



# Rebelle



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

\* Volume XLIV \* \* PO Box 16945, Jackson, MS 39236 \* \* March 2015 \* \* Number 3\*



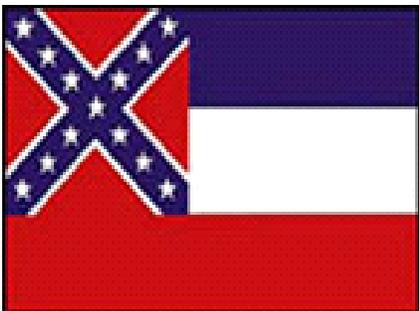
## March Meeting Little Known Facts About the War

The March meeting will feature a presentation by Gary Benton, local author and historian, who will speak on Little Known Facts (in General) about the War. Everyone come and bring guests, especially new recruits!

**When: March 24, 2015. 5:30 pm.**

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

*See you there!*



**K**nowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts,

**A**nd saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation.

**F**or this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water:

**W**hereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished:

But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.

**B**ut, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.

2 Peter 3:3-8

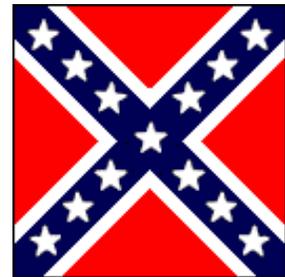
(KJV)

## February Meeting Report

**Jim Woodrick**

The program was a presentation by Jim Woodrick entitled "Through Many Dangers, Toils and Snares: The Experience of Mississippi Methodist Clergy During the Civil War".

This editor was unable to attend the meeting and have no other information on activities in February.



## Churchill Understood

"The flags of the Confederate States of America were very important and a matter of great pride to those citizens living in the Confederacy. They are also a matter of great pride for their descendants as part of their heritage and history."

—Winston Churchill

## Rebel Ramblings

by Robert Murphree

We all know that Jefferson Davis's home was the property called "Brierfield Plantation," on Davis Bend, Warren County, Mississippi, but did you know that for the longest time Jefferson Davis did not own the property? Here is the scoop on this:

Jefferson Davis' older brother Joe Davis was a very successful planter and lawyer in early Mississippi. In 1818 Joe Davis bought a great deal of acreage on the Mississippi River in Warren County below what the next year became Vicksburg. Joe Davis cleared the land and established a very successful planting operation.

In 1835 his much younger brother Jefferson wanted to marry Sarah Taylor and leave the army. Joe Davis agreed to supply the land and labor necessary to get Jefferson started farming. The new place was referred to as "Brierfield." Alas, shortly after their marriage, Sarah died, leaving Jefferson to start the work on developing the new farm by himself.

Seven years later, in 1845, Jefferson married Varina Howell and brought her to "Brierfield." We all know that the Mexican War, politics, and public service kept Jefferson Davis away from "Brierfield" for long spells, but none longer than his job from 1861-1865.

1865 found both "Brierfield" and the Joe Davis land in the firm possession of the Freedman's Bureau. Late that year Joe Davis was successful in getting the Federals to give him back possession of both places. Why? Because Joe Davis had never given Jefferson Davis a deed to the "Brierfield" place, so legally title to the land was still in Joe Davis' name. But for this fact no doubt the Yankees would have taken Jefferson Davis' land: Davis was in prison at that time and hatred for the former Confederate president was white hot. Why had Joe Davis, an astute lawyer,

*(Continued on page 3)*

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

### March 24, 2015

Regular meeting of Camp 635 at the Municipal Art Gallery

### April 26, 2015

Confederate Memorial Day observance at Greenwood Cemetery

### April 28, 2015

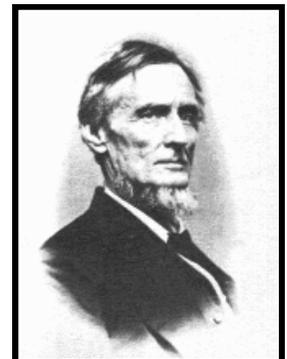
Regular meeting of Camp 635 at the Municipal Art Gallery

### May 26, 2015

Regular meeting of Camp 635 at the Municipal Art Gallery

### June 23, 2015

Regular meeting of Camp 635 at the Municipal Art Gallery



## Chaplain's Dispatch

Dear Friends and Compatriots:

### **Ultimate Faith In the Word of God**

General Stonewall Jackson was comforted by a friend who asked if he truly believed that "all things work together for the good to those who loved God" Romans 8:28. He responded he did. How about losing your health? Yes, I think I should. Become entirely blind? I should still believe it!" You should depend upon cold charities of the world?" "If it were the will of God to place me there, He would enable me to lie peacefully a hundred years." What would be your answer?

Sincerely,

Rev. Glenn D. Shows  
Chaplain

### **Is History Repeating Itself? You Decide**

"During the whole war the Lincoln Government was rarely aided, but was usually impeded by the decisions of the Supreme Court, so that President Lincoln was obligated to suspend the writ of habeas corpus in order to relieve himself of the rulings of the court." Union Gen. Benjamin "the Beast" Butler

Supreme Court Justice Curtis wrote: "The President has made himself a legislator. He has enacted penal laws governing citizens of the United States. He has superadded to his rights a commander the power of a usurper. He has established a military despotism. He can now use the authority he has assumed to make himself master of our lives, our liberties, our properties, with power to delegate his mastership of satraps as he may select."

***Taken, with slight editing, from "Defending the Heritage" Facebook Page***

*(Continued from page 2)*

never done so? Who knows but various theories have been advanced, such as Joe Davis did not want there to be a chance that the property would end up in the Howell family, as he had a rather limited view of the Howell family's merits.

Joe Davis died in 1869 and his will was silent about the question of who owned the "Brierfield" property. In the interim Joe Davis had sold the land to former slaves, but had financed the sale, retaining a lien on the property as collateral for the loan. The payments had not been made and the Joe Davis estate was in the process of foreclosing its lien, when in 1874 Jefferson Davis filed suit against the Joe Davis estate and the Joe Davis heirs, including Jefferson's children, to obtain legal title to the "Brierfield" property.

The local court in Warren County ruled against Davis, but he appealed the ruling to the Mississippi Supreme Court. In 1878 the high court ruled in Jefferson Davis' favor, and for the first time he legally owned the land he had considered his own for over forty years. Jefferson Davis' heirs kept the property until 1953, when it was finally sold.

### **The Average Confederate Soldier**

The average Confederate Soldier was a native-born, single, Protestant, male farmer between 18 and 39 years of age. He stood about 5 feet 7 inches tall and weighed about 145 pounds. (Found somewhere on the internet, didn't save the URL.)

It could be added that the majority of Confederates were a blend of Irish, Scottish, and English bloodlines.

???

**Trivia Question:**

This month's question asks:

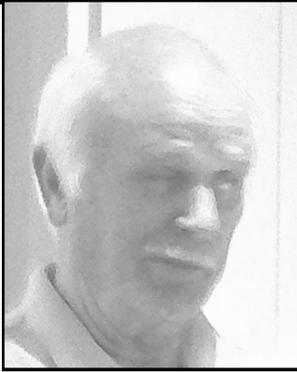
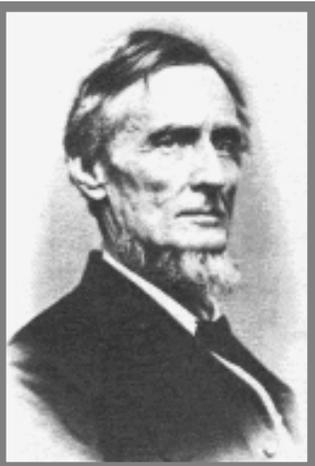
(An easy one.) Who was the only person to hold three different cabinet posts in the Confederate government?

February's question asked:

What act was Nathan Bedford Forrest alleged to have committed that prompted the U.S. to threaten (but never pursue) trial after the war?

The answer:

The alleged "massacre" at Fort Pillow.



# Commander's Column

Commander Jackson has no column this month

## 150 Years Ago A Soldier's Record

Dateline: March 12 -14, 1865

From Grandfather's Journal by Austin C. Dobbins. Excerpt from the diary of Franklin Lafayette Riley, Pvt. Co. B, 16th Mississippi Infantry.

Richmond -

Good weather. Monday, President Davis signed the bill placing Negroes in the army. They must volunteer and their owners must give permission. At least one of our Negroes has signed up. Today, we learned that Pickett's Division didn't go to Lynchburg after all but is moving north of Richmond to meet Sheridan. The city apparently isn't in any danger. Sheridan, they say, is raiding not attacking Richmond, and will probably go on to the Peninsula. Today (Tuesday) or tomorrow, Fitz Lee's Cavalry is expected to join us in Richmond. The Local Defense Force composed of the City Battalion, the VMI Cadets, two regiments of militia, and a number of convalescents from the hospitals; has been called out. Combined, our forces should be able to stop Sheridan without difficulty.

***From "Defending the Heritage" Facebook Page***

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