

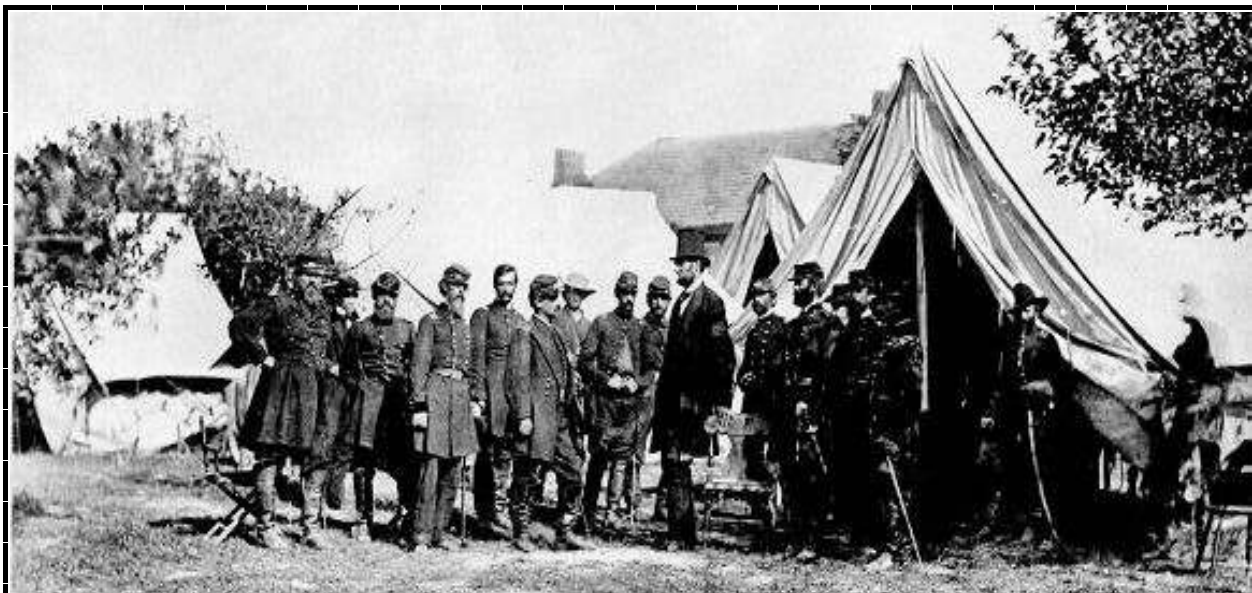
Thomas Coonan, Civil War veteran, died at his home in Champlain, Friday, January 16, 1931, aged 87 years. He is survived by four daughters Miss **Mary Coonan**, Miss **Sarah Coonan**, Mrs. **Harvey Robinson** of Champlain and Miss **Catherine Coonan**, teacher in New York city, one son **John Coonan** of Champlain, and the following grandchildren: Mrs. **Phil Bechard**, Mrs. **Geo. Sobolesky**, **Harold**, **Howard**, **D'Arcy**, **Hugh**, of Champlain; **Lawrence** of Niagara Falls; **Eleanor Coonan** of Mooers; **Anna Robinson** of Bellrose, L. I.; **Thomas** and **Leon Robinson** of Champlain and seven great grand children.

The funeral services were held in St. Mary's R. C. church, Rev. **H. Valois** officiating. The remains were laid in the vault in St. Mary's cemetery. Champlain Post No. 767 American Legion acted as escort from the late residence to the church and then to the cemetery where the firing squad fired the salute and taps were sounded by the Post bugler.

Among those from out of town who attended the funeral were Mrs. **Sarah Ryan**, Mr. and Mrs. **Robert Rooney** and daughter **Theresa** of West Chazy, **John Nolan** and daughter, **Alice** of Rouses Point; Mrs. **Mary Barnett** of Chazy; Mrs. **Chas. McCrea**, Mrs. **Geo. Corbett**, Mrs. **Ernest Nolan**, **Will Nolan** and **Emmett Nolan** of Burlington, Vt. The floral offerings were most beautiful, given by relatives and friends and the faculty of the Wingate Junior high school of New York city.

Mr. Coonan was born in Montreal, October 10, 1843 and came with his parents to Champlain when a small boy and spent most of his life here. He attended the Champlain Academy which occupied the same site as the present high school, but in 1861 at the first call for volunteers he closed his books and enlisted in Co. D. 34 Regiment New York State Volunteers from which he was discharged to reenlist as a corporal in the Oneida Independent Co. New York Cavalry, December 20, 1863 in which he served till the close of the war. The family now has the diary that he kept during his war service. He was captured by the rebels while carrying dispatches across the Potomac River but finally made his escape and returned to Washington. He was in many battles during the service and at one time his regiment was on duty guarding the city of Washington to prevent the rebels from capturing and burning it. He often saw President Lincoln who would come and talk to the boys in blue in their camps more often in the night than in the daytime.

After returning from the army on November 23, 1865, he married **Ann Nolan** who survives him. Last November relatives and friends gathered at their home to celebrate their 65th anniversary. For several years Mr. Coonan ran a market in town and later accepted a position with the Vermont Central railroad as section foreman which he held until the infirmities of age beckoned to him to rest from his labors. He was an interesting personality and we enjoyed listening to his experiences in the Civil War with the joke sometimes on the blue coat and sometimes on the gray; but they were interesting just the same when told by one who took a part in it. He was a man of high principles and lived a devout Christian life.



President Lincoln talking with soldiers