

## How the Democrats Shake the Bloody Shirt The Meanest Thing Yet

The cowardly and loaferish assault recently made by the "Reform Organ" of Clinton County, on our candidate for County Clerk, because he had served in the Union Army, and in which service he was severely wounded, was one of the dirtiest of tricks, but it is reserved for the "Reformers" on the line of the Ausable River to cap the climax. Those who heard the able speech of **Henry Ballard**, Esq., at the Court House, Tuesday evening, learned some of the particulars. At the "Great Reform Rally" in Keeseville, one of their transparencies carried in the procession read, "**Judson C. Ware**, Republican candidate for Sheriff, a deserter from the United States Army." Similar representations were industriously circulated by the Reformers throughout that county. It seems that Ware went into the service

before he was of age. His father compelled him to leave the army, but afterwards gave his consent. Ware served faithfully, in the 96<sup>th</sup>, was promoted to a Lieutenancy, and was honorably discharged after the close the war.

On learning of the libelous reports which the "Reformers" were circulating, Mr. Ware addressed a manly letter to the Essex County Republican, giving the full particulars, stating that when he enlisted in the Company of Capt. **Gordon T. Thomas**, at Keeseville, he was only 19 years of age, that he was kept from the army by his father, **Cyrus Comstock Ware**, on the legal advice of the late Hon. **Orlando Kellogg** and that with his consent he afterwards reenlisted. His letter was accompanied by the following official documents, exhibiting his patriotic honorable record:

No. 1 - Dated March 5, 1865, is a discharge from service on account of reenlistment

No. 2 - Dated August 6, 1865, is a discharge from service by reason of promotion

No. 3 - Dated May 31, 1865, is a commission as 2<sup>nd</sup> lieutenant signed by R.E. Fenton

No. 4 - Dated February 6, 1866, is a final and honorable discharge from the service of the United States

No. 5 - Dated October 3, 1876 is the affidavit of Cyrus C. Ware, father of Judson, stating that his son came home on furlough, and he refused his permission to return, as his age was only 19, and he was mustered in under protest

No. 6 - Dated October 3, 1876, is the affidavit of Judson C. Ware, affirming the material statements contained in his letter today, and particularly impressive as regards his being mustered in, the reason including it, and the deception practiced

In answer to the outrageous slander upon Lieutenant Ware, G. W. Hinds, Burlington, Lieut. Colonel of the 96<sup>th</sup> addressed a letter to the Republican speaking in the highest terms of his old comrade.

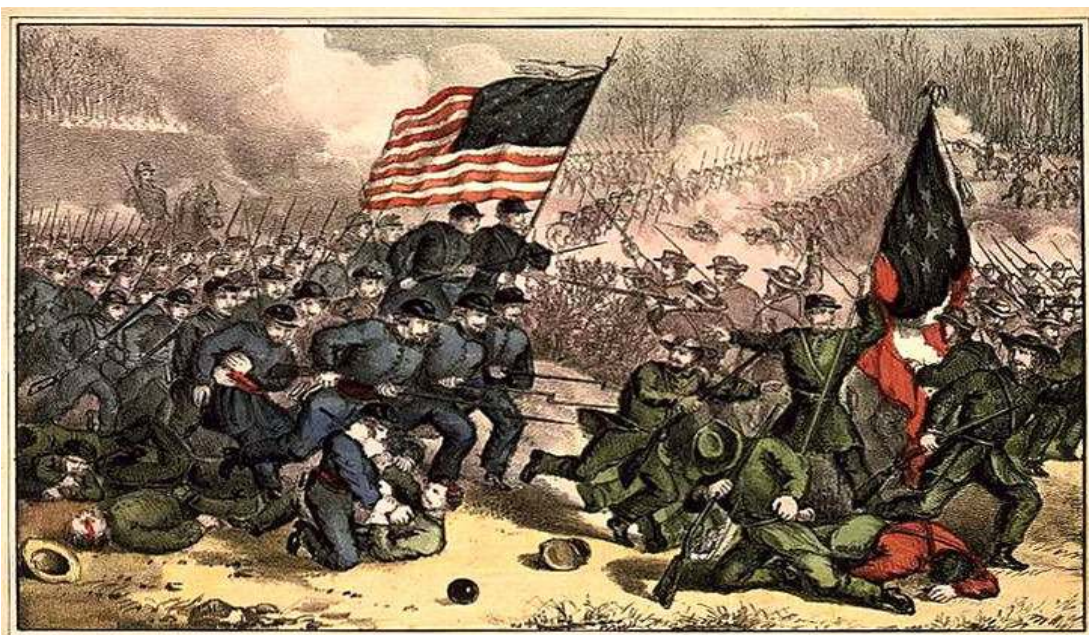
For this attempt to malign the character of a brave and patriotic soldier, the Reformers of Essex County will justly lose many votes.

The Roster of the 96<sup>th</sup> NY Volunteers seems to substantiate his statements.

**WARE, JUDSON C.**—Age, 20 years. Enrolled, February 26, 1862, at North Elba, to serve three years; mustered in as private, Co. K, March 6, 1862; promoted corporal, December 5, 1862; re-enlisted as a veteran, February 29, 1864; promoted sergeant, May 10, 1865; mustered in as second lieutenant, May 18, 1865; mustered out with company, February 6, 1866, at City Point, Va.

Commissioned second lieutenant, May 31, 1865, with rank from May 18, 1865, original.

Captain **Gordon T. Thomas**, of the 22<sup>nd</sup> NY Volunteer Infantry, whose company Judson joined in Keeseville, went on to die of wounds received in the Second Battle Bull Run. His son, Gordon T. Thomas, Jr., was a lieutenant in the same unit. He was born in Keeseville in 1844 and married **Frances A. Nimocks** of Coldwater, MI. In 1880, the younger Thomas and his wife moved from Keeseville to Fargo, ND, and then to Minneapolis, MN. In 1896, he moved to New Orleans, LA, where he died on July 3, 1911. He was survived by three sons and two daughters. Mrs. Thomas died in 1894.



Second Battle of Bull Run - Manassas, VA - August 28-30, 1862