonight on the Old Camp Ground - The song was so popular that it was said that officers on both sides had to restrain the men from singing it at night, because this would divulge their field positions.

Tramp! Tramp! Tramp! (The Prisoners' Hope) - This song was sung by thousands of Union soldiers in the Confederate prisons. The words stirred a spirit of hope as the Union armies advanced. It is still sung today, perhaps because of its lively rhythms.

**Twinkling Stars Far Away, #26* - A piece that calls to mind a vision of an elegant outdoor ball on a brilliant starlit night. The music is found in the band books of the *3rd New Hampshire Regimental Brass Band, #26*.

***Unnamed Quick Step* - One of the surviving musical selections that was found in the *19th VA Heavy Artillery Battalion Band* books. The books can be found in the archives of the Confederate Museum in Richmond, VA. Despite its ambiguous title, it has an interesting melodic line and harmony.

The Vacant Chair - A sentimental song written in 1861 about a Union officer killed in action just before Thanksgiving. His family set a vacant chair at their holiday table to remember him.

Washington Grays - Composed by C.S. Grafulla, this march is considered one of the greatest marches of all time. Among Grafulla's prolific compositions and arrangements, the style and form of his marches was studied by Sousa. Grafulla's influences reverberate today through Sousa's many popular marches.

We are Coming Father Abra'am - In July 1862 Lincoln called for 300,000 volunteers. The response was painfully slow. A recruitment poem set to music (along with bounty payments) became a stirring inducement to the enlistment of 421,000 men.

Weeping, Sad, and Lonely or **When This Cruel War Is Over** - This song was very popular with both sides. The music was written by Henry Tucker with words by Charles Sawyer. The lyrics were so depressing that officers tried to forbid its singing.

When Johnny Comes Marching Home - A marching song written by the bandmaster of the Union Army in New Orleans. The tune has an Irish quality. Soldiers in both armies

sang and identified with Johnny.

When Upon the Field of Glory - This is the South's answer to the North's ballad *Weeping, Sad and Lonely*.

****Who Will Care for Mother Now?** - During one of the later battles, among those who fell was a young man who was the sole support of his aged and sick mother. Hearing the surgeon tell those around him that he would not live, he placed his hand across his forehead and with a trembling voice and burning tears running down his cheeks said, "Who will care for Mother now?"

Yankee Doodle - This tune is familiar to audiences everywhere. It was composed during the American Revolution, and the lyrics ridiculed the shabbily dressed Colonial soldiers. It became the battle march of the Revolution.

The Yellow Rose of Texas - Like *Dixie*, this popular Confederate song was an offspring of the minstrel stage. Its catchy tune was sung by both sides. Soldiers sometimes made up satirical verses to parody events in their lives.

* Selection taken and re-orchestrated from Volume One of the *3rd New Hampshire Volunteer Infantry Regiment's Bandbook*. This book comprises part of the well known Port Royal band music collection.

** Selection taken and re-orchestrated from the books of *The 19th Virginia Heavy Artillery Band* books, that are being preserved at the Museum of the Confederacy, Richmond, Virginia.

5th Michigan CDs

Reflections of the Civil War

- 1 Rock of Ages
- 2 The Star Spangled Banner (ca 1854)
- 3 Red, White and Blue
- 4 Long, Long Ago
- 5 Bristol March
- 6 Andante, #31
- 7 Yankee Doodle
- 8 Brightest Eyes Q.S.
- 9 O, God Our Help in Ages Past
- 10 Dixie & Bonnie Blue Flag (C.S.A.)
- 11 Cheer Boys Cheer (C.S.A.)
- 12 The Yellow Rose of Texas (C.S.A.)
- 13 The Cumberland March
- 14 Captain Shepherd's Q.S.
- 15 Call Me Not Back from the Echoless Shore #11
- 16 Just Before the Battle Mother
- 17 When Upon the Field of Glory (C.S.A)
- 18 Home, Sweet Home
- 19 The Sword of Robert E. Lee (C.S.A.)
- 20 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Hymns of the Civil War Period

- 1 Shall We Gather at the River?
- 2 The Little Brown Church in the Vale
- 3 O God, Our Help in Ages Past
- 4 It Is Well With My Soul
- 5 What a Friend We Have in Jesus
- 6 Abide with Me: Fast Falls the Eventide
- 7 The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want
- 8 Nearer, My God, to Thee
- 9 Rock of Ages
- 10 My Shepherd Will Supply My Need
- 11 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God
- 12 Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound (Solo Piper: David B. Martin)

Echoes of the Civil War

- 1 Opening Remarks
- 2 Medley: The Battle Hymn of the Republic, Dixie's Land, The Battle Cry of Freedom
- 3 The Star Spangled Banner (ca 1854)
- 4 O'Motor Q.S.
- 5 Come Dearest the Daylight is Gone
- 6 Palmyra Schottische
- 7 Signal March
- 8 Abide With Me
- 9 My Shepherd Will Supply My Need
- 10 The Ocean Telegraph March
- 11 The Atlantic Telegraph Schottische
- 12 The Kossuth's March
- 13 Cavalry Quickstep
- 14 The Lord's My Shepherd I'll Not Want
- 15 Prima Donna Waltz
- 16 Amathusia Q.S.
- 17 The Vacant Chair
- 18 Medley: Tramp! Tramp! Tramp!, Kingdom Coming, When Johnny Comes Marching Home
- 19 Bonnie Blue Flag
- 20 Goober Peas (C.S.A.)
- 21 Kiss Me Before I Die Mother (C.S.A. ca April 17, 1865)
- 22 Sherman's Advance on Savannah (Gallop)
- 23 Medley: '63 Is the Jubilee, Jeff in Petticoats, Hold the Fort
- 24 Dead March in Saul (Funeral March - Handel)
- 25 Hurrah Storm Gallop
- 26 Tenting on the Old Camp Ground

Sounds of the Civil War

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Star Spangled Banner
- 3 Hail to the Chief
- 4 Hail Columbia
- 5 Louisville March
- 6 Sunny Hours
- 7 Tic-Tac Polka
- 8 Old Ky., Ky.
- 9 Foster Medley - Nelly Bly & Hard Times
- 10 Aura Lee & Shenandoah
- 11 Old Log Hut
- 12 Lorena
- 13 Twinkling Stars Far Away
- 14 President Johnson's Grand March
- 15 Brightest Eyes Gallop
- 16 We Are Coming Father Abra'am
- 17 Medley - Battle Hymn of the Republic, Marching Through Georgia, and Battle Cry of Freedom
- 18 God Save the South
- 19 General Lee's Grand March
- 20 Foster Medley - Ring de Banjo & Some Folks
- 21 7th Regiment Drum Corps
- 22 General Grant's Grand March
- 23 Marching Along & I'll Be a Sergeant
- 24 The Invalid Corps
- 25 Nearer My God to Thee
- 26 Parade March #13
- 27 Just Before the Battle Mother
- 28 All Quiet on the Potomac Tonight
- 29 Garry Owen & When Johnny Comes Marching Home
- 30 Amazing Grace - Solo Piper David B. Martin

Personal Notes

Tapes and CDs Order Form

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