

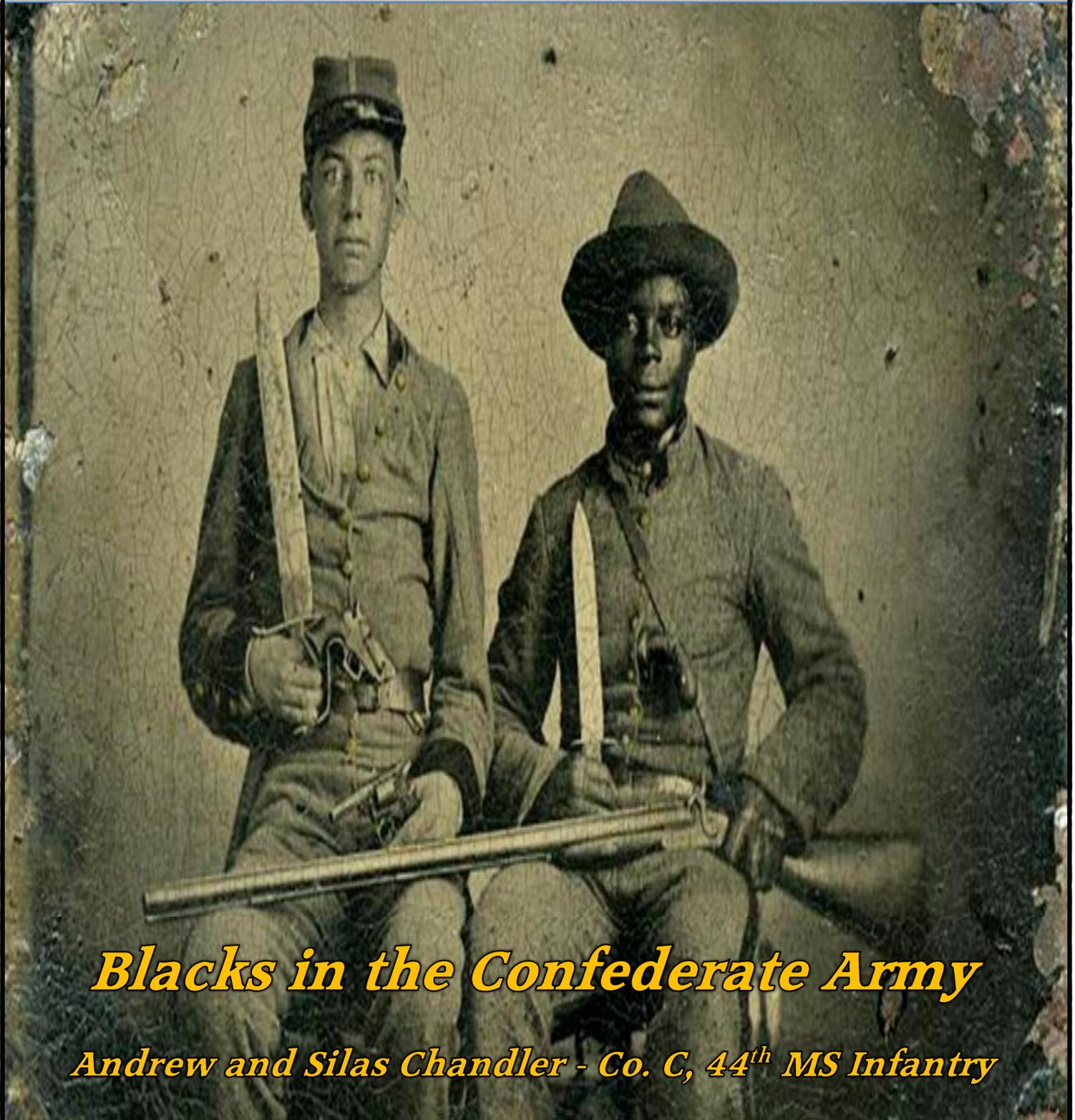


Camp Website: www.humphreys1625.com



The Delta General

Richard Dillon, Camp Commander



Blacks in the Confederate Army

Andrew and Silas Chandler - Co. C, 44th MS Infantry

Special February/ March Issue - 2017, Volume 20, Issue 2

Dedicated to the memory of Brig. General Benjamin G. Humphreys

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UPCOMING EVENTS

- Camp Meeting – Thursday, March 2, 2017, 7:00 PM at 1st Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall in Indianola**

CAMP COMMANDER

Richard Dillon
rlid846@gmail.com

EDITOR

Larry McCluney - (662) 453-7212
confederate@suddenlink.net

The Delta General is published 12 times a year by the Brig/Gen. Benjamin G. Humphreys Camp #1625, SCV, as a service to its members. The articles, photographs, or content of The Delta General may not be reproduced without the consent of the editor. The opinions expressed by the authors of signed articles reflect the personal views of the writers and are not necessarily the views of the Brig/Gen. Benjamin G. Humphreys Camp #1625, SCV. The Delta General reserves the right to accept or reject content.

Brig. General Benjamin G. Humphreys
Camp #1625, SCV
website: www.humphreys1625.com

Camp News:

Commander's Report – Richard Dillon

Compatriots,

Man, Oh, Man!!! What a FANTASTIC Lee-Jackson Banquet we had. The food was wonderful! We enjoyed many delicious desserts and vegetable plates, and some outstanding BBQ.

Our speaker, Alan Doyle, made a terrific presentation on Nathan Bedford Forrest, including some pictures most of us had never seen before. Not only did Alan give us his time and knowledge, he donated an exquisite, framed portrait of General Forrest, which the OCR ladies included in the raffle. It's extremely difficult to find speakers such as Alan Doyle.

As you know, our next Camp Meeting will be March 2, 2017. Please, honor us with your presence.

Camp Meeting, December, 2016

Adjutant's Report – Larry McCluney

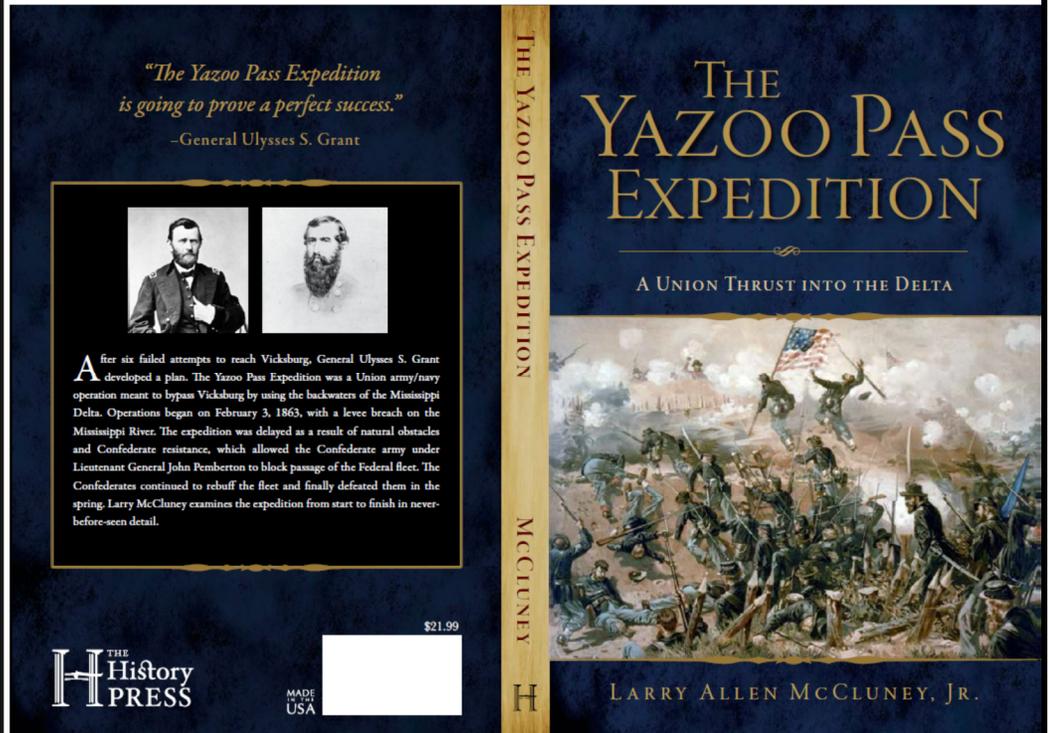
There was a crowd on hand for our Annual Lee/Jackson Banquet held January 28th. There was great food cooked by Bozz Hawg's Smoking Pitt and great fellowship as well. 41 people attended to hear Alan Doyle of the N.B. Forrest Camp in Memphis, TN speak on the "Life of General Forrest" which is a great subject to always hear about.

Also that night, we honored Gabriel Nokes, past Commander Joe Nokes' son who was celebrating his 12th birthday that night as well. Gabriel also joined the Camp that night and was honored by AoT Commander Larry McCluney with his membership pin and by MS Division Commander Louis Foley with his Division membership pin. His father also presented Gabriel with his first enfield rifle for reenacting as well.

There were plenty of door prizes and fellowship as well. If you missed it, you missed a great night.

March 2 Camp Meeting

Our March Camp meeting will feature Larry McCluney, our AoT Commander and Camp Adjutant, who will present a power point on his newest book that is slated to be released March 6 titled *The Yazoo Pass Expedition: A Union Thrust into the Delta*. Copies of his book will be on hand to purchased at \$21.99 and autographed. Also, the camp's budget will need to be approved for the next year.



Mississippi Division News

" Old Enough to Know & Young Enough to Go! "

Mississippi Division Compatriots,

I humbly ask for your vote and support as I am now announcing my candidacy for 1st Lt Commander of the Mississippi Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans. The Lord has blessed me in my work for the Mississippi Division and National SCV. I feel it is my duty, with no personal agenda, to serve you and help readvance the Division to its former glory.

At the request of my Camp Commander, my first SCV office was as a Camp Lt Commander at the age of 17.

In 2011, I became the youngest man (18) ever to be appointed to a Division office. I served the MS Division as Color Sergeant for 3 years. I upheld the duties of the office as explained in the Division Bylaws and made improvements to the Jeff Davis Legion and was recognized by several awards. This is when I first started traveling the Division from the Tennessee line to the Gulf Coast and had the pleasure of meeting so many of you.

In 2013, I became the youngest man (20) in MS Division history to be elected to Division office. It was my honor to serve the 4th Brigade as Executive Councilman.

I now serve the SCV Army of Tennessee and its nine separate Divisions as Adjutant, and have been for about 3 years. The amount of knowledge and experience I have absorbed in this office has been extraordinary and will certainly benefit the MS Division. It already has.

The Commander-in-Chief appointed me to his General Staff in July, 2016. It is now my honor to serve as National Deputy Chief of Heritage Promotions.

We are at a pivotal time in our history. During this second period of reconstruction, men all over the Mississippi are awakening. We are on the eve of a what can be a great push back to reclaim our Southern Heritage. We need to strike while the iron is still hot and recruit these men, and get them active in our division. The Mississippi Division is in the top 10 for number of membership nationally. We need to be number one, and under the proper leadership we WILL achieve that.

At every reunion, someone says "we need more young people" and "the youth is the future of the SCV." In order to recruit from the younger generation, we need someone who understands how to reach young men. We also need to move this division into the 21st century. I AM the man qualified for this job.

My positive position and working platform can be found on my new website:

<http://gcbond1sttcmdr.webs.com/>

Forward the Colors,
George Conor Bond
dixiedude011@gmail.com

BEAUVOIR, JEFFERSON DAVIS SHRINE AND PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY Announces Hiring of New Executive Director

Biloxi, Miss.- In what appears to be a sign of renewed hope and vigor for Beauvoir, Owen McDowell, announced today that the Board of Directors have unanimously voted to hire Dr. Thomas Payne of Biloxi, to be the next Executive Director of Beauvoir. According to McDowell "the Board conducted a national search for the new Executive Director" "we had a large talent pool to draw from but found the best fit right here in Biloxi." Dr. Payne's previous administrative experience, combined with his skills at grant writing and program development are exactly what Beauvoir needs" Dr Payne also brings his skills as a private attorney and will act in a dual role of Executive Director and General Counsel for Beauvoir and the Board.

When asked why he would give up a seemingly lucrative law practice for the salary of a Director of a not for profit organization; Payne explained" What a wonderful way to sum up one's professional life by using a tool box full of skill sets developed over a career to benefit the continuity and growth of such a wonderful and noble place as Beauvoir."

After a nationwide search, the board of directors at Beauvoir tapped a Biloxi attorney to serve as the new executive director overseeing the last home of Jefferson Davis.

The board voted unanimously to hire Dr. Thomas Payne to replace former executive director Greg Stewart. Payne called this an "exciting time" at Beauvoir. Owen McDowell, president of the board of directors, said Payne brings a unique set of skills to the job that will allow him to serve as executive director and general counsel for Beauvoir and the board.

"We had a large talent pool to draw from but found the best fit right here in Biloxi," said McDowell. "Dr. Payne's previous administrative experience, combined with his skills at grant writing and program development are exactly what Beauvoir needs."

Payne said serving as executive director of the nonprofit that means so much to the Mississippi Gulf Coast is a great way to give back after his professional career.



"What a wonderful way to sum up one's professional life by using a tool box full of skill sets developed over a career to benefit the continuity and growth of such a wonderful and noble place as Beauvoir," said Payne.

WLOX News Now anchor David Elliott interviews Dr. Thomas Payne at Beauvoir (Photo source: WLOX)

[HTTP://WWW.WLOX.COM/STORY/34255997/BILOXI-ATTORNEY-HIRED-AS-NEW-EXECUTIVE-DIRECTOR-OF-BEAUVOIR](http://www.wlox.com/story/34255997/biloxi-attorney-hired-as-new-executive-director-of-beauvoir)

Mississippi Division EC Meeting, February 25th

The next MS Division EC meeting will be held Saturday, February 25th at the American Legion Post #89 in Decatur, MS starting 10:00 a.m. Please wear CASUAL attire and dress according to the weather. The address for all your GPS users: 14051 HWY 15, Decatur, MS 39327

Deadline to be put on the agenda will be Wednesday, February 23rd at noon. Please e-mail Michael Wooten: pfr72@aol.com or myself:

msdivcommanderlou@gmail.com

Hope to see you there.

Thank you,

Louis P. Foley, MS Division Commander

E-mail: msdivcommanderlou@gmail.com

Bicentennial Flag



The haters of our heritage never give up. After a failure, they not only double down on that strategy but develop a new and innovative ways to destroy the symbols of our heritage. A case study of this strategy is the war against our flag of the great state of Mississippi . You all know the efforts of the past to force removal of our present state flag. Popular votes, court cases, arm twisting of legislatures and proposed constitutional amendments are all examples that have so far failed. These efforts have all been opposed by the majority of the people of the state but a very vocal minority continue to carry the fight against our heritage. Their lack of victories has left, our left leaning cities and universities to lower our beautiful state flag. Now with a very important event to our state, the bicentennial of our statehood, will come a new effort to change our state flag, a flag to celebrate the bicentennial. This flag will fill the empty flag poles around the state and there will be resolutions celebrating our bicentennial and the flag developed to celebrate the occasion. Along with this fell good movement, there will be a continued effort to change our state flag in the legislature. One of the "hate the flag" strategies is to over the year of our bicentennial to gather momentum to have this flag to replace our current flag. My position is as always no compromise no surrender. Contact your Representative and Senator in Jackson and voice your opinion on our state flag. The speaker of the house will continue his effort to erase our proud heritage.



*122nd Mississippi Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans and the
23rd Mississippi Society, Order of Confederate Rose Reunions*



**June 9,10 and 11, 2017, in Oxford, Mississippi
2017 REUNION REGISTRATION FORM**

SCV MEMBER NAME: _____ CAMP: _____

OCR MEMBER NAME: _____ OCR CHAPTER: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: (____) _____ - _____ EMAIL: _____ TITLE: _____

SCV EARLY REGISTRATION (before January 31, 2017)..... \$30.00 _____

SCV REGULAR REGISTRATION (between 2/1/17 to 5/15/17)..... \$35.00 _____

SCV LATE REGISTRATION (post-marked after 5/15/17)..... \$45.00 _____

OCR REGISTRATION\$15.00 _____

SATURDAY NIGHT AWARDS BANQUET..... \$20.00 PER PERSON _____

ANCESTOR MEMORIAL (COMPLETE ATTACHED FORM).....QTY. ____ (X'S) \$10.00 EACH ANCESTOR _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

Make checks payable to University Greys and mail the registration to:

Larry Mardis
University Greys
P.O. Box 141
Taylor, MS 38673

Contact information: Larry Mardis
secmissanv@yahoo.com
662-832-4908

Larry Hellums
spec@brucetelephone.com
662-800-9228

Registration packet pickup on Friday, June 9th between 4 and 8 pm at Cedar Oaks located at 601 Murry Drive, Oxford
The Saturday events will be in the Oxford Convention Center, which is located on Sisk Avenue and will start at 8 am
Saturday night banquet will start at 5:30 pm and will be at the Oxford Convention Center
Sunday closing will be at the Confederate Cemetery on the Ole Miss Campus at 8:30 am
Vendor tables are available: Please complete attached form
Reunion program advertisement available: Please see attached form
Hotel information: Please see attached information
All Registered SCV members will receive a Name Badge, Reunion Medal, Reunion Program, and a "Reunion goodie bag."

Late Door Registration will receive the same only as long as supplies last.
OCR Registrants will have a Ladies Tea in lieu of a Reunion Medal.

All registrations submitted for the amounts specified above must be post-marked appropriately within the specified time-frame.
No refunds to be distributed for cancellations on or after May 25,, 2017

Hotel Information

There are two hotels who have agreed to reserve rooms for the Reunion. Both are across the street from the convention center. The room rates are \$129.00 per night plus tax. These hotels are

Hampton Inn Oxford Conference Center 103 Ed Perry Dr. 662-234-5565

Arriving	Departing	Room Type	Number of Rooms	Price/night
06/09/2017	06/11/2017	SXQL	15	\$ 129.00 + tax
06/09/2017	06/11/2017	KXTD	10	\$ 129.00 + tax

Marriott Towne Place Suites 105 Ed Perry Dr. 662-238-3522

Arriving	Departing	Room Type	Number of Rooms	Price/night
06/09/2017	06/11/2017	STQQ	15	\$ 129.00 + tax
06/09/2017	06/11/2017	STDO	10	\$ 129.00 + tax

The **SXQL** and the **STQQ** room contain two queen size beds and are non-smoking. The **KXTD** room contains one king bed, and is non-smoking. The **STDO** room contains one king bed, and a pull out sleeper sofa and is non-smoking. All guest rooms include a microwave, mini-fridge, iron and ironing board, coffee maker, cable with HBO, and complimentary internet access. **Please have all of your guests' reference the "Sons of Confederate Reunion" block when making their reservations. Please also make your guests aware of the 05/09/2017 group cutoff date. All unreserved rooms will be released at this time.**

SPECIAL NOTE: THERE ARE LESS EXPENSIVE HOTELS IN OXFORD. PLEASE MAKE ARRANGEMENTS ACCORDING TO YOUR NEEDS.

National SCV News

Message from the Commander-in-Chief

Compatriots,

We are just a month away from our 2nd annual Confederate Flag Day. Let's make even bigger and better than last year. I ask you to make every effort to take part in one of the many events across the Confederation. You can get information on the Flag Day website which is updated as details are provided by your Divisions.

<http://csaflag.org>

Please share this message on all the lists that you have access to. I look forward to seeing reports of our glorious flags flying all across the land.

Thomas V. Strain, Jr
75th Commander in Chief
Sons of Confederate Veterans

Future Site of *The National Confederate Museum* at Historic Elm Springs



The Sons of Confederate Veterans broke ground at Elm Springs for a new building “The National Confederate Museum.” The museum that will tell the truth about what motivated the Southern people to struggle for many years to form a new nation. A building fund for this purpose is ongoing. One of the goals is to provide an accurate portrayal of the common Confederate soldier, something that is currently absent in most museums and in the media. We are invited to make a stand for the future by contributing to this fund.

Editorial —

By Lee Millar, Feb 2017

Apparently in California an item can be (illogically) a racial symbol despite what your Confederate ancestors fought for.

Culture Wars

Teacher Forced to Retire After Displaying Confederate Flag During Civil War Lesson



Published January 30, 2017, By Ian Miles Cheong, Heat Street News

A teacher who displayed the Confederate flag to middle-schoolers in his history class was forced to retire amid concerns that he was displaying a symbol of hate.

[yeah, I'm concerned too. What would we do with students who thought that they could stand up against an illegal invasion? Or perhaps to think that states had rights too? Or perhaps think that taxation without representation doesn't work? Why, of course: their brains would be muddled with truth!! We can't have that!!]

70-year-old Sutter Middle School (Folsom, CA) teacher Woody Hart hung both a Confederate flag and a Union flag during his lesson on the Civil War.

In a public statement (via the Sacramento Bee), Folsom Cordova Unified School District stated:

“We recognize that regardless of context, to many of our students, families, and staff, the Confederate flag is a racist symbol of hate,” the statement reads. “Although this matter is under investigation, it is important to reiterate: Any employee who is found to engage in behavior that creates an unsafe environment for students will face full consequences, including the possibility of initiating termination proceedings.”

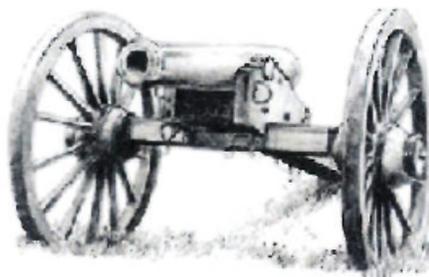
“In this case, the flag — which was found across the room from a Civil War Union flag, potentially in preparation of a history activity — was removed from the classroom before school began today,” it continues. “It is our schools’ responsibility to provide a safe learning environment for all children.”

Absurd? Oh, yes. A teacher is forced out simply for equally displaying two historic flags, though one of which is a Confederate battleflag. So – what was the Civil War about? It was about the Union Army fighting some other guys (we’re not allowed to say ‘Confederate’), and they saved the world from hate.

Here’s hoping that their next earthquake is successful.

The 50th MID-SOUTH MILITARY HISTORY

& CIVIL WAR SHOW



WW I
KOREA
BOOKS
RELICS
CURRENCY
DOCUMENTS

WW II
VIET NAM
PRINTS
WEAPONS
UNIFORMS
PHOTOGRAPHS

Agricenter Showplace Arena

7777 Walnut Grove Road
Memphis, Tennessee 38120

March 4-5, 2017

Admission:

Adults \$10.00
Children 12 & under Free

Open to the Public:

Sat. 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Sun. 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Sponsored By:

James R. Chalmers Camp #1312, SCV
Robert E. Lee Camp #1640, SCV
Telephone: (901) 682-8000
Fax: (901) 682-8887
P. O. Box 171251
Memphis TN 38187-1251



<https://www.facebook.com/MilitaryHistoryCivilWarShow>

The Mid South Military History & Civil War Show is pleased to
Continue its partnership with MIKE KENT & ASSOCIATES for this event



Name _____ Title/Position _____

SCV Camp & number _____

(check one) _____ AOT _____ ATM _____ ANV _____ OCR

Address _____ City, ST _____

Zip _____ Hm ph _____ cell _____

Email _____ Guest/spouse name _____

Registration and meals

Early Registration (Before Apr 1, 2017) (Only SCV members are required to pay registration fees) Qty _____ x \$ 60.00 = \$ _____

Late Registration (After Mar 31, 2017) Qty _____ x \$ 70.00 = \$ _____

Extra Reunion medal Qty _____ x \$ 35.00 = \$ _____

• Numbered Special Edition Medal (1-75) Qty _____ x \$100.00 = \$ _____

Chaplain's Breakfast (Thursday) Qty _____ x \$ 30.00 = \$ _____

Heritage Luncheon (Thursday) Qty _____ x \$ 35.00 = \$ _____

Forrest Cavalry Breakfast (Friday) Qty _____ x \$ 30.00 = \$ _____

Awards Luncheon (Friday) Qty _____ x \$ 35.00 = \$ _____

Gov. Harris Breakfast (Saturday) Qty _____ x \$ 30.00 = \$ _____

Debutante Luncheon (Saturday) (Free for debutantes; female guests only - \$35) Qty _____ x \$ 35.00 = \$ _____

Grand Ball and Banquet (Saturday) \$70 single/\$130 couple Qty _____ = \$ _____

Tours

Shiloh Battlefield w/ guide & lunch (all day Tuesday) (\$55 single/\$100 couple) Qty _____ x \$ 55.00 = \$ _____

CSS Little Rebel Dinner Cruise (Wednesday evening) Qty _____ x \$ 45.00 = \$ _____

Ladies' Victorian Village Tour & Tea (Thursday morning) Qty _____ x \$ 35.00 = \$ _____

USS Carondelet Civil War Museum and chicken/fish fry (Thursday evening) (\$30/\$50) Qty _____ x \$ 30.00 = \$ _____

Ladies' Davies Plantation Tour & Tea (Friday morning) Qty _____ x \$ 35.00 = \$ _____

Forrest's Memphis Raid & Civil War sites (Friday) (\$40/\$75) Qty _____ x \$ 40.00 = \$ _____

Historic Elmwood Cemetery & Soldiers' Rest (Saturday afternoon) Qty _____ x \$ 35.00 = \$ _____

Fort Pillow field trip (& lunch) (Sunday, 8am to 3pm) Qty _____ x \$ 55.00 = \$ _____

Ancestor Memorial (Recognition in Reunion Program) Qty _____ x \$ 10.00 = \$ _____

(Please complete Ancestor Memorial form and include it with your registration. **Deadline is May 15**)

GRANT TOTAL \$ _____

Total (check one) _____ personal check _____ **PayPal _____ Credit Card Visa _____ Mastercard _____ Amex _____ Discover _____

Credit card #, & exp dte _____ Exp Dte _____ Secur Cd _____

(**3% fee will be added for PayPal and credit card pymts) (PayPal/credit card pymts will be accepted online or at the door. Cash accepted at the door. Checks will NOT be accepted at the door.) In the unlikely occurrence that an event is cancelled your cost will be refunded.

- Medals are available while supplies last. Each registrant receives one medal. The purchase price of extra Reunion medals will be refunded if supplies run out. *Special Edition Medals are numbered 1-75 and numbers will be assigned on a first-come first served basis, as long as supplies last. If you would like a specific number(s), please make a note on your registration form.
- **Meals, tours and numbered Special Edition medals will be available for at-the-door registration on a space-available basis. To guarantee meal tickets and tours, registration MUST be received by June 15, 2017.**

Hotel reservations: you can make your own here on the website: www.scvmemphis2017.org, rooms are \$139 per night. Or call Sheraton Memphis reservations, 901-527-7300. Ask for the SCV Reunion Special Rate. All prices subject to state and local taxes.

N. B. Forrest Camp 215

www.scvmemphis2017.org

Mail checks to: ScvMemphis2017, PO Box 11141, Memphis, TN 38111



Stephen D. Lee Institute

One of the best programs the SCV has for spreading the truth about our Confederate Heroes is the Stephen D. Lee Institute which annually assembles some of the best minds in the South to discuss important issues about our Southern Heritage.

This year's event will be March 4-5 in Knoxville, Tennessee. We have a great lineup of speakers including:

- **Ron Kennedy:** author of numerous books including "The South Was Right" and "Punished with Poverty: The Suffering South - Prosperity to Poverty & the Continuing Struggle" among many others.
- **Dr. Samuel W. Mitchum, Jr.:** noted professor of History and author of "Bust Hell Wide Open: The life of Nathan Bedford Forrest."
- **John Remington Graham:** author of "A Constitutional History of Secession" and "Free, Sovereign, and Independent States: the intended meaning of the American Constitution."
- **John Avery Emison:** a sixth-generation Tennessean, he is the author of "Lincoln Über Alles: Dictatorship Comes to America." He is an expert on state constitutions in the 19th Century.

You can register to attend the event at <http://www.stephendleeinstitute.com/register.html>

Registration includes:

Admission to symposium programs including a special panel discussion with all of our distinguished speakers Saturday afternoon

Friday night Social

Saturday night banquet

The cost is \$150 per person (\$125 for SCV members) and **the first twenty-five (25) Compatriots who register will receive a special free gift in recognition of your support.**

Please register right away as space is limited.

The host hotel for this event is the Crowne-Plaza Knoxville. For room reservations at the SDLI rate (\$103.00 + local taxes), please call the hotel directly at [865-522-2600](tel:865-522-2600), and ask to speak with Jamie Julius. You can find more information at the SDLI web site www.StephenDLeelinstitute.com

BLACK HISTORY MONTH: BLACK CONFEDERATE HERITAGE

This fact sheet is prepared by the Sons of Confederate Veterans Education Committee for distribution to professors, teachers, librarians, principals, ethnic leaders, members of the press, and others interested in promoting an understanding of Black contributions to United States history. The SCV hopes this information will enrich the celebration of Black History Month during February. This sheet may be freely copied and distributed without permission or notice; if republished in part or whole, please credit the Sons of Confederate Veterans.

"There are at the present moment, many colored men in the Confederate Army doing duty...as real soldiers, having muskets on their shoulders and bullets in their pockets...." Frederick Douglass, former slave & abolitionist (Fall, 1861)

How many? Easily tens of thousands of blacks served the Confederacy as laborers, teamsters, cooks and even as soldiers. Some estimates indicate 25% of free blacks and 15% of slaves actively supported the South during the war.

Why? Blacks served the South because it was their home, and because they hoped for the reward of patriotism; for these reasons they fought in every war through Korea, even though it meant defending a segregated United States.

Emancipation? President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation did not free a single slave. Issued at a time when the Confederacy seemed to be winning the war, Lincoln hoped to transform a disagreement over secession into a crusade against slavery, thus preventing Great Britain (and France) from intervening on the side of the South. The proclamation allowed slavery to continue in the North as well as in Tennessee and large parts of Louisiana and Virginia. It applied only to Confederate-held slaves, which Lincoln had no authority over, but not to slaves under Federal control.

Lincoln's Views? "I am not in favor of making voters or jurors of Negroes, nor of qualifying them to hold office...." 9/15/1858 campaign speech "I have no purpose, directly or indirectly, to interfere with the institution of slavery...." 3/4/1861 First Inaugural Address "I am a little uneasy about the abolishment of slavery in this District [of Columbia]...." 3/24/1862 letter to Horace Greeley "If I could save the Union without freeing any slave I would do it...." 8/22/1862 letter to Horace Greeley, New York Tribune editor

- Confederate: Famed bridge engineer and former slave Horace King received naval contracts for building Confederate warships. A black servant named Sam. As he killed the first Union officer during the war, abolitionist Major Theodore Winthrop. John W. Buckner, a black private, was wounded at Ft. Wagner repulsing the U.S. (Colored) 54th Massachusetts Regiment. George Wallace, a servant who surrendered with General Lee at Appomattox, later served in the Georgia Senate. Jim Lewis served General Stonewall Jackson, and was honored to hold his horse "Little Sorrel" at the general's funeral. Captured black cook Dick Poplar suffered cruelty by Yankee Negro guards at Pt. Lookout, MD for being a "Jeff Davis man."
- Union: A daring Robert Smalls engineered theft of the CSS Planter, presenting it to the Yankee blockading fleet at Charleston. Black Medal of Honor awardees Christian Fleetwood and William Carey bravely carried the banner at Ft. Wagner's assault in 1863.
- Colonial: The first man to die for the American cause of freedom was Crispus Attucks, a black seaman from Boston. At the time of the American Revolution, New York City held almost as many slaves as all of Georgia combined.
- Surprising Facts: In St. Louis, General John Fremont freed slaves of "disloyal" Missouri Confederates; an angry Lincoln fired him. Slaves in Washington, D.C. were not freed until April 1862, a year after the war began with the firing at Ft. Sumter. Slavery continued throughout the entire war in five Union-held states: DE, MD, WV, KY and MO. The New York City draft riots of July 1863 resulted in burning of a beautiful black orphanage and lynching of blacks. A



provision in the Confederate Constitution prohibited the African slave trade outright (unlike the U.S. Constitution). Encouraged by General Lee, the CSA eventually freed slaves who would join the army, and did recruit and arm black regiments. C.S. General Robert E. Lee freed his family slaves before the war; Union Gen. U.S. Grant kept his wife's slaves well into the war. Many blacks owned slaves themselves. In 1861 Charleston, for example, a free colored planter named William Ellison owned 70 slaves. Even in 1830 New York City, three decades before the war, eight black planters owned 17 slaves.

- Blacks Today: Nelson W. Winbush, a retired educator and SCV member, lectures on his black Confederate ancestor, private Louis N. Nelson. A black Chicago funeral home owner, Ernest A. Griffin, flies the CSA battle flag and erected at his own expense a \$20,000 monument to the 6,000 Confederate soldiers who are buried on his property, once site of the Union prison Camp Douglas. Black professor Leonard Haynes (recently deceased) of Southern University (Baton Rouge) spoke regularly on black Confederates. American University's professor Edward Smith also lectures on the truth of black Confederate history and, with Nelson W. Winbush, has prepared an educational videotape entitled "Black Southern Heritage" (available at (954) 963-4857)

Info? Contact: Dr. Edward Smith, American University, 4400 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20016 (202) 885-1192; Dean of American Studies, Dr. Smith (a black professor) is dedicated to clarifying the historical role of blacks.

- Websites: Library of Congress Black History Resource Guide - <http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/african/intro.html>
- Sons of Confederate Veterans, International Headquarters - <http://www.scv.org>
- Books: Charles Kelly Barrow, et al. *Forgotten Confederates: An Anthology About Black Southerners* (1995)
- Iver Bernstein. *The New York Draft Riots* (1990)
- Ervin L. Jordan, Jr. *Black Confederates and Afro-Yankees in Civil War Virginia* (1995)
- Larry Koger. *Black Slaveowners: Free Black Slaveowners in South Carolina, 1790-1860* (1985, 1995)
- Edward A. Miller, Jr. *Gullah Statesman: Robert Smalls - From Slavery to Congressman, 1839-1915* (1995)
- Richard Rollins. *Black Southerners in Gray* (1994)
- Cornish Taylor. *The Sable Arm: Negro Troops in the Union Army, 1861-1865* (1956)

The Sons of Confederate Veterans (SCV) is a patriotic, historical, and educational organization, founded in 1896, dedicated to honoring the sacrifices of the Confederate soldier and sailor, and to preserving Southern Culture. Its projects include educational talks, memorial dedications, medical research scholarships, and publication of Confederate Veteran magazine. The SCV is not affiliated with any other organization, except for its officers corps, the MOS&B. For more information, call 1-800-380-1896 or visit the SCV website at <http://www.scv.org> Copyright © 2004 Sons of Confederate Veterans

A review of Black Confederates and Afro-Yankees in Civil War Virginia,

by Ervin L. Jordan, Jr., Charlottesville: University Press of Virginia, 1995, 447 pages; and *Black Slave owners: Free Black Slave masters in South Carolina, 1790-1860*, by Larry Koger, Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1994, 286 pages.

Black Confederates! Remember, you heard it here first. You will be hearing more if you have any interest at all in the Great Unpleasantness of the last century that is the focal point of American history. There are more things in heaven and earth, dear Horatio, than are dreamed of by Ken Burns.

In the film *Gettysburg* appears the English Colonel Arthur Fremantle, played as a somewhat silly character. Fremantle was a real person who accompanied the Confederate Army on the Gettysburg campaign and published a book, *Three Months in the Southern States*. One incident noted by Fremantle in his book did not, of course, make it into the movie—the spectacle of a black Confederate marching Yankee prisoners to the rear.

Real life is always a lot more complicated than ideological history. The image that most Americans carry around in their heads of the Old South and the black slavery that flourished over much of this continent for two and a half centuries is cartoonish and largely misleading. (Just think of *Uncle Tom's Cabin* and *Roots*.) It is also, of course, extremely comforting to the mainstream American consciousness to think of the heroic soldiers in blue marching forth to strike the chains from the suffering black people—setting aside the fact that emancipation did not become a war goal until well after hostilities had begun, and that in many cases it resulted only in destructive uprooting or a change of masters.

The material brought forth in these two recently published works has not been unknown; it has always been self-evident to serious historians who have worked with primary sources. Large numbers of black people identified the South and the Confederacy as their homeland and homefolks, and did not rush into the arms of the emancipators. This really is not surprising to anyone who knows anything about history or human nature, which, of course, does not include Ken Burns. The Confederate Army was vastly sustained by black men who drove teams, cooked, foraged, dug fortifications, cared for the wounded, and occasionally took up arms. George Washington Cable, the author, when a mere youth of 15 or so, served as General Bedford Forrest's headquarters clerk. At the beginning of the War, Forrest took 50 of his slaves with him, promising freedom if they served faithfully. Cable records how he was told by Forrest to make out emancipation papers for all but one of these. A number of units of free blacks volunteered for Confederate service, and near the end of the War the Confederacy had decided to enlist black units. There was much opposition to this invasion of private property, but there was also solid support. Unlike the Union Army, they were to receive the same pay as white soldiers. It is a fact that black men who had been with the army were welcomed at Confederate reunions and received Confederate pensions from Southern states.

Dr. Jordan's book presents a tremendous amount of documentation about the activities of black Virginians for and against the Confederacy. He is far from a Confederate sympathizer, which makes the data all the more telling. When one considers that over large areas of the South, the black population was 70 to 90 percent and most able-bodied white men were off fighting the War, and that nevertheless no uprisings or significant outrages occurred on the homefront, one has to take a rather more complicated view of the Civil War than is usually passed around. It is true that many slaves left when they had the chance, when federal forces came near, but sometimes they had to be taken away by force. (Often they found themselves pressed into harsher service with the Union Army than with the Southern.) This attitude of the blacks was not due to ignorance or lack of understanding. When Sherman burned over 100 blocks of Columbia, the "winds" that were said to have been responsible did not spare the homes of black people, though they did, mysteriously, jump over that of the French consul. The mayor of Columbia observed three Union soldiers shoot to death a black man they considered insolent. When he reported this to Sherman he was told, "We don't have time for court martials and such." During Sherman's progress blacks, like white civilians, were left without food and shelter, and black women were much more vulnerable than white women were to rape and murder. Jordan's book is not the only one in this field of revisionism. The *Journal of Confederate History* a few years ago published as an entire issue a symposium on "Black Southerners in Gray"; while Professor Edward C. Smith of American University, an African-American, has produced two video tape lectures on the same subject.

Prior to the War there were almost a half-million free blacks in the United States, more than half of whom lived in the South. Historians have long noted that many of these were prosperous, and some were slaveowners. The situation has usually been explained as one of a few blacks having nominal ownership of relatives. There was some of that, but also abundant evidence, as marshaled by Koger for South Carolina (and for Louisiana by Gary Mills, *Forgotten People: Cane River's Creoles of Color*, 1977) that many participated in the Southern economy as masters of slave labor in exactly the same way as their white neighbors. (At the time of the averted Denmark Vesey insurrection in Charleston in the 1820s, 72 percent of free black households in the city held slaves.) All of this is not to provide a defense of slavery, but it does provide the grounds for a less simplistic and moralistic rendering of our ambivalent history.

In the 1970s, it was fashionable to attribute American racial problems to "the legacy of slavery." Is it not curious that, the further away we have moved in time and location from the regime of the Old South, the worse these problems have become? How simple it was, in the days before the Watts riots, to attribute all

problems to the benighted South. If only the South were corrected with an iron hand, then all would be well. That was a false and destructive rationale, as should be evident to all. It is said that there is now a net in-migration of black Americans back to the South, reversing the pattern of most of this century. There is also evidence that the South (except for a few international metropolises like Atlanta, New Orleans, and Dallas) enjoys more racial peace and progress than elsewhere in the Union.

It appears that Americans are in the process of rethinking some of the fundamentals of race relations that have been held sacrosanct for the past half century. These historical works are both a product of and a contribution to that rethinking, which yet has far to go.

First-hand evidence abundantly demonstrates that black men were present in great numbers with Confederate armies at all times. A great deal of the cooking, wagon driving, tending wounded, and camp work was done by these men. Many Southerners remarked with gratitude after the War of the support of such people. Of course, some took off, but many others did not, despite many opportunities to do so. President Davis when in the army camps greeted and shook hands with the black men as well as the white. Despite the efforts of some historians to trump up stories of fierce resistance by and fierce put-downs of slaves, it is obvious that there was never any hint of slave insurrection, or the South could not have fought so long and so effectively. The women and children were perfectly safe at home from that possibility.

Kent Masterson Brown, a distinguished lawyer from Kentucky who is also well known as a Civil War historian, has recently completed a book on the Confederate retreat from Gettysburg. He found that when the survivors came back from the Pickett-Pettigrew charge, they returned to Confederate lines that were lined with black faces. Some 6,000 to 10,000 black men went with the army to Pennsylvania—and back. The English observer Col. Fremantle saw a black Confederate marching a Yankee prisoner to the rear. He wondered at their reaction if the abolitionists in London could see that. Brown has found that many of those black men after Gettysburg took their wounded and dead masters home, sometimes to distant places in the far South.

It is hard for current folks to accept, but relations between blacks and whites in the South were sometimes familial. In soldiers' letters (and this is also true of ante-bellum Southerners in general) it is sometimes difficult to determine whether people mentioned are family members or servants. When you think about it, this is not at all unusual. History is full of examples of faithful retainers and servants fighting for their masters and against their masters' enemies. It is a quite common human phenomenon. Faulkner, the great American artist of the 20th century, portrayed this situation often, along with its ambiguity and contradictions. The interesting question, of course, is why acknowledgment of these facts is so fiercely resisted and misrepresented. There is a natural reluctance among many black people to accept that many "accepted" slavery, that all of their forebears were not in constant resistance and rebellion. But the choice for most of their people most of the time was not between slavery and freedom, but rather just making the best of the situation which life gave them. (Like most of us, most of the time.) Black and white Southerners have different histories, of course, but I very much believe that we should emphasize the good parts of the common history that we have shared. From my outsider's viewpoint, it seems to me a plus for African-Americans to recognize that their history is much more complex, multi-dimensional, and interesting than a simple (and false) story of repression and rebellion.

To really understand the position of the slaves of the South in the Civil War and to explain the resistance to ideas that contradict the official story, you have to understand that for mainstream America the Civil War is a morality play in which Yankees righteously liberate the grateful oppressed. That story has tremendous emotional commitment but it is not true. Before, during, and after the Civil War, the Yankees never did anything from the primary motive of helping the black people. This is what Frederick Douglass meant when he called Lincoln "the white man's president." The denial of the existence of black Confederates has less to do with African-Americans than with American self-righteousness.

The American myth would have you think that the righteous soldiers in blue and the liberated slaves rushed into each other's arms. Nothing could be further from the truth. We can understand the black Confederate better if we understand that liberation by the Yankees was not always a positive experience. Southerners owned slaves and believed in white supremacy. But as many foreign observers pointed out, they were not as militantly racist as Northerners. In general, Yankees were more interested in getting rid of black people than in freeing them. Letters of Northern soldiers who were encountering black people for the first time make the biggest collection of racist literature before Goebbels.

Remember, Lincoln's Illinois had laws, of which Lincoln approved, for bidding black people to even settle in the state; and those who lived there hail no civil rights. The Union was fighting for power, not freedom and equality. When black soldiers were enlisted, it was because they freed that number of white men from risking their lives.

When farms — houses, food, livestock, crops — are deliberately destroyed by an invading army whose policy is to demoralize civilians, black people as well as white are left starving. Black people are just as subject to murder, robbery and rape by invading troops as are white, probably more so. Historians have recently trumped up a good many stories of atrocities by Confederates against slaves. But that is minor and exaggerated compared to the Union armies' well-documented atrocities against and disdain for the black people of the South. We know that many black people left the plantations and farms in the wake of Union armies. Of course, people in a devastated area naturally take to the road and go where they think they can find food. And some were fed in the Union armies at times, though Yankee generals constantly complained of the freed slaves as a nuisance. Actually, it is not clear to what degree slaves went with the Union army willingly or they were actually kidnapped and forced. And what is their fate if they do follow the liberator? To become a forced laborer of the army or a servant or concubine of a Union officer. It is not too far a stretch to recognize that many people might choose to remain with the home and people they knew, even if they were slaves.

The Role of Black Soldiers in the Confederate Army By SSG Harry W. Tison, II

Many historians would have you believe that all minority groups such as Blacks, Indians, and Hispanics hated the Confederacy and what it stood for. This is completely untrue according to records that are recently been brought to the forefront of history. Groups such as the 37th Texas Cavalry and the Sons of Confederate Veterans have for many years tried to make this information possible. For those who do not know, the 37th Texas Cavalry is a Civil War reenactment group that prides itself on having minorities in their unit. The Sons of Confederate Veterans is a historical group only. There are men of color within this group and they are very proud of their heritage.

Why then have we not heard of these proud soldiers? The answer may lie in the fact that many of the history books that are in our schools were written by people who are either ignorant of the situation or by someone bent on covering up the true history of the past. I have found a lot of information about these soldiers on the Internet and have even met some of the blacks in the Sons of Confederate Veterans. This paper is to bring out the truth about them with the hopes that others will see exactly what the War of Northern Aggression was about.

First, the war was not 100% about slavery. Yes, there was a small portion of people in the South that owned slaves and thought that there was nothing wrong with it. But the majority of people believed that the North was oppressing them much the same way that the King of England was oppressing their parents and grandparents were in the Revolutionary War. The North was trying to put heavy taxes on things such as cotton, tobacco and other such items that the South was producing. Although very difficult, the way of life in the South was a matter of pride and not to be messed around with.

Although blacks were repressed in the South, the same was true in the North. Blacks were probably discriminated against in New York City and Boston more than they were in Charleston or Atlanta. Yes, they were 'free' in the North, but were still considered second-class citizens to many in the North. They still did not have the right to vote nor were they allowed in the same establishments as whites. This is why the majority of blacks stayed in the South when the war started. They stayed to fight for their homeland against the 'Yankees'. There was between 50,000 to 100,000 blacks that served in the Confederate Army as cooks, blacksmiths, and yes, even

soldiers. Hollywood would have us believe that the Union Army first started letting Blacks fight with the movie "Glory", the story of the 54th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry. This is not the case. Here is the history of these brave souls.

There are many references to the trials that blacks had to endure during this era. Not many though, tell the story of blacks that served in the Confederacy. Although it is true that a good number of slaves fled to the North, there were those that chose to stay in the South to stay with their families or to fight what they saw as the tyranny of the Yankees. There is the story of a slave whose name were Silas Chandler and his master Andrew Chandler. (www.37thtexas.org) Andrew enlisted in the 44th Mississippi Volunteer Regiment and took Silas along with him as many Southerners did. Andrew was 15 years old and Silas was nearly 17 and very close friends with Andrew. Silas traveled between the plantation in Mississippi and wherever Andrew was. Andrew wrote home on 31 Aug 1862, "If the Fed's were to capture him, they might take him along with them." "I greatly fear another raid, don't let them catch Silas. Be sure to write when Silas gets home."

Andrew was severely wounded in the Battle of Chickamauga. Army doctors were prepared to amputate his leg but Silas refused to let the doctors perform the operation. Instead, he used a piece of gold to buy whiskey, which he used to buy a bottle of whiskey to bribe the surgeons for Andrews release. He carried his master on his back and loaded him on a boxcar in Atlanta and better medical care. Andrew survived as a cripple and the two remained friends for the rest of their lives and both received pensions for serving in the war.

On the far side of Arlington National Cemetery, in a little known place, is the cemetery's largest monument. It is the Confederate Memorial that stands over the graves of Confederate Soldiers. On this monument is a carving of a black soldier, not in chains, but in a Confederate uniform marching along side his fellow soldiers. The sculptor of this monument was Moses Ezekiel. A Confederate veteran who knew what the true history of the war was. Ezekiel himself was a minority in the Confederate Army being Jewish, so he knew some of the trials the blacks were facing in the country. He was a native Virginian who graduated from the Virginia Military Institute and fought in the Battle of New Market where several black Confederates saw action. (www.37thtexas.org) Although the Confederates did not officially enlist blacks until March 1865, some states allowed them to serve on a local level as early as 1861. Nobody really knows how many blacks actually served in the Confederacy; some estimates go as high as 50,000. A Union officer noted in his diary shortly before the Battle of Sharpsburg: "Wednesday, September 10: At 4 o'clock this morning the Rebel army began to move from our town, (Fredrick, Md), Jackson's forces taking the advance. The movement continued until 8 o'clock pm, occupying 16 hours. The most liberal calculation could not give them more than 64,000 men. Over 3,000 Negroes must be included in this number. These were clad in all kinds of uniforms, not only in cast-off or captured United States uniforms, but in coats with Southern buttons, State buttons, etc. These were shabby, but not shabbier or seedier than those worn by white men in the rebel ranks. Most of the Negroes had arms, rifles, muskets, sabers, bowie-knives, dirks, etc. They were supplied with knapsacks, haversacks, canteens, etc and they were an integral portion of the Southern Confederate army. They were seen riding on horses and mules, driving wagons, riding on caissons, in ambulances, with the staff of generals and promiscuously mixing it up with all the Rebel horde." (Union Sanitation Commission Inspector Dr. Louis Steiner, Sept. 1862.)

Another Black Confederate is Levi Miller, a former slave who became a Confederate hero. He was one of thousands of slaves who went to war with their masters as a body servant. He was voted by his regiment to be a full-fledge soldier after nursing his master back from a near fatal wound. He also exhibited bravery in battles in Virginia, Tennessee, Georgia, Maryland, and Pennsylvania. During the fighting at Spotsylvania Courthouse, his former commander, Capt. J.E. Anderson, said of him, "Levi Miller stood by my side and no man fought harder and better than he did when the enemy tried to cross our little breastworks and we clubbed and bayoneted them off, no one used his bayonet with more skill and effect than Levi Miller. During several battles, Levi met several other Negroes that he knew either by friendship or as a relative. They attempted to get him to desert to the North, but would not.

Upon his death, it is ironic that his coffin was draped with the Stars and Bars at a hero's funeral service. He was laid to rest in a black cemetery. This is perhaps the biggest irony of all since the cemetery is near the spot where R.E. Lee is buried.

In a letter dated 27 March 1865, Lt. Col. Charles Marshall wrote a letter to Lt. Gen. Ewell stating that Gen. Lee regretted the "unwillingness of owners to permit their slaves to enter the service", and "His only objection to calling them colored troops was that the enemy had selected that designation for theirs". Also, "Harshness and contemptuous or offensive language or conduct to them must be forbidden and they should forget as soon as possible that they were regarded as menials".

The following is a list of 4 soldiers captured at Ft. Fisher when it fell to Union troops in January 1865:

- Charles Dempsey, Private, Company F, 36th NC Regiment, Negro. Captured at Ft. Fisher and confined at Point Lookout, Md., until paroled and exchanged at Coxes Landing, Va. 14-15 Feb 1865. (Taken from North Carolina Troops, Volume I)
- Henry Dempsey, Private, Company F, 36th NC Regiment, Negro. Captured at Ft. Fisher and confined at Point Lookout, Md., until paroled at Coxes Landing, Va. 14-15 Feb 1865. (Taken from North Carolina Troops, Volume I)
- J. Doyle, Private, Company E, 40th NC Regiment, Negro, Captured at Ft. Fisher and confined at Point Lookout, Md., until paroled at Boulware's Wharf, Va. On 16 Mar 1865. (Taken from North Carolina Troops, Volume I)
- Daniel Herring, Cook, Company F, 36th NC Regiment, Negro. Captured at Ft. Fisher, and confined at Point Lookout, Md. Until released after taking Oath of Allegiance June 19, 1865. (Taken from North Carolina Troops, Volume I)

Notice that all 4 soldiers were black and that one of them signed an Oath of Allegiance only after Lee's surrender. If you look at the make up of Union troops, you can plainly see that blacks were segregated into separate units, while in the South, they were mixed in with the white troops. They were also given the same pay and rations as other Confederate troops as opposed to their counterparts in the North. In June 1861, Tennessee became the first state in the South to allow the use of black soldiers. The governor authorized the enrollment of those between the ages of 15-50 and have the same rations and clothing as white soldiers. Blacks started appearing in Tennessee regiments by September of that same year.

At the Battle of Fair Oaks near Richmond, a black cook and minister with the Alabama regiment picked up a rifle and was heard yelling, "Der Lor' hab mercy on us all, boys, here dey comes agin!" As the Alabamians returned fire and mounted a charge, he was heard shouting, "Pitch in white folks, Uncle Pomp's behind yer. Send them Yankees to de 'ternal flames!" (Battlefields of the South. Vol. 2, page 253)

There are many stories about Black Confederates. I have listed only a few to give you a glimpse at them. There are many resources to go to and read if you wish to learn more. History can no longer be covered up by the 'do-gooders' that wish to wash our minds of the truth. I know where the hatred for the Confederate Battle Flag comes from, and it is not from the Old Confederacy. It comes from those who chose to degrade the good names of Confederate Soldiers. What they don't realize though is that what they are hiding behind in the name of racial purity was fought and died for by men of all races; including blacks.

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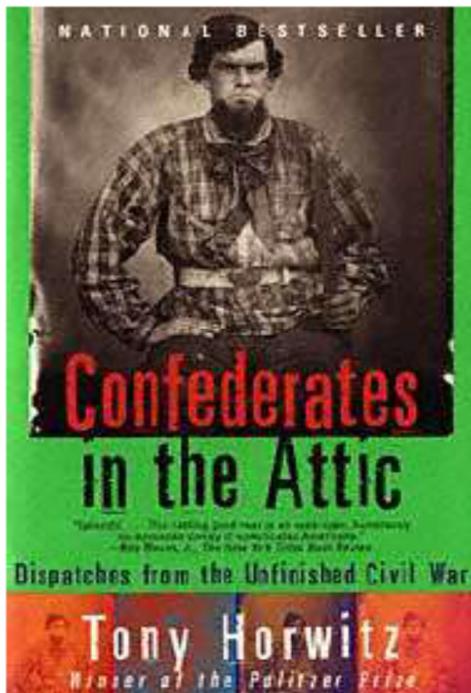
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THE REENACTOR.

A MATTER OF HONOUR



When I first read *Confederates in the Attic* I was in *Houston, Texas* 2010.

I hadn't finished the book and my son-in-law, *Chris*, kindly let me take it back to *Australia* to finish reading. Frankly, while I liked the book at first, its revelations of how sincere the reenactors are is fascinating, however the more I read, the more I came to dislike the author's account. He seems to have had pre-formed ideas about the South and the more the book progresses, the more his bias reveals itself. It seems to me that he hadn't read about the Jewish involvement in the South, nor the utter devotion to the Southern cause by so many Jewish people.

Moses Ezekial became a personal friend to Robert E. Lee after the war. Lee asked him to help tell the truth and he did with his remarkable memorial that depicts African Americans marching with integrated ranks of fellow Confederates at Arlington.



A classic example is *Moses Ezekial*, a talented artist and dutiful soldier who sculpted the intricate *Confederate Memorial at Arlington* and according to his wishes was buried there. I would like to have seen this reflected in a book written by a *Jewish* author, instead we read about *Horowitz* flaunting *National Park* regulations to camp on the front porches of heritage buildings and living, what he thought was, the re-enactor's rough life. Well *Tony Horowitz* you have got much to learn about the hardship of troops on the campaign. Come to *New Zealand* and go out on a hunt into the bush in winter, sleep in pouring rain and you may get a better insight into life on the march. Your experience was of course unique and re-enactors of the so called *Hard Core Brigade* really do experience life as it was in those horrific days. Their experiences are valuable to those of us researching the war but I can tell you I have been on the hunt in a winter's downpour, freezing cold and saturated, so I think I am qualified to criticise the author on these salient points. The *Jewish* people of the South deserve a better deal and voice, they also fought and died and after the war some immortalised its tragic events in sculptures, on canvas or memorials to Confederates. To divide the Jew from the conflict is as wrong as dividing *African Americans*, *Irishmen* and women or even *Chinese* who fought so bravely for both sides. It was not a black and white war, it was as intricately woven as it was in its involvement of all swept up in its maelstrom, including Jews who fought on both sides.





So *Confederates in the Attic*, while riveting in its first chapters, largely due to Robert Lee Hodge, slowly winds down into the same old Union bias and prejudice against the South. Here we are, some 18 years later and what was assailed originally as a mere travelogue of the author's experiences in the South, many complained that his account of Confederate reenactors was ridiculous. However the book proved a top seller and won rave reviews. Robert Lee Hodge appears on the cover of the book and has been thrust into the limelight and says, in the March 2008 issue of *America's Civil War*, "The common bond that all reenactors share is trying to bring to life the flavour of the Civil War era by our live demonstrations. I know people putting on clothes from 150 years ago and re-enacting a battle is going to make some academics frown or laugh but I feel that even if it is a far from perfect resource, re-enacting can help history benefit in competing for the memory of youth.-Robert Lee Hodge"

Robert Lee Hodge with campfire smoke in background. We at ACWRTQ could take a leaf out of Bob's book. (Picture Washington Post.)

We at ACWRTQ in Australia also don uniforms and clothing of the day to help others appreciate the lifestyles of the times but also give us a chance to relive, to a certain degree, the experiences of those who now live only in our history books. We bring "History Alive" and make it something ordinary members of the public can see and feel as being real. We share our knowledge and try to correct common misinformation that has been fed into history since the war was fought and is still being distorted 150 years after it ended. Dressing up in clothing of the times brings a very strong element of realism and without doubt as Robert Lee Hodge says it reaches out to younger generations, intrigues and fascinates them, hopefully enough to want to know more. I for one hand carved my clothes pegs for the washing on the line at the camp. The reenactor is a historian, gifted with the ability to make words on browned pages of old books breathe life.

In the March issue of *America's Civil War* on the cover of which Hodge also appears, he says, "Despite the fact that Horwitz walked a fine line between liberal and conservative, Southern and Northern views, many readers, including some of his friends, were mad at him for not making the standard attack on Confederate memory. Meanwhile a lot of reenactors, including many in my own unit were offended. He alluded to Confederates as disreputable, which bothered me. Named after Robert E. Lee and born on Stonewall Jackson's birthday, I guess it makes sense that I have a leaning towards the South-Robert Lee Hodge."

As for *Confederates in the Attic*, I am sorry to report I didn't finish reading the book, the more I read the more disappointed I became with an obvious bias against the South, however I made it to the last few pages. Tony Horowitz' contempt seems to gather momentum as the book progresses and it becomes more a 'skeleton in the closet' than *Confederates in the Attic*. Those people were thrust into history, most reluctantly and no one soldier wanted to die on any battlefield. The Southerner couldn't choose his place nor time of birth and when an army is marching through your State burning your homes, raping and pillaging, then you would not be much of an American if you stood by and let it happen. You would remember people like David Crockett and George Washington, both Southerners and pick up a musket to defend your family and home. This is the "truth" Lee wanted Ezekial to tell. Another driving and compelling factor was the Masonic Lodge of which many were members, North and South. It was a matter of honour that you stand up to defend the homes and lodges of your fellow Masons. Masons crossed the line to embrace brothers on opposite sides recognised by their secret calls. Was the war unfinished? No declaration of surrender of the Confederacy was ever signed. Robert E. Lee signed the surrender of the Army of Northern Virginia not the Confederacy. Only Jeff Davis could have done that but to allow him to do so was to recognise the South as an entity, Lincoln would have none of it-Editor.

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CONFEDERATE CONJOINED TWIN.

Origins of Terminology "Siamese."

The war has a vast bibliography with more than 60,000 books published in America since the last shot was fired in 1865 and a surprising number during the war, even more when you consider those published in Australia. However some of the odder coincidences and bizarre facts of the period, even one that changed our terminology in Australia and New Zealand to this very day, are often overlooked. The brothers Chang and Eng Bunker were best known as *The Inseparable Brothers*, even during the war. *Inseparable* because of loyalty to the South and as slave owners but also in body and spirit, they were conjoined 'Siamese Twins' and were actually natives of Siam, now Thailand. This gave rise to the now commonly used term "Siamese Twins." It is only in more recent years that it has been deemed more correct to call such people "Conjoined Twins" but not many know of its *American Civil War* origins and yet there is barely a soldier, North or South at the time who didn't know about them.

Here you can clearly see the arm like attachment in the lower chest region of Chang on the left and Eng Bunker.

The twins were born 11 May 1811 in Siam by a village fisherman's wife, both of Chinese origin. (*I am intrigued by the coincidence of two digits 11 and them being identical twins.*)

Other than the narrow strip that united them at the chest, they were extremely energetic, noted for their intelligence but they were not many know of its *American Civil War* origins and yet there is barely a soldier, North or South at the time who didn't know about them.

were normal and healthy babies. As children they were always a curiosity. In their native land they were called "Chinese Twins" because of their ethnicity. They were already making a good living in Siam by exhibiting themselves when, in 1829, they were "discovered" in Bangkok by Scottish merchant Robert Hunter while they were swimming. Hunter quickly realized their potential. The world had a bizarre obsession with deformed people in what were termed "freak shows." When Hunter first saw the twins swimming he decided to offer their parents a payment to permit him to exhibit their sons as a curiosity on a world tour in partnership with a sea Captain Coffin. They were to successfully exhibit the teenage twins on a world tour that eventually took them to Boston where they were exhibited as "The Siamese Double Boys" and were an immediate sensation. In theatres and halls across the U.S. they performed for four hours a day, six days a week, entertaining thousands with somersaults, backflips, an uncanny ability at draughts and chess and their prodigious strength, they could carry a 20-stone man.

When Chang and Eng toured Britain in 1830 they were greatly impressed by the kindness shown to them.

Although Captain Coffin told some people that he and Hunter 'owned' the boys, the twins were actually paid well for their hard work. Not many conjoined twins survived for more than a few days, so doctors and scientists also clamoured to see them, this suited their promoters, however they were constantly examined by doctors, sometimes invasively. These doctors concluded, "Women

EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY,

MONDAY, FEB. 8th, 1869.



THE WORLD OF WONDER
SIAMESE TWINS.

RECEPTIONS

From Twelve until One, from Half-past Two until Half-past Four, and from Six until Nine.

and children may view them safely without harm or offence." This was perfect titillation to include on the show's advertising posters.

Britain also wanted to see them and the twins sailed there in 1830. In London, some of the world's leading physicians were waiting to examine them. At 5ft 2in tall, the twins were now fully grown and their connecting ligament was about the size and roundness of a child's arm. Each one appeared to sense when the other was tickled or ate an unpleasant-tasting food, but neither could hear a whisper in the other's ear or feel a pinch on his arm. Although both were clearly intelligent, the hardier *Chang* was dominant and *Eng* would rarely speak out of turn. The big question worrying the doctors was, "If the twins are separated will they survive?" It was something none could agree on. *Sir Astley Cooper*, a much respected British surgeon concluded, "Depend on it, those boys will fetch a vast deal more money while they are together than when they are separate. Why separate them? The boys seem perfectly happy as they are." That wasn't always the case. The pair went on to tour the Continent and returned to the U.S. in 1831; now aged 20 they were healthier, more educated and richer. It was then they decided to dispense with *Captain Coffin* and *Hunter* and hire their own manager. They insisted on being treated with respect and were not above getting into fights with those who offended them, especially anyone who suggested that their mother had sold them into slavery.

They might sound like the cruelly mistreated 'Elephant Man' but the pair were natural showmen who realised that their deformity was a path to fame and fortune. They spent the next seven years on the road, including three-month stints at the *Museum of Curiosities in New York*. There they met and befriended *James Galloway*, a young doctor from *Wilkesboro*, a remote township in *North Carolina*. By this time the twins were tired of being continually stared at, even for money and yearned for the quiet life. They accepted *Galloway's* invitation to return home with him. *North Carolina* was a slave state

but under U.S. law, the Chinese twins counted as white. They became U.S. citizens, realising only when they came to be naturalised that they had no surname. They borrowed 'Bunker' from the man standing behind them in the queue. It was 1839, the brothers were so attracted to the *Blue Ridge Mountains* area and having already made plenty of money, they decided to purchase a 110-acre (0.45 km²) farm in nearby *Traphill*. They were both canny and industrious businessmen and opened a store. The 200 acres enabled them to branch out into farming.

Then they did something unimaginable, they married sisters, built a successful farm with slave labour and became devoted Confederates. In 1865 when *Union General George*



Stoneman raided *North Carolina* and decided to draft some of the locals, regardless of sympathies, the names of men over 18 were put into a lottery barrel. *Eng's* name was drawn, but he refused to serve the Yankee army and because *Chang's* name was not drawn, there was little *General Stoneman* could do; the brothers were not only joined at the sternum, their livers were fused. Neither served in the war, but their eldest sons both enlisted and fought for the Confederacy.

Union General George Stoneman encountered Southern stubbornness and Confederate pride that would outfox him.

After building a spacious home for themselves the twins, now being slave-owners, bought dozens of slaves to work their new plantation. Their thoughts turned increasingly to fulfilling more 'physical needs.' Observers had long noticed that the pair loved discussing attractive women together, yet the outside world dismissed the idea that they could ever have a sex life. Newspapers ran speculative stories about them and various women, one a London woman, claimed she had fallen madly in love with them both but could not offer herself in marriage for fear of committing bigamy. There

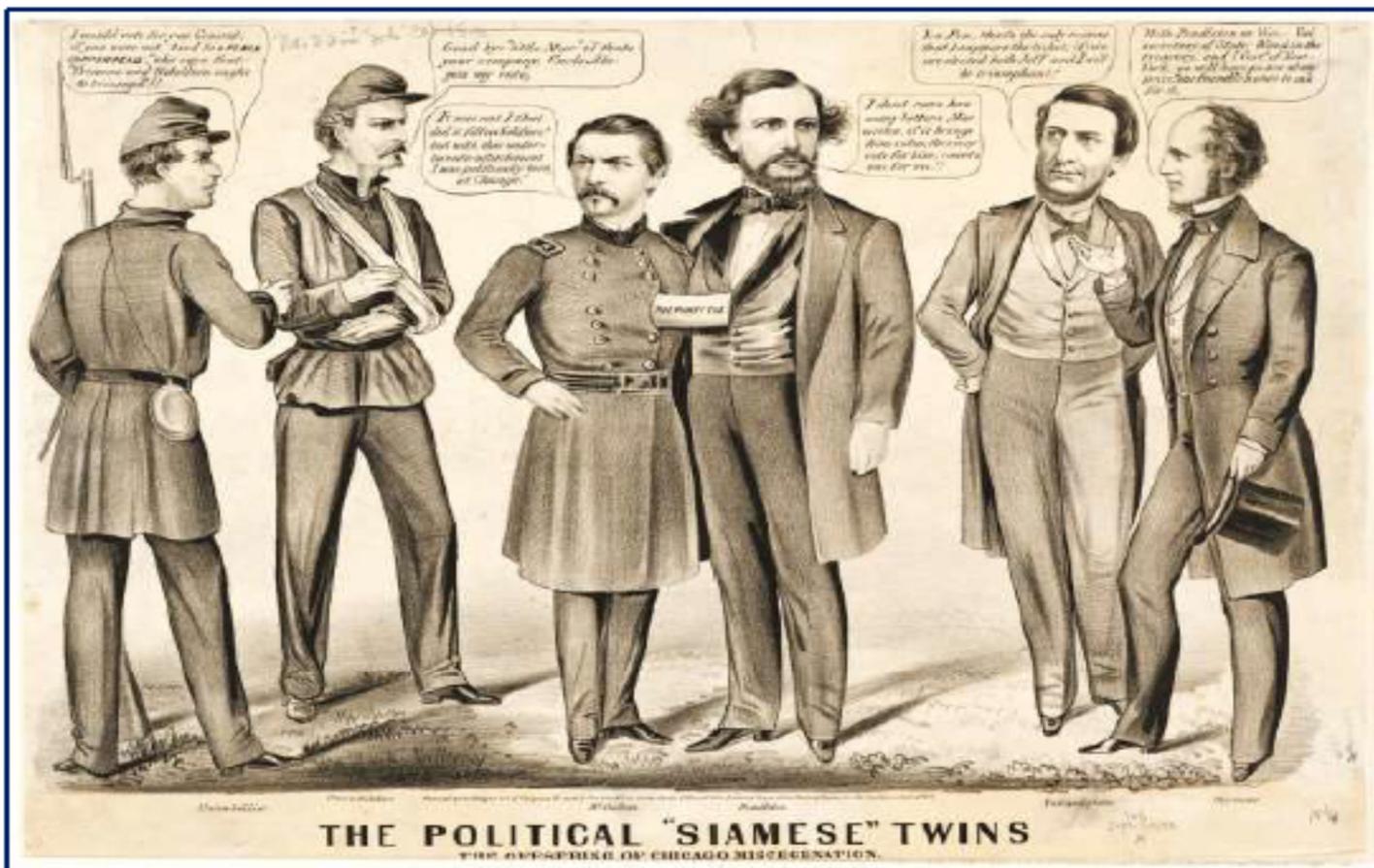


was similar sniggering over an American admirer who fell in love with *Chang* but realised a 'divorce' from *Eng* was out of the question.

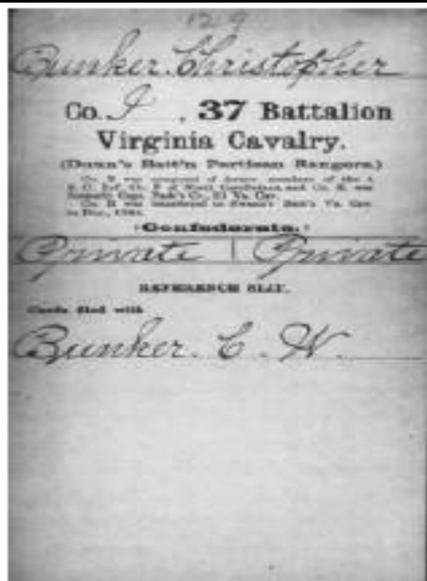
The twins are shown here with many of their children and one slave. 1865.

There was even a joke that *Chang* had interfered in a 'love intrigue' of *Eng*. The brothers wanted to fight a duel over it but couldn't agree on a distance from which to shoot at each other, however the twins were undeterred by frequent mockery. 'We enjoy

ourselves pretty well but have not as yet married,' they said to Robert Hunter, the man who had 'discovered' them. In fact they were pursuing the daughters of a neighbouring farmer, *David Yates*. An unusual romantic conundrum had arisen. Over several years, *Chang* and the slimmer, more attractive sister, *Adelaide*, had fallen in love. *Eng* and her sister *Sarah* had not. Marrying two sisters made sense because Victorian propriety would not have tolerated a woman sharing such intimacy with any other female. It took the somewhat portly *Sarah* five years to agree to *Eng's* advances but both couples were married by a Baptist preacher in 1843. The foursome then returned to the twins' homestead where the marital bed had been enlarged and strengthened. A national scandal was provoked with accusations that the marriage was 'bestial'. When both wives rapidly produced daughters, proving that these were not platonic relationships, the outrage reached fever pitch. Abolitionists in the North blamed, 'Depravity' of a Southern culture perverted by the sin of slavery.' According to author *Joseph Orser* in their biography, 'The prospect of the twins engaging in sexual relations with women disturbed sensibilities. When a Kentucky woman gave birth to stillborn conjoined twins, she blamed seeing pictures of the Bunkers at around the time she conceived. Still, the brothers went on to father 22 children.'



The twins inspired political satire of the day and here *McClellan* and *Pendleton* argue as conjoined Siamese twins. Union soldier wounded private *McClellan* *Pendleton* *Valandigham* *Seymour*



Of all the Asian American soldiers in the Confederacy, the most well-known were the two sons of the twins. During the war, the twins strongly supported the South, providing food, clothing, and nursing wounded Confederate troops. Chang's son Christopher, served in Co. I, 37th Battalion, Virginia Cavalry. He was wounded and captured at Moorefield, WV, and spent several months in a Yankee POW Camp before being exchanged. He had to eat rats to keep from starving while a prisoner. Stephen Bunker, son of Eng Bunker, joined the same cavalry unit. He was wounded at Winchester, VA, and wounded again before war ended.



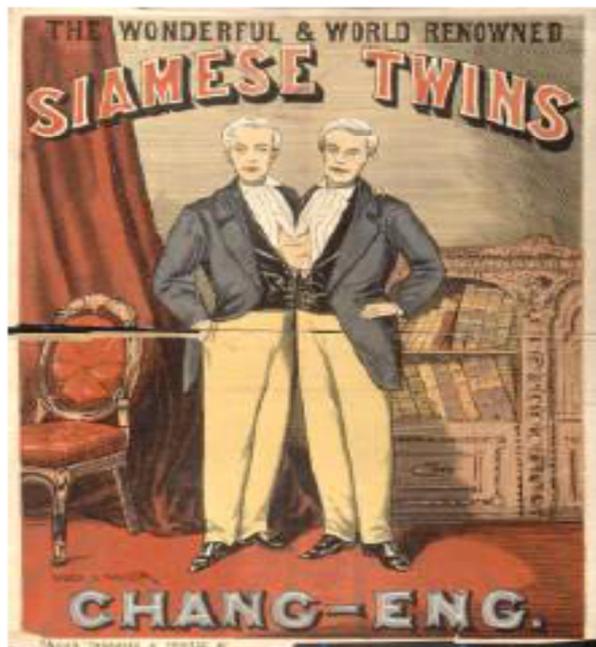
Christopher Bunker

Amid reports that the wives began to argue, the twins set up separate homes and installed a wife and children in each. They agreed to split each week between the two. While the families might seem to have had all the trappings of gentry, with their estates, slaves and silverware, money was sometimes tight, especially during and after the war where the South was ruined. So the brothers had to go back 'on tour' six times in later life, sometimes taking their children (none of whom was physically deformed, though two were deaf.) It must have been humiliating, especially when they signed up in New York aged in their 50's with the infamous freak show proprietor P. T. Barnum. The Prince of Wales was among guests who watched them perform alongside the midget General Tom Thumb, the Bearded Lady and the tiny-headed Zip the Man Monkey. In 1868 they returned to Britain where the twins had fond memories but the public mood had turned against freak shows. Reporters doubted that their children could actually be theirs. "For some, it was too disgusting to imagine these so called 'human monsters' as husbands or fathers-Joseph Orser."

In Mark Twain's book "Personal Habits of The Siamese Twins" this illustration depicts a bored Eng while Chang romances his loved one.



With the passage of time the twins found they were cramping each other's style: Eng loved all-night poker, Chang's weakness was boozing. In 1870, as they were returning from a tour of Europe and Russia, Chang suffered a stroke down the side closest to his brother.



Eng nursed him as best he could, carrying around Chang's now useless leg in a sling as his ailing brother leant on a crutch. In January 1874, when the twins were 62, Chang caught bronchitis but still insisted that they venture out in the cold to honour their twice-weekly house-moving ritual. Two days later, Eng awoke early and called for help. His brother had died. "Then I am going!" cried Eng, and began twisting in panic in bed. Sweating profusely and saying that he was in great pain, he told his wife, "I am dying." Drawing his brother to him, he uttered his final words, "May the Lord have mercy on my soul!" By the time the doctor arrived, ready to cut the twins apart Eng was dead, just two-and-a-half hours after his brother had passed away. A post-mortem examination, conducted by doctors who described the twins as, "The monster now before us," showed that Chang may have had a cerebral clot but Eng appeared literally to have died of fright, overcome by the realisation that he was attached to a dead man.

Even in death, the twins provided a spectacle when post-mortem results were made public. Finally, doctors were able to discover just how connected the twins were, not only did they share a liver but the make-up of their connecting ligament was so complex that they would never have survived being parted. Chang and Eng have also had a

The Delta General

Larry McCluney, Editor
1412 North Park Dr
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remarkable afterlife in the public imagination. In 1869 *Mark Twain* wrote a short illustrated story about them, "*Personal Habits of the Siamese Twins*" In more recent times they've come to represent the freakish and paradoxical nature of the era. Chinese-American author *Maxine Hong Kingston* referenced them in her novel "*Tripmaster Monkey*," and *Thai-Singaporean* theatre director *Ekachai Uekrongtham* staged a musical about them, "*Chang and Eng*." Today the term "*Siamese Twins*" is almost obsolete in official terminology but does exist in a plumbing connection shaped very like the conjoined tube that attached the twins. It is a free standing connection used to add water to a building sprinkler system from a pump truck perhaps more familiar to American readers. Most people, other than doctors, still use the term "*Siamese Twins*" but it's more politically correct to say '*conjoined*.' Descendants of *Chang and Eng* have regular reunions and the extended family members nurse fond and proud memories of their illustrious relatives.

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