

### **General Hooker's Headquarters in Cincinnati, 1865**

Daniel H. Reigle, 2013, for Cincinnati Civil War Round Table, [www.cincinnatiwrt.org](http://www.cincinnatiwrt.org)

Major General Joseph **Hooker** commanded the US Army's Northern Department, with headquarters at Cincinnati, from 1 Oct 1864 until 27 Jun 1865 (Welcher, *The Union Army, 1861-1865*, Vol II, page 120-122.) The Williams' *Cincinnati Directory* for 1865 included the following listing: "**Hooker**, Maj. Gen. Joseph, Commander Northern Department, 114 W. 4th" (online at Public Library of Cincinnati & Hamilton County website, Virtual Library.)

The directory entry for this address in the 1863 edition of this directory lists this building as the private residence of Thomas **Phillips** (of **Phillips & Son**, Manufacturers of Sheet, Boiler, Bar Iron, &c., Warehouse 58 and 60 E. 2d.). In 1864, it was the residence of Roderick **McCormack**, drayman. It seems likely that this was a large home that was loaned to or sold to the government for use by the Army.

The 1865 directory listed the names of ten men listed as "clerks" at 114 W. 4th. We have found probable military identifications for eight of them, which confirms that this was the building in use by MG **Hooker**. Below are their names and the potential identification of military service. It is a further supporting fact that perhaps four of them are from the 88th OVI and one from the 128th OVI, both of which were primarily garrison units at Camp Chase and Johnson's Island.

**Basom**, James A. clk. 114 W. 4th: C, 128th OVI, mustered out 5 Jun 1865.

**Chichester**, Charles S. clk. 114 W. 4th: A, 150th New York Infantry, mustered out at Cincinnati, 30 Jun 1865.

**Emery**, Henry C. clk. 114 W. 4th: D, 136th New York Infantry; mustered out at Cincinnati, 19 Jun 1865.

**Green**, Clark S. clk. 114 W. 4th: Not identified.

**Greene**, William H. clk. 114 W. 4th: 14 entries in *American Civil War Research Database*; one in H, 88th OVI, mustered out on 18 Mar 1865.

**Hall**, Almon chief clk. 114 W. 4th: Almon B. G. **Hall**, E, 49th OVI; detailed as Clerk to OH Hq Dept 27 Jan 1864; returned and mustered out 4 Mar 1865.

**Lamb**, Isaac N. clk. 114 W. 4th: C, 88th OVI, mustered out at Cincinnati on 3 Jun 1865.

**Redding**, Samuel A. clk. 114 W. 4th: I, 88th OVI, mustered out at Detroit on 10 Aug 1865.

**Wiley**, Allen clk. 114 W. 4th: F, 88th OVI, mustered out at Cincinnati on 30 Jun 1865.

**Wilson**, Geo. clk. 114 W. 4th: 886 entries in *ACWRD*.

According to Welcher, the Northern Department was discontinued 27 Jun 1865 when it was merged into the Department of the Ohio (page 120.) This department was commanded by MG Edwin O. C. **Ord**, with headquarters at Detroit (Welcher, page 137.) Of the men identified above, it appears that all of them were mustered out of service when the Department headquarters was closed, except for Samuel A. **Redding**, who may have participated in the move of the headquarters to Detroit before his muster out.

The Washington County Historical Society in Hagerstown MD owns a 35-star US flag that belonged to MG **Hooker** and that was donated to the society about thirty years ago. The flag is being added to the society's Civil War exhibit. The society's excellent website is at <http://www.washcomdhistoricalsociety.org/index.php>.