

The



# Rebelle



**Sons of Confederate Veterans**

Jefferson Davis Camp No. 635

\* Volume LIII \* \* PO Box 2722, Ridgeland, MS 39158 \* \* March 2024 \* \* Number 3\*



## March Meeting "Writing History, a Pauper's Tale"

Dan Duggan reports that Grady Howell will present the program for March. It is entitled, "Writing History, a Pauper's Tale."

Everyone come and bring guests, especially new recruits!

**When:** March 2, 2024, 6:00 pm.  
**Where:** Masonic Lodge, 7454 Old Canton Road, Madison, MS



*The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.*

*He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.*

*He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.*

*Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.*

*Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.*

*Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.*

*Psalm 23:1-6  
(KJV)*

## February Report

### Meeting Cancelled

Since the Masonic Lodge was not yet back in service as a meeting area, the meeting was held at the new Holiday Inn Express in Ridgeland. Dan Duggan presented the program that was postponed from January.



"It has been said that I should apply to the United States for a pardon; but repentance must precede the right of pardon, and I have not repented." - Jefferson Davis

Posted to Facebook by The Virginia Flagers

## Rebel Ramblings

by Robert Murphree

Like most of us who are interested in the War Between the States, I had heard of the Southern Historical Society, but I had no real working knowledge of the organization. Then two years ago I was wandering the aisles of that great Civil War Relic show our brothers in Rankin County put on every year--mainly looking for books--when I spied a large stack of volumes. Eureka! It was a whole set of the Southern Historical Society papers, all 52 volumes, so--after fending off the "where in the world are you going to put them" comments--I bit and bought.

What a gold mine these fellows have turned out to be! No matter how obscure an issue you are looking at, the index of this work will guide you to something useful. Well curiosity made me want to find out more about the Southern Historical Society, and this is what I found.

In 1869, in New Orleans, Dabney Maury embarked on an effort to collect and preserve papers and archives relating to the Southern side of the war. Maury and other Confederates undoubtedly already had a premonition that down the road the side that won the war would also win the public relations war. In no time he had assembled a group of enthusiastic supporters and the effort was launched.

At first the shortage of funds reduced the group to using part of the Southern Magazine, published in Baltimore, to print their product. This was unworkable and accordingly the Society resolved to publish its own publication, and this was done beginning in 1876.

The moving force was Reverend William Jones, the Secretary of the Society, who moved the publication to Richmond and then engineered the election of General Jubal Early as president. This was the same Jones who wrote "Personal Reminiscences of Gen. Robert E. Lee," an original edition of which I am pleased to possess. (It was this book that gave us the classic tale about some Confederate soldiers debating the theory of evolution one night around the campfire. Arguments pro and con were voiced, but the debate was closed when one soldier summed it up by saying "Well, fellows, I have no doubt some of us may have descended from monkeys, but only God could have made a General Lee.").

Two staples of the publications in the Society volumes are first, that the South struggled against overwhelming numbers and resources, and second, that General Lee was the outstanding military figure of the war. Both premises being correct, not much persuasion is needed in the Society papers to achieve these goals.

The range of topics and sources is simply amazing. From official reports, to personal recollections, to first hand accounts, the Southern Historical Society papers  
(Continued on page 3)

Visit the camp web site at:

<http://www.scvcamp635.org>

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

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**May 27, 2024**

Plans to be determined

**July 22, 2024**

Plans to be determined

**August 26, 2024**

Plans to be determined

**September 23, 2024**

Plans to be determined

**October 28, 2024**

Plans to be determined

**November 25, 2024**

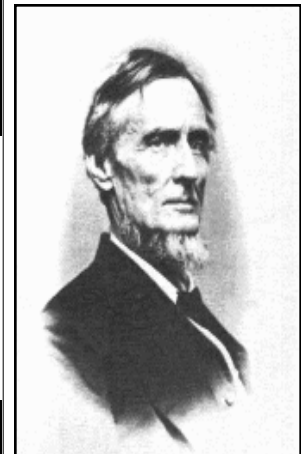
Plans to be determined

**December 9?, 2024**

Plans to be determined

**January 27, 2025**

Plans to be determined



# Chaplain's Dispatch

Dear Friends and Compatriots:

## She Gave Her Blessing

In a book, Uncle Seth Fought the Yankees, true short stories from letters, articles, etc, a 10-year old girl bought new shoes in Madison, Florida. The 23rd Georgia infantry was passing through her town. They were heading to the Battle of Olustee with a 10-year old barefoot drummer when the girl yell out that she had new shoes for the drummer boy. She insisted that he take them. As he went back to his unit, she yelled, "If you march with bloody feet to defend me, I can walk barefoot to the church to pray for you and your friends!"

Jesus said, "If you did to least of these, you have done it unto me!"

Sincerely,

Rev. Glenn D. Shows  
Chaplain

## THE REAL STORY IS WHAT THEY LEAVE OUT OF THEIR HISTORY\* BOOKS

"In my tent last night, after a fatiguing day's service, I remembered that I failed to send a contribution for our colored Sunday school. Enclosed you will find a check for that object, which please acknowledge at your earliest convenience and oblige yours faithfully." (Lt. General Thomas Jackson, in a letter to his Pastor)

\*propaganda

Written just after a decisive victory over Union forces...There are still Black churches in Virginia today as a result of Jackson's influence.

Photo: Artwork of Mort Kunstler

DTH



(Continued from page 2)

have it all. To tell the truth, a good bit of what you read in this little column comes out of the SHS papers, so you get is "second hand" so to speak. For example, when I first got interested in trying to acquire the Chickasaw Bayou battlefield north of Vicksburg, naturally I went to the SHS index. There I found the official report of the battle that Stephen D. Lee submitted, an invaluable reference about what happened where.

One of the editors of the papers was Douglas Southall Freeman, who served from 1930 to 1943. He of course is now recognized as one of the outstanding writers about the War and its figures.

I have especially enjoyed the give and take in the papers, where a writer will advance the theory that if only General Cornpone would have done thus and so at the Battle of Who Ran we would have won, only to be answered a few volumes later by a veteran who will write that General Cornpone was not responsible at all. Poor Longstreet takes a regular beating in the Society papers for his Gettysburg performance, and Stuart got toasted for his activity in the same campaign.

I especially enjoyed reading Hood's account of his activity at Gettysburg. Hood never wrote an official report because of his wound on July 2, but in 1875 he wrote a long letter outlining his memory of events during those fateful days. Hood relates how reluctant General Longstreet was to attack, which of course fit right in with the general condemnation of Longstreet then current, in light of Longstreets' conversion to the Republican party.

Reflecting on the goals of the Southern Historical Society moved me to form the Southern Historical Preservation Society, of which several of our SCV camp brothers are members. The goal of the Southern Historical Preservation Society is to provide funds for the maintenance and repair of Confederate monuments and cemeteries in Mississippi. The SHPS has been able to carry out a number of projects around the state, including cleaning the Confederate grave stones in Friendship Cemetery in Columbus, over 1,000 markers, and the Confederate Cemetery in Canton, over 400 markers, and helping finance Confederate monuments in Calhoun and Simpson counties. Many of us recall the beautiful prayer that Reverend Robert Lane offered at our 2023 Confederate Memorial Day ceremony down at Greenwood Cemetery. Well the SHPS had that prayer memorialized on a bronze plaque that now sits behind the Confederate monument in Greenwood. Anyone interested in joining the Southern Historical Preservation Society kindly contact me.





## CARLTON MCCARTHY

A man of education and proper upbringing, Carlton still saw fit to join the Richmond Howitzers. He stayed with this unit for the duration of the war and fought in most of the principal battles of the Army of Northern Virginia. During the war McCarthy kept a journal until the surrendered at Appomattox Court House on 4/9/1865. His memoirs were later published into a book called "Detailed Minutiae of Soldier Life in the Army of Northern Virginia, 1861 -1865." David Donald wrote in the New York Herald Tribune that McCarthy's book, was "as fresh, as amusing, and as revealing" as the day it was first published in 1882.

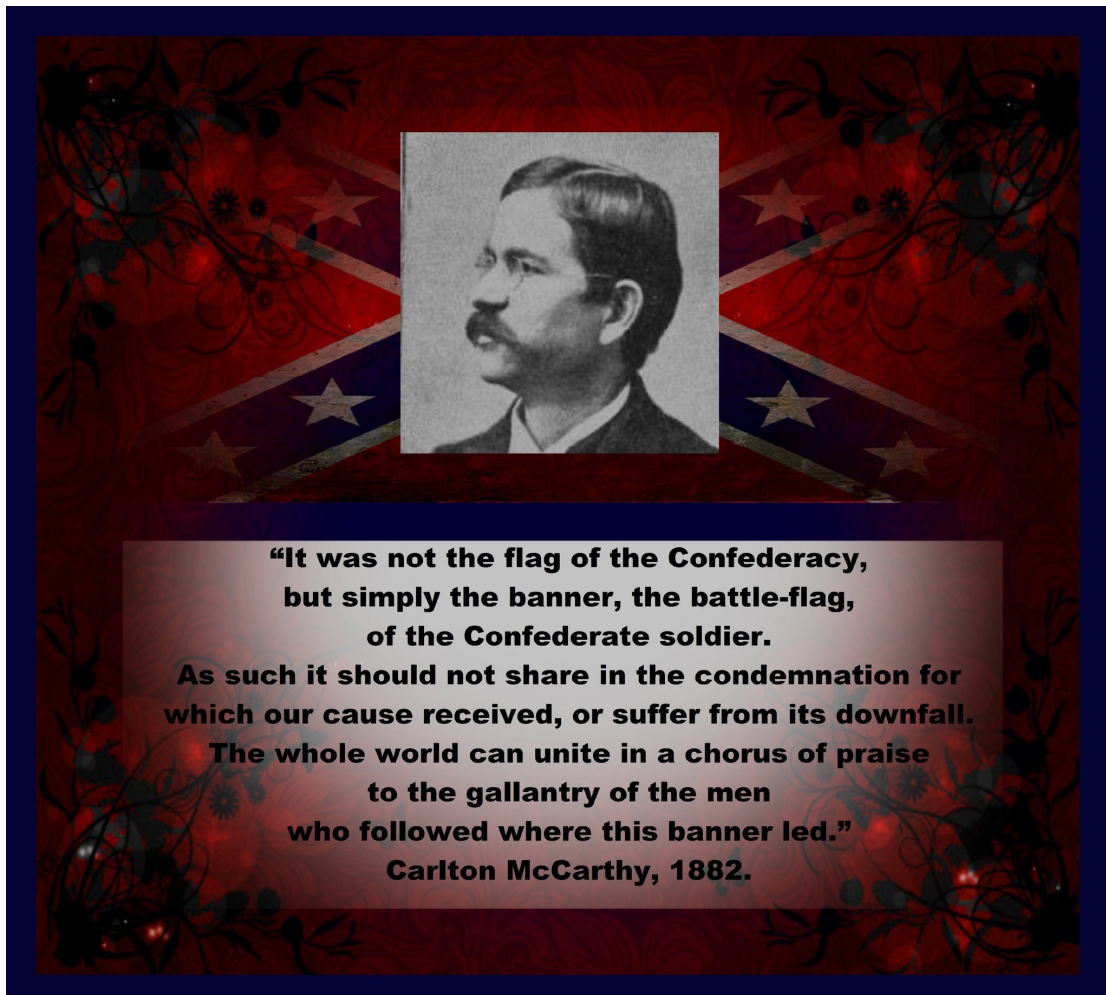
In light of all the politically correct efforts to destroy Southern Heritage, the following McCarthy quote speaks to my heart. I hope it speaks to yours and that you commit to preserving your Heritage, whether it is by joining the SCV or UDC or a local Flaggers group. I encourage you to do whatever you can for these men who did everything for you.

April 9, 1865 – Appomattox Court House

"Many of the men were sobbing and crying like children recovering from convulsions of grief after a severe whipping. They were sorely grieved, mortified, and humiliated... Other men fairly raved with indignation and declared their desire to escape or die in the attempt; but not a man was heard to blame General Lee. On the contrary, all express the greatest sympathy for him and declared their willingness to submit at once or fight to the last man, as he ordered. At no period of the war was he held in higher veneration or regarded with more sincere affection than on that sad and tearful day." Carlton McCarthy, 1882

Source: "Detailed Minutiae of Soldier Life in the Army of Northern Virginia, 1861 -1865." by Carlton McCarthy, published 1882.

DTH



## A SOLDIER'S LETTER FROM SNYDER'S BLUFF, 1863

Courtesy of Daniel Strietbeck, Sr.

'The Malvern Leader' dated Thursday, July 19, 1917. An Old Army Letter Home – Written by Dr. James Watts while at the Siege of Vicksburg, June 15, 1863.

Camp Snider Bluff near Vicksburg, June the 15th, 1863

Dear Brother and Sister,

In remembrance of your request to write you a few line just before going into battle, I seat myself hastily to write. My health never was better if it was not for my lonely and bereaved condition. I sincerely hope these lines may come to hand and find you all well, and not laboring under any bereavement of mind, like your brother. Well Brother the cannon are making the earth quiver round Vicksburg. We are expecting a general engagement every hour. We are some ten miles from the city on the Yazoo River. General Smith is commanding our division. Kimbell's Division is just above us on the river. We have a large army in the rear of Vicksburg to give Rebel G. Johnson a thorn in the flank and the rest of his rebel friends who may come in to try to rescue their friends who are so beautifully penned up by Grant.

Our brave sharp shooters are lying from 50 to 100 yards of the Rebel fortifications. They made large bundles of cane as high as a man's head, bound it with wire. They rolled them under the guns. They cannot lower their guns to shoot the boys. When they climb up to load their guns our sharp shooters pick them off double quick.

We will have one of the greatest battles that has ever been fought on American soil, or a surrender of the place. From the way the cannon are belching forth I think they are fighting this morning and we may be ordered in any hour. It may be that Grant is just giving them a general shelling to let them know he is still on hand. He could take the place, I think at any time at a sacrifice of a large amount of his brave western troops. He is disposed to save them, bully for him.

The old blue hens Chicken Sherman commands, Grant's right wing resting on the Mississippi River Walnut Hills, it takes a curb bit to hold him in check. There is a large Rebel force in our rear. They will try and cut thru our lines and let their friends out. We are here to see they don't. I will not try to give you any general news as the papers keep you posted.

The health of our Army is better than could be expected. We are all badly sunburnt and have the mark of hardships written on our general appearance. But thank God, we are all sound on the war question and all in fine spirits. The letters of the Copperheads that have been written to our noble soldiers in the fields have reacted and had a fine effect – their minds are clear and the God of health is with them, their footsteps are steady on to victory or death.

rother be of good courage, do not get discouraged, this rebellion will have to flicker, it is only a matter of time and loss of life. There are times when every Nation has their delusions. This war famine and pestilence that is upon us, let us be content with our lot, let it be cast as it may. Believe me, brother, all is well with me in regard to going into battle. I believe I will be going the most reconciled of any man in the 99th. If I lose my life it goes just as free as the waters that flows down the Mississippi River. The thought of being separated from my family and friends is all that will give me pain. I do not think that the sting of bullets will ever produce but little pain.

I have suffered so much in the last two years that suffering has almost become second nature. I lost children that made my heart bleed, but on the 20th of last May, two years past, when I lost my dear companion Elizabeth, there was a dart that pierced my heart thru the center and remained there and since has never been extracted. It is true I soon married and I married a fine industrious companion who was doing the best she could for my children and keeping them together, while I am out as one trying to sustain one of the best Governments that history has recorded. But alas, on the 10th of May, she was removed from earth. You know my suffering, you know my pain and bereavement. She left a fine boy some four weeks old. Mother Smith is raising or tending to the child. I have just received a letter from daughter M. E. She informs me they are all well but very lonely. She says they want to see father the worst way. They are staying with my pupil. Brother Allen wrote me a very good letter, told me to be as well content as I could under the cir-

*(Continued on page 6)*

*(Continued from page 5)*

cumstances. I have all confidence and know the children will be well treated.

Well William and Mary and children this may be my last letter to you. I so hope and trust you all may live long and happy on earth, and when done with earth, ascend to that spirit land, where Rebellion, sorrow, parting of friends and death will visit you no more forever.

I must close as my eyes are full of tears. If I could see you and family I would shed many tears with joy.

Well brother the cannon is still making the earth tremble under me while writing. Please write to me when it goes well with you. I must not forget Jas. Robertson, he is in fine health and as jovial as ever and is one of my best friends. Z. Deen is well. As soon as convenient I will send you a present, pistol or some little trinket. I will not send it for the value, it will be a token of love.

I close by sending you all my love and respect and well wishes until death.

James Watts

James survived the war.

### AN ABOLITIONIST'S OBSERVATIONS IN THE SOUTH IN 1878

"Suspicions of the South's intentions toward the freedmen after the withdrawal of federal troops were naturally rife in the North. In 1878, Colonel Thomas Wentworth Higginson went South to investigate for himself. The report of his findings, published in the *Atlantic Monthly*, is of particular interest in view of the Colonel's background...(as) one of the most militant abolitionists.

In Virginia, South Carolina and Florida, the States he visited in 1878, he found "a condition of outward peace" and wondered immediately if there did not lurk beneath it "some covert plan for crushing and re-enslaving the colored race." If so, he decided, it would "show itself in some personal ill usage of the blacks, in the withdrawal of privileges, in legislation endangering their rights." But, he reported, "I can assert that carrying with me the eyes of a tolerably suspicious abolitionist, I saw none of these indications."

He had expected to be affronted by contemptuous or abusive treatment of Negroes. "During this trip," however, he wrote, "I had absolutely no occasion for any such attitude." Nor was this due to "any cringing demeanor on the part of the blacks, for they show much more manhood than they once did." He compared the tolerance and acceptance of the Negro in the South on trains and streetcars, at the polls, in the courts and legislatures, in the police force and militia, with attitudes in his native New England and decided that the South came off rather better in the comparison.

"How can we ask more of the States formerly in rebellion," he demanded, "than that they should be abreast of New England in granting rights and privileges to the colored race?" Six years later (1884), in a review of the situation in the South, Higginson found no reason to change his estimate of 1878."

DTH





## ANOTHER STEEL MAGNOLIA: MARY BRADFORD JOHNS

In General John B. Hood memoirs, Mary Bradford Johns' heroic actions during the Battle of Nashville were recognized:

"When our troops were in the greatest confusion a young lady of Tennessee, Miss Mary Bradford, rushed in their midst regardless of the storm of bullets, and, in the name of God and of our country, implored them to reform and face the enemy. Her name deserves to be enrolled among the heroes of the war, and it is with pride that I bear testimony to her bravery and patriotism."

Source: "Advance and Retreat," by General John B. Hood, 1888.

Photo: Mary Bradford Johns as found in "Battles and Sketches of the Army of Tennessee," By Bromfield Lewis Ridley, 1906.

### THE WOMEN OF THE SOUTH.

Who bade us go with smiling tears?  
 Who scorned the renegade?  
 Who, silencing their trembling fears,  
 Watched, cheered, then wept and prayed?  
 Who nursed our wounds with tender care,  
 And then, when all was lost,  
 Who lifted us from our despair  
 And counted not the cost?

by: Albert Sidney Morton

DTH



### EMANCIPATION COMPENSATION

Lincoln introduced a bill in Congress for compensated emancipation in 1862 which, like the Washington DC Emancipation Act would compensate slave holders for emancipating slaves. The timetable for this to be accomplished was by the year 1900.

It is believed that had the south been allowed to secede peacefully, slavery would have died of natural causes as early as 1870, thirty years sooner.

DTH, source of this analysis not given.



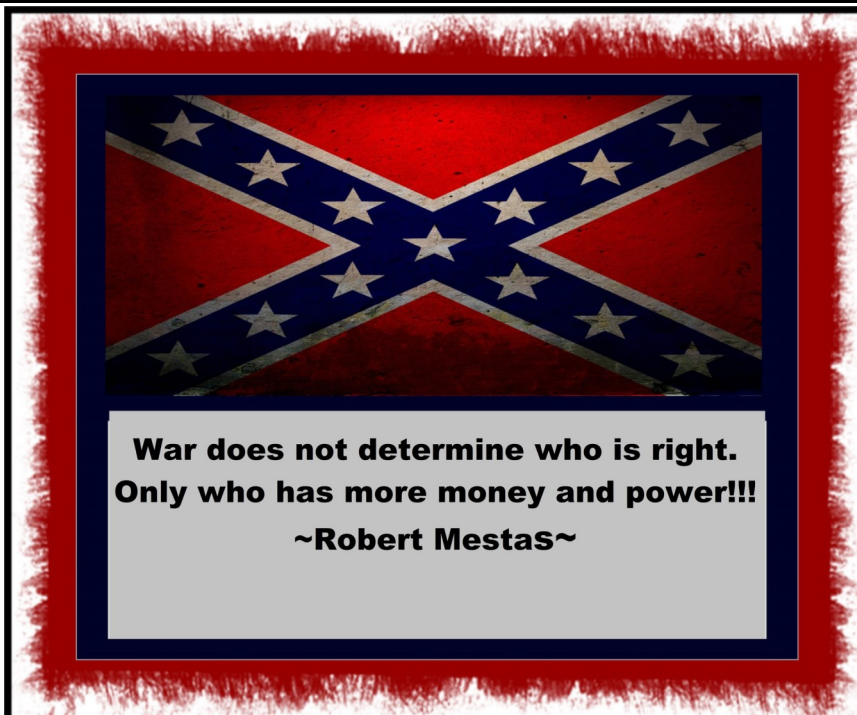
### A GROSS UNDER ESTIMATION OF SOUTHERN RESOLVE

Asking for only 75,000 troops for 90 days to subdue seven seceded states and in doing so, forced four more states to secede from the Union.

The reality was over two million Northern troops waging war on the South for four devastating years and 750,000 deaths according to the latest research...as well as hundreds of thousands maimed for life. Do you think Lincoln would have commenced his tax war if he had any idea what it would require in blood and treasure or would he have let the South go peacefully?

Photo: Recent burials at City Point Hospital Collection of the New York Historical

DTH

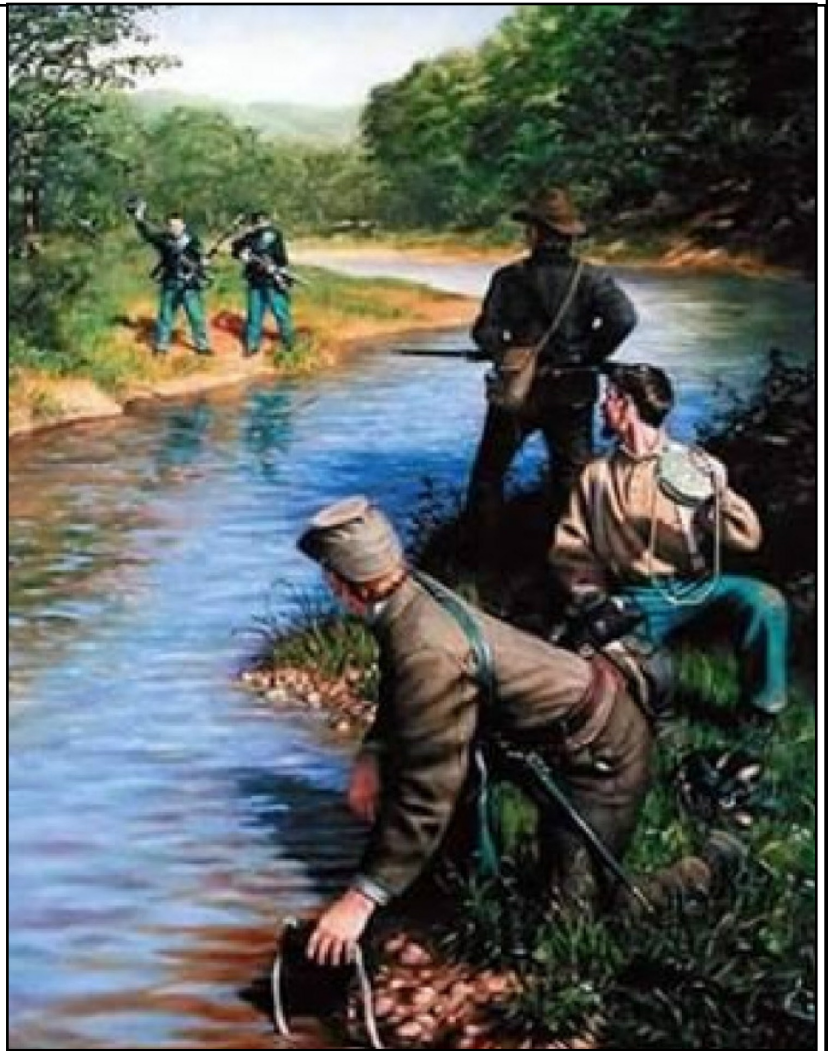




### CIVILITIES BETWEEN PICKETS

When the war first broke out the pickets on either side used to fire at each other on sight, and it gave our officers a good deal of trouble to check the murderous practice. The rule is now the other way. The pickets no sooner find themselves within hailing distance than they begin to converse; and the chat generally ends in an interchange of rations, liquor, and newspapers. This custom is severely reprobated by most of our Generals, but very common nevertheless.

DTH, artwork credit not given.



### YOUNG AND OLD MILITIAMEN

Black and white militiamen returned heavy fire on Union troops at the Battle of Griswoldsville (near Macon, GA). Approximately 600 boys and elderly men were killed in this skirmish.

Photo: Sixteen year old Confederate soldier J. Triplett at Winchester VA. He served in the Stonewall Brigade and his family was from the Mt. Jackson area of the Shenandoah Valley. "His uniform was made for him by his mother."

DTH



## EISENHOWER COMMENTS ON ROBERT E. LEE

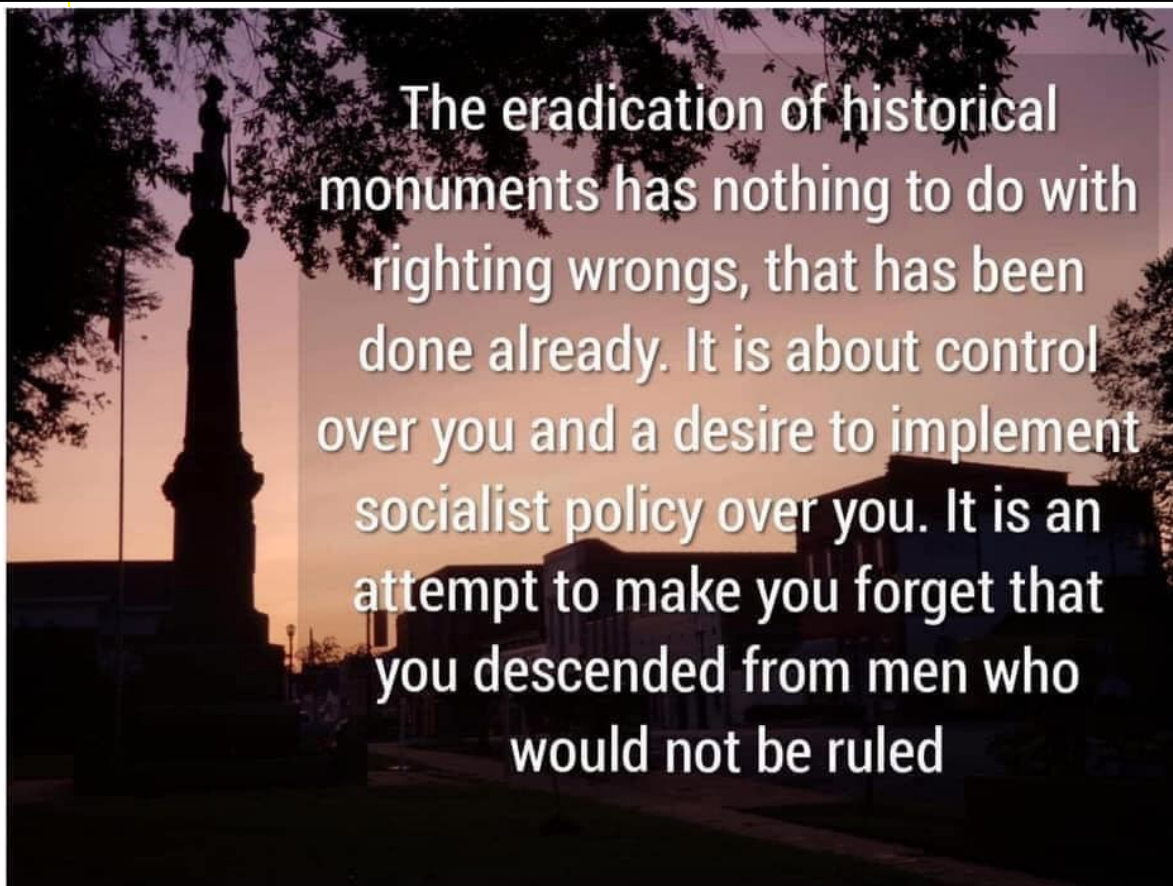
"General Robert E. Lee was, in my estimation, one of the supremely gifted men produced by our Nation. He believed unswervingly in the Constitutional validity of his cause....he was thoughtful yet demanding of his officers and men, forbearing with captured enemies, but ingenious, unrelenting and personally courageous in battle, and never disheartened by a reverse or obstacle.

Through all his many trials, he remained selfless almost to a fault and unfailing in his belief in God. Taken altogether, he was noble as a leader and as a man and unsullied as I read the pages of our history. From deep conviction I simply say this: a nation of men of Lee's caliber would be unconquerable in spirit and soul."  
Dwight D. Eisenhower



Posted by DTH; obtained from the Southern Heritage News and Views

Photo: Ike and Patton. Patton's granddaddy was Confederate Colonel George Smith Patton, 22nd Virginia Infantry - KIA Battle of Opequon 1864



Posted to Facebook by The Virginia Flaggers and shared by DTH.



### A CLOSET CONFEDERATE??

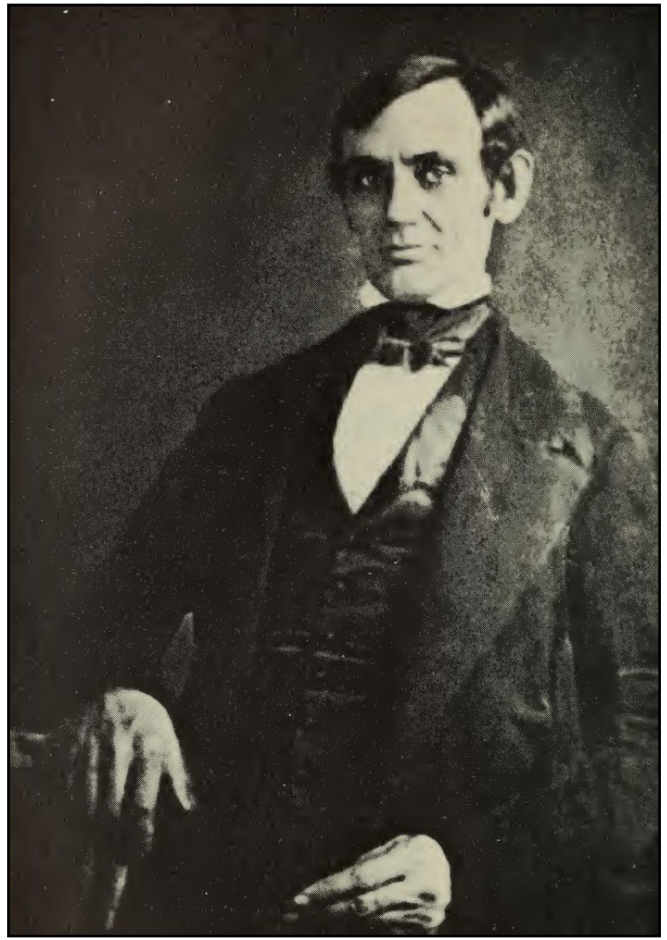
"Any people anywhere, being inclined and having the power, have the right to rise up, and shake off the existing government, and form a new one that suits them better. This is a most valuable a most sacred right a right, which we hope and believe is to liberate the world.

"Nor is this right confined to cases in which the whole people of an existing government may choose to exercise it. Any portion of such people that can, may revolutionize, and make their own, of so much territory as they inhabit." -- Abraham Lincoln, July 4th 1848....

Spoken 13 years before he invaded the South for acting on his very words.

Photo: The earliest known picture of Abraham Lincoln. The original daguerreotype probably was made by N. H. Shepherd in Springfield in 1846.

DTH



### LEE COMMENTS ON THE SPIRIT BEHIND SECESSION AND THE DEFENSE OF THE SOUTH

"Every brave people who considered their rights attacked and their constitutional liberties invaded, would have done as we did.

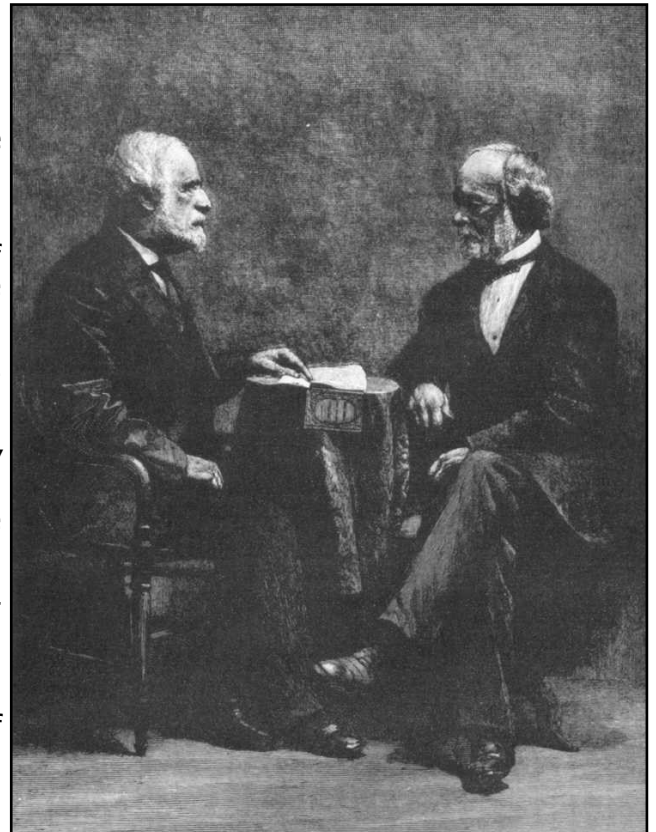
"Our conduct was not caused by any insurrectional spirit, nor can it be termed a rebellion; for our construction of the Constitution under which we lived and acted was the same from its adoption, and for eighty years we had been taught and educated by the founders of the Republic, and their written declarations, which controlled our consciences and actions.

"The epithets that have been heaped upon us of 'rebels' and 'traitors' have no just meaning, nor are they believed in by those who understand the subject, even at the North..."

--Robert E. Lee, explaining his actions in a postwar letter to R.S. McCulloch

Photo: Robert E. Lee and Joseph Johnston, photographed after the war. Picture taken from 'Battles and Leaders of the Civil War: From Sumter to Shiloh', p.228

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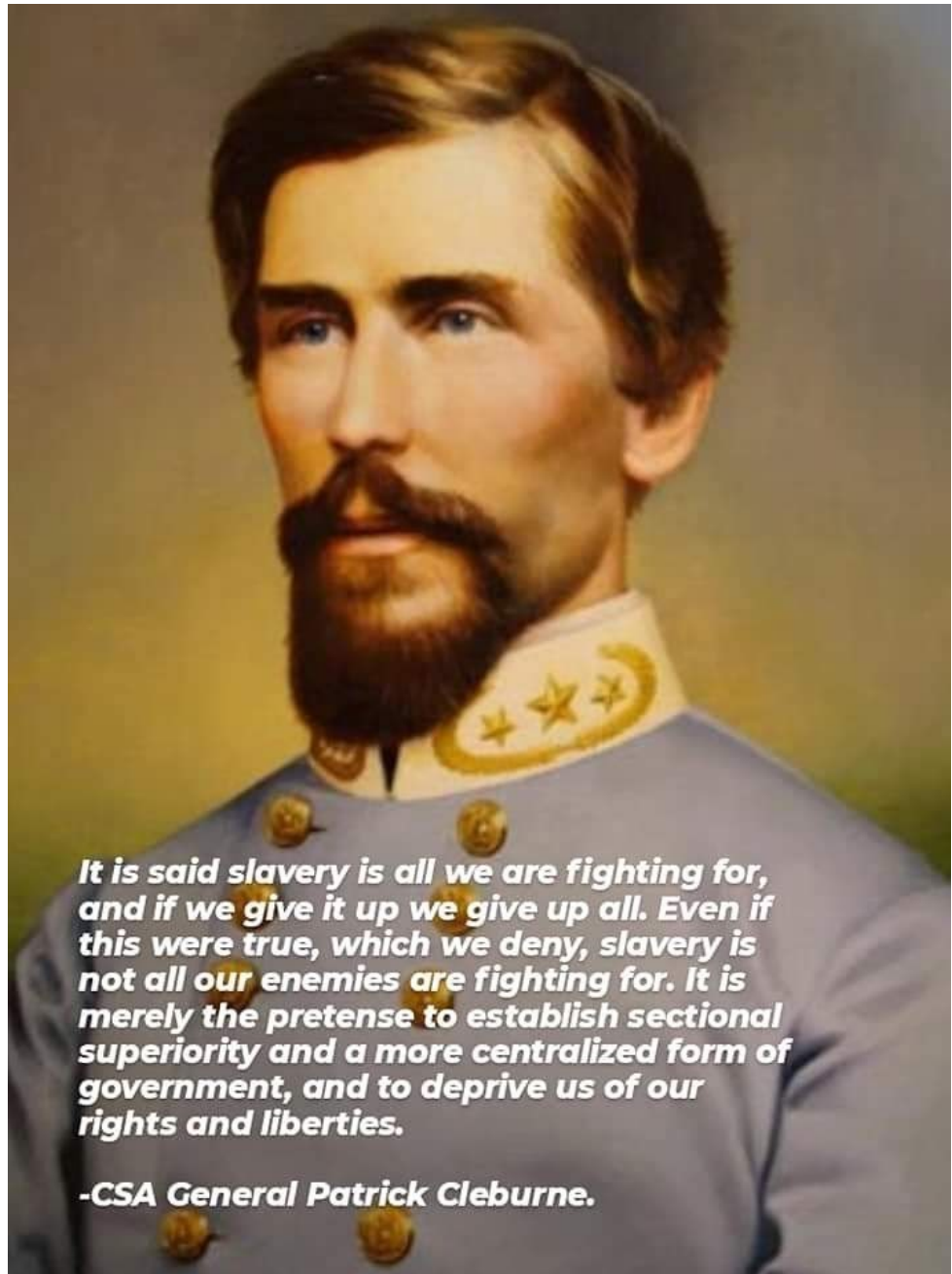
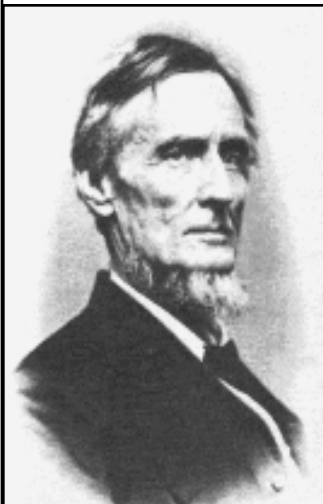
Commander's Column

Commander Jackson has no column this month

**Trivia Question:**  
March's question asks: At which battle field was there a blooming peach orchard central to the fighting? Peach blossoms, cut by bullets, were said to fall like pink snow.

February's question asked: Who was killed on Pine Mountain?

The answer:  
General Leonidas Polk.



*It is said slavery is all we are fighting for, and if we give it up we give up all. Even if this were true, which we deny, slavery is not all our enemies are fighting for. It is merely the pretense to establish sectional superiority and a more centralized form of government, and to deprive us of our rights and liberties.*

**-CSA General Patrick Cleburne.**

**Posted to the Facebook page of The Camel Regiment:  
A History of the Bloody Forty-Third Mississippi**

**Jefferson Davis Camp #635  
Sons of Confederate  
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Jackson, MS 39236-6945**

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