LEGACY OF THE CIVIL WAR
The Story of Medal of Honor Winner Warren Carman
by Dick Brown

Warren Carman, cavalryman, Company "H," 1st NY Volunteer Cavalry was awarded the Medal of Honor for his bravery on the field at Waynesboro, Virginia, March 2, 1865, when he distinguished himself during the battle by capturing a Confederate battle flag plus a large number of prisoners.

Carman was a native of England, being born there on March 16, 1845. Records of his arrival in the United States have been lost, but we do know he lived in Seneca County. He entered the service at Victor, New York, on September 7, 1864, and was mustered in at Avon, New York, on the same date. He gave his age as 19 and his occupation was that of a printer. He was discharged and mustered out of the Union Army on June 17, 1865, near Alexandria, Virginia.

Carman's unit was a part of Maj. Gen. George A. Custer's cavalry division operating in the Shenandoah Valley. Custer's commander, Maj. Gen. Philip H. Sheridan, was ordered by Lt. Gen. U.S. Grant to advance south from Winchester, Virginia and destroy the Virginia Central Railroad and the Confederate's access to the James River Canal near Staunton, Virginia. Gen. Sheridan's forces entered Staunton on March 1, 1865 in pursuit of Confederate Gen. Jubal Early's army and found it deserted. Sheridan then sent Custer's division in search of the Confederate forces and found them at Waynesboro. Confederate Brig. Gen. Gabriel C. Wharton's force of 1700 cavalrmen had been sent north from Staunton by Gen. Early to probe the strength of the advancing Union forces. In the battle that followed, 1600 Confederates were captured, along with 200 wagons, 14 cannons, and 17 battle flags. This engagement closed the Shenandoah Valley to the Confederacy for the rest of the war.
Mt. Hope Cemetery has many distinguished artists among its burials, one of them being Emelene Abbey Dunn. Born in Rochester on May 26, 1859, Miss Dunn was the daughter of Samuel and Harriet Newell Dunn. Her brother was Congressman Thomas B. Dunn, and her great-nephew was William D. Conklin, a Dansville, New York historian, who like the rest of his family was buried in Mt. Hope Cemetery.

Miss Dunn graduated from the Rochester Free Academy and attended Ingham University in LeRoy before going to Florence and Paris to study under established masters of art. After briefly teaching in Canada, she returned to this area to instruct classes at Brockport Normal School. She aided the Prang Company of Boston with their educational art program. For many years, Prang was the recognized leader of art materials and resources in the country.

She was requested to assist at the Connecticut Normal School, where she developed a course which was published to aid teachers in art instruction. For 20 years she maintained an artist studio in New York City, where she established the New York Normal Art School for advanced instruction of teachers and supervisors of art.

Her paintings of oils, watercolors, and pastels were exhibited throughout the northeast, including the Memorial Art Gallery and Edgerton Park Gallery. Although she was best known for her landscapes, she also did a great many portraits. Subjects were drawn from the Orient to the Grand Canyon, although Miss Dunn was also very fond of Rochester and its environs.

During World War I, "Miss Dunn devoted herself so unsparingly to the work of bringing comfort and cheer to American and Allied soldiers that she undermined her health and returned to Rochester somewhat of an invalid." (Democrat & Chronicle, February 19, 1929). Here she visited and brought joy to the veterans at the Rochester State Hospital.

"At times during her life, subjected to long ordeals of physical pain, she rose triumphant time and
again to carry on her chosen work ....

"The most cruel of blows came when, long months before her death, physicians advised her to give up painting. ...she could do no more than thumbnail sketches ... and she did, hundreds of

them as letter headings and greeting cards." (Preface, Mediterranean Picture Lands, p. 16) She
died in her sister's home at 97 Oxford Street on
February 17, 1929. Her sister, Mary, compiled
many of her watercolors with selections of her
writings in a memorial volume, Mediterranean
Picture Lands, shortly after her death.

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CIVIL WAR LEGACY (from Page 1)

At the close of hostilities, Carman returned to his
Seneca County home and later settled in
Rochester, where he continued his trade as a
printer. Mr. Carman married Mary J. Cadllan on
December 25, 1878, at the First Episcopal Church
in Rochester, New York. He died in St. Mary's
Hospital on October 17, 1894, at the age of 49.

The discovery and identification of Mr. Carman's
burial site was the combined efforts of the following
people:

Mr. Charles Chambers, a Civil War historian
and a member of the Medal of Honor Historical
Society, was instrumental in identifying Mr.
Carman's burial site in Mt. Hope Cemetery. Mr.
Chambers lives in Houston, Texas, and in 1991
traveled throughout the country visiting 63
cemeteries, photographing the gravesites of 35
Confederate Generals, 66 Breveted Union
Generals, and 102 Medal of Honor winners. This
is a major accomplishment for a man of 70+
years.

Mr. Raymond L. Collins, who lives in
Alexandria, Virginia, also a member of the Medal
of Honor Historical Society and a retiree of the
Veterans Administration, expedited the
administrative requirements for acquiring
Carman's special Medal of Honor monument and
assisted in relating some of the background history
of his service in the Union Army and his later life
in Rochester.

Mr. Jack McKinney, a Friends' Trustee and
Chairperson of the Historical Research
Committee, was invaluable in finding Carman's
burial site and verifying its identity.

Mr. Carman's monument is located just off the
roadway near the corner of Oak Street and Forest
Avenue in Mt. Hope Cemetery (Lot 223, Range 3).

A dedication ceremony is being planned for some
time in 1992, and a special Civil War Tour will also
be offered to the Friends' membership in 1992. A
self-guided tour map and instructions will be
provided for those who wish to visit Mr. Carman's
burial site and monument.
CEMETERY TOURS
The regular Sunday cemetery tours will resume on May 3, 1992, at 2:00 PM and 3:00 PM. Special tours are available at any time during the year. Please call 461-3494 for information.

SLIDE SHOW
The Friends of Mt. Hope slide/tape program about the cemetery is available to groups and organizations. A member of the Friends will make a brief presentation and is available after the program to answer questions. Please call Ellie Klein at 473-0778 for arrangements.

GARDENING — ADOPT-A-LOT
Anyone interested in helping with the gardening work of the Friends or in adopting a plot, please call 461-3494 and leave a message.

NEW MEMBERS
Robin K. Bodo, Marilyn Camera, Margaret Z. Cook, Barbara B. Gibson, James E. Hagreen, Sharon Bryce Hammill, Sandra Wurzer

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