

# Hold the Rails at ALL Hazards!

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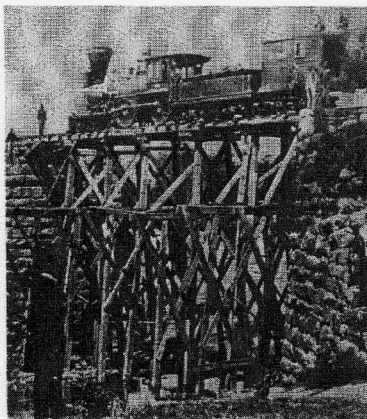
## Civil War Weekend

### Camp 5 Museum

Leona, Wisconsin

July 28-30, 2006

Warfare up until the 20<sup>th</sup> century consisted of numerous “campaigns”. These campaigns were aimed at specific objectives such as taking enemy territory, cities, rivers or just trying to bring an opposing army to battle. In the Civil War, they were carried out both the “Eastern Theater” of the war (Virginia, mainly) the “Western Theater” (Tennessee, Mississippi, Georgia, and Alabama) and even in the “trans-Mississippi Theater (Louisiana, Missouri, Arkansas, and Oklahoma) The problem that faced a Civil War commander, no matter what theater of the war he was fighting in, was getting supplies (such as food, ammunition, medical supplies) to his army, which may consist of between 20,000 and 125,000 men. Almost ALL Civil War campaigns were based off the shortest and most defensible “**lines of supplies**”, which the army needed to function effectively.



As the Northern armies moved further southward, the “lines of supply” became longer and harder to defend. The Confederates were always trying to disrupt or “break” these supply lines, with large forces and even smaller raiding parties.

The Civil War was the first war in which railroads were used extensively to move troops and supplies to advancing armies. (The North was very efficient with its use of railroads) Almost all northern and captured southern railroads came under the direction of the **United States Military Railroads**.

The ever-increasing supply lines had to be guarded constantly. Almost every Northern soldier spent at least some duty guarding railroad lines at some point in the war.

What you see today is Federal soldiers from the 13<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry guarding this railroad line against the 46<sup>th</sup> Alabama Volunteer Infantry near Stevenson, Alabama in the spring of 1864. As you leave the Federal supply camp, near the depot, all soldiers, on both sides will be totally “immersed” into the year 1864.