



The Belo Herald

Newsletter of the Col. A. H. Belo Camp #49
November 2011

Our program this month is

Col. A. H Belo Camp #49

Commander - Paul Hamilton
1st Lt. Cmdr. - Marcus Black
2nd Lt. Cmdr. - Kevin Newsom
Adjutant - Stan Hudson
Chaplain - Rev. Jerry Brown
Editor - Nathan Bedford Forrest



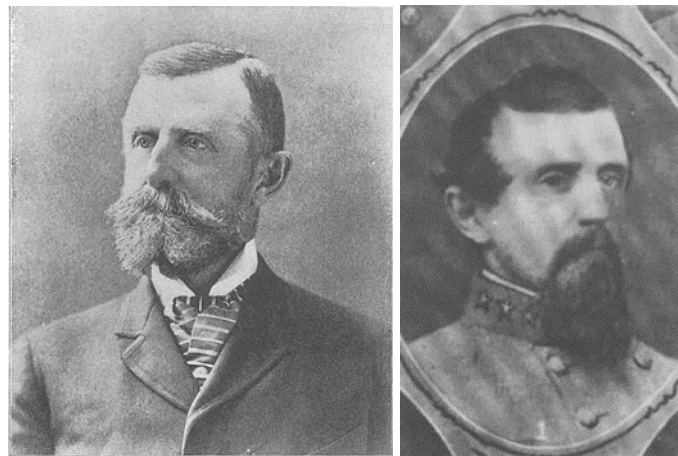
<http://www.facebook.com/BeloCamp49>

Texas Division: www.texas-scv.org

National: www.scv.org

<http://1800mydixie.com/>

<http://www.youtube.com/user/SCVORG>



Have you paid your dues?? Come early (6:30pm), eat, fellowship with other members, learn your history!

Thursday, November 3rd: 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.

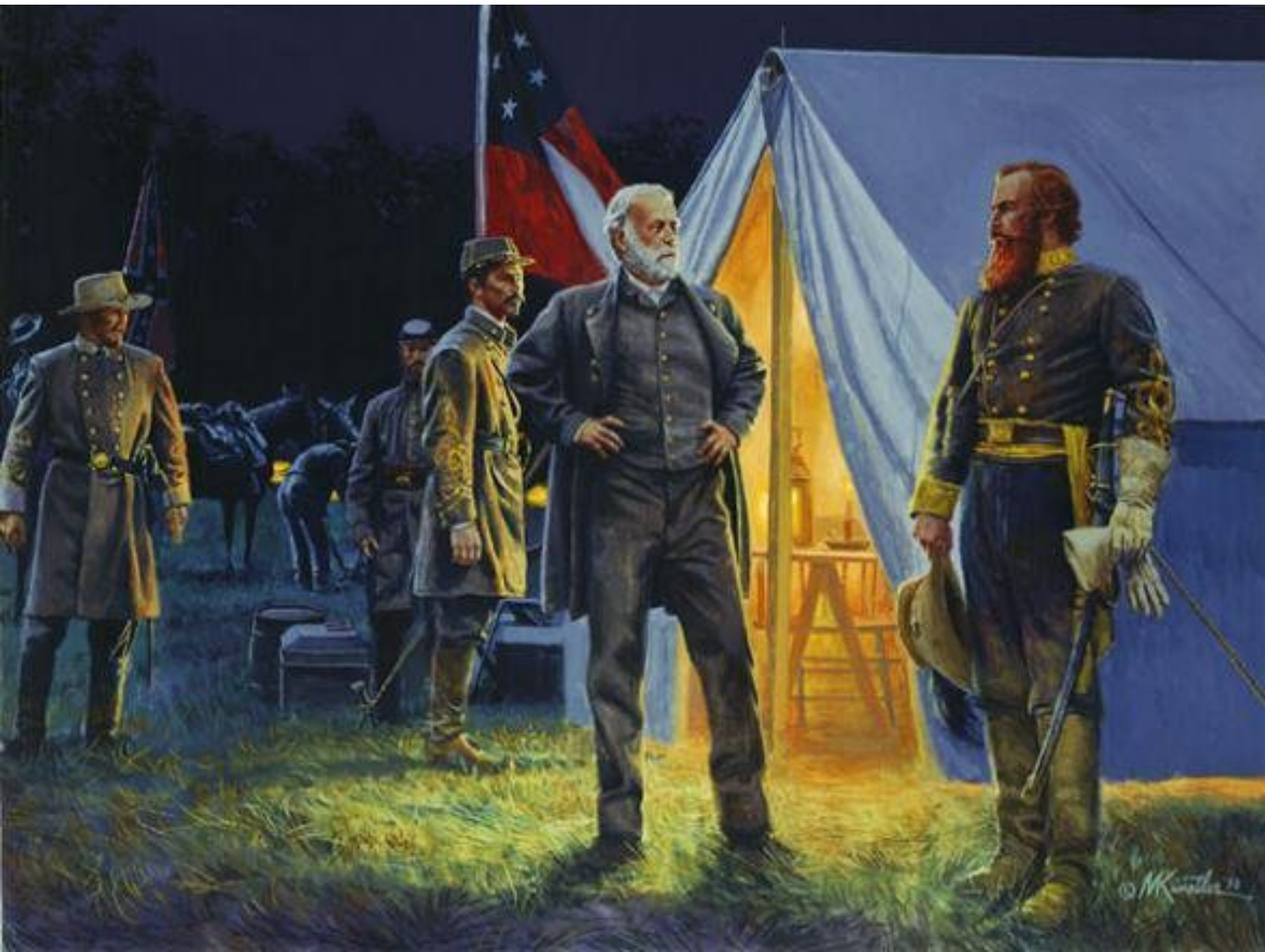


COMMANDER'S REPORT

Gentlemen,

Holidays are upon us and we'll be wrapping up the end of the year before we know it. Officer nominations have been received and if you're interested in running, please contact me ASAP or else we'll go ahead as scheduled. As it stands, Kevin Newsom has been nominated for 1st Lieutenant Commander, Stan Hudson re-nominated for Adjutant, and myself re-nominated for Camp Commander. The next item on the calendar is the Christmas party which is also our December meeting is to be hosted by Stan Hudson at his home in Dallas with details forthcoming on food, drinks, etc. Our first 2012 event on the horizon is a Lee-Jackson dinner to take place at the Camp Belo mansion. This will be a special event with discounts to camp members only at \$10 each with other camp invites to be \$40. Lots of planning and preparations needed for these upcoming events, so please attend the meeting to let your voice be heard and to volunteer for any help you can provide. Also, keep in mind that guests are welcomed at every meeting so bring a friend who might be interested (with Confederate ancestry of course) !

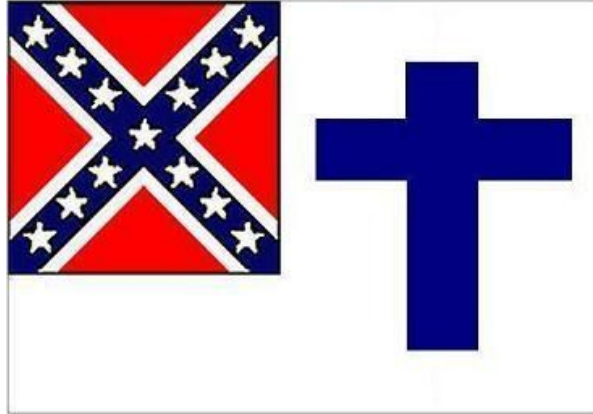
Respectfully,
Cdr Paul Hamilton





Chaplain's Corner

**"Blessed is the nation whose God
is the Lord"
(Psalms 33.12)**

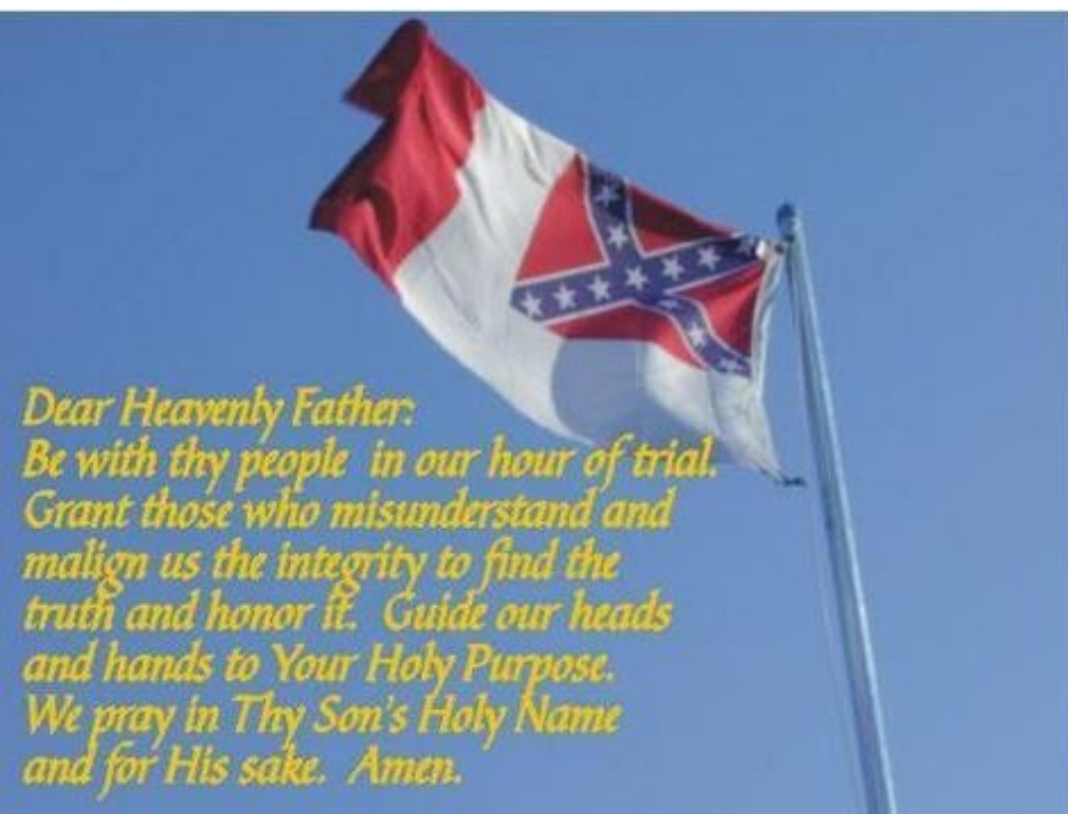


The Confederate States of America as it existed during the War for Confederate Independence was the most Christian nation ever to exist in 2,000 years. In many respects this great and terrible war was a clash between two diametrically opposed civilizations; a secular north and Christian South. The greatest Christian revivals which ever occurred took place in the midst of this war. Christian worship services in the Confederate Armies was common as men would worship, sing songs of praise and kneel in prayer, then arise and charge into battle. While the fervency of the Christian Faith has waned to a large degree the member States and territories of the Confederacy remain by and large a Christian sector, howbeit suppressed by the occupation and invasion by aliens and northerners. The key to the restoration of our Confederate culture rests in our belief in and advocacy of Almighty God in Christ Jesus our Lord and Savior, the Holy Scripture and prayer.

A THANKSGIVING PSALM

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever. Let the redeemed of the LORD say this—those he redeemed from the hand of the foe, those he gathered from the lands, from east and west, from north and south. Some wandered in desert wastelands, finding no way to a city where they could settle. They were hungry and thirsty, and their lives ebbed away. Then they cried out to the LORD in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress. He led them by a straight way to a city where they could settle. Let them give thanks to the LORD for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for men, for he satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with good things.

Psalm 107: 1-9



*Dear Heavenly Father:
Be with thy people in our hour of trial.
Grant those who misunderstand and
malign us the integrity to find the
truth and honor it. Guide our heads
and hands to Your Holy Purpose.
We pray in Thy Son's Holy Name
and for His sake. Amen.*



(Davis print by M. Kunstler)

First Thanksgiving Proclamation was issued two years before the one in 1863 by the yankee tyrant Lincoln, which is generally cited as the "first" Thanksgiving proclamation. Under political pressure, Lincoln borrowed the idea of Thanksgiving from the Confederates. History certainly has been kind to Lincoln and his proclamations!

Proclamation of Thanksgiving in 1861 by President Jefferson Davis

WHEREAS, it hath pleased Almighty God, the Sovereign Disposer of events, to protect and defend us hitherto in our conflicts with our enemies as to be unto them a shield.

And whereas, with grateful thanks we recognize His hand and acknowledge that not unto us, but unto Him, belongeth the victory, and in humble dependence upon His almighty strength, and trusting in the justness of our purpose, we appeal to Him that He may set at naught the efforts of our enemies, and humble them to confusion and shame.

Now therefore, I, Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederate States, in view of impending conflict, do hereby set apart **Friday, the 15th day of November**, as a day of national humiliation and prayer, and do hereby invite the reverend clergy and the people of these Confederate States to repair on that day to their homes and usual places of public worship, and to implore blessing of Almighty God upon our people, that he may give us victory over our enemies, preserve our homes and altars from pollution, and secure to us the restoration of peace and prosperity.

Given under hand and seal of the Confederate States at Richmond, this the 31st day of October, year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and sixty one.

By the President, JEFFERSON DAVIS



Butler's dredge-boat, sunk by a Confederate shell on Thanksgiving Day, James River, Virginia, 1864



Learn True History



An Interview With General Lee

by Capt. George W. Pepper, Chaplain, 80th Ohio Volunteers



Rev. George W. Pepper

When the army of General Sherman, with which I was connected, was making its famous homeward march to Washington, it rested for a few days in Richmond. Accompanied by General Geary, afterwards governor of Pennsylvania, and provided with a letter of introduction from General Hazen, who knew General Lee at West Point, I made my mind to call and interview the Rebel commander. Ringing the bell with considerable anxiety, I awaited the result of my rash attempt to get a glimpse of the most gallant and most illustrious man of the South. Quickly there appeared at the door a good-looking mulatto, who awaited my demand.

"Can I see General Lee?" was the simple question I put on this occasion. "This is not the regular day when he receives company, and he has not yet entertained any visitors, but -" and he surveyed me with a hesitating air, not knowing what to say next. I observed, "Perhaps he would see a chaplain of Sherman's army in his private parlor for a few moments." "Your name, sir?" he asked. "Chaplain Pepper, of the Fifteenth Corps of the Army of the Tennessee." Giving him General Hazen's letter, he quickly disappeared and in a few moments returned, saying it was all right, and for me to walk into the parlor. I took my seat upon a very plain sofa. The house was simplicity itself. There were no rich carpets, soft cushions, elegant furniture. There was not a wall decoration, nothing to attract attention, - a few chairs, a table covered

with pictures of battlefields; but absolutely nothing that betokened that this was the home of the mightiest man in the South.

My musings were soon interrupted by General Lee, who, with an easy and beautiful simplicity of manner, bade me welcome to his home. The events of this long and disastrous war had left their traces on his face. If there is anything in the science of physiognomy, there was certainly a remarkable correspondence between the person of General Lee and his mental and moral constitution. Both bespoke the worthy development of the entire man; no feature was found in excess, and none defective; dignified in carriage, with an elastic step, and easy and graceful in all his movements. His features were regularly handsome, his complexion fair. A full-orbed, beaming and ample forehead; a mouth that indicated great sweetness and firmness; and diffused, over all, a radiant and happy expression that bespoke the clear intelligence of his mind and the benevolence of his heart. It was with a thrilling interest that I know beheld this celebrated man. He seemed still to be in the prime of life; but his magnificent hair was silvered, the fire in his brilliant eyes was in some measure dimmed, and there were marks of age upon his brow. There was a dignity in his bearing, a grandeur in the poise of his head, which a consciousness of his position would impart. At the same time I thought there was a slight expression of sadness piercing through his smile. Perhaps he was beginning to see the hollowness of all that he had adored, and to experience how many thorns line the pillow of a hopeless and disastrous revolution.

I conversed with him upon a variety of topics, upon all of which he expressed opinions. He was very positive in his convictions, and seemed to have weighed every sentence with studied care. The telegraph wires having recently announced the news of Lincoln's assassination, this naturally was the first subject of conversation. In speaking of the martyred President, he said: "The death of that eminent citizen has filled me with horror. If there were blemishes in his character, his life exhibited some splendid and rare virtues. He was one of the most extraordinary men that ever lived in our country. His heart was grand and large. He was constitutionally pensive. Had he been spared, the South

would have been treated with honorable propriety and with gallant generosity; his good-will and friendliness would have marked his treatment of the Southern people."

He pronounced Booth "a cowardly ruffian", affirming that "the soldiers of the Southern army and people regard the murder of Lincoln, not only as a crime against our Christian civilization and our common humanity, but that his loss at this moment was a terrible loss to the vanquished, who would have to bear the responsibility of the cruel, cold-blooded assassination; that the spirit of clemency, moderation, and of conciliation displayed by the President were virtues not to be found in his successor. Let the avenger's arms," he continued to say, his eyes moistened by tears, "fall upon the guilty. Should this be the course adopted by the authorities at Washington, their greatest victory is yet before them" that "a more shining page in their annals would be written, and that the sublimest example of magnanimity and self-government would be set."

To my question, "Do you think the Rebellion is ended?" he replied, very emphatically, "yes, sir; and had it not been for the politicians it would never have been commenced." The politicians to whom he referred were Davis, Yancey, Breckinridge, and Toombs, and others whose names he mentioned. He went on to say: "I was opposed to war at the outset. I wept when I heard of the bombardment of Fort Sumter! I sought retirement, so that I might not see or hear any of the political leaders, the great end and aim of whose statesmanship was to precipitate the havoc that subsequently swept their fields and cities. But when Virginia, my native state, seceded, there was only one course for me to pursue; namely, follow her fortunes."

General Lee now adverted to the character of General Grant, of whom he spoke in the most friendly words and terms. He ascribed him the most noble attributes of American manhood, saying that he possessed all the requisites and talents for the organization of armies. At the present hour, when not a few apprehensive gentlemen and reckless partisans are charging the illustrious Ex-President with Caesarism and with desperate ambitions to overthrow the government, it will be some satisfaction to his many friends to learn the high estimate in which he was held by the Southern chieftain. In the generous terms accorded to the impoverished South, Grant won for himself imperishable renown, and they furnish a shining example of how nobly he could sympathize with the vanquished. In no quarter of the world has there been such magnanimity as that shown by Grant, and of all the laurels won by the mighty captain in our immortal struggle, the greenest and freshest of them is his splendid conduct to Lee and his soldiers.

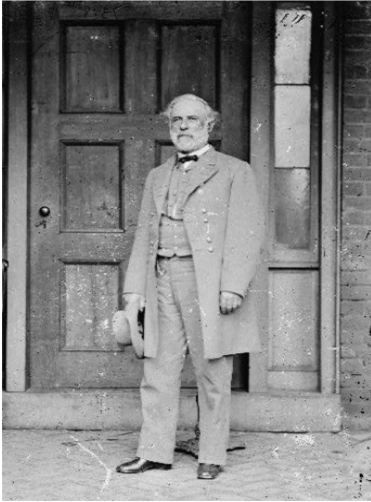
"I wish" said General Lee, "to do simple justice to General Grant, when I say that his treatment of the Army of Southern Virginia is without a parallel in the history of the civilized world. When my poor soldiers, with famished faces, had neither food nor raiment, it was then that General Grant immediately issued the humane order that forty thousand rations should be immediately furnished to the impoverished troops. And that was not all of his magnanimity. I was giving directions to one of my staff officers, when making out the list of things to be surrendered, to include the horses. At that moment General Grant, who seemed to be paying no attention to what was transpiring, quickly said: 'No, no, General! Not a horse, not one - keep them all! Your people will need them for the spring crops!'"

It was a scene never to be forgotten to watch Lee's manner, which, when, with a spirit of chivalry equal to his skill and gallantry, he told, with moistened eyes, this and many other instances of the magnanimity so nobly displayed by his illustrious rival.

The conversation turned to General Sherman. The Southern papers were criticizing very sharply Sherman's march through Georgia and the Carolinas, and I asked General Lee what his opinion was of the great flanker. He said, in substance: "It has been observed that there is no character so uniformly bright as not to possess some dark stain; but while we assent to the truth of this observation, that charity which hopeth all things should lead us to believe that there are no hearts so darkly vicious as not to be illuminated by some beams of the light of virtue. To suppose Sherman an exception to this rule would be illiberal. The unbounded license which he allowed his soldiers in the states of Georgia and the Carolinas has greatly aggravated the horrors of war. As a strategist and commander of men, Sherman has displayed the highest order of military genius. Throughout his recent campaign, when he had to pass through an unknown country, cross rivers, support his troops, etc., he certainly exhibited a singleness of purpose, a fertility of resource, which wins him a high place among the soldiers of history. He seems to be cool without apathy, cautious without being dilatory, patient without being dispirited, personally brave without being rash. Judged by Napoleon's test, 'Who did all that?' he is, in my opinion, the most successful of the Federal officers who have played a prominent part in the history of the war."

In the course of the conversation he spoke of Sheridan as a most brilliant and magnetic commander. I asked him who was the greatest of the Federal generals.

"Indeed, sir, I have no hesitation in saying General Grant. Both as a gentleman and as an organizer of victorious war, General Grant has excelled all your most noted soldiers. He has exhibited more true courage, more real greatness of mind, more consummate prudence from the outset, and more heroic bravery, than anyone on your side."



Gen. Robert E. Lee at his home in Richmond.

To the question, "What was the cause of the failure of the South?" the General smilingly said: "I am not a very good extemporaneous speaker, nor am I a very good extemporaneous answerer of questions. The most conspicuous reason was the superiority in men and in resources of the North. The United States had all the advantages - a land of boundless wealth, cities secure from the horrors of civil war, and a constant stream of emigrants to fill up the depleted ranks of the armies. With five to one against them, the Southerners performed a mighty work, and made a gigantic step toward their independence."

"Another cause lay in the vanity of many of our people. The first battles of the war being favorable to us, the South was wild with confidence, and the whole country was thrown into a ferment of excitement. It was doubtful, indeed, whether one in a thousand of our people supposed for a moment that there was any doubt of an immediate and successful termination to the struggle. The public meetings were in every case too enthusiastic. The people were carried away by acclamation. The cheering proved our folly. This excess of confidence lost us New Orleans and many other cities."

"A much more serious difficulty arose from the mistaken view of the Southern cause taken by the philanthropists of the Old World. They were led to believe that we were fighting for the perpetuity of slavery, and that the establishment of the Confederacy would lead to the reopening of the African slave trade. This opinion shook the faith of great and good men in the humanity and righteousness of the South. The conscript law was another effective check to our success. Instead of being a benefit, it was a curse, a badge of disgrace. The rich were favored; falsehood and dissimulation were its natural results; suspicion and mistrust arose where confidence and reliance should have happily prevailed. The attitude preserved by Mr. Davis and other leaders in opposition to the arming of the Negroes, a policy which I always believed to be expedient, proved to be disastrous. The widespread poverty of the country, accompanied by the just conviction that all further efforts were hopeless, - these and other forces worked to one final result, the failure of the Confederacy."

Our next topic of conversation was the foreign element in the armies. Speaking of the Irish, he declared with much feeling that the South could not reconcile with their notions of consistency and honor how Northern Irishmen, who were so desperately and violently opposed to the thralldom of Britain - the wrongs of Ireland being mosquito bites beside the enormous injuries which had been inflicted by the North upon the South - how liberty loving Irishmen could fight against Southerners contending for independence and equality of rights. I suggested that the soldiers of Irish origin in our armies were really bewildered to know how Irishmen who for centuries had gallantly contended for freedom of the Celts, could be so inconsistent and recreant to every sense of right as to be engaged in a war for a government whose cornerstone was slavery. Besides that, though Irishmen were revolutionists at home, they were conservatives in the United States, and there was a great difference between a war in the interest of a down trodden race and that in favor of the propagation of slavery.

Adverting to the character of the Irish soldiers, the general was very enthusiastic, saying that they played a prominent part in the wars of the world for the last three centuries, now on one side, now on the other. "The Irish soldier fights not so much for lucre as from a reckless love of adventure, and, moreover, with a chivalrous devotion to the cause he espouses for the time being. Cleburne, on our side, inherited the intrepidity of his race. On a field of battle he shone like a meteor on a clouded sky! As a dashing military man he was all virtue; a single vice does not stain him as a warrior. His generosity and benevolence had no limits. The care which he took of the fortunes of his officers and soldiers, from the greatest to the least, was incessant. His integrity was proverbial, and his modesty was an equally conspicuous trait in his character."

"Meagher on your side, though not Cleburne's equal in military genius, rivaled him in bravery and in the affections of his soldiers. The gallant stand which his bold brigade made on the heights of Fredericksburg is well known. Never

were men so brave. They ennobled their race by their splendid gallantry on that occasion. Though totally routed, they reaped harvests of glory! Their brilliant though hopeless assaults upon our lines excited the hearty applause of my officers and soldiers, and General Hill exclaimed, "There are those damned green flags again!"

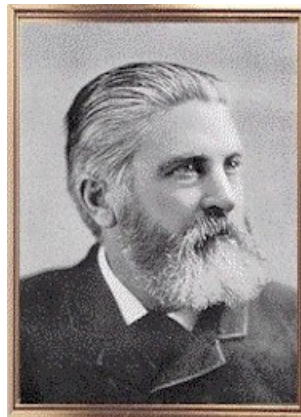
Referring to the great loss sustained by the Confederacy in the death of Stonewall Jackson, General Lee remarked: "In surprises, marches, and in the art of creating the resources of war, Jackson has surpassed the level of his age, and risen to a comparison with Hannibal and Napoleon, the two greatest commanders of ancient and modern times. In every relation of private and public life his character was perfect. The South has produced some abler soldiers, and a few in point of military talent were his equals; but it can not and never could boast of one more beloved; not by personal friends alone, but by every soldier and officer that served under him. His dispatches, even when announcing the grandest successes, were brief statements of fact, unvarnished. Many such statements as this would occur: 'We are about to open the campaign. I have prayed earnestly to God that he will enable me to pass through it in his fear, knowing no greater earthly blessing than to have a conscience at ease in the discharge of duty.'"

I left the presence of this distinguished gentleman with the consciousness that pride, hatred, revenge, had no place in his noble nature, and that, having lowered his colors and sheathed his sword, he was fully entitled to the consideration and respect of the gallant soldier to whom he surrendered. It is needless for me to say that, in my opinion, had he lived, he would fully have upheld in the most distinguished manner the Union of the states, the reconciliation of all classes, and the prosperity and happiness of the whole country. Foremost amongst the Confederates, and first in peace, Gen. Robert E. Lee was not only a chivalrous gentleman, but he was eminently a Christian. In all his acts he was gifted with so rare a kindness of demeanor that he never made a quarrel with anyone. His brief though brilliant experience as instructor of the young men of the South after the war closed, gave the strongest evidence of his loyalty and goodness of heart, and clearly presaged the glory which would have crowned his career had his life been spared.



Legal Justification of the South in Secession

..third in a seven part series..



BY HON. J. L. M. CURRY, LL. D.

The Constitution Made By States

As everything in this discussion depends on the Constitution it seems prudent to state with some particularity its origin, its establishment and its terms. The confederation was found to be inadequate to the ends of an effective government. The states adopted conflicting and even hostile commercial regulations and trade suffered from these embarrassments. The legislature of Virginia, impressed with the necessity of a government of larger powers, appointed in

1786 commissioners to meet commissioners from other States, at Annapolis, to prepare for adoption by the States a uniform plan of commercial regulations. Some met and recommended to their respective legislatures to appoint delegates to meet in general convention at Philadelphia for the purpose of reforming the government as the interests of the States might require. Congress approved the recommendation and suggested a convention of delegates to be appointed by the several States to meet in Philadelphia and to report to Congress and the several legislatures such alteration of the Articles of Confederation as shall, when agreed to in Congress and *confirmed by the States*, render the federal constitution adequate to the exigencies of government and the preservation of the Union. Accordingly, the convention was composed of deputies appointed by the States, and they voted as States. Madison, in recording their action, on agreeing to the Constitution, says: "It passes in the affirmative, *all the States concurring*." It was transmitted to the several State legislatures to be by them submitted to State conventions and each State for itself ratified at different times, without concert of action, except in the result to be ascertained. As the jurisdiction of a State was limited to its own territory, its ratification was limited to its own people. The Constitution got its validity, its vitality, not from the inhabitants as constituting one great nation, nor from the people of all the States considered as one people, but from the concurrent action of a prescribed number of States, each acting separately and pretending to no claim or right to act for or control other States. That each of these States had the right to decline to ratify and remain out of the Union for all time to come, no sane man will deny. Rhode Island and North Carolina did, in the undoubted exercise of an undisputed right, refuse to enter the compact until after the government was organized and Washington entered upon his duties as president. "The assent and ratification of the people," says Madison, "not as individuals composing an entire nation, but as composing the distinct and independent States to which they belong, are the sources of the Constitution. *It is, therefore, not a national but a federal compact.*"

Virginia, in her ratification as a distinct, sovereign community, had said: "The delegates do, in the name and in behalf of the people of Virginia, declare and make known that the powers granted under the Constitution, being derived from the people of the United States, may be resumed by them whensoever the same shall be perverted to their injury or oppression, and that every power not granted thereby remains with them and at their will." (5 Bulletin of the Bureau of Rolls, 145.) Calhoun's Works, 248-251.

Maryland declared that nothing in the Constitution "warrants a construction that the States do not retain every power not expressly relinquished by them and vested in the general government of the Union." New York more explicitly said: "That the powers of government may be reassumed by the people whenever it should become necessary to their happiness, that every power, jurisdiction and right which is not by the said Constitution clearly delegated to the Congress of the United States or the departments of the government thereof, remains to the people of the several States, or to their respective State governments, to whom they may have granted the same; and that those clauses in the said Constitution, which declare that Congress shall not have or exercise certain powers, do not imply that Congress is entitled to any powers not given by the said Constitution; but such clauses are to be construed either as exceptions to certain specified powers or as inserted merely for greater caution." Rhode Island lingered until 1790, and then adopted the cautious phraseology of New York, specifying certain rights and declaring that they shall not be abridged or violated and that the proposed amendments would speedily become a part of the Constitution, gave her assent to the compact, but declared that "the powers of government may be reassumed by the people, whenever it shall become necessary to their happiness." (5 Bureau of Rolls, 140-145, 190, 191, 311.) Other States showed equal concern and jealousy.

Besides the clear assertion on the part of ratifying States of the right to reassume delegated powers, a larger number were so apprehensive and distrustful of federal encroachment, so jealous in the maintenance of their respective rights, that they attached bills of rights to their assent, or proposed amendments to restrict the general government; the incorporation of which into the Constitution was earnestly insisted upon.

It has now been demonstrated that with jealous vigilance the States retained their separateness as sovereign communities in all the forms of political existence through which they passed. That they adopted their separate State constitutions in their sovereign character is indisputable. That the deputies who framed the federal constitution were appointed by the several States each on its own authority; that they voted in the convention by States; that their votes were counted by States; that when framed the instrument was submitted to the people of the several States for their independent ratification; that the States ratified and adopted, each for itself, as distinct sovereign communities; that the Constitution had no binding force over a State or its citizens except in consequence of this adoption; that it was valid as a covenant or union, the federal compact, only as between the States so ratifying the same; are facts alike incontestable. All these acts were by the States and for the States, without any participation on the part of the people regarded in the aggregate as forming a nation. Our controversy arose, not so much from these historical incidents (although historians, judges, editors and congressmen have denied or misinterpreted them all) as from the import and effect and construction of the agreement so formally and cautiously made.

Did the act of ratification of itself, or does the Constitution in its grants, divest the States of their character as separate political communities and merge them all into one nation, one American people? The Constitution superseded the Articles

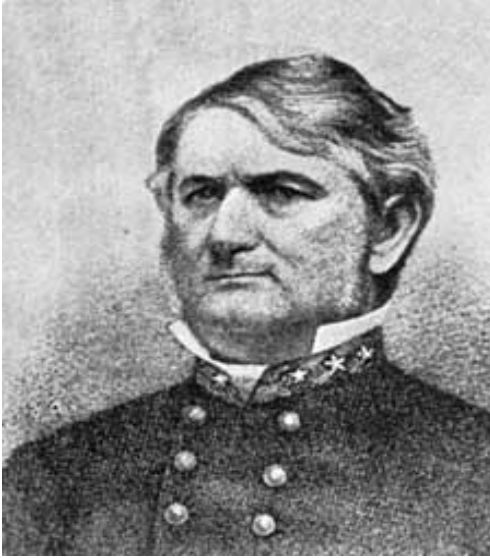
of Confederation because the parties to those articles agreed that it should be so. If they have not so agreed, the articles are still binding on the States. In point of fact the Constitution did become obligatory as a compact of government by the voluntary and separate ratification and adoption of the several States. Massachusetts and New Hampshire, in their ratification, call the Constitution a compact, and the federal Union must be so, or the result of a compact, because sovereign States would not otherwise have agreed and expressed their agreement. Some made provisos, others suggested amendments, which make plain the intention of the fathers in entering the Union. The apprehensions of consolidation were so strong that to guard against such a possible evil, provisions to prevent were incorporated in the acts of assent. The right to resume surrendered powers, as affirmed by three of the States, has been mentioned. Massachusetts, South Carolina, New Hampshire and Virginia were so alarmed at the liability to absorption of unsundered powers, that they proposed an amendment to the effect that each State shall respectively retain every power, jurisdiction and right which had not been delegated in the Constitution. This was modified and adopted in regular constitutional form and is known as the Ninth article. All the suggestions were in the nature of limitations and restrictions, showing distrust of centralization and a determined purpose to preserve from invasion or impairment the rights of the States. It was felt that time and experience would show the wisdom of changes and of adaptations to new environments, and thus it was wisely provided that amendments might be made but should be valid only "when ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several States, or by conventions in three-fourths thereof." As the States only could make a constitution, so three-fourths of them, as separate political corporations, could amend the instrument. The favorite theory of many, that the States were merged into the government of the Union, into an aggregated unit, is an assumption totally irreconcilable with the fact that this same people can neither alter nor amend their government. When that essential function has to be performed, it is indispensable to summon into new life and activity those very State sovereignties, which, by the supposition, lost their individual power and vitality by the very act creating the instrument which they are required to amend. Had the Constitution originated from the people inhabiting the territories of the whole Union, its amendment would have remained to them, as the amendment of a State constitution belongs to the people of a State. But as such a body of associated people is a myth, a figment of the brain, the power of amendment is left in the hands of the existing bodies politic, the creators of the Constitution and of the Union. The positive supervising power bestowed by the compact upon the State governments and the people over the whole Federal government flatly contradicts the idea that the same compact designed constructively to bestow a supervising power upon Congress, or other department, over the State governments.

The government was organized in 1789 and assumed its place among the nations of the earth. Soon, amendments proposed by the ratifying States were submitted, as the Constitution prescribed, to the respective States and adopted by them. These amendments have no *direct* relation to the immediate objects for which the Union was formed, and, with few exceptions, were intended to guard against improper constructions of the Constitution, or the abuse of the delegated powers, or to protect the government itself in the exercise of its proper functions. They sought to guard the people and the States against Federal usurpation, and one of them Jefferson pronounced "the corner stone of the Constitution." The ninth amendment prohibits a construction by which the rights retained by the people shall be denied or disparaged by the enumeration, but the tenth, in language that tyranny cannot pervert or dispute, "reserves to the States respectively or to the people the powers not delegated to the United States, nor prohibited to the States." Could any language more conclusively show the ultimate authority of the States, or that the general government has no more right to enforce its decisions against those of the several States where they disagree as to the extent of their respective powers than the latter have of enforcing their decisions in like cases? "This reservation was incorporated from a caution deemed unnecessary and excessive by some, because such a reservation is of the very essence and structure of the Constitution, but it has been vindicated as a marked demonstration of the wisdom and sagacity of the fathers. Instead of receiving powers the States had bestowed them, and in confirmation of their original authority most carefully reserved every right they had not relinquished, The powers reserved by those who possessed them, the distinct people of each State, are those not delegated or prohibited, and were intended to remove a suspicion of a tendency in the Constitution toward consolidation which had been vigorously charged by some of those who had opposed the ratification. It cannot be reiterated too often that the people do not derive their rights from government. In England, Magna Charta and other franchises were granted by kings and residuary rights remain in and with the government; here, un-granted rights remain with the grantors and these are the people of the States.

Next Month: [RELATION OF STATES TO THE UNION UNDER THE CONSTITUTION](#)



Anecdote of General Polk



Gen. Leonidas Polk

A good story is told of Bishop (Lieutenant General) Polk of the Confederate army and another general whom we shall call “Blank”, who now resides in Alabama. We cannot vouch for the accuracy further than to say that we have full confidence in the veracity of the gentleman who related it:

During the Georgia campaign, and not long before General Polk was killed at Pine Mountain, he requested General Blank to accompany him to a hill in front of the lines which commanded an excellent view of the position of the opposing Federal forces. The figures of the two officers outlined upon the sky as they stood upon this eminence, offered a tempting target for some Federal gunners, and in a few moments both lay on the ground stunned and senseless from the effect of Federal shells. The fortunes of war had brought together a most distinguished churchman and one of the bravest and most trusted of Forrest’s officers. The latter, however, was not at the time noted for extreme piety, but was rather given to the use of vigorous language and forcible expletives, which fact the good bishop knew and regretted; he also knew that his present companion was one of the very best and bravest men in the Confederate service.

The two officers lay stunned for several minutes. General Blank was the first to recover. Looking about him in a dazed way, he soon discovered the burly form of his companion, who was breathing heavily but evidently coming around all right. In a few moments he heard General Polk mutter “Oh Lord! Where am I, where am I?” General Blank, keenly alive to a sense of grim humor, whispered gently, “In hell, General”. “Impossible”, murmured Polk. “Who is it that tells me so?” “It is I – General Blank”, solemnly responded the practical joker. “Oh Lord!” groaned the good bishop, “have mercy on me! If Blank is here I know it must be true!”



Upcoming events



November 4-6: Battle of Fort Richardson Jacksboro, TX

November 18-20: Liendo Plantation Civil War Weekend Hempstead, TX

www.11texascav.org

Dec 2-6 : 5th Brigade Gathering Mexia, TX

December 3-4: Battle of Pea Ridge Bentonville, AR

December 3rd : Belo Camp Christmas Party Dallas, TX **Guests of Stan Hudson Family.**





Col. A. H. Belo Camp #49



Christmas Party

Saturday, December 3rd, 2011

LOCATION: Home of Camp Adjutant Stan Hudson and family.

3233 Lovers Lane, Dallas, 75225.

ARRIVE: 6:30 pm Supper at 7:00 pm

The meat (turkey, et al), bread, and alcohol will be provided.

Others may bring the following:



- 1) *Vegetable dishes;*
- 2) *Casseroles; and*
- 3) *Desserts*

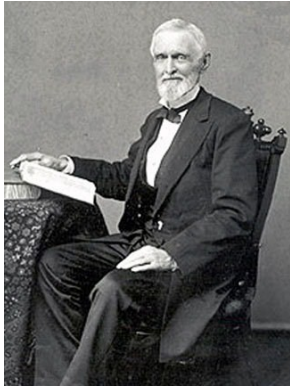


From N. Central Expressway, go west on Lovers Lane. Our house is between Airline (with a traffic light) and Athens. Heading west, it is on the south side, the third house from Athens. If there are no more parking spaces in our circular driveway, then you should park on Athens. The house is a red brick two-story, with a red brick circular driveway.

I will fly the Battle Flag from the front windows.



ROBERT E LEE



By Jefferson Davis

ROBERT EDWARD LEE, gentleman, scholar, gallant soldier, great general, and true Christian, was born in Westmoreland County, Virginia, on January 19, 1807. He was the youngest son of General Henry Lee, who was familiarly known as "Light-Horse Harry" in the traditions of the war of the Revolution, and who possessed the marked confidence and personal regard of General Washington.

R. E. Lee entered the United States Military Academy in the summer of 1825, after which my acquaintance with him commenced. He was, as I remember him, larger and looked more mature than the average "pleb", but less so than Mason, who was destined to be the head of his class. His soldierly bearing and excellent conduct caused him in due succession to rise through the several grades and to be the adjutant of the corps of cadets when he graduated. It is stated that he had not then a "demerit" mark standing against him, which is quite creditable if all "reports" against him had been cancelled, because they were not for wanton or intentional delinquency. Though numerically rated second in his class his proficiency was such that he was assigned to the engineer corps, which for many years he adorned both as a military and civil engineer.

He was of the highest type of manly beauty, yet seemingly unconscious of it, and so respectful and unassuming as to make him a general favorite before his great powers had an opportunity for manifestation. His mind led him to analytic, rather than perceptive methods of obtaining results.

From the date of his graduation in 1829 until 1846 he was engaged in various professional duties, and had by regular promotion attained to the grade of captain of engineers. As such he was assigned to duty with the command of Brigadier-General Wool in the campaign to Chihuahua. Thence the command proceeded to make a junction with General Z. Taylor in front of Buena Vista. Here Captain Lee was employed in the construction of the defensive work, when General Scott came, armed with discretionary orders, and took Lee for service in the column which Scott was to command, with much else that General Taylor could ill afford to spare. Subsequent events proved that the loss to General Taylor's army was more than compensated by the gain to the general cause.

Avoiding any encroachment upon the domain of history in entering upon a description of campaigns and battles, I cannot forbear from referring to a particular instance of Lee's gallantry and devotion to duty. Before the battle of Contreras General Scott's troops had become separated by the field of Pedrigal, and it was necessary to communicate instructions to those on the other side of this barrier of rocks and lava. General Scott says in his report that he had sent seven officers since about sundown to communicate instructions; they had all returned without getting through, but the "gallant and indefatigable Captain Lee, of the engineers, who has been constantly with the operating forces, is just in from Shields, Smith, Cadwallader", etc. Subsequently General Scott, while giving testimony before a court of inquiry, said: "Captain Lee, engineers, came to me from a Contreras with a message from Brigadier-General Smith, I think, about the same time (midnight), he having passed over the difficult ground by daylight found it just possible



to return to St. Augustine in the dark - the greatest feat of physical and moral courage performed by any individual, in my knowledge, in the pending campaign.”

This field of Pedrigal as described was impassable on horseback, and crossed with much difficulty by infantry in daylight. After consultation with the generals near to Contreras, it being decided that an attack must be made at daylight, Captain Lee, through storm and darkness, undertook — on foot and alone — to recross the Pedrigal, so as to give General Scott the notice which would insure the co-operation of his divided forces in the morning’s attack. This feat was well entitled to me commendation that General Scott bestowed upon it; but the highest praise belongs to Lee’s inciting and sustaining motive: duty. To bear to the commanding general the needful information he dared and suffered for that which is the crowning glory of man: he offered himself for the welfare of others.



He went to Mexico with the rank of captain of engineers, and by gallantry and meritorious conduct rose to the rank of colonel in the army, commission by brevet. After his return he resumed his duties as an officer of the Engineer Corps. While employed in the construction of Fort Carroll, near Baltimore, an event occurred which illustrates his nice sentiment of honor. Some members of the Cuban Junta called upon him and offered him the command of an expedition to overthrow the Spanish control of the island. A very large sum of money was to be paid immediately upon his acceptance of their proposition, and a large sum thenceforward was to be paid monthly. Lee came to Washington to converse with me upon the subject. After a brief discussion of the military problem, he said it was not that he had come to consult me about; the question he was considering was whether, while an officer in the United States Army and because of any reputation he might have acquired as such, he could accept a proposition for foreign service against a government with which the United States were at peace. The conclusion was his decision to decline any further correspondence with the Junta.

In 1852 Colonel Lee was made superintendent of the United States Military Academy; a position for which he seemed to be peculiarly fitted as well by his attainments as by his fondness for young people, his fine personal appearance, and impressive manners. When, a year or two thereafter, I visited the academy, and was surprised to see so many gray hairs on his head, he confessed that the cadets did exceedingly worry him, and then it was perceptible that his sympathy with young people was rather an impediment than a qualification for the superintendency.

In 1855 four new regiments were added to the army, two of cavalry and two of infantry. Captain Lee, of the engineers, brevet-colonel of the army, was offered the position of lieutenant-colonel of the Second Regiment of cavalry, which he accepted. He was a bold, graceful horseman, and the son of Light-Horse Harry now seemed to be in his proper element; but the chief of engineers endeavored to persuade him that it was a descent to go from the Engineer Corps into the cavalry. Soon after the regiment was organized and assigned to duty in Texas, the colonel, Albert Sidney Johnston, was selected to command an expedition to Utah, and the command of the regiment and the protection of the frontier of Texas against Indian marauders devolved upon Colonel Lee. There, as in every position he had occupied, diligence, sound judgment, and soldierly endowment made his service successful. In 1859, being on leave of absence in Virginia, he was made available for the suppression of the John Brown raid. As soon as relieved from that special assignment he returned to his command in Texas, and on April 25, 1861, resigned from the United States Army.

Then was his devotion to principle subjected to a crucial test, the severity of which can only be fully realized by a “West-Pointer” whose life has been spent in the army. That it was to sever the friendships of youth, to break up the habits of intercourse, of manners, and of thought, others may comprehend and estimate; but the sentiment most profound in the heart of the war-worn cadet, and which made the change most painful to Lee, he has partially expressed in the letters he wrote at the time to his beloved sister and to his venerated friend and commander, General Winfield Scott.

Partisan malignants have not failed to misrepresent the conduct of Lee, even to the extent of charging him with treason and desertion; and, unable to appreciate his sacrifice to the allegiance due to Virginia, they have blindly ascribed his action to selfish ambition. It has been erroneously asserted that he was educated at the expense of the general government, and an attempt has been made then to deduce a special obligation to adhere to it.

The cadets of the United States Military Academy are apportioned among the States in proportion to the number of representatives they severally have in the Congress; that is, one for each congressional district, with ten additional for the country at large. The annual appropriations for the support of the army and navy include the commissioned, warrant, and non-commissioned officers, privates, seamen, etc., etc. The cadets and midshipmen are warrant officers, and while at the academies are receiving elementary instruction in and for the public service. At whose expense are they taught and supported? Surely at that of the people, they who

pay the taxes and imposts to supply the treasury with means to meet appropriations as well to pay generals and admirals as cadets and midshipmen. The cadet's obligation for his place and support was to the State, by virtue of whose distributive share he was appointed, and whose contributions supplied the United States treasury; through the State, as a member of the Union, allegiance was due to it, and most usefully and nobly did Lee pay the debt both at home and abroad.

No proposition could be more absurd than that he was prompted by selfish ambition to join the Confederacy. With a small part of his knowledge of the relative amount of material of war possessed by the North and South, any one must have seen that the chances of war were against us; but if thrice-armed Justice should enable the South to maintain her independence, as our fathers had done, notwithstanding the unequal contest, what selfish advantage could it bring Lee? If, as some among us yet expected, many hoped, and all wished, there should be a peaceful separation, he would have left behind him all he had gained by long and brilliant service, and could not leave in our small army greater rank than was proffered to him in the larger one he had left. If active hostilities were prosecuted, his large property would be so exposed as to incur serious injury, if not destruction. His mother, Virginia, had revoked the grants she had voluntarily made to the Federal Government, and asserted the state sovereignty and independence she had won from the mother-country by the war of the Revolution; and thus, it was regarded, the allegiance of her sons became wholly her own. Above the voice of his friends at Washington, advising and entreating him to stay with them, rose the cry of Virginia calling her sons to defend her against threatened invasion. Lee heeded this cry only; alone he rode forth, as he had crossed the Pedrigal, his guiding star being duty, and offered his sword to Virginia. His offer was accepted, and he was appointed to the chief command of the forces of the State. Though his reception was most flattering and the confidence manifested in him unlimited, his conduct was conspicuous for the modesty and moderation which had always been characteristic of him.



The South had been involved in war without having made due preparations for it. She was without a navy, without even a merchant marine commensurate with her wants during peace; without arsenals, armories, foundries, manufactories, or stores on hand to supply those wants. Lee exerted himself to the utmost to raise and organize troops in Virginia, and when the State joined the Confederacy he was invited to come to Montgomery and explain the condition of his command; but his engagements were so pressing that he sent his second officer, General J. E. Johnston, to furnish the desired information.

When the capital of the Confederacy was removed from Montgomery to Richmond, Lee, under the orders of the President, was charged with the general direction of army affairs. In this position the same pleasant relations which had always existed between them continued, and Lee's indefatigable attention to the details of the various commands was of much benefit to the public service. In the meantime disasters, confusion, and disagreement among the commands in western Virginia made it necessary to send there an officer of higher rank than any then on duty in that section. The service was disagreeable, toilsome, and in no wise promising to give distinction to a commander. Passing by all reference to others, suffice it to say that at last Lee was asked to go, and, not counting the cost, he unhesitatingly prepared to start. By concentrating the troops, and by a judicious selection of the position he compelled the enemy finally to retreat.

There is an incident in this campaign which has never been reported, save as it was orally given to me by General Lee, with a request that I should take no official notice of it. A strong division of the enemy was reported to be encamped in a valley which, one of the colonels said he had found by reconnaissance, could readily be approached on one side, and he proposed, with his regiment, to surprise and attack. General Lee accepted his proposition, but told him that he himself would, in the meantime, with several regiments, ascend the mountain that overlooked the valley on the other side; and at dawn of day on a morning fixed the colonel was to make his assault. His firing was to be the signal for a joint attack from three directions. During the night Lee made a toilsome ascent of the mountain and was in position at the time agreed upon. The valley was covered by a dense fog. Not hearing the signal, he went by a winding path down the side of the mountain and saw the enemy preparing breakfast and otherwise so engaged as to indicate that they were entirely ignorant of any danger. Lee returned to his own command, told them what he had seen, and, though the expected signal had not been given by which the attacking regiment and another detachment were to engage in the assault, he proposed that the regiments then with him should surprise the camp, which he believed, under the circumstances, might successfully be done. The colonels went to consult their men and returned to inform that they were so cold, wet, and hungry as to be unfit for the enterprise. The fog was then lifting, and it was necessary to attack immediately or to withdraw before being

discovered by the much larger force in the valley. Lee therefore withdrew his small command and safely conducted them to his encampment.

The colonel who was to give the signal for the joint attack, misapprehending the purpose, reported that when he arrived upon the ground he found the encampment protected by a heavy abatis, which prevented him from making a sudden charge, as he had expected, not understanding that if he had fired his guns at any distance he would have secured the joint attack of the other detachments, and probably brought about an entire victory. Lee generously forbore to exonerate himself when the newspapers in Richmond criticized him severely, one denying him any other consideration except that which he enjoyed as "the President's pet."

It was an embarrassment to the Executive to be deprived of the advice of General Lee, but it was deemed necessary again to detach him to look after affairs on the coast of Carolina and Georgia, and so violent had been the unmerited attacks upon him by the Richmond press that it was thought proper to give him a letter to the Governor of South Carolina, stating what manner of man had been sent to him. There his skill as an engineer was manifested in the defenses he constructed and devised. On his return to Richmond he resumed his functions of general supervisor of military affairs.

In the spring of 1862 Bishop Meade lay dangerously ill. This venerable ecclesiastic had taught General Lee his catechism when a boy, and when he was announced to the bishop the latter asked to have him shown in immediately. He answered Lee's inquiry as to how he felt by saying: "Nearly gone, but I wished to see you once more," and then in a feeble voice added: "God bless you, Robert, and fit you for your high and responsible duties!" The great soldier stood reverently by the bed of his early preceptor in Christianity, but the saintly patriot saw beyond the hero the pious boy to whom he had taught the catechism; first he gave his dying blessing to Robert, and then, struggling against exhaustion, invoked Heaven's guidance for the General.

After the battle of Seven Pines Lee was assigned to the command of the army of Virginia. Thus far his duties had been of a kind to confer a great benefit, but to be unseen and unappreciated by the public. Now he had an opportunity for the employment of his remarkable power of generalization while attending to the minutest details. The public saw manifestation of the first, but could not estimate the extent to which the great results achieved were due to the exact order, systematic economy, and regularity begotten of his personal attention to the proper adjustment of even the smallest part of that mighty machine, a well-organized, disciplined army. His early instructor, in a published letter, seemed to regard the boy's labor of finishing a drawing on a slate as an excess of care. Was it so? No doubt, so far as the particular task was concerned; but this seedling is to be judged by the fruit the tree bore.

That little drawing on the slate was the prototype of the exact investigations which crowned with success his labors as a civil and military engineer as well as a commander of armies. May it not have been, not only by endowment but also from these early efforts, that his mind became so rounded, systematic, and complete that his notes written on the battle-field and in the saddle had the precision of form and lucidity of expression found in those written in the quiet of his tent? These incidents are related, not because of their intrinsic importance, but as presenting an example for the emulation of youths whose admiration of Lee may induce them to follow the toilsome methods by which he attained to true greatness and enduring fame.

In the early days of June, 1862, General McClellan threatened the capital, Richmond, with an army numerically much superior to that to the command of which Lee had been assigned. A day or two after he had joined the army, I was riding to the front and saw a number of horses hitched in front of a house, and among them recognized General Lee's. Upon dismounting and going in, I found some general officers engaged in consultation with him as to how McClellan's advance could be checked, and one of them commenced to explain the disparity of force and with pencil and paper to show how the enemy could throw out his boyaus and by successive parallels make his approach irresistible. "Stop, stop," said Lee; "if you go to ciphering we are whipped beforehand." He ordered the construction of earthworks, put guns in a position for a defensive line on the south side of the Chickahominy, and then commenced the strategic movement which was the inception of the seven-days' battles, ending in



uncovering the capital and driving the enemy to the cover of his gunboats in the James River.

There was never a greater mistake than that which has attributed to General Lee what General Charles Lee in his reply to General Washington, called the "rascally virtue." I have had occasion to remonstrate with General Lee for exposing himself, as I thought, unnecessarily in reconnaissance, but he justified himself by saying he "could not understand things so well unless he saw them." In the excitement of battle his natural combativeness would sometimes overcome his habitual self-control; thus it twice occurred in the campaign against Grant that the men seized his bridle to restrain him from his purpose to lead them in a charge.

He was always careful not to wound the sensibilities of any one, and sometimes, with an exterior jest or compliment, would give what, if properly appreciated, was instruction for the better performance of some duty; for example, if he thought a general officer was not visiting his command as early and as often as was desirable, he might admire his horse and suggest that the animal would be improved by more exercise.

He was not of the grave, formal nature that he seemed to some who only knew him when sad realities cast dark shadows upon him; but even then the humor natural to him would occasionally break out. For instance, General Lee called at my office for a ride to the defense of Richmond, then under construction. He was mounted on a stallion which some kind friend had recently sent him. As I mounted my horse, his was restive and kicked at mine. We rode on quietly together, though Lee was watchful to keep his horse in order. Passing by an encampment, we saw near a tent two stallions tied at a safe distance from one another. "There," said he, "is a man worse off than I am." When asked to explain, he said: "Don't you see, he has two stallions? I have but one."

His habits had always been rigidly temperate, and his fare in camp was of the simplest. I remember on one battle-field riding past where he and his staff were taking their luncheon. He invited me to share it, and when I dismounted for the purpose it proved to have consisted only of bacon and cornbread. The bacon had all been eaten, and there were only some crusts of cornbread left, which, however, having been saturated with the bacon gravy, were in those hard times altogether acceptable, as General Lee was assured in order to silence his regrets.

While he was on duty in South Carolina and Georgia, Lee's youngest son, Robert, then a mere boy, left school and came down to



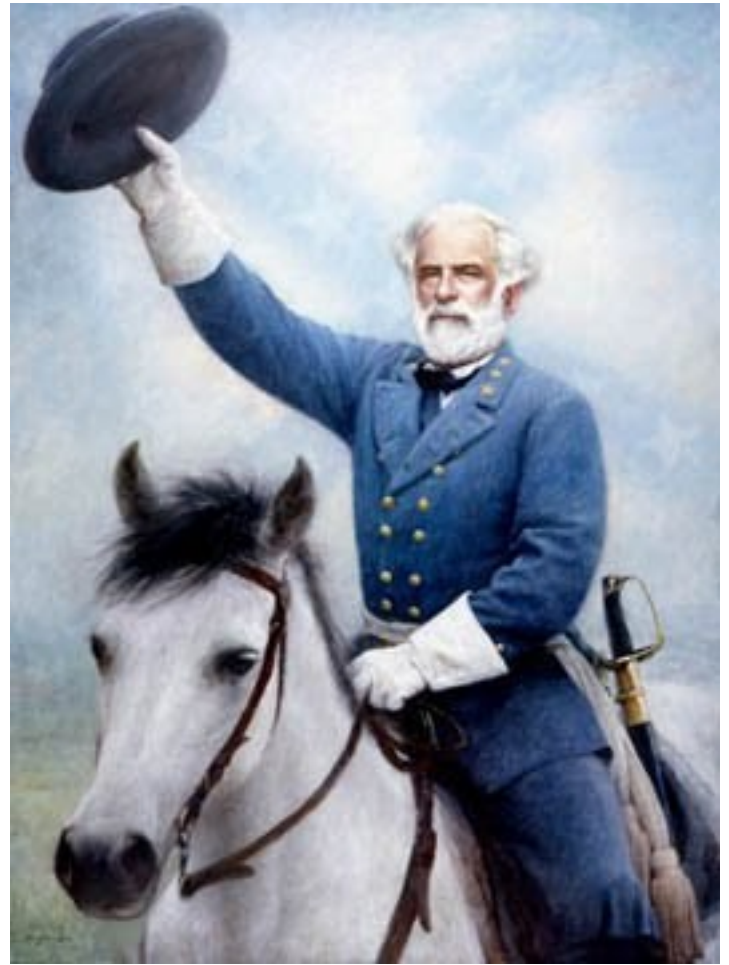
Richmond, announcing his purpose to go into the army. His older brother, Custis, was a member of my staff, and, after a conference, we agreed that it was useless to send the boy back to school, and that he probably would not wait in Richmond for the return of his father; so we selected a battery which had been organized in Richmond and sent Robert to join it. General Lee told me that at the battle of Sharpsburg this battery suffered so much that it had to be withdrawn for repairs and some fresh horses; but, as he had no troops even to form a reserve, as soon as the battery could be made useful it was ordered forward. He said that as it passed him a boy mounted as a driver of one of the guns, much stained with powder, said, "Are you going to put us in again, General?" After replying to him in the affirmative, he was struck by the voice of the boy and asked him, "Whose son are you?" to which he answered, "I am Robbie," whereupon his father said, "God bless you, my son, you must go in."

When General Lee was in camp near Richmond his friends frequently sent him something to improve his mess-table. A lady, noted for the very good bread she made had frequently favored him with some. One day, as we were riding through the street, she was standing in her front door and bowed to us. The salutation was, of course, returned. After we had passed he asked me who she was. I told him she was the lady who sent him such good bread. He was very sorry he had not known it, but to go back would prove that he had not recognized her as he should have done. His habitual avoidance of any seeming harshness, which caused him sometimes, instead of giving a command, to make a suggestion, was probably a defect. I believe that he had in this manner indicated that supplies were to be deposited for him at Amelia Court-House, but the testimony of General Breckenridge, Secretary of War, of General St. John, Commissary General, and Louis Harvey, president of the Richmond and Danville Railroad, conclusively proves that no such requisition was made upon either of the persons who should have received it; and, further, that there were supplies both at Danville and Richmond which could have been sent to Amelia Court-House if information had been received that they were wanted there.

Much has been written in regard to the failure to occupy the Round Top at Gettysburg early in the morning of the second day's battle, to which failure the best judgment attributes our want of entire success in that battle. Whether this was due to the order not being sufficiently positive or not, I will leave to the historians who are discussing that important event. I have said that Lee's natural

temper was combative, and to this may be ascribed his attack on the third day at Gettysburg, when the opportunity had not been seized which his genius saw was the gate to victory. It was this last attack to which I have thought he referred when he said it was all his fault, thereby sparing others from whatever blame was due for what had previously occurred.

After the close of the war, while I was in prison and Lee was on parole, we were both indicted on a charge of treason; but, in hot haste to get in their work, the indictment was drawn with the fatal omission of an overt act. General Grant interposed in the case of General Lee, on the ground that he had taken his parole and that he was, therefore, not subject to arrest. Another grand jury was summoned, and a bill was presented against me alone, and amended by inserting specifications of overt acts. General Lee was summoned as a witness before that grand jury, the object being to prove by him that I was responsible for certain things done by him during the war. I was in Richmond, having been released by virtue of the writ of habeas corpus. General Lee met me very soon after having given his testimony before the grand jury, and told me that to the inquiry whether he had not, in the specified cases, acted under my orders, he said that he had always consulted me when he had the opportunity, both on the field and elsewhere; that after discussion, if not before, we had always agreed, and therefore he had done with my consent and approval only what he might have done if he had not consulted me, and that he accepted the full responsibility for his acts. He said he had endeavored to present the matter as distinctly as he could, and looked up to see what effect he was producing upon the grand jury. Immediately before him sat a big black negro, whose head had fallen back on the rail of the bench he sat on; his mouth was wide open, and he was fast asleep. General Lee pleasantly added that, if he had had any vanity as an orator, it would have received a rude check.



The evident purpose was to offer to Lee a chance to escape by transferring to me the responsibility for overt acts. Not only to repel the suggestion, but unequivocally to avow his individual responsibility, with all that, under existing circumstances, was implied in this, was the highest reach of moral courage and gentlemanly pride. Those circumstances were exceptionally perilous to him. He had been indicted for treason; the United States President had vindictively threatened to make treason odious; the dregs of society had been thrown to the surface; judicial seats were held by political adventurers; the United States judge of the Virginia district had answered to a committee of Congress that he could pack a jury so as to convict Davis or Lee,—and it was under such surroundings that he met the grand jury and testified as stated above. Arbitrary power might pervert justice and trample on right, but could not turn the knightly Lee from the path of honor and truth.

Descended from a long line of illustrious warriors and statesmen, Robert Edward Lee added new glory to the name he bore, and, whether measured by a martial or an intellectual standard, will compare favorably with those whose reputation it devolved upon him to sustain and emulate.

Jefferson Davis



SOURCE: January 1890 issue of the North American Review (Vol. 150, issue 398, pp. 55-66).

Meet the Fire Eaters!

The Fire Eaters were a group of Southern men who long before 1861 argued for the separation of the South from the North. Their passion for their cause, and the cause of Dixie, earned them the name Fire Eaters

. Requiescant in pace Domini.



Roger Atkinson Pryor

Brigadier-General Roger Atkinson Pryor was born near Petersburg, Va., July, 1828, and was graduated at Hampden-Sidney college in 1845, and at the university of Virginia in 1848. Subsequently he prepared for the legal profession, and was admitted to the bar, but relinquished the practice on account of delicate health, and entered journalism. After an association with the Washington Union he became editor of the Richmond Enquirer in 1853, and rapidly attained prominence. In 1855, at the age of twenty-seven years, he was sent to Greece by President Pierce, as special commissioner for the adjustment of certain difficulties with that government.

On his return he established a political journal at Richmond, called *The South*, in which he presented with great vigor the most radical opposition to encroachments upon the local rights and industrial methods of the South. He was elected to Congress in 1859, to fill a vacancy, and was reelected in 1860. While in Congress his aggressiveness and passionate oratory gave him national prominence, and led to several duels. He took a prominent part in the proceedings of the Charleston Democratic convention in 1860, and after the presidential election ardently advocated the formation of the Southern Confederacy and the union with it of Virginia. Repairing to Charleston, S. C., he became a member of the volunteer staff of General Beauregard, and with his comrade, A. R. Chisholm, accompanied Aide-de-camps James Chestnut and Stephen D. Lee in the visit to Fort Sumter April 12th, notifying Major Anderson that fire would be opened on the fort. Thence they went by boat to Fort Johnson, where Capt. George S. James was ordered to open the fire. James, who was a great admirer of Pryor, offered the honor to him, as General Lee relates, but he replied, with much the same emotion as had characterized Anderson's receipt of the notice of bombardment, "I could not fire the first gun of the war."

From their boat midway between Johnson and Sumter, he witnessed the opening of the bombardment. After the flag on Sumter was shot down he was sent with Lee to offer assistance in subduing the fire in the fort, and discovered that Colonel Wigfall had made arrangements for surrender. Soon afterward he was assigned as colonel to the command of the Third Virginia regiment, stationed at Portsmouth and vicinity, and later in the year was elected a member of the First Confederate congress, in which he served with prominence as a member of the military committee.

Continuing in military command, he moved his regiment to Yorktown in March, 1862, and engaged in battle at Yorktown and Williamsburg, after which he was promoted brigadier-general. In this rank he participated in the battle of Seven Pines, and was particularly distinguished, his men fighting bravely and with heavy



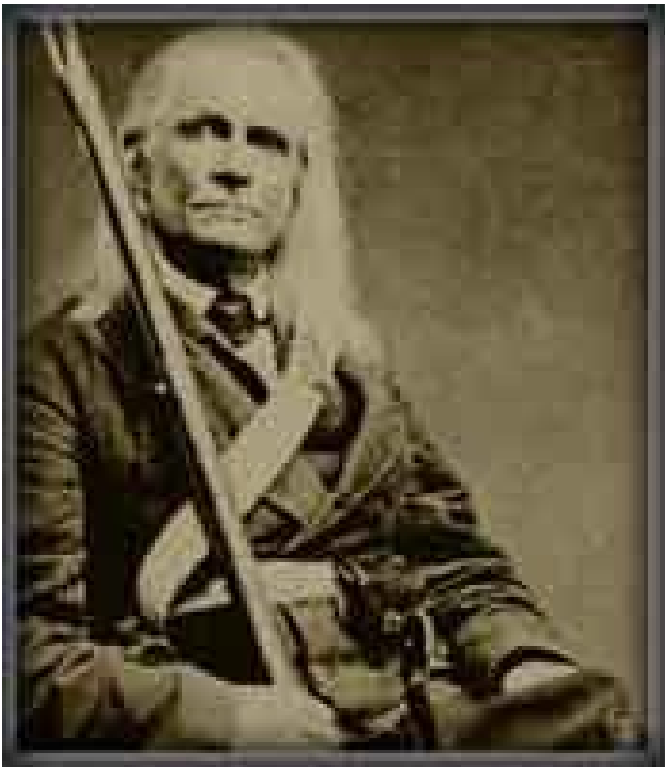
loss, in the victories won at Gaines' Mill and Frayser's Farm. With Longstreet's corps he took part in the second battle of Manassas, and shared the distinction won by Anderson's corps at Harper's Ferry and Sharpsburg. In November General Lee requested Pryor to return to Richmond and organize a brigade to operate south of the James river.

He rendered valuable services in that field until his resignation, August 26, 1863.

In 1864 he was captured by the United States troops and for a time confined at Fort Lafayette. Upon the close of hostilities he urged a policy of quiet acquiescence.

The degree of LL. D. was conferred upon him by Hampden-Sidney college.

[Confederate Military History, Vol. III, pp. 654-655.] (<http://members.aol.com/jweaver300/grayson/pryor.htm>)



Edmund Ruffin

Edmund Ruffin was born in 1794 and educated in Virginia, including a brief period at the College of William and Mary. For most of his life, Ruffin was a farmer and a renowned agricultural reformer. Experiments on his farm convinced him that fertilizers, crop rotation, drainage, and good plowing could revitalize the declining soil of his native state.

From the 1820s onward, Ruffin published his findings, edited an agricultural journal, lectured, and organized agricultural societies. In the 1850s, he became president and commissioner of the Virginia State Agricultural Society.

Increasingly, however, Ruffin turned his attention in the 1850s to politics, especially the defense of slavery and secession. Although he had earlier expressed some doubts about slavery and opened the pages of his agricultural journal to arguments about colonization, by the 1850s Ruffin had become a staunch proponent of slavery and of the racial inferiority of blacks. He joined the ranks of fire-eating southern radicals advocating a separate southern nation to protect slavery and the southern way of life. Secession became as great a reform cause as agricultural improvement. Both would rejuvenate the South.

Ruffin's desire to push the secessionist movement towards a confrontation with the North brought him to Charleston during the Sumter crisis. He intended to take his stand with the Confederacy, and he hoped events would drive his native state, Virginia, out of the Union. His ardent southern nationalism made him a hero of southern radicals. He was invited to attend three secession conventions, and given the honor of firing one of the first batteries against Fort Sumter.

As the Confederacy's fortunes ebbed during the war, however, Ruffin grew distraught. Plagued by ill health, family misfortunes, and the rapid collapse of Confederate forces in 1865, Ruffin proclaimed "unmitigated hatred to Yankee rule," and on June 17, 1865, committed suicide. His act, sometimes considered the "last shot"

of the Civil War, became identified with the Confederacy's defeat and a symbol of the lost cause. His suicide was interpreted as an expression of the Southern code of honor, the refusal to accept a life in defeat.

(Source: <http://home.sandiego.edu/~clawson/edmund.html>)

Edmund Ruffin's Famous Last Words

"I here declare my unmitigated hatred to Yankee rule—to all political, social and business connection with the Yankees and to the Yankee race. Would that I could impress these sentiments, in their full force, on every living Southerner and bequeath them to every one yet to be born! May such sentiments be held universally in the outraged and down-trodden South, though in silence and stillness, until the now far-distant day shall arrive for just retribution for Yankee usurpation, oppression and atrocious outrages, and for deliverance and vengeance for the now ruined, subjugated and enslaved Southern States!

...And now with my latest writing and utterance, and with what will be near my latest breath, I here repeat and would willingly proclaim my unmitigated hatred to yankee rule—to all political, social and business connections with Yankees, and the perfidious, malignant and vile Yankee race."

—Edmund Ruffin

On June 18, 1865 Edmund Ruffin, Fire Eater, chose to commit suicide rather than submit to the subjugation of Yankee bayonet rule. Defiant to the bitter end, this fiery Southern patriot penned these famous last words in his diary just minutes before taking leave of the Yankee tyranny that had descended upon Dixie:



Louis Trezevant Wigfall

Louis Trezevant Wigfall, a Senator from Texas; was born near Edgefield, Edgefield District, S.C., April 21, 1816.

He pursued classical studies; attended the University of Virginia and graduated from South Carolina College (now the University of South Carolina) at Columbia in 1837; served as a lieutenant of Volunteers in the Seminole War in Florida in 1835; attended the law department of the University of Virginia at Charlottesville; admitted to the bar in 1839 and commenced practice in Edgefield, S.C.; moved to Marshall, Tex., in 1848; member, State house of representatives 1849-1850; member, State senate 1857-1860; elected as a Democrat to the United States Senate to fill the vacancy caused by the death of J. Pinckney Henderson and served from December 5, 1859, until March 23, 1861, when he withdrew; expelled from

the Senate in 1861 for support of the rebellion; served in the Confederate Army during the Civil War; represented the State of Texas in the Confederate Congress; after the war moved to London, England; returned to the United States in 1873 and settled in Baltimore, Md.; died in Galveston, Tex., February 18, 1874; interment in the Episcopal Cemetery.

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(Biographical Dictionary of the United States Congress, Website: bioguide.congress.gov, 5 April 2005)

From the Handbook of Texas Online

WIGFALL, LOUIS TREZEVANT (1816-1874). Louis T. Wigfall, secessionist, was born in Edgefield, South Carolina, on April 21, 1816, to Levi Durand and Eliza (Thomson) Wigfall and educated at South Carolina College and the University of Virginia. Wigfall believed in a society led by the planter class and based on slavery and the chivalric code. As a young man he neglected his law practice for contentious politics that led him to wound a man in a duel (and be wounded himself) and to kill another during a quarrel. In 1846 Wigfall arrived in Galveston, then moved with his wife, Charlotte, and three children to Nacogdoches, where he was a law partner of Thomas J. Jennings and William B. Ochiltree. Soon Wigfall opened his own law office in Marshall. He was active in Texas politics from the month he arrived, "alerting" Texans to the dangers of abolition and growing influence of non-slave states in the United States Congress. At the Galveston County Democratic convention in 1848 he condemned congressional efforts to prohibit the expansion of slavery into the territories and expressed sorrow that Texas would not take the lead in opposing such unconstitutional actions.

Named in 1850 to the Texas House of Representatives, Wigfall attacked United States Senator Sam Houston as a coward and a traitor to Texas and the South. Wigfall played a major role in organizing Texas Democrats and fighting the American (Know-Nothing) party and Sam Houston in 1855-56. Wigfall was one of the few men in Houston's opposition who rivaled him as a stump speaker, and he was widely credited with Houston's defeat for the governorship in 1857. That year Wigfall was elected to the Texas Senate, and in 1858 he had a strong voice in the state Democratic convention that adopted a states' rights platform. With the breakup of the Know-Nothings, many moderates moved back into the Democratic party, and it appeared that Wigfall's radicalism was repudiated and that Houston and moderates were ascendant. But Wigfall capitalized on the fear that John Brown's raid on Harper's Ferry caused in the slave states and was elected to the United States Senate in 1859. In the Senate Wigfall earned a reputation for eloquence, acerbic debate, and readiness for encounter. In the forefront of southern "fire-eaters," Wigfall continued his fight for slavery and states' rights and against expanding the power of national government. Nevertheless he tried, unsuccessfully, to get federal funds to defend the Texas frontier against Indian attacks and to build the Southern Pacific Railroad into Texas.

After Abraham Lincoln was elected president, Wigfall coauthored the "Southern Manifesto," declaring that any hope for relief in the Union was gone and that the honor and independence of the South required the organization of a Southern Confederacy. Wigfall helped foil efforts for compromise to save the Union and urged all slave states to secede. He stayed in the Senate after Texas seceded, spying on the Union, chiding northern senators, and raising and training troops in Maryland to send to South Carolina. With the assistance of Benjamin McCulloch, he bought revolvers and rifles for Texas Confederates. Wigfall made his presence felt when the Civil War began at Fort Sumter, rowing under fire to the fort and dictating unauthorized surrender terms to the federal commander. Between April and July 1861, when he was finally expelled from the Senate, Wigfall was a member of the Provisional Congress of the Confederacy, an aide to President Jefferson Davis, and a United States Senator. He was commissioned colonel of the First Texas Infantry on August 28, 1861, and

on November 21 Davis nominated him brigadier general in the Provisional Army, a move later confirmed by the Confederate Congress. Wigfall commanded the Texas Brigade of the Army of Northern Virginia (Hood's Texas Brigade) until February 1862, when he resigned to take a seat in the Confederate Congress.

At the beginning of the war Wigfall was a friend and supporter of President Davis. But soon after Wigfall's election to the Confederate Senate they quarreled over military and other matters. During the last two years of the Confederacy Wigfall carried on public and conspiratorial campaigns to strip Davis of all influence. Despite his public advocacy of states' rights, Wigfall did little for Texas. In the Confederacy he worked for military strength at the expense of state and individual rights. But he opposed the arming of slaves and was willing to lose the war rather than admit that blacks were worthy of being soldiers. After the fall of the Confederacy, Wigfall fled to Texas for almost a year and then, in the spring of 1866, to England, where he tried to foment war between Britain and the United States, hoping to give the South an opportunity to rise again. He returned to the United States in 1872, lived in Baltimore, moved back to Texas in 1874, and died in Galveston on February 18, 1874. He was buried there in the Episcopal Cemetery.

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Alvy L. King

[Handbook of Texas Online, s.v. "WIGFALL, LOUIS TREZEVANT," <http://www.tsha.utexas.edu/handbook/online/articles/view/WW/fwi4.html> (accessed April 6, 2005).]

William Lowndes Yancey, Fire Eater!



1814-1863

Lawyer, Planter, Editor, Statesman

The nicknames appended to **William L. Yancey**—"the Silver-tongued Orator of Secession" and "the Prince of Fire-eaters"—attest to his best known accomplishments.

One of the foremost Southern nationalists, he was lauded as a great speaker among great speakers in an era when oratorical skill was essential to success in politics.

Born in Warren County, Georgia, on August 14, 1814, to Caroline (Bird) and Benjamin C. Yancey, he was taken from his beloved South as a child. In the wake of his father's death, his mother had married a local schoolteacher, the Reverend Nathan Beman, a native of New England. After selling the Yancey slaves, the Reverend Beman moved his new family to New York and became a fervent abolitionist. As a young adult

Yancey chose to return to his native South in 1833 to practice law, first to Georgia and then to South Carolina, where he married Sarah Caroline Earle of Greenville in 1835. After moving his new bride to Cahaba, Alabama in 1836, William abandoned the practice of law to become a planter and a newspaper editor.

A political career was natural for the outspoken young attorney, planter, and editor. His early views were actually those of a strong unionist and he opposed John C. Calhoun during the famous Nullification Crisis in South Carolina. But over time, he became a leading advocate of a separate Southern nation. Like most other prominent fire-eaters, Yancey's political beliefs embraced a sound and strong program of progressive social reforms, including women's rights, banking, the penal code, prisons, and education. His liberalism extended to public denouncements of the religious persecution of Catholics by the Know-Nothing Party, a violation of religious freedom and of the constitution that he so strongly supported.

As a Democrat, Yancey became a significant party leader on both the state and national level, as well as one of the most powerful men of the antebellum South. His political career included service in the Alabama General Assembly, the national House of Representatives, the Confederate diplomatic corps, and the Confederate States Senate.

After a lifetime of service to Alabama and to two nations—the United States of America and the Confederate States of America—William Lowndes Yancey died on July 27, 1863. No man could better symbolize an era. William Lowndes Yancey was inducted into the Alabama Men's Hall of Fame in 1995.

(www.samford.edu/groups/amhf/id39.htm)

From Wikipedia

William Lowndes Yancey (August 10, 1814 - July 27, 1863), American political leader, son of Benjamin Cudworth Yancey, an able lawyer of South Carolina, of Welsh descent, was born near the Falls of the Ogeechee, Warren County, Georgia.

After his father's death in 1817, his mother remarried and removed to Troy, New York. Yancey attended Williams College for one year, studied law at Greenville, South Carolina, and was admitted to the bar. As editor of the Greenville (South Carolina) Mountaineer (1834-35), he ardently opposed nullification.

In 1835 he married a wealthy woman, and in the winter of 1836-1837 removed to her plantation in Alabama, near Cahaba (Dallas county), and edited weekly papers there and in Wetumpka (Elmore county), his summer home. The accidental poisoning of his slaves in 1839 forced him to devote himself entirely to law and journalism; he was now an impassioned advocate of State's Rights and supported Van Buren in the presidential campaign of 1840.

He was elected in 1841 to the state House of Representatives, in which he served for one year; became state senator in 1843, and in 1844 was elected to the national House of Representatives to fill a vacancy, being re-elected in 1845. In Congress his ability and his unusual oratorical gifts at once gained recognition. In 1846, however, he resigned his seat, partly on account of poverty, and partly because of his disgust with the Northern Democrats, whom he accused of sacrificing their principles to their economic interests.

His entire energy was now devoted to the task of exciting resistance to anti-slavery aggression. He is generally included as one of several southerners referred to as "fire-eaters." In 1848 he secured the adoption by the state Democratic convention of the so-called "Alabama Platform," which was endorsed by the legislatures of Alabama and Georgia and by Democratic state conventions in Florida and Virginia, declaring that it was the duty of Congress not only to allow slavery in all the territories but to protect it, that a territorial legislature could not exclude it, and that the Democratic party should not support for president or vice-president a candidate "not

... openly and unequivocally opposed to either of the forms of excluding slavery from the territories of the United States mentioned in these resolutions."

When the conservative majority in the national Democratic convention in Baltimore refused to incorporate his ideas into the platform, Yancey with one colleague left the convention and wrote an Address to the People of Alabama, defending his course and denouncing the cowardice of his associates. Naturally, he opposed the Compromise of 1850, and went so far as openly to advocate secession; but the conservative element was in control of the state.

Disappointment of the South with the results of "Squatter Sovereignty" caused a reaction in his favour, and in 1858 he wrote a letter advocating the appointment of committees of safety, the formation of a League of United Southerners, and the repeal of the laws making the African slave-trade piracy. After twelve years' absence from the national conventions of the Democratic party, he attended the Charleston convention in April 1860, and again demanded the adoption of his ideas. Defeated by a small majority, he again left the hall, followed this time by the delegates of Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, South Carolina, Florida, Texas, and two of the three delegates from Delaware. On the next day the Georgia delegation and a majority of the Arkansas delegation withdrew. In the Baltimore convention of the seceders he advocated the nomination of John Cabell Breckinridge, and he made a tour of the country on his behalf.

In Alabama he was the guiding spirit in the secession convention and delivered the address of welcome to Jefferson Davis on his arrival at Montgomery. He refused a place in President Davis's cabinet. On March 31, 1861 he sailed for Europe as the head of a commission sent to secure recognition of the Confederate government, but returned in 1862 to take a seat in the Confederate Senate, in which he advocated a more vigorous prosecution of the war.

On account of his failing health, he left Richmond early in 1863, and on the 27th of July died at his home near Montgomery.



Robert Barnwell Rhett

Robert Barnwell Rhett (October 21, 1800–September 14, 1876) was a United States secessionist politician from South Carolina.

"The one great evil from which all other evils have flowed, is the overthrow of the Constitution of the United States. The Government of the United States is no longer the government of a confederate republic, but of a consolidated democracy. It is no longer a free government, but a despotism. It is, in fact, such a government as Great Britain attempted to set over our fathers, and which was resisted and defeated by a seven years struggle for independence."

Rhett was born in Beaufort, South Carolina. His name was originally Smith, but after entering public life he changed it for that of a prominent Colonial ancestor. He studied law and became a member of the State Legislature in 1826.

His posts were lawyer, state legislator, state attorney general (1832), U.S. representative (1837-49), and senator (1850-52). Extremely pro-Southern in his views, he split (1844) with John C. Calhoun to lead the movement for separate state action on the tariff. Rhett was one of the leading Fire Eaters at the Nashville Convention of 1850, which failed to endorse his aim of secession for the whole South.

Secessionist

When South Carolina passed (1852) an ordinance merely declaring the state's right to secede, he resigned (1852) his seat. He continued to express his fiery secessionist sentiments through the Charleston Mercury, edited by his son. Rhett was a member of the South Carolina Secession Convention in 1860, and was the author of its address to the people. In the Montgomery Convention which met to organize a provisional government for the seceding States he was one of the most active delegates, and was chairman of the committee which reported the Confederate Constitution. Subsequently he was elected a member of the Lower House of the Confederate Congress. Receiving no higher office in the Confederate government, he returned to South Carolina, where he sharply criticized the policies of President Jefferson Davis.

After the end of the War of the Rebellion, he settled in Louisiana. He was a delegate to the Democratic National Convention in 1868.

Rhett died on September 14, 1876 in St. James Parish, Louisiana. He is buried in Magnolia Cemetery in Charleston, South Carolina.

[From Wikipedia]

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(Source: Biographical Directory of the United States Congress, 1771-Present; from <http://www.infoplease.com/biography/us/congress/rhett-robert-barnwell.html>)



Confederate Generals of Gettysburg: The Leaders of America's Greatest Battle



**CONFEDERATE FIRST CORPS,
MCLAWS'S DIVISION**

- a series

16 guns/7,120 men

MAJOR GENERAL LAFAYETTE MCLAWS

"Square" and "solid" applied equally to Lafayette McLaws's character and appearance. His complexion was swarthy, his hair was curly and very black, his beard was enormous and bushy and half-covered his broad face, and his eyes--"coal black" according to the observant Rebel artilleryman Robert Stiles--peered out in a rather owlish way. He was short, compact, and burly, with big square shoulders, deep chest, and large, muscular arms. Stiles thought that "of his type, he is a handsome man."

McLaws personified stolidity, and he reminded Stiles of the Roman centurion who stood at his post in Herculaneum "until the lava ran over him." He was a capable soldier without flair, whose steady performance never produced a high moment. His reliability and dogged tenacity rubbed off on his division, however, and made them as hard to dislodge as any in the army. He exuded unflinching fortitude, with the downside being that he lacked military imagination, and was at his best when told exactly what to do and when closely supervised by superiors. Although he developed a suitable mastery of profanity, his martial demeanor hid a sensitive soul. McLaws was a feeling, literate man who poured out his experiences in candid, often sentimental letters to his wife. On the Rappahannock he and Brig. Gen. William Barksdale would wander over to the riverbank at night and listen quietly to the Yankee bands playing the army favorites about lives and loves lost.

A native Georgian, McLaws was a student at the University of Virginia when he received his appointment to West Point, where he graduated 48th out of 62 students in the Class of 1842. Soon after, he married Zachary Taylor's niece. From there he made his life the army, serving in the infantry in Mexico, on the frontier, and in the Mormon Expedition. He had been a captain of infantry for almost ten years when the Sumter crisis erupted in April 1861 and McLaws resigned his commission to "go South."

Made colonel and assigned to the 10th Georgia regiment in June 1861, McLaws was posted on the James Peninsula and was helping to construct its defenses at the time the battle of First Manassas was being fought further north. Soon, he had so impressed his superior Brig. Gen. John Magruder that he was made brigadier general in September and given a division in the Peninsula defenses in November. The fighting on the Peninsula began in earnest with the arrival of McClellan's Union army the next spring, and after an impressive performance in the battle at Yorktown, for which he was highly commended by both Magruder and army commander Gen. Joseph Johnston, McLaws was made major general on May 23, 1862. He had risen very far very fast, having established himself among the top echelon of Confederate generals before the climax of the Peninsula Campaign. No one could have predicted that he would never rise further.

The next month, in the Seven Days' Battles at Savage's Station and Malvern Hill, McLaws's division fought, but it was Magruder who directed most of its operations. In July, after that week of combat had dimmed Magruder's star and added luster to Maj. Gen. "Pete" Longstreet's, McLaws and his division were added to Longstreet's command, an association which would last for the next two years of almost constant campaigning. In August 1862, when Lee and the rest of the army left Richmond to "suppress" the Union army under John Pope, McLaws and his division were left on the Peninsula (along with D.H. Hill's division) to keep an eye on the Federals there. As a result, McLaws missed the battle of Second Bull Run.

McLaws's and Hill's divisions were soon summoned by Lee for the Maryland Campaign in September. There, McLaws made a poor showing which impaired his standing with General Lee. After McLaws assisted with the capture of Harper's Ferry, at a time when Lee was desperately hurrying to concentrate his army at Sharpsburg and expecting McLaws to demand the last energies of his men, McLaws stumbled. His division took forty-one hours to cover the distance--from Harper's Ferry to Sharpsburg--which A.P. Hill's division covered the later that day in nine. McLaws barely arrived in time

for the battle. In his report after Sharpsburg, Lee came as close to censure as he ever did in written comments on his officers' performances when he wrote that "[McLaws's] progress was slow, and he did not reach the battlefield at Sharpsburg until sometime after the engagement of the 17th began."

At Fredericksburg three months later, McLaws put himself back in Lee's good graces. The defensive preparations above the town were the type of work at which McLaws shone. Under Longstreet's supervision and with the help of corps engineers, he dug pits for his batteries and strengthened parts of his line with obstructions. He went to work on a sunken road which made up part of his front, improving on a stone wall which protected the road by digging a ditch on the town side of the road, and banking the dirt against the wall. Within this ideal firing trench he provided his men with stacks of loaded muskets. When the battle was over, the snowy ground in front of the trench was thickly carpeted with Union dead from many divisions; it was the most one-sided victory of the war. The reports of both Longstreet and Lee praised McLaws.

Then at Chancellorsville McLaws's star dimmed again. He received word in the latter stages of the battle that Lee wished his and Early's division to attack and overwhelm the isolated Union Sixth Corps. McLaws was the highest ranking major general in the Confederate army, and Jubal Early the most recently appointed, but the deferential McLaws ended up letting Early direct the whole operation. McLaws had always been happier obeying a direct order than acting on a discretionary one. Called on for initiative to solve the puzzle of how to move against the enemy at Chancellorsville, he was paralyzed by indecision. When the attack finally got under way, McLaws was hesitant and unaggressive, and the enemy host escaped.

The loss of Lieut. Gen. "Stonewall" Jackson at Chancellorsville catalyzed a reorganization of the army that Lee had been contemplating for months. The two corps, Jackson's and Longstreet's, would become three, and two new corps commanders would be named. Longstreet recommended McLaws, and McLaws thought himself deserving of corps command by virtue of his seniority and his reliable service. When in late May Lee chose Maj. Gens. Dick Ewell and A.P. Hill for the new posts, McLaws was shattered. Both of the men chosen were from Virginia, and McLaws felt that favoritism for natives of the Old Dominion had deprived him of his rightful standing in the army. He requested a transfer.

But there was more to McLaws's failure to advance than the fact that he was a Georgian. He had been ill the previous winter, and his listless performance at Chancellorsville had disappointed Lee and recalled his similar failure before Sharpsburg the previous fall. Lee simply did not think McLaws's performance over the last year indicated that he was deserving of further advancement.

Despite his disappointment, McLaws's strengths as a division commander were appreciated by his troops. He attended closely to the needs of his men and had their respect, even if he was not brilliant. "He was an officer of much experience and most careful," noted Longstreet's aide Moxley Sorrel. "Fond of detail, his command was in excellent condition, and his ground and position well examined and reconnoitered; not brilliant in field or quick in movement there or elsewhere, he could always be counted on and had secure the entire confidence of his officers and men." His tendency to be cautious--he sometimes sent out pickets as far as eight miles--and his fussiness and rigidity in enforcing regulations--his men nicknamed him "Make Laws"--made his division a reliable one. McLaws was a career soldier who could be depended upon, but needed to be closely supervised. He had commanded his division longer than anybody in Lee's army and knew it inside and out.

At Gettysburg

McLaws's division was in Greenwood on July 1, with orders from Lee to march east over South Mountain to Gettysburg, about 17 miles distant. The men, however, were prevented from using the only road over the mountain by Ewell's trains--reckoned by McLaws to be 14 miles long--which clogged the road for ten hours, until 4:00 P.M.. Falling in behind the trains, McLaws marched until midnight. His men camped at Marsh Creek, about 3_ miles west of Gettysburg.

On the morning of July 2, McLaws rode up to Lee's headquarters and got personal instructions from Lee on how to place his division for the day's attack. Lee wanted McLaws to place his division perpendicular to the Emmitsburg Road at the Peach Orchard and go northward toward the town, rolling up the Union left flank; the day's march was meant to produce another Chancellorsville. McLaws went back to his men, who had moved forward that morning along the Chambersburg Pike,

marched them back to Herr Ridge and waited for Longstreet to give the signal for the trek to their destination.

Longstreet was in a peevish mood and stalled the march until noon. When the two-division-long column finally got moving to the south, it soon came to a stretch of road visible to enemy scouts on Little Round Top. To achieve surprise, the column would have to start over and find a hidden approach. McLaws still wanted to lead the march, however, so rather than everybody turning around and Hood's division leading, McLaws's van marched back along the entire column to the Chambersburg Pike, wasting valuable time. McLaws finally finished his troubled march around 3:30 P.M., reaching the woods along Seminary Ridge opposite the Peach Orchard only to find Yankee infantry and artillery already bristling from the peach trees. When McLaws had a closer look he was shocked to find that the Federal line extended past his front to the right, toward Little Round Top. News of the whereabouts of the Union left flank had obviously been faulty. His assault as planned by Lee would meet head-on opposition.

McLaws and Longstreet were by now both muttering oaths and barking orders. McLaws deployed his division on a two-brigade front, with Kershaw on the right and Barksdale on the left. Semmes was put in a second line behind Kershaw, and Wofford behind Barksdale. Under a hastily improvised plan, McLaws would now have to wait for Hood, deploying on his right, to attack first. About 4:30 P.M. the artillery opened up and Hood's brigades plunged forward toward Little Round Top and Devil's Den. Longstreet stayed with McLaws, and by now he was at his most overbearing. There was not much for McLaws to do except to move among his men, steadying them and telling them to be patient. This arrangement, which produced a lasting bitter resentment in McLaws, was no doubt the result of Longstreet's secret promise to Lee before the battle that he would supervise McLaws closely.

Finally, around 5:30 P.M., Longstreet gave the signal and Kershaw's brigade moved out, then Semmes's behind him. Barksdale's and Wofford's brigades got tangled up in the batteries dotting the Confederate line and were delayed, but soon they too were away, and in a matter of minutes had stormed through Union lines in the Peach Orchard and beyond. As they poured forward, they outflanked the Union brigades in the Wheatfield fighting Kershaw and Semmes and sent them back in a rout. McLaws waited behind with Longstreet while his four brigades stormed eastward.

When McLaws's brigades had gone as far as they could go in the dying light of July 2, Longstreet, who was evidently keeping a firm hand on McLaws's command, ordered them back before they were annihilated by the Union reserves which continued to arrive in front of them. The men of the division pulled back to safe positions from Devil's Den to the Peach Orchard for the night. McLaws's division had fought with deadly ferocity. Between them, Hood's and McLaws's divisions inflicted about 9,000 casualties on the Yankees of the Third, Second, and Fifth Corps. McLaws's casualties for the day were about 2,200, 30% of his force. The disparity in the losses is extraordinary, especially considering that McLaws and Hood were the attackers.

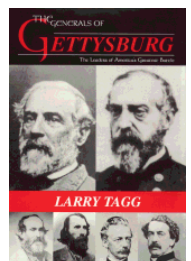
On July 3 McLaws's Division, as well as Hood's, were pulled back to the west side of Emmitsburg Road after the failure of Pickett's Charge.

McLaws did not write a report after the battle of Gettysburg. He later wrote that the attack was "unnecessary and the whole plan of battle a bad one." Longstreet, for his part, failed to commend McLaws in his report after the battle. McLaws never again served with the Army of Northern Virginia. Going west with Longstreet's Corp in the autumn, he was brought up on charges of lack of cooperation and negligence by Longstreet after the disappointing Knoxville Campaign. A court found McLaws guilty of some of the charges, but the next May, Jefferson Davis ordered that he be allowed back in the army. Lee declined to accept him, however, and assigned McLaws to South Carolina, where he spent the rest of the war.

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Excerpted from [*"The Generals of Gettysburg: The Leaders of America's Greatest Battle"*](#) by Larry Tagg



NEXT MONTH: [Brigadier General Joseph Brevard Kershaw](#)

The Pillaged Grave of a Civil War Hero – Part Two

Occasionally unusual circumstances arise that call for the excavation of a historic burial. In 1977 the grave of Civil War hero Colonel W.M. Shy was disturbed. Upon examination a body was discovered that was thought to have been a recent murder victim. After a thorough examination, the body was identified as that of Colonel Shy.

A short history leading up to the death of Colonel Shy (pictured at right in a pre-war-dated image) can be found in the previous issue of the Belo Herald and has been included to give the reader an idea of the events preceding his death. The purpose of this paper is to show how professionals, trained in archaeology and related sciences, can assist law enforcement agencies in forensic cases that might otherwise go unsolved. **Continued from last issue.....**



Colonel William M. Shy, Civil War Hero

Vandalism of the Grave

The grave of Colonel Shy lay peacefully behind the beautiful antebellum home on Del Rio Pike with little notoriety for over a hundred years. Then, on Christmas Eve of 1977, local police officers were called to investigate a report that the grave had been disturbed. Upon arriving, the deputies discovered a headless body on top of the casket and thought someone had placed a murdered man in Colonel Shy's burial plot. Local authorities could not match the headless corpse with any of their missing persons reports. Wild theories abounded, some even speculated that the head might have been removed to hamper identification of the body.

Dr. William M. Bass, Forensic Anthropologist and Head of the Anthropology Department, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, was called in to aid with the removal and identification of this unknown body. If one had followed the story in the newspapers it would have read much like a condensed version of a Damon Runyon murder mystery. Excerpts from some of these newspaper articles are as follows:

Dec. 21, 1977 Franklin.

Williamson County authorities investigating the tampering of a Civil War soldier's grave discovered that a second body had been placed in the grave probably within the last year. The body is an adult male, clad in what appeared to be a tuxedo. The body of Colonel Shy, in its steel vault, was undisturbed, officials said (Nashville Banner, Dec. 31, 1977).

Dr. Bass arrived and a more thorough search turned up the head and other missing body parts. Four days later this article appeared:

Jan 4, 1978. The body was found in a sitting position. Bass estimated the body to have been dead two to six months (Nashville Banner, Jan. 4, 1978).

A couple of days later the plot thickened:

Jan. 6, 1978. The corpse apparently died from a blow to the head. Bass said that the victim was a white male with brown hair, approximately 5'11", 175 pounds and was from 26 to 29 years old. Bass determined that the man had been dead from six to 12 months. "It looks like we have a homicide on our hands", said Chief Deputy Fleming Williams (Nashville Banner, Jan. 6, 1978).

By January 9th the truth was beginning to become evident. By now Dr. Bass had taken the remains back to his laboratory in Knoxville for a more thorough examination. It was now becoming obvious to the investigators that the corpse was very likely that of Colonel Shy. Dr. Bass stated:

Jan. 9, 1978. "I got the age, sex, race, height and weight right but I was off on the time of death by 113 years." (Nashville Banner, Jan. 9, 1978).

The article goes on to explain that Dr. Bass does not normally deal with embalmed bodies. This corpse had the appearance of one that had been dead but a few months. Some of the flesh was still pink and there were remnants of brain and intestinal matter found in the body. By January 13th, all of the evidence had been examined and most of the tests returned. The three-week-old mystery about the body, believed at first to be that of a recently murdered man, was solved to everyone's satisfaction. The Nashville Tennessean by-lined:

Jan. 13, 1978. "ITS OFFICIAL, SHY IN OWN GRAVE "

It went on to quote Williamson County Chief Deputy Fleming Williams as saying: "Our conclusion is that whoever dug

down into Colonel Shy's grave found the cast iron coffin, broke through the top of it and pulled Colonel Shy out, then stripped him of everything of value." (Dawson 1978:13).

Scientific Evidence Collaborating Colonel Shy's Identity

Because the body was in such an excellent state of preservation no one involved with the case even considered that it might be Colonel Shy, who had been buried some 113 years. Another problem causing the confusion was the fact that the public and press were demanding an immediate answer to the riddle without allowing Dr. Bass sufficient time to conduct his examination in a slow, scientific manner. With more time, and under proper laboratory conditions, evidence was soon gained that proved that this was definitely not a recent murder victim but was more likely the body of Colonel William M. Shy. (Pertinent information was drawn from the official report submitted by Dr. Bass to the concerned law enforcement and state medical officials and is shown here in the following condensed form.)

The following determinations were made after the skeleton was examined by Dr. Bass in Knoxville (Bass n.d.):

SEX: Male. Based on both morphological observations and anthropometric measurements of the cranial and post cranial skeleton (Bass 1971). The pelvis is that of a male, the skull has brow ridges and large mastoid processes, and, to quote Dr. Bass: "The squarest chin I have ever observed on a mandible."

AGE: 26-29 The age estimation is based on closure of all the epiphyses and morphological changes on the pubic symphysis (McKern and Stewart 1957). (Shy was 26 when killed.)

RACE: White (Caucasoid). Based on morphological features of the skull and the association of a large amount of light brown hair with the body (skull) which is also indicative of a white or Caucasoid individual.

STATURE: Mean 5' 10 " or 179.21 Cm. Based on measurements of the left femur (490 mm) using the formula (Trotter and Gleser 1958) for white males.

CAUSE OF DEATH: Blow, to the left forehead, just to the left of the midline. The entrance wound is approximately 17 X 24 millimeters in diameter. An exit wound measuring 49 X 60 millimeters occurs in the right parietal. The projectile traveled in a downward path through the skull before exiting. Death would have been instantaneous. The force of the projectile was so great that the skull was fractured into seventeen pieces; both mastoid processes at the base of the skull were split.

LENGTH OF TIME SINCE DEATH: 113 years. Color and warpage of the skull indicated that it had been buried for many years.

DENTITION: No dental work (cavities but no fillings; normal condition for this period of time).

Other evidence was also now in from various laboratories scattered around the state that further substantiated that the mysterious body was most likely that of the Civil War hero. Some of the more important evidence is listed as follows:

- (1). The body was dressed in a white silk shirt, trousers that partially laced up the sides and black square-toed boots (popular during the Civil War).
- (2). The State's Toxicology lab showed no modern synthetic materials in these clothes.
- (3). There was embalming fluid (arsenic) present in the flesh. All concerned parties were now in agreement that instead of having a murder case on their hands they had instead a morbid case of grave-robbing.

Reburial Ceremony

Colonel Shy's remains were gathered from labs across the state and plans were made for his reburial. Shy had not married and had no living descendants but other relatives were contacted and told of the upcoming ceremony. Mrs. W.J. Montana, a great-great-granddaughter of Colonel Shy's brother came to Franklin from Silsbee, Texas to represent the family. The following is a newspaper article, in part, that describes the ceremony:

On Monday the 13th day of February, 1978, a cold rain was falling. The weather was probably much like as it was at the original burial, 114 years ago. The service was brief. There was no drumroll or rifle salute. Six civilian-dressed members of the Sons of the Confederacy carried the gray coffin to its resting place. Members of the D.A.C. were also on hand with Confederate flags, and one was placed on the grave. The Rev. Charles Fulton of St. Paul's Episcopal Church said a short eulogy over the Shy coffin, donated by the Franklin Memorial Chapel. Mrs. Montana praised Franklin's historical community for its warmth and sincerity. She remarked, "I guess he could have been put back in the ground in a pine box, but the people of Franklin gave a very warm ceremony. " (Lyons 1978)

The Cast Iron Coffin

The cast iron coffin that had originally contained the body of Colonel Shy had been severely damaged by the graverobbers. Mrs. Montana graciously donated the cast iron coffin to the Carter House, a prominent home that was at the center of the heaviest fighting during the Battle of Franklin. The Carter House is now run by the Association for the Preservation of Tennessee Antiquities and has been turned into a famous Civil War Museum.

Cast iron coffins were very expensive and only people of some prominence could have afforded them; most people in 1864 were buried in pine boxes. This cast iron coffin weighs almost 300 pounds and has a glass plate over the face area for viewing the remains. It has an oval iron plate that fits over the glass just before burial. The coffin was sealed and bolted with steel screws and has four handles on each side. It had been painted white when originally used. The coffin, having been beneath the ground for 114 years, was heavily covered with rust. To prepare the coffin for exhibit it was first dipped in a vat of paint remover to remove the splotches of white paint and rust. Then a removal process, recommended by the Smithsonian Institution, was used which consisted of repeated chemical saturation, wrapping it overnight in plastic, and then steel wooling. Emery wheels on drills were used on the heaviest encrustations. The process was repeated until a smooth iron was reached. The final step was to encase the coffin in a plexiglass display case.

There is an old saying that "something good comes out of everything." If so, then the "something good" that came out of the vandalism of Colonel Shy's grave has to be that now there is this most interesting artifact (the coffin) from the Civil War period displayed for the public to view.

The furor raised over the vandalism of Colonel Shy's grave was short lived. The general public has a fickle mind; what holds their interest today is often erased by tomorrow's headlines. Colonel Shy has once more been forgotten. Reburied with dignity, the remains once more peacefully rest in the intended grave under the original headstone which reads:

Lt. Col. W.M. Shy
20th Tenn. Infantry C. S.A.
Born May 24, 1838
Killed at Battle of Nashville Dec. 16, 1864

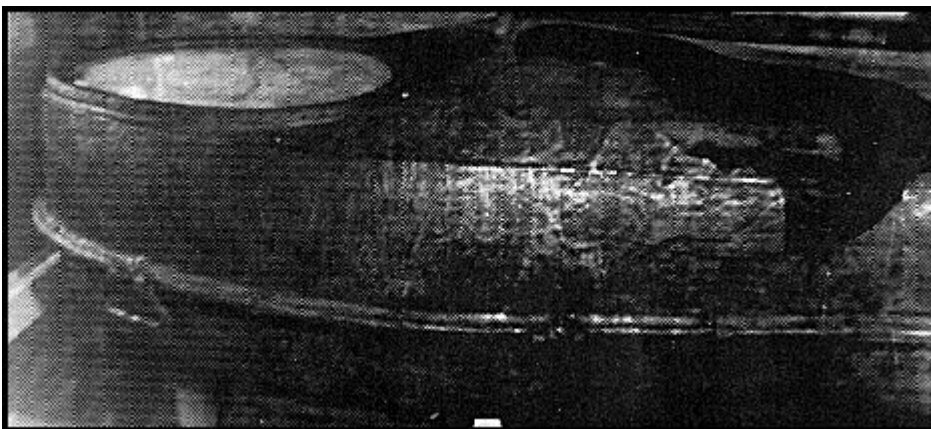
The Pillaged Grave of a Civil War Hero: Photos



FIGURE 1. Frontal view showing entrance wound.



FIGURE 2. Posterior or occipital view showing exit wound.



Col. Wm. Shy's cast iron coffin. Note the large hole to the right, presumably made by a tractor mounted post-hole digger which was used to probe the grave.

Conclusions

The person, or persons, responsible for vandalizing the grave of Colonel Shy was never apprehended. Many of the local residents are sure that they know the identity of the vandal but this does not necessarily mean that they are correct. The vandal may have escaped punishment from the law but he will probably have nightmares for the rest of his life over this gruesome deed.

The statement that Colonel Shy's body was found naked and impaled to a tree with a bayonet will possibly bring about much comment. This could explain his not being buried in his uniform but his uniform, most likely, was in too tattered a condition for it to be used as a burial suit anyway. The part about him being "impaled to a tree with a bayonet" will probably disturb some Civil War buffs because it suggests undue brutality by the Federal troops. If indeed he was impaled to a tree it could have been done by the looters and scavengers that were always attracted after a battle.

There is also the possibility that it was done by the attacking forces. The Federals paid heavily in taking this hill. One historian states:

It has been said that in the taking of Shy's Hill Minnesota's losses were the greatest suffered by the state in any Civil War engagement - 302 men killed, wounded or missing, from the Fifth, Seventh, Ninth and 10th Minnesota Regiments (Huddleston:1964, Part IV, p.39).

Chivalry had worn thin this late in the war. Perhaps some of the troops, angered at seeing so many of their comrades fall, did perform this shocking deed. There is one case of documented brutality connected with the fall of Shy's Hill. Colonel Shy's commanding officer, Brigadier-General Thomas Benton Smith was captured during this engagement. While being marched to the rear under guard he was struck over the head three times with a saber by a Federal officer. At first the wounds were thought fatal but he survived. Some years later the effects of this injury to his brain caused him to be committed to the Tennessee State Hospital for the insane, where he remained until his death. (Horn 1968:141).

The Science of Forensics has, in recent years, become recognized as an aid to law enforcement. If this case of vandalism had not been properly investigated by a competent Forensic Anthropologist such as Dr. Bass, the truth might have never been learned and the law would still be looking for a murderer in Williamson County.

Acknowledgements

The author would like to thank Dr. William M. Bass (Head: Department of Anthropology, University of Tennessee, Knoxville), for allowing me the use of his report, the photographs used as Figures 1 and 2, and for his confidence and encouragement. Also I would like to thank Mrs. W.J. Montana of Silsbee, Texas who is "family historian" for the Shy family, for her concern and interest in this matter. My appreciation also goes out to the ladies who manage the Carter House in Franklin, Tennessee for their kindness. I would also like to thank my close friends, Buddy Brehm and Dick Weesner, for their aid in acquiring research material. And last, but surely not least, to Dr. Charles H. Faulkner for his editorial assistance.

The author has tried to assemble this work in a readable and interesting manner, using as a basis historical fact laced with things as they came about. This story was built around the work of Dr. William M. Bass. Again, I would like to thank Dr. Bass for allowing me the use of his data.

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20th Maine and 15th Alabama - By Dale Gallon

A War Not for Abolition

By R. BLAKESLEE GILPIN

October 11, 2011, 6:34 pm

One Saturday in late September 1861, Manhattan witnessed a scene that was becoming commonplace in countless New England towns and cities: well over 1,000 soldiers marched through the city, in the words of one observer, “Singing reverently and enthusiastically in praise of John Brown!” Abolitionism was hardly a universal idea, but the name on everyone’s lips was that of its most fiery, violent advocate. “No military hero of the present war,” the New York Independent noted, “has thus been honored.”

And yet, if saving the Union took precedence over ending slavery in the national narrative, why did “thousands of private citizens, young and old, on the sidewalks and in crowded doorways and windows” in New York join in the celebration of Brown’s noble death in “the cause of freedom”? In truth, these two meanings of the war had been competing from the very beginning.

When the New York Independent celebrated John Brown, a man many claimed was partly responsible for this unnecessary fratricide, it crystallized Northern fears about the purpose, course and possible duration of the war. The Independent’s melodramatic conclusion, all but declaring the war a fight for black emancipation, was particularly frightening to those who simply wanted a return to the antebellum status quo. “Few who witnessed the triumphal tread of that noble band of men arrayed for a war for freedom, will ever forget the thrilling tones of that song.”

These harmonizing soldiers and citizens challenge our narrative as a war for reunification that was transformed into a war for freedom by Lincoln’s Emancipation Proclamation. In truth, these two meanings of the war had been competing from the very beginning.

There were early indications that the war might encompass such aims, even if Lincoln and his administration maintained the opposite message for more than a year. Men like Benjamin Butler, most notably, tried to steer the military effort in a potentially abolitionist direction by making Fort Monroe in Virginia a haven for runaway slaves, while Maj. Gen. John C. Frémont proclaimed that slaves in Missouri were free.

Lincoln’s difficulties with slavery — he let Butler’s decision stand, while he removed Frémont — spoke to the enormous stakes of his decisions in the court of public opinion, both during the buildup to secession and in the wartime North. Was the war going to be fought for freedom or to preserve the Union?

The intervening 150 years have gradually obliterated how separate these concerns were at the war’s outset. It was only during Reconstruction that the cause of the war, slavery, was wedded so inextricably to the war’s eventual byproduct, emancipation. But six months after Fort Sumter, these issues were so hotly contested that the Union effort seemed threatened not merely by the surprisingly capable Confederate forces, but by the battle over abolition and its place in the Union

fight. How could the remaining states in the Union prevail if they were so divided over the issue of freeing the slaves?

Seemingly always there to stir up more trouble, Massachusetts Senator Charles Sumner leapt into the headlines with a speech at the Republican State Convention in Worcester on Oct. 1 called “Emancipation: Our Best Weapon.” In trying to transform the war for Union into a “war of abolition,” conservatives feared that Sumner would draw out the war and poison the Republicans as “a ‘John Brown Party.’”

With Sumner in the crosshairs, and the echoes of “John Brown’s Body” in mind, the New York Herald took on these rabble a few days later. “The War Not For Abolition” was the paper’s bold headline for an article intended “to remove all misapprehension in regard to the policy of the general government in prosecuting the war against the rebellious States.” The article cited resolutions in the House, statements by Lincoln and Lincoln’s secretary of the interior, Caleb B. Smith, who explained the government’s position before an audience in Rhode Island in August 1861:

My friends, we make no war upon Southern institutions. We recognize the right of South Carolina and Georgia to hold slaves if they desire them. But, my friends, we appeal to you to uphold the great banner of our glorious country, and to leave the people of that country to settle those domestic matters according to their own choice and the exigencies which the times may present.

A war for Union, in contrast, the war that Lincoln and his government were fighting, would preserve the bargains struck by “our forefathers.” In the same issue, the Herald wrote of the administration under siege: “misapprehended and misrepresented by the extreme anti-slavery party at the North just as much as it is by the extreme pro-slavery fire-eaters at the South...Both one and the other persist in representing that the object of the government” is to destroy “the institution of slavery.”

The Herald declared it “a seditious abolition conspiracy against the government.” Led by the “Greeleys, Raymonds, Cheevers, Beechers, Garrisons, and Wendell Phillipses...in the columns of the Tribune, Times, Independent, Liberator and Anti-Slavery Standard,” these “abolition fanatics” “pour forth a perpetual stream of tirade and abuse against the constitution and the President, and sow the seeds of insurrection.” Abolitionists’ relentless focus on John Brown and the war for freedom “tends to paralyze the energies of the federal government.”

The Herald became even more incensed by late October. Abolitionists’ continued efforts to transform the war into one against slavery did not merely “welcome the runaway slave,” they also opened the government to the threats “of a foreign invader.” The paper had a litany of outlandish critiques of Horace Greeley’s Tribune and the New York Times: “the twin organs of abolitionism-the authors of peaceable secession-the authors of the Bull run massacre-the anarchists that would supersede Lincoln...the fermenters of mutiny in the army-the apostles of a war of emancipation-the secret opponents, hypocritical friends and constant embarrassors of the administration.”

But the charges were more specific by the end of October. The Herald argued that abolitionists “endeavored to induce the North to secede...and were delighted when the South saved them any

further trouble by seceding for itself.” The abolitionists, in other words, had caused the war. But when secession did not end slavery, “necessity invented for the abolitionists a better mode of accomplishing the object to which they have devoted their lives, and that mode was by using this war as a means of abolition, by making it a war of emancipation.”

True, William Lloyd Garrison had theatrically claimed that the Union was doomed from the beginning, and that the Constitution a “devil’s pact...dripping with blood,” it is hard to argue abolitionists, however fanatically, single-handedly begat secession. But the more general charge is certainly true: abolitionist speakers and editors were, from the beginning, trying to make the most of circumstance, and make the war about ending slavery — starting with Garrison and his paper, the *Liberator*.



In October the paper reprinted a piece by Charles Godfrey Leland that explained the abolitionist approach. Leland, a feverish Unionist, wrote frequently for the pro-Union magazine *Continental Monthly*, and eventually enlisted in 1863 and fought at Gettysburg. “This war is destined, sooner or later, to effectually abate this nuisance of slaveocracy by removing the cause,” Leland explained pragmatically, “Why not plunge in and settle it at once? Go at it bravely, and be done with it.”

William Lloyd Garrison

But Leland’s urge to settle the question of freedom bravely and immediately would never win over the shrunken and embattled Union. Lincoln and his underlings would continue to reject an emancipationist vision of the war, no matter what songs the Union troops sang or what realities materialized at the front. Even when Lincoln became converted, at least to emancipation as a military strategy, neither he nor his successors had the station or gumption to pursue a truly abolitionist course and destroy the slaveocracy.

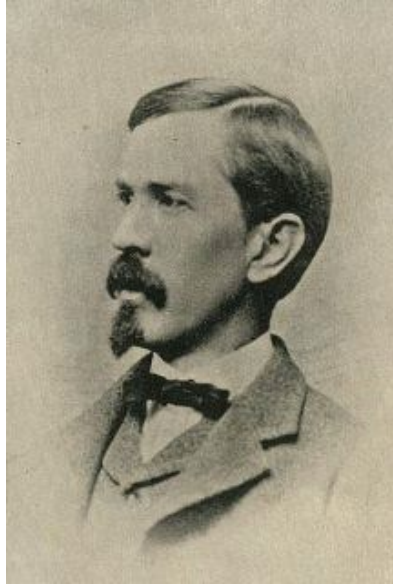
That Southern power, as a white supremacist social system and national political force, was left intact, and its resurgence would be the source of the war’s most devastating legacies. At war’s end, the *New York Herald*, in its reactionary conservatism, proved to be most prescient. The Civil War was, and would always be, a “war not for abolition.”

Sources: *Freedom’s Champion* (Atchison, Kan.), Sept. 28, 1861; *The New York Herald*, Oct. 14, 1861; Charles Sumner, “His Complete Works”; *Boston Daily Advertiser*, Oct. 4, 1861; *The New York Herald*, Oct. 13, 1861; *The New York Herald*, Oct. 29, 1861; *The Liberator*, Oct. 18, 1861.



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Remembering Heroes



And men shall tell their children,
Tho' all other memories fade,
That they fought with Stonewall Jackson
In the old "Stonewall Brigade!"

From "The Song of the Rebel", by John Esten Cooke

Remembering **Confederate Cavalryman and post-war author and poet, John Esten Cooke**, of Virginia, who died September 27, 1886.

"Cooke joined the Richmond Howitzers, an artillery unit raised at the time of John Brown's raid on Harpers Ferry in 1859. He became a sergeant after the unit mustered into Confederate service as Captain R. M. Anderson's Company, Virginia Light Artillery (1st Company Richmond Howitzers), but he was discharged on January 31, 1862. That spring Cooke served as a volunteer aide-de-camp to Confederate general J. E. B. Stuart, who had married Cooke's first cousin. Cooke received a commission as first lieutenant of artillery on May 19, 1862, joined Stuart on his celebrated ride around the Union army on June 12–16, and won promotion to captain on August 8, to rank from July 25. He became chief of ordnance for Stuart's cavalry division later that year. Stuart may have recommended Cooke for promotion to major, but Cooke remained a captain until the end of the war. In October 1863 he was temporarily assigned to duty in the adjutant general's department of Stuart's command, and beginning in May 1864 he served as assistant inspector general of the Army of Northern Virginia's artillery corps. Cooke was paroled at Appomattox Court House following Robert E. Lee's surrender on April 9, 1865.

While fighting in the major eastern campaigns from the First Battle of Manassas (1861) to Appomattox Court House, Cooke continued to write prolifically. His Civil War diaries fill four notebooks, and his war dispatches appeared under the pseudonym Tristan Joyeuse, Gent., in Richmond's Southern Illustrated News, among other periodicals. Later he collected and edited these accounts for *Wearing of the Gray* (1867). In 1863 Cooke published **The Life of Stonewall Jackson**, which he later revised and issued as *Stonewall Jackson: A Military Biography* (1866)."

Bill O'Reilly Spins the Abraham Lincoln Myth

An Open Letter to Bill O'Reilly

by Valerie Protopapas
Huntington Station, New York

Dear Sir:

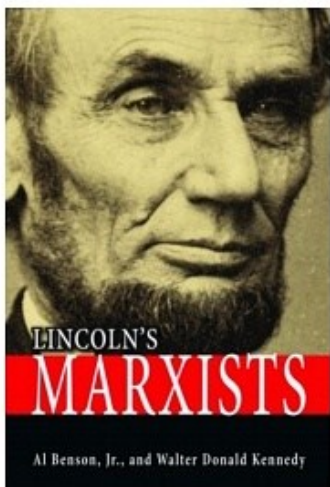
Obviously, you are not a stupid man but sadly, your intellect seems non-existent when it comes to your judgment about American leaders. You have stood foursquare against the current socialist trends in the federal government. You have condemned the excesses of Congress and the Administration and the ever growing centralization of power in Washington as well as the trashing of the Constitution. You have mentioned time and again that such excesses are diametric to the founding principles of the nation, flying in the face of that same document-and I have applauded you for your public defense of those republican (with a lower-case "r") principles and the men (and women) who have championed them.

Yet, the other evening, I heard you-yet again-claim that the "gold standard" of American leadership was none other than President Abraham Lincoln. I actually became so enraged I turned off the TV! I could not bear to listen any longer. All that we currently endure we do so because of Abraham Lincoln! It was Lincoln who embraced the movement of power away from the Sovereign States and the People as envisioned by the Founders. It was Lincoln who adopted the socialist/communist ideologies brought into the United States from Europe with the arrival of the so-called "48ers," the mostly German followers of Marx fleeing their failed revolutions in Europe. However, it is also true that Lincoln had adopted those same policies independently before he was influenced by Europe's socialist upheaval. Did you know that Marx adored Lincoln for the very reason that he worked to centralize power in the federal government? And did you know that Lincoln's government and military was filled with Marxists and socialists? It was Lincoln who abandoned all constitutionally imposed restrictions on the federal government and the presidency when he planned and initiated war against states performing an act guaranteed to them in the

Constitution-that of secession from a union that was no longer in the best interest of their people. It was Lincoln who deliberately and with malice brought that war to fruition-a war that cost over a million lives both military and civilian and destroyed an entire section of what had been the united (lower-case "u") States for a century or more. And the list goes on and on. There is no more infamous lie in the annals of American history than Lincoln's analysis of the causes of the so-called "Civil War"- " ... and war came." War didn't "come," Lincoln brought it into existence in what proved to be a successful attempt to prevent the loss of eleven Southern states and the 75% of the federal revenues paid by those States. Indeed, the South, by Lincoln's time, had become nothing more than a politically impotent economic colony supplying endless revenues to the rest of the Union while being driven ever deeper into poverty.

It was Lincoln who embraced-and profited from-Hamilton's "American System," which today we call "crony capitalism" and which is really nothing other than the enemy of free enterprise, fascism. Lincoln was supported for the presidency by the economic interests of

states such as Pennsylvania to which he promised a high tariff to protect their manufactured goods and a continuation of the flow of capital from the South to the North. Lincoln had been a lawyer with one of the railroads



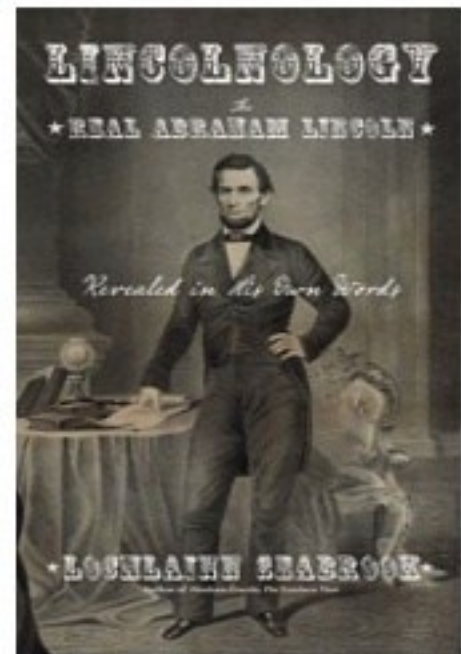
supported by such tax-funded largesse and was so successful that he was allowed to choose the eastern terminus for the contemplated trans-continental railroad. It is interesting-and revealing-to note that the property he chose for that site just happened to be owned by him! Lincoln's sobriquet at that time-Honest Abe-was bestowed by his contemporaries for the same reason that the sobriquet "Little John" was bestowed upon Robin Hood's very large lieutenant. In other words, it was a reference to behavior diametric to the appellation and therefore not a complement.

Finally, if you think that we had election fraud in 2008, Lincoln made use of the military to assure his re-election, something that was by no means guaranteed in November of 1864. General Benjamin (Beast) Butler was sent to New York from which he triumphantly informed Lincoln that no Democrats had been permitted to vote. The same happened in other states such as Ohio where both Lincoln and Lincoln's war were not popular. Soldiers were permitted to vote in areas in which they did not live to assure his re-election. Meanwhile, their presence at the polls was a warning to those who might vote Democrat. In fact, in many instances the ballots were color-coded so that the party chosen by the voter was immediately obvious to those partisan "poll watchers" and many Americas were "discouraged" from voting if a wrong color ballot was observed.

There is so much more on Lincoln's illegal, unconstitutional and immoral actions that is a part of the public record and yet, he continues to be revered, even worshipped, by people who despise and reject the things for which he stood and on which he acted. Even the popular belief that Lincoln "freed the slaves" or, in fact, had any feeling for them individually or as a group is nonsense, proven over and over by his own words and actions. He cared nothing for slavery and even less for "the African" and was willing to put slavery into the Constitution in the original 13th Amendment (Corwin) if it would keep the Southern states compliant.

Even the claim so often made that he fought the war to "preserve the union" is a lie though many Northerners were deceived and indeed fought for that stated purpose. First, a union is by its nature voluntary. Coercion at the point of a bayonet is nothing but conquest and occupation, not "union." Then, Lincoln, his government and all of the states who fought ostensibly to preserve the Union were traitors according to Article III, Section 3 of the Constitution. Indeed, the only act defined as treason in that document is the waging of war against any of the signatory states and aiding and abetting in that war. If there was ever an act more worthy of the taint of treason and the openly guilty parties more exposed to public view, it has to be America's "Civil War" in which the federal government-or should I say, the President-declared war on seven (later eleven) signatory states and initiated total war against them. Of course, all of those who supported or permitted this war were themselves traitors to a greater or lesser degree. It is ironic that the taint of treason was spread so liberally-and so successfully-on states that had acted constitutionally in attempting to remove themselves from a hostile and eventually murderous "union" while the actual traitors have been lauded to the skies historically as heroes and "true Americans."

No, Mr. O'Reilly, your "stand" against those attempting to make of what remains of this nation another "Peoples' Republic" cannot be believed so long as you refuse to acknowledge where America started to leave the path of Aristotle, Locke and the Founding Fathers and embrace the governing theories and actions of Hobbes and Marx. Actually, you have only two choices: understand and admit that "the nation's greatest president" was a traitor and a murderer (over a million dead) and repudiate his "vision" for the nation-a federal tyranny-or cling to delusion, deception and myth and, by doing so, render your own message null and void and yourself foolish at best and dishonest at worst.



You cannot have Lincoln and liberty.

Wednesday, September 28, 2011

<http://www.confederatedigest.com/2011/09/open-letter-to-bill-oreilly.html>

Perry says he opposes Confederate license plate

By Jason Embry | Wednesday, October 26, 2011, 11:18 AM

Gov. Rick Perry told a Florida television station today that he opposes the creation of a Confederate license plate in Texas.

“We don’t need to be scraping old wounds,” Perry told Bay News 9 in Tampa.

The plate has been proposed by the Sons of Confederate Veterans, an ancestral history group involved in previous dust-ups over displays of the flag in state buildings and on state monuments.

The state Department of Motor Vehicles is considering the plate.
A vote could come next month after one in April ended in a 4-4 tie, officials said.



The members of the DMV board are Perry appointees.

Opponents of the flag, led by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the liberal group Progress Texas, presented the DMV with 22,000 petition signatures earlier this month.

The license-plate proposal put Perry in a tough spot. While many oppose the plate, a similar plate has already been approved in South Carolina, site of a key Republican presidential primary in January.

http://www.statesman.com/blogs/content/shared-gen/blogs/austin/politics/entries/2011/10/26/perry_says_he_opposes_confeder.html?cxtype=rss_news

Would You Boycott Texas Over Confederate Flag License Plates? By Andre Showell

Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee urges the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles not to issue license plates with a painful symbol from the past.

It’s a fact that the Confederate flag is deeply rooted in the story of America’s past. But it is also a fact that the flag symbolizes the kind of painful intolerance that many would like to forget.

So it was no surprise that debate is erupting after the Sons of Confederate Veterans petitioned the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles to make license plates with Confederate symbolism available to motorists.

The NAACP has teamed up with Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee (D-Houston), to bring a halt to the group’s plan. At a Capitol Hill press conference Tuesday, Jackson Lee contended that while no one wishes to deny the history of Texas as a state, leaders should support that which unites people.

“License plates are designed to promote tourism and commerce, to create positive identity and awareness and to showcase those riches that make our state unique,” she said. “The confederate flag, long recognized in our generation as a symbol of slavery, racism and defeat, accomplishes none of those purposes.”

Hilary Shelton, director of the NAACP’s Washington Bureau, has vowed to continue to monitor this developing situation. “Most states have policies that prohibit offensive images on things enshrined and sponsored by the state. I cannot predict what will happen in Texas but we will not take the boycott option off the table.”

The civil rights group launched a long-standing tourism boycott of South Carolina after officials placed a large confederate flag near the statehouse dome.

“There’s a movement not only to address these offensive icons in Texas but to remove confederate battle flags from other places of honor and reverence throughout the country,” said Shelton.

The Texas Department of Motor Vehicles will decide whether to move forward with offering the symbol on license plates during a vote scheduled for Nov. 10. (Photo: AP Photo/Texas Department of Motor Vehicles)

<http://www.bet.com/news/national/2011/10/12/would-you-boycott-texas-over-confederate-flag-license-plates-.html>

Stronger solvent needed to clean Cape Girardeau's Civil War monument; man protests vandalism

Thursday, October 13, 2011

By Patrick T. Sullivan ~ Southeast Missourian



**Clint Lacy came from Marble Hill, Mo. Thursday, October 13, 2011 to protest the message vandals left on the Civil War Confederate shrine Tuesday morning in the courtyard of the Common Pleas Courthouse in Cape Girardeau. The graffiti has been covered with a tarp since Tuesday. Lacy said, "I thought since these guys couldn't stand up for themselves, I thought I would come stand up for them for a while." Lacy has traveled as far as Memphis, Tenn. to stand up for confederate soldiers since "they are dead and can't stand up for themselves."
(Laura Simon)**

Workers will try a new solvent to clean spray paint off a Civil War monument on the grounds of the Common Pleas Courthouse in Cape Girardeau that was vandalized Tuesday and has been wrapped under a tarp ever since.

Liley Monuments, the company in charge of removing the graffiti, ordered a high-powered industrial solvent from Minnesota Tuesday and will apply it to the monument Friday, said Jeff Abernathy, a Liley sales representative who is helping rid the 80-year-old monument of the spray paint.

"We're really hoping this works," Abernathy said.

On Tuesday morning, Cape Girardeau police received a call saying the monument had been vandalized. "Go south" was written on the front of the shrine that sits along Lorimier Street near the fountain. That apparently was a

request that the marker be moved, not a pro-South message. "We are in the union," read the words on the back. "Obscene. Remove to [illegible] cemetery (sic) in the south."

No arrests have been made, police spokesman Darin Hickey said Thursday.



**Corey Echols, left, reaches his hand out to Clint Lacy for a handshake after discussing Lacy's protest Thursday afternoon, October 13, 2011. Lacey came from Marble Hill, Mo. to protest the message vandals left on the Civil War Confederate shrine Tuesday morning in the courtyard of the Common Pleas Courthouse in Cape Girardeau. The graffiti has been covered with a tarp since Tuesday. Lacy said, "I thought since these guys couldn't stand up for themselves, I thought I would come stand up for them for a while." Echols, a social work student at Southeast Missouri State University, was driving by when he saw Lacy protesting and pulled over to speak with him. Echols said "In a sense, it is contradicting itself. There is a lot more to the Confederate flag."
(Laura Simon)**

The paint had been sprayed heavily and seeped into the pores of the marble, Abernathy said, adding that the new solvent would more than likely restore the monument to its original condition. Because of the monument's age, its marble has grown more porous, he said.

The vandals "shot the paint so thick that it probably would have seeped into brand new marble," Abernathy said. "We've been trying to get it out but it's been tough."

The solvent will come in a gallon jug, and workers will spray it on and let it sit before rinsing it off, Abernathy said.

The 14 1/2-foot-tall monument was first erected in the city in 1931 by the United Daughters of the Confederacy to commemorate the one Confederate unit gathered from Cape Girardeau during the Civil War. The hand-carved

monument, which weighs 12 1/2 tons, was moved from its original spot on Morgan Oak Street to the courthouse grounds in 1995 by the Civil War Roundtable.

One side of the monument reads "C.S.A.," standing for the Confederate States of America. Below the letters, the Confederate flag has been chiseled into the marble. The east side of the marker says, "In Memorium Confederate Soldiers of South East Missouri."

Clint Lacy, 39, used his day off work to come from Marble Hill, Mo., to protest the graffiti Thursday. Starting at 11 a.m., he stood in front of the monument with a Confederate battle flag and a sign that read, "Stop the hate."

"I'm standing up for the soldiers since they can't stand up for themselves," Lacy said. "They weren't fighting for slavery -- they had no choice."

Lacy said that the flag evokes thoughts of racism and the Ku Klux Klan, and that is unfair because many unionists had slaves during the Civil War. Because the flag is also associated with southerners and conservatives, those people are often unfairly judged, Lacy said.

"I'm protesting to call attention to the double standard," said Lacy, who has traveled as far as Memphis, Tenn. to stand up for Confederate soldiers. "Our people aren't the ones defacing monuments."

Lacy said his interactions with people during his protest were "95 percent positive."

Cory Echols, a social work student at Southeast Missouri State University, said he disagreed with Lacy's philosophy but he wouldn't deface a monument because of it. Vandalizing the monument didn't make much sense, he said.

"In a sense, it is contradicting itself," Echols said after shaking Liley's hand. "There is a lot more to the Confederate flag."

<http://www.semissourian.com/story/1773568.html?response=no>

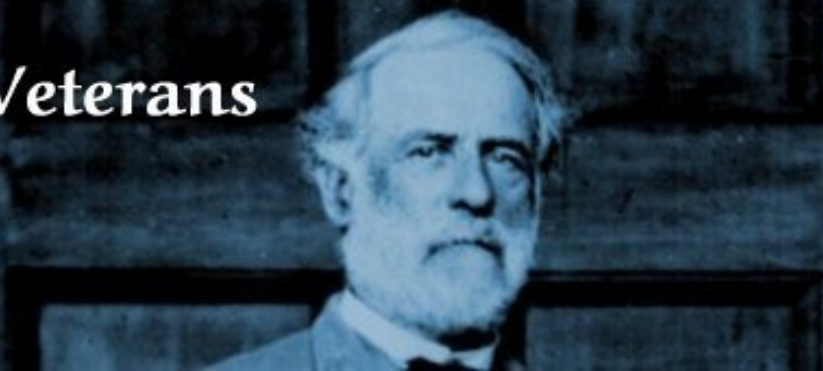
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Contact Mike Smith for information. 214-941-4965

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**Kneel where our loves are sleeping, Dear ones days gone by,
Here we bow in holy reverence, Our bosoms heave the heartfelt sigh.
They fell like brave men, true as steel, And pour'd their blood like rain,
We feel we owe them all we have, And can but weep and kneel again.**

CHORUS

**Kneel where our loves are sleeping, They lost but still were good and true,
Our fathers, brothers fell still fighting, We weep, 'tis all that we can do.**

**Here we find our noble dead, Their spirits soar'd to Him above,
Rest they now about His throne, For God is mercy, God is love.
Then let us pray that we may live, As pure and good as they have been,
That dying we may ask of Him, To open the gate and let us in.**

CHORUS

**Kneel where our loves are sleeping, They lost but still were good and true,
Our fathers, brothers fell still fighting, We weep, 'tis all that we can do."**

Words by G.W.R.

Music by Mrs. L. Nella Sweet, 1867