

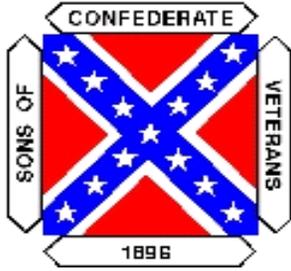


# Rebelle



**Sons of Confederate Veterans**  
Jefferson Davis Camp No. 635

\* Volume XLIV \* \* PO Box 16945, Jackson, MS 39236 \* \* June 2015 \* \* Number 6\*



## June Meeting Civil War Medicine

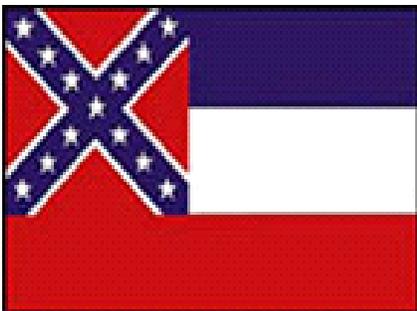
The June meeting will feature Dr. David Harris, retired Public Health Service physician from Vicksburg who will present a program on medicine during the war. This will be a joint meeting with the W.D. Holder Chapter UDC. The UDC ladies will be providing the refreshments this month.

Everyone come and bring guests, especially new recruits!

**When: June 23, 2015. 5:30 pm.**

**Where: Municipal Art Gallery, State St., Jackson.**

*See you there!*



*Be of the same mind one toward another. Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits.*

*Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men.*

*If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.*

*Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord.*

*Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head.*

*Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.*

*Romans 12:16-21*  
(KJV)

## May Meeting Report

### Compatriot Howard Bahr

The program was a presentation by Compatriot Howard Bahr, author and Belhaven professor, who discussed antebellum and postwar literature as it relates to the war.

This editor was unable to attend the meeting and has no other details on the meeting.

### For Internet Users Who Like to Read Historical Texts

Project Gutenberg offers a free web site where copies of a variety of books can be downloaded. The catalog contains both classic fiction as well as nonfiction. Among the historical works are the book on the life of Lincoln from which the information on Lincoln's religion was taken (see page 4 article) and the publication written by Sir Arthur James Lyon Fremantle, British Arm Officer and war observer.

Project Gutenberg: <http://www.gutenberg.org/>

## Rebel Ramblings

by Robert Murphree

John Watson Morton was the chief of artillery for Nathan Bedford Forrest, and wrote a very entertaining and informative book about his time with Forrest. In the character sketch of Forrest that Morton put in the book Morton states Forrest always was an offensive fighter, believing that the attacker had a moral advantage over the men awaiting attack. When charged by the Federals, no matter what the numbers were, Forrest made it his rule to meet any attack with a countercharge. Reading this description, I recalled Forrest's famous order at Parker's Crossroads, when he was caught between two Union forces: "Charge them both ways!"

But I want to tell you about Morton's sword. He was from Nashville and went into the Confederate Army in June, 1861, joining a local light artillery company. Morton was shortly made Senior First Lieutenant of the battery, which the citizens of Nashville considered a high honor. In order to show their appreciation of the valor of the local boy, a group from Nashville had a very handsome sword made for Lieut. Morton. One side of the blade had the initials "C.S.A." embossed on it, with a Confederate flag nearby. The reverse side was engraved "Lieutenant J. W. Morton," with the handle guard having another Confederate flag.

Alas for Lieut. Morton, his first action was at Fort Donelson, the net result of which found Morton a prisoner on the way to Camp Chase. There his sword was taken from him with the promise that it would be returned when--and if--he were exchanged. However after Shiloh Morton was sent to Johnson's Island, then exchanged some months later, being sent south to Vicksburg. His sword for all he knew was still at Camp Chase and Morton soon had much more to worry about.

Almost forty years later Morton was one of the members of the group of Union and Confederate veterans asked to select markers to be placed on the Chickamauga battlefield. On the speakers' stand sat George Guild, then the mayor of Nashville, and next to Mayor Guild was a Union officer named Cist. In the course of the day Cist told Guild that for some time Cist had been at

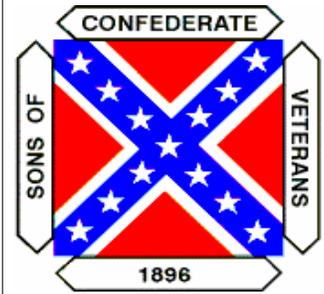
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**Send changes in e-mail addresses to:  
csa4ever@att.net  
Include any changes to physical (mail) addresses  
and telephone numbers as well.**

Visit the camp web site at:

**<http://www.scvcamp635.org>**

**DISCLAIMER:** The views and opinions expressed by contributors to this newsletter are not necessarily the views or opinions of this editor, the Jefferson Davis Camp 635, or any member thereof.



## Calendar

**June 23, 2015**

Regular meeting of  
Camp 635 at the  
Municipal Art Gallery

**July 28, 2015**

Regular meeting of  
Camp 635 at the  
Municipal Art Gallery

**August 25, 2015**

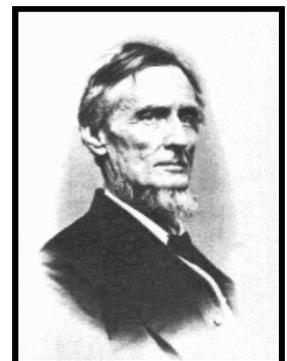
Regular meeting of  
Camp 635 at the  
Municipal Art Gallery

**September 22, 2015**

Regular meeting of  
Camp 635 at the  
Municipal Art Gallery

**October 27, 2015**

Regular meeting of  
Camp 635 at the  
Municipal Art Gallery



# Chaplain's Dispatch

Dear Friends and Compatriots:

## **Christian Soldier's Ethics**

"Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; be persistent in prayer." Romans 12:12 (Holman)

As our ancestors came home after the war, do you think they discovered this verse? Have you discovered this verse for your life journey?

Sincerely,

Rev. Glenn D. Shows  
Chaplain

*(Continued from page 4)*

many biographers ascribe to his manhood. His step-mother—herself a Christian, and longing for the least sign of faith in him—could remember no circumstance that supported her hope. On the contrary, she recollected very well that he never went off into a corner, as has been said, to ponder the sacred writings, and to wet the page with his tears of penitence....When he went to church at all, he went to mock, and came away to mimic. Indeed, it is more than probable that the sort of "religion" which prevailed among the associates of his boyhood impressed him with a very poor opinion of the value of the article. On the whole, he thought, perhaps, a person had better be without it."—Lamon.

#3--"I knew Mr. Lincoln as early as 1834-7; know he was an infidel. He and W. D. Herndon used to talk infidelity in the clerk's office in this city, about the years 1837-40. Lincoln attacked the Bible and the New Testament on two grounds: first, from the inherent or apparent contradictions under its lids; second, from the grounds of reason. Sometimes he ridiculed the Bible and New Testament, sometimes seemed to scoff it, though I shall not use that word in its full and literal sense. I never heard that Lincoln changed his views, though his personal and political friend from 1834 to 1860. Sometimes Lincoln bordered on atheism. He went far that way, and often shocked me..." James H. Matheny, close friend of Lincoln.

*(Continued from page 2)*

Camp Chase and one of his duties had been to take charge of the side arms of captured officers. Continuing, Cist said that many of the Confederates had been sent off before being exchanged and that as a result, at war's end, he had ended up with quite a collection of swords. Cist said he had been able to find some of the owners after the war and return their property, but that one he had not been able to return had the name "Lieutenant J. W. Morton" on it. Cist said "I know it must have been the highly prized property of some young officer, who has mourned its loss many times since then, if he is still alive."

You can imagine Mayor Guild's astonishment. "Why that must be the sword of John W. Morton, sitting just across from you on the platform!" Introductions were made and of course it was the very sword I described for you before. Cist promised to speedily return the sword to Morton once Cist returned home.

Not long after the meeting, Morton got a package from Cist. In it was Morton's sword, in a very handsome box made especially for the sword. No doubt this sword is today a treasured heirloom of Morton's descendants.

#4--"I knew Mr. Lincoln when he first came here, and for years afterwards. He was an avowed and open infidel, sometimes bordered on atheism. I have often and often heard Lincoln and one W. D. Herndon, who was a freethinker, talk over this subject. Lincoln went further against Christian beliefs and doctrines and principles than any man I ever heard: he shocked me." Rev. Dr. Smith, friend of Lincoln, in a letter to Lamon. Smith tried to convert Lincoln from infidelity as late as 1858 and couldn't do it.

Source: The Life of Abraham Lincoln: From his Birth to his Inauguration as President by Ward H. Lamon, 1872.

Link to free e-book: <http://www.gutenberg.org/files/40977/40977-h/40977-h.htm>

From "Defending the Heritage" Facebook page, 05/26/15, published under the title LINCOLN AND HIS "RELIGION"...

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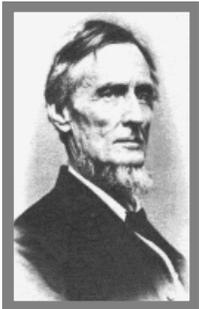
**Trivia Question:**

This month's question asks:

As we know, the South had many disadvantages when it came to waging a continuous war in defense of its homeland. What was the one advantage the South had over the North?

May's question asked: What was the name of "the actor from Mississippi" who acted as a spy for the Confederacy prior to Gettysburg? What more famous actor had he toured with?

The answer: James Harrison who had toured before the war with actor Edwin Booth, brother of John Wilkes Booth.



**Commander's Column**

Commander Jackson has no column this month

**Lincoln's True Religion**

*Editor's Note: It's commonplace today to hear the politically-correct praise of Lincoln in which he is characterized as a "good man," a "Christian man," someone who felt the plight of the enslaved blacks and acted to emancipate them. Of course, overlooked is the fact that Lincoln neither felt for the blacks in slavery nor did he have anything more than "show" that he could order as US President to aid slaves since he had no control in the CSA until control was won by military conquest. (Also overlooked are the thousands of blacks conscripted by the US as either soldiers or military laborers under conditions not dissimilar to those of slavery as well as the many older blacks who suffered injury or death for defending their masters and mistresses when the war turned to a war on civilians.) Consider the following snippets of information about Lincoln's basic religious beliefs from those who knew Lincoln and were not yet prevented from speaking the truth.*

Ward H. Lamon was a close friend of Lincoln. He knew Lincoln in the days of his poverty and insignificance through the days of his power and presidency. In the biography he wrote about the 16th president, he shared Lincoln's views on the Bible and Christianity. Lamon included the following comments and quotes from others:

#1--"As to Mr. Lincoln's religious views, he was, in short, an infidel - atheist. He did not believe that Jesus was God, nor the Son of God — was a fatalist, denied the freedom of the will. Mr. Lincoln told me a thousand times, that he did not believe the Bible was the revelation of God, as the Christian world contends." William H. Herndon, Esq.

#2--"Mr. Lincoln was never a member of any church, nor did he believe in the divinity of Christ, or the inspiration of the Scriptures in the sense understood by evangelical Christians... When a boy, he showed no sign of that piety which his

*(Continued on page 3)*

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