# PRISONERS OF WAR 1861-65; PP 266-328

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649422081

Prisoners of War 1861-65; pp 266-328 by Thomas Sturgis

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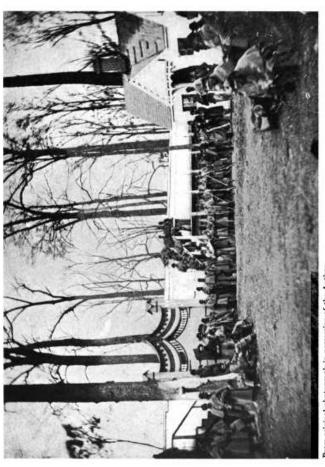
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**THOMAS STURGIS** 

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Trieste



From original photograph in possession of the Author. Guard and Guard-house at Camp Morton near Indianapolis, Indiana. The 6oth Regiment, Massachusetts. Veteran Volunteers on guard. August to November, 1864

# Prisoners of War

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A Record of Personal Experiences, and a Study of the Condition and Treatment of Prisoners on Both Sides During the War of the Rebellion

### By

Thomas Sturgis Late 1st Lieut. 57th Regt., Mass, Vet. Vola., and Aide-de-Camp 3rd Brig., 1st Div. 9th A.C.

Reprinted from the Report of an Address Delivered Before the N. Y. Commandery of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion, Feb. 1, 1911

#### Illustrated

G. P. Putnam's Sons New York and London The Knicherbocher Press 1912

AVARD COLLED MAY 16 1913 Substituted for a copy lost (Gift of The Twentieth Regiment)

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The Rnickerbocher Press, Rew Park

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# PRISONERS OF WAR.

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READ BEFORE THE NEW YORK COMMANDERY BY COMPANION LIEUT. THOMAS STURGIS, FEBRUARY 1, 1911.

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#### PRISONERS OF WAR.

READ BEFORE THE NEW YORK COMMANDERY BY COMPANION LIEUT. THOMAS STURGIS, FEBRUARY 1, 1911.

#### Commander and Companions of the New York Commandery Loyal Legion:

O<sup>UR</sup> Commander has asked me to address you on the subject of "Prisoners of War." Remembering my youth at the time of the War of the Rebellion, and the modest rank I attained as a soldier, I should hesitate to obtrude my experiences in the presence of the many older officers of high rank and distinguished service who sit around us, were it not for the fact that my army life included a duality of events connected with the topic of the evening, which taken together form, if not a unique, at least an unusual combination.

In 1864, the regiment of which I was adjutant was placed on guard over Camp Morton near Indianapolis, Indiana, then one of the largest prisons for rebels in the North, and in the winter of 1865 I was made a prisoner at the battle of Fort Stedman in front of Petersburg, Virginia, and was confined in the well-known Libby Prison at Richmond. I thus had the opportunity of seeing at first hand both sides of this much mooted question, the treatment of prisoners. The facts as I saw and experienced them, and the conclusions I reached, I shall try to give you.

I listened with great interest to the addresses on this subject delivered to us last December, to Companion Read's eloquent tribute to our martyred comrades, and to Compan-