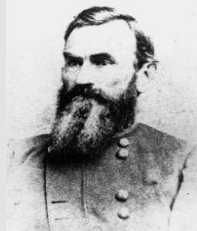




Claude Stillman, Commander Camp Website: www.humphreys1625.com



The Delta General

May, 2011

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CAMP NEWS: DEATH OF A CAMP MEMBER

Compatriots,

It is my sad duty to report the passing on this, Palm Sunday, April 17, 2001, of George T. Kelly of Greenville, MS and a member of the B/G Benjamin G. Humphreys Camp # 1625. George was fondly known as T. George to the members. T. George passed after a short battle with cancer. Condolences may be sent to his family at tgeorgemspd@yahoo.com

Dan A. McCaskill, Adj.
B/G Benj. G. Humphreys Camp 1625



IN THE NORTH, CIVIL WAR SITES 'LONG FORGOTTEN'

FRAMINGHAM, Mass. -- The gravesite of a Union Army major general sits largely forgotten in a small cemetery along the Massachusetts Turnpike. A piece of the coat worn by President Abraham Lincoln when he was assassinated rests quietly in a library attic in a Boston suburb. It's shown upon request, a rare occurrence. A monument honoring one of the first official Civil War black units stands in a busy intersection in front of the Massachusetts Statehouse, barely gaining notice from the hustle of tourists and workers who pass by each day.

As the nation marks the 150th anniversary of the Civil War, states in the old South -- the side that lost -- are hosting elaborate re-enactments, intricate memorials, even formal galas highlighting the war's persistent legacy in the region. But for many states in the North -- the side that won -- only scant, smaller events are planned in an area of the nation that helped sparked the conflict but now, historians say, struggles to acknowledge it. "It's almost like it never happened," said Annie Murphy, executive director of the Framingham History Center in Framingham, Mass. "But all you have to do is look around and see evidence that it did. It's just that people aren't looking here."

Massachusetts, a state that sent more than 150,000 men to battle and was home to some of the nation's most radical abolitionists, created a Civil War commemoration commission just earlier this month. Aging monuments stand unattended, sometimes even vandalized. Sites of major historical events related to the war remain largely unknown and often compete with the more regionally popular American Revolution attractions.

Meanwhile, states like Arkansas, Virginia, North Carolina and Missouri not only established commissions months, if not years ago, but also have ambitious plans for remembrance around well-known tourist sites and events. In South Carolina, for example, 300 Civil War re-enactors participated last week in well-organized staged battles to mark the beginning of the war.

To be sure, some Northern states have Civil War events planned and have formed commemoration commissions. Connecticut's 150th Civil War Commemoration was set up in 2008 and has scheduled a number of events and exhibits until 2015. Vermont, the first state to outlaw slavery, started a similar commission last year to coordinate activities statewide and in towns. And some Massachusetts small non-profit and historic groups are trying to spark interest through research, planned tours and town events. But observers say those events pale in comparison to those in the South.

That difference highlights Northern states' long struggle with how to remember a war that was largely fought on Southern soil, said Steven Mintz, a Columbia University history professor and author of "Moralists and Modernizers: America's Pre-Civil War Reformers." For Northern states like Massachusetts, Mintz said revisiting the Civil War also means revisiting their own unsolved, uncomfortable issues like racial inequality after slavery.

"We've spent a century and a half turning (the war) into a gigantic North-South football game in which everybody was a hero," Mintz said. "In other words, we depoliticized the whole meaning of the war. And insofar as it was captured, it was captured by the descendants of the Confederates."

Sons of Confederate Veterans, a group open to male descendants of veterans who served in the Confederate armed forces, boast 30,000 members across the Old South. The Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War has 6,000 members.

Kevin Tucker, Massachusetts Department Commander for the Sons of the Union Veterans, said some Northern descendants don't even know they're related to Union veterans. "I found out after my father did some research and discovered that my great-great-grandfather had collected a Union pension," said Tucker, of Wakefield. "Until then, I had no idea."

Mark Simpson, 57, South Carolina commander of Sons of Confederate Veterans, said his family knew for generations about his great-great-grandfather's service in the Confederacy. "I visit his gravesite every year and put a flag down," Simpson said. "He is real to me."

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CAMP NEWS:

CAMP ADJUTANT'S REPORT: DAN McCASKILL

The Camp Meeting of April 21, 2011 was called to order by Commander Junior Stillman. The Commander opened the Meeting with an invocation with special emphases on remembering T. George Kelly's family dealing with the recent passing of T. George. Color Sergeant Joe Nokes led the members and guest in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag and salutes to the Flag of Mississippi and the Battle Flag of the Confederacy. A welcome was extended to all members and guest attending the Meeting.

Before getting to Camp business, Dan McCaskill was given to opportunity to present Frederick Thacker with a certificate of appreciation for helping to place the Confederate Headstones in the Indianola Cemetery back in February. Frederick and three other members of Troop 4041 helped place the headstones.

Officer Reports included the following: 1st Lt Cmdr Gator Stillman asked members for suggestions for Programs for future meetings, 2nd Lt Cmdr Ronnie

Stewart was absent; Adjutant Dan McCaskill reported that the Camp membership has dropped to 53 with the passing of T. George. No money for our budget had been spent as of the Meeting. The only monies spent this year have come from donations to help reimburse the church for use of the fellowship hall. We are asking for \$ 30 per month from the membership and five members have donated thus far. Larry McCluney gave several reports, first asking if everyone received their copy of the Delta General without problems. As AOT Councilman, reported that all rooms at the host hotel in Montgomery had been booked but there are several outlying hotels that are very reasonable. Also, he reminded everyone of the State Convention and the fact that the corner stone of the new Presidential Library would be dedicated in a Masonic ceremony that everyone needed to attend because it is a very moving ceremony.

Camp Business: A review of the many events in May and June were made by

Larry and Dan. The only Camp business was a proposal by Dan McCaskill to use \$ 50 of camp funds to purchase a memorial brick at Beauvoir for T. George's Ancestor as a memorial to T. George. The motion was made by Alan Palmer to do so as proposed and the motion was seconded by Kenneth Ray. The motion passed unanimously.

With no other business coming before the Camp, the podium was turned over to Sam Price of Vicksburg for the night's program. Sam is the former Commander of the Pemberton Camp in Vicksburg and former 3rd Brigade Commander. Sam's program was "Little Known Facts about Vicksburg before and during the Siege. It was a very informative program.

The Meeting was dismissed with a word or prayer from 1st Lt. Commander Gator Stillman. Everyone was invited to enjoy the food and refreshments provided by the ladies of the Ella Palmer Chapter # 9, OCR.

Attendance for the evening was 18.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

- **May 30** – Confederate Headstone Dedication in Kosciusko, MS
 - **June 3-5, 2011**—Mississippi Division SCV 116th Annual Meeting in Gulfport, Mississippi.
 - **July 13-16, 2011**— Sons of Confederate Veterans Annual Reunion
-

NATIONAL NEWS:

FROM THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S DESK – CHUCK RAND

Compatriots,

At the Montgomery Convention the GEC will meet. Part of the business of the GEC will be to vote on request for grants for projects sponsored by the SCV. The deadline for submitting a funding request is June 8, 2011. The request must be at GHQ by June 8, 2011. Grant requests should be sent to Executive Director Ben Sewell (exedir@scv.org) and myself, at chuckrand3@gmail.com.

To be considered for a grant the requestor must, at a minimum, fill out the grant request form under Forms and Documents on [scv.org](http://www.scv.org). The form can be found at: <http://www.scv.org/pdf/SCVFundRequests.pdf>

It is preferred that grant requests be submitted by email with the funding request form and any other supporting documents attached to the message. If a requestor wishes to submit a request in hard copy format it must be received at GHQ by June 8, 2011. Requests sent by hard copy should also be mailed, besides to Executive Director Sewell and myself, to ANV Commander Frank Earnest, AOT Commander Tom Strain and ATM Commander Danny Honnoll at their mailing addresses as given on: <http://scv.org/gec.php>

The Budget and Finance Committee will meet to discuss the requests soon after they are received on June 8 and questions and needed clarifications about the requests will be addressed to those making requests. The Budget and Finance Committee will hold another meeting, at the Convention in Montgomery, AL, at a time to be announced at the Convention, to make is final recommendations on grant requests. Those requesting funds are encourage to attend this meeting to answer additional questions regarding their request. The Budget and Finance Committee will finalize its recommendations regarding grant requests at this meeting in Montgomery.

The Budget and Finance Committee will present its recommendations to the GEC at the Post Convention GEC meeting on Saturday, July 16. The GEC will vote on the grant requests at this time. If you have any questions regarding making a grant request please contact me.

I look forward to seeing you at Montgomery.

Chuck Rand

Adjutant In Chief

318-387-3791

chuckrand3@gmail.com

MISSISSIPPI DIVISION, SCV NEWS:

LANN CEMETERY CONFEDERATE MEMORIAL SERVICE

After a year of planning and work, the Captain Frances Marion Rogers, SCV Camp 873, has completed the project of obtaining a monument and marking the graves of sixty five unknown Confederate soldiers, buried in Lann Cemetery, in Monroe County. All the crosses have been set, and the monument is now in place.

The service to dedicate the monument and graves, has been set for "Sunday, May 22nd, at 2:30 PM", rain or shine. If weather is really adverse, we will go to the Splunge Community Center.

All persons welcome; wear period dress if you have it. Bring period rifles and be in the color guard. Also, bring lawn chairs and umbrellas. Let's make this one of the "big" events of the year, due to the number of graves being honored. We are expecting a large crowd and are supposed to have TV and newspaper coverage.

The service will be at the Lann Cemetery near Splunge, in Monroe County, Mississippi. Directions given below.

From Amory, Mississippi, get on Hwy 278 East (towards Alabama). Stay on Hwy 278 about ten miles to Greenwood Springs. Watch for a country store on the left of Hwy 278. Turn left onto Splunge Road in front of the store. We will have flags and/or sign at this turn. Stay on that road six miles and watch for a sharp curve to the right. Turn left at the curve. We will have flags and/or sign at this left turn. Stay on that road one mile to the cemetery.

For info, contact Pat Arinder at: wparinder@gmail.com

Pat Arinder, Adjutant Camp 873

CONFEDERATE MEMORIAL DAY AT BEAUVOIR, APRIL 30, 2011

... A HUGE SUCCESS



Beauvoir's annual Confederate Memorial Day Ceremony was held April 30th, 2011 in the Confederate Cemetery. This year was special, as the newly restored United Daughters of the Confederacy Memorial Arch was unveiled. Arcon General Contractors of Clinton, Mississippi performed the restoration. Columbus Marble Works, the original supplier of marble for the original, supplied the marble once again. The original bronze medallion of President Davis and original wrought iron gates are included in the new Arch, as well. The new Arch was placed in Beauvoir's Confederate Cemetery. This year's attendance was larger than last year's event, despite the spike in gas prices, and the devastation in North Mississippi from the recent tornadoes. This year's program included a history of the Arch, as well as the potluck dinner, re-enactment groups, artillery and infantry salutes, and much more!

August 5-6, 2011: SOUTHERN HERITAGE CONFERENCE 2011 - HOSTED BY THE JONES COUNTY ROSIN HEELS - CAMP 227 LAUREL MS

This year's event will be held on Friday August 5th & Saturday 6th, at Bethlehem Baptist Church just east of Laurel on HWY. 184. Friday the doors will open at 6 pm and the pro-gram will begin at 7 pm until about 9:15. Saturday morning - doors open at 8 am & the program will begin at 9 am - 12 noon at which time dinner will be served in the fellowship hall by the church youth group. The afternoon session will begin at 1 pm - until about 3:15 or 3:30. there may be a - Q & A session with the speakers afterwards. Supper will be served in the fellowship hall at 5:30. At 6:30 the evening's entertainment will begin. At this time the planning for this segment of the conference is tentative. The plans are to have two singing groups with a mixture of southern and gospel tunes. Miss Bonnie McCoy of Mendenhall playing some Scots - Irish & Southern melodies on fiddle, Miss Zoe Brumfeld of Forrest presenting Scottish music on the bagpipes, Camp 227 member Mr. Howard Patrick reading a recitation of a piece entitled - " I am YOUR FLAG " and Brother John Killian giving one of his 1860's oratories. All of this to be held at the church. Cost: Individual admission in advance - \$10 - at the door \$15. Family - in advance - this can be immediate or extended - \$15 - at the door \$25. Meals: Dinner - \$10 per plate - there will no charge for children under 12 yrs. old. supper - \$15 ea. again under 12 yrs. no charge. Vendors: No charge for table space. please call in advance for table reservation (number of tables needed). **601-649-1867 days - 428-5570 nights.** Dress: Casual! Remember it's August. There will be posting of colors at possibly two different times, so we will need some soldiers. There can never be too many dressed out in the gray. If the ladies have period dress by all means wear it for Saturday evening. They do have a way of making things pretty. Host hotel --- Comfort Suites, Laurel, MS. Conference rate for rooms is \$76 + tax. Each room has a sitting area. A pull - out couch for sleeping for King or Queen rooms. Each room has a coffee pot, microwave, fridge, iron, ironing board, and a hot breakfast that includes, eggs, breakfast meats, plain waffles, waffles with fruit, cereal, donuts, yogurt, various juices, milk, coffee. To view the rooms being offered - simply type in Comfort Suites of Laurel MS. 20 rooms have been blocked off for the Southern Heritage Conference. Our suggestion is to make reservations ASAP. You can always cancel almost up to the time of the Conference. **To reserve a room call (601) 649-2620** Noted author, Thomas DiLorenzo, will be one of the guest speakers. He is the author of at least 10 books, among them is *The Real Lincoln: A New Look at Abraham Lincoln, His Agenda, and an Unnecessary War*. Dr. DiLorenzo is also a regular par-ticipant of the Stephen D. Lee Institute held every year. More information about the Institute can be found at <http://www.stephendleeinstitute.com/index.html> INFO: For any information beginning now call the numbers that have been listed above or email - george-jaynes1953@yahoo.com or csaford@hotmail.com

MURDER APPEAL RAISES CONFEDERATE FLAG ISSUE



A Confederate monument outside the courthouse in Shreveport, La.

The Louisiana Supreme Court is expected to hear a novel argument Monday in the long-standing debate over the legacy of the Confederate flag: Is it so prejudicial that its presence at the courthouse justifies overturning a murder conviction? The case involves an attempt to overturn a 2009 death sentence against a black defendant on grounds that flying the flag outside a state courthouse was prejudicial to his case.

Felton Dorsey, an African American was sentenced to death in Shreveport, La., for killing Joe Prock, a white firefighter, during a robbery of the home of Mr. Prock's mother. Mr. Dorsey claims he is innocent and seeks to overturn the conviction on numerous grounds, including that prosecutors used unreliable accomplice testimony. But race is a central part of the appeal. Mr. Dorsey contends that prosecutors improperly removed most of the prospective black jurors from the case, resulting in a jury of 11 whites and one African American. He claims to have suffered additional discrimination due to the Confederate flag that has flown outside the Caddo Parish courthouse in Shreveport since 1951. "The quintessential symbol of white supremacy looms over the courthouse," he said in his appellate brief.

For some in the South, the Confederate flag is a reminder of slavery. For others, the flag serves as a neutral memorial to Civil War veterans, and it has been the subject of many political and legal challenges in the South over the years. Critics say it demeans blacks, while defenders see it as an important historical symbol, and contend it deserves free-speech protection. Protests followed a decision last month from the board of commissioners in Dodge County, Ga., to fly the flag year-round outside the courthouse in honor of Confederate soldiers. Dodge County commissioner Archie Dupree Sr. declined to comment. In Palestine, Texas, a similar controversy arose last month after a county board of commissioners approved hoisting the flag outside a local courthouse; it was later taken down following complaints.

Several courts in the past decade have dealt with cases brought by students who claimed their free-speech rights were violated after they were suspended from school for wearing clothes adorned with depictions of the flag. Generally, courts have ruled that school administrators can restrict students from displaying the flag, in order to remove the threat of violence.

Confederate flags are located near a small number of courthouses in the South, according to lawyers and civil-rights advocate. But it is rare, if not unprecedented, to claim that the flag justifies overturning a death sentence, they say, because it is difficult to find case-specific evidence that the flag had a discriminatory impact on

a conviction. Mr. Dorsey's legal team believes it has just such evidence—the transcript of the jury selection in the case.

Carl Staples, a prospective black juror, was struck from the case by prosecutors after complaining about the flag. The flag "is a symbol of one of the most...heinous crimes ever committed," Mr. Staples said, according to court briefs. "You're here for justice and then again you overlook this great injustice by continuing to fly this flag," he added, calling the flag "salt in the wounds of...people of color." "When I was screened for the jury, it welled up inside of me and I expressed my feelings," Mr. Staples said in an interview. A part-time radio engineer and announcer in Shreveport, he said, "I don't understand how judges or lawyers allowed that flag to stand."

Cecelia Trenticosta, counsel to Mr. Dorsey, said she previously had considered challenging the Confederate flag in Caddo Parish but had not because she never had a case where someone had complained on the record about the flag. "This flag has been flying for 60 years, and a brave citizen finally spoke up and said the emperor is naked," said Ms. Trenticosta, who specializes in death-penalty appeals.

The American Civil Liberties Union, the NAACP's Shreveport Chapter, and a group of university professors filed a court brief supporting Mr. Dorsey's claim that the Confederate flag prejudiced his case and violated his due-process rights. "This case will give the Louisiana Supreme Court an opportunity to send a message that a Confederate flag on courthouse grounds is intolerable," said ACLU attorney Anna Arceneaux. Suzanne Owen, a lawyer with the Caddo Parish District Attorney's Office who is defending the conviction, did not return calls for comment.

In an appellate brief, the District Attorney's Office denied that prosecutors discriminated against blacks in assembling the jury. The brief does not address the Confederate flag.

Charles McMichael, a member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, a Tennessee-based group that seeks to preserve the legacy of Confederate veterans, called it "idiotic" for Mr. Dorsey to try to use the flag to overturn his conviction. "I don't care if there had been the Barnum & Bailey Circus, the Space Shuttle or whatever in front of the courthouse, he would have still gotten the death penalty." Mr. McMichael, a Shreveport civics teacher, said the flag is simply a neutral memorial to soldiers and should not be taken down merely because some find it offensive. "If you got rid of everything that offended someone you would have to get rid of everything."



By NATHAN KOPPEL And ASHBY JONES OF THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

NATIONAL NEWS: NORTHERNER WRITES LETTER DEFENDING THE CAUSE

Editor's Note: Every once in awhile, as AOT Councilman, I get a lot of e-mails that strike me if anyone out there really cares anymore about the truth of what our ancestors fought for. Here is one letter I got I wanted to share with everyone.

April 5th, 2011

Ms. Paula Kerger, President and Chief Executive Officer

Mr. John Boland, Chief Content Officer
Public Broadcasting Service
2100 Crystal Drive
Arlington, VA 22202

Re: Program on General Robert E. Lee, Sunday, April 3rd

Dear Ms. Kerger and Mr. Boland:

I tuned in to a PBS program on General Robert E. Lee during which there was a quote by Lee saying that he would sacrifice everything for the nation but honor. Almost immediately a black commentator appeared and made the appallingly inaccurate statement that South Carolina wanted to secede from the Union because it believed that newly-elected Abraham Lincoln was going to *interfere with slavery*. Needless to say, I could take no more interest in a program that was so obviously biased as to present such a stunning falsehood as a matter of uncontested fact!

First, there is abundant documented proof that Lincoln had no intention of "interfering" with slavery. True, he didn't like the institution—and he wasn't alone in that opinion North *and* South—but his *only* concern was to keep the Union intact. Frankly, even that sentiment was more concerned with federal revenues than national unity, but that is not the issue here. In a letter of August 22nd, 1862 to editor Horace Greeley, Lincoln declared:

"My paramount object in this struggle *is to save the Union*, and is not either to save or to destroy slavery. If I could save the Union without freeing *any* slave I would do it, and if I could save it by freeing all the slaves I would do it; and if I could save it by freeing some and leaving others alone I would also do that." [The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, Volume V]

In his first inaugural address on March 4th, 1861, Lincoln also stated:

"I do but quote from one of those speeches when I declare that *"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 a letter to Williamson Durley on October 3rd, 1845, Lincoln wrote:

"I hold it to be a paramount duty of us in the free states, due to the Union of the states, and perhaps to liberty itself (paradox though it may seem) *to let the slavery of the other states alone...*" [The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln, Volume I]

But even if Lincoln had been noncommittal about slavery, there is no question that his *position* on that issue was made abundantly clear in his support for (and involvement in) the proposed Corwin Amendment to the Constitution.

In December 1860, President James Buchanan requested Congress to propose an "explanatory amendment" with regard to slavery. In the House, Ohio Representative Thomas Corwin was selected as the chairman of the committee; and in the senate, William H. Seward took the lead in sponsoring the amendment. In his correspondence during the month of December, president-elect Lincoln was adamant that there be no compromises with regard to the *extension* of slavery. However, in a meeting with Thurlow Weed, Seward's Republican ally in New York, Lincoln offered three compromise proposals, and Weed passed this information on to Seward. Upon his return to the Senate, Seward introduced three resolutions to the Senate committee. *One resolution offered that "no amendment shall be made to the Constitution, which will authorize or give to Congress the power to abolish, or interfere within any State, with the domestic institutions thereof, including that of persons held to labor or service by the laws of said State."* In other words, the amendment would forever guarantee the right of Southerners to own slaves. With much debate, the amendment passed both houses of Congress on March 2nd, 1861, two days before Lincoln took office.

In an unusual move, Democratic President James Buchanan signed the Corwin Amendment on March 3, 1861, his last day in office even though the Constitution does not require presidential approval for proposed amendments. It was ratified by only two states—Ohio on May 13th, 1861, and Maryland on January 10th, 1862—and therefore fell far short of the necessary three-quarters majority of states needed to become part of the U.S. Constitution. But certainly Lincoln worked hard to get it ratified in order to prevent Southern secession and its ratification would have been assured if the South had remained in the Union because Northern States did not want blacks *anywhere* outside of the South, one of the reasons for "keeping slavery out of the territories."[*] Ironically, had it achieved ratification, the Corwin Amendment protecting slavery in perpetuity, would have become the Thirteenth Amendment.

In his inaugural address, Lincoln noted Congressional approval of the Corwin Amendment and stated that he **"had no objection to its being made express and irrevocable."** This was not a departure from Lincoln's views on slavery and by tacitly supporting the amendment, he hoped to convince the South that *he would not move to abolish the institution*. So much for the supposed "fears" of South Carolina unless you suppose that all of the above took place secretly!

. . . CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

OFFICAL REGISTRATION FORM

**116TH REUNION – MISSISSIPPI DIVISION, SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS
AND 17TH REUNION – MISSISSIPPI SOCIETY, ORDER OF CONFEDERATE ROSE**

Gulfport, Mississippi – June 3-5, 2011

Hosted by the Sam Davis Camp #596 and Matilda Champion Chapter #19, MSOCR

NAME(S) / TITLE _____

SCV CAMP and/or OCR CHAPTER _____

NAME AND NUMBER _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE # (H) _____ (C) _____ EMAIL _____

SPOUSE NAME(for badge) _____

GUEST NAME _____

GUEST NAME _____

REGISTRATION AMOUNTS

SCV and OCR Registration: (NOTE – All registered members will receive a name badge, a SCV convention medal*, program, and a bag of goodies. Registration at the door will receive the same as long as supplies last. (OCR registrants will have a Tea in lieu of a medal.) Please register for your respective organization below.

On or before May 25, 2011.. \$30.00 for each organization’s registration QTY _____ \$ _____

After May 25, 2011..... #35.00 for each organization’s registration. QTY _____ \$ _____

Ancestor Memorial: Each memorial is \$10.00. **PLEASE** Print or type each memorial on separate page. Qty _____
\$ _____

Program Ads: \$100.00 for full page; \$50.00 for half a page; \$35.00 for quarter page; \$25.00 for business card size advertising
(Please submit ad information on a separate page before April 30)

\$ _____

Banquet Registration (per plate)\$25.00 Qty _____ \$ _____
(No Meal Registration after May 25, 2011) Dinner (TBD)

Total Amount.....\$ _____

Make Checks Payable to Sam Davis Camp #596

Mail to; Wallace Mason,

405 Darby St.

Gulfport, Ms 39503

CONTACT INFORMATION

Wallace Mason- 228-832-3343; harrywjrmason@bellsouth.net

OCR contact- Becky Cupit- 769-251-0091; email timcupit@comcast.net

Convention Motel – Ramada Inn Airport Hwy 49, Gulfport. Reservations can be made by calling 228-868-8200, ask for the Mississippi Division, SCV convention Rate. Rates are \$79.00 + tax per night. Reservations MUST BE MADE before May 25, 2011.

FOR MORE INFORMATION and updates - WWW.SAMDAVIS596.com

. . . CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5 – LETTER

While it is true that slavery was a very large issue in the War—and for reasons that had more to do with Jefferson’s plaintive question, “What shall we do with the Negro?” than any egalitarian viewpoint in the North—the South’s *main* concern was increasing sectional acrimony and a prohibitive tariff which returned the nation to the Tariffs of Abomination that had almost resulted in secession and armed conflict in 1828. And then there was the continuing marginalization of Southern political power caused by the denial of the territories to Southern settlers if they had slaves (hence, no new States would be affiliated with that Section), and, finally, the use of Southern wealth to succor Northern commercial and political interests. The South was becoming impoverished as it served as nothing more than a politically impotent “cash cow” to the federal government and its commercial cronies through the American System of internal improvements. Indeed, the economic situation as it existed over 30 years before Southern secession was well summed up by Missouri Senator Thomas H. Benton speaking before Congress in 1828:

"Before the (American) revolution [the South] was the seat of wealth, as well as hospitality....Wealth has fled from the South, and settled in regions north of the Potomac; and this in the face of the fact, that the South, in four staples alone, has exported produce, since the Revolution, to the value of eight hundred millions of dollars; and the North has exported comparatively nothing. Such an export would indicate unparalleled wealth, but what is the fact?....Under Federal legislation, the exports of the South have been the basis of the Federal revenue....Virginia, the two Carolinas, and Georgia, may be said to defray three-fourths of the annual expense of supporting the Federal Government; and of this great sum, annually furnished by them,

nothing or next to nothing is returned to them, in the shape of Government expenditures. That expenditure flows in an opposite direction - it flows northwardly, in one uniform, uninterrupted, and perennial stream. This is the reason why wealth disappears from the South and rises up in the North. *Federal legislation does all this.*"—Missouri Senator Thomas H. Benton, 1828

So to have a black man (chosen undoubtedly for the purpose of influencing the audience’s *feelings*) make the statement that slavery was the one and *only* cause of secession (and hence the war), can only mean that those involved are [1] abysmally ignorant, or [2] deluded and in denial of the facts or [3] in the business of furthering an agenda that has no more to do with reporting history than did Stalin’s removal of former-friends-now-enemies from old newspaper archives.

Few are unaware of the ongoing campaign of cultural genocide being waged against the South. Gone is “The Grand Bargain” struck in the late 18th century that attempted good will and reconciliation between the sections—and was largely successful in that effort. Gone is the respect shown to the South, its history, its heritage, its heroes and its symbols and in its place is the steady drum-beat of lies and demagoguery demanding that the South be seen as an abode of traitors and “racists”—a word coined by Leon Trotsky and used by Marxist revisionists to silence dissent. The current “establishment” will not be satisfied until everything of, for and about the South is consigned to oblivion save only a memory equating all things Confederate with slavery, treason and Nazi Germany. That is not only wrong—in the most fundamental understanding of that word—it is unacceptable to decent people of every race and section. If PBS claims to “educate,” and if by that word you mean the concept of presenting facts and such rational truths that arise as a result, then you have failed miserably in this matter and should, for the sake of justice and decency, present a *factually correct* version of “history” and not this malignant politically-correct claptrap.

Very truly yours,

Valerie ProtopapaS

[* Google “black codes” in Northern states and territories and you will see that it was not *slavery* that was unwanted in any part of the United States outside of the South, but “*the African*” as he was called. That is a very different “moral message” than the nonsense we get today about the noble Union fighting to end slavery. It never happened as more than sufficient testimony from *Union* sources proves.]

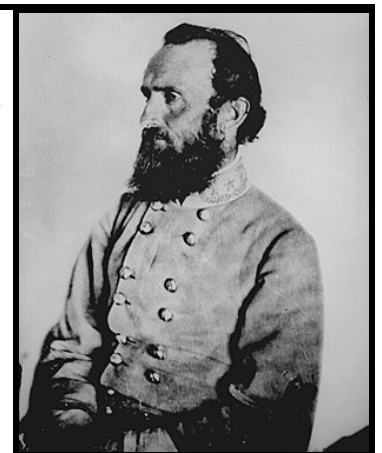
ROBERT E. LEE ANNOUNCES JACKSON’S DEATH TO THE ARMY

HEADQUARTERS, NORTHERN VIRGINIA, MAY 11, 1863.
GENERAL ORDERS NO. 61.

With deep grief the Commanding General announces to the army the death of Lieutenant General T.J. JACKSON, who expired on the 10th inst., at 3:15 P.M. The daring skill and energy of this great and good soldier, by the decree of an all-wise Providence, are now lost to us; but while we mourn his death, we feel that his spirit still lives and will inspire the whole army with his indomitable courage and unshaken confidence in God as our hope and strength. Let his name be a watchword for his corps, who has followed him to victory on so many fields. Let the officers and soldiers imitate his invincible determination to do everything in the defense of our beloved country.

R.E. LEE, General.

“God knows I would have died for him.” - Sandie Pendleton to Anna Jackson minutes after Jackson’s death.



THE MISSISSIPPI CENTRAL RR CAMPAIGN – NOVEMBER – DECEMBER 1862

Editor's Note: With the sesquicentennial upon us, I thought it would be great to reveal eyewitness accounts on various campaigns in Mississippi. This begins a series of those accounts.

Grant: "On the 25th of October I was placed in command of the Department of the Tennessee. Reinforcements continued to come from the north and by the 2nd of November I was prepared to take the initiative...The campaign against Vicksburg commenced on the 2nd of November as indicated in a dispatch to the general-in-chief in the following words: "I have commenced a movement on Grand Junction, with three from Corinth and two from Bolivar. Will leave here (Jackson, Tennessee) tomorrow and take command in person. If found practical, I will go to Holly Springs, and, may be, Grenada, completing railroad and telegraph as I go."

Promptly, Grant positioned his forces west of Corinth at the next key rail center at Grand Junction, Tennessee. Then he began pushing his army south into Mississippi, using the railway as his support line. In late November his advance fought its way south through Holly Springs, Lumpkin's Mill, and finally approached Pemberton's army at the Tallahatchie River above Abbeville. Grant pressed the Rebel front while ordering additional troops to cross the Mississippi River at Helena, Arkansas to cut the Rebel retreat off from Grenada. Union General Hovey was part of this command and had moved his cavalry to Panola and Oakland, above Grenada. He reported: "To the enemy our cavalry seemed ubiquitous--at Charleston, near Grenada, at Panola, Oakland, all within so short a time that the enemy supposed several columns were advancing on the rear of General Pemberton's army, and gave rise to the wildest conjectures as to the magnitude of our forces and designs. Major-General Grant in the mean time had been pressing the enemy near Abbeville, and as soon as the rebels were apprised of our presence in their rear an order was promulgated in their camp ordering three days' rations and preparations for retreat. Intercepted letters, prisoners, and citizens confirm this fact beyond doubt."

With Union Generals Hovey and Washburn advancing near Oakland and Grant pushing from the north, the Confederates began their "Retreat From Abbeville," moving south, hoping for an opening to reach Grenada. CSA Colonel Griffith of the 1st Texas cavalry moved to Oakland to stall the Union cavalry as CSA General Price threw out a rear guard to slow Grant's advance. Following

the Battle of Corinth, Van Dorn had been relieved of his command, pending a court of inquiry over his handling of the battle as alleged by General Bowen. Pemberton was now assigned as head of the Confederate army in the west and was sent to Grenada to build defense works to block Grant as the rest of the army moved south.

The Confederates entered Oxford on December 2nd and Griffith was able to stop the Federals in a brisk fight at Oakland on December 3rd. With Griffith's cavalry guarding the Oakland area the southern army now had a chance to reach Grenada in safety and fight from a strong position. The bluffs overlooking the Yalobusha River were the strongest natural defense point between Corinth and Vicksburg and the Confederate generals planned to mass their armies at this point and prepare for a conflict that both sides thought would rival Shiloh. But fatefully, this never happened.

A hot skirmish was fought in Oxford on December 2nd as the Federal advance encountered the Confederate rear guard just north of town. Colonel Mizner of the 3rd Michigan engaged CSA forces on the hills northwest near the rail line, while the 7th Kansas and 4th Illinois pushed down the main road to the center. The skirmishing continued right to the town square where the Rebels made a stand before Federal reinforcements were called in and drove them south toward the Yokona River.

Fletcher Pomeroy, 7th Kansas Cavalry, and now orderly to Col. Thomas P. Herrick, gave this account: "Tuesday, 2nd. Oxford, Miss. Our brigade moved out of camp at 3 A.M. with three days rations, and crossed the Tallahatchie on the main road. The rebel works at that point are very strong, and they might have offered a strong resistance if we had attempted to have taken them by assault. A flank movement by our right wing compelled an evacuation without a battle. We moved on through Abbyville and met the enemy near Oxford about 2 o'clock. Some pretty sharp fighting followed but we succeeded in driving him into, through and beyond the town. Eight rebels were killed and several wounded and captured. I took two prisoners. We had pushed our way along the streets and alleys and across the house lots to within three blocks of the public square, when we were obliged to call for re-enforcements as there was a strong force of the enemy there.

"While we were waiting for the re-enforcements to come up, Col. Herrick and I were standing just at the edge of the main street. Presently we realized that we were targets for some sharp shooter up the street. We drew back a little and soon saw a man come from behind a building and stand beside a nearby tree and fire and then step back. I trained my carbine on that spot, and when he appeared again I pulled the trigger

before he had a chance to. He jumped back without firing and did not show up again. As we were falling back after having driven the Johnnys through town, I had occasion to stop so got behind. As I hurried on to overtake the command I discovered two rebels crawling out of a corncrib beside the road. I succeeded in "surrounding" them and took them into camp, muskets and all. They evidently thought the coast was clear, and that they could safely crawl out and get away. We are camped in the town tonight. It is a fine town."

Due to the heavy rains and bad road conditions, CSA General Price and his rear guard were now moving slowly towards Water Valley. On the 4th, the Federal advance kept pressing the Confederate rear guard and nearly overtook them inside the town. Miscommunication between the Union leaders allowed the Rebels time to rush south to the O'Tuckalofa Creek and burn the wagon bridge and set fire to the railroad trestle, hoping to slow the Federals. Yet, the Union forces moved quickly to save the railroad bridge and found a crossing where they sent a detachment to press the Rebels farther south on the Coffeeville road. The Confederates slogged down the muddy road, and at 4 pm even more rain began to fall. With night coming on, the Federal detachment returned to join their regiments, and camped on the north bank of the O'Tuckalofa Creek in Water Valley as the Rebels kept up their march.

Dr. Thomas J. Blackwell of the 31st Mississippi Infantry, gave this account of their passage through Water Valley and on towards Coffeeville: "December 4th: During the time the Infantry and Artillery were engaged in crossing the swamp of Tush-pany Creek, our Cavalry had quite a little skirmish with the enemy at Water Valley, driving them off with some loss to both parties. Our road during the greater part of the day's march lay to the east of the line of the Mississippi Central Railroad, and nearly parallel with it. After the skirmish with the Calvary of the enemy, our Division Commander, Genl. Rush, who by the bye is a most excellent wagon Master, seemed to be somewhat panic stricken, so much so, that in the distance of seven or eight miles, I counted forty seven tents, thrown out of the wagons and several wagons and ambulances that had gotten out of repair were set on fire and burned up, while the road was strewed with boxes, mess chests, knapsacks and clothing of all kinds."

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Mary Loughborough, author of "My Cave Life in Vicksburg," was also on this retreat, traveling with CSA General Price's rear guard, and wrote: "How incessantly the rain poured down! Now and then the ambulance would drive on the side of the road, stopping to let the infantry pass. Poor fellows! Wet and begrimed with mud, plodding with blankets and knapsacks strapped to the backs, and guns on their shoulders; troublesome accompaniments at any time - far more so now in the driving rain. At the foot of the hills we would frequently be obliged to halt, sometimes for an hour, awaiting the passage of the artillery over the brow of the ascent. The Federal troops were close in the rear. The horses strained and pulled, but the mud was so deep and heavy that the wheels became clogged, and I looked anxiously up, expecting to see some huge cannon, impelled by its weight, return to the base of the hill. Frequently the soldiers would be obliged to wade through the deep ruts of mud and the hillside, and give a new impulse to some wavering pieces, assisting the horses, and pushing the weighty gun carriage with united strength." (Leaving Water Valley today, on old highway 7, one mile south of town, look east, and you will see the hills where Mary and Dr. Blackwell traveled.)



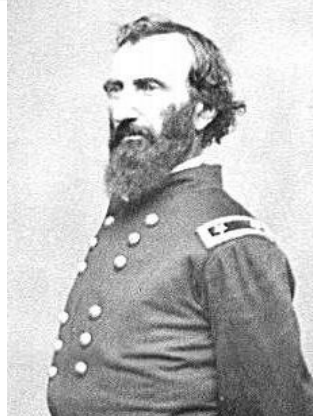
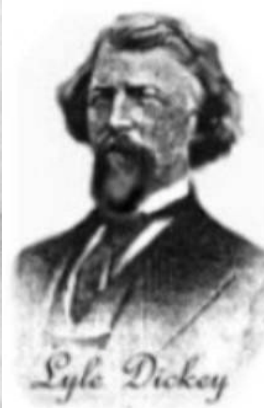
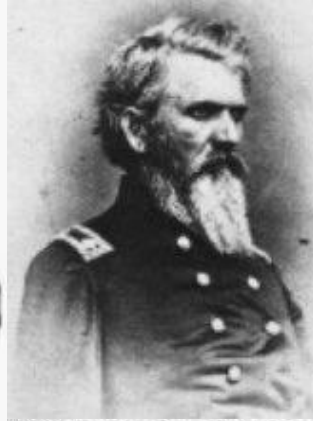
Union troops camped on the town square in Oxford, Mississippi. December, 1862.

Thomas Dabney Wier, 14th Mississippi infantry also wrote of the terrible conditions: "December 4, 1862. Thursday. A little after sunrise we take up in the line of march. (At) 12 M (midday) we stop to cook. Get our fires kindled (and) a runner comes and says "you must push (because) the Yanks are cutting off our wagon train."

So we pushed off to the main road and the Army filed by us as we stood in line. (At) 3 pm we close in and start for Coffeeville. It rains all day (and) night but we press through the mud which in many place(s) is over our boot tops and (with) no way to pass round, but we press on (with) very little murmuring. We are wet to the skin. (We) Bivouac 3 miles from town on the (railroad) in the rain. All we

could do was make fires and keep warm until day. No sleep. No provisions." Not only were the travel conditions nearly impossible for both armies, Grant was also stretching his army dangerously thin. His main supply base was at Holly Springs, and thirty miles south his main army

him to capture or cripple any significant amount of the Confederate force in these conditions with the Rebels now within ten miles of Grenada and getting near their re-enforcements. But Grant and Dickey kept pressing. However, the Union forces were now practically mired to a halt in Water Valley. The roads were virtually impassable, the O'Tuckalofa Creek was running swift and nearly full, the wagon bridge was burned, the railroad trestle was damaged, and most of the men had no tents. Despite this, Dickey rationalized that it would be good for the men to press ahead one more day. He wrote in his war diary: "While here it was reliably ascertained that Federal forces from Helena had been at or near Grenada and on the north-west -- infantry at Charleston, cavalry at Oakland -- and that some cavalry fighting had taken place at the latter point on Tuesday and Wednesday. The desire to communicate with these forces, relying somewhat upon the moral effect of their presence at this point, determined me to press the enemy one day longer." Dickey also received the following dispatch from Grant, which now made another day's advance a certainty.



The Illinois Connection.

Grant, McCullough, Dickey, and McClernand.

Grant's army was now stretched over fifty miles, at three key points, with huge gaps in between.

Grant and his Chief of Cavalry, Colonel Theophilus Lyle Dickey, a Illinoisian, unwisely ignored everything but the relentless pursuit of Price and Tilghman. The Confederate rear guard, only concerned with reaching Grenada, offered little gain for Grant. And it would be impossible for

Hd Qrs, Army in the Field Oxford, December 4th 1862

Col. T. Lyle Dickey
Commndg Cavalry Division

Col:

Tilghman was left in command of troops at Rocky Ford and must now be working his way south, some distance east of the RR. He will be easily confused and routed. Lookout for him and if a chance occurs attack him with your full force...."

Yours Truly
U. S. Grant, Maj Genl.

Dickey, obviously wanting to rendezvous with General's Washburn and Hovey near Coffeeville, now had a direct order from Grant to keep pressing. But the advance cavalry was battle tired from weeks of pursuit through terrible weather and needed rest. They felt the decision to keep pressing was a bad one, and their judgment would prove correct.

... CONTINUED NEXT MONTH WITH THE BATTLE OF COFFEEVILLE

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Mintz said the North has another factor affecting its Civil War memory: immigration from Italy and Eastern Europe at the turn of the 20th century. He said those populations, and more recent immigrants, sometimes struggle to identify with that war compared to more contemporary ones. Then, Mintz said, after the Civil War a number of Northerners moved West -- and to the South. History buffs with the Framingham History Center in Framingham, Mass., a town where residents say "The Battle Hymn of the Republic" was first sung, said they are using the sesquicentennial to bring attention to long-forgotten local Civil War sites and personalities. Included in a planned event is a celebration at Harmony Grove, site of many anti-slavery rallies where abolitionist William Lloyd Garrison famously burned a copy of the U.S. Constitution and called it a "pact with the Devil."

Today, only a small plaque in front of a house announces the historic site now surrounded by industrial lots, train tracks and a motorcycle shop.

Volunteers also hope to raise around \$1 million for Framingham's dilapidated Civil War memorial building to repair its cracked walls and leaky ceiling. The building houses a memorial honoring Framingham soldiers killed in the war and an American flag that flew over the Battles of Gettysburg and Antietam. (Murphy said the flag was discovered in the 1990s after being forgotten in a case for 90 years.) Fred Wallace, the town's historian, said that more importantly, volunteers wanted to bring attention to General George H. Gordon, a long-forgotten Union hero from Framingham who was a prolific writer and organizer of the 2nd Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry. "I don't understand how this man was lost to history," said Wallace, who has researched Gordon's life and is now writing a biography on him. "He was in the middle of everything."

During a recent afternoon, Murphy took a reporter and photographer to Gordon's gravesite, which she said would be included in a planned walking tour. But Murphy couldn't locate the site and a cemetery official needed to comb through maps to find it.

Murphy said putting the pieces together of Gordon's life is part of the fun, even when it surprises residents. "When I was told that I lived in what used to be a barn of Gen. Gordon's horse," 81-year-old Ellen Shaw said, "I was like ... General who?"

Since then Shaw has joined history buffs in searching for what they believe is a marker announcing the gravesite of Ashby, Gordon's horse in many battles. She hasn't located it on her property. "I hope I find it one day when I'm just walking around outside," Shaw said. "Then I can say, 'Glad to meet you. Sorry we forgot about you.'"

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