

Chapter 1 - The Land of Steady Habits

Spring of 1861, Buckingham re-elected Republican Governor of Connecticut by less than 100 votes.

Buckingham called for 10 companies, and 54 showed up.

461,000 lived in CT sending more than 30 regiments of infantry, cavalry, and artillery to war.

Lost 1,200 officers and men killed in action, 700 mortally wounded and 3,300 dead of disease.

Republicans held parades and rallies. Two-pounder brass election canons signalled processions to form. Cornet bands blared out music for war recruitment. Abraham visited Meriden and gave a speech at this rally on March 7, 1860.

Railroad cars, Stagecoach, and Steamboats provided transportation.

Majority of CT's population was agriculture and lived in rural areas.

Leonard Bacon of New Haven was a congregational preacher who was an abolitionist, but against force.

Most immigrants settled in CT between 1850 and 1860. 80% born (80,000) in 1860 were Irish Roman Catholic, 10% English, and 10% German.

Most Irish were poor. They voted Democrat which helped create Republic party out of Whig Party in the 1850's.

Republicans in office in 1855 revised the registry and voting laws that denied a lot of Irish votes and disbanded Irish militia companies.

Governor Buckingham became the 1st Republican Governor in 1858.

There was a big carriage industry in New Haven. Sold a lot to New York City and the South.

Most businesses and preachers condemned John Brown's actions by force.

Population of CT doubled from 1850 to 1860 because of immigration and output of industrial plants had increased 90%.

Chapter 2 - 1861: Crisis

Thomas Seymour (named for the town of Seymour) from Hartford was old friends with Jefferson Davis, soon to be the President of the Confederate States of America during the Civil War. They fought together in the Mexican War. Seymour ran for Governor in 1860 on the Democratic ticket against Buckingham and also supported Jefferson David for the White House in 1860.

Buckingham at this time was 56 years old, short, stocky, ruddy regular features, white hair, full sideburns, and bright blue eyes. He was elected Governor in 1858, 1859, and 1860. He beat out Seymour.

The Republican Party in CT in 1860 helped put Republican Abraham Lincoln into the White House.

Chapter 3 - Fort Sumter

Connecticut, via Colt, Sharp, and Hazard Powder Company, sold arms, ammo, and powder to the South up until the beginning of the war, which was used to batter the walls of Ft. Sumter in April of 1861.

Two newspapers at the time in New Haven were the Register and the Palladium.

Monday, April 15, 1861, Lincoln called for 74,000 troops to be drawn from the militias of the loyal states. It was published Tuesday the 16th. CT was required by quota to produce only 1 regiment in 3 days. It produced 6 in 3 weeks. When regiments filled up quickly, CT men enlisted in other regiments outside CT.

A train ran from Massachusetts, through Hartford, Meriden, Wallingford, to New Haven.

\$13 a **month army pay for a private.**

11th, 12th, and 13th were the last regiments to be formed. They formed much slower than the first 10 regiments, even though they all contained a nucleus of the 3-month enlistment regiments of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd regiments that fought at Bull Run.

Most used Enfield muskets.

Their first uniforms were poorly cut and indifferently stitched and would last 1 month under ordinary field conditioned.

11th regiment was a 3-year regiment..

Organized

1st	Hartford - But camped at Brewster's Park in New Haven.
2nd	New Haven - Brewster's Park
3rd	New Haven - Brewster Park was filled to capacity, so the 3rd move to the fair grounds, in open country, 2 miles from the State House in Hartford.
4th	Hartford
5th	Hartford
6th	New Haven - housed in "A" frame wooden barracks.
7th	New Haven - housed in "A" frame wooden barracks.
8th	Hartford
9th	New Haven (All Irish) - housed in "A" frame wooden barracks.
10th	Hartford - housed in tents of James patent.
11th	Hartford - housed in tents of James patent.
12th	Hartford - housed in tents of James patent.
13th	New Haven

Chapter 4 – Manpower

Both New Haven and Hartford were capitals of the state of CT during the war.

Draft dodgers - Paid up to \$35 for an examiner doctor to issue an exemption certificate of disability. Some fled to Canada.

Negro regiments were in raised in CT by 1863.

The men that had a steady diet of salt pork, salt beef, hardtack, and coffee produced scurvy and dysentery as a result. A shipment of onions, cabbages, and fresh veggies from associations in CT helped the CT regiments with this problem.

Contaminated water brought typhoid and typhus.

Winter brought pneumonia.

Summer brought malaria and yellow fever.

Many CT associations, not federally funded, provided for the needs of the CT regiments, such as food, clothing, stationary, stamps, and medical supplies.

Dr. Nathan Mayer, a famous surgeon during the Civil War, served as the 11th Connecticut and later, the 16th Connecticut's surgeon. He was a 24 year old German born Jew trained in Europe. Dr. Nathan Mayer used calomel and castor oil to combat a yellow fever epidemic at New Berne, NC during the summer of 1864. He treated typhoid with fresh milk and beer. He gave quinine, morphine, and whiskey to his sick soldiers. He also organized a 'Corps' of Nurses' from the boys in the regiments to help with the hospital care.

Chapter 5 - Au Revoir Here of Hereafter

The great religious revivals of 1857 merged into the patriotic revivals of 1861 and 1862.

1860 - New Haven's population was 40,000.

CT Volunteers and their friends and relations at home supported McClellan with such vehemence during the early years of the conflict. CT men were paternalists.

Most CT men sought emotional outlets in pre-war militia companies.

Chapter 6 - The Union Forever

Sometimes there were long intervals between the CT men getting paid.

Worms and bugs were found in their hardtack rations.

At Fort Walker - Hilton Head Island, South Carolina during the amphibious operations of 1862, the CT men were amazed at the beauty of the surroundings, especially those who never went more than 30 miles from their hometown. They were amazed at the cotton fields, orange, fig, and palmetto trees, and the sugar cane. They even feasted on yams that they dug up from the ground.

CT men were chosen for Burnside's expedition into North Carolina because of their Seafaring and mechanical skills.

Chapter 7 - The Forgotten War

4,000 CT men under General Banks fought the siege at Port Hudson, Louisiana, 135 miles North of New Orleans between March and May of 1863. The CT regiments were the veterans of the 12th and 13th, and the 9 month regiments being the 24th, 25th, 26th, and 28th. The majority of CT's manpower was engaged in this forgotten war stretched from the Carolinas to the eastern border of Texas. The costly victory at Port Hudson was the only significant Union victory in the Deep South until Sherman's march to the Sea in the summer of 1864.

Chapter 8 - Only the Officers Got Licked

Only 5 days after being sworn in, the 14th CT Regiment marched for one week into Maryland just in time for the Battle of Antietam.

Harland's brigade encamped on a meadow near the stone bridge only 100 feet away from the Confederate position.

The 16th CT Regiment was only in service for 23 days.

The 11th CT Regiment was ordered to pin down every marksman Confederate across the bridge.

Colonel Kingsbury of the 11th CT divided the regiment into 2 battalions. Stedman on the right and Kingsbury on the left. Stedman threw 2 companies forward as skirmishers. They waded through the water to the opposite shore. Captain John Griswold who led the 2 companies was shot in the chest. The 2 companies fell back, 1/2 dead or wounded. Kingsbury on the left set up a skirmish and was wounded in the foot, then a canister shot went through his leg. Being helped back, he was wounded in the shoulder, then mortally in the stomach. Stedman then took over as Colonel of the 11th.

Both battalions were firing rapidly and were picking off Confederate artillerymen. The 51st NY and 51st Penn poured through them followed by a division. The Confederates fled. The battle for the stone bridge was over.

For the wounded, they used fresh corn leaves when bandages gave out.

Chapter 9 - Iron Nutmegs

Captain James E. Moore of the 17th CT from Danbury was among the first casualties at Gettysburg.

A reporter from Norwalk, CT, Byington, dispatched via Morse code to Washington, talking directly to Abe Lincoln about the results of Gettysburg.

Drewry's Bluff on May 16th cost CT Regiments 739 casualties out of 2,400 engaged.

The 11th CT (Minus John Mautte) joined the Army of the Potomac on June 1st, 1864.

Led by Stedman, the 2nd day at Cold Harbor, felt he wasn't going to survive, but led the 11th within 30 yards of the enemy's line.

For 9 months, 6,000 CT troops fought in the trenches around Petersburg, VA, 50 to 100 feet from the enemy's line.

The Crater incident involved the colored 30th CT regiment.

CT regiments lost a lot of men during the Petersburg siege because 3 year enlistments were up.

Troops didn't return to New Haven and Hartford until around mid summer 1865 after the war was over. Between April and then, they did grand reviews, provost duties, and tended to other government chores - settling military accounts and arranging for transportation for discharged veterans.

20% of the CT volunteers were immigrant or Negro. The biggest immigrant groups were Irish, Negro, and German (which John Mautte was). After the war, the native CT Yankees developed a deeper appreciation for their immigrants in arms.

Chapter 10 - Why do we fight?

Theodore Dwight Woolsey, President of Yale College during the Civil War.

Bushnell was a clergyman during the Civil War. Bushnell Park in Hartford named after him.

CT people saw the war mainly as a defence of national unity and the constitution.

Most CT people believed slavery was responsible for the war, but they fought to preserve the Union and hoped that emancipation was just an ultimate result of the conflict.

Majority of CT leaders agreed on emancipation, but still believed in white supremacy. Many felt that the educated blacks and those that fought in the military could go back to Africa with the other blacks and become as missionaries and leaders to help reform Africa.

Negro families helped Union soldiers that escaped from southern prisoners escape back to the North, passing them from family to family while providing them food and shelter.

CT soldiers would have voted unanimously 'no' to the transplant freed Negro to CT soil.

Chapter 11 - Disloyal Opposition

May of 1861 - Espionage Act - \$1000 fine and 3 to 7 year imprisonment for direct or indirect written or verbal contact with a rebel, any selling or transport of war goods.

1000 Bridgeport loyalists headed by P.T. Barnum and 2 companies of discharged union 3-month regiments surrounded a smaller number of Peace Democrats, tearing down their Peace Flag and replacing it with the Stars and Stripes.

Orville Platt helped get passed CT's first amendment to State Constitution permitting absentee soldier voting.

Chapter 12 - The folks at Home

Women formed soldier's aid societies providing for the boys in the field. Shipped tons of Holiday food every Thanksgiving and Christmas.

New Haven hospital was filled to overflowing with wounded from different States; most by ship from Virginia battlefields.

Winter of 1864, the trains to and from CT were jammed with drunken soldiers coming home on leave. Civilian women had to put up with profanity, horseplay, and petty annoyances.

On February 22, 1864, 25 members of the 6th and 7th Regiments were walking down Chapel Street in New Haven. A civilian insulted one of the soldier's wives that was walking with him. A big fight broke out and the civilian was stabbed fatally. The authorities could not determine the murderer.

New Haven and Hartford were the only cities to have "Horse Railroads". Also, municipal water systems.

Carriage Manufacturing dependent on Southern trade was hit hard by the start of the War.

Rents increased 12 to 25% in cities. Labor surplus caused hardships. Munitions industry boomed. Skilled mechanics took whatever jobs they could. Army manpower requirements eventually eased up the situation.

The languid carriage business in New Haven picked up by 1863, manufacturing more luxury vehicles.

A lot of factory construction to support War.

Paving streets in New Haven and Hartford slowly began after the war through the mid 70's.

Cities prospered with 300 new buildings a year erected in New Haven during the War alone.

Chapter 13 - Mousetraps to Muskets

Factories that relied on cotton from the South converted to firearm production.

Norwich Arms Company at one time produced 1,200 muskets a week.

Took 30 minutes to rifle a barrel.

10 minutes to assemble a completed weapon.

By war's end, over forty factories produced firearms in the state.

Carriage companies in New Haven which had been reduced to near bankruptcy by the loss of their Southern customers, had so many orders for army wagons, they could not even meet their civilian demands which began to mount sharply. Some shops produced 28 completed wagons in 15 days.

Connecticut produced iron, brass, rubber, and gunpowder (15,000 tons a year) for the army.

Connecticut produced literally everything needed to support an army during the war.

Chapter 14 - Textiles in Wartime: Woolens, cottons, and silks

By April 1861, Connecticut led the country (ranked 3rd) in textile centers with 129 cotton factories.

The 1st woolen mill in the United States was erected in Hartford in 1788.

Deprived of cotton during the cotton famine of 1862, military and civilian customers sought relief in woolens. The CT woolen industry enjoyed the bonanza of 1812 multiplied many times over.

One of the largest silk mills in the Union was operated in Hartford.

After the war, the woolen industry died out, but the cotton industry enjoyed the greatest market in history.

Because of production of textiles and munitions, Connecticut excelled and could lay claim to being a great industrial state.

Chapter 15 - Shipping and Railroads, 1861 – 1865

By 1860, ships were being built all along the CT River and the northern confines of the Sound.

By 1860, steam vessels were heavily used on the CT River accommodating thousands of tons of shipping. These vessels were then sold to the government during the war and converted them into transports and gunboats.

Mystic built 56 steamers during the war.

The railroads didn't fully recover from the depression of 1857 and bankruptcy until a year after the attack at Ft. Sumter.

The railroad industry boomed from 1862 to 1865, but maintenance and safety measures were not enforced. 52 deaths and 117 injuries occurred in 1865 alone.

Again...P.T. Barnum secured the first control legislation since the beginning of the railroad era to correct the issues mentioned above.

During the last year of the war, the railroads carried over 1 million tons of freight and close to 5 million passengers. the Hartford and New Haven Railroad alone carried 865,355 passengers during 1864.

Chapter 16 - Financing the War Effort

2 million dollars added to debt each year of the war (in bonds)

Congress levied a Federal income Tax on the States.

State legislature framed a law that taxed Savings Banks 1/2 of 1% on deposits and 3/4 of 1% on their stock. Also a 1/2% on most businesses.

Eventually, instead of raising taxes, CT did a pay-as-you-go program to support the war effort.

The debt got so bad that CT was borrowing money just to pay the interest on the debt.

Land owners were paying four times as much in taxes as before the war.

Coins became scarce in Hartford in 1863 during the war. Aetna Bank in Hartford cut its one dollar bills in half and stamped them so that each half could be used in lieu of a fifty-cent piece. The US Marshall later ruled that this was illegal to do.

President Lincoln signed the National Banking Act of February 1863, for the opinion of businessman grasped the fact that National Bank notes would be better secured than Statue issues.

CT had two of the first four National Banks in the Country, the first being the 1st National Bank of New Haven.

At War's end, the State debt was 16 million, but the war brought large increases in wealth that later helped to build up CT's new economy.

Chapter 17 – Readjustment

Demobilization of the Army helped create housing. Following the war, Connecticut adjusted after just 1 year, followed by a 7 year period of solid prosperity.

May of Connecticut's armament industry collapsed after the war.

Meriden and Wallingford had been specializing in the production of Silver-Plate ware since the 1850's and the war and post-war did not disturb its steady growth.

Colt's factory was an amazing education institution from where employees of Colt went forth afterward to take their learned skills and open their own plants involving tools making and machinery. One such person was Francis Pratt who later teamed up with a machine expert, Amos Whitney, formed a partnership, and began producing machine tools for the arms and sewing machine industries. They went on to build jet engines and still operates in Hartford today.

Insurance had been a Hartford specialty long before 1861, but it was the Civil War that elevated insurance to the status of Big Business and established Hartford as the center for industry in the state and a challenger for the Nation.

The Post War decade witnessed a maturing of the industrial revolution and an advance in railroad construction in Connecticut.

By 1865, Connecticut's people lost its warmth of character for a preoccupation with one's own affairs. As the economy moved boldly into the late 1860's and early 1870's, society followed closely leaving behind its rural innocence.