

According to the book, "Three Years With the Adirondack Regiment" by **John Cunningham** - One of the prisoners captured by the enemy in the battle of Drury's Bluff was Lieutenant **Edgar M. Wing**. He enlisted in Company A of the 118th of Glens Falls and was promoted to a lieutenancy in Company E. As a prisoner of war he was visited by a Captain Hendrick of a South Carolina regiment. Both belonged to the Masonic fraternity, which becoming known, the Confederate officer asked Lieutenant Wing, who had but a short time to live, what he could do for him. Wing gave him his watch and sword - both presents

from his father and both inscribed with a memorandum of the gift - asking that they be in some way returned to his father. The confederate fellow-mason said that he could probably care for the watch, but the sword belonged to the "spoils of war"; but he would try and get permission to retain it and try to return it as requested he made Wing's last hours as comfortable as he could and secured permission to retain the sword.

The watch he afterwards handed to a Union prisoner about to be exchanged with promise that the prisoner would try to have it reach Lieutenant Wing's father, but it never reached Judge Wing. The exchanged prisoner may have died; the watch may have been lost or stolen, or it may have been kept by his custodian.

Later on Captain Hendrick visited his family in Charleston, SC, taking Wing's sword with him. He told its story to his wife and daughter, the latter but a child, yet much interested. Her father left the sword, particularly charging his little daughter with its care until it could be returned. She received the

charge seriously and felt the obligation of the trust.

When General Sherman marched north from Savannah, Charleston people felt sure that because of that city's prominence in the rebellion, Sherman would delight in its capture; so there was a large migration from Charleston to supposed safer localities.

The Hendrick family gathered their valuables, including Wing's sword and went to Columbia, SC.

Sherman, knowing that Charleston would be practically captured by passing its rear, moved along a route which took in Columbia, so the Hendricks had left Charleston to avoid Sherman and put themselves in his way at Columbia.

As Sherman approached Columbia, some of its people and refugees removed farther into the interior and other buried their valuables and waited results. The Hendricks buried their silver, etc., and the sword, under the porch of their dwelling, where it remained undisturbed as Sherman went "marching on". The Hendricks and the sword went back to Charleston.

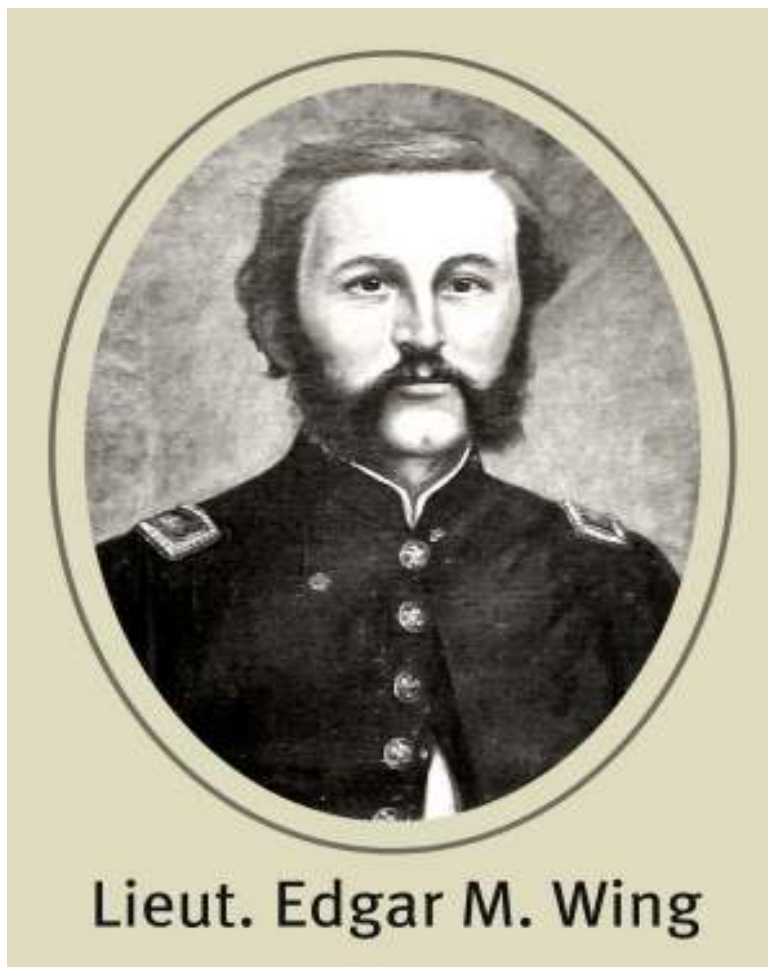
The war ended, Captain Hendrick had been killed, and his family went to friends in New Orleans, storing their household goods and the sword from Charleston. After a few years, they returned to Charleston and the sword reminded Miss Hendrick, now a young lady, of the trust committed to her by her father.

The sword had the name of Lieutenant Wing and the designation of his regiment engraved upon its hilt. Miss Hendrick began a correspondence. She learned from Albany that the 118th was raised in Essex, Clinton and Warren Counties, and she wrote to the postmasters of the principal places in these counties, including Glens Falls, inquiring of Lieutenant Wing.

The author, remembered very well when Postmaster Van Cott of Glens Falls brought the letter to him and the pleasure it gave them to advise the Wing family. Miss **Angie Wing**, sister of Lieutenant Wing, wrote Miss Hendrick inviting her to visit her and bring the sword. The invitation was accepted and the ladies became fast friends.

Today the whereabouts of the sword is unknown.





Lieut. Edgar M. Wing

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