



The Belo Herald

Newsletter of the Col. A. H. Belo Camp #49

And Journal of Unreconstructed Confederate Thought

October 2015

This month's meeting features a special presentation:

Kathleen Hines

Women of the Confederacy



The Belo Herald is an interactive newsletter. Click on the links to take you directly to additional internet resources.

Col. A. H. Belo Camp #49

- Commander - Mark Nash
- 1st Lt. Cmdr. - David Hendricks
- 2nd Lt. Cmdr. - James Henderson
- Adjutant - Stan Hudson
- Chaplain - Rev. Jerry Brown
- Editor - Nathan Bedford Forrest



Contact us: www.belocamp.com
Belocamp49@hotmail.com

<http://www.facebook.com/BeloCamp49>

Follow us on **Twitter** at [belocamp49scv](https://twitter.com/belocamp49scv)

Texas Division: <http://www.scvtexas.org>

National: www.scv.org
<http://1800mydixie.com/>
<http://www.youtube.com/user/SCVORG>

Commander in Chief Barrow on **Twitter** at [CiC@CiCSCV](https://twitter.com/CiC@CiCSCV)

Our Next Meeting:

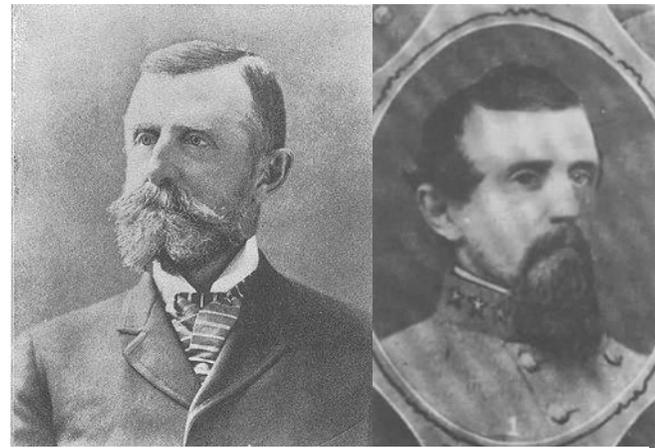
Thursday, October 1st: 7:00 pm

La Madeleine Restaurant

3906 Lemmon Ave near Oak Lawn, Dallas, TX

***we meet in the private meeting room.**

All meetings are open to the public and guests are welcome.



Have you paid your dues??

Come early (6:30pm), **eat**, fellowship with other members, learn your history!



"Everyone should do all in his power to collect and disseminate the truth, in the hope that it may find a place in history and descend to posterity." Gen. Robert E. Lee, CSA Dec. 3rd 1865



COMMANDER'S REPORT



Dear Belo Compatriots:

It is hard to believe it is October already. How time flies when you are having fun. While we are committed to a serious Cause, I hope you sincerely enjoy your membership in the SCV and in our Camp. Under David Hendrick's leadership, try to have a number of programs and events. All of the programs have been excellent and I hope you block your calendar every month to attend our meetings. Some of our events will appeal to you and some may appeal more to other members. So we strive to have variety so all of our members will have opportunities to engage and get to know each other better. I encourage you to get involved in any way you can.

Speaking of getting involved.....we will be holding our officer elections during the November meeting. We will be electing the positions of Commander, 1st Lt. Commander, 2nd Lt. Commander and Adjutant. I hope you will consider serving in one of these roles. We need fresh thought and new ideas, and we need to spread the workload of running the Camp around to more members. If you are interested in hearing more about the responsibilities of an officer position, or wish to have your name placed into nomination, please contact me or any of the current officers. We will be taking nominations during the October and November meetings.

I am looking forward to our October program. A true friend of Belo, Kirt Barnett, will be speaking with us on the origin of the Pledge of Allegiance. This has become an explosive topic within the SCV. I think you will be very interested to hear the facts about the author of the pledge, and how it was originally used during reconstruction. **As usual, we will be meeting at La Madeleine, 3906 Lemmon Avenue, Dallas on Thursday, October 1st.** Supper begins at 6:30; meeting follows at 7.

Finally, if you have not yet paid your dues for fiscal year beginning August 1, 2015, they are now due. We would like to complete this process as quickly as possible. There are incentives to the Camp for having all of the dues renewed before the end of October. If you have lost (or don't remember receiving) your dues notice, please contact Adjutant Stan Hudson.

Thank you for your commitment to the Cause.

Deo Vindice,

Mark Nash, Commander

marknash@msn.com

954-608-1684





1ST LT. COMMANDER'S REPORT



Dear Compatriots,

Can you believe we are preparing for our October meeting? It appears that Commander Nash has put me in charge of this meeting, so please be advised that you have been forewarned. Has anyone had a chance to go dove hunting? Seems like this has been a good year for it. You can't beat a dove breast, strip of bacon and that jalapeno grilled to perfection.

We had a cancellation on our scheduled program this month, but our good friend of the camp, Kirt Barnett has stepped up to the plate and will be batting this Thursday. His topic will be "The Origin of the Pledge".

So please do the following:

- Come this Thursday to hear/support Kirt;
- Bring a friend if you can;
- Bring some extra money and get some of the tickets for the book raffle;
- Bring your dues money or
- Mail them to Stan Hudson at: 4264 W. Lovers Lane Dallas, Texas 75209.

As always be prepared for the Mike Smith Minute and some of the most interesting questions ever asked to an SCV member. So far he appears to be ahead (thanks to all of those lifelines).

If you have moved/changed your phone number/email address, etc. please let us know so we can keep as up to date information on current camp members as possible. Again **please make every effort to attend a camp meeting.** Please inform us of your ideas, thoughts, concerns, and gripes to help make Belo a better camp for our current members and all of the members yet to come!

So years later, I hope it can be said for each one of us, "***Decori decus addit avito***".

Deo Vindice,

David Hendricks, 1st Lt. Commander





Chaplain's Corner



And, More Confederate Heroes!

Often overlooked as Confederate heroes were the chaplains, colporters, and missionaries who worked among our Southern armies. They were tireless in their efforts to bring salvation, spiritual strength and guidance in the trenches, on the long hard marches, and in winter camps. In addition, they were there to render physical aid to the wounded and dying on the battlefields and hospitals.

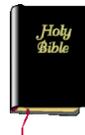
As a result of their labors and ministry, perhaps the greatest renewal of God's Spirit since the day of Pentecost burned through the armies of the South. Due to their work and ministry, the fires of revival swept through the Confederate Army and tens of thousands came to know Jesus Christ as their Savior and Lord while many thousands more were strengthened in their faith and became soldiers of the cross throughout their lives. Then following the war, our soldiers came home and filled churches and founded new churches. They became pastors, deacons, elders, and leaders in their communities, and helped establish hospitals and institutions of learning.

A lot of what we know about the daily lives of our Southern soldiers comes from the letters, reports, and articles written by Confederate chaplains. On one occasion, following a battle, the Confederates were marching a group of captured Union soldiers to a place of confinement. One Union officer had an injured leg and could not keep up. So, a young Confederate was assigned to escort him separately. As they waked along, the Union officer, taking note of the food they were eating, and the ragged condition of the Confederate boy's clothing, said, "In our army we have better food, better uniforms and better equipment." The young Confederate responded, "Yes sir. But I'll bet we have better prayer meetings." And, of course, they did.

The Confederacy may have lost the shooting war to overwhelming odds, but because of the service and dedication of the Confederate Chaplains, they won a greater war, the war against the dark forces of Satan, and the South became known as The Bible Belt. The men of the cloth were indeed Confederate heroes.



Bro. Len Patterson, Th.D
Past Chaplain, Army of Trans-Mississippi
1941-2013



Please be in prayer for our Texas Division leadership as they take the fight to the enemies of our culture and heritage.

Please be in prayer for our camp as we continue to grow and for the coming year.



“IN ALL MY PERPLEXITIES AND DISTRESSES, THE BIBLE HAS NEVER FAILED TO GIVE ME LIGHT AND STRENGTH.”

-GENERAL ROBERT E. LEE

Belo Camp 49 Upcoming Meetings:

2015

October 1st – Kathleen Hines – Women of the Confederacy

November 5th - Camp Business Meeting / Elections

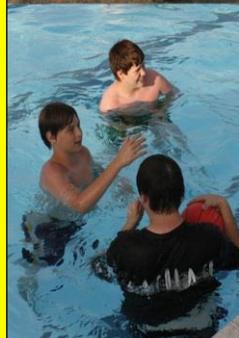
December 3rd – Christmas Party



Do your kids and grandkids know the real reasons the war was fought? Has school taught them that Lincoln is their "favourite President?"

Send them to Sam Davis Youth Camp 2016 to learn the truth about their heritage and why it is important!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=snuT8MgGbtK>



An adventure-filled, Christ-centered, week-long encampment for young folks in the beautiful Texas Hill Country...

Sam Davis
Youth Camp
Clifton, Texas



Not to miss in this issue!

AND MUCH MORE!



*The Unsundered Banner
Of The Southern People
1865 - Present*



REQUEST FOR HELP

The Virginia Flaggers

FLAG POLES! FLAG POLES! WE NEED FLAG POLES! Requests for roadside flag pole installations are coming in faster than we can keep up with. We have been able to use reclaimed, used flag poles in most of our projects, utilized volunteer labor whenever possible, and operated on shoestring budgets in order to keep costs down and allow us to put more flags up with the money raised.

We currently have several sites under development, with many on a growing waiting list, and ask our supporters to be on the lookout for used poles for sale, or empty flag poles on abandoned sites that might be purchased or donated for our Memorial Battle Flag projects.

Please forward any leads to info@vaflaggers.com



Our September meeting was very eventful. Commander Mark Nash opened the meeting and Reverend Jerry Brown led us in prayer. Nominations for camp officers were opened and Cmdr. Nash gave us updates on camp business including our service project at the Food Bank for early next year.





Camp Adjutant Stan Hudson gave a report on his work with SLRC Chief Counsel Kirk Lyons on the UT Confederate Statue removal. He was In Austin with Kirk Lyons presenting the legal argument to attempt a stay.

Division Commander Gary Bray gave us a detailed update on his many efforts statewide on fighting the many ongoing attacks against Confederate monuments. He expressed the need to research the legal history of the monuments to determine strategies to protect them.





We were proud to welcome Compatriot Peter Fitch to our membership. Peter received his official certificate from Commander Nash.





Division 2nd Lt Cmdr. Bob Rubel and his lovely wife gave us a very informative presentation on the history of the War of Northern Aggression through Southern Art. Division Cmdr. Bray provided us a clear view of the amazing prints as Bob gave us the background information.





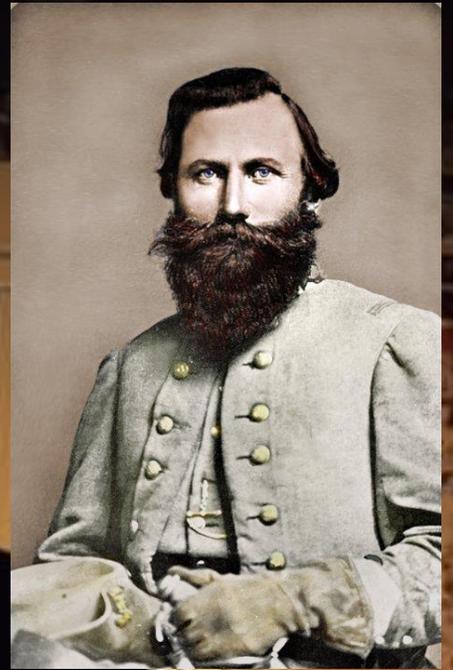
Commander Nash presented the Rubels a Certificate of Appreciation for their contribution to our Camp program. It was a real treat to have two Division officers join us this meeting.





Commander Mark Nash recently visited the grave of Confederate Heroine and Spy Rose Greenhow.

Commander Nash also had
the opportunity to meet
Mr. Jeb Stuart IV.





TEXAS DIVISION
SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

***LIFE MEMBERSHIP
APPLICATION***

Member's
Name _____
(as it should appear on certificate)

Member # _____ Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Camp Name _____ Camp # _____

Send this form and a check made payable to Texas Division SCV in the amount of \$105.00 to:

Cooper Goodson Jr.
Adjutant, Texas Division SCV
725 David Drive
Tyler, Texas 75703-4818

DIVISION ADJUTANT'S USE ONLY

Checklist:

Date Received	_____	Letter w/certificate & badge sent to member	_____
Fee Amount	_____	Confirmation letter to Camp Adjutant	_____
Check #	_____	Posted to Member's New Record	_____



AN APPEAL FOR HELP



[SOUTHERN LEGAL RESOURCE CENTER, INC.](http://slrc-csa.org/)

With this perfect storm of anti-Southern genocide building, we are going to need a War chest to defend against these assaults. Please join today. Visit: <http://slrc-csa.org/> and get in the fight.

The SLRC is asking that donations be sent to:

**SOUTHERN LEGAL RESOURCE CENTER
P. O. Box 1235, Black Mountain, NC 28711.**

If every compatriot would stop right now and send a \$10 check, there would be a formidable war chest!

PLEASE READ IMMEDIATELY!

1861 - Grape Vine sends the first company of volunteers from Tarrant County to the War of Northern Aggression under the leadership of Captain William Quayle. They are called "Quayle's Company of Mounted Riflemen, State Volunteers." Men who are too old to go to war form the "Beef Club" to help keep homes on the Grape Vine Prairie well protected and supplied with food.

General Richard Montgomery Gano owned property near Grape Vine and helped organize the early settlement against Comanche raiding parties before leading his band of volunteers to battle in the American Civil War.

The new leaders of Grape Vine, Texas have pushed the original settlers aside and are doing their best to erase our Proud Southern History. This is twice they have refused to allow the Sons of Confederate Veterans to participate in their Veterans Day Parade. This type of action is re-dividing our once healed country. I remind all that the Sons of Confederate Veterans have been defending this country every since San Juan Hill. I have a great uncle who served during WW1, my father served during WW2, and I served from 1963-1969 and am a life member of the American Legion, myself. I consider this an insult to me and my ancestors. I will not spend 1 red cent in Grapevine until they mend their ways and and again allow us to honor ourselves and our ancestors in their American Veterans Day Parade. This appears to be a VFW only parade to me and therefor only those who have served in a combat zone over seas should be allowed to be in this parade. Forget the Brass Bands and everyone else.

Your Servant,
Frank Bussey, Commander
SCV Camp #1904, 2nd Texas Frontier District---DeLeon, TX

Michael E Patterson is not going to fight this battle with Grapevine again. He is finished with Grapevine.

THE GRAPEVINE COMMITTEE HAS DECIDED TO FOCUS ONLY ON "FOREIGN WARS" FOR THE UPCOMING PARADE AND HAS INDICATED WE WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE.

MIKE PATTERSON SAYS WE WILL STILL TRY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE WEATHERFORD PARADE IF IT CAN BE COORDINATED.



Email Michael recieved below:

Mr Patteron,
respectfully The Grapevine parade committee has designated the parade this year honoring the Vietnam veterans on the 50th year Anniversary. The committee has also agreed to respect the signing of the Armistice, signed on the 11th hour on the 11th day of the 11th month in 1918 The war to end all wars, and We are honoring veterans of foreign wars. Thousands of brave men women and children died during the Civil war on both sides, and as you may agree we must not forget that, or let it happen again. It is with great respect for your participation in remembering those from the civil war, the Grapevine Veterans committee whom some members are Veterans of foreign wars must decline your participation at this years Parade.

respectfully

Colin O'Brien

So sad. There are at least two Confederate veterans that i know of buried within 5 miles of where this parade route is.

Michael says he has already made arrangements to be in the Weatherford parade that day. He is finished with Grapevine, period. Has also told his wife we've spent our last cent in Grapevine, ever. He's trying to figure out a way to visibly return his high school diploma to them.

Frank Harley Krawlec

To All Members of Col. Middleton Tate Johnson Camp 1648

Concerning the SCV not being welcomed in the Grapevine Veterans parade:

Gentlemen,

This is way more than we should have to put up with from the people of Grapevine, Texas. As long as I am Commander of our Camp we will never have anything to do with Grapevine, Texas, and we will and have written them off period!!! This is twice they have done this.

Your Servant,

John S. Olivier

Commander

Col. Middleton Tate Johnson Camp 1648

Georgia rolls out redesigned license plate featuring Confederate flag

BY [PAUL LIOTTA](#)

NEW YORK DAILY NEWS Updated: Friday, September 25, 2015, 1:07 PM



Elijah S. Coleman, from Mableton, Ga., with the Sons of Confederate Veterans, waves an old Georgia state flag with the Confederate stars and bars, as officials prepared to take down the current state flag over the Capitol in Atlanta Thursday, May 8, 2003.

Georgia plans to roll out a redesigned license plate featuring the Confederate battle flag.

The new license plate will remove a faded Confederate battle emblem in the backdrop but leaves the logo of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, a group that claims the flag is a symbol of southern pride.

Sale of the old license plates was halted in the state after Dylann Roof shot several churchgoers in Charleston, South Carolina.

Roof can be seen holding the flag in pictures. The tragedy in Charleston sparked a backlash against the flag.

A special license plate for the Sons of Confederate Veterans has been required under Georgia law for more than a decade. However, states like North Carolina, Virginia and Tennessee called for the same license plates to be phased out over the summer.

In a statement, Tim Pilgrim, the division adjutant for the Georgia Sons of Confederate Veterans, praised the roll out.

"This specialty tag is the most attractive license tag that the State of Georgia has to offer," Pilgrim said. "I would encourage members of the Sons of Confederate Veterans and all citizens of Georgia to ask for the newly designed Sons of Confederate Veterans specialty tag."

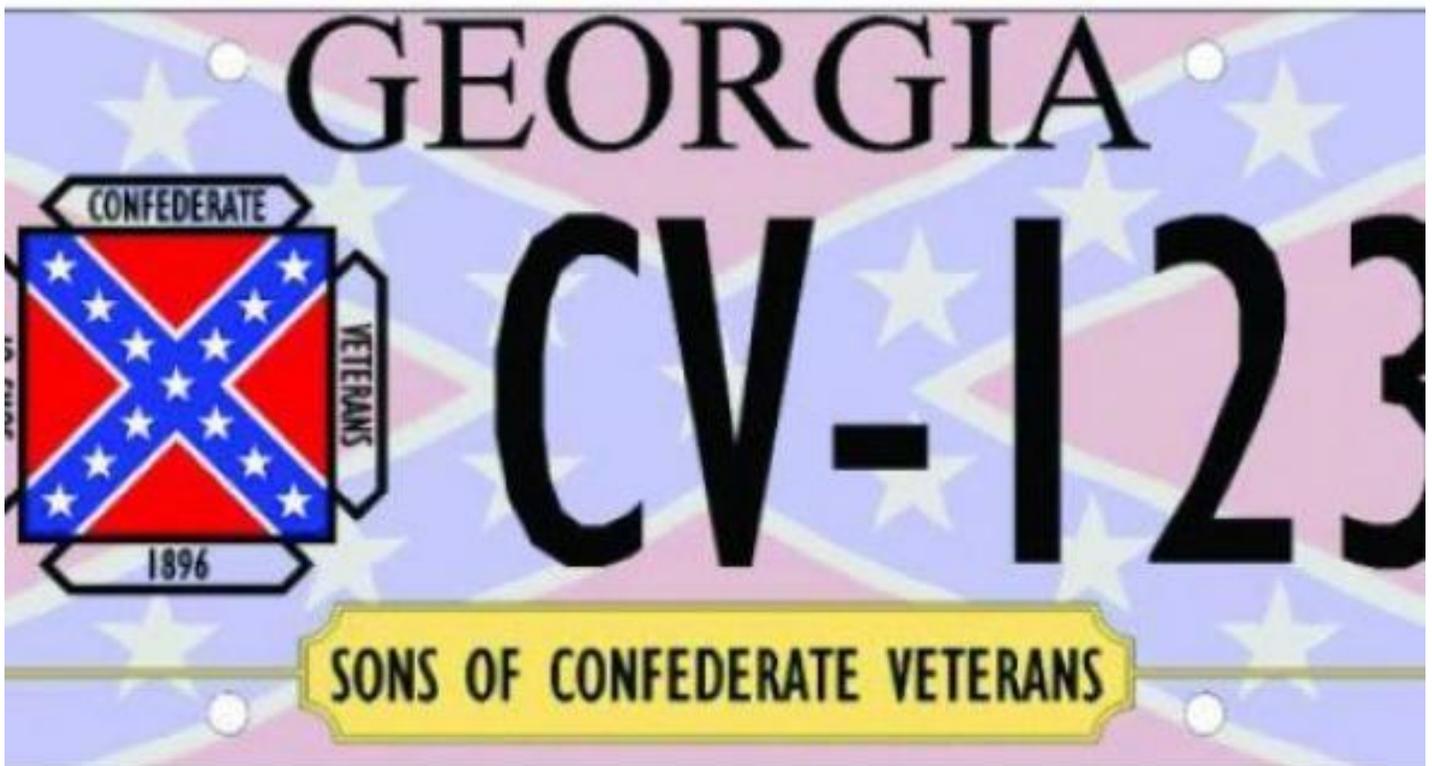
Not everyone is as excited as Pilgrim. Better Georgia, a progressive group in the state, has released a petition against the flag. According to its website, more than 4785 people have signed.

"Symbols of hate and division have no place in our government," the petition reads. "It's time to stand up for what's right and remove the Confederate flag from all Georgia license plates."

What do you think? Should the flag be removed or does the new plate do enough?

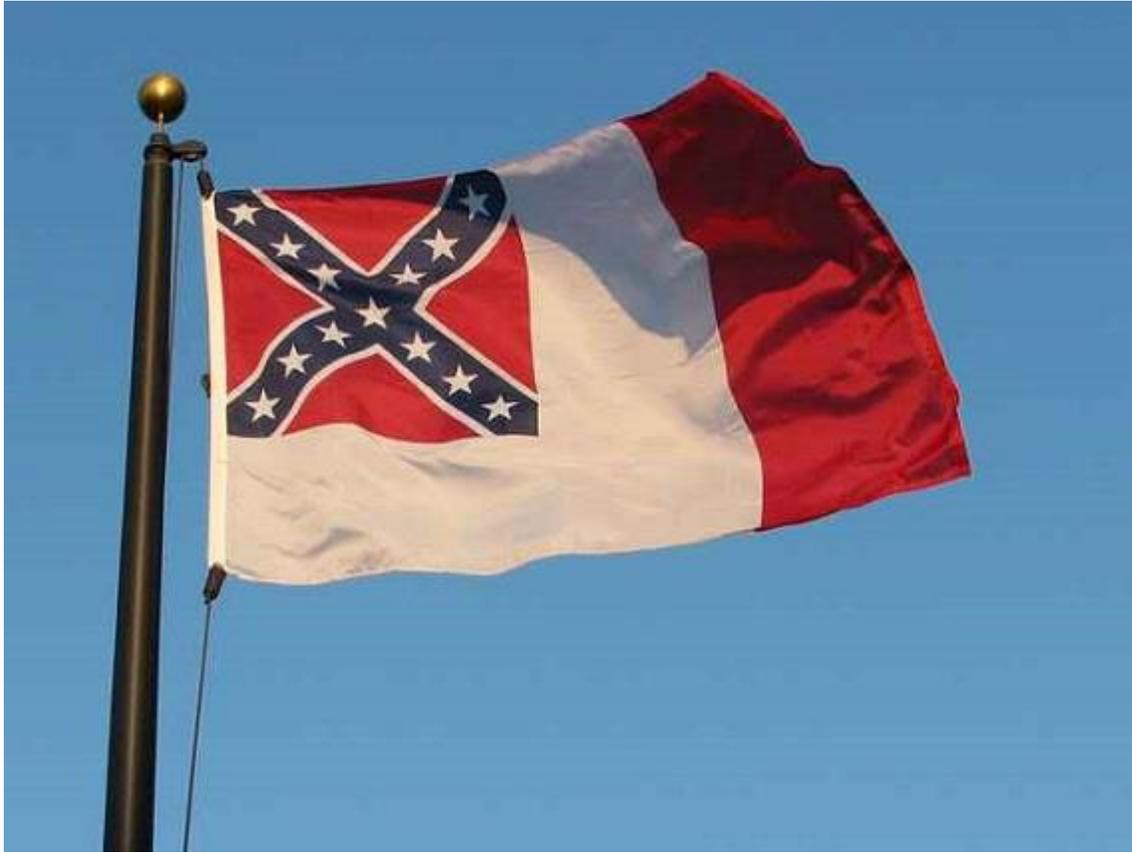
Vote HERE

<http://www.nydailynews.com/news/national/georgia-redesigns-confederate-license-plate-article-1.2374140>



“A Sickness in the Public Mind”: The Battle Flag and the Attack on Western Culture

By Boyd Cathey on Aug 4, 2015



Back in mid-June, after the Charleston shootings, the frenzied hue and cry went up and any number of accusations and charges were made against historic Confederate symbols, in particular, the Confederate Battle Flag (which is not as some supposedly informed writers called it, “the Stars and Bars.” The Stars and Bars is a different flag with a totally different design). The best way to examine these charges in a short column is point by point, briefly and succinctly.

First, the demand was made that the Battle Flag needs to come down, that images of that flag need to be banned and suppressed, because, whatever its past may have been, it has now become in the current context a “symbol of hate” and “carried by racists,” that it “symbolizes racism.” The problem with this argument is both historical and etiological.

Historically, the Battle Flag, with its familiar Cross of St. Andrew, was a square ensign that was carried by Southern troops during the War Between the States. It was not the national flag of the Confederacy that flew over slavery, but, rather, was carried by soldiers, 90-plus per cent who did not own slaves (roughly comparable to percentages in certain regiments of the Union army with some slave holding

soldiers from Delaware, Maryland, Kentucky, and Missouri in its ranks; indeed, General Grant's wife, Julia Dent Grant, owned slaves).

By contrast, the American flag, the "Stars and Stripes," not only flew over slavery for seventy-eight years, it flew over the brutal importation, the selling and the purchase of slaves, and the breaking up of slave families. Additionally, the Stars and Stripes flew over the infamous "Trail of Tears," at the Sand Creek massacre of innocent Native Americans, later at the Wounded Knee massacre, over the harsh internment of thousands of Nisei Japanese American citizens in concentration camps during World War II, and during the action at My Lai during the Vietnam War.

Although there are some zealots who now suggest doing away with the American flag because of these connections, I would suggest that most of the pundits on the Neoconservative Fox News and amongst the Republican governors presently clamoring for banning the Battle Flag would not join them in that demand. Yet, if we examine closely the history of both banners from the radically changing contexts that are used to attack the one, should we not focus on the history of other, as well? And, if only a particular snap shot context is used to judge such symbols, is *any* symbol of America's variegated history safe from the hands of those who may dislike or despise this or that symbol?

Second, a comparison has been made between the Battle Flag and the Nazi flag (red background, with a white circle and a black swastika centered). Again, this comparison demonstrates a lack of historical acumen on the part of those making it: the Nazi flag was created precisely to represent the Nazi Party and its ideology. The Battle Flag was designed to represent the historic Celtic and Christian origin of many Southerners and served as a soldiers' flag.

Third, the charge has been made that we should ban Confederate symbols because they represent "treason against the Federal government." That is, those Southerners who took up arms in 1861 to defend their states, their homes, and their families, were engaged in "rebellion" and were "traitors" under Federal law.

Again, such arguments fail on all counts. Some writers have suggested that Robert E. Lee, in particular, was a "traitor" because he violated his solemn military oath to uphold and defend the Constitution by taking arms against the Union. But what those writers fail to note is that Lee had formally resigned from the US Army and his commission before undertaking his new assignment to defend his home state of Virginia, which by then had seceded and re-vindicated its original independence.

And that brings us to point four: the right of secession and whether the actions of the Southern states, December 1860-May 1861, could be justified under the US Constitution.

One of the best summaries of the prevalent Constitutional theory at that time has been made by black scholar, professor, and prolific author Dr. Walter Williams. I quote from one his recent columns:

During the 1787 Constitutional Convention, a proposal was made that would allow the federal government to suppress a seceding state. James Madison rejected it, saying, 'A union of the states

containing such an ingredient seemed to provide for its own destruction. The use of force against a state would look more like a declaration of war than an infliction of punishment and would probably be considered by the party attacked as a dissolution of all previous compacts by which it might be bound.'

In fact, the ratification documents of Virginia, New York and Rhode Island explicitly said they held the right to resume powers delegated should the federal government become abusive of those powers. The Constitution never would have been ratified if states thought they could not regain their sovereignty — in a word, secede.

On March 2, 1861, after seven states seceded and two days before Abraham Lincoln's inauguration, Sen. James R. Doolittle of Wisconsin proposed a constitutional amendment that read, "No state or any part thereof, heretofore admitted or hereafter admitted into the union, shall have the power to withdraw from the jurisdiction of the United States."

Several months earlier, Reps. Daniel E. Sickles of New York, Thomas B. Florence of Pennsylvania and Otis S. Ferry of Connecticut proposed a constitutional amendment to prohibit secession. Here's a question for the reader: *Would there have been any point to offering these amendments if secession were already unconstitutional?* [my emphasis added]

Let me add that an examination of the ratification processes for Georgia, South Carolina, and in my own North Carolina in the late 1780s, reveal very similar discussions: it was the independent states themselves that had created a Federal government (and not the reverse, as Abe Lincoln erroneously suggested), and it was the various states that granted the Federal government certain very limited and specifically enumerated powers, reserving the vast remainder for themselves. As any number of the Founders indicated, there simply would *not* have been any United States if the states, both north and south, had believed that they could not leave it for just cause.

Interestingly, in my many years of research I can find only a couple of American presidents who openly and frankly denied the right of secession or believed in the Constitutional right to suppress it (of course, there is John Quincy Adams). In his address to Congress in January of 1861, lame duck President James Buchanan, while deploring secession in the strongest terms, stated frankly that he had no right to prevent it: "I certainly had no right to make aggressive war upon any State, and I am perfectly satisfied that the Constitution has wisely withheld that power even from Congress." Former President John Tyler served in the Confederate Congress, and former President Franklin Pierce, in his famous Concord, New Hampshire, address, July 4, 1863, joined Buchanan in decrying the efforts to suppress the secession of the Southern states:

Do we not all know that the cause of our casualties is the vicious intermeddling of too many of the citizens of the Northern States with the constitutional rights of the Southern States, cooperating with the discontents of the people of those states? Do we not know that the disregard of the Constitution, and of the security that it affords to the rights of States and of individuals, has been the cause of the calamity which our country is called to undergo?

More, during the antebellum period William Rawle's pro-secession text on Constitutional law, *A View of the Constitution of the United States* (1825,) was used at West Point as the standard text on the US Constitution. And on several occasions the Supreme Court, itself, affirmed this view. In *The Bank of Augusta v. Earl* (1839), the Court wrote in an 8-1 decision:

The States...are distinct separate sovereignties, except so far as they have parted with some of the attributes of sovereignty by the Constitution. They continue to be nations, with all their rights, and under all their national obligations, and with all the rights of nations in every particular; except in the surrender by each to the common purposes and object of the Union, under the Constitution. The rights of each State, when not so yielded up, remain absolute.

A review of the Northern press at the time of the Secession conventions finds, perhaps surprisingly to those who wish to read back into the past their own statist ideas, a similar view: few newspapers took the position that the Federal government had the constitutional right to invade and suppress states that had decided to secede. Indeed, were it not the New England states in 1814-1815 who made the first serious effort at secession during the War of 1812, to the point that they gathered in Hartford to discuss actively pursuing it? And during the pre-war period various states asserted in one form or another similar rights.

One last point regarding the accusation of “treason”: after the conclusion of the War, the Southern states were put under military authority, their civil governments dissolved, and each state had to be re-admitted to the Union. Now, unless my logic is wrong, you cannot be “re-admitted” to something unless you have been out of it. And if you were out of it, legally and constitutionally, as the Southern states maintained (and many Northern writers acknowledged), then you cannot be in any way guilty of “treason.”

The major point that opponents of Confederate symbols assert currently is that the panoply of those monuments, flags, plaques, and other reminders actually represent a defense of slavery. And since we as a society have supposedly advanced progressively in our understanding, it is both inappropriate and hurtful to continue to display them.

Again, there are various levels of response. Historically, despite the best efforts of the ideologically-driven Marxist historical school (e.g., Eric Foner) to make slavery the *only* issue underlying the War Between the States, there is considerable evidence—while not ignoring the significance of slavery—to indicate more profound economic and political reasons why that war occurred (cf. writers Thomas DiLorenzo, Charles Adams, David Gordon, Jeffrey Hummel, William Marvel, Thomas Fleming, et al). Indeed, it goes without saying that when hostilities began, anti-slavery was not a major reason at all in the North for prosecuting the war; indeed, it never was a major reason. Lincoln made this explicit to editor Horace Greeley of *The New York Tribune* a short time prior to the Emancipation Proclamation (which only applied to states in the South where the Federal government had no authority, but not to the states such as Maryland and Kentucky, where slavery existed, but were safely under Union control).

Here is what he wrote to Greeley on August 22, 1862:

My paramount object in this struggle is to save the Union, and is not either to save or destroy Slavery. If I could save the Union without freeing any slave, I would do it, and if I could save it by freeing all the slaves, I would do it, and if I could save it by freeing some and leaving others alone, I would also do that. What I do about Slavery and the colored race, I do because I believe it helps to save this Union, and what I forbear, I forbear because I do not believe it would help to save the Union.

The Emancipation Proclamation was a desperate political ploy by Lincoln to churn up sagging support for a war that appeared stale-mated at the time. Indeed, Old Abe had previously called for sending blacks back to Africa and the enforcement of laws that made Jim Crow look benign. He knew fully well that “freeing the slaves” had no support in the North and was not the reason for the conflict.

Professor DiLorenzo, returning afresh to original sources, focuses on the deeper, all-encompassing economic motives:

Whatever other reasons some of the Southern states might have given for secession are irrelevant to the question of why there was a war. Secession does not necessitate war. Lincoln promised war over tax collection in his first inaugural address. When the Southern states refused to pay his beloved Morrill Tariff at the Southern ports [monies that supplied a major portion of Federal revenues], he kept his promise of ‘invasion and bloodshed’ and waged war on the Southern states.

Indeed, late in the conflict the Confederate government authorized the formation of black units to fight for the Confederacy, with manumission to accompany such service. According to Ervin I. Jordan, Jr. (*Black Confederates and Afro-Yankees in Civil War Virginia*, University of Virginia, 1995), thousands of black men fought for the Confederacy, perhaps as many as 30,000. Would a society ideologically intent on preserving *in toto* the peculiar institution as the reason for war, even in such dire straits, have enacted such a measure?

It is, of course, easy to read back into a complex context *then* what appears so right and natural to us now; but it does a disservice to history, as the late Professor Eugene Genovese, perhaps the finest historian of the Old South, fully understood. Understanding the intellectual struggle in which many Southerners engaged over the issue of slavery, he cautioned readers about rash judgments based on politically correct presentist ideas of justice and right, and in several books and numerous essays defended those leaders of the Old South who were faced with difficult decisions and a nearly intractable context. And more, he understood as too many writers fail to do today, that selecting this or that symbol of our collective history, singling it out for our smug disapprobation and condemnation, may make us feel good temporarily, but does nothing to address the deeper problems afflicting our benighted society.

Concerning Dylann Roof, the disturbed lone gunman responsible for the Charleston shootings, our proper response should be: if a rabid fox comes out of the woods and bites someone, you don’t burn the woods down, you stop the fox.

But in the United States today we live in a country characterized by what historian Thomas Fleming has written afflicted this nation in 1860—“a disease in the public mind,” that is, a collective madness, lacking in both reflection and prudential understanding of our history. Too many authors advance willy-nilly down the slippery slope—thus, if we ban the Battle Flag, why not destroy all those monuments to Lee and Jackson. And why stop there? Washington and Jefferson were slave holders, were they not? Obliterate and erase those names from our lexicon, tear down their monuments! Fort Hood, Fort Bragg, Fort Gordon? Change those names, for they remind us of Confederate generals! Nathan Bedford Forest is buried in Memphis? Let’s dig up him up! Amazon sells “Gone with Wind?” Well, to quote a writer at the supposedly “conservative,” Rupert Murdoch-owned *New York Post*, ban it, too!

It is a slippery slope, but an incline that in fact represents a not-so-hidden agenda, a cultural Marxism, that seeks to take advantage of the genuine horror at what happened in Charleston to advance its own designs which are nothing less than the remaking completely of what remains of the American nation. And, since it is the South that has been most resistant to such impositions and radicalization, it is the South, the historic South, which enters the cross hairs as the most tempting target. And it is the Battle Flag—true, it has been misused on occasion—which is not just the symbol of Southern pride, but becomes the target of a broad, vicious, and zealous attack on Western Christian tradition, itself. Those attacks, then, are only the opening salvo in this renewed cleansing effort, and those who collaborate with them, good intentions or not, collaborate with the destruction of our historic civilization. For that they deserve our scorn and our most vigorous and steadfast opposition.

About Boyd Cathey

Boyd D. Cathey holds a doctorate in European history from the Catholic University of Navarra, Pamplona, Spain, where he was a Richard Weaver Fellow, and an MA in intellectual history from the University of Virginia (as a Jefferson Fellow). He was assistant to conservative author and philosopher the late Russell Kirk. In more recent years he served as State Registrar of the North Carolina Division of Archives and History. He has published in French, Spanish, and English, on historical subjects as well as classical music and opera. He is active in the Sons of Confederate Veterans and various historical, archival, and genealogical organizations. **More from Boyd Cathey**

<http://www.abbevilleinstitute.org/blog/a-sickness-in-the-public-mind-the-battle-flag-and-the-attack-on-western-culture/>





EXHIBITOR'S TAG
11766
DIVISION 1244 CLASS 03
ENTRY
DESCRIPTION Cemetery
THIS NAME & NUMBER MUST NOT BE EXPOSED DURING JUDGING
EXHIBITOR NAME [REDACTED]
ADDRESS [REDACTED]

PHOTOGRAPHY SHOW
EAST TEXAS STATE FAIR
TYLER, TEXAS
EAST TEXAS STATE FAIR
TYLER TEXAS

At the East Texas State Fair in Tyler, check out this winning picture in the exhibits. I don't know who entered this beautiful picture, but it is in a Henderson County Cemetery. Our Confederate Flag is posted at a CSA Veteran's grave in a Major W H Howdy Martin SCV Camp 1241 flag pipe that I made! Congratulations to the winner!

- Jim Day

Baltimore County renaming Robert E. Lee Park as Lake Roland



Baltimore County Executive Kevin Kamenetz, center, and Shannon Davis, head ranger of Robert E. Lee Park, are among the county officials and state delegates breaking ground Monday for a new nature center. Kamenetz announced that the county, which operates the park, is renaming it as Lake Roland. Baltimore City, which owns the park, must make it official in a City Council vote.

(Staff photo by Larry Perl) **By Larry Perl** Towson Times

The park takes its new name from Lake Roland as the body of water that Kamenetz called "the centerpiece."

Robert E. Lee Park has a new name — Lake Roland — and next year will have a new nature center, too.

Baltimore County Executive Kevin Kamenetz announced the new name of the park during a groundbreaking ceremony Monday for the \$1.2 million Lake Roland Nature and Environmental Education Center, which is expected to open in April 2016.

Kamenetz said all references to Robert E. Lee Park have been removed and Lake Roland substituted as the park name on the county website. The Robert E. Lee Park Nature Council also has changed its name to the Lake Roland Nature Council and its new website address is www.lakeroland.org.



However, a county spokesman said that since Baltimore City still owns the park and the county has run it since 2009, the city must still decide on an official name.

"The city is continuing to work through its process regarding the legal name of the park as required in the deed, and they will continue to do that," county spokeswoman Ellen Kobler said. "In the meantime, the county has moved forward to identify the entire area as Lake Roland, which anchors the entire amenity."

"Our understanding is that to formally change the name of Robert E. Lee Park, the City Council is required to pass legislation to make such a name change," said Howard Libit, a spokesman for Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake, who supports the name change.

The park takes its new name from Lake Roland as the body of water that Kamenetz called "the centerpiece" of the 450-acre park near the light rail station at Falls Road and Lake Avenue.

Kamenetz said the lake dates to 1850 "and it is what this area is known as. We think it's a fitting name."

In July, City Council President Bernard C. "Jack" Young introduced legislation to rename the park, which is named for Lee, a Confederate general. The council has not voted on the bill yet, but, "I think it's just a matter of scheduling," said Lester Davis, a spokesman for Young.

Young's bill followed the massacre of nine black church members in Charleston, S.C., by an alleged white supremacist. The killings sparked debate over whether Confederate icons are racially divisive and should be removed from public spaces.



City legislation would rename Robert E. Lee Park

The park was named for Lee after Elizabeth Garrett White, a wealthy Baltimorean, required when she died in 1917 that the proceeds from the sale of her Mount Vernon Place estate be used to erect a monument for Lee, a Confederate general who spent time in the city during White's lifetime.

Kamenetz at the time called on the city to change the park's name to Lake Roland, which he said was more reflective of its diverse usage. The county has made \$6 million in upgrades to the park since taking over operations.

Rawlings-Blake's office said at the time that she supported changing the park's name to Lake Roland Park. She also convened a commission of historians, community organizations and art experts to evaluate the merits of removing Confederate monuments in Baltimore or allowing them to stay.

Gov. Larry Hogan initiated steps to get rid of license plates carrying an image of the Confederate battle flag that are registered to about 175 vehicles and motorcycles in the state — and he asked the state attorney general to take action to dissolve a 1997 injunction that required the state to issue the plates.

The park got its name in 1945 when Robert Garrett — a great-nephew of White, the heiress, and executor of her will — successfully petitioned the Circuit Court to have the money from his aunt's bequest used for city recreation at Lake Roland. Garrett was chairman of the city's recreation commission at the time. (The Garrett family were then part owners of The Baltimore Sun.)

White's will had instructed that the proceeds from the sale of her property go to the erection of a statue of Lee in Druid Hill Park.



Lee deserves to be honored

Lee moved to Baltimore in 1848 when the War Department assigned him to oversee the construction of the still-unfinished Fort Carroll. He was a distinguished veteran of the Mexican-American War, and went on to become popular in

Baltimore society.

He left the city about four years later to become superintendent of West Point, but he visited many times after the Civil War. He died in 1870, five years after the Civil War ended.

“He just exemplified a true gentleman in all ways,” said Carolyn Billups, Maryland Division president for the United Daughters of the Confederacy. Stressing that she was speaking only for herself and not the organization, Billups, of St. Mary’s County, said, “I most definitely want (the park) to remain Robert E. Lee.”

She said she is worried not only about the name change for the park, but the fate of other monuments that the city is reviewing.

“The bottom line is, when one monument falls, it sets a precedent,” she said.

Baltimore City Solicitor George Nilson said in July that the City Council has the legal standing to change the park's name, despite White's wishes in her will.

Kamenetz in his remarks before the groundbreaking did not address the controversy over Robert E. Lee, but he said afterward that he prefers Lake Roland because, "it's a more welcoming name."

"It's the obvious name," said Larry Zeafla, president of the Lake Roland Nature Council. "It's the name that's been commonly used by people in the community."

Zeafla said that despite any remaining legal hoops, he is glad that the county and the nature council are moving forward with a new name.

"It's Robert E. Lee Park no more," he said.

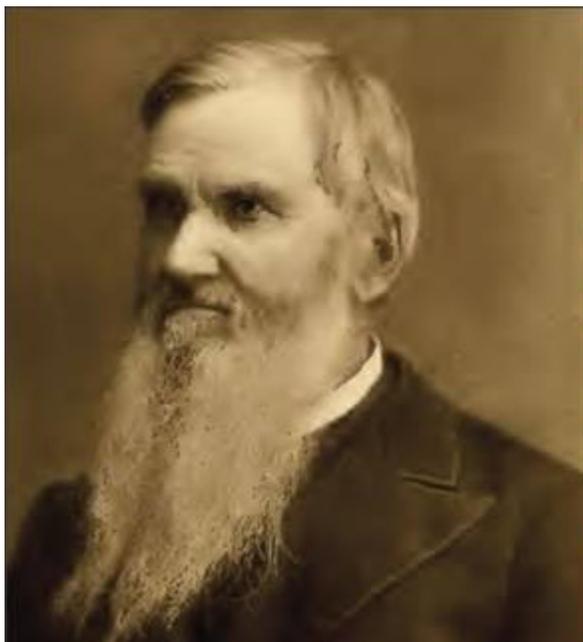
Baltimore Sun reporter Yvonne Wenger and Sun research librarian Paul McCardell contributed to this article.

Defending the Heritage



Telling a lie is different than bearing false witness. False witness is defamation of character. Creating an impression about a person or group of people that murders their character and slanders their intent. The Yankees have been bearing false witness against their Southern neighbors for over 200 years and it still persists. So... Don't tell me it is in the past! And it will NOT be in the past until the federal government makes sure all the truth is taught in our public schools... then and only then, will a Southerner be able to "get over it."

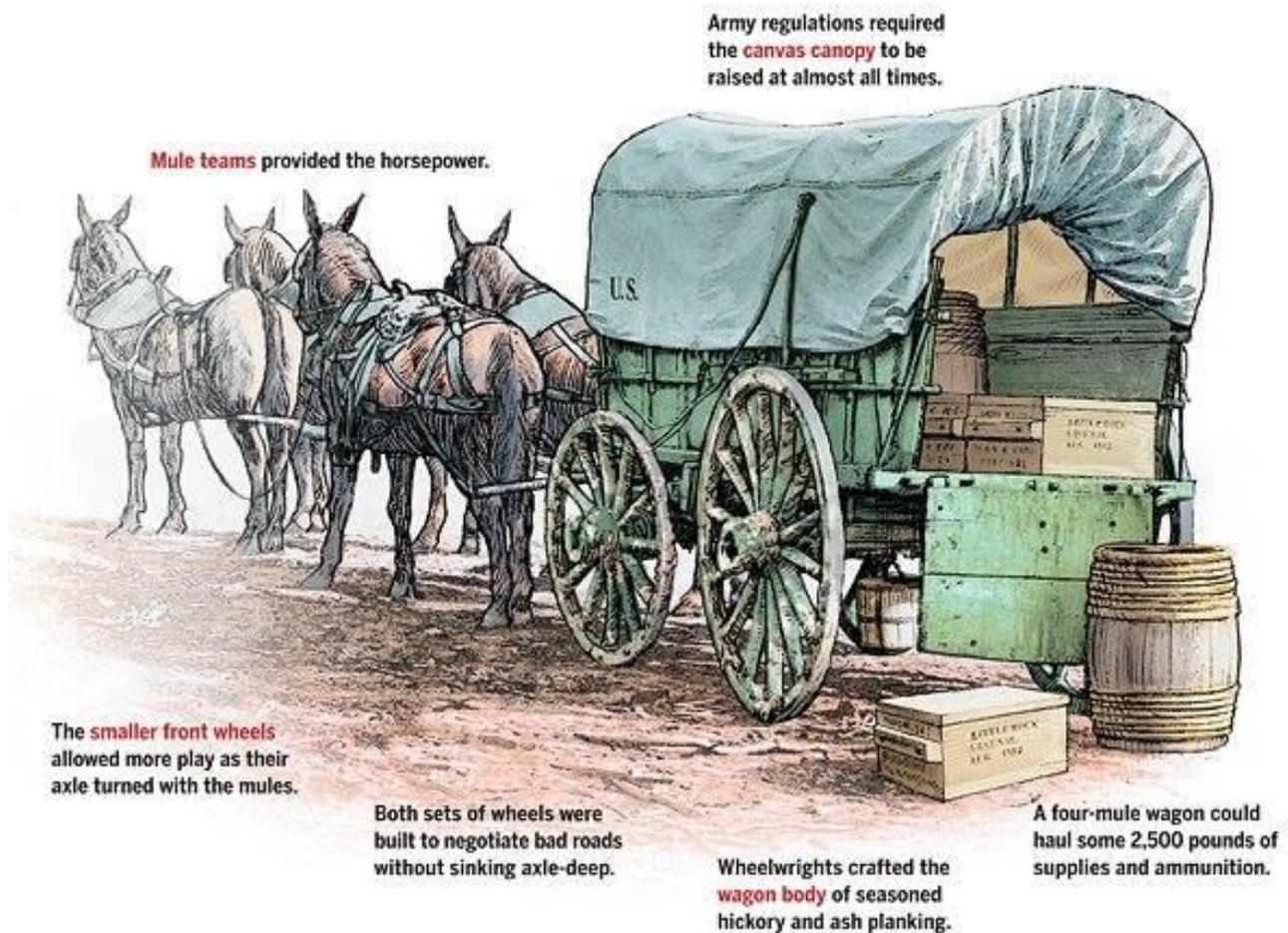
Travis [><]



ROBERT LOUIS DABNEY

"It is to me simply incredible, that a people so shrewd and practical as those of the United States, should expect us to have discarded, through the logic of the sword merely, the convictions of a lifetime; or that they could be deceived by us, should we be base enough to assert it of ourselves. They know that the people of the South were conquered, and not convinced; and that the authority of the United States was accepted by us from necessity, and not from preference.The people of the South went to war, because they sincerely believed (what their political fathers had taught them, with one voice, for two generations) that the doctrine of State-sovereignty for which they fought, was absolutely essential as the bulwark of the liberties of the people."

Robert Louis Dabney, *Life and Campaigns of Lieut.-Gen. Thomas J. Jackson* (New York: Bletlock & Company, 1866), viii-ix.



THE SPOILS OF WAR -- HOW MANY SUPPLIES DID THE CONFEDERATES CAPTURE AT CABIN CREEK?

So how much stuff was in those 130 wagons captured by the Texas and Indian troopers at Cabin Creek?

Historical accounts report a Union Army supply wagon pulled by six mules and depending on how good the roads were -- could carry on the average as much as 3,000 pounds. 3000 x 130 wagons = 390,000 pounds of supplies or 195 tons.

If the Texas Road was in good shape, the wagons could have been carrying even more.

It was a lot of stuff for the starving Confederates in Indian Territory. It was a victory and a much needed boost to morale.

In a few weeks, Gen. Edmund Kirby-Smith, the Confederate commander of the Trans-Mississippi Department, issued a congratulatory order. In January of 1865, both Generals Watie and Gano received the official thanks of the Confederate Congress for their troops action on the 19th of September, 1864.



Courage, valor, bravery and loyalty are ageless...

"Colonel Pate, of the Fifth Virginia Cavalry, was killed in battle on the mountain road near Richmond. Little Jimmy Moore, his orderly, only sixteen years old, rode in under a storm of bullets and brought the body out. With the assistance of another man he took it into Dr. Shepherd's house, and had only time to pin a piece of paper with his name upon it to the breast when the enemy charged into the yard."

BOY SOLDIERS OF THE CONFEDERACY

Susan R Hull

1905

Photo-Confederate Veteran # 15 1907

taken when Boswell was about 11 years of age.

The War to Prevent Southern Independence and Other New Tomes

By Clyde Wilson on Sep 30, 2015



Thanks for the “Amateurs”

“Amateur” has come to mean “inferior” to most people today. But the term originally meant someone who was as good as a professional but did not take money for performance. Fortunately, Dixie has always had and still does have many able “amateur” historians. This is a good thing since most of the paid “professional” historians these days are far gone in the distortions of Cultural Marxism. Two recent examples of good “amateur” work : “[This Constitution...Shall Be the Supreme Law of the Land](#)”: [The Constitution of the United States as handed down by the Founding Fathers as a legacy is in decline](#). by David Loy Mauch of Arkansas; and [Slavery Was Not the Cause of the War Between the States: The Irrefutable Argument](#). by Gene Kizer, Jr., of South Carolina. Both these works marshal powerful cases, based on evidence rather than propaganda. The cases have been made before, but our enemies are the kind of people that have to be told more than once. Both works are available in paperback and electronically. Gene Kizer is also the author of *The Elements of Academic Success: How to Graduate Magna Cum Laude from College*. The author knows whereof he speaks.

Christian Witness

I do not usually review religious books or advice books. However, David and Jason Benham, twin brothers from Charlotte, North Carolina, have published a book worth noting in the catalog of Southern writing: *Whatever the Cost: Facing Your Fears, Dying to Your Dreams, and Living Powerfully* The brothers, former professional baseball players and very successful entrepreneurs, have written a good-humoured and inspiring spiritual autobiography. They relate a story of how Christian faith has guided them through setbacks and difficulties. The Benhams are in the news these days as conspicuous resisters of the current atmosphere of libertinism that dominates so much of the clergy and laity. Unlike most “professional” Christians, they have paid the price of refusing to go along with fashion. They gave up a major cable television success rather than compromise their faith. The book tells us that genuine old-time Protestant faith still flourishes in the Southern grassroots. Alas, like so many naïve Southerners, they do not understand that their virtues are “Southern,” and could not have been produced by any other culture.

The War to Prevent Southern Independence

Dr. Charles T. Pace of Greenville, North Carolina, originated the precisely accurate term for the great disturbance of 1861—1865: The War to Prevent Southern Independence. Many of us have adopted this nomenclature and all of us should. It exactly describes the war better than any other of the numerous terms that are used. The war was waged by the party in control of the U.S. government to destroy the self-government of the Southern States and their people. Dr. Pace’s new book, just published, *Southern Independence: Why War?* explains chapter and verse how that came about. He traces how what he calls the Northern Money Party preferred war to allowing the South to get free of its economic domination. He presents unseemly facts about the career of Honest Abe Lincoln that even Dr. Thomas DiLorenzo missed. Along the way, reflecting on his long service as a family physician in eastern North Carolina, reminds of us what was good in a Southern way of life shared by black and white over many generations. Dr. Pace’s book is the inaugural publication of a new Southern venture, Shotwell Publishing, and is available in print and electronically. Shotwell will specialize in short, hard-hitting Southern books.

About Clyde Wilson

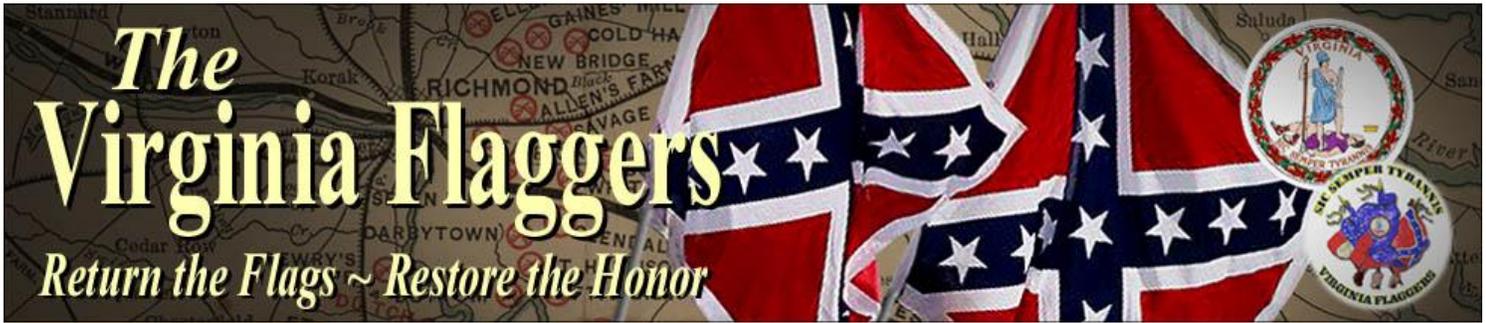
Clyde Wilson is a distinguished Professor Emeritus of History at the University of South Carolina where he was the editor of the multivolume *The Papers of John C. Calhoun*. He is the M.E. Bradford Distinguished Chair at the Abbeville Institute. He is the author or editor of over thirty books and published over 600 articles, essays and reviews. [More from Clyde Wilson](http://www.abbevilleinstitute.org/blog/the-war-to-prevent-southern-independence-and-other-new-tomes/)
<http://www.abbevilleinstitute.org/blog/the-war-to-prevent-southern-independence-and-other-new-tomes/>

AFTER 180 YEARS OF NORTHERN SLAVE TRADE

BLAMING THE SOUTH FOR SLAVERY IS LIKE

BLAMING YOUR SEX PARTNER FOR GETTING PREGNANT





Saturday, September 26, 2015

I-64 Savage's Station Kershaw's Brigade Memorial Battle Flag Raised in Sandston, Virginia

At a private ceremony in Henrico County this morning, the Virginia Flaggers raised our 12th Roadside Memorial Battle Flag, and the first on Interstate 64 in Virginia. On land leased from a private citizen, a 10' x 15' Army of Tennessee Battle Flag was raised on a 50' pole to the cheers and shouts of those in attendance.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tk9MoG9KhTk&feature=player_embedd

As of late last night, the forecast was for steady rain all day in the Richmond area, but we planned to raise the flag rain or shine, and prepared for a downpour. As the 10:00 scheduled start time approached, we were amazed and thankful that the rain tapered off to the point that after a few sprinkles at the very beginning, the rain completely held off for our ceremony! We were blessed to have Rev. Dr. Herman White bring the keynote message, and bagpipe music by PipeMajor David Hinton added beauty and reverence to the dedication and flag raising. We counted among those in attendance, supporters who had traveled from as far away as Missouri...and TEXAS... to join us for this weekend's events!

This location has high visibility from both west and east bound lanes... and with traffic counts of 70,000+ reported daily, and its close proximity to the Capital of the Confederacy... will be a very visible reminder to citizens, tourists, and all who see her, of Richmond's rich Confederate heritage and history.



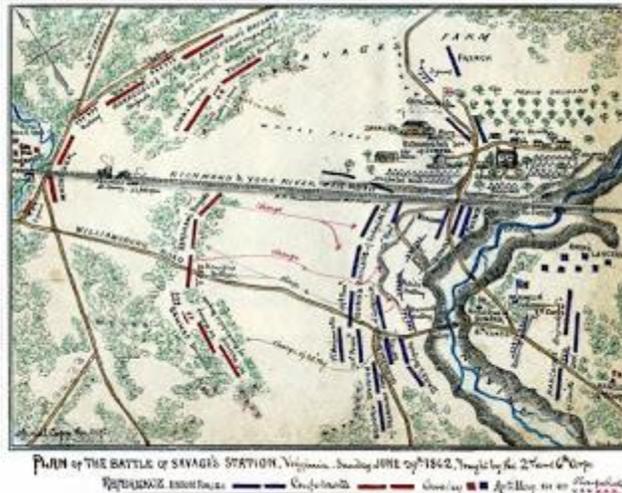
Those of you who have followed our Interstate Battle Flag installations know that we have been absolutely blown away by the way God has led us to sites that are not only highly visible, but have significant historical relevance. This site is no exception.

A few months ago, I heard that someone had raised a flag on I-64 in Sandston. I rode by the property on 64, and even though it was a small flag on a small pole, I was excited to discover that it could STILL see it from the interstate. I contacted the person responsible and asked if they would be interested in having a larger pole installed

with a larger flag. The response was a resounding YES!

Of course, we were thrilled to have a large flag going up on such a great spot on Interstate 64. I was unprepared, however, for what we discovered when we began researching the property and its significance during the War Between the States, specifically its relevance to the Savage's Station Battle, June 29, 1862.

Not only is our flag site sitting squarely on the Southern end of the actual battlefield, but— by overlaying present day maps with maps from the battle field, we discovered that the flag will fly over what once was the field that Kershaw's Brigade charged across at 5:00 p.m that evening!



This discovery led us to name the flag in honor of Gen. Kershaw.

The flag was dedicated today to the Glory of God, and in memory and honor of our Confederate Heroes. She will serve as a living, breathing memorial, and a 24/7 reminder that there are still those of use with Confederate blood flowing through our veins who will not sit idly by while our heritage is attacked, history is erased, and our Veterans become the subject of derision Gen. Cleburne warned us about over 150 years ago.

*"The world shall yet decide, in truth's clear far-off light
That the Soldiers who wore the gray and rode with Lee, were in the right."*



Va Flaggers I-64 Savage's Station, Kershaw's Brigade Memorial Battle Flag, as seen from Westbound Interstate 64

The Virginia Flaggers Memorial Battle Flag projects are made possible by financial support from across the Commonwealth and beyond. We currently have numerous additional Memorial Battle Flag projects in various stages of development, and a waiting list for flags that grows longer with each new attack on our history and heritage.

Aerial photo courtesy of Tredegar DroneWorks:



Post ceremony aerial video by Tredegar Drone Works: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4oIE4vr15-oA>



"For every flag removed, a thousand more will rise to take its place."

Susan Hathaway
Va Flaggers

Monday, September 21, 2015

Confederate Air Force Takes Flight in the Capital of the Confederacy

Last week, a group known as "The Defenders for Freedom, Justice & Equality" announced that they would hold a press conference at the Jefferson Davis Monument in Richmond, on the opening day of the UCI Bike Races, easily the largest athletic event our city has ever hosted.

<http://wtvr.com/2015/09/14/justice-group-to-hold-press-conference-at-jefferson-davis-monument-on-first-day-of-uci-races/>

"We want to tell the world that Richmonders do not support showcasing these monuments of Confederate military and political leaders during this world-famous sports event," said Ana Edwards, who chairs the Defenders' Sacred Ground Historical Reclamation Project. "At a time when cities across the South are removing these symbols of the oppression of Black people, it's an embarrassment that our city, the former capital of the Confederacy, would choose to highlight these statues to a world audience." •

The Virginia Flaggers were asked by the local media to give a response to this planned press conference and we issued the following statement:

The Defenders for Freedom, Justice & Equality is an extremist group who failed at their attempts to have the UCI bike races rerouted away from the Confederate Monuments that line Monument

Avenue, where tourists from the Commonwealth, the United States, and around the globe visit just to view and admire the stately monuments and memorials to our Confederate Heroes.

This group, like so many others around the country is attempting to exploit an unrelated tragedy in South Carolina as an excuse to cast aspersion on our Confederate Veterans and force their lopsided, uneducated, politically correct view of history on all of Richmond's citizens. Recent polls have shown that the majority of the citizens of the Commonwealth, including the Governor, do not want to see any of our Veterans' monuments or memorials disturbed or removed.

This press conference is an obvious ploy to get publicity and disrupt the planned activities this weekend. At a time when the citizens of Richmond should be uniting and putting our best foot forward to welcome so many to our great city, this group has decided to use the platform to further divide us and stir up trouble where none exists.

As the proud descendants of the Confederate soldiers who bravely fought to defend the Commonwealth, we will not sit by quietly and allow the attempted destruction of our history to continue. The Va Flagers have coordinated patrols of the city's monuments each night since June 26, when one of our folks surprised a vandal in the act of defacing the Jefferson Davis Monument. Thanks to information they were able to provide, and evidence left at the scene, the perpetrator was subsequently arrested and convicted.

Since that time, over four dozen volunteers, including a father-son duo from Pennsylvania, and a couple who traveled all the way from Chicago, Illinois, have stepped up to serve as Monument Guards. We will continue to patrol the monuments as long as there is any threat of vandalism, and are ready and willing to meet any and all calls for removal of these priceless treasures with the same fortitude, determination and perseverance shown by our ancestors some 150 years ago.

<http://www.nbc12.com/story/30060142/richmond-2015-bike-route-sparks-outrage-horrific-embarrassment>

Yesterday, about a dozen protesters gathered near the Jefferson Davis Monument.

"Ana Edwards, chair of the Defenders Sacred Ground Historical Reclamation Project, spoke first. She said that the Defenders had reached out to the UCI Richmond 2015's four chairmen and additionally to the UCI International Committee in Europe, asking both to change the route. But her request was rejected.

"We are here today to tell the world that most Richmonders do not support showcasing these monuments to Confederate military and political leaders during this world famous sporting event," Edwards said. (From WTVR 6 Report)

She went on to say that the "shooting in Charleston indicates our work is not done"...called on Richmonders to "Honor black history, not Confederate shrines"...and insisted that "many are calling for removal of [statues]"



In planning our counter to this coming protest, and considering the bike races which would draw thousands to the area, we decided to hire a banner plane to carry our message. Contrary to some reports in the media, we never had any intention of attending the "Defenders of Justice and Equality" Press conference (at least not on the ground)...and the suggestion that the possibility of our presence lead to additional police presence is laughable, considering we have been protesting in Richmond twice a week, for four years, without incident.

Instead, and without us even having to be present, a small plane with a huge Battle Flag and the message "CONFEDERATE HEROES MATTER" buzzed the protesters, race participants and spectators, and citizens in Richmond and surrounding counties.



Almost as soon as the plane took off from a local airport, we started receiving phone calls, texts, and messages about sightings in New Kent, Hanover, Henrico, and Richmond. Twitter and FB exploded with reports of a huge Confederate Flag in the air in Richmond...and about an hour into the flight, we got word that the pilot had transposed our message, and misspelled the word "HEROES".



Despite the unfortunate "typo" on the part of the pilot, the banner plane was a phenomenal success, circling downtown for two hours with a huge Battle Flag and a message that was perfectly clear, seen by thousands (including those gathered to protest our monuments) and, judging from the firestorm created on social media, obviously served to cause quite a few Anti-Confederate haters' heads to explode on (visual) contact.



The topic of conversation at the press conference, in the media, and on social media throughout the afternoon changed from removing monuments...to the appearance of the Confederate Air Force at the bike races in Richmond...

http://www.richmond.com/news/local/city-of-richmond/article_9f6b0ece-9f28-5917-ba48-0e73f501dd5a.html

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED!

Meanwhile, across town, our folks were enjoying the day at the Field Day of the Past. Our booth was busy all day, with hundreds of people stopping by to show their support and pick up Confederate flags, t-shirts, and stickers. We gave away over 1,000 stickers in the first two days, and were thrilled with the attendance and positive response.



Huge crowds, beautiful weather, selling out of flags, and overwhelming support.

But this story is the highlight of the afternoon..



These gentleman approached our table. They told us that they had written reports on Karen and her defense of Confederate Heritage for a school assignment. They were thrilled to meet her in person, and we were honored to chat with them. Karen signed a copy of "Give This Book To A Yankee", a book folks at Sea Raven Press, by which includes her forward, and we presented it to them.

The future of the South is in good hands with young men like these.

By the way...they both got A's.

We leave you with this brief video clip of the banner plane as it buzzed the press conference.Â Might be the best 15 seconds you spend today. Â :)

<https://www.facebook.com/dianaldigangi/videos/1645691599032458/>

God bless all those who worked so hard to make yesterday such a HUGE Confederate success, those who helped fund the banner plane ...and GOD SAVE THE SOUTH!

The Virginia Flaggers



Tuesday, September 15, 2015

Texas Division, SCV Division Executive Committee Proclamation

The Va Flaggers were honored to receive word on Saturday that the Texas Division, SCV Division Executive Committee had, by unanimous vote of approval, issued the following proclamation:

Texas Division, SCV, September 12, 2015

Texas Division Resolution on the Virginia Flaggers

Whereas the Texas Division believes in aggressive defense of Southern heritage and the Confederate soldier, and

Whereas the Virginia Flaggers have represented the honor, integrity, decency, grace, and can-do spirit of the Confederate soldier, and

Whereas the leadership of the Virginia Flaggers has displayed a keen ability to bring the message of heritage defense directly to the masses, and

Whereas the Virginia Flaggers have raised awareness of the desire by some to destroy our Southern culture forever, and

Whereas the Virginia Flaggers have stepped into leadership in the Southern heritage movement and successfully fulfilled the Charge of General Stephen Dill Lee, and

Whereas the Virginia Flaggers have gained such success that they have become a true voice of leadership in the Southern heritage movement, and

Whereas the Virginia Flaggers represent the active principle in heritage defense and

Whereas the Virginia Flaggers serve as a positive, noble, and honorable role model for all those interested in defending Southern history and heritage, therefore, be it

Resolved that on this 12th day of September, in the year of our Lord Jesus Christ 2015, that the Texas Division, SCV, does hereby affirm our support and admiration for the Virginia Flaggers and call upon all Southern Patriots, from across the Confederation, to fight for the survival of our sacred symbols and history, in the spirit of the Confederate soldiers of yesterday and the Virginia Flaggers of today.

We are humbled to be so recognized by the fine men of the Texas Division, SCV, grateful for their generous and faithful support, and inspired by the encouraging and kind sentiments offered in the proclamation.



The Major Robert M. White Camp #1250, Temple, TX, presenting Susan with a personalized Gonzales flag during her visit to the Lone Star State, December, 2014.

God bless the men of the Texas Division, SCV...and God Save the South!

VaFlaggers

<http://vaflaggers.blogspot.com>



Civil Rights at the Casa Mañana

By John Marquardt on Sep 28, 2015



At the Battle of San Jacinto in April of 1836, the badly outnumbered Texas forces under the command of General Sam Houston avenged the historic defeat at the Alamo in San Antonio the month before by soundly crushing General Santa Anna's vastly superior Mexican Army. After that battle, Santa Anna was forced to sign the Treaty of Velasco which granted Texas its full independence. Texas immediately declared itself a republic, with the victorious General Houston being named as its first president. However, to protect the new republic against any future invasions by Mexico, the building of a chain of forts was begun across Texas by the Republic's militia, later assisted by units of the United States Army. In 1849, four years after Texas had been admitted as the 26th state of the Union, one of these outposts was established in central Texas on the Trinity River by the U. S. Second Dragoons and named Fort Worth in memory of the late commander of the Department of Texas, Major General Williams J. Worth, and by 1856, the town of Fort Worth had already become the seat of surrounding Tarrant County.

Immediately prior to the War Between the States the area had grown to a population of just over 6,000 inhabitants, including 850 African slaves. The county was largely in favor of secession, and in February of 1861, its citizens, like those in the other counties of Texas, and over the objections of then Governor Sam Houston, voted overwhelmingly to secede from the Union. Governor Houston, however, refused to recognize the secession vote, but the State Legislature overrode his objections and evicted Houston from office. Even though Houston was against Texas joining the Confederacy, he did not want to see his state become a battleground, and refused President Lincoln's offer to send 50,000 troops to try and force Texas to remain in the Union. Incidentally, during the War a number of men from Fort Worth's founding unit, the Second U. S. Dragoons, served in the Confederate Army, including two well-known general officers, Lieutenant General William J. Hardee, the defender of Savannah, Georgia, and Major General David E. Twiggs, the Second Dragoon's first colonel.

While there were no actual battles fought around Fort Worth during the War, the effects of the conflict, as well as those of the following early Reconstruction period, ultimately had a disastrous effect on the area, with the population plummeting to as low as 175 by 1870. However, the opening of the famous Chisholm Trail a few years after the War, over which vast herds of cattle were driven from south Texas to the railhead in Abilene, Kansas, and which led directly through Fort Worth, brought a huge revival to the town and gave it the nickname of "Cowtown." By 1873, Fort Worth's population had risen to 500, and the town voted to become incorporated as a city. When the Texas and Pacific Rail Road began operations in Fort Worth in 1876, and the city developed its own cattle railhead, things began to really boom, with the population rising back to well over 6,000 in the next four years. By 1900 Fort Worth boasted a population of almost 26,700, and following the great Texas oil boom in the early 20th Century, by 1936 the city had become a major metropolis with about 170,000 inhabitants.

One thing which was unique about Fort Worth in the 1930s was the fact that, unlike most segregated cities in the South, as well as many so-called non-segregated municipalities in the North, Fort Worth's large African-American population was distributed fairly equally among the various sections of the city, rather than being relegated to a single area. There was also a large and thriving African-American business district which contained a number of Black-owned hotels, stores, restaurants, night clubs, a movie theater, a bank, and a weekly newspaper, "The Fort Worth Mind," as well as a major hospital with its own pharmacy and nursing school. There were also numerous Black schools, including the I. M. Terrell High School, and many Black churches scattered throughout the city.

1936 was also the year of the Texas Centennial which began in June in Fort Worth's larger neighbor to the east, Dallas. Never one to be outdone by its rival city, however, a group of Fort Worth's civic leaders led by Amon Carter, the owner of the city's major newspaper, "The Star-Telegram," decided to celebrate Texas' 100th anniversary by staging its own exposition, the Texas Frontier Centennial. They engaged the celebrated Broadway showman, Billy Rose, to operate the affair, and built the fair around a huge, 4,000-seat outdoor amphitheater that contained the world's largest rotating stage, the Casa Mañana . . . the House of Tomorrow. A well-known author and newspaper columnist of that day, Damon Runyon, said of the massive structure; "If you took the Polo Grounds and converted it into a café and then added the best Ziegfeld effects, you might get something approximating the Casa Mañana." At the other end of the fairgrounds stood a huge indoor theater, and between these two buildings was recreated a frontier village containing such entertainment features as the Pioneer Palace, the Silver Dollar Saloon, and famous fan dancer Sally Rand's naughty "Nude Ranch." In the Casa Mañana, Billy Rose staged both wild west shows and musical revues like the "Streets of Paris" in which the ballad "The Night is Young and You're So Beautiful" was introduced and became the unofficial theme song of the Centennial. Major entertainers, such as Paul Whiteman and his orchestra, were also featured at the Casa Mañana. To the indoor theater, Billy Rose brought his Broadway extravaganza, the gigantic circus musical "Jumbo."

At the height of the exposition, however, a dark cloud began to take shape over the Casa Mañana in the form of a threatened strike by the African-American waiters led by their head waiter, Calvin Littlejohn, who would later become one of the city's most famous photographers and the preeminent recorder of the Black community in Fort Worth. The dispute was over inadequate wages and certain working conditions, and the matter landed directly on the doorstep of Billy Rose's auditor, my father. When Rose was retained to operate the Centennial, he turned to the National Hotel Management Company in New York City for its top auditor. At the time, my father was the technical supervisor for National Hotel Management, and had just returned to the United States from Bermuda where he had spent six months establishing an accounting and management system for the Princess Hotel in Hamilton. He was immediately assigned as Mr. Rose's auditor, and along with my mother and myself, we repacked our bags and headed for a most interesting six-month stay in "Cowtown."

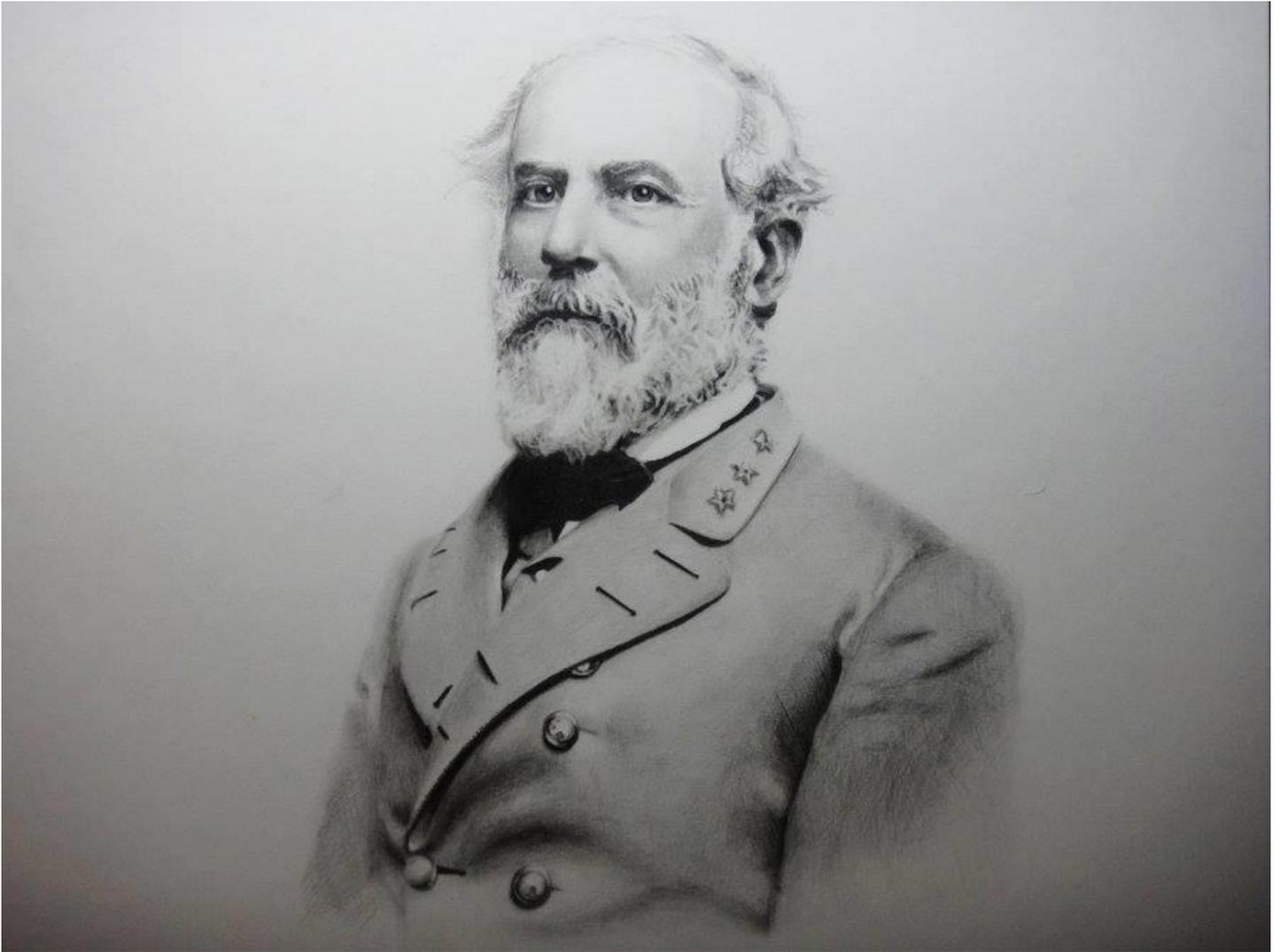
After a few meetings with Mr. Littlejohn, my father agreed that the demands of the waiters were well justified, and at his urging Billy Rose agreed to the salary increases and changes in working conditions for the waiters, and the strike was averted. While the affair received little or no publicity in the local press, it was cause for great celebration in the Black community, as well as headlines in the "Fort Worth Mind" where it was hailed as a significant victory for Negro rights. Both Billy Rose and my father did receive a few veiled threats from some anonymous Fort Worth citizens, but nothing ever came of them and the matter passed without further incident. After the settlement had been reached, Calvin Littlejohn presented my father with a lovely oil painting he had done of his boyhood home at the foot of the Ozark Mountains in Arkansas. I should add that in addition to his later skill as a photographer, Calvin Littlejohn, who had studied art at Philander Smith College in Little Rock, Arkansas, was also a fine amateur painter. After the Centennial, he also taught industrial arts in the Fort Worth school system, as well as becoming the first official photographer for the I. M. Terrell High School. From the time I was seven years of age in Fort Worth, the Littlejohn painting has always been with me, and now hangs in my home in Tokyo.

About John Marquardt

John Marquardt is a native of Connecticut but a Southerner at heart. After attending the University of Georgia, Marquardt realized the truth and the value of the Southern tradition. He served in World War II and spent his career in international trade. He currently resides in Tokyo, Japan. His Japanese wife loves Charleston and Savannah and admires Southern culture. [More from John Marquardt](#)

"Every record has been destroyed or falsified, every book rewritten, every picture has been repainted, every statue and street building has been renamed, every date has been altered. And the process is continuing day by day and minute by minute. History has stopped. Nothing exists except an endless present in which the Party is always right."

— George Orwell, 1984



Much has been said and written concerning the comparative equipment, etc., of the two armies. A striking reference to it I heard in a conversation at General Lee's home in Lexington after the war. Of the students who attended Washington College during his presidency he always requested a visit to himself whenever they returned to the town. With this request they were very ready to comply. While performing this pleasant duty one evening, during a visit to my old home in Lexington, Mrs. Lee, sitting in her invalid-chair, was discoursing to me, feelingly, on the striking contrast between the ragged clothing worn by Confederate soldiers as compared with that worn by the Federals, as she had seen the Federal troops entering Richmond after its evacuation. The General, who was pacing the floor, paused for a moment, his eye lighting up, and, at the conclusion of her remarks, said, as he inclined forward with that superb grace, "But, ah! Mistress Lee, we gave them some awfully hard knocks, with all of our rags!"

HUNLEY



The Hunley has finally come out of her shell.

For the first time in over a century, you can actually see the original surface of the world's first successful combat submarine. Until recently, the Hunley was completely encased in concrete, an encrusted layer of sand, sediment and shells that built up slowly over time while she was lost at sea. This material is being removed so that the conservation treatment can be completed with the hopes of ensuring the historic submarine is preserved for generations to come.

Watch the new video now!

Clemson University conservators have been chiseling away this encrustation, allowing the submarine to be fully visible. During this year long process, they carefully removed approximately 1,200 pounds of concrete, roughly the same weight as a grand piano. With the exterior now completely exposed, conservators are starting this week to remove the material covering the inside of the crew

compartment. With roughly a four-foot diameter, the cramped space within the Hunley will present a new set of challenges. "It is a daunting task to do this slow, detailed work in such a small space. I can't even imagine how intimidating it must have been for the men who actually cranked the submarine," said Clemson University Conservator and Collections Manager Johanna Rivera. Stripping away the material covering the submarine's exterior is opening up an entire new avenue of study for archaeologists working to solve one of the 19th century's greatest maritime mysteries: why did the Hunley vanish after sinking the USS Housatonic in 1864? Now they are attempting to read what the submarine's original surface has to tell them. "Though the Hunley was successful in her attack, she did ultimately sink. To understand what happened that night, we need to determine what worked and what possibly did not go according to plan." said Clemson University Archaeologist Michael Scafuri.

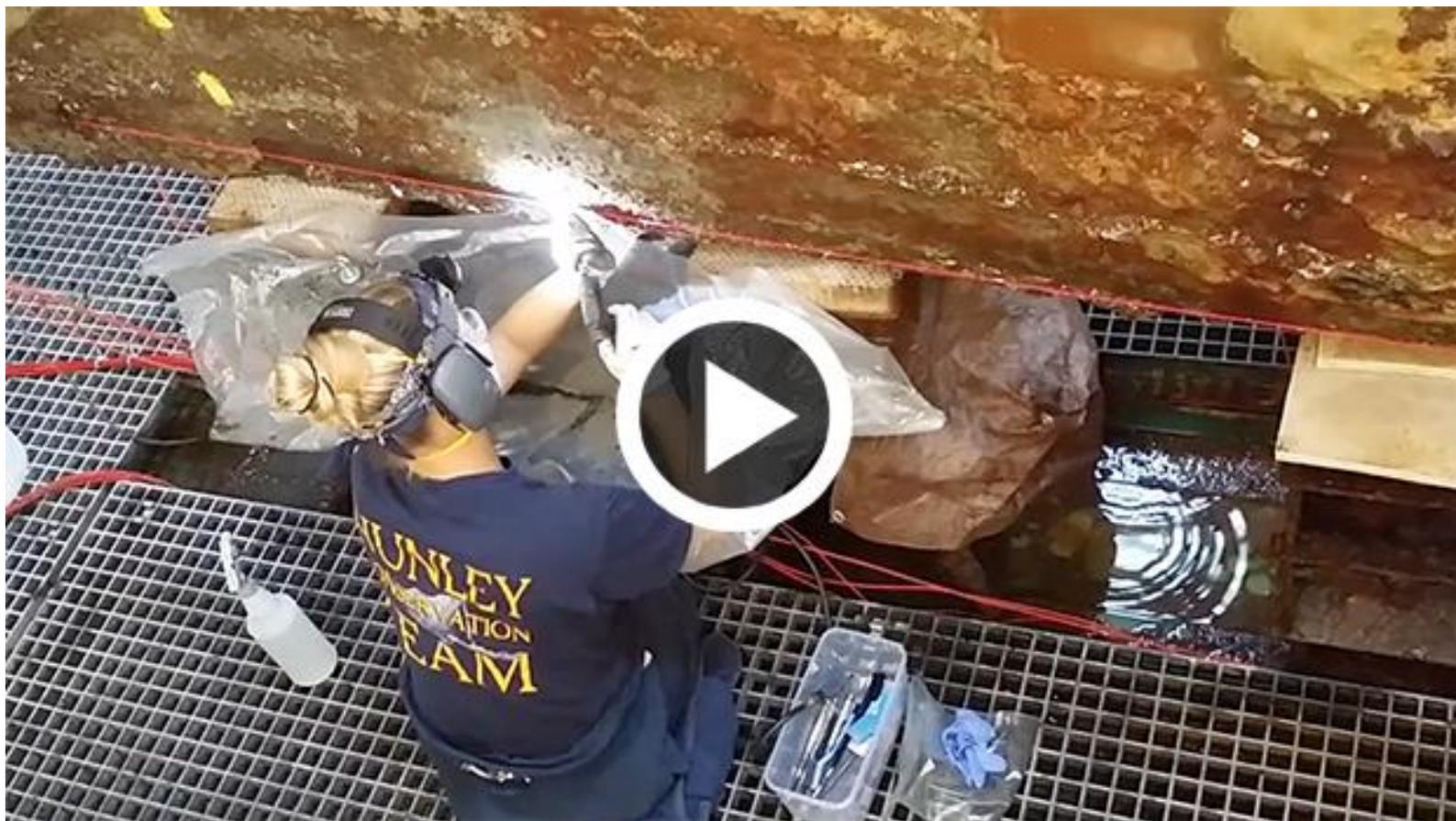
They have already uncovered holes, scratches, damage, and other curious items that will require further research to understand their significance to the submarine's story. As archaeologists investigate the new clues uncovered by the deconcretion, conservators will take their work into the crew compartment, hopefully uncovering more artifacts and other critical information. While the work is being done, the team constantly monitors the submarine to prevent and control corrosion as much as possible. This is a challenging task given the fragility of the cast and wrought iron structure.

The Hunley was lost at sea for one-hundred-thirty-six years. During that time, salts infiltrated her iron skin and are like poison to metal. If left in open air for too long, the submarine is at risk for rapid rust, corrosion, and eventual disintegration. Usually, the submarine sits in a 75,000-gallon tank filled with a chemical treatment solution. This means conservators can only work in short intervals, wearing face masks and protective gear, while keeping the submarine wrapped in plastic to prevent too much air exposure.

Though the effort to remove the concretion is a stressful and challenging time for the submarine and her modern-day crew, it is a necessary step for the survival of one of the nation's most treasured maritime artifacts. Also, it may ultimately provide the final clues needed to reconstruct the series of events that led to both the Hunley's naval achievement and subsequent demise.

www.hunley.org

**CLICK ARROW TO SEE
NEW HUNLEY VIDEO!**



Students, parents show up in support of Confederate flag in Hastings schools

POSTED 9:36 PM, SEPTEMBER 21, 2015, BY [TROY CAMPBELL](#)



Watch Video News Report [HERE](#)

HASTINGS, Mich. -- Dozens of students showed up at a meeting of the Hastings Public Schools board and shared their feelings over flying their Confederate flags.

Last week, the high school told students the flags were deemed offensive. Students were then told if they didn't take their flags off their vehicles, they couldn't park on school property.

School officials said that the issue brought in more people than who typically attend the meetings.

While the issue of the Confederate flag was not an actual agenda item, students wanted their chance to be heard.

Jayne Johnston, 19, said that she's been flying her Confederate flag from her car for years, and stands by her right to do so. "I get a lot middle fingers. I get a lot of thumbs up. I get a lot of looks," she said Jayme Johnston.

"I just think it's my right as an American. I should be able to. It's freedom of speech. I think, you know, I'm kind of a hick redneck."

Students admitted that more students started to display the flags once the school told students the flags couldn't be flown, citing the district's harassment policy. "It started out as a couple of kids," said senior David Storm, "And then, after they did that, it made it a bigger deal, and more and more and more kids kept joining in and going with it."

The group of students told the board that they don't believe the Confederate flag stands as a racist symbol and argued it's a symbol of free speech.

"I don't think it's offensive at all," said junior Emma Storm. "I mean, a lot of people fly flags with the American flag, and it's because we didn't fly the American flag, then it's offensive to everybody."

"Many of my friends are gay, so they can have their flags and symbolize what they believe in," said Johnston. "I should be able too."

Others opposed the presence of the Confederate flag on school property and said the flag's history is offensive to millions of people around the world.

"We've got a great group of kids. I was really impressed with the thoughts that these kids had tonight," said Hastings resident Jennifer Haywood. "Unfortunately, I just think some of them are not thinking about other people and not thinking about how they might offend somebody else."

"Understand that some people are offended," said school board trustee Rob Pohl.

Students also turned in a petition with more than 300 signatures asking the board to take note how passionate many people in the community are on their feelings that the Confederate flag should be allowed on school property.

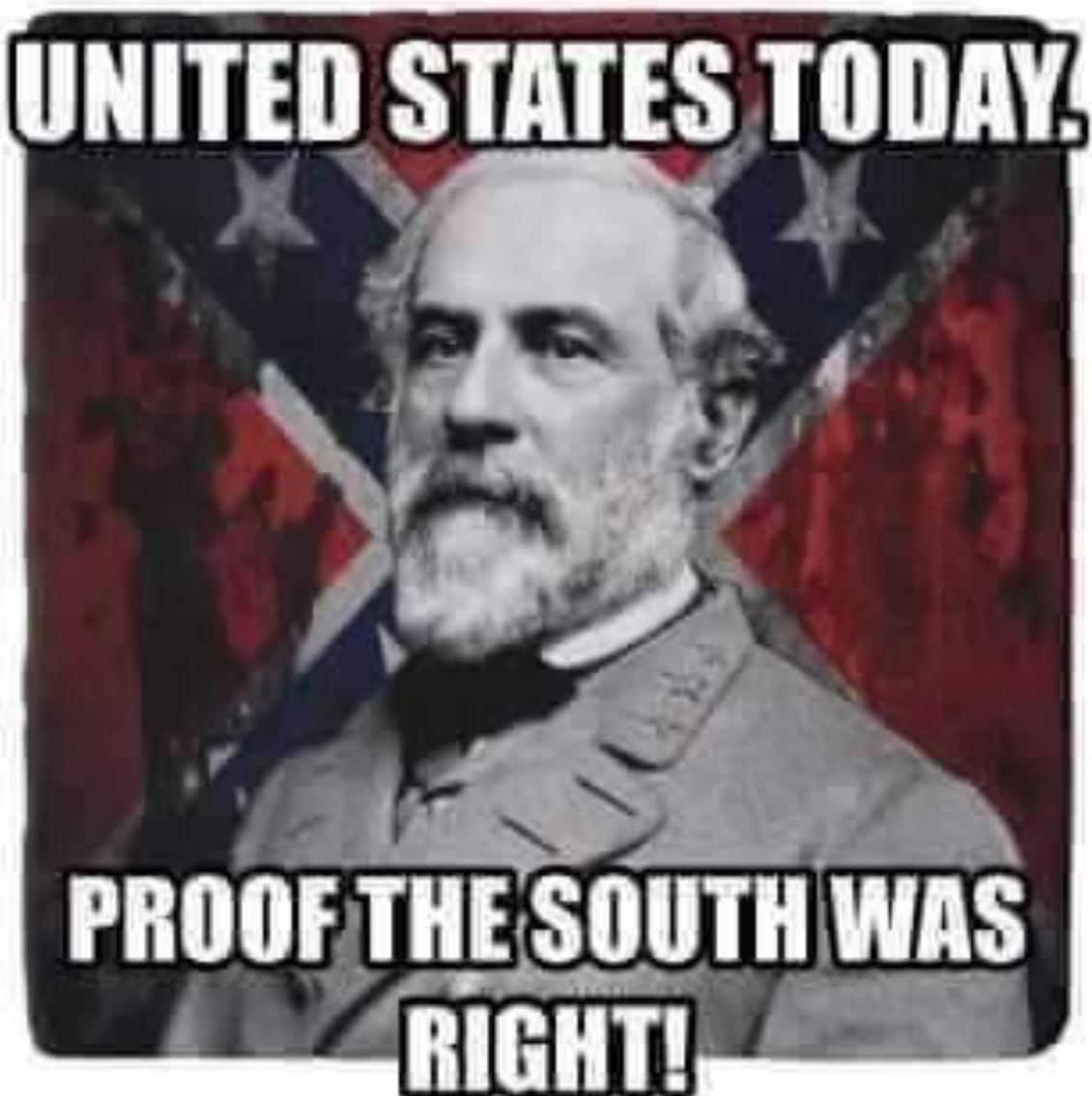
Hastings High School also said that students have been obeying their request to not fly the flags on school property.

The consequence for defying that request has yet to be determined.

<http://fox17online.com/2015/09/21/students-parents-show-up-in-support-of-confederate-flag-in-hastings-schools/>



Dance army 44 cal revolver. Manufacture in Texas by J.H Dance & bros. during the Civil war for issue to Texas Cav. Units.



[The Virginia Flaggers](#)



We are having a FANTASTIC day at The Field Day of the Past today. Huge crowds, beautiful weather, selling out of flags, and overwhelming support.

But this story is the highlight of the day...

These two gentleman approached our table. They told us that they had both written reports on Karen and her defense of Confederate Heritage for a school assignment. They were thrilled to meet her and we were honored to chat with them. Karen signed a copy of "Give This Book To A Yankee", a book which includes her forward, and we presented it to them.

The future of the South is in good hands with young men like these.

By the way...they both got A's. 😊

— at [Field Day of the Past](#).



“On a quiet autumn morning, in the land which he loved so well and served so faithfully, the spirit of Robert Edward Lee left the clay which it had so much ennobled and traveled out of this world into the great and mysterious land. Here in the North, forgetting that the time was when the sword of Robert Edward Lee was drawn against us—forgetting and forgiving all the years of bloodshed and agony—we have long since ceased to look upon him as the Confederate leader, but have claimed him as one of ourselves; have cherished and felt proud of his military genius; have recounted and recorded his triumphs as our own; have extolled his virtue as reflecting upon us—for Robert Edward Lee was an American, and the great nation which gave him birth would be today unworthy of such a son if she regarded him lightly.

“Never had mother a nobler son. In him the military genius of America was developed to a greater extent than ever before. In him all that was pure and lofty in mind and purpose found lodgment. Dignified without presumption, affable without familiarity, he united all those charms of manners which made him the idol of his friends and of his soldiers and won for him the respect and admiration of the world. Even as in the days of triumph, glory did not intoxicate, so, when the dark clouds swept over him, adversity did not depress.”

NEW YORK HERALD, on the death of Robert E. Lee, October 12, 1870.
LEST WE FORGET!

Dear Ms. Lunelle,

I would speak first to the Republicans Men's Club in Asheville, North Carolina and later to the Libertarian Party in response to the South Carolina Legislature's removal of the Confederate Battle Flag from its position on the Confederate Soldier's Monument on the grounds of the State House. A place that they had negotiated in the year 2000 that the Flag should be placed and never removed.

Never mind that the distorted narrative role and nature of the slavery issue as a cause of the War For Southern Independence as the weapon of propaganda had been squashed in these negotiations as a means for political and economic gain ; the lie was now refueled again as the Press would report that the Flag on the Confederate Soldier's Monument had not been placed at half staff in honor of those nine people who had lost their lives in an insane act by Dylan Ruth.

With full knowledge that neither the Daughters of the Confederacy or the Sons of Confederate Veterans had no power to touch the position of the Flag; the Legislature allowed the media to continue its rant. And then they would find a picture of this boy holding the Southern Cross in one hand and a gun in the other, and proclaim that the Flag had caused him to commit this insane act



I would tell both Parties that had Dylan gone to the Sons website, he would have learned about the place of honor earned by the trained cadre of Africans on plantations all across the South who made the implements of war, provided the food stuffs for General Lee's army, stayed at home and protected those home places as best they could while the men were away, and who went off to war like the forty plus men who rode with General Forrest, and of whom the General said that there was no better Confederate,

I would tell them that the Mayor of Charleston was no better than Lincoln as he suspended the writ of habeas corpus; trying and convicting Dylan in the court of public opinion before the young man could go before the court and his peers. A young man who was still considered innocent under the American jurisprudence system until proven guilty.

I would tell them that the Southern people had fought a war against the unjust taxation, and other abuses suffered, and to free themselves of a Northern political dominance that had enriched the Northern States and oppressed their region.

I would tell them that the Southern Cross has come to symbolize the courage and blood sacrifice of not only the Confederate soldier, but of the Southern people who had to face an army who had orders from from its Commander In Chief to take the theater of war to the innocent and defenseless old men, women and children (total warfare). To do anything to break their spirit; kill them, rape them, rob them, burn them out, and there would never be an accounting for what you do.

I would tell them that the South Carolina Legislature's removal of the Confederate Flag from its place of Honor was not a moment of racial or social healing. It only continued the lies told of our history urged on by Northern corporate political donations to willing scalawags just like during the period of reconstruction aimed at destroying a people and all that is true and honorable about their history.

I would travel to Oxford, Mississippi on Sunday, August 2, 2015 to attend the funeral of the Honorable Anthony M. Herve, a young Black man, fellow compatriot and my brother who has gained much fame for his staunch defense of the South and the Southern Soldier. A man who would lose his life because of this Stand.

I am sorry to report that I would be asked by a middle age White man to leave the church sanctuary of First Baptist Church out of respect for the family and church, because I had entered with the Southern Cross in hand. I told him that this would not have set well with Anthony as I would take the time to hug every single person in the church as I complied with this unholy request to take the Christian Cross of St. Andrew from a Christian sanctuary.

I would soon be asked by the Oxford police to remove myself from the Church property as I stood at the front door still greeting those in attendance to include the Honorable Charles Kelly Barrows; not only the Commander in Chief of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, but also the distinguished author of the Forgotten Confederate; a novel about the Black Confederate soldier and his families.

I would like to thank the Oxford Police and its Captain who made it known that he was there to protect me. And I give special thanks to my brother Danny Hembree from Coker, Alabama, and the members of the Mississippi Division of the Mechanized Calvary, who too would refuse to leave my side.

I have spent much time on the streets attending rallies as I had done alongside Anthony on the day of his death and every day before and after the loss of the lives in Charleston. And this would include donning the uniform of the Southern soldier and posting his Colors the week prior to and the day of its removal in Columbia while holding conversation with the many who would surround myself and my baby brother Terry Lee.

I would hope that folks who truly care to stop this new reconstruction as Southern social and cultural genocide are the orders of the day for the new carpet baggers, scalawags and their new orators; the NAACP and Southern Poverty Law Center of whom I personally consider the foremost hate organizations in America; would open their wallets and help.

I also continue to await an answer from the Attorney General, the Inspector General, and the Internal Revenue Service about the misuse of the 501 C3 status of both the NAACP and Southern Poverty Center. And who is responsible for the enforcement of the Congressional Mandate so designating the Confederate Battle Flag as a Venerated symbol. And the status of the Confederate Soldier as an American Veteran under Federal Law 425. God bless you!

Your brother,

HK
Honorary Scot of Austin
Photo-Courtesy thelocalvoice

Abraham Lincoln said war was over taxes, not slavery



In a Friday, June 19, 2015 file photo, the Confederate flag flies near the South Carolina Statehouse, in Columbia, S.C. (AP Photo/Rainier Ehrhardt, File) (Rainier Ehrhardt)



By [Guest opinion](#) on June 26, 2015 at 10:02 AM, updated June 26, 2015 at 10:04 AM

By Roger K. Broxton of *Andalusia*, president of the *Confederate Heritage Fund*

Abraham Lincoln repeatedly stated his war was caused by taxes only, and not by slavery, at all.

"My policy sought only to collect the Revenue (a 40 percent federal sales tax on imports to Southern States under the Morrill Tariff Act of 1861)." reads paragraph 5 of Lincoln's First Message to the U.S. Congress, penned July 4, 1861.

"I have no purpose, directly or in-directly, to interfere with the institution of slavery in the States where it exists. I believe I have no lawful right to do so, and I have no inclination to do so," Lincoln said in his first inaugural on March 4 of the same year.

There is no proof of Lincoln ever declaring the war was fought to abolish slavery, and without such an official statement, the war-over-slavery teaching remains a complete lie and offensive hate speech that divides Americans, as is being done now by the media and politicians regarding the Confederate flag in South Carolina.

Slavery was NOT abolished; just the name was changed to sharecropper with over 5 million Southern whites and 3 million Southern blacks working on land stolen by Wall Street bankers.

White, black, Indian, Hispanic, Protestant, Catholic and Jewish Confederates valiantly stood as one in thousands of battles on land and sea. Afterwards, they attended Confederate Veterans' reunions together and received pensions from Southern States.

Photos of black Confederate veterans may be seen in Alabama's Archives in Scrapbook – 41st Reunion of United Confederate Veterans, Montgomery, June 2,3,4 and 5, 1931."

Lincoln did not claim slavery was a reason even in his Emancipation Proclamations on Sept. 22, 1862, and Jan. 1, 1863. Moreover, Lincoln's proclamations exempted a million slaves under his control from being freed (including General U.S. Grant's four slaves) and offered the South three months to return to the Union (pay 40 percent sales tax) and keep their slaves. None did. Lincoln affirmed his only reason for issuing was: "as a fit and necessary war measure for suppressing said (tax) rebellion."

Mrs. Grant wrote in her personal memoirs: "We rented our pretty little home (in St. Louis) and hired out our four servants to persons whom we knew and who promised to be kind to them. Eliza, Dan, Julia and John belonged to me. When I visited the General during the War, I nearly always had Julia with me as nurse."

Lincoln declared war to collect taxes in his two presidential war proclamations against the Confederate States, on April 15 and 19th, 1861: "Whereas an insurrection against the Government of the United States has broken out and the laws of the United States for the collection of the revenue cannot be effectually executed therein."

On Dec. 25, 1860, South Carolina declared unfair taxes to be a cause of secession: "The people of the Southern States are not only taxed for the benefit of the Northern States, but after the taxes are collected, three-fourths (75%) of them are expended at the North (to subsidize Wall Street industries that elected Lincoln)." (Paragraphs 5-8)

It was on April 8, 1861, that Lincoln, alone, started the war by a surprise attack on Charleston Harbor with a fleet of warships, led by the *USS Harriet Lane*, to occupy Fort Sumter, a Federal tax collection fort in the territorial waters of South Carolina and then invaded Virginia.

On April 29, 1861, President Jefferson Davis described the South's response of self-defense in his Message To the Confederate States Congress: "I directed a proposal to be made to the commander of Fort Sumter that we would abstain from directing our fire on Fort Sumter if he would promise not to open fire on our forces unless first attacked. This proposal was refused." (Paragraphs 8-9)

The only reason the South ever gave for fighting was in self-defense of the voluntary Union of independent States, as symbolized then by the U.S. Flag.

Secession (withdrawal from a voluntary union) and war are two very different events.

http://www.al.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/06/war-over-slavery_rhetoric_is_i.html#incart_story_package

SOUTHERN FRIED RAMBLINS WITH GRITS AND ALL THE FIXINS!

Southern patriots;

If you have not already purchased this book, you may want to consider it. This is probably the only book of its type.

It provides factual information and themes that can be used as lines of thought, and argument to address the verbal slings and arrows of opponents to the South, the Confederate colors, etc.

This book also provides factual information about the Southern movement, whose in, and whose doing what.

This book has a forward from the South's most active partisan, Donnie Kennedy. And the publisher is also the Editor of Confederate Veterans magazine. So while it is not blessed by the SCV, I am proud to be associated with the folks who helped me make the book a reality.

To purchase the book send 17.00 dollars to

**Mark Vogl
PO Box 825
Gilmer, Texas 75644**

Also, please know that a new book, Confederate Night Before Christmas is coming out in the fall. This one is blessed by the SCV in terms of being sold through them...and in major book stores. If you want to help me, purchase from me...I earn more that way. But, regardless this children's illustrated book is something to share in the Christmas season!

Best regards, Mark Vogl

SOUTHERN FRIED RAMBLINGS WITH GRITS AND ALL THE FIXINS

August 5, 2015 by Mark Vogl

If a book could be written that predicted the explosion in the Culture War over American history...I wrote it.

Southern Fried Ramblings with Grits and All the Fixin's was published in 2013 in Wake Forrest, N.C. by The Scuppernong Press. In the forward, written by Donald Kennedy, author of *The South Was Right*, and one of the South's most active and articulate spokesmen, Kennedy writes; "Let us hope with publication of Mr. Vogl's book, more Americans will understand what was truly lost on that sad April day in 1865 and rededicate ourselves to reclaiming our lost estate of liberty."

The almost forty articles in *Southern Fried Ramblings* come primarily from the 750 hundred article published here at Nolan Chart. They explore the history of the antebellum years, the causes, the little known or unknown and untaught facts which drove this nation to a bloody civil war. But this book goes further, it reveals the modern South, and the modern issues of today's Culture War. The book explores the modern Southern movement. But it also explores the link, or connection between the original Constitution and Founders' guidelines for governance, the struggle over those guidelines in the mid 19th century, and the struggle of modern America.

There are facts and context in this book you will probably not find anywhere else. An article about just how many Americans are descendants of the Confederacy! There are articles about what the Confederate battle flag means around the world.

This book is not blindly Confederate. I condemn slavery as a sin, as it is. I also am critical of heritage organizations, and some Southern groups which either don't actively vindicate the Cause, or operate in the shadows without either freedom of speech or elections of their leaders.

What we are seeing in America today is a continuation of the political and philosophical battles of pre 1861 – 1865.

The battle over the Confederate battle flag, which most recently started in South Carolina, reveals the fractures and fissures in American conservative politics. Mainstream conservative talk show hosts will not touch the Confederacy, or the battles in the ante bellum Congress. For one they are afraid of the intellectual black hole of slavery which dominates any discussion of the era. But secondly, most conservative talk show hosts do not accept the Southern view of a less engaged America where the states control domestic policy and capitalism is not the god all bow to. You see in the Confederate Constitution, God is mentioned in the preamble, a reflection of the original Christianity which created the United States.

Southern Fried Ramblings does not fit either revisionist history, or the history of Limbaugh – Hannity – Levin. It is a completely unique view, from Dixie. And Dixie, though it has many spokesmen, has no national voice on par with Limbaugh or Obama. The South stands alone, as it has always. It is not racism that makes the South unique in America, (racism is everywhere). It is Christianity and more humble view of its place in the world. and a stubborn allegiance to its women, culture, and values which make the South unique.

You can purchase this book for 17.00 by send a check to Mark Vogl, PO Box 825, Gilmer Texas 75644



AN APPEAL FOR HELP



[SOUTHERN LEGAL RESOURCE CENTER, INC.](http://slrc-csa.org/)

With this perfect storm of anti-Southern genocide building, we are going to need a War chest to defend against these assaults. Please join today. Visit: <http://slrc-csa.org/> and get in the fight.

The SLRC is asking that donations be sent to:

**SOUTHERN LEGAL RESOURCE CENTER
P. O. Box 1235, Black Mountain, NC 28711.**

If every compatriot would stop right now and send a \$10 check, there would be a formidable war chest!

Discovering Jackson

By Terry Hulsey on Sep 25, 2015



Rebel Yell: The Violence, Passion, and Redemption of Stonewall Jackson (2014) by S.C. Gwynne.

A braver man God never made.
– Richmond Dispatch, 3-28-1862 (page 226)

Gwynne's biography of Stonewall Jackson is simply one of the best biographies I have ever read. Many biographies plod along a "cradle-to-grave" timeline that starts out something like "our hero's father started out as a child..." and relates those supposedly telling events of childhood that shaped the man, indulging in armchair psychoanalysis along the way. Some, in the absence of words recorded by principals, just whip up dialog out of thin air – and here I'm thinking of Michael Shaara in *The Killer Angels*, half of which consists of invented chatter.

Instead, Gwynne takes known dialog from the letters of principals, and he adapts the timeline to what the biography needs to emphasize. For example, the opening scene is a portrayal of what he later (page 336) calls "one of the most thrilling moments of the war" – when Jackson had catapulted to fame after routing three Union armies in the Shenandoah valley and had been summoned east to save Richmond, on June 19, 1862.

[W]ith less than 17,000 troops (and sometimes far less), Jackson had taken on and routed 52,000 troops [...]. He had inflicted 4,600 casualties, seized 9,000 small arms and a vast trove of Union supplies, and had kept more than 40,000 Federal troops from joining McClelland in front of Richmond. In five battles and many smaller engagements from March 23 to June 9 [1862], he had marched his men 646 miles [...] all at a cost of 2,750 men. In the late spring of that year he was very likely the most famous soldier in the world. (page 331)

Gwynne paints the scene in the Charlottesville train station in the Blue Ridge mountains, where the liaison from the Confederate government, congressman Alexander Boteler has been sent to "await orders" – which turn out to be meeting Jackson, who is traveling by train in secret.

Gwynne has a gift for asking the common-sense questions, especially in battlefield situations, and – with possibly one exception that I'll get to later – doesn't worship any historical sacred cows. For example, Union general Ambrose Burnside is condemned by historians for ordering over a dozen frontal assaults at Fredericksburg (beginning 12-11-1862), but given the overwhelming Union superiority it should have worked, and Lee himself had no aversion to frontal assaults (e.g., Gaines's Mill, Malvern Hill, Gettysburg). Also, Gwynne does not indulge in psychoanalysis, which might tempt a lesser biographer dealing with Jackson's many personal oddities. What he does do is focus on what the man actually did, and gets out of the way of that dazzling story.

Looking back on four years of war, it's easy to forget that the South should have been crushed after about 14 months, when McClellan had Richmond invested with over 100,000 men. It was at that moment, when his heavy siege guns were set to arrive outside Richmond and begin reducing its defenses, that Jackson appeared from the Shenandoah. However, during the Seven Days Battles (beginning 6-25-1862), it was more the legend of Jackson rather than the man himself that was effective. The entire Union command feared that he might slip behind their armies and menace Washington, or cut off their northern supply line on the Orange and Alexandria railroad. But Jackson especially seemed out of his element – in part because he would not allow himself sufficient sleep, and in part because his Shenandoah map maker Jedediah Hotchkiss (page 265) was not available, giving him trouble with the most basic topography of the swampy land east of Richmond, where towns had double names (e.g., Cold Harbor, Old Cold Harbor) and roads too (Quaker Road at Malvern Hill, which designated several roads). He seemed to follow Lee's orders in a wooden, mechanical way, without his usual flair, probably because he had been given command of the largest part of Lee's force and could not afford to be reckless. However, after Seven Days, Jackson returned to form, following Lee's plan to secretly sweep north, getting behind the Federal right. The plan allowed him to move large armies at then unheard-of speeds: Dividing from Lee east of Richmond, Jackson's army left camp at 3 a.m. on August 25, 1862, and stopped at sunset, having covered 26 miles (page 415). The next day, the army covered 52 miles in 32 hours (page 417) – and all told averaged three miles an hour for an entire army with all its artillery support and baggage. This rapid

movement allowed him to indeed cut the Federals' northern supply line and to dictate the ground that ultimately destroyed John Pope at Second Manassas (beginning 10-28-1862).

Jackson the man was every bit the wonder as Jackson the soldier. If you have time for only one chapter, and want a taste of Gwynne's writing ability, you should read Chapter 33 "The Hilljack and the Society Boy," which contrasts Jackson and McClellan in the West Point class of 1846, which produced more generals than any before or since – 22 (page 341). And note that the chapter is placed not in historical sequence, but after the principals have been introduced. Jackson was a "hilljack" and without real learning when he tested out dead last in the entry exam to this famous class. But by avoiding all social events and studying late into the night, he rose like "a meteor" to finish 17th in a class of 59 (page 346).

Jackson complained most of his life of a number of real ailments: Eye inflammations, sinus infections, chronic indigestion. He always sat bolt upright to aid digestion, and he was convinced that parts of his body were growing at a rate faster than the other parts. To alleviate this, he raised the arm that he thought was getting too much nutrient; he practiced "leaping" exercises on the parade grounds at the Virginia Military Institute; and he modified his diet to prefer stale bread and milk, or buttermilk and cornbread (my grandfather's favorite, I have to say), little meat, and no alcohol. Strangely, after two months into the war, in June, 1861, all these ailments vanished (page 198). It is a credit to Gwynne that he never uses the word "hypochondria" – he just doesn't know the reason for this and refuses to speculate.

Jackson was painfully shy, and not just at West Point, where he was in the company of more polished men. However, Gwynne points out that, especially due to the company of his first wife Ellie Junkin (who died in childbirth), the daughter of a college president, and the company of his second wife Anna Morrison, and the learning from a Grand Tour of Europe in the 1850s, Jackson, who liked Shakespeare and poetry, was actually better read than someone like Lee. In private company, especially that of his family, he was transformed into a man with a real love of life: He liked to speak baby talk to children in Spanish (which he had taught himself); he liked to spring out at his wife and give her a hug and kiss; his letters are filled with expressions of real longing for her. Yet he could be punctilious in the extreme, especially in matters touching on military duty, as witness his arrest of Richard Garnett after the Battle of Kernstown (4-23-1862). Garnett had ordered a retreat after his men had run out of ammunition – which had been made unavailable by Jackson himself – and when a bayonet charge would have been suicide (pages 258-60). Nevertheless, everyone, including Garnett, gave testament to his kindness (page 334). Yet this same kind man, who truly hated war and its horrors, wrote to his nephew in January, 1861, that he was quite ready to raise the black flag – to kill all prisoners – if that would shorten the war (page 19).

Central to his life was his unaffected devotion to an abiding, eternal God. Of him it can be truly said that he lived a life of prayer. He followed the injunction of 1 Thessalonians 5:16 to "pray without ceasing." When asked what that scripture meant, Jackson replied

I have so fixed the habit in my own mind that I never raise a glass of water to my lips without lifting my heart to God in thanks and prayer for the water of life. Then, when we take our meals, [...]. Whenever I drop a letter in the post-office [...]. When I break the seal of a letter [...]. When I go to my classroom and await the arrangement of the cadets in their places, that is my time to intercede with God for them. And so in every act of the day I have made the practice habitual. [...] [T]he habit has become almost as fixed as to breathe. (page 147)

It was this continual state of prayer that gave him calm on the battlefield: The hour of his death he had placed in God's hands long before.

One fault with Gwynne's book is the obligatory tribute it gives to Lincoln (page 21). Gwynne, who was a career journalist at *Time* magazine, has got to win establishment brownie points with a twist on Lincoln that I've frankly never heard before: That Lincoln was a moderate on slavery where *it existed*, but a crusader against slavery in the *new* territories. In other words, by Gwynne's scheme, you can have your cake and eat it too. But this won't work. Lincoln's opposition to slavery in the new territories was part of the Free Soil platform (which Gwynne does not even mention) to guarantee land to whites in exchange for votes, not for any moral idealism. Lincoln was a political hack of the first order. He became the abolitionist champion because he was cornered by politics: George McClellan was running as the moderate on slavery in 1864, and Lincoln had only one political base: The Radical Republicans and the abolitionists. His payoff to them for the electoral victory in 1864 was to wage total war for this new-found idealism. And so Lincoln, the man who never set foot in church who nonetheless knew how to ring the changes on Scripture, wrote a Second Inaugural Address that dressed up a political bill of sale as an avenging sermon.

It is interesting to consider what would have happened if McClellan had been given a few more weeks before the arrival of Jackson in the east in June, 1862, when McClellan was almost ready to pound Richmond into submission – as everyone expected – with his siege guns and his 100,000-man army. He was a man who wanted gradual emancipation, if at all; who included slaves in his respect for private property; he considered warfare against civilians to be immoral (page 385); he treated Lee's wife respectfully even as he occupied her home, the Custis mansion, during part of the Peninsula Campaign (page 351); he forbade pillage by troops under his command in Virginia (page 396); in short, he was a gentleman in his self-restraint. In this event, very likely the South would have surrendered, McClellan would have become the "peace President," and the issue of slavery would have been resolved without destroying over 600,000 lives and the Constitution.

The real possibility of a quick McClellan victory raises a question that should lay bare the soul of every Southerner: Which would you have chosen? A war with four years of bloodletting, concluding with the destruction of a civilization followed by a vengeful Reconstruction crippling generations to come, all made possible in great part by the genius of Jackson; or, on the other hand, a quick resolution given by McClellan, with peaceful emancipation, with the idea of secession preserved, all contingent upon a world where Jackson had never lived? The answer, that you already know, whispers the tragic sadness of every heart that has loved the South.

About Terry Hulse

Terry Hulse is a computer programmer and independent historian and writer living in Arlington, Texas with his wife, a violinist for the Fort Worth Symphony, and two daughters, one of whom is a National Merit Finalist. In view of his small literary footprint, he considers himself to be the minor talent in the family. He hopes to devote more time someday to a study of sortition. **[More from Terry Hulse](#)**

<http://www.abbevilleinstitute.org/blog/discovering-jackson/>

Revisiting 25 Years of Revisionist Claptrap

By Gail Jarvis on Sep 24, 2015



With its usual promotional hype, PBS re-broadcasted its 1990 program *The Civil War*. This 25-year-old program, along with *Jazz* and *Baseball* constitutes Ken Burns' trilogy on racial relations. Wanting to make the Civil War "comprehensible to a contemporary audience", Burns chose to present a "social history", one that was heavily influenced by contemporary socio/political sentiments. Burns publicly admitted that he was a filmmaker and not a historian, so he had to use actual historians to speak about military matters, battles, and troop movements. These historians were able to lend credence to the integrity of his film, and building on the veracity the historians provided, Burns used *The Civil War* to subtly proselytize about racism, as he did in *Jazz*, and *Baseball*.

Lacking a solid understanding of the Civil War as well as the events preceding and following it, few viewers in 1990 questioned Burns' version. Although today's viewers might appreciate Ken Burns' filming techniques, they are not as naive about racism as they were 25 years ago. But even at that time, few viewers were willing to accept Burns' manipulative histories of *Jazz* and *Baseball*, so it is unlikely that either of these two programs will be resurrected. It appears that PBS and Ken Burns both believe

that the current population will overlook the mob violence occurring in our cities and once again fall for old worn-out racism accusations.

The civil rights movement spawned programs like Burns' racial relations trilogy. The compelling moral thrust of this movement wrought radical changes in societal arrangements, revising education, entertainment, and actual interpretations of history. As these extreme alterations to American society were well underway long before the majority of today's citizens were born, these generations have simply accepted them. After all, it was the society into which they were born. But the long decades of the civil rights movement have been so all encompassing and persuasive that there is a reluctance to move on to other issues or even to allow other critical problems a share of media limelight. There is also a refusal to acknowledge the detrimental side effects caused by unbridled efforts to redress racism.

The dramatic phase of the civil rights movement, demonstrations, marches, and legislation, lasted roughly 14 years – 1954 to 1968. Again, most of the U.S. population, including journalists, was not alive when the actual events took place, so their beliefs about that era derive from subsequent entertainment and media interpretations. In the five decades following those events, media's ceaseless and embellished rehashing of that 14-year period has turned those episodes into the stuff of legends – legends that *must not* be questioned. Annual remembrances of those events are *de rigueur* and have become almost reverential.

Indeed, the subject of race permeates many of Ken Burns' videos, so much so, that he has emerged as one of today's elite "pop-culture celebrities," a media personality who lectures the public about culture and history, although lacking adequate credentials to do so. In addition to Burns, we now have film actor Leonardo DiCaprio haranguing us about global warming, and TV host Oprah Winfrey preaching a version of new age spirituality to replace Christianity. Those who are enthralled by media personalities accept their opinions on subjects far beyond their expertise.

Currently, media "experts" are questioning the historical veracity of Margaret Mitchell's novel, *Gone With the Wind*, primarily because of her depiction of the close relationship between house slaves and their masters. The historical veracity of *Uncle Tom's Cabin* is deemed sacrosanct, even though Harriet Beecher Stowe also portrays a close relationship between the slave Tom and his owners, the Shelby

and St. Clare families. Mrs. Stowe gets a pass because her book accommodates contemporary socio/political agendas whereas Mitchell's does not.

However, relationships between slaves and masters cannot be lumped together into a single characterization; some were harsh and some were affable. But it has now become obligatory to depict *all* masters as treating slaves cruelly, and *all* slaves as being resentful and rebellious.

The Lincoln administration made the mistake of anticipating massive revolts when Southern slaves learned of the Emancipation Proclamation. That didn't happen. Later, when Union forces occupied the defeated South and slaves were being freed, no widespread reactions against former masters occurred. In fact, a great many slaves concealed their owner's valuables from marauding Union troops, and surreptitiously brought food and supplies to owners who were in hiding. These episodes are historical facts although they don't fit the Ken Burns, PBS stereotype.

Ken Burns is not the only filmmaker guilty of making "specious" historical films based on equivocal interpretations. Hollywood's fictional Abraham Lincoln has no resemblance to the real man. This fictional Lincoln largely went unquestioned until the Internet began allowing alternative web sites to present news and history. John Ford's 1939 film, *Young Mr. Lincoln* was almost pure fiction. Indeed, Henry Fonda, the actor who played Lincoln, told an interviewer: "I felt as if I were portraying Christ himself on film." Unfortunately, in 1939, a substantial segment of movie audiences believed that Henry Fonda's Lincoln accurately depicted the real Lincoln.

We wonder if TV viewers in 2015 will blithely accept Ken Burns' "bumper-sticker" interpretation of the Civil War: that the war was fought over a single issue – moral opposition to slavery.

As Edward Ayers and other historians have made clear, wars are not fought for moral reasons, nor are they fought over a single issue. Before a conflict between two sides becomes irreconcilable, it is preceded by years of festering complex issues that might have been resolved peacefully, but were ineptly handled. Television programs designed for mass audiences do not delve deeply into complex issues. Also, because historians write about wars long after they have taken place, their histories mirror the current generation's socio/political trends.

Like all social movements, the civil rights movement has also gone through stages, and is now in decline. Its original goal of equal treatment for minorities soon evolved into preferential treatment and, somewhere along the way, removing reminders of Southern heritage became one of its goals. Unflinching media support has sustained the declining movement until it is no longer just the Confederate flag that is under attack, but the American flag as well. Likewise, there are campaigns to have the Washington Monument and Jefferson Memorial razed. Washington, Jefferson and other early presidents as well as the Founding Fathers, are being reviled as racists who exemplify the clever and malignant concept known as “white privilege.” Harsh, almost dictatorial, measures are sanctioned by the Left as necessary to bring about “real equality.”

In a recent commencement speech, Ken Burns stated “... real equality is the... birthright of all Americans.” Although this is the usual pretentious language expected at a commencement service, many on the Left are beginning to talk a lot about “real equality”, even proposing a redistribution of wealth. The Left employs the term “real equality”, carefully avoiding the designation “a classless society” because many Americans recall the great harm done to societies in their futile attempts to create a society without classes. The best any country can do is to try to make its laws and opportunities as fair and balanced as possible, and the United States has done that.

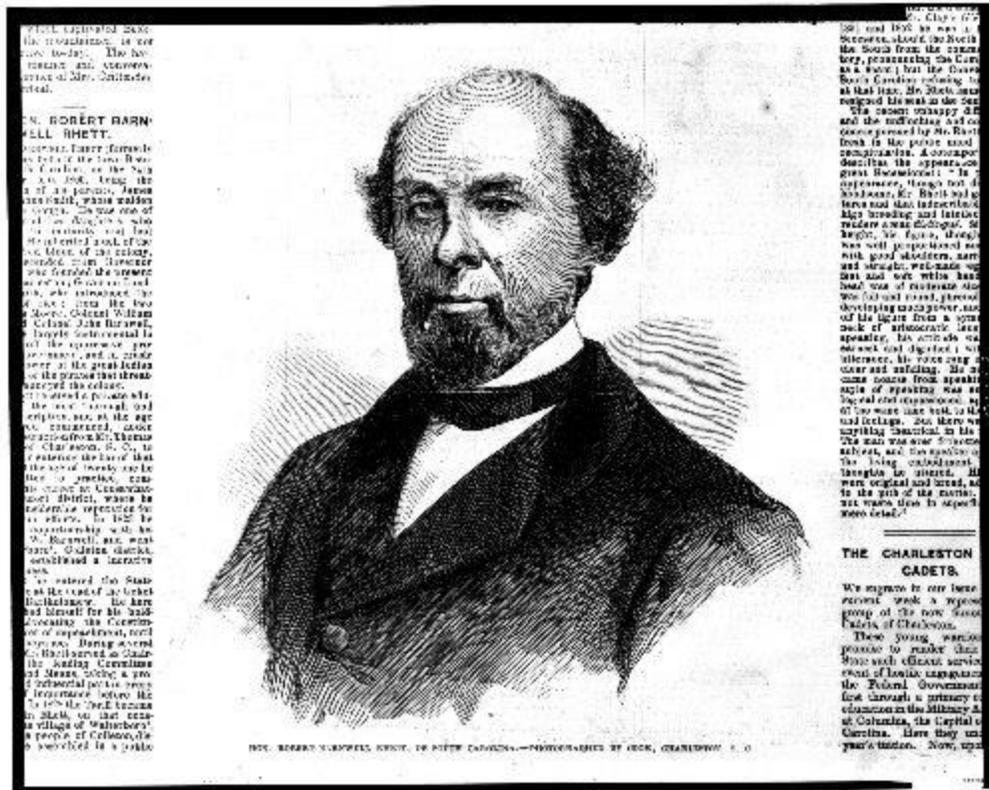
The Declaration of Independence claims that “all men are created equal”, and the Constitution provides for “equal protection of the laws”, but neither document mentions “equality” because our Founders knew that “real equality” was unattainable. But the Radical Left continues to fault America because, even after a half-century of across-the-board racial preferences and other race-conscious remedies, “equality is still elusive.” Maintaining that equality is “elusive” implies that it can actually be achieved, but it has *never* been achieved by any society throughout the history of mankind. Ken Burns and other Leftists are doing a great disservice to our nation by advocating the myth of “real equality.”

About Gail Jarvis

Gail Jarvis is a Georgia-based free-lance writer. He attended the University of Alabama and has a degree from Birmingham Southern College. As a CPA/financial consultant, he helped his clients cope with the detrimental effects of misguided governmental intrusiveness. This influenced his writing as did years of witnessing how versions of news and history were distorted for political reasons. Mr. Jarvis is a member of the Society of Independent Southern Historians and his articles have appeared on various websites, magazines, and publications for several organizations. He lives in Coastal Georgia with his wife. **More from Gail Jarvis**

Robert B. Rhett: Liberty Protected by Law

By [James Rutledge Roesch](#) on Sep 22, 2015



“The one great principle, which produced our secession from the United States – was constitutional liberty – liberty protected by law. For this, we have fought; for this, our people have died. To preserve and cherish this sacred principle, constituting as it did, the very soul of independence itself, was the clear dictate of all honest – all wise statesmanship.” – Robert B. Rhett

It is fashionable nowadays to regard States’ rights as yet another debunked “Neo-Confederate” myth. One Bancroft-winning historian takes the incredible liberty of inserting imaginary thoughts into prominent Fire-Eater Robert B. Rhett’s head, having him curse “St. Thomas” Jefferson, along with “inalienable rights,” “rights of revolution,” and “the principles of 1776,” claiming “the South had revolted to escape those idiocies.” Never mind the fact that Rhett proclaimed these very ideals throughout his life and personally identified as a “Jeffersonian Republican.” Elsewhere, a winner of the Alan Nevins History Prize writes off the sincerity of States’ rights with a few words. “As for the ‘dry prattle’ about the Constitution, the rights of minorities, and the like, there was never any confusion in the minds of most contemporaries that such arguments were masks for more fundamental emotional issues,” he casually asserts. “State sovereignty was an issue only because the retreat to the inviolability of states’ rights had always been a refuge for those fearful of a challenge to their property.” Indeed, it is the *modus operandi* of historians nowadays to discount whatever Southerners said about political, economic, and cultural differences with the North as a false front for the ulterior motive of slavery: Southerners could not possibly have meant what they said!

This essay series aims to right the wrongs which the commissars of acceptable opinion in academia and the media have inflicted upon the role of States' rights in Southern history. An honest study of the great political treatises of the Old South proves that the doctrine of States' rights was never a mere pretense for slavery, but reflected a deep passion for self-government rooted in Southern culture as well as an earnest understanding of the Constitution rooted in Southern history. According to the distinguished M.E. Bradford, States' rights were a "patrimony" and "birthright," dating from the foundation of the Colonies through the independence of the States and to the creation of the Constitution. President Jefferson Davis, at the crowning of the Confederate capital in Richmond, dubbed this heritage "the richest inheritance that ever fell to man, and which it is our sacred duty to transmit untarnished to our children." Robert B. Rhett's *Address of South Carolina to the People of the Slaveholding States*, promulgated in 1860 by the secession convention in Charleston, is the subject of this essay.

Robert Barnwell Smith (aka "Rhett") was born on December 21, 1800, in the old Lowcountry district of Beaufort, South Carolina. With one of the most distinguished lineages in the State – descended from six governors, two landgraves, and the very first settler of South Carolina – Smith aspired to make his ancestors proud and was committed to protecting his people's inherited way of life. Smith's father, James, was a soldier of the American Revolution who had defended the besieged cities of Savannah and Charleston, and been taken prisoner when the latter fell. Smith attended Beaufort College, where he was impressed with the integrity of the staunch Unionist James Petigru. "It is only the strong man – strong in conscious rectitude, strong in convictions of truth, strong in the never-failing and eternal vindications of time – who can put aside the temptations of present power, and submit to official inferiority," reflected Smith. "Superficial observers may not understand the greatness of such a man." A shy student, Smith was nicknamed "Madame Modesty." Due to his father's troubled finances, Smith had to leave Beaufort College and be tutored by his father, who imparted his Jeffersonian politics to his son. "I was...raised and nurtured a Republican, in the faith and principles of my Father," recalled Smith.

Smith was born and bred past the glory days of the republic in a time of strife between sections and parties. To Smith, the Union did not stand for peace and prosperity, as it did for his father, but oppression and corruption – a threat to the "free government" for which his father had fought. Indeed, rumblings were emerging from Beaufort, a staunch Federalist stronghold in the Jeffersonian South, over the tariff bills of 1816 and 1824, which enriched Northern industry at the expense of Southern agriculture. These tariffs ("nothing but robbery"), the Missouri Compromise (which "nullified the sovereignty of the people"), and the corruption of the Democratic-Republican Party ("little more than a mere association to obtain office and power") convinced Smith to run for office in the State legislature. Elected in 1826, Madame Modesty came out of his shell as a "brilliant and promising young man," according to one of his friends.

Amid this tense atmosphere of sectionalism, a volcano erupted in Smith's district. At a citizens' meeting in 1827, Smith authored a memorial to the Congress protesting protectionism in general (labeled the "American System" by its supporters) and a proposed tariff on woolens in particular. "From the moderation of our Northern Brethren, who for the last ten years have been beating at our doors for monopolies," announced Smith, "we have renounced all hope." Smith argued that "free commerce is the true interest of every nation," but that while the South supplied the bulk of American exports, she also paid the bulk in federal taxes, most of which was redistributed to the North as so-called internal improvements. "It is immaterial whether that money is received by one man called a

King or by thousands termed Manufacturers.” Smith closed with a veiled threat of resistance if the unconstitutional and exploitative tariff were not abandoned. “Do not add oppression to embarrassment, and alienate our affections from the home our fathers together raised,” warned Smith. “Do not believe us degenerate from our sires, and that we will either bear or dare less, when the time for suffering or resistance comes.” The Woolens Tariff was defeated, but the next year, in response to the Tariff of Abominations – a much more comprehensive tax increase – Smith authored a second memorial at another citizens’ meeting, doubling down on his previous statements and dealing a broadside against the American System. Smith labeled the Tariff of Abominations “a timid fraud well-becoming the tyranny it covers” and claimed that it dwarfed the oppression which their forefathers faced from Britain. Before, Smith had merely threatened resistance, but now he openly called for it. “We must either retrograde in dishonor and in shame, and receive the contempt and scorn of our brethren, superadded to our wrongs, and their system of oppression, strengthened by our toleration,” insisted Smith. “Or we must,” he finished with a Shakespearean flourish, “by opposing, end them.” According to Smith, resistance to federal tyranny stemmed “not from a desire of disunion, or to destroy the Constitution, but...that we may preserve the Union, and bring back the Constitution to its original uncorrupted principles.” Smith’s memorials electrified the United States and catapulted him into prominence. They were his first act of defiance against the federal government and would not be his last.

Smith’s memorials made an ultimatum to the Congress: repeal the Tariff of Abominations or South Carolina would secede from the Union. Smith believed that if South Carolina forced the issue by seceding, other States would take her side and the Congress would have no choice but to compromise. When Vice President John C. Calhoun, seeking to prevent civil war and preserve South Carolina’s rights, proposed nullification – a renewed application of the Principles of ’98 from Jefferson and Madison’s Virginia and Kentucky Resolutions – Smith relented from secession, though he maintained skepticism of a “peaceful remedy.” Nevertheless, Smith embraced Calhoun’s strategy, leading the call for a State convention and attending States’ rights rallies all around South Carolina to galvanize support for nullification. “Standing, then, upon the very ground which Mr. Jefferson, Mr. Madison, and the whole Republican Party stood in ’98,” avowed Smith, “we think that the time has come when our principles are to be enforced – peaceably – constitutionally enforced – when Carolina, as a sovereign party to the constitutional compact, should interpose ‘for arresting the progress of evil.’” Revolution? “What, sir, has the people ever gained, but by revolution?” retorted Smith. “What, sir, has Carolina ever obtained great or free, but by revolution? Revolution! Sir, it is the dearest and holiest word to the brave and free.” Disunion? “Washington was a disunionist, Adams, Henry, Jefferson, Rutledge, were all disunionists and traitors, and for maintaining the very constitutional principles for which we now contend. They severed a mighty empire on whose dominion the sun never set...they cut this empire asunder with the stern energy of the sword,” answered Smith. “Shall we, standing upon the free soil of Carolina, rendered sacred by the bones of our Revolutionary martyrs and heroes...tremble at epithets?” A serious illness prevented Smith from attending the nullification convention in 1832, although after the ordinance passed he was allowed to add his signature in recognition of his contribution to the cause.

When no States seconded nullification and President Andrew Jackson prepared for an invasion, South Carolina’s position looked grim. In 1833, the State convention reassembled to consider the compromise that Calhoun had helped secure – a gradual reduction of the tariff in exchange for repeal of the nullification ordinance. Although most South Carolinians considered the Compromise of 1833 a success – their State had singlehandedly won a reduction in federal tariffs! – Smith strenuously

objected, arguing that they were betraying their principles for a bribe. “The enemy is, for the moment, beaten back,” conceded Smith, though he cautioned that “the disease is still there,” and that “the true disorder is that pest of our system, consolidation.” Smith was particularly galled that the “angry tyrant,” President Jackson, had resorted to threats of “coercion” and “civil war,” and thus admitted that he no longer loved nor was loyal to the United States. “I cannot love, I will not praise that which, under the abused names of Union and Liberty, attempts to inflict upon us every thing that can curse and enslave the land.” According to Smith, the conflict between the North and the South was “a contest which even this compromise can but for a little while avert.”

In 1834, while serving as South Carolina’s Attorney General, Smith acquired four plantations and over a hundred slaves in a transaction with an English colonel forced to sell his holdings due to Britain’s abolition of slavery. Personally attached to his slaves and feeling responsible for their wellbeing, the colonel feared that in selling his slaves, they would be separated and perhaps come under cruel masters. The reason this colonel sold to Smith was because he trusted him to be a benevolent master. Indeed, Smith was a conscientious master who believed that slave ownership carried sacred duties. “I am responsible to God for their *spiritual and temporal* welfare...God helping me, I am determined that every soul he has committed to my care shall have the considerations of the Gospel brought home to its bearer, and whilst I administer to the necessities of these slaves in this world, the great and one thing needed for eternity shall not be neglected.” This transaction elevated Smith from a lawyer to a planter – from a profession to the aristocracy. Despite later financial difficulties, Smith kept his word to the colonel and never sold the slaves.

Smith was elected to the House of Representatives in 1836, where he served until 1848, doggedly defending the rights of the States – and especially those of South Carolina – from usurpation. It was at this point that he and his brothers changed their surname to “Rhett,” to honour a distinguished ancestor – a swashbuckling Colonial governor – and restore a historic name. Rhett endorsed President Van Buren’s Independent Treasury System (he was one of two South Carolinians who stood with Calhoun on this issue) and opposed the establishment of a third national bank, which he accused of causing the financial panics of 1819 and 1837, robbing Southern planters for the benefit of Northern bankers, and consolidating power in the federal government by giving it control of the money. Rhett also fought to destroy the American System once and for all, “that poison still lingering in the veins of the body politic – that unhallowed and corrupt combination by which one section of the Union was plundered for the benefit of another,” and to replace the inequitable tariff system with a more equitable system of direct taxation. Rhett opposed war with Britain over the Oregon Territory – denouncing all war as “an enormous crime” contrary to the peace, justice, and liberty on which Christian, conservative republics should be founded – though he wholeheartedly supported the Mexican War as a just war of self-defense. Slavery became an increasingly important issue during Rhett’s career in the House, beginning as a parliamentary dispute over whether the Congress had the right to receive abolition petitions, escalating with the question of admitting Texas to the Union, and ending as a debate over the legal status of slavery in the Territories. Underlying all of these issues was a struggle to maintain a balance of power between the North and the South. Rhett resisted these mounting encroachments upon slavery, claiming that the federal government had no authority over the South’s peculiar institution and thus could not receive any such petitions, that the South was entitled to the “common property of the States” as much as the North, and that any concession from the South would result in her enslavement to the North. “Here is a subject in which passion, and feeling, and religion, are all involved,” Rhett raved. “All the inexperienced emotions of the heart are against us; all the abstractions concerning human rights can

be perverted against us; all the theories of political dreamers, atheistic utilitarians, self-exalting and self-righteous religionists, who would reform or expunge the Bible – in short, enthusiasts and fanatics of all sorts are against us.”

In 1844, disillusioned with the Democratic Party, angry over the Black Tariff (an increase in violation of the Compromise of 1833) and alarmed by Northern opposition to Texas statehood (a sign of Northern determination to limit the growth of the South), Rhett sparked the Blufton Movement. A revolution among the Lowcountry youth, the Blufton Movement called for another State convention, where an ultimatum of nullification or secession could be made, causing a crisis which would end with the restoration of the Constitution or the recognition of South Carolina’s independence. “They are raging,” Rhett said of the so-called Blufton Boys, “and if the rest of the South was of their temper we would soon bring the government straight both as to Texas and the tariff.” At a banquet in Blufton, Rhett raised a toast to the proposed convention: “May it be as useful as the Convention of 1776.” Rhett expected to be branded a “disunionist, mischief-maker, traitor, etc.,” but he dismissed such epithets as the propaganda of the timid and slavish souls against the bold and free. “My object is not to destroy the Union, but to maintain the Constitution, and the Union too, as the Constitution has made it,” explained Rhett. “But I do not believe that the government can be reformed by its central action, and that we will probably have to risk the Union itself to save it, in its integrity, and to perpetuate it as a blessing.” Although the Blufton Movement subsided when Calhoun obtained assurances of tariff reform and Texas statehood from the Democrat presidential candidate, James K. Polk, Rhett had succeeded in radicalizing the next generation of South Carolinians. “The Blufton Boys have been silenced, not subdued,” claimed Rhett. “The fire is not extinguished; it smolders beneath, and will burst forth in another glorious flame that shall overrun the State and place her light again as of old, upon the watchtower of freedom.”

After Calhoun’s death in 1850, Rhett was elected to fill his seat in the Senate. Rhett attended a convention of Southern States in Nashville in 1850, as well as a South Carolina convention in 1852. It was between the two conventions that Rhett renewed his calls for South Carolina to secede on her own, although this time the ultimatum was not to the United States to recognize Southern rights, but to the other Southern States to secede and form a confederacy of their own. “Separate State action,” insisted Rhett, would compel the “cooperation” of the rest of the South. “Cooperation,” he toasted at a celebration of the American Revolution, “our fathers obtained it by seizing the stamps, and by firing the guns of Fort Moultrie.” It was around this time when Southern Unionists began referring to Rhett and other secessionists as “Fire-Eaters,” a derogatory term for brash duelists. After a controversial speech at the Nashville Convention, where he remarked that Southerners “must rule themselves or perish,” Rhett was branded a “traitor.” Rhett reveled in the term, however. “I have been born of traitors, but thank God, they have ever been traitors in the great cause of liberty, fighting against tyranny and oppression,” boasted Rhett. “Such treason will ever be mine whilst true to my heritage.” Rhett’s constituents concurred, hoisting banners which read, “Oh that we were all such traitors,” and hailing Rhett as Patrick Henry reborn. When the South Carolina Convention closed with a resolution upholding the right of secession but taking no action herself – nothing more than “solemn and vapid truisms,” according to Rhett – Rhett felt that he was no longer a “proper representative” of South Carolina and resigned his Senate seat. “Sensible of the profound respect I owe the State as my sovereign, and deeply grateful for the many favors and honors she has conferred upon me, I bow to her declared will, and make way for those, who, with hearts less sad, and judgments more convinced, can better sustain her in the course she has determined to pursue.” Rhett spent the rest of the 1850s tending

to his long-neglected plantations and rebuilding the *Charleston Mercury*, a newspaper which had always served as his mouthpiece and which his son had recently acquired.

After the election of Abraham Lincoln to the presidency, Rhett believed that South Carolina had no choice but to secede from the Union. “The tea has been thrown overboard,” declared Rhett’s *Mercury*. “The revolution of 1860 has been initiated.” Rhett warned that the Republicans, a Northern sectional party, were “totally irresponsible to the people of the South, without check, restraint, or limitation,” and that their rule would bring “the total annihilation of all self-government or liberty in the South.” When South Carolina convened to secede, Rhett’s hour had finally come. “Rhett Guards” paraded through the streets of Charleston, carrying banners emblazoned with some of his finest words, and his image was displayed alongside the great Calhoun’s. Elected to represent his old district in the Secession Convention, Rhett fell to his knees in prayer before signing South Carolina’s ordinance of secession. “For thirty-two years, have I followed the quarry. Behold! It, at last, in sight!” exclaimed Rhett. “A few more bounds, and it falls – the Union falls; and with it falls, its faithless oppressions – its insulting agitations – its vulgar tyrannies and fanaticism. The bugle blast of our victory and redemption is on the wind; and the South will be safe and free.”

Rhett’s moment of triumph flamed out almost immediately, however. Rhett was the head of the South Carolina delegation to the Montgomery Convention, where the Confederate States framed a new constitution, a task which Rhett believed should be “a matter of restoration” rather than “innovation,” as the old Constitution was not flawed, but simply perverted by Northern construction. Although Rhett obtained prohibitions on the long-detested protectionist tariffs and internal improvements, along with express affirmations of the long-defended principle of State sovereignty, he failed to prevent the admission of non-slaveholding States, which he feared would lead to reconstruction with the North and ultimately recreate all the problems of the old Union – a Northern majority with different values and interests tyrannizing a Southern minority. Furthermore, in forming a provisional government, the conservatives at Montgomery like Jefferson Davis prevailed over the radicals like Rhett – a “Thermidor” which left Rhett embittered and envious. Rhett became a maniacal critic of President Davis, accusing him of assuming the powers of a military despot – worse than Lincoln, in fact! – and betraying the Confederacy. As Mary Chesnut, the South Carolina diarist who described Rhett as “mercurial,” explained, Rhett “had howled nullification, secession, etc. so long, when he found his ideas taken up by all the Confederate world, he felt he had a vested right to the leadership.”

When Lincoln summoned troops to crush what he dismissed as a rebellion, Rhett’s Foreign Affairs Committee was responsible for drafting a declaration of war against the United States. To accompany the declaration of war, Rhett prepared a report presenting the cause and character of the conflict to the world. “It was plain that it might be no easy task, to make European nations understand the true nature of the contest,” admitted Rhett. “The rights of the Southern people under the terms of the Constitution, were unfortunately implicated with African slavery; and it might appear to European nations, that not the principle of free government, but the perpetuation of African slavery, was the real issue in the contest.” Rhett, therefore, sought to set the record straight. “The real issue involved in the relations between the North and the South of the American States, is the great principle of self-government,” explained Rhett. “Shall a dominant party of the North rule the South, or shall the people of the South rule themselves?” According to Rhett, after “long forbearance and patience,” stemming from a “heroic love for the Union” over “mere interest,” the South was driven to secede from the Union in order to escape the “ruthless mastery” of the North,” which was now threatening “to subject them by the

sword.” Aside from this report, Rhett contributed little to nothing to the Confederate government, seemingly fixated with thwarting President Davis at every turn. When elections were held, Rhett did not run for office, but returned home and continued his opposition to “King Davis” and “the piddling, prostrate Congress,” from the pages of the *Mercury*.

The hard hand of war fell heavily on Rhett. Two of his sons died in the Confederate army. One of his daughters, unable to cope with her husband’s death, drank herself to death. General William T. Sherman’s army plundered his plantations, scattering his personal papers and stealing his books. Perhaps Rhett’s sole consolation was the loyalty of his slaves, who fled with their refugee-master and worked his land in exchange for a share of the crop even after they were emancipated. Unable to meet his debts after the war, what was left of Rhett’s estate eventually went into foreclosure. Rhett closed out his years living with one of his daughters in New Orleans, suffering from skin cancer and toiling on his memoirs, tentatively titled, *The Last Decade, Seen in the Extinction of Free Government in the United States, and the Downfall of the Southern Confederacy, in Connection with Political Life and Services of the Honorable Robert Barnwell Rhett*. Defiant to the end, Rhett rejected any reconciliation with the North and remained confident that the South would one day rise again. “Whether sitting around their hearths; or worshipping in the Temples of God; or standing over the graves of our Confederate dead,” proclaimed Rhett, “they will ever remember that they died for them; and spurn from them, as an imputation of the foulest dishonor, the mere suggestion that they can ever abandon their great cause – the cause of free government for which their glorious dead suffered and died.” Upon Rhett’s death in 1876, *The Charleston News and Courier* dubbed him “the father of secession.”

Outside of South Carolina, Rhett was widely detested, and even within South Carolina, Rhett was a controversial figure who could never lead, but only incite and electrify. According to historian Walter Brian Cisco, “Two generations of South Carolinians would come to grin or grimace at the mention of his name.” Indeed, it was Rhett’s repulsive public persona, rather than his ideas – visionary in their time and vindicated in the end – which made him so unpopular. Rhett’s rival, James H. Hammond, compared him to Cassandra, the mythological Greek priestess blessed with the gift of foresight but cursed for her warnings to go unheeded. “How unfortunate that Cassandra came to preside over his birth & make him say the wisest things, so out of time and place, that they are accounted by those who rule mere foolishness,” reflected Hammond. “What a pity that such fine talents should be thrown away on such a perverse temper.” According to Rhett’s biographer, Laura A. White, “It may be said that one can scarcely understand the action of the people of South Carolina in 1860 without including in his ken the remarkable activities of one man, whose eloquent and fiery preaching of the gospel of liberty and self-government, and of revolution to achieve these ends, beat upon their ears in season and out of season for over thirty years.”

During the South Carolina Secession Convention there was a dispute over how the State should justify secession. Maxcy Gregg, a friend of Rhett’s and fellow Fire-Eater, objected that Christopher Memminger’s *Declaration of the Causes Which Induce and Justify the Secession of South Carolina from the Federal Union* focused only on relatively recent grievances related to slavery and thus “dishonored the memory of South Carolinians” who had opposed the Tariff of Abominations, the Second Bank of the United States, and internal improvements. Laurence M. Keitt, another Fire-Eater, though no friend of Rhett’s, replied that while tariffs were now low, no national bank existed, and internal improvements were regularly vetoed, “the question of slavery” remained unresolved. As a result, South Carolina issued two statements on secession: Memminger’s narrow,

legalistic *Declaration* – the title of which was amended to read “immediate causes” – and Rhett’s *Address of South Carolina to the Slaveholding States*, a fiery manifesto of Southern rights and Northern wrongs. Historian Emory M. Thomas describes the *Address* as “an extended dissertation which began with the Constitutional Convention of 1787 and rambled through a long catalogue of sectional issues and crises, demonstrating Southern righteousness and Yankee perfidy at every point.” Susan Bradford, a fourteen year-old girl whose father took her to Florida’s Secession Convention in Tallahassee, remembered an ambassador from South Carolina reading the *Address*—“recounting the grievances, which had led her to sever the ties which bound her to the Union” – to the convention. “You never heard such cheers and shouts as rent the air, and it lasted so long.”

From the adoption of the Constitution in 1787 to the secession of South Carolina in 1860, opened Rhett, the United States’ “advance in wealth, prosperity, and power, has been with scarcely a parallel in the history of the world.” The “great object” of forming the Union was “defense against external aggressions,” which had been amply secured. The United States was safe and free, and Northern ships sailed every sea exporting Southern cash crops around the world. Despite its outward strength, however, the Union was imploding from “discontent and contention.” In short, admitted Rhett, “Our internal peace has not grown with our external prosperity.”

Twice in the past three decades – 1832 and 1852 – South Carolina had convened to react to “the aggressions and unconstitutional wrongs, perpetrated by the people of the North on the people of the South.” Both times, South Carolina had agreed to a compromise, believing that it would resolve the conflict between the sections and restore harmony to the Union. “But such hope and expectation, have proved to be vain,” claimed Rhett. “Instead of producing forbearance, our acquiescence has only instigated new forms of aggression and outrage; and South Carolina, having again assembling her people in Convention, has this day dissolved her connection with the States, constituting the United States.” The dissolution of the Union, long-feared but long-expected, had finally come to pass.

According to Rhett, “The one great evil, from which all other evils have flowed, is the overthrow of the Constitution of the United States.” The federal government was no longer “the government of Confederated Republics,” as it was founded, but “a consolidated Democracy.” Such a government was “no longer a free Government, but a despotism.” In fact, the federal government had become the same form of government that “Great Britain attempted to set over our fathers; and which was resisted and defeated by a seven years’ struggle for independence.” Throughout the *Address*, Rhett continued to draw parallels between the past of 1776 and the present of 1860, deservedly draping South Carolina in the mantle of the American Revolution.

“The Revolution of 1776 turned upon one great principle,” claimed Rhett, “self-government – and self-taxation, the criterion of self-government.” In order to be free, explained Rhett, different people who were united under a common government must have the power to protect their separate and distinct interests, yet the interests of Britain and the American Colonies had become “different and antagonistic.” Britain’s policy towards the Colonies was to exploit them as she did the rest of her empire, “making them tributary to her wealth and power.” Britain had accumulated a high debt from her wars around the world, and intended to recoup the costs of empire from her Colonies. The Colonies, however, opposed British mercantilism and imperialism, desiring freedom from the “burdens and wars of the mother country.” After all, the Colonies’ charters granted them the right of self-

government, especially regarding the vital issue of taxation. These conflicting interests culminated in the Parliament's infamous assertion of supremacy over the Colonies – “the power of legislating for the Colonies in all cases whatsoever.” Such a usurpation of their chartered rights drove the Colonies to independence. “Our ancestors resisted the pretension,” beamed Rhett. “They refused to be a part of the consolidated Government of Great Britain.”

Rhett stressed that the same causes that justified American secession in 1776 also justified Southern secession in 1860. Indeed, “The Southern States now stand exactly in the same position towards the Northern States that the Colonies did towards Great Britain.” Like Britain, the Northern States defied the Constitution and claimed “omnipotence in legislation.” Like Britain, the Northern States recognized no constitutional limits upon their power except for the “the general welfare,” of which they were the “sole judges.” As Britain had infamously asserted against the Colonies, the North claimed the power to legislate for the South “in all cases whatsoever.” The Union no longer resembled what the Founding Fathers had shaped, leaving their sons no choice but to follow in the footsteps of their forefathers and declare their independence. “Thus, the Government of the United States has become a consolidated Government; and the people of the Southern States are compelled to meet the very despotism their fathers threw off in the Revolution of 1776.” According to Rhett, in declaring independence from tyranny as the Founding Fathers had done, Southerners were the true Americans.

As a part of its consolidation of power over the Colonies, the Parliament levied taxes to enrich British interests at the expense of American interests. The Colonies resisted these taxes, however, arguing that their charters granted them the right of self-government and thus self-taxation. The Colonies were represented only in their own legislatures, not in the Parliament, meaning the Parliament had no constitutional authority to tax them. Even when the Colonies were offered representation in Parliament, they refused to sacrifice their chartered right of local self-government for a little representation in a foreign legislature. “Between taxation without any representation, and taxation without a representation adequate to protection, there was no difference,” explained Rhett. “In neither case would the Colonies tax themselves. Hence, they refused to pay the taxes laid by the British Parliament.” The particular issue in 1776 was self-taxation – no taxation without representation! – but the principle was self-government. Rhett would return to this differentiation between the outer issues and underlying causes of a conflict in arguing that secession was about more than just slavery.

Just as Britain attempted to consolidate its power over the Colonies by taxing them without representation – thereby depriving them of their right of self-government – so the North was attempting to use “the vital matter of taxation” to consolidate her power over the South and rule her as well. Since the Southern States had become a minority in the United States, their representation in the Congress was powerless to prevent “unjust taxation” in the form of protectionist tariffs. Indeed, for over forty years, “subserving the interests of the North,” rather than collecting revenue, had been the agenda behind federal taxes. Since the South was an agrarian economy which exported most of her production (cash crops like cotton, tobacco, and rice) and imported most of her consumption (manufactures from machinery to textiles), her economic interest was in free trade. The industrial Northern economy, however, had no strong comparative advantages in anything and depended on the federal government for support. Tariffs, by taxing the imports on which the South relied, protected Northern industries from competition but imposed artificially inflated the prices upon the South. The South was forced to buy the manufactures she needed in a protected market (choosing between higher prices to parasitic Northern industries or higher taxes to a government which no longer represented them) and sell the

cash crops she produced in a competitive market – to buy dearly and sell nearly, so to speak. At the same time, by reducing American demand for foreign imports and foreign currency, tariffs also depressed foreign demand for American exports (in this case, 60% to 90% of which were Southern cash crops) and distorted the exchange rate in a way which left exporters with less. “They are taxed by the people of the North *for their benefit*,” Rhett said of Southerners, “exactly as the people of Great Britain taxed our ancestors in the British Parliament for their benefit.”

“There is another evil, in the condition of the Southern towards the Northern States,” continued Rhett, “which our ancestors refused to bear towards Great Britain.” Each Colony not only taxed herself, but also spent the taxes she collected on herself. If the Colonies had submitted to taxation without representation, then their taxes would have been spent throughout the British Empire rather than at home. Although this redistribution – “impoverishing the people from whom taxes are collected, and...enriching those who receive the benefit of the expenditure” – was resisted by the Colonies, the North had, as with oppressive taxation, succeeded against the South where Britain had failed. Federal tax revenue, collected primarily from the South, often financed so-called internal improvements in the North, which ranged from honest economic development to the nineteenth-century equivalent of pork-barrel spending. Either way, Southerners saw their property drained across the Mason-Dixon Line. “The people of the Southern States are not only taxed for the benefit of the Northern States, but after the taxes are collected, three-fourths of them are expended at the North.”

This exploitative scheme of taxing the South and spending in the North had, argued Rhett, left the South “provincial” and “paralyzed” her growth. One of many indicators was the decline of South Carolina’s shipping, an industry that had prospered in the Colony but had been “annihilated” in the Union due to navigation laws which gave the North a legal monopoly on shipbuilding and shipping. To prove his point, Rhett cited figures contrasting the prosperity of the Colony of South Carolina with the poverty of the State of South Carolina.

“No man can, for a moment,” concluded Rhett, “believe that our ancestors intended to establish over their posterity, exactly the same sort of Government they had overthrown.” Indeed, the “great object” of the Constitution was “to secure the great end of the Revolution – a limited free government.” Under the Constitution, “general and common” interests were delegated by the States to the federal government, and “sectional and local” interests were reserved by the States. This division of power between the national and the sectional was the only way to unite separate, distinct sections with differing interests such as the North and the South. Unfortunately, Northern treachery and Southern complacency had resulted in the erosion of limited government. “By gradual and steady encroachments on the part of the people of the North, and acquiescence on the part of the South, the limitations in the Constitution have been swept away,” recounted Rhett. “The Government of the United States has become consolidated, with a claim of limitless powers in its operations.”

To Rhett, “agitations” against slavery were merely the “natural results of the consolidation of the government.” Since the North, with her “interested and perverted” construction of the Constitution, had exceeded national interests and was encroaching upon sectional interests, it was inevitable that she would eventually “assume to possess power over all the institutions of the country” and “assail and overthrow the institution of slavery in the South.” Slavery, furthermore, was the only issue against which the North could be united. “It would not be united, on any matter common to the whole Union –

in other words, on any constitutional subject – for on such subjects divisions are as likely to exist in the North as in the South.” Because slavery was a “strictly sectional interest” of the South, opposition to it overcame the differences of opinion in the North over the proper construction of the Constitution. “If this could be made the criterion of parties at the North, the North could be united in its power,” explained Rhett, “and thus carry out its measures of sectional ambition, encroachment, and aggrandizement.” Indeed, this had been a tactic of the North since the Missouri Crisis, when the Federalist Party challenged the admission of slaveholding Missouri to the Union in the hopes of restricting Southern political power and reclaiming the North on a new sectional issue. “To build up their sectional predominance in the Union, the Constitution must first be abolished by construction,” argued Rhett, “but that being done, the consolidation of the North, to rule the South by the tariff and slavery issues, was in the obvious course of things.”

Rhett distinguished between the ultimate cause of the conflict between the North and the South, “the overthrow of the Constitution” and “the consolidation of the government,” and the particular issues which had stemmed from the cause, such as tariffs and slavery. As Rhett put it, the North wanted “to rule the South by the tariff and slavery issues,” just as Britain wanted to rule the Colonies through “the vital matter of taxation.” In other words, the cause of the conflict was the Northern pretension to rule the South; the issues of tariffs and slavery were merely means to that end. After the war, Jefferson Davis, Alexander Stephens, and countless other former Confederates reiterated the Father of Secession’s formulation in their unapologetic apologies. According to Davis, slavery was “in no wise the cause of the conflict, but only an incident,” the “intolerable grievance” being “the systematic and persistent struggle to deprive the Southern States of equality in the Union.” According to Stephens, slavery was “unquestionably the occasion of the war...but it was not the real cause, the *Causa causans* of it,” the real cause being “Federation, on the one side, and Consolidation, on the other.” For differentiating between outer issues and underlying causes, as Rhett himself did on behalf of South Carolina, Davis and Stephens are commonly accused of revising history.

The Constitution, Rhett reflected, was an “experiment...in uniting under one government, peoples living in different climates, and having different pursuits and institutions.” In such a constitution, trust between the States was paramount, for the Constitution could not limit itself and would ultimately be interpreted and enforced by the States. “It matters not how carefully the limitations of such a government be laid down in the Constitution – its success must, at least, depend upon the good faith of the parties to the constitutional compact, in enforcing them.” No matter how strictly the Constitution was written, well-meaning errors and self-serving rationalizations would inevitably arise. “It is not in the power of human language to exclude false inferences, constructions, and perversions in any Constitution,” admitted Rhett. “And when vast sectional interests are to be subserved, involving the appropriation of countless millions of money, it has not been the usual experience of mankind, that words on parchment can arrest power.” The experiment of the Constitution, argued Rhett, “rested on the assumption that power would yield to faith – that integrity would be stronger than interest; and that thus, the limitations of the Constitution would be observed.” The experiment, though “fairly made,” had finally “failed.”

From the very beginning, the South had tried to limit the federal government “within the orbit prescribed by the Constitution.” Indeed, from when Senator Pierce Butler, a framer in Philadelphia and a ratifier in Charleston, stormed out of the very first Senate in protest of a proposed protectionist tariff and threatened the secession of South Carolina, to the actual secession of South Carolina, the South had

always honoured the compact. The North, however, had not honoured the compact, committing usurpations and encroachments at every opportunity. In a “reckless lust for power,” the North had “absorbed” the entire Constitution into its preamble, claiming that the United States was a nation with a consolidated government rather than a federation with a limited government. The irony of this sophistic and solipsistic Northern construction, noted Rhett, was that in attempting to make the federal government stronger, it actually made it weaker. The federal government was intended to have authority only over “objects of common interests to all sections.” This, insisted Rhett, was where its “strength consists.” If the “scope” of its power were expanded over “sectional or local interests,” however, it would necessarily face “opposition and resistance” – the very sort of opposition and resistance which Rhett had led his whole life and which had finally come to a head. Expanding federal power from national interests – the true meaning of the “general welfare” – to sectional interests meant that the minority would not possess the power of self-protection against a potentially tyrannous majority, and thus “necessarily” turned the government into a “despotism.” Rhett warned that “the majority, constituted from those who do not represent these sectional or local interests, will control and govern them,” and urged that “a free people cannot submit to such a Government.” As federal power expanded beyond its rightful sphere, opposition and resistance weakened the legitimacy of the government. The key to a strong Union was not for the majority section to tyrannize the minority, but for both sections to cooperate for the common good and respect each other’s differences. “The more it abstains from usurped powers, and the more faithfully it adheres to the limitations of the Constitution, the stronger it is made,” explained Rhett. “The Northern people have had neither the wisdom nor the faith to perceive, that to observe the limitations of the Constitution was the only way to its perpetuity.” In other words, if the purposes for which the Union was founded, as established in the Constitution, were no longer upheld, then the Union no longer served any purpose and was not worth upholding.

Under a consolidated government of unlimited power, conflicts would inevitably arise between differing sections, noted Rhett, and the North and the South were no exception. “Under such a government, there must, of course, be many and endless ‘irrepressible conflicts’ between the two great sections of the Union,” explained Rhett, employing the expression of the Republican luminary William H. Seward. Having weakened limited government with liberal constructions of the Constitution, the Northern majority was poised to exploit the Southern economy, subvert Southern society, and consolidate all power over the South. Only the goodwill upon which the States created the Union could protect the liberty and security of the South, yet South Carolinians regarded Northerners as treacherous and untrustworthy. “The same faithlessness which has abolished the Constitution of the United States, will not fail to carry out the sectional purposes for which it has been abolished.” Given that “all confidence in the North is lost by the South,” Rhett claimed that it was “too late to reform or restore” the Union. “The faithlessness of the North for half a century has opened a gulf of separation between the North and the South which no promises nor engagements can fill.” Therefore, due to the destruction of the Constitution, the abandonment of the good faith necessary to sustain a compact, and an imbalance of power between the sections of the Union, the South’s only hope for “peace and liberty” was in “independence of the North.”

Like all Southerners –especially South Carolinians – Rhett was extremely sensitive about the honour of his State, which had acquired a reputation for extremism over the years. The *Address* was a prime opportunity for Rhett to redeem South Carolina and her uncompromising course in the eyes of her Southern sisters. Indeed, South Carolina had staunchly defended States’ rights and resisted Northern consolidation for the past thirty years, yet had been abandoned by the rest of the South and condemned

by the North. “The repeated efforts made by South Carolina, in a wise conservatism, to arrest the progress of the General Government in its fatal progress to consolidation, have been unsupported, and she has been denounced as faithless to the obligations of the Constitution, by the very men and States who were destroying it by their usurpations,” stewed Rhett. Given his role in those repeated efforts, Rhett could not have helped feeling some sense of satisfaction.

“It cannot be believed, that our ancestors would have assented to any union whatever with the people of the North, if the feelings and opinions now existing among them, had existed when the Constitution was formed,” speculated Rhett. “There was then no tariff – no fanaticism concerning negroes.” Indeed, Founders like John Rutledge and Charles Pinckney, who had framed the Constitution in Philadelphia and ratified it in Charleston, had assured skeptical South Carolinians that the new Constitution did not contain any of those evils. “The idea that the Southern States would be made to pay that tribute to their Northern confederates which they had refused to pay to Great Britain; or that the institution of African slavery would be made the grand basis of a sectional organization of the North to rule the South, never crossed the imaginations of our ancestors.” Rhett pointed out that the Constitution was founded on slavery, as slavery then existed in the Southern, Middle, and Northern States, the slave trade was extended for twenty years, and three-fifths of all slaves in each State were counted in assessing federal representation and apportioning federal taxes. “There is nothing in the proceedings of the Constitution, to show that the Southern States would have formed any other Union; and still less, that they would have formed a Union with more powerful non-slaveholding States, having majority in both branches of the Legislature of the Government.”

Since the adoption of the Constitution, however, the North and the South had separated politically, economically, and culturally; the Union formed by the Founders was no more. “That identity of feelings, interests, and institutions which once existed is gone,” explained Rhett. “They are now divided, between agricultural, manufacturing, and commercial States; between slaveholding and non-slaveholding States.” Given these changes, the North and the South had become “totally different peoples,” making “equality between the sections” impossible. “We but imitate the policy of our fathers in dissolving a union with non-slaveholding confederates, and seeking a confederation with slaveholding States.”

Rhett believed that the liberty and security of a society could only be preserved by that society itself. Outside of that society, such power would be perverted and abused. “No people can ever expect to preserve its rights and liberties, unless these be in its own custody,” claimed Rhett. “To plunder and oppress, when plunder and oppression can be protected with impunity, seems to be the natural order of things.” Accordingly, argued Rhett, “Experience has proved that slaveholding States cannot be safe in a subjection to non-slaveholding States.” Rhett pointed out that the British colonies of the West Indies and the French colony of Santo Domingo, where radical abolitionism was tried, had collapsed into poverty and savagery. “The fairest portions of the world... have been turned into wildernesses, and the most civilized and prosperous communities have been impoverished and ruined by anti-slavery fanaticism.” The fate of Santo Domingo was particularly terrifying to Southerners. When the National Assembly, in the throes of the French Revolution, decreed “liberty, equality, and fraternity” for the slaves, the freed slaves seceded from the empire, wiped out the white population, and repelled Napoleon’s efforts to reclaim the colony. Now the North was threatening the South with the same fate as Santo Domingo.

Rhett claimed that the sectional Republican Party had made its intentions against Southern slavery perfectly clear – particularly in the nomination of Abraham Lincoln. “United as a section in the late Presidential election, they have elected as the exponent of their party, one who has openly declared that all the States of the United States must be made *free States or slave States*.” Rhett conceded that there were “various shades of anti-slavery hostility” and a multitude of “disclaimers and professions” from the Republicans. Lincoln himself equivocated on the issue depending upon his audiences, telling Northerners that a house divided against itself cannot stand and that the United States could not be half-slave and half-free, but telling Southerners that he had no authority or intention to abolish slavery but just wanted to keep the Territories free for whites and unsullied by blacks. Rhett emphasized, however, that the “inexorable logic” of Republicans’ position would eventually end in abolition. “If it is right to preclude or abolish slavery in a Territory,” asked Rhett, “why should it be allowed to remain in the States?” Since the Supreme Court’s *Dred Scott* decision ruled that the Congress had no constitutional authority to prohibit slavery in the Territories, prohibiting slavery in the Territories was just as unconstitutional as prohibiting slavery in the States. “When it is considered that the Northern States will soon have the power to make that Court what they please, and that the Constitution never has been any barrier whatever to their exercise of power, what check can there be, in the unrestrained counsels of the North, to emancipation?”

Today, with slavery 150 years dead, Rhett’s staunch support for the institution must seem repulsive. Slavery was indeed a repulsive institution, yet there are several reasons why Rhett and his fellow slaveholders should be viewed with more sympathy.

First and foremost is the basic historical maxim that the past should be judged *juxta propria principia*, or “according to its own principles.” By the standards of Rhett’s time, slavery had existed throughout all of human history – including the esteemed classical civilizations of Greece and Rome – and in the New World for over 300 years. In the Bible, slavery was sanctioned by the Law and accepted by the Gospel. Under the Constitution, slavery was a clearly protected right of the States, no power over slavery having been delegated to the federal government. To Southerners like Rhett, slavery was not an abomination as we see it today, but had been a cornerstone of the American way of life from the time of the Colonies. It was the plantation, after all, that fathered many of the Founders – men such as George Washington (the Father of His Country), Thomas Jefferson (the Father of Democracy), James Madison (the Father of the Constitution), George Mason (the Father of the Bill of Rights), and many more noble members of America’s original ruling class. In contrast to this tradition, Northerners – with a party platform designed to squeeze every penny of profit out of federal policy, a proletariat with a lower standard of living than that of the slaves, and no real knowledge of or interest in the South – condemned Southerners as criminals and sinners and demanded that they perform the vastest self-disinheritance in history, with nothing but the dire, dismal Santo Domingo and West Indies as precedents.

The second reason that Rhett should be viewed with sympathy is that slavery itself was, as the old Vanderbilt Agrarian John Crowe Ransom observed in *I’ll Take My Stand: The South and the Agrarian Tradition*, “monstrous enough in theory, but more often than not, humane in practice.” Scholars such as Ulrich B. Phillips and Eugene D. Genovese have found that slavery was not simply a cruel regime of exploitation, but as the slaveholders themselves maintained, a paternalistic institution in which masters and slaves formed one “family” with mutual rights and duties. This is not to romanticize slavery, which Phillips and Genovese – and perhaps Rhett himself, who once interceded to stop the brutal whipping of

a slave – would be the first to admit had a dark side, but simply to reflect on slavery rationally, without the distortion of emotions such as hatred or shame.

Last, but not least, Rhett should be viewed with sympathy because his political philosophy – which, in these times of majoritarian democracy and an unchecked, uncontrollable central government, is needed more than ever – can be separated from his support for slavery. As proof of the sincerity of his beliefs, Rhett raised the banner of States' rights in the midst of the Tariff Crisis, years before slavery became a national issue, and continued to wave it long after slavery had been abolished. In sum, Rhett should be viewed not from our present looking backward, but from his present looking forward. This is the only way to understand the past – anything else is the historian's sin of "presentism," or what Christian intellectual C.S. Lewis called "chronological snobbery."

Slavery was certainly not the sole cause of conflict between the North and the South, noted Rhett. In addition to economic issues like the tariff and internal improvements, the North and the South clashed over opposing political philosophies. "Not only their fanaticism, but their erroneous ideas of the principles of free governments, made it doubtful whether, if separated from the South, they can maintain a free government amongst themselves." According to Rhett, the North had abandoned republicanism and had embraced egalitarianism. "Numbers, with them, is the great element of free government," explained Rhett. "A majority is infallible and omnipotent." The whole purpose of constitutions, however, was to limit the power of the majority and protect the liberty and security of the minority. "The very object of all Constitutions, in free popular government," argued Rhett, "is to restrain the majority." To the egalitarian North, therefore, constitutions were not blessings to be upheld, but "unrighteous inventions" which limited the "will of the majority." In a single, small society with "identity of interests and pursuits," like an ancient Greek city-state, the absence of a constitution was "harmless," as there was unanimity among the polity. In a larger society, however, such as an American State, and especially in a "vast Confederacy" such as the United States, "various and conflicting interests and pursuits" necessitated a constitution; otherwise, the government would be a "remorseless despotism" of the majority over the minority.

Rhett declared that it was such a majoritarian despotism from which South Carolina was seceding. "We are vindicating the great cause of free government, more important, perhaps, to the world, than the existence of all the United States." Secession, Rhett insisted, was but a peaceful dissolution of bonds between sovereignties – a declaration of independence, not a declaration of war. "In separating from them, we invade no rights – no interest of theirs," stressed Rhett. "We violate no obligation or duty to them." Indeed, in seceding from the Union South Carolina was doing nothing more than repealing the ratification ordinance of a constitution which she helped frame and by which she originally acceded to the Union. "As separate, independent States in Convention, we made the Constitution of the United States with them; and as separate, independent States, each State acting for itself, we adopted it," explained Rhett. "South Carolina, acting in her sovereign capacity, now thinks proper to secede from the Union." Rhett denied that the States sacrificed their sovereignty to the Union. "She did not part with her sovereignty in adopting the Constitution." Since sovereignty was a State's "life," it was "the last thing a State can be pressured to surrender." Even then, such a serious sacrifice could not be signified by mere "inference," as the North interpreted the Preamble, but by nothing less than a "clear and express grant." Rhett scorned this Northern attempt to construe away the cornerstone of the Constitution and sighed at the Northerners' predictability. "It is not at all surprising that those who have construed away all the limitations of the Constitution, should also by construction, claim the

annihilation of the sovereignty of the States,” Rhett sneered. “Having abolished all barriers to their omnipotence, by their faithless constructions in the operations of the general government, it is most natural that they should endeavor to do the same towards us in the States.”

All told, concluded Rhett, the North had violated the Constitution so pervasively that it was no longer a “compact” at all, and certainly no longer “morally obligatory” upon the States. According to Rhett, the North, by breaking the trust of the compact, was the true disunionist section. “South Carolina,” stated Rhett, “deeming the compact not only violated in particular features, but entirely abolished by her Northern confederates, withdraws herself as a party from its obligations.” Yet the North, noted Rhett, seeing an opportunity to consummate her longstanding lust for dominion over the Union, was refusing South Carolina this basic right – the freedom to leave. “They desire to establish a sectional despotism, not only omnipotent in Congress, but omnipotent over the States,” raged Rhett, “and as if to manifest the imperious necessity of our secession, they threaten us with the sword, to coerce submission to their rule.”

Aware of South Carolina’s reputation even among other Southern States as an extremist, Rhett defended her conduct and called for Southern unity. South Carolina did not wish to be the first State to secede, assured Rhett, but felt that the decision had been forced upon her – what choice did she have, in the face of Northern consolidation? “Circumstances beyond our control have placed us in the van of the great controversy between the Northern and Southern States.” South Carolina had no ambition to rule a new Southern Confederacy, either. “Independent ourselves, we disclaim any design or desire to lead the counsels of other Southern States.” The Southern States, the seals of which were emblazoned upon the Secession Banner hanging in the hall where South Carolina had convened, belonged together. “Providence has cast our lot together, by extending over us an identity of pursuits, interests, and institutions,” urged Rhett. “South Carolina desires no destiny separated from yours.”

Hoping to stir South Carolina’s sisters to her cause, Rhett ended his *Address* with a Southern call to arms. It was Southern statesmanship and Southern valour which had always strengthened and secured the Union. “In the field, as in the cabinet, *you* have led the way to renown and grandeur.” The South had always honoured the Union, doing her duty even when it came with costs. “You have loved the Union, in whose service your great statesmen have labored, and your great soldiers have fought and conquered – not for the material benefits it conferred, but with the faith of a generous and devoted chivalry.” In spite of Northern treachery, the South had always remained loyal to the Union. “You have long lingered in hope over the shattered remains of a broken Constitution,” Rhett seethed.

“Compromise after compromise, formed by your concessions, has been trampled underfoot by your Northern confederates.” With the triumph of a sectional Northern party within the Union, determined to consolidate its power and rule the South, Southern patience and benevolence was exhausted. “All fraternity of feeling between the North and the South is lost, or has been converted into hate,” announced Rhett. “We, of the South, are at last driven together by the stern destiny which controls the existence of nations.” If there were a silver lining to the South’s “bitter experience of the faithlessness and rapacity” of the North, it was that the conflict had forced the South “to evolve those great principles of free government, on which the world depend,” and prepared her “for the grand mission of vindicating and reestablishing them.”

Rhett denied that Southerners had any reason to apologize for their agrarian, slaveholding society, which he argued was superior to industrial, capitalist society. “We rejoice that other nations are satisfied with their institutions,” offered Rhett. “We are satisfied with ours.” According to Rhett, the North was infected with class conflict, poverty, and violence. “If they prefer a system of industry, in which capital and labor are in perpetual conflict – and chronic starvation keeps down the natural increase of population – and a man is worked out in eight years – and the law ordains that children shall be worked only *ten hours a day* – and the sabre and bayonet are the instruments of order – be it so,” shrugged Rhett. “It is their affair, not ours.” By contrast, in the South, unity, prosperity, and peace prevailed. “We prefer, however, our system of industry, by which labor and capital are identified in interest, and capital, therefore, protects labor – by which our population doubles every twenty years – by which starvation is unknown, and abundance crowns the land – by which order is preserved by an unpaid police, and many fertile regions of the world, where the white man cannot labor, are brought into usefulness by the labor of the African, and the whole world is blessed by our productions,” boasted Rhett. “All we demand of other people is to be left alone, to work out our own high destinies.” Southerners like Rhett sincerely believed that the paternalistic institution of slavery, by which capital provided for labor, was the alternative to the class conflict and collectivism which had consumed Europe and was sweeping the United States.

Rhett finished by painting a picture of the bright future of an independent, united South:

“United together...we must be the most independent, as we are among the most important, of the nations of the world. United together...we require no other instrument to conquer peace, than our beneficent productions. United together...we must be a great, free, and prosperous people, whose renown must spread throughout the civilized world, and pass down, we trust, to the remotest ages.” Six years after Rhett’s death, the First South Carolina Volunteers, the former command of fellow Fire-Eater Maxcy Gregg, held a reunion in Barnwell Country. Colonel Edward McCrady, Jr., a respected historian and lawyer from Charleston, [addressed what remained of the regiment](#). As Confederate veterans faded away, urged McCrady, those few left behind should unite and commemorate the sacrifices they made “for the cause which we maintain to have been righteous – even though lost.” At the same time, however, Confederate veterans should also transmit the truth to posterity – “tell to those who are growing up around us what were the great causes which impelled the young and the old of that time, the rich and the poor, the learned and the ignorant, to take up arms and risk their lives in battle.” As Rhett had always insisted, McCrady denied that slavery was the cause of the conflict between the North and the South, but merely an issue of a much deeper conflict. “We did not fight for slavery,” insisted McCrady, who explained that slavery “was not the *cause* of the war, but the incident upon which the differences between the North and the South, and from which differences the war was inevitable from the foundation of our government, did but turn.” Again in accordance with Rhett, McCrady maintained that States’ rights were the root cause of the conflict. “We fought for States’ rights and States’ sovereignty as a political principle,” declared McCrady. “We fought for the State of South Carolina, with a loyal love that no personal sovereign has ever aroused.” If slavery had never existed in America, continued McCrady, the North and the South would still have gone to war, for the “seeds” of the conflict were planted in the Constitution itself, growing from the opposing interpretations of Jefferson’s “Federal Party” and Hamilton’s “National Party.” As McCrady put it, “The Convention which framed the Constitution was itself divided into the two parties which, after seventy years of discussion...adjourned the debate to the battlefields of our late war.” Like Rhett, McCrady believed that the battle lines of the war were drawn when the President and the Congress

threatened South Carolina with invasion for nullifying the Tariff of Abominations. In 1832 and 1860, explained McCrady, the “incident” differed – the tariff and slavery, respectively – but the underlying “question” of “the sovereignty of the State” remained the same. “Would that we might have fought and shed our blood upon the dry question of the tariff and taxation,” bemoaned McCrady, “instead of one upon which the world had gone mad.”

McCrady believed that the South Carolina Secession Convention was mistaken to have centered its *Declaration* solely on grievances related to slavery, as did Rhett. “It is a matter of satisfaction to us, my comrades,” remarked McCrady, “that our first and beloved commander, General Gregg, as a member of the Convention, opposed the adoption of the declaration on this very ground.” McCrady claimed that Rhett’s *Address* – “in which was so ably and well shown that the issue was the same as that in the Revolution of 1776, and like that turned upon the one great principle, self-government, and self-taxation, the criterion of self-government” – was a vastly superior “justification of the secession of the State.” According to McCrady, Rhett’s *Address* demonstrated that the South faced the same threats from the North that all Americans had once faced from the British – a majority with “omnipotence in legislation” judging the extent of the limitations on its own power – and thus that “the government of the United States had become a consolidated government, and the people of the Southern States were compelled to meet the very despotism their fathers threw off in 1776.”

McCrady’s speech at the Confederate reunion was a testament to the power of Rhett’s ideas, specifically how they had shaped the course of States’ rights. From 1828, when he took the United States by storm, to 1860, when he and South Carolina dissolved the Union, Rhett saw clearly that the North and the South were separate peoples, with starkly differing political beliefs, economic interests, and cultural values. At first, Rhett saw States’ rights as the only safeguard of the South’s liberty and security *in* the Union, but as the conflict between the North and the South deepened, he saw States’ rights as the South’s only way *out* of the Union. Rhett stood at the culmination of the sectional conflict and in the shadow of a distinguished Southern political tradition: the Founders Thomas Jefferson and James Madison, who first enunciated States’ rights in the Virginia & Kentucky Resolutions; the jurists St. George Tucker and Abel P. Upshur, who systematized States’ rights in their scholarly works; the philosopher John Taylor of Caroline, who ruminated on States’ rights in his treatises; and the statesman John C. Calhoun, who honed States’ rights during the Tariff Crisis and many other political battles. Rhett turned States’ rights from a constitutional theory into a battle cry, putting into action what his predecessors had put down into words. Thus, when Confederates like McCrady took up arms, they were not fighting for slavery, but for States’ rights – the same cause of independence and self-government which had fired the hearts and minds of their Revolutionary forefathers. McCrady closed his speech with a poem which beautifully captured their defeated but not dishonoured cause:

Believing
That they fought, for Principle against Power,
For Religion against Fanaticism,
For Man’s Right against Man’s Might,
These Men were Martyrs of their Creed;
And their Justification
Is in the holy keeping of the God of History.

But, for as much
As alike in the heat of Battle,
In the weariness of the Hospital,
And in the gloom of hostile Prisons,
They were faithful unto death,
Theirs is the Crown
Of a loving, a glorious, and an immortal Tradition,
In the Hearts, and in the Holiest Memories
Of the Daughters of their People;
Of the Sons of their State;
Of the Heirs Unborn of their Example
And all of for whom
They dared to die.

About James Rutledge Roesch

James Rutledge Roesch received his Bachelor of Arts in Classics from Bucknell University and his Master of Business Administration from Claremont Graduate University. He lives in Florida, where he is an active member in the Sons of the American Revolution and Sons of Confederate Veterans. Despite his respect for Lee's character, he shares Longstreet's love of whiskey and tobacco. [More from James Rutledge Roesch](#)

<http://www.abbevilleinstitute.org/review/robert-b-rhett-liberty-protected-by-law/>



The War For
Southern Independence

1861 -

Still Fighting

Southeast Texas teen works to restore an official uniform of the United Confederate Veterans

Fifteen-year-old President of the Texas Children of the Confederacy has taken on this challenge as his President's Project. This message is from Col. E. W. Taylor Camp #1777.



Checks should be made payable to "Texas Children of the Confederacy" and mailed to Zander Sheppard, PO Box 808, New Caney, Texas 77357

Zander Sheppard wants to see Lt. William Randolph McEntire's UCV uniform professionally conserved and then placed on display in the Texas Civil War Museum in Fort Worth. To do that, he needs to raise about \$2,500.

The coat and its pants are the property of the Texas United Daughters of the Confederacy. Zander traveled with his grandmother, a member of the UDC, from his home near Houston to Temple, Texas on June 6 and made a speech to the entire Texas SCV Division assembled. For his time, effort, and courage in addressing the large group, one single SCV member handed him a check for \$25.

Gentlemen, this worthy young man needs our help. If you have room in your newsletter, please run these pages and encourage your members to help Zander.

UCV suit conservation, cont.



This suit belonged to Lt. W. R. McEntire (at right) of Co. A, 9th Georgia Btn. Artillery. He came to Texas after the War and became famous here in the cattle industry, banking, cotton, and merchandising. He died in 1920 and lies buried in Oakland Cemetery in Dallas. There are lots of articles and photos of him on the internet.

Zander is a very dedicated young man who deserves our help, both as individuals and as camps. Please consider making a generous donation to his project before the end of July if possible. Thanks for your attention.

We in the E. W. Taylor Camp have no connection to the project other than our wish to help Zander raise the funding.

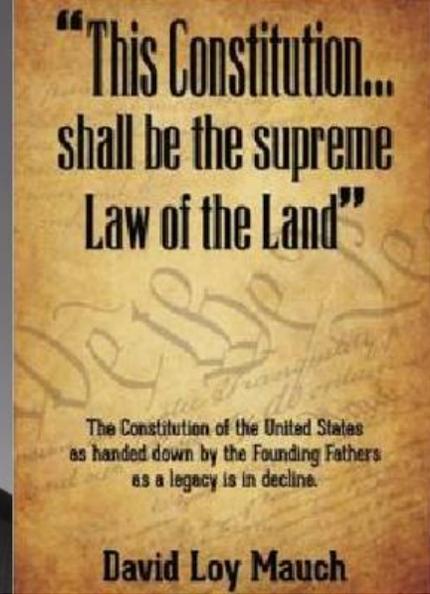
If you have any questions or concerns please email them to Anna Sheppard at

Marbil1764@aol.com



The awkward moment you show up at the wrong rebel war reenactment





This Constitution – New Book by SLRC Board Member

SLRC Board member, Loy Mauch, has written an excellent primer for students of the US Constitution - a must read for every SLRC supporter. A copy is available from the SLRC for \$20.00 postage paid (in US). Please call us at 828-669-5189 to place an order or send a check to: **SLRC, P.O.Box 1235, Black Mountain, NC 28711.**

We are proud to reprint this excellent review of Loy Mauch's book, written by historian Dr. Boyd Cathey, which appeared in the current issue of the Confederate Veteran Magazine (May/June 2015).

David Loy Mauch. *This Constitution Shall Be the Law of the Land.* North Charleston, SC: CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2014; paperback; 371 pp; notes; addenda; recommended reading; index.
REVIEW by Dr. Boyd D. Cathey

David Loy Mauch, the author of *This Constitution Shall Be the Law of the Land*, is an Arkansan, a former state legislator, a fellow of the Society of Independent Southern Historians, and an active member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans. More significantly, he is a facile writer and researcher who has produced a book that could well be a primer for those searching for that one accessible source on the real meaning of Constitutional liberties, states' rights, and what the Founders actually intended, but also—at times, a searing indictment of those forces that continually have perverted the Founders' Constitution and destroyed not only the prescribed rights of the States, but also the liberties of the citizens of the United States.

Author Mauch examines the history of the American “experiment” in constitutional government largely chronologically, beginning with the Constitution, itself. He assembles ample and overwhelming testimony that “the United States of America” was the creation of the free and separate states that had won their independence from Great Britain. The Constitution that the thirteen independent states eventually adopted delegated certain very specific and limited powers to a Federal government, reserving the vast majority of rights and self-government to the states. Both the 9th and 10th Amendments—part of the Bill of Rights—make this reservation of powers explicit. Indeed, Mauch cites extensive proof from *The Federalist Papers* and from James Madison to show the explicit intent of the Founders in this regard.

During the ratification period, even Federalists like Alexander Hamilton were loathe to claim what exponents of powerful managerial Federal government centralization assert today. And the bizarre theory that Abraham Lincoln put forward, that it was the central government that somehow actually preceded and created the states, doling out parsimoniously to them only the rights that it deemed acceptable, is so foreign to the thinking of the Founders that it beggars the imagination.

The originalist belief continued to underlie constitutional considerations during much of the Antebellum period. As Mauch illustrates, the U.S. Supreme Court, in an 8-1 decision in the *The Bank of Augusta vs. Earl* decision (1839), clearly enunciated this accepted theory: The States between each other are sovereign and independent. They are distinct separate sovereignties, except so far as they have parted with some of the attributes of sovereignty by the Constitution. They continue to be nations, with all their rights, and under all their national obligations, and with all the rights of nations in every particular; except in the surrender by each to the common purposes and objects of the Union, under the Constitution. The rights of the States, when not so yielded up, remain absolute. (p. xxi)

And such views of the powers and authority of the several states were not restricted to those states below the Mason-Dixon Line. Indeed, as Mauch details, at various times, including during the War of 1812 and the Mexican War, states in New England seriously considered seceding, leaving, the Federal Union. And most constitutional writers and authorities of the time agreed. Indeed, famed jurist William Rawle's volume, *A View of the Constitution of the United States* (1825), states clearly: "The secession of a State from the Union depends of the will of the people of such State. The people alone as we have already seen, hold the power to alter their constitutions." (p. 90) Rawle's text was used as the official text on the Constitution and constitutional interpretation at West Point prior to the War Between the States.

In particular, Mauch offers a breath of fresh air and needed clarification in his discussion of the famous *Dred Scott vs. Sanford* decision by the Supreme Court (March 1857). In a lopsided 7-2 decision, Chief Justice Roger B. Taney, delivered for the court a decision that just about everyone on the current political scene today condemns. Yet, as Mauch carefully documents, Taney's decision was entirely consistent both with the Constitution and with congressional statutes. A slave escaping to a free state could not, then, assume the rights of a citizen and sue in court, for the Constitution had explicitly excluded such a possibility. Agree with the law or not, Taney stated, it was the law. The Constitution provided a process for change: passing a constitutional amendment.

Mauch's discussion of interposition, nullification, secession, and the secession crisis offers a useful summary of arguments that will be familiar to many readers. Yet, it is valuable to have these points recapitulated concisely and persuasively. As he points out, interposition, nullification, and secession had been discussed widely prior to 1860; indeed, both Southern AND Northern States had implemented such actions. As late as the 1850s Wisconsin actually nullified the Fugitive Slave Law of 1850 (p. 55).

President James Buchanan, in his last message to Congress and the nation before Lincoln's assumption of the presidency in March 1861, made it explicitly clear that, as much as he regretted and disagreed with the secession of the Southern States, the Federal government had no power to coerce a state or force it to remain in the Union. Lincoln, of course, with his radical and revolutionary ideas of Federal supremacy would have nothing of that, and as historian William Marvel has pointed out (in his volume, *Mr. Lincoln Goes to War*), sabotaged and undercut every attempt at mediation and peaceful resolution prior to the outbreak of war.

Echoing writers such as Charles Adams (*When in the Course of Human Events*), Thomas Di Lorenzo (*The Real Lincoln*), and Greg Durand (*America's Caesar*), Mauch methodically details the severe economic hardships placed on the South as a major reason for eventual secession of the lower South, and the flagrant violation of the Constitution when Lincoln called for troops as the major reason for the secession of the upper South (and, more, the opposition of a large percentage of citizens above the Mason-Dixon Line, as well). Interestingly, several states when they had joined the Union had included specific language declaring that they could withdraw from it if conditions dictated. And this is what individual Southern states did: they rescinded their acts of union.

Certainly, the issue of slavery was discussed at the time; but the major concerns expressed by most Southerners were: (1) slavery is a question for the respective States to decide; and (2) it is a question of property legitimately recognized by the constitutions of the States AND by the Federal Constitution.

Any eventual manumission would have to recognize these facts. Interestingly, Lincoln understood fully well that freeing the slaves was not an issue to rally Northern support for a war, and his appeals, certainly up to the Gettysburg Address, were mostly pleas to “save the union.” His overriding concern was to defeat and control the South and empower the Federal government, whatever method was most useful. Recall his famous interview with Horace Greeley in late 1862 that if he were able to save the union and maintain slavery, he would:

“My paramount object in this struggle is to save the Union, and is not either to save or to destroy slavery. If I could save the Union without freeing any slave I would do it, and if I could save it by freeing all the slaves I would do it; and if I could save it by freeing some and leaving others alone I would also do that. What I do about slavery, and the colored race, I do because I believe it helps to save the Union.”

As Mauch shows, the Lincolnian “revolution”—through the defeat of the South—removed the counterbalance to the growth in Federal and national managerial power. The 14th Amendment, passed illegally without the requisite number of states approving it, opened the door in the 20th century to the wide-open doctrine of “incorporation,” that is, applying all types of radical and unthinkable (to the Founders) legislation to the States, when even the drafters of that amendment did not foresee such a process. One such result, clearly NOT foreseen, is the present state of affairs that permits an illegal immigrant, non-citizen female to simply cross the Rio Grande River and have a child on this side of the border and, there you have it, a new “American citizen.” The 14th Amendment was directed to former slaves, and in no way to illegal immigrants. Clarification of this process is just one major item that needs to be addressed both by Congress and the Courts.

Mauch’s final chapters treat a number of the consequences of the Lincolnian revolution and the virtual abolition of the Founders’ Constitution. The Founders had written: “The Constitution shall be...the supreme Law of Land.” As he pleads with his readers, it is long past time for a counter-revolution and the recovery of what has been lost. Such will not be easy, certainly, but for the sake of our children and grandchildren it must be attempted.



R. E. Lee: A Biography

by Douglas Southall Freeman

published by Charles Scribner's Sons,
New York and London, 1934

Chapter IX

Youth Conspires Against a Giant

Delay in procuring some of the instruments forced Lee to postpone his start for the Mississippi in the summer of 1837. Despairing finally of getting delivery, he left on two days' notice for Philadelphia, to make the purchases there. Later he received authorization, if he could not find what he wanted in the Quaker City, to travel to

New York.¹ He set out with Second Lieutenant [Montgomery C. Meigs](#), a young engineer of twenty-one, who had graduated at West Point in the class of 1836. Meigs was a Georgian by birth and later became quartermaster-general of the United States army during the War between the States. He it was, also, who superintended the erection of the capitol dome in Washington.

The two went to Pittsburgh, where they were lucky enough to find a new steamer bound for Saint Louis. Aboard this craft they went down the Ohio to Louisville. There the vessel obligingly waited while Lee looked over the equipment that Captain Shreve had ordered for work on the rapids. Two "machine boats" for raising stone were nearly complete, and a small steamer for towing them was almost ready. Lee directed that the vessels be brought on to Saint Louis under a captain and crew whom he engaged for that purpose. With the assurance that all work on the boats would be finished in four or five days, and that they would then follow him to the Mississippi, Lee set out from Louisville, counting himself fortunate, as he put it, to have "a clean state room and clean boat the whole way." He arrived at Saint Louis August 5, and, with introductions from General

[Gratiot](#), soon made some desirable acquaintances.²

p141 Saint Louis did not impress him at first. "It is," said he, "the dearest and dirtiest place I was ever in. Our daily expenses about equal our daily pay."³ In a later letter he said: "I make an exception in favor of the pretty girls if there are any here, and I know there are, for I have met them in no place, in no garb, in no situation, that I did not feel my heart open to them like a flower to the sun."⁴

This closing note of gaiety was somewhat forced, for in his letters home there was constant thought of Mrs. Lee and of her heavy responsibility in rearing the children alone. He wrote her in the tones of a troubled and inexperienced father: "The improved condition of the children, which you mention, was a source of great comfort to me; and as I suppose, by this time, you have all returned to Arlington, you will be able to put them under a proper restraint, which you were probably obliged to relax while visiting among strangers, and which that indulgence will probably render more essential. Our dear little boy seems to have among his friends the reputation of being hard to manage — a distinction not at all desirable, as it indicates self-will and obstinacy. Perhaps these are qualities which he really possesses, and he may have a better right to them than I am willing to acknowledge; but it is our duty, if possible, to counteract them and assist him to bring them under his control. I have endeavored, in my intercourse with him, to require nothing but what was in my opinion necessary or

proper, and to explain to him temperately its propriety, at a time when he could listen to my arguments, not at the moment of his being vexed and his little faculties warped by passion. I have also tried to show him that I was firm in my demands, and constant in their enforcement, and that he must comply with them; and I let him see that I look to their execution, in order to relieve him as much as possible from the temptation to break them. Since my efforts have been so unsuccessful, I fear I have altogether failed in accomplishing my purpose, but I hope to be able to profit by my experience. You must assist me in my attempts, and we must endeavor to combine the mildness and forbearance of the mother with the sternness p142 and, perhaps, unreasonableness of their father. This is a subject on which I think much, though M may blame me for not reading more. I am ready to acknowledge the good advice contained in the text-books, and believe that I see the merit of their reasoning generally; but what I want to learn is to apply what I already know. I pray God to watch over and direct our efforts in guarding our dear little son, that we may bring him up in the way he should go. . . . Oh, what pleasure I lose in being separated from my children. Nothing can compensate me for that; still I must remain here, ready to perform what little such I can, and hope for the best."5

In a word, he was lonesome and homesick. He was exasperated, also, by the non-arrival of the boats from Louisville. "They are the greatest people for promising and not fulfilling, that I ever saw. Never hesitate to undertake anything but completing, is another matter. So you will see instead of being nearly done with our examinations here, we have not commenced them."6 When the boats at last reached Saint Louis, the river was still eight or ten feet above low water, but on the rapids it was reported to be at the lowest. So Lee packed off his force as soon as possible, intent on making a survey of the upper rapids, which were approximately 150 miles above Saint Louis.

Prior to this formal beginning of Lee's work on the Mississippi, the activities of the Federal Government for the improvement of navigation had been confined chiefly to the removal of snags, caused by trees, or parts of trees, that fell into the stream and became imbedded in its soft bottom. These were an endless danger to steamboats, for the vessels then in use were lightly planked and had no bulkheads. When one of them ran into submerged timber, it usually filled at once and sank in the channel. To be "snagged" had a definite and unhappy meaning on the river. Captain Shreve had devised a method of removing snags, and sometime prior to 1830 had invented a "snag boat" for this purpose. From that time onward, when the water was low enough to permit, Shreve and his assistants or substitutes scoured long stretches of the river searching for snags. In good seasons p143 one steam "snag boat" would remove more than 2000. In addition, axemen employed by the engineers worked on the banks of the Mississippi and felled trees on the banks that were doomed to be washed away by the current. The engineers and the people along the river were divided as to the wisdom of this. Some maintained that it simply added new material for snags. Where this feeling was strong, the engineers had sometimes to suspend their labor.7 Beyond this, when Lee set out from Saint Louis for the rapids, little had been done for the improvement of the river. At Cumberland Island, on the Ohio, a dam had been constructed to save a situation somewhat similar to that at Saint Louis.8 As for the Des Moines rapids and the mouth of Rock River, Captain Shreve had made examinations and had concluded that a perfect channel could be cut through both.9 That was all.

Lee, therefore, was doing pioneer work on the river, and he had some of the experience of the pioneer. As engineers and their helpers came to the lower rapids, near the mouth of the Des Moines River, their steamboat ran on the rocks, nor could they budge her at that stage of the water.10 Instead, therefore, of examining the upper rapids first, they accepted circumstance and with their boat as a base made their surveys of three or four miles of the river. "Then," Lee explained later, "[we] found an empty log house in which we placed our men and eatables which so completely filled its single apartment that Meigs and myself took up our blankets and walked a short mile to the City of Des Moines composed of the worst kind of a small log cabin which contained the Proprietor and the entire population. Here we were kindly received and all accommodated with the softest Puncheon on the floor."

"How much I could tell you," Lee went on, "of this same city, its puncheons, dwellings and inhabitants, but I must look to my limits. In this way we progressed to the head [of the lower rapids] where we found plenty of house room at the Des Moines p144 Garrison. We then moved to the Upper Rapids, being obliged to leave our steamboat behind[,] and commencing at its head, worked downwards in the same manner, but with more comfort, as we found a better class of people and better accommodations, besides having the whole range of an old steamboat or two sunk on the rocks, whose upper decks were out of the water. I assure you we were not modest, but fell without difficulty into the manners of the country, and helped ourselves to everything that came our way. And now I think of it, we were the only lawful squatters in that region, and perhaps alone had authority to be there. I need not tell you what a beautiful country it is and I think at some time, some future day, must be a great one. You would scarcely recognize it. Villages have sprung up everywhere and some quite pretty ones too. Stephenson, between Rock Island and the mouth of Rock River — Quincy, Burlington, etc. were the most thriving. Some ten years hence, many that I saw will be even Smaller than they are now — while others will have grown into cities. If you can tell me which these last will be, I will make your fortune. The formation of a good channel through these rapids will be of immense advantage to the country, and great anxiety seems to be felt on the subject."[11](#)

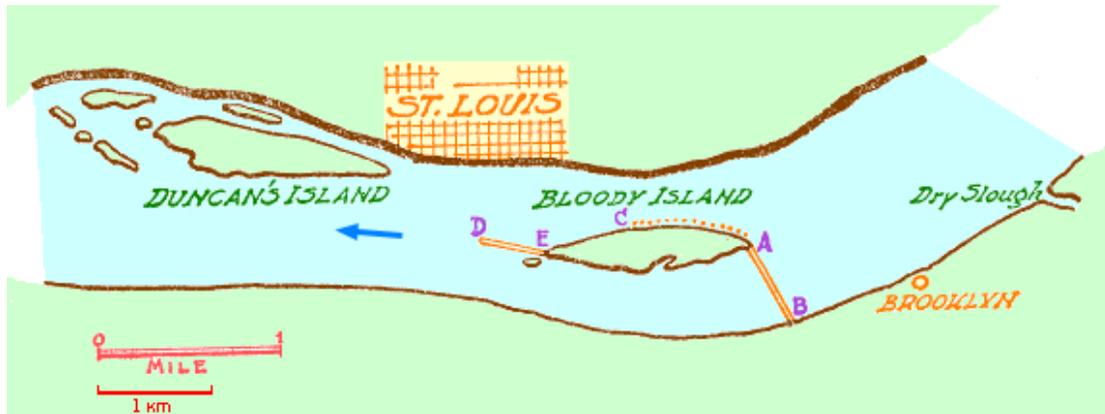
The wrecked steamer was a somewhat unstable base, for the lower deck was submerged and great holes had been cut in the cabin floor for the removal of the engines, but the staterooms were dry and afforded much better quarters than were to be found ashore. The surveyors left her in the morning and, at the end of the day, came back to her, and if they were so minded, could sit on her deck and fish for blue catfish, with which to enlarge their menu.[12](#)

The survey of the upper rapids convinced Lee that a channel could be cut without great difficulty.[13](#) By the end of September the survey was completed and the party was able to descend to the lower rapids on a steamer bound that way. They found a great encampment of the Chippewa Indians at the Des Moines rapids, awaiting the usual distribution of gifts. Lee did not tarry, for an p145 unexpected rise in the river had floated their own steamer, the one that had gone ashore when they first ascended the stream. With all his men and equipment Lee went back to Saint Louis, easy in his mind as to the upper rapids but puzzling over the engineering problem presented at the lower rapids. He was in Saint Louis by October 11, somewhat lonesome and anxious for the company of his wife and children, but better pleased with the city and ready to make his examination of the sand bars that threatened the complete ruin of the harbor of Saint Louis.[14](#)

The main current of the Mississippi, strengthened by the waters of the Missouri, at that time flowed rapidly along the Illinois shore for several miles below the juncture of the two rivers. Then the main current was deflected toward the Missouri side and ran to the west of Cascarot Island, which was •a little more than four miles above the upper end of Saint Louis. Below Cascarot Island, the stream narrowed into a gorge and was as deep as •fifty-three feet. Southward the river spread out again until it was about •1500 yards wide, at a point •about two miles above the city. Here the current began to divide. Part of it continued along the Missouri shore; part was thrown against the opposite Illinois shore, where it wore away the bank. The tendency of the current on the Missouri side was to diminish and on the Illinois side to deepen. Between the two shores an island had been thrown up in the middle of the river, years before Lee came West. This island was •about 500 yards across and about a mile long. Above it a long shoal was gradually extending itself upstream. The lower end of the island extended downstream until it was nearly opposite the centre of Saint Louis. It was covered in 1837 with a thick growth of flourishing cottonwood trees and was known as Bloody Island, because it was the ground usually chosen for duels.

There was fear that as the current wore away the Illinois shore beyond Bloody Island, the stream on the Saint Louis side would become so shallow that the harbor would be ruined. Bloody p146 Island, however, was not so serious in itself as in the condition it helped to create. The old channel of the Mississippi, below the city, had kept to the Missouri bank, but for a number of reasons — chiefly, perhaps, because of the diversion of water by Bloody Island — this channel had slowly filled in after about 1818, and a large shoal had formed opposite the

lower end of the town. This shoal crowded in toward the Missouri side, narrowed the channel, and choked the entrance to it at the downstream end. At length it became known as Duncan's Island, and its area of some 200 acres was covered, like Bloody Island, with cottonwood trees. The current seemed to be adding new shoals below Duncan's Island.



Simultaneously, the island itself was increasing in area. At the time of Lee's arrival it was nearly a mile in length and almost half as wide. From the upper end of this island the water was getting more and more shallow in the direction of Bloody Island. The prospect was that Saint Louis, having lost the old channel by the encroachment of Duncan's Island on the Missouri side, would be cut off altogether from deep water by the formation of a bar that would join the two islands. Graphically, the situation was about as shown above,¹⁵ disregarding, for the moment, the dykes marked with the letters A, B, etc.

What could be done to save the harbor? That was the question to which Lee now devoted himself. The first essential was an accurate map. Getting the finances of his enterprise in hand, and organizing his forces,¹⁶ he rented the second floor of a warehouse on the levee as his office and sent out parties on either side of the river to make the surveys and to do the triangulations. The actual drafting of the map he put under the direction of Meigs. The surveying he handled in person, with the assistance of J. S. Morehead, his steamboat captain, and Henry Kayser of Saint Louis, employed for the purpose.¹⁷ As the survey revealed the depth of the water and showed what the current was doing, Lee developed his plan for utilizing the current to wash away Duncan's Island and the other sand bars. Shreve had previously devised a scheme, in part, and Gratiot himself had studied the problem closely.¹⁸

Lee's solution, which was quickly reached, was an adaptation of what both Gratiot and Shreve had proposed.¹⁹ The whole plan, as presented in a formal report to General Gratiot, on December 6, 1837,²⁰ was very simple: From the Illinois shore, a long dyke was to be run to the head of Bloody Island, with the object of diverting the waters of the river to the western, or Saint Louis side of the island. The line of this dyke is marked A-B on the sketch printed above. The face of the island beyond the dyke was to be revetted (A-C), so that it would not be washed away by the force of the current. At the foot of Bloody Island another dyke was to be made (D-E) in order to throw the full force of the current against the head of Duncan's Island and against the shoals that were forming between that and Bloody Island. Lee confessed that the construction of these dykes would be "attended with great difficulty." The total cost was estimated at \$158,554.²¹ He wanted to talk over the whole project

with [Talcott](#) and he was debating in his mind whether he was right in proposing to start the dyke at the head of Bloody Island. However, he was satisfied that the obstacles to navigation could be removed, and that the work was well worth while in order to stimulate the growing commerce of Saint Louis, in which he was now much interested.²²

By the time this report was finished in 1837, it was too late to attempt to do anything in execution of the plan that winter. Lee accordingly procured permission to return to Washington, disbanded his party, laid up the steamboat on the Ohio, made contract for building another, for the next year, ordered four new p148 flatboats, and with Meigs started eastward over the Cumberland Road, via Wheeling. At Frederick, they struck the new Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, though the cars had to be drawn by horses for a part of the distance. It was Lee's first journey by train, his first contact with the transportation that was to play so weighty a part in the strategy of his campaigns.²³ He probably got home about Christmas.

Lee parted from Meigs when they reached Washington and was not again fortunate enough to have him as an assistant, but he was always affectionately remembered by the younger man, even when war divided them. Lee was then, Meigs wrote long after, "in the vigor of youthful strength, with a noble and commanding presence, and an admirable, graceful and athletic figure. He was one with whom nobody ever wished or ventured to take a liberty, though kind and generous to all his subordinates, admired by all women, and respected by all men. He was the model of a soldier and the beau ideal of a Christian man."²⁴

Lee spent the rest of the winter of 1837-38 partly on leave at Arlington and partly on duty in the engineer's office in Washington.²⁵ Early in the spring he began to make arrangements and to assemble his supplies. For experience had shown him that at Saint Louis he could procure little beyond labor and raw material, and that even in Washington some of the things that he needed were unprocurable. He had to order drawing instruments from Europe to take the place of Talcott's, which he had borrowed the previous year. Tracing paper had to be sent him from Washington when he required it, later in the season.²⁶ Domestic preparations had to be made, also, because this time Mrs. Lee and the three children were to accompany him.²⁷

Shortly after March 25,²⁸ the family set out for Pittsburgh. Arriving there, they had to wait for a week to get a steamboat down the Ohio to Louisville. A week was quite enough. "I must p149 say," Lee had to confess, "that [Pittsburgh] is the darkest, blackest place I ever put foot in. Even the snow, milk and everything intended by nature to be white, not excepting the rosy cheeks of the pretty girls, partake of its dingy nature, and I am afraid my complexion is ruined."²⁹ From Pittsburgh the family descended the Ohio on a steamer. There had been intermittent rain and snow over the whole journey thus far and it continued till Louisville was reached. "Our journey," Lee chronicled, "was as pleasant as could be expected in a country of this sort. . . . The boys stood it manfully and indeed, improved on it, and my Dame, taking advantage of frequent opportunities for a nap, and refreshed as often by the good viands of the West (it would make your mouth water if I was to dilate upon the little roast pigs and sausages) defied the crowding, squeezing and scrambling. You know these little disagreements are to be met with at all times and in all countries, and are not worth mentioning, but as they form in part the pleasure of the trip."³⁰

At Louisville, where they stopped, they were most kindly received, being invited to a wedding and enjoying much hospitality. In Cincinnati, Lee made some purchases of furniture, which was put aboard the steamboat *Moselle* for shipment to Saint Louis. Luckily, the family did not embark on the same craft, for it was blown up in a disastrous accident, and Lee's belongings, as he put it, took "a very different course from the one projected."³¹ On May 1, Mrs. Lee and the children got their first view of Saint Louis, but as they found the rooms Lee had engaged for them had been otherwise disposed of, it was June 1 before they were finally placed in comfortable quarters, with meals at the home of Doctor William Beaumont, an army surgeon and the leading professional man of the town. The Beaumonts had three young children who gleefully joined the little Lees in play suited to the great river. "As drumming was the mania at Old Point, riding and driving at Arlington, so, steamboating is all the rage here. They convert themselves even into steamboats, ring their bells, raise their steam (high pressure), and put off. They fire up so frequently, and keep on so heavy a pressure of steam" — as Lee p150 himself veraciously reported — "that I am constantly fearing they will burst their boilers."³²

Lee was very happy to have his family so pleasantly situated, as he expected his work up the Mississippi would require his absence from Saint Louis often and for long periods. Instead, he remained for the most of the season

in the city, for reasons that did not spell satisfaction. On May 14 there arrived at Saint Louis Lieutenant [Horace Bliss](#), who was to be Lee's assistant for the year.^a With him Bliss brought from Louisville the steamer and the flatboats that Lee had ordered the previous winter.³³ Lee planned to put Bliss in immediate charge at the Des Moines rapids, and dispatched him up the river on May 19 with some of the boats and a force of men. These were to be reinforced as soon as the river was low enough for work to begin. At that time the Mississippi was five feet above low water and was falling, but it went down so slowly that Bliss and his men spent weeks in waiting. Toward the end of July the gauge was so low that Lee believed blasting could be undertaken in a few days, and he sent up additional men from Saint Louis — only to be faced by a swift and unexplained rise that carried the stream to twelve feet and more above low water. Lee held his force at the rapids until the lateness of the season and the slow decline of the waters convinced him that nothing could be done. He therefore laid off his men and was about to abandon the project for the year — when the river fell as rapidly as it had risen. It was enough to make a man damn the Mississippi and all its vagaries! Calling up a small improvised personnel, Lee set it to work on September 20 cutting out rock at a particularly troublesome point on the west side of the Illinois chute of the lower rapids.³⁴ The drills showed a flint surface of an inch or two in thickness. Below this were eighteen to twenty inches of limestone, and then a decayed siliceous or slaty stone which eroded very rapidly when exposed to the current. The men blasted the rock away in great blocks weighing a ton or more and then removed it on their flatboats, but they had scarcely cleared away the point they had attacked — some 408 p151perches of stone — when cold weather came, on October 10. Lee once again reduced force and tried to carry on with the hardiest of the men, whose wages he more than doubled. The weather was too severe even for them. On the night of October 16 there was a quarter of an inch of ice, and the next day it snowed. The men simply could not endure the chilly water. Reluctantly Lee had to close the year's activities, with only twenty working days to his credit. What had been done during that time had not improved navigation perceptibly but it had convinced Lee, more than ever, that a good channel through the rapids could be made.³⁵

Lee made several journeys to the falls during the season and he personally directed the last attempt, but most of his time he spent on the Saint Louis project.³⁶ Keeping the complicated finances of the undertaking well in hand,³⁷ he made war on the sand bars. With the money available he could not construct both the dykes during 1838, so he started the one intended to relieve the worst situation, directly in the harbor of the town. He reasoned that the dyke he proposed to build from the foot of Bloody Island would throw the heaviest current against the head of Duncan's Island, and would deepen both the old channel next the Missouri shore and the sand-choked channel between Bloody Island and Duncan's Island, as will appear from an examination of [the map on p146](#).

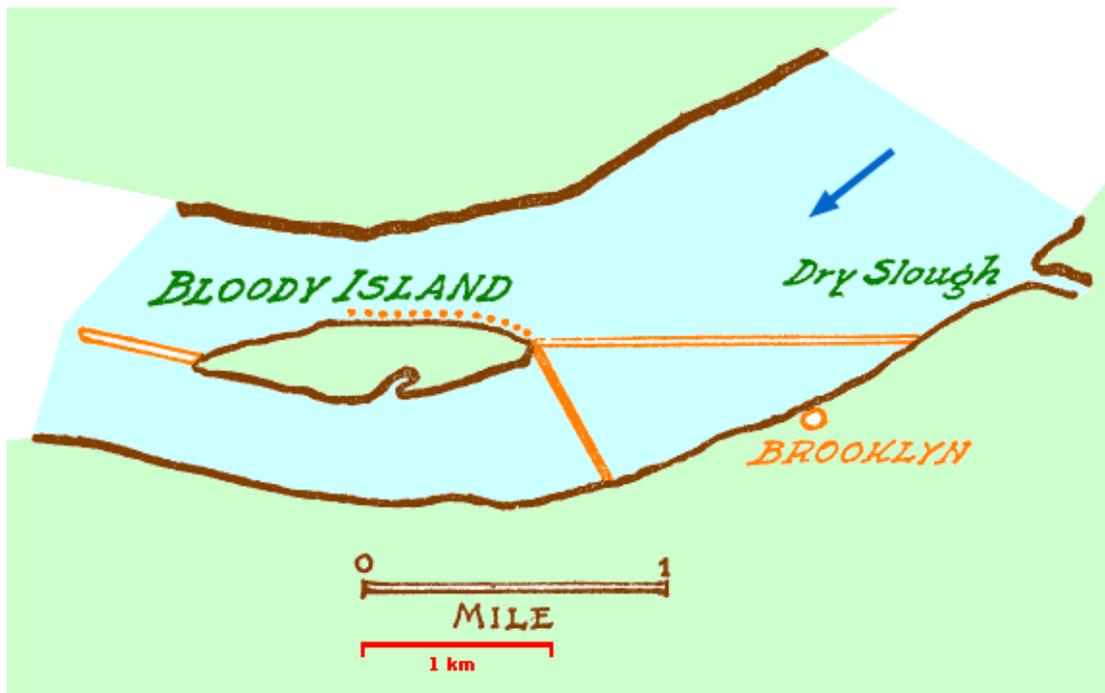
In accordance with this plan, before the end of June, the river being then eleven feet above low water, Lee started the dyke close to the downstream end of Bloody Island, on the side nearest Saint Louis. Two rows of piles were driven from twelve to seventeen feet into the bed of the river, with a space of forty feet between the rows. This space was filled with sand and small stone, raised well above the water level. On both the outer faces of the dyke, brush was dumped into the river until it extended thirty to forty feet beyond the piles, with an exterior slope of three to one. The brush was then anchored with stone, in the expectation that sand would soon fill in all the open spaces.

Although the river continued high until September, Lee pushed p152 the construction of the dyke, and before the season was over he had run it so far downstream that the lower end was opposite Market Street, a distance of approximately 2500 feet, or virtually the whole length contemplated under the plan of 1837.

As the dyke was lengthened Lee anxiously watched to see if it would have the effect he anticipated. It was the first large design he had ever undertaken, and into it he had put all the reasoning of which he was capable, and all the knowledge he had been able to acquire. Daily he studied the force of the current; almost hourly he turned his eyes to Duncan's Island. The current, as if repenting its whimsicalities, rushed obligingly down. The mud of the island, expecting no such onslaught, began to wash rapidly away. By the end of the construction season,

•700 feet of the island had disappeared. Not only so, but the channel across the bar between Bloody Island and Duncan's Island, below the foot of the dyke, had been deepened •seven feet. The old channel had been much improved, and on the Illinois side the •eighteen-foot channel had been filled in until it was only •eight feet deep. When boats once more could reach the lower part of the city there was as much rejoicing among the merchants as there was in the heart of the young engineer. The confidence of Saint Louis people was restored, and a building boom began. In his annual report Lee wrote with modest conservatism of what had been accomplished, but in his private correspondence he showed himself convinced that the harbor could be saved and all the problems solved if the height of the lower end of the dyke were increased and the projected dyke above Bloody Island were constructed.[38](#)

To that upper dyke, though he did not know when he would have sufficient funds for constructing it, Lee gave much thought. During the previous winter the shoal above the head of Bloody Island had stopped the ice, which thereupon formed a barrier across the head of the island. This in turn had thrown both water and late ice to the east of the island. The channel on the Illinois side had accordingly been deepened still farther, and more stream-flow had been diverted from the Missouri side. The proposed dyke at the head of the island was more necessary than p153 ever. But how could the dyke withstand the pressure of the winter's ice if the barrier were drawn on a straight line from the Illinois shore to the head° of Bloody Island? Lee had foreseen this difficulty the previous year, but the alternative was the expensive one of starting the dyke much higher upstream, near an old dry slough, so as to present a slanting face to the ice. The cost of this had made Lee hesitate in 1837. Now he saw the necessity in sharper terms. As he studied his problem he reasoned that the longer slanting dyke would run through shallow water, whereas the dyke he had originally planned perpendicular to the Illinois shore had to cross a •twenty-foot channel. The expense of the longer dyke would not, therefore, be greater than the first estimates, if proper economy were shown in its construction. Lee accordingly proposed the change in his annual report, frankly stating that the dyke designed the previous year might not be permanent.[39](#) He proceeded also to procure drawings and to award a contract for a steam pile-driver.[40](#) The old and the new proposals for dykes stood in the relation to each other shown in the plan on this page. The single line represents the first and the double line the second proposed dyke.[41](#)



The season continued favorable, and the interest of Saint Louis p154 in the project remained high. As Congress had delayed appropriations for harbor improvement, citizens of the town had advanced \$15,000 to prevent a

suspension of the enterprise. When Congress adjourned on July 9, 1838, without allowing any money for Saint Louis, the mayor and the citizens authorized Lee to spend the balance of the fund they had raised. This action, as might have been expected in any municipality at any time, became an issue in local politics. Lee found himself, for the first time, the subject of contention between factions and in the press. The Whig newspaper, *The Missouri Republican*, charged that the state's Democratic congressmen had been negligent in seeking an allotment from Congress for the improvement of the river. *The Argus* replied that Lee himself had stated that enough was available to complete the programme for the year. *The Republican* replied with some skepticism. Controversy developed, during which Lee very carefully avoided taking sides. "The character of the Superintendent," *The Republican* admitted, "forbids the idea that he would make such a declaration for electioneering purposes, in fact, we believe he deported himself throughout our election as every government officer should, but as very few at this day do, taking no part in the contest."[42](#)

Lee's interest in his work, and the success of his labors won much praise. "Since the commencement of the work in May last," one informed correspondent said in *The Republican*, "it has been prosecuted with great activity, and with unexpected dispatch, when the character of the locality, the scarcity of laborers, and other difficulties are considered. I have been much gratified by a personal inspection of the works; and during my visit I observed the ingenious manner in which the Superintendent had taken advantage of the late rise of the river, which, though it caused a suspension of operations for three weeks, yet in consequence of dispositions previously made, it has caused a deposit of much alluvion about the dyke, to the manifest saving of many thousand cords of stone."[43](#) At a "public improvement meeting" on September 29, Montgomery Blair moved a resolution endorsing Lee's "energy and skill," urging appropriations by Congress and recommending, p155 if the Federal Government did nothing, that the municipality act.[44](#)

Acting on the authorization given by the city and approved by General Gratiot, Lee made the most of the remainder of the city's fund and began construction of the upper end of the slanting dyke[45](#) that was to run from the Illinois shore to the head of Bloody Island. Two rows of piles were industriously driven for a part of the way down this dyke, but cold weather came early in November and the river was so filled with running ice that it was not possible to fill all the space between the rows with stone.[46](#)

During the months of this active work at Saint Louis, Lee's sense of frustration was diminished by the consciousness that he was achieving something. He found continuing delight in his children and unflagging interest in the country.[47](#) The election excitement was a novelty to him.[48](#) He was even amused by the manner in which he grew thin from his exertions: "I am fast wasting away," he gaily admitted, "and there is but little left now but nose and teeth."[49](#) The strain of the work, however, must have been severe, and if there was less of frustration in his heart, there was less of the old exuberance of spirit and more of resentment. At least once during the summer he broke out — partly because of the obstacles he had to overcome in performing his work and partly because of an injustice that had been done his friend, Jack Mackay. He wrote:

"The manner in which the army is considered and treated by the country and those whose business it is to nourish and take care of it, is enough to disgust every one with the service, and has the effect of driving every good soldier from it, and rendering those who remain discontented, careless and negligent. The instance that you mention in your own person of the authorities at W[ashington] listening to the miserable slander of dirty tergiversators[50](#) p156 and then acting on such filthy ex-parte evidence, is an insult to the Army, and shows in what light its feelings are estimated, and its rights sacrificed at the shrine of popularity. . . .

"I wish all [the work] were done and I was back in Virginia. . . ."[51](#)

He was in this state of mind when he received notice that he had been commissioned captain of engineers, as of August 7, 1838.[52](#) Lee was gratified, of course, but not quite sure the outcome would be for the best. "I do not know," said he, "whether I ought to rejoice or not . . . as in all my schemes of happiness I look forward to returning to some quiet corner among the hills of Virginia where I can indulge my natural propensities without

interruption, and I suppose the more comfortably I am fixed in the Army, the less likely I shall be to leave it. As, however, one great cause of my not putting these schemes in execution arises from want of money, I shall in the meantime handle with pleasure the small addition arising from what the Genl. calls 'the tardy promotion.' "[53](#) As promotion went in those days of a small army, his new rank was not "tardy," certainly as compared with his former advancement. He had been brevet second lieutenant from July 1, 1829, to July 19, 1832; he had been second lieutenant from that date until November 21, 1836; but he had been lieutenant only one year and eight months. It was, however, to be more than eighteen years before he received further promotion, except by brevet.

Lee was well within the facts in saying he could "handle with pleasure" the additional pay of his new grade, for not long after he had completed most of his financial statements and had filed his reports on the season's work,[54](#) he was given an intimation p157 that he might expect a fourth baby in the early summer of 1839. The prospect was not inviting: his family was increasing more rapidly than his income.

As his work lightened, his unhappiness diminished and his state of mind became easier, but late in December, 1838, he received one of the worst shocks of his whole life. Ever since his early years at Old Point he had enjoyed the affectionate encouragement of General Charles Gratiot, whom he regarded as a most capable officer and a gentleman of unchallengeable integrity. To Lee's bewilderment and to his profound distress there came news that Gratiot had been dismissed from the service of the United States for refusing to account for certain public funds. The General claimed that the money in dispute was due him as commissions and allowances; the Treasurer disputed this; the case went to the President, who decided against Gratiot. And when the engineer still refused to yield, the President ordered his name dropped from the roster of the army. The Secretary of War was not unfriendly to Gratiot. In clearing the General's books, the secretary ordered all his accounts opened anew and settled on the most liberal terms, and he directed that if Gratiot were found to owe the Government money, suit for it should be entered against Gratiot in the Missouri courts. But that did not change the grim fact that the chief engineer was out of the service, disgraced. "It came upon me like a thunderclap," Lee said in acutest grief, "and I was as little prepared for such an event as I would have been for the annihilation of the city of Wash. by an earthquake, and indeed I now can scarcely realize it. . . . Nothing has distressed me so much [for] many years, and indeed, separated as I am from a knowledge of the facts, and all ability to extend relief or assistance, with rumor daily crying out the worst; I believe the news of his death would have been less painful to me. Nor when I call to mind his zeal and integrity in the discharge of his duties, with such of the circumstances as have come to my knowledge, and the indulgences shown to others having lesser claims, can I either comprehend or account for a result that has deprived the country of so valuable an officer, or the Army of so worthy a member."[55](#) Lee was not a man to desert a disgraced friend. He p158 conferred with the General's brothers, who lived in Saint Louis, and later he attended the hearing of the government suit. On his next visit to Washington he collected papers and data the General desired in his defense, but it was to no purpose: Gratiot retained Lee's affection and good opinion, but he ended his days as a clerk in the general land office in Washington. Lee concluded that "from some cause either real or imaginary [Gratiot's] removal from the Bureau was determined on, and that the situation of his accounts was taken advantage of, as the means, and that the dismissal was upon the true issue."[56](#) In Gratiot's place, Colonel Joseph G. Totten was named,[57](#) an officer of whom Lee had seen little, and one who had no personal interest in the project Lee was directing. It was several years before Lee had the same intimate standing with Colonel Totten that he had enjoyed with General Gratiot.

While the Gratiot affair was still a fresh wound, Lee closed his accounts and formally ended his work for the year. He was free, then, to go home, but it was already January 5, 1839, and all navigation was closed on the river. His only means of getting back to Arlington would be to ride overland, and that, of course, was not practicable with three children, and with his wife in a delicate condition.[58](#) They were forced, therefore, to remain at Saint Louis. It was the first winter they had been away from Arlington since 1834.[59](#)

The Author's Notes:

- [1](#) *MS. Letters to Officers of Engineers*, vol. 6, pp291, 292, 295, 301, 307; Lee to Mackay, *MS.*, Oct. 12, 1837; *Elliott MSS.* Double rations were allowed him (*Engineers' Orderly Book*, July 10, 1837, vol. 3, p206).
- [2](#) Lee to Talcott, *MS.*, Saint Louis, Aug. 15, 1837; *Talcott MSS. (VHS)*; *Darby*, 227.
- [3](#) Lee to Talcott, *MS.*, Aug. 15, 1837; *Talcott MSS. (VHS)*.
- [4](#) Lee to Mackay, *MS.*, Oct. 12, 1837; *Elliott MSS.*
- [5](#) Lee to Mrs. Lee, Oct. 16, 1837; *Jones*, 368-69.
- [6](#) Lee to Talcott, *MS.*, Aug. 15, 1837; *Talcott MSS. (VHS)*.
- [7](#) *Rept. Chief Eng. Army, Senate Docs., 2d sess., 21st Cong.*, p96; report of same officer, *Ex. Docs., 2d sess., 22d Cong.*, vol. 1, p114; *Ibid., 1st sess., 23d Cong.*, vol. 1, p102; *Ibid., 1st sess., 24th Cong.*, vol. 1, p163.
- [8](#) *Rept. Chief Eng. Army, 2d sess., 23d Cong.*, vol. 1, p152 ff.
- [9](#) Report of H. M. Shreve in *Rept. Chief Eng. Army, ibid.*, vol. 1, p297 ff.
- [10](#) M. C. Meigs, quoted in *Long*, 41.
- [11](#) Lee to Talcott, *MS.*, Oct. 11, 1837; *Talcott MSS. (VHS)*.
- [12](#) Meigs in *Long*, 41-43.
- [13](#) Cf. William Salter: *Life of James W. Grimes*, 320-21.
- [14](#) Meigs in *Long*, 42; Lee to Talcott, *MS.*, Oct. 11, 1837 (*loc. cit.*). Meigs stated that Lee returned "about the end of October" to the lower rapids, but the date of the letter to Talcott, which was written from Saint Louis, indicates an error of approximately one month. For Lee's more favorable view of life as an army engineer in Saint Louis, see Mrs. Lee to Mrs. F. D. [Mary Archer] Goodwin, *MS.*, Nov. 2, [1837], copy of which was generously given the writer by Miss Mary H. Goodwin of Williamsburg, Va.
- [15](#) Detailed map in Lee's report, *Doc. 298, Ex. Docs., 2d. sess., 25th Cong.*
- [16](#) *MS. Letters to Officers of Engineers*, vol. 6, pp320, 327, 328, 332, 354, 369; *Darby*, 228.
- [17](#) Meigs in *Long*, 42; names on the map, *loc. cit.*
- [18](#) *Drumm, loc. cit.*, 159; *Darby*, 226.
- [19](#) *Professional Memoirs, Corps of Engineers*, vol. 9, No. 46, p362.
- [20](#) *Doc. 298, loc. cit.*
- [21](#) Lee's report, quoted in Saint Louis *Missouri Republican*, June 23, 1838.

[22](#) *Doc. 298, loc. cit.*, p4; Lee to Talcott, Nov. 18, 1837; Oct. 3, 1838.

[23](#) *Long*, 42; *MS. Letters to Officers of Engineers*, Dec. 6, 1837; vol. 6, p387; Jan. 3, 1838; vol. 6, p398; March 19, 1838; vol. 6, p419.

[24](#) Meigs in *Long*, 44.

[25](#) Lee to Mackay, *MS.*, June 27, 1838; *Elliott MSS.*; Lee to chief engineer, Feb. 28, 1838, *Eng. MSS.*, 12.

[26](#) Lee to chief engineer, *MS.*, Jan. 15, 1838; *Eng. MSS.*, 3; Lee to Talcott, *MS.*, March 29, 1838; *Talcott MSS. (VHS)*; *MS. Letters to Officers of Engineers*, vol. 6, 442.

[27](#) Lee to Talcott, *MS.*, March 17, 1838; *N. Y. Historical Society*.

[28](#) Lee to Engineer's office, *MS.*, March 25, 1838; *Eng. MSS.*, 16.

[29](#) Lee to Mrs. Andrew Talcott, *MS.*, May 29, 1838; *Talcott MSS. (VHS)*.

[30](#) Lee to Mrs. Talcott, *MS.*, May 29, 1838, *loc. cit.*

[31](#) *Ibid.*

[32](#) Lee to Mrs. Talcott, *MS.*, May 29, 1838; *Talcott MSS. (VHS)*.

[33](#) Lee to Engineer's office, *MS.*, May 18, 1838; *Eng. MSS.*, 27.

[34](#) Lee's report for 1838 on the improvement of the Mississippi, *Ex. Docs., 3d sess., 25th Cong.*, vol. 1, p223 ff.;

Lee to Talcott, *MS.*, Oct. 3, 1838; *Talcott MSS. (VHS)*.

[35](#) Lee's report for 1838, *loc. cit.*; Lee to Mackay, *MS.*, Oct. 19, 1838; *Elliott MSS.*

[36](#) The proposed improvement of the Missouri he was glad to turn over to Captain Shreve, *MS. Letters to Officers of Engineers*, July 16, 1838, vol. 6, p460.

[37](#) *MS. Letters to Officers of Engineers*, vol. 6, pp425, 434, 446, 467, 469, 477, 492, 493, 494, 495, 503, 508, 514, 517, 520, 523, 531, 534, 540, 544; vol. 7, pp14, 21.

[38](#) Lee's report for 1838, *loc. cit.*, pp236-38; Lee to Talcott, *MS.*, Oct. 3, 1838; *Talcott MSS. (VHS)*.

[39](#) Lee's report for 1838, *loc. cit.*; Lee to Talcott, *MS.*, Oct. 3, 1838, *loc. cit.*

[40](#) *MS. Letters to Engineers*, vol. 6, 441, 537; *Eng. MSS.*, 59.

[41](#) The location of the upper end of the projected slanting dyke is only approximate.

[42](#) *Missouri Republican*, July 23, Oct. 2, 1838.

[43](#) "Viator" in *Missouri Republican*, Sept. 13, 1838.

[44](#) *Missouri Republican*, Oct. 1, 1838.

[45](#) This structure is indifferently styled "dyke," "pier," and "dam" in the contemporary reports.

[46](#) *Rept. Chief Eng. Army 1838-39; Ex. Docs., 1st sess., 26th Cong.*, 1, 199-201.

[47](#) Lee to Mrs. H. Hackley, *MS.*, Aug. 7, 1838; *Talcott MSS. (VHS)*: "My little Milly can walk across the floor alone."

[48](#) *Ibid.* Cf. R. E. Lee to C. F. Lee, Aug. 20, 1838; Jones, *L. and L.*, 33.

[49](#) Lee to Mrs. H. Hackley, *MS.*, *loc. cit.*

[50](#) It is curious that Lee here employed almost precisely the epithet Jefferson had used in speaking of Lee's father. See [supra, p116](#).

[51](#) Lee to Mackay, *MS.*, June 27, 1838; *Elliott MSS.*

[52](#) *A. G. O.*, G. O. 23, *MS.*, July 12, 1838; cf. *A. G. O.*, Order 46, *MS.*, Nov. 1, 1838, *U. S. War Dept. MSS.*

[53](#) Lee to Mrs. H. Hackley, *MS.*, Aug. 7, 1838; *Talcott MSS. (VHS)*.

[54](#) His first financial statements went off on Oct. 10, 1838 (Lee to Engineer's office, *MS.*, Oct. 10, 1838; *Eng. MSS.*, 59). His reports were dated Oct. 24, 1838 (*loc. cit.*). He stated in his report on the improvement of the Missouri River (*Ex. Docs., 3d sess., 25th Cong.*, vol. 1, p235) that because of the delay in receiving instructions, two snag boats from the lower Mississippi could not be used on the Missouri, where the water was low, and that as only half the appropriation was available in 1838, work had been deferred until 1839. He wrote Talcott on Jan. 1, 1839, that only the "Island accounts" remained to be finished before the year's work was done (*Talcott MSS. (VHS)*).

[55](#) Lee to Talcott, *MS.*, Jan. 1, 1839; *Talcott MSS. (VHS)*.

[56](#) Lee to Talcott, *MS.*, May 18, 1839; cf. same to same, *MS.*, April 15, 1839; *Talcott MSS. (VHS)*.

[57](#) Cf. *Letters to Officers of Engineers*, Dec. 17, 1838; vol. 7, p13.

[58](#) Lee to Talcott, *MS.*, Jan. 1, 1839; *Talcott MSS. (VHS)*; chief engineer to Lee, *MS.*, Jan. 18, 1839; *Letters to Officers of Engineers*, vol. 7, p42.

[59](#) Lieutenant J. M. Scarritt, who had worked with Lee during the year, was ordered to Florida, where peace had come in a war that Lee had reprobated because of the treatment of the natives. Lee had regarded the employment of Indians against the Seminoles as a "cruel and unwise policy." Lee to Engineer's office, *MS.*, Dec. 19, 1838; *Eng. MSS.*, 74; to Mackay, *MS.*, Oct. 12, 1837; *Elliott MSS.*

Thayer's Note:

[a](#) Horace Bliss had graduated from West Point seven years before Lee, and in the normal course of things ought to have been Lee's superior and not the other way round; but Bliss had left the army in 1836 and was thus a civilian on this military project. His last rank in the army had been First Lieutenant ([Cullum, No. 290](#)).

Next Month:

LEE IS BROUGHT CLOSE TO FRUSTRATION

Lee stationed to Washington DC, and, like many another active man, doesn't like it. Mrs. Lee's first illnesses.

http://penelope.uchicago.edu/Thayer/E/Gazetteer/People/Robert_E_Lee/FREREL/home.html



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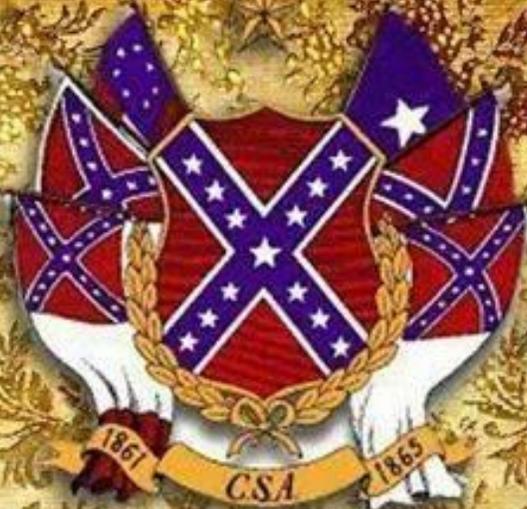
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has now passed, and the South is
determined to maintain her position,
and make all who
oppose her smell Southern
powder and feel Southern steel!"
--Jefferson Davis**

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Sons of Confederate Veterans *1896*

The time has come for us to step up our efforts toward the building of our Confederate Museum and new office building. At the GEC meeting on July 21, 2010 the GEC approved a new initiative to raise funds. There are three levels of donations/contributions. Each contributor will receive a pin designating them as a Founder of the Confederate Museum. Also in the Museum will be a list of names of all Founders. This can be a plaque on the wall or even names inscribed in brick depending on the construction design. Anyone can take part in this, they do not have to be an SCV member. Camps, Divisions, UDC chapters etc. can also take part.

Also donations can be made by multiple payments over a period of time. A form is being developed for Founders to list how they want their name listed. Those taking part will receive the form when it is finished. It will also then be available on the museum web site.



To make payment contact GHQ at 1-800-380-1896

Get the form [HERE](#)

Stonewall Jackson Level



Contributors make a donation of at least \$1,000. If they are already a member of the Sesquicentennial Society, that contribution will be taken into account and the minimum contribution for them would be \$850. For some one who is not already a member they can get both for \$1050 with the \$50 dollars going to the Bicentennial Fund.



Robert E Lee Level

Contribution of at least \$5,000. If not already a member of the Sesquicentennial Society it will be included as benefit of this level



Confederate Cabinet Level

Contribution of at least \$10,000. If not already a member of the Sesquicentennial Society it will be included as benefit of this level

Additional

GHQ has acquired 20 special gavels. These gavels are made from wood taken from the damn at Fredricksburg during the War. They are inscribed with the Sesquicentennial logo as well as the notation of the woods origin and comes with a statement of authenticity. The first 20 Camps or Division that contribute at the Stonewall Jackson level will receive one of these unique and valuable gavels.



This program got off to a resounding start. Several members have already become Stonewall Jackson level Founders. One Compatriot has even become a member of the Confederate Cabinet level Founders. Imagine that during the Bicentennial of the War for Southern Independence that your descendants can go to a museum where they can learn the truth about the Confederacy. Imagine also that they can look up on the wall of that museum and see your name and know that you did this for them.





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Texas Division

Calendar

Upcoming Schedule of Events

11/14/15	<u>6th Annual Save Texas History Symposium: In the Shadow of the Dome: Austin by Day and Night</u>	Austin, TX
06/25/16	<u>Confederate Grave Marker Dedication</u>	Rosston, TX

Click on the event or on the calendar for more information.





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Website <http://www.slrc-csa.org>



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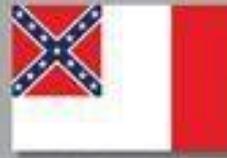
Rattle Flag.



1st National Flag.



2nd National Flag.



3rd National Flag.



Bonnie Blue Flag.

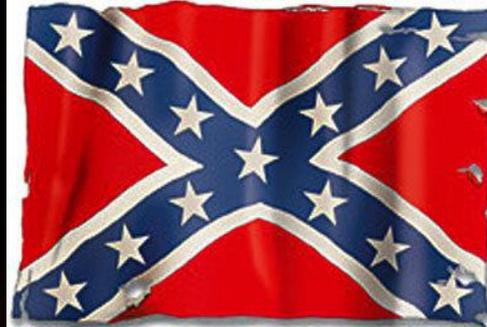


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Now, we stand for them.*

*May God bless our efforts to
Vindicate the Cause of the
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Commander-in-Chief
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FOR BEING RIGHT!

About our namesake:

belo.herald@yahoo.com

Colonel A.H. Belo was from North Carolina, and participated in Pickett's Charge at Gettysburg. His troops were among the few to reach the stone wall. After the war, he moved to Texas, where he founded both the Galveston Herald and the Dallas Morning News. The Dallas Morning News was established in 1885 by the Galveston News as sort of a North Texas subsidiary. The two papers were linked by 315 miles of telegraph wire and shared a network of correspondents. They were the first two newspapers in the country to print simultaneous editions. The media empire he started now includes radio, publishing, and television. His impact on the early development of Dallas can hardly be overstated.

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"To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we will commit the vindication of the cause for which we fought. To your strength will be given the defense of the Confederate soldier's good name, the guardianship of his history, the emulation of his virtues, the perpetuation of those principles which he loved and which you love also, and those ideals which made him glorious and which you also cherish." Remember it is your duty to see that the true history of the South is presented to future generations".

Lt. General Stephen Dill Lee,
Commander General

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