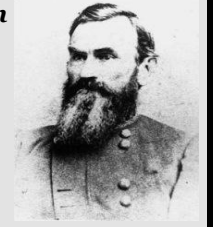




Claude Stillman, Commander Camp Website: www.humphreys1625.com



The Delta General

September, 2010

Volume 13, Issue 9

The official publication of the
Brig/Gen Benjamin G. Humphreys Camp #1625, MS Division, SCV

CAMP NEWS:

COMMANDER'S REPORT: CLAUDE STILLMAN

At time of publication there was no report filed.

SPEAKER FOR SEPTEMBER AND OTHER EVENTS

- Our speaker for September will be Larry McCluney who will speak on the multipersonalities of General Nathan Bedford Forrest.
- Sept. 17-19, Battle of Farmington Reenactment at Farmington, MS
- October 1-3, Hardore Tactical at Sugar Farm
- **October 16-17 Fall Muster 2010 - Beauvoir - Biloxi, MS:** The War Between the States comes to the Last Home of Confederate President Jefferson Davis, the weekend of October 16-17, 2010. You can experience the sights, sounds and smells of the 1860's, as you witness the epic struggle that transformed the Nation. *Come and Join Us! For more information contact Wallace mason at: harrywjrmason@bellsouth.net Fall Muster:* http://fallmuster.com/Fall_Muster_2009.html
- **Oct 14 - Oct 17 Mississippi Study Tour:** 18th Annual Penn State Civil War Battlefield Study Tour, "Vicksburg: The Key to the Mississippi." Presenters include Dr. Carol Reardon, Terrence J. Winschel & Parker Hills as tour leader. *For more information, contact:* Mary Jane Stout, (814) 865- 5466); www.alumni.psu.edu.
- **Oct 19 - Oct 23 Mississippi Program:** "Corinth"1862, The Forgotten Campaign" program with Parker Hills & Len Riedel on the battles of Iuka, Corinth & Davis Bridge on ground not open to the public. Fee charged. Sponsored by Blue and Gray Education Society. *For more information, contact:* (434) 250-9921; www.blueandgrayeducation.org

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OCR NEWS:

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: SANDRA STILLMAN

At the time of this publication there was no report filed.

CAMP NEWS:

RETENTION! THE VOICE OF A HUNDRED IS LOUDER THAN THE VOICE OF ONE OR TEN!

Retention of Camp Members has been an ongoing problem since this Camp was organized in 1993 but the Camp continued to grow. This has been an OK situation up until four years ago when we had a negative growth for the first time. Things escalated last year with the loss of 15 members which brought our membership down to the 1999 level (45). Unless, we as a Camp can reverse this trend, the membership will dwindle to a level which will prohibit having a website or newsletter which are our primary means of communication. We need to retain our current members and each of us needs to recruit new members. New members bring renewed energy and new ideas. At the end of the fiscal year on July 31, 2010, membership stood at 49. At this writing, members who have not renewed their membership are in their grace period which ends on October 31, 2010 at which time anyone who has not paid their dues will be struck from the rolls. As of August 29, 2010, 21 members have renewed, one member has transferred and 8 others are better than a 50-50 chance of not renewing. The one bright spot in this situation is 4 past members have been re-instated so we have a good chance of keeping membership above 40.

With upcoming Sesquicentennial (150th Anniversary) of the War Between the States starting with earnest this December, we need increase numbers in the SCV to tell the true story of that great struggle for Southern Independence. "Those People" have great numbers who will be telling the lie that our Ancestors fought only to preserve slavery and that they were traitors. If you do not want them to have the loudest voice in this epic story, help the SCV by renewing or re-instating your membership. The voices of a hundred people are much more noticeable than from ten or one.

CAMP NEWS:

CAMP ADJUTANT'S REPORT: DAN McCASKILL

Commander Claude "Junior" Stillman called the Meeting to order around 7:00 pm. Junior asked Camp Chaplain Earl McCown to open the Meeting with a word of prayer and to bless the food brought by the ladies of the OCR. Color Sergeant Joe Nokes led in the Pledges and Salutes to the Flags. Commander Stillman welcomed everyone to the Camp Meeting. Some of the special guests were Donald Wright, 1st Brig. Commander; Tim Cupit, Camp Commander of the Rankin Rough & Ready's Camp 265 in Brandon; Becky Cupit, MS Society OCR President; and Charles McClatchy, Director of the Indianola Cemetery.

Commander Stillman turned the podium over to newly elected Army of Tennessee Executive Councilman Larry McCluney for the presentation of National Awards to some Camp members. Receiving the SCV Commendation Medal were Pierre Westbrook and Nathan B. F. McCaskill. Dan McCaskill received the Distinguished Service Medal and the National Graves Medal. Adjutant Dan McCaskill reported that 23 members had renewed their memberships and of those renewing, 3 were past members re-activating their membership. Dues were due by August 31st with a grace period running to the end of October. The checking account balance was \$ 2,011.93 of which \$ 961.92 was the budget which

was on target.

Alan Palmer gave a brief report on the 2013 Vicksburg Reunion. Cassie Barrow would be directing the Debutant presentation at the Reunion. There would be a meeting of the Reunion Committee in Vicksburg on October 9th . He also gave a breakdown of the distribution of any profits made from the Reunion as follows: 25 % to Beauvoir; 25% to the Division; 35% to the Pemberton Camp and 15% divided among any Camps helping financially according to how much they contribute. The first events of the 150th Anniversary of the War would be January 8, 2001 in Jackson and February 12, 2011 in Vicksburg. 1st Brig. Commander Donald Wright announced that a 1st Brigade Meeting would be held on September 11, 2010 at the Yates Plantation starting at 6:00 pm. The plantation is located at 5000 Robertson Gin Road SW of Hernando, MS.

Becky Cupit reported that an OCR Chapter is being organized at the Sam Davis Camp on the coast and there was interest in a Chapter in Senatobia. Also, at the National Reunion, the State OCR Societies from across the South met and adopted a design for a National OCR Symbol to be used as a grave marker to mark the grave sites of OCR members. This is the only thing of a national nature associated with the Order of Confederate Rose.

New Business: Dan McCaskill reported

he was working with Charles McClatchy to find a spot to place headstones for 8 unmarked Confederate graves. As the project progressed, he would inform the Camp. With the passing of Associate Member Andrew Hoszowski, Dan entertained a motion to use \$ 50 from the Emergency Funds to purchase a Brick for Beauvoir to be placed on the Memorial Walkway in memory of Andy. The motion was made by Earl McCown and seconded by Larry McCluney and passed unanimously. Dan also asked for donations to make a \$ 50 cash donation to Beauvoir in Andy's memory. \$ 250 was collected.

Program: The program for the evening was "Deer Creek: Those who lived on it and who served the Confederacy" by Princella Nowell. Princella gave the Camp an interesting power point tour of the plantations along Deer Creek owned by Confederate Soldiers starting in South Bolivar County running almost to Vicksburg. This tour along with the stories shed a new light on Southern Society along Deer Creek before, during and after the War. With no other business coming before the Camp, Junior asked Earl to dismiss the Meeting with a word of prayer. Junior thanked the ladies of the Order of Confederate Rose for the wonderful food. Attendance for the Meeting was 35.

Submitted by, Dan A. McCaskill, Adj.

DELINQUENT MEMBERSHIP DRIVE – LETS GET THEM BACK HOME

Below is a list of delinquent camp members who might rejoin the SCV. I do not guarantee any address. If anyone in addition to myself who wishes to contact anyone on this, please do so. Renewal dues are \$ 55 which includes the renewal fee. Thanks for the help. Dan McCaskill

Delinquent Members

- Aderholdt, Frank W., Jr. 309 Arcadia Street; Hattiesburg, MS 39401; 601-296-1350
- Bariola, Todd 213 Bayou Road; Greenville MS 38701-7736 Barrett, Ray P.O. Box 201; Avon, MS 38723
- Bell, Dan C. 246 Old Ruleville Road; Cleveland, MS 38732; 662-721-0235 cell
- Busby, Matthew 1722 Beal Avenue; Lansing, MI 48910
- Davis, Kirk and Trey 100 Davis Road; Hollandale, MS 38748 (last known address)
- DeLoach, Dalton 203 West Barton; Greenwood, MS 38930 Furr, Randy 2214 Lake Lincoln; Wesson, MS 39191
- Haik, Thomas 330 South John Chicks Drive; Greenville, MS 38701
- Haley, Darrel 161 Primrose; Greenville, MS 38701
- Henderson, Mark P.O. Box 464; Inverness, MS 38753
- Horton, Jeff 107 Lakeview Drive; Leland, MS 38756 Jackson, Charles 1212 Cottage Drive; Greenville, Ms 38703
- Lee, John Aaron 119 East Monroe; Greenwood, MS 38930 Magee, Randy 130 Pettiet Lane; Leland, MS 38756
- McCaskill, Hunter, Joshua, and Mathew 3448 Old Hwy 61 S; Leland, MS 38756
- McDaniel, Vince 1003 River Road; Greenwood, MS 38930 Maxey, Bobby 273 Sykes Road; Indianola, MS 38751
- Peyton, Bryan P.O. Box 633; Hollandale, MS 38748
- Read, John, Jr. 306 Rexburg Road; Leland, Ms 38756 Swain, Walter B. 54 Dunleith Road; Leland, MS 38756
- Trotter, Ike P. O. Box 1145; Greenville, MS 38701
- Upshur, Bob P.O. Box 155; Stoneville, MS 38776-0155 Upshur, Rob P.O. Box 313; Stoneville, MS 38776-0313
- Worbington, James P.O. Box 153; Avon, MS 38723

Remember, renewals for the up coming year are due in August. Lets try to have 100% renewal of our members as we prepare to go into the Sesquicentennial of the War for Southern Independence. As well all know, it is going to take all of us to shed light on the truth to those who will be attacking our heritage the next four years during this observance.

MISSISSIPPI DIVISION, SCV NEWS:

GENERAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING

The Mississippi Division will convene its Executive Council Meeting on **September 25, 2010** at the War Memorial Building in Jackson, MS. starting at **10:00 a.m.** Those wishing to be placed on the Agenda need to send agenda items to Chief-of-Staff Ed Funchess: midgulf@bellsouth.net We look forward to seeing you there.

MEMORIAL AT OLD TEXAS HOSPITAL

The Ms. Sons of Confederate Veterans, will sponsor a reenactment of Shermans raid through Quitman and a salute and memorial to the Texas Hospital Cemetery on February the 19th and 20th, 2011 . We are in the planning stages of this excursion. We are looking for reenactors and performers and musicians. Stages of this operation will take place at Achusa Water Park. For futher information- Memorial -Louis or Stephanie Foley lpfoley@hughes.net or diximagnolia@hughes.net or Dennis Avera -aaronavea@yahoo.

THANK YOU FROM ED KILGORE

Dear Cheryl;

I wanted to again thank you for hosting the medal presentation Saturday, the reception, and the opportunity for me to visit with so many wonderful people. It is difficult to express the appreciation felt by my family on this occasion. All of us thoroughly enjoyed ourselves and everyone wanted me to thank you personally. Cottonlandia is the ideal place to have Vaiden Hughes' Roll of Honor Medal displayed.

I had the priveledge to finally come face to face with family members and friends that I have corresponded with through the years and up until Saturday had not had the pleasure of actually meeting in person. It was truly a wonderful event in such a wonderful environment. Many in my family did not have an appreciation for the Confederate Roll of Honor Medal until they were present for the ceremony and this event was an exciting opportunity for them to know the contribution their ancestor had provided to the defense of his Constitutional Rights while serving in the Confederate Army.

On a serious and more somber note, and to give you an option should political correctness, monetarily inspired derisiveness or historical revisionism finally start banging on your front door, please feel free to send the medal to Carrollton for display in their museum rather than subject Cottonlandia to this aggravation. I know that today the likelihood of such an occurrence seems remote but unfortunately we are seeing daily evidence of this type of erosive behavior from some elements in our society. I know that you would swear undying devotion to your trust but when you and I have moved on to a greater position we may not have the influence that we have today.

Again, please be assured that my feet have not touched the ground since I was your guest and I will be always indebted to you, your Board of Directors, and the Friends of the Museum.

Dear Larry;

I copied you on the note I sent to Cheryl Taylor and Cottonlandia, however, the biggest thank-you goes to you. It would not have been anything near as meaningful if you had not been carrying the ball and you out-did yourself. Please extend my appreciation to Commander Bill Atkinson, John Lee, Billy Ellis and all the others who made it such a wonderful event. You know Brother, there is nothing more pleasurable than a group of Celts standing around talking about their mutual ancestors, who in turn belonged to the most honored fraternity in this country's history. My only regret is that it only lasted a few minutes and it should last a lifetime.

If I can ever be of service, you should consider that I will be truly offended if you don't call on me. Tell your wife that there is a special reward for the long-suffering, for old men like me love them to death. The fourth chapter of Joshua says that what we do is commanded by our Master, for we are never, no never. to forget who we are, and where we have come from.

Your Servant - Ed

SECOND BRIGADE WILL HOLD MEETING

We are having a meeting of the Second Brigade Mississippi Divison Sons of Confederate Veterans at the Brice's Crossroads Museum in Baldwyn, MS. AT 7: p.m. on Monday, September 13, 2010. All SCV members are welcome to come to this meeting. We will be talking about raising money for a Mississippi Monument at Shiloh, we will talk about a brigade color guard, and other things to make our Brigade better, bigger, and how to get new members.

Thanks,
Buddy Ellis
Second Brigade Commander
662-286-6779 home
662-665-1419 cell
bellis1960@comcast.net

Twin Rivers Campaign

November 11-14, 2010

At the Gibson-Reed Ranch
8115 US Highway 72, Michigan City, MS

CS Commander Joe Way Cleburne's Division
US Commander Terry Crowder First Federal Division

Saturday Main Battle 2 p.m.

(Fort Donelson Phase 1)

Sunday Main Battle 2 p.m.

(Fort Donelson Phase 2)

Usual Amenities Provided

- **Horse Hay**
- **Bedding Straw**
- **Firewood**
- **Potable Water**
- **Artillery Bounty**

(must register 7 crew)

Period Suttlers

Burton's Sugar Farm will host

Period Ball

(Sat Night @ 6:30)

Move to Contact Battles

(Thurs, Fri, Sat and Sun)

All Camps Available

- **Campaign**
- **Military**
- **Family/Mixed**
- **Modern**

Recreation of the

Town of Dover, TN

(period civilians only)

Spectators Welcome

Gate times

- **Saturday 9 -3**
- **Sunday 9-3**

National Civil War Reenactment

A Blue Gray Alliance event

First Federal Division, Cleburne's Division, ANY, Longstreet's Corp, Huckabee's Division, USV,
National Regiment, Mifflin Guard, Vincent's Brigade, Military Division of the Mississippi,
Jeff Davis Battalion, Georgia Volunteer Battalion, Hardee Guard Battalion, PACS, Valley Division,
Southern Division, Georgia Division

TEN TRUE CAUSES FOR THE WAR FOR SOUTHERN INDEPENDENCE

Historians have long debated the causes of the war and the Southern perspective differs greatly from the Northern perspective. Based upon the study of original documents of the War Between The States (Civil War) era and facts and information published by Confederate Veterans, Confederate Chaplains, Southern writers and Southern Historians before, during, and after the war, I present the facts, opinions, and conclusions stated in the following article. Technically the 10 causes listed are reasons for Southern secession. The only cause of the war was that the South was invaded and responded to Northern aggression.

I respectfully disagree with those who claim that the War Between the States was fought over slavery or that the abolition of slavery in the Revolutionary Era or early Federal period would have prevented war. It is my opinion that war was inevitable between the North and South due to complex political and cultural differences. The famous Englishman Winston Churchill stated that the war between the North and South was one of the most unpreventable wars in history. The Cause that the Confederate States of America fought for (1861-1865) was Southern Independence from the United States of America. Many parallels exist between the War for American Independence (1775-1783) and the War for Southern Independence.

There were 10 political causes of the war (causes of Southern Secession) ---one of which was slavery--- which was a scapegoat for all the differences that existed between the North and South. The Northern industrialists had wanted a war since about 1830 to get the South's resources (land-cotton-coal-timber-minerals) for pennies on the dollar. All wars are economic and are always between centralists and decentralists. The North would have found an excuse to invade the South even if slavery had never existed.

A war almost occurred during 1828-1832 over the tariff when South Carolina passed nullification laws. The U.S. congress had increased the tariff rate on imported products to 40% (known as the tariff of abominations in Southern States). This crisis had nothing to do with slavery. If slavery had never existed --period--or had been eliminated at the time the Declaration of Independence was written in 1776 or anytime prior to 1860 it is my opinion that there would still have been a war sooner or later. On a human level there were 5 causes of the war--New England Greed-New England Radicals--New England Fanatics--New England Zealots--and New England Hypocrites. During "So Called Reconstruction" (1865-1877) the New England Industrialists got what they had really wanted for 40 years--THE SOUTH'S RESOURCES FOR PENNIES ON THE DOLLAR. It was a political coalition between the New England economic interests and the New England fanatics and zealots that caused Southern secession to be necessary for economic survival and safety of the population.

1. TARIFF

Prior to the war about 75% of the money to operate the Federal Government was derived from the Southern States via an unfair sectional tariff on imported goods and 50% of the total 75% was from just 4 Southern states--Virginia-North Carolina--South Carolina and Georgia. Only 10%--20% of this tax money was being returned to the South. The Southern states were being treated as an agricultural colony of the North and bled dry. John Randolph of Virginia's remarks in opposition to the tariff of 1820 demonstrates that fact. The North claimed that they fought the war to preserve the Union but the New England Industrialists who were in control of the North were actually supporting preservation of the Union to maintain and increase revenue from the tariff. The industrialists wanted the South to pay for the industrialization of America at no expense to them. Revenue bills introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives prior to the War Between the States were biased, unfair and inflammatory to the South. Abraham Lincoln had promised the Northern industrialists that he would increase the tariff rate if he was elected president of the United States. Lincoln increased the rate to a level that exceeded even the "Tariff of Abominations" 40% rate that had so infuriated the South during the 1828-1832 eras (between 50 and 51% on iron goods). The election of a president that was Anti-Southern on all issues and politically associated with the New England industrialists, fanatics, and zealots brought about the Southern secession movement.

2. CENTRALIZATION VERSUS STATES RIGHTS

The United States of America was founded as a Constitutional Federal Republic in 1789 composed of a Limited Federal Government and Sovereign States. The North wanted to and did alter the form of Government this nation was founded upon. The Confederate States of America fought to preserve Constitutional Limited Federal Government as established by America's founding fathers who were primarily Southern Gentlemen from Virginia. Thus Confederate soldiers were fighting for rights that had been paid for in blood by their forefathers upon the battlefields of the American Revolution. Abraham Lincoln had a blatant disregard for The Constitution of the United States of America. His War of aggression Against the South changed America from a Constitutional Federal Republic to a Democracy (with Socialist leanings) and broke the original Constitution. The infamous Socialist Karl Marx sent Lincoln a letter of congratulations after his reelection in 1864. A considerable number of European Socialists came to America and fought for the Union (North).

3. CHRISTIANITY VERSUS SECULAR HUMANISM

The South believed in basic Christianity as presented in the Holy Bible. The North had many Secular Humanists (atheists, transcendentalists and non-Christians). Southerners were afraid of what kind of country America might become if the North had its way. Secular Humanism is the belief that there is no God and that man, science and government can solve all problems. This philosophy advocates human rather than religious values. Reference: Frank Conner's book "The South under Siege 1830-2000."

4. CULTURAL DIFFERENCES

Southerners and Northerners were of different Genetic Lineage's. Southerners were primarily of Western English (original Britons), Scottish, and Irish lineage (Celtic) whereas Northerners tended to be of Anglo-Saxon and Danish (Viking) extraction. The two cultures had been at war and at odds for over 1000 years before they arrived in America. **Our ancient ancestors in Western England under King Arthur humbled the Saxon princes at the battle of Baden Hill (circa 497 AD --516 AD). The cultural differences that contributed to the War Between the States (1861-1865) had existed for 1500 years or more.**

5. CONTROL OF WESTERN TERRITORIES

The North wanted to control Western States and Territories such as Kansas and Nebraska. New England formed Immigrant Aid Societies and sent settlers to these areas that were politically attached to the North. They passed

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laws against slavery that Southerners considered punitive. These political actions told Southerners they were not welcome in the new states and territories. It was all about control--slavery was a scapegoat.

6. NORTHERN INDUSTRIALISTS WANTED THE SOUTH'S RESOURCES

The Northern Industrialists wanted a war to use as an excuse to get the South's resources for pennies on the dollar. They began a campaign about 1830 that would influence the common people of the North and create enmity that would allow them to go to war against the South. These Northern Industrialists brought up a morality claim against the South alleging the evils of slavery. The Northern Hypocrites conveniently neglected to publicize the fact that 5 New England States (Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and New York) were primarily responsible for the importation of most of the slaves from Africa to America. These states had both private and state owned fleets of ships.

7. SLANDER OF THE SOUTH BY NORTHERN NEWSPAPERS

This political cause ties in to the above listed efforts by New England Industrialists. Beginning about 1830 the Northern Newspapers began to slander the South. The Industrialists used this tool to indoctrinate the common people of the North. They used slavery as a scapegoat and brought the morality claim up to a feverish pitch. Southerners became tired of reading in the Northern Newspapers about what bad and evil people they were just because their neighbor down the road had a few slaves. This propaganda campaign created hostility between the ordinary citizens of the two regions and created the animosity necessary for war. The Northern Industrialists worked poor whites in the factories of the North under terrible conditions for 18 hours a day (including children). When the workers became old and infirm they were fired. It is a historical fact that during this era there were thousands of old people living homeless on the streets in the cities of the North. In the South a slave was cared for from birth to death. Also the diet and living conditions of Southern slaves was superior to that of most white Northern factory workers. Southerners deeply resented this New England hypocrisy and slander.

8. NEW ENGLANDERS ATTEMPTED TO

INSTIGATE MASSIVE SLAVE REBELLIONS IN THE SOUTH

Abolitionists were a small but vocal and militant group in New England who demanded instant abolition of slavery in the South. These fanatics and zealots were calling for massive slave uprisings that would result in the murder of Southern men, women and children. Southerners were aware that such an uprising had occurred in Santa Domingo in the 1790 era and that the French (white) population had been massacred. The abolitionists published a terrorist manifesto and tried to smuggle 100,000 copies into the South showing slaves how to murder their masters at night. Then when John Brown raided Harpers Ferry, Virginia in 1859 the political situation became inflammatory. Prior to this event there had been more abolition societies in the South than in the North. Lincoln and most of the Republican Party (64 members of congress) had adopted a political platform in support of terrorist acts against the South. Some (allegedly including Lincoln) had contributed monetarily as supporters of John Brown's terrorist activities. Again slavery was used as a scapegoat for all differences that existed between the North and South.

9. SLAVERY

Indirectly slavery was a cause of the war. Most Southerners did not own slaves and would not have fought for the protection of slavery. However they believed that the North had no Constitutional right to free slaves held by citizens of Sovereign Southern States. Prior to the war there were five times as many abolition societies in the South as in the North. Virtually all educated Southerners were in favor of gradual emancipation of slaves. Gradual emancipation would have allowed the economy and labor system of the South to gradually adjust to a free paid labor system without economic collapse. Furthermore, since the New England States were responsible for the development of slavery in America, Southerners saw the morality claims by the North as blatant hypocrisy. The first state to legalize slavery had been Massachusetts in 1641 and this law was directed primarily at Indians. In colonial times the economic infrastructure of the port cities of the North was dependent upon the slave trade. The first slave ship in America, "THE DESIRE", was fitted out in Marblehead, Massachusetts. Further proof that Southerners were not fighting to preserve slavery is found in the diary of an officer in the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia. He stated that "he had never met a man in the Army of Northern Virginia that claimed he was fighting to preserve slavery". If the war had been over slavery, the composition of the politicians, officers, enlisted men, and even African Americans would

have been different. Confederate General Robert E. Lee had freed his slaves (Custis Washington estate) prior to 1863 whereas Union General Grant's wife Julia did not free her slaves until after the war when forced to do so by the 13th amendment to the constitution. Grant even stated that if the abolitionists claimed he was fighting to free slaves that he would offer his services to the South. Mildred Lewis Rutherford (1852-1928) was for many years the historian for the United Daughters Of The Confederacy (UDC). In her book Truths Of History she stated that there were more slaveholders in the Union Army (315,000) than the Confederate Army (200,000). Statistics and estimates also show that about 300,000 blacks supported the Confederacy versus about 200,000 for the Union. Clearly the war would have been fought along different lines if it had been fought over slavery. The famous English author Charles Dickens stated "the Northern onslaught upon Southern slavery is a specious piece of humbug designed to mask their desire for the economic control of the Southern states."

10. NORTHERN AGGRESSION AGAINST SOUTHERN STATES

Proof that Abraham Lincoln wanted war may be found in the manner he handled the Fort Sumter incident. Original correspondence between Lincoln and Naval Captain G.V.Fox shows proof that Lincoln acted with deceit and willfully provoked South Carolina into firing on the fort (A TARIFF COLLECTION FACILITY). It was politically important that the South be provoked into firing the first shot so that Lincoln could claim the Confederacy started the war. Additional proof that Lincoln wanted war is the fact that Lincoln refused to meet with a Confederate peace delegation. They remained in Washington for 30 days and returned to Richmond only after it became apparent that Lincoln wanted war and refused to meet and discuss a peace agreement. After setting up the Fort Sumter incident for the purpose of starting a war, Lincoln called for 75,000 troops to put down what he called a rebellion. He intended to march Union troops across Virginia and North Carolina to attack South Carolina. Virginia and North Carolina were not going to allow such an unconstitutional and criminal act of aggression against a sovereign sister Southern State. Lincoln's act of aggression caused the secession of the upper Southern States.

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On April 17th 1861, Governor Letcher of Virginia sent this message to Washington DC: "I have only to say that the militia of Virginia will not be furnished to the powers of Washington for any such use or purpose as they have in view. Your object is to subjugate the Southern states and the requisition made upon me for such a object-an object in my judgement not within the purview of the constitution or the act of 1795, will not be complied with. You have chosen to inaugurate civil war; having done so we will meet you in a spirit as determined as the administration has exhibited toward the South."

The WAR BETWEEN THE STATES 1861-1865 occurred due to many complex causes and factors as enumerated above. Those who make claims that "the war was over slavery" or that if slavery had been abolished in 1776 when the Declaration of Independence was signed or in 1789 when The Constitution of the United States of America was signed, that war would not have occurred between North and South are being very simplistic in their views and opinions.

The following conversation between English ship Captain Hillyar and Capt. Raphael Semmes-Confederate Ship CSS Sumter (and after 1862 CSS Alabama) occurred during the war on August 5th, 1861. It is a summary from a well-educated Southerner who is stating his reasons for fighting. Captain Hillyar expressed surprised at Captain Semme's contention that the people of the South were "defending ourselves against robbers with knives at our throats", and asked for further clarification as to how this was so, the exchange below occurred. I especially was impressed with Semmes' assessment of Yankee motives - the creation of "Empire"!

Semmes: "Simply that the machinery of the Federal Government, under which we have lived, and which was designed for the common benefit, has been made the means of despoiling the South, to enrich the North", and I explained to him the workings of the iniquitous tariffs, under the operation of which the South had, in effect, been reduced to a dependent colonial condition, almost as abject as that of the Roman provinces, under their proconsuls; the only difference being, that smooth-faced hypocrisy had been added to robbery, inasmuch as we had been plundered under the forms of law"

Captain Hillyar: "All this is new to me", replied the captain. "I thought that your war had arisen out of the slavery ques-

tion".

Semmes: "That is the common mistake of foreigners. The enemy has taken pains to impress foreign nations with this false view of the case. With the exception of a few honest zealots, the canting hypocritical Yankee cares as little for our slaves as he does for our draught animals. The war which he has been making upon slavery for the last 40 years is only an interlude, or by-play, to help on the main action of the drama, which is Empire; and it is a curious coincidence that it was commenced about the time the North began to rob the South by means of its tariffs. When a burglar designs to enter a dwelling for the purpose of robbery, he provides himself with the necessary implements. The slavery question was one of the implements employed to help on the robbery of the South. It strengthened the Northern party, and enabled them to get their tariffs through Congress; and when at length, the South, driven to the wall, turned, as even the crushed worm will turn, it was cunningly perceived by the Northern men that 'No slavery' would be a popular war-cry, and hence, they used it.

It is true that we are defending our slave property, but we are defending it no more than any other species of our property - it is all endangered, under a general system of robbery. We are in fact, fighting for independence. The Union victory in 1865 destroyed the right of secession in America, which had been so cherished by America's founding fathers as the principle of their revolution. British historian and political philosopher Lord Acton, one of the most intellectual figures in Victorian England, understood the deeper meaning of Southern defeat. In a letter to former Confederate General Robert E. Lee dated November 4, 1866, Lord Acton wrote "I saw in States Rights the only available check upon the absolutism of the sovereign will, and secession filled me with hope, not as the destruction but as the redemption of Democracy. I deemed you were fighting the battles of our liberty, our progress, and our civilization and I mourn for that which was

lost at Richmond more deeply than I rejoice over that which was saved at Waterloo (defeat of Napoleon). As Illinois Governor Richard Yates stated in a message to his state assembly on January 2, 1865, the war had "tended, more than any other event in the history of the country, to militate against the Jeffersonian Ideal (Thomas Jefferson) that the best government is that which governs least. Years after the war former Confederate president Jefferson Davis stated "I Am saddened to Hear Southerners Apologize For Fighting To Preserve Our Inheritance". Some years later former U.S. president Theodore Roosevelt stated "Those Who Will Not Fight For The Graves Of Their Ancestors Are Beyond Redemption".

James W. King, Past Cmdr Camp 141
Lt. Col. Thomas M. Nelson, SCV

SESQUICENTENNIAL INFORMATION

Compatriots!

It is time to mark your calender for the SCV Sesquicentennial Event to be held in Montgomery, AL on Saturday February 19, 2011. This event will feature a parade up Dexter Avenue to the Alabama State Capitol Building, a reenactment of the swearing in of President Jefferson Davis and a selection of speakers at the Capitol Building. Just like was done for the Flag Rally in 2000 in Columbia, South Carolina and for the Hunley Funeral in Charleston in 2004 - it is IMPERATIVE that this event be well attended. We must show the world that we will not permit the History and Heritage of the Confederacy to be forgotten and unobserved during the Sesquicentennial.

It is up to us to see that this history is remembered and portrayed in the right way so start planning your vist to Montgomery - organize vans and buses - so we can show the world we remember our Confederate Heroes. Basic information:

Host Hotel: Embassy Suites - downtown Montgomery, AL. The SCV has a block of rooms reserved for Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights. Single and doubles \$116.00 per night, triple \$126.00, and quads for \$136.00 per night. The SCV reservation code will be available and posted early next week. (Note: If you end up staying at a different hotel, The Renaissance has shown itself to Confederate non-friendly)

Vendors : Friday, February 18th, 2011 and Saturday the 19th vendors will be setup in the hotel.

Reception: Friday evening the Alabma Divsion will have a meet and greet with entertainment from 7pm to 9pm at the host hotel.

Saturday Events: Confederate Parade on Dexter Avenue - 12 Noon - details to be announced shortly. Cannons are also need for a firing of a salute on the grounds of the State Capitol.

Swearing in of President Jefferson Davis will take place after the parade on the steps of the Alabama State Capitol Building.

Re-enactment of the raising of the first Confederate Flag Saturday evening a banquet will be held with a guest speaker. Cost: \$75.00 per couple or \$50.00 for an individual.

SLAVERY DID NOT CAUSE THE WAR

Editor's Note: I know that this article seems to be preaching to the choir and not to those masses that need to be educated, but this article is so good that it doesn't hurt for us to re-educate ourselves so as to "rearm our ourselves with knowledge" to prepare for the coming storm so to speak.

ALEXANDRIA The problem with Charles Bryan's Op/Ed column, "Yes, Slavery Caused the Civil War," is that nearly every point he raises to make his argument against the short-lived Southern republic could also be made directly against the United States, its Constitution, and the Founding Fathers. For example, the statement that "the Confederacy was a nation based on laws and constitutional authority protecting slavery and the right of its citizens to own other human beings." The implication is that the United States and its Constitution were not. But this is false. It may be useful to point out a few uncomfortable realities:

- The U.S. Constitution clearly provided in the second section of Article IV for the return of fugitive slaves to their masters.
- The U.S. Constitution in the second section of Article I clearly provided that three-fifths of all other persons (meaning slaves) were to be counted for the purposes of representation in the U.S. House.
- The U.S. Constitution, in fact, extended the slave trade a full decade until 1808. This was a rejection of the proposal by George Mason, a slaveholder, and other Virginians, for an immediate end to this inhumane practice. The extension benefited New England - the center of American slave trading.

The U.S. Constitution was designed chiefly to protect liberty and property, including slaves. The Framers knew that property rights were indispensable to liberty and that for the time being bonded labor was a unique species of property. Such statesmen as George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, James Monroe, Patrick Henry, George Mason, John Marshall, and a host of others, were slaveholders who also opposed slavery. Yet they had to deal with the day-to-day reality of an inherited institution, while striving to make it as humane as possible and looking forward to its final abolition by peaceful and orderly means. This is not a contradiction, but rather a paradox.

In 1831, Virginia attempted to enact a bill for gradual emancipation of the slaves -- it lost by one vote in the General Assembly. Virginia, all counted, made a total of 23 attempts to legislate the freeing of the slaves and the abolition of the slave trade prior to 1861. The United States Congress, in a resolution unanimously approved by both houses on July 23, 1861, declared: "The war is waged by the Government of the United States, not in the spirit of conquest or subjugation, nor for the purpose of overthrowing or interfering with the rights or institutions of the states, but to defend and protect the Union." There is not a word about abolishing slavery.

President Abraham Lincoln said in his first Inaugural Address: "I have no purpose directly or indirectly to interfere with the institution of slavery in the States where it exists. I believe I have no lawful right to do so, and I have no inclination to do so."

In 1861, Lincoln supported passage of the Corwin Amendment to the Constitution, which would have formally and explicitly enshrined slavery in the U.S. Constitution by prohibiting the government from ever interfering with Southern slavery. This amendment passed the Senate and the House just days before Lincoln was inaugurated (but the advent of war prevented its ratification by the states). In his first Inaugural Address he said he believed slavery was constitutional and then, alluding to the Corwin Amendment, said: "I have no objection to it [slavery protection] being made express irrevocable" in the Constitution. This was by far the strongest defense of slavery ever made by an American politician.

Not one single slave in any non-seceding Union slave state (Maryland, Delaware, Missouri, Kentucky, and the District of Columbia) was freed by Lincoln's famous 1863 Emancipation Proclamation. It had no effect on any Southern state, as it obviously could not be enforced there. Lincoln himself said (in a widely distributed communication, Aug. 22, 1862, to New York newspaper editor Horace Greeley): "If I could save the Union without freeing any slaves I would do it."

Arguments that slavery caused the war and that the South was the culprit are already bearing fruit in the City of Richmond. The city's commission on the sesquicentennial, *The Future of Richmond's Past*, is already showing a distorted emphasis on slavery versus the heroism, suffering, and sacrifice of the soldiers whose leaders' statues grace Monument Avenue. This approach seems more calculated to drive visitors away than to attract them to the capital city of the Confederacy.

Virginia's secession convention stood firmly pro-Union until the April 12, 1861, firing on Fort Sumter and Lincoln's call of troops from Virginia to help bring the seceding states back into the Union. Slavery played no role in Virginia's decision and Virginia left the Union only upon Lincoln's call up to invade the lower South.

Slavery began in Virginia in 1619, not 1861. It is an injustice to pile the sins of 250 years of the "peculiar institution" on the brave men who went forth against the invaders between 1861 and 1865. As we commemorate their heroism and sacrifice, we do not forget the peculiar institution, but at the same time we must not let political correctness corrupt our judgment and our historical understanding. As noted historian James McPherson wrote in *What They Fought For, 1861-1865*, the vast majority of Southern soldiers believed they were fighting to defend their state, their homes, and their families -- not slavery.

CARNAGE AT ANTIETAM . . . AN EYEWITNESS ACCOUNT

General Robert E. Lee's first invasion of the North was a huge gamble that held the potential of very great rewards. Lee's campaign could win Maryland for the Confederacy, earn diplomatic recognition from Britain and France, and perhaps even force the Union to sue for peace. It would also take his troops out of war-ravaged Virginia during harvest time, and enable his troops to live off the enemy's country for a while. Following his victory at the Second Battle of Bull Run Lee led his ragtag army northward across the Potomac River and into

Union territory.

The ensuing battle on September 17 produced the bloodiest day in American combat history with over 23,000 casualties on both sides. More than twice as many Americans were killed or mortally wounded in combat at Antietam that day as in the War of 1812, the Mexican War, and the Spanish-American War combined.

The two armies met in the Maryland farm fields bordering the trickling Antietam Creek near the town of Sharpsburg. The Union named the conflict the Battle of Antietam in honor of the creek while the South

called it the Battle of Sharpsburg in honor of the town. From dawn till dark on the 17th the two armies threw frontal attacks at each other, littering the fields with their dead and wounded. "The whole landscape for an instant turned red," one northern soldier later wrote. Another veteran recalled, "[The cornfield] was so full of bodies that a man could have walked through it without

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stepping on the ground." No clear victor emerged and the fighting stopped out of sheer exhaustion. Lee withdrew during the night of September 18, and re-crossed the Potomac. Tactically, the battle ended in a draw. Strategically, it was a victory for the Union.

Some of the day's most brutal combat occurred during the late morning along a sunken road held by the Confederates. For two and one half hours Union troops threw themselves at the entrenched Confederates finally dislodging them. The murderous fire from both sides left the battlefield strewn with corpses giving the road the name "Bloody Lane." Lt. Frederick Hitchcock was a member of the 132d Pennsylvania Volunteers and experienced his first combat that day.

"We...moved, as I thought, rather leisurely for upwards of two miles, crossing Antietam Creek, which our men waded nearly waist deep, emerging, of course, soaked through, our first experience of this kind. It was a hot morning and, therefore, the only ill effect of this wading was the discomfort to the men of marching with soaked feet. It was now quite event that a great battle was in progress. A deafening pandemonium of cannonading, with shrieking and bursting shells, filled the air beyond us, towards which we were marching. An occasional shell whizzed by or over, reminding us that we were rapidly approaching the 'debatable ground.'

Soon we began to hear a most ominous sound which we had never before heard, except in the far distance at South Mountain, namely, the rattle of musketry. It had none of the deafening bluster of the cannonading so terrifying to new troops, but to those who had once experienced its effects, it was infinitely more to be dreaded. These volleys of musketry we were approaching sounded in the distance like the rapid pouring of shot upon a tinpan, or the tearing of heavy canvas, with slight pauses interspersed with single shots, or desultory shooting.

All this presaged fearful work in store for us, with what results to each personally in the future, measured probably by moments, would reveal. How does one feel under such conditions? To tell the truth, I realized the situation most keenly and felt very uncomfortable. Lest there might be some undue manifestation of this feeling on my conduct, I said to myself, this is the duty I undertook to perform for my country, and now I'll do it, and leave the results with God. My greater fear was not that I might be killed, but that I might be grievously wounded and left a victim suffering on the field. The nervous strain was plainly visible upon all of us. All moved doggedly forward in obedience to orders, in abso-

lute silence so far as talking was concerned. The compressed lip and set teeth showed that nerve and resolution had been summoned to the discharge of duty. A few temporarily fell out, unable to endure the nervous strain."

On the night of September 16, the 9th N.Y. Volunteers took up their position opposite a stone bridge crossing Antietam Creek and awaited orders. As dawn broke, the soldiers could hear the sounds of battle on their right and left but no orders were given to advance. By afternoon, as the fighting ebbed and flowed on other parts of the battlefield, General Burnside gave the order for his troops to attack the Confederates positioned across the Antietam Creek. David Thompson, a member of the 9th N.Y. volunteers describes his experience:

"So the morning wore away and the fighting on the right ceased entirely. That was fresh anxiety -- the scales were turning perhaps, but which way? About noon the battle began afresh. This must have been Franklin's men of the Sixth Corps, for the firing was nearer, and they came up behind the center. Suddenly a stir beginning far upon the right, and running like a wave along the line, brought the regiment to its feet. A silence fell on every one at once, for each felt that the momentous 'now' had come. Just as we started I saw, with a little shock, a line-officer take out his watch to note the hour, as though the affair beyond the creek were a business appointment which he was going to keep.

When we reached the brow of the hill the fringe of trees along the creek screened the fighting entire, and we were deployed as skirmishers under their cover. We sat there two hours. All that time the rest of corps had been moving over the stone bridge and going into position on the other side of the creek. Then were ordered over a ford which had been found below the bridge, where the water was waist deep. One man was shot in mid-stream.

At the foot of the slope on the opposite side the line was formed and we moved up through the thin woods. Reaching the level we lay down behind a battery which seemed to have been disabled. There, if anywhere, I should have remembered that I was soaking wet from my waist down. So great was the excitement, however, that I have never been able to recall it. Here some of the men, going to the rear for water, discovered in the ashes of some hayricks which had been fired by our shells the charred remains of several Confederates. After long waiting it became noised along the line that we were to take a battery that was at work several yards ahead on the top of a hill. This narrowed the field and brought us to consider the work before us more attentively.

Right across our front, two hundred feet or so away, ran a country road bordered on each side by a snake fence. Be-

yond this road stretched a plowed field several hundred feet in length, sloping up to the battery which was hidden in a corn field. A stone fence, breast-high, inclosed the field on the left, and behind it lay a regiment of Confederates, who would be directly on our flank if we should attempt the slope. The prospect was far from encouraging, but the order came to get ready for the attempt.

Our knapsacks were left on the ground behind us. At the word a rush was made for the fences. The line was so disordered by the time the second fence was passed that we hurried forward to a shallow undulation a few feet ahead, and lay down among the furrows to re-form, doing so by crawling up into line. A hundred feet or so ahead was a similar undulation to which we ran for a second shelter. The battery, which at first had not seemed to notice us, now, apprised of its danger, opened fire upon us. We were getting ready now for the charge proper, but were still lying on our faces. Lieutenant-Colonel Kimball was ramping up and down the line. The discreet regiment behind the fence was silent. Now and then a bullet from them cut the air over our head, but generally they were reserving their fire for that better show which they knew they would get in a few minutes. The battery, however, whose shots at first went over our heads, had depressed its guns so as to shave the surface of the ground. Its fire was beginning to tell.

I remember looking behind and seeing an officer riding diagonally across the field - - a most inviting target - - instinctively bending his head down over his horse's neck, as though he were riding through driving rain. While my eye was on him I saw, between me and him a rolled overcoat with its traps on bound into the air and fall among the furrows. One of the enemy's grape-shot had plowed a groove in the skull of a young fellow and had cut his overcoat from his shoulders. He never stirred from his position, but lay there face downward, a dreadful spectacle. A moment after, I heard a man cursing a comrade for lying on him heavily. He was cursing a dying man.

As the range grew better, the firing became more rapid, the situation desperate and exasperating to the last degree. Human nature was on the race, and there burst forth from it the most vehement, terrible swearing I have ever heard. Certainly the joy of conflict was not ours that day. The suspense was only for a moment, however, for the order to charge came just after. Whether the regiment was thrown into disorder or not, I never knew. I only remember that as we rose,

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and started all the fire that had been held back so long was loosed. In a second the air was full of the hiss of bullets and the hurtle of grape-shot. The mental strain was so great that I saw at the moment he singular effect mentioned, I think, in the life of Goethe on a similar occasion - - the whole landscape for an instant turned slight red.

I see again, as I saw it then in a flash, a man just in front of me drop his musket and throw up his hands, stung into vigorous swearing by a bullet behind the ear. Many men fell going up the hill, bit it seemed to be all over in a moment, and I found myself passing a hollow where a dozen wounded men lay - - among them our sergeant-major who was calling me to come down. He had caught sight of the blanket rolled across my back, and called me to unroll it and help to carry from the field one of our wounded lieutenants."

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