



David's Dispatch

1st Lt. David Richard Reynolds Camp #2270
Sons of Confederate Veterans
Mount Pleasant, Texas



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Winner of the Texas Division Best Newsletter Award, 2017, 2018 & 2020
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COMMANDER'S CORNER

by Danny "Kid" Tillery

Hoping to see each member at the next meeting.



UPCOMING EVENTS

NEXT MEETING

Monday, February 15th 7:00 p.m.
Refreshments at 6:30 p.m.
Old Union Community Center
Hwy 67E, Mount Pleasant, Texas

2021 Texas Division Reunion
May 28 – 30, 2021
Lee Lockwood Library and Museum
2801 West Waco Drive
Waco, Texas

2021 National Reunion

July 21-24, 2021

Copeland Tower & Conference Center
2601 Severn Avenue
Metairie, Louisiana 70002

Our Charge...

"To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we will commit the vindication of the cause for which we fought. To your strength will be given the defense of the Confederate soldier's good name, the guardianship of his history, the emulation of his virtues, the perpetuation of those principles which he loved and which you love also, and those ideals which made him glorious and which you also cherish." Remember, it is your duty to see that the true history of the South is presented to future generations!

*Lt. General Stephen Dill Lee, Commander General,
United Confederate Veterans,
New Orleans, Louisiana April 25, 1906*

A BLAST FROM THE PAST

*(Taken from the February 1921 Edition of the
Confederate Veteran - 100 Years Ago)*

HEROIC DEFENSE OF BRIDGE AT STEPHENSON'S DEPOT, VA.

A handsome bronze tablet, set in a huge granite boulder, now marks the place of one of the most heroic engagements of the War between the States,

that of the defense of the ridge near Stephenson's Depot, Va., June 15, 1863, by Col. Richard Snowden Andrews with two guns from his battalion, this memorial tablet is the tribute of Mrs. Caroline Snowden Fahnestock, of Washington, D. C, and Charles Lee Andrews, of New York City, daughter and son of Colonel Andrews, in the memory of their father and the brave men who fought under him. It is located on a part of the old Stephenson homestead and near the Martinsburg Pike and was unveiled on December 4, 1920, with appropriate exercises. Among those in attendance were J. W. Owens, of Annapolis, and I. T. Richardson, of Baltimore, who are now the only survivors of that heroic band. The defense of this bridge by Colonel Andrews with two guns virtually stopped Milroy's army on its course to Harper's Ferry. Four unsuccessful attempts were made to carry it, but at great loss to the defenders. General Lee said that the heroic sacrifice of those brave men there made it a second Thermopylae.

It was on the 15th of June, 1863, that Colonel Andrews was ordered to make a detour to the east of Winchester to occupy the Martinsburg road and intercept Milroy in his retreat. Colonel Andrews stationed the two guns of Dement's Battery at a bridge over the railroad cut near Stephenson's Depot under command of Lt. C. S. Contee, with orders to hold the bridge as long as there was a man left. He then rode off to another part of the field, but returned in a short time badly wounded in the arm. Lieutenant Contee, though shot through both legs, raised himself and said: "Colonel, I have one sergeant and two men, and the enemy is retreating." Every man but three was killed or wounded, but they had practically stopped an army. The gallantry of the lieutenant and men was so conspicuous that they were reported by name to General Lee. After thirteen of the fifteen cannoneers were either killed or disabled and both Colonel Andrews and Lieutenant Contee wounded, Lt. John A. Morgan, of the 1st North Carolina, and Randolph H. McKim (for many years rector of the Epiphany Protestant

Episcopal Church of Washington, who died in 1920) took their places.

The names of the men who participated in this fight are engraved on the tablet, as follows: Lieut. C. S. Contee, Lieut. John A. Morgan, Lieut. R. H. McKim, Sergt. John Harris, Corp. William P. Compton, Corp. Samuel Thompson, Robert Chew, William Koester, Charles Pease, A. J. Albert, Jr., William T. Wotten, James Yates, J. H. J. Langsdale, J. R. Buchanan, B. W. Owens, Sergt. John Glasscoke, Corp. W. H. May, Corp. Charles Harris, Thomas Moore, William Gorman, F. Frayer, William Wilson, Samuel Thomas, R. T. Richardson, William Sherburne, James Owens, William Dalian, and Joseph Mockabee.

At the dedication of this memorial an address was made by J. W. Owens, one of the two survivors, who gave a thrilling description of the engagement in the following:

"It is early dawn. Off in front you hear the crack of musketry of the opposing force driving in our pickets. In this road to the rear you see a battalion of artillery standing at rest. The men, wearied by an all-night march, are leaning against the fences, sleeping in their tracks. You hear the voice of Colonel Andrews ring out: 'Attention, battalion! Drivers, mount! Cannoneers, to your post! Trot out! March!' And you see that battalion, Andrews in the lead, come thundering up the road to this bridge and hear the order: 'In battery, action, front!' The drivers swing to the left and the cannoneers unlimber the Nos. 1 and 2 guns and place one on the bridge, the other a short distance to the left. Our pickets have been driven in, and you see there in our front a long blue line advancing, and then you hear the order: 'Load and fire at will! Commence firing!' The guns thunder and the leaden hail mows down the ranks of the advancing foe. They press on, they waver, they fall back, but, rallied by their officers, they advance again, again are met with iron and leaden hail; again they fall back, again advance, and thus they charge us four times, only to be driven back again and again. At the last charge they are within sixty yards

of us. Our canister is exhausted, and our case shots are cut to explode at a quarter of a second, and swathes are mowed in their ranks like grain before a reaper.

"But I have been wounded, and I call to Corporal May to put another man in my place at the gun and to get off the field. Fearing to be shot in the back, I ran from tree to tree and reached the road in the rear just as the old Stonewall Brigade came up in 'quick time,' and I called to General Walker to get his men to the front in double quick; that the Yanks were pressing our left and would take our guns. My appeal was silently ignored. General Walker saw that I was wounded and naturally thought me demoralized; but vindication came on the moment when one of General Johnson's aids came dashing down the road and made my request an order. And your ears are thrilled now when you hear the old brigade give its Rebel yell. They turn the Federal right flank, and the battle is fought and won. Colonel Andrews, in giving some final orders while mounted on his horse, is shot by a sharpshooter from our right.

"Gen. Edward Johnson was apparently a man without emotion, but he came to the house back of our line, where our wounded had been taken, and the tears glistened in his eyes, and his voice was full of emotion as he said: 'Men of the 1st Maryland, you have been fighting like men of your own State and have captured a stand of Maryland colors. They rightfully belong to you, and you shall have them.'

"But we are here to speak of Andrews and the 1st Maryland Battery. Colonel Andrews was one of the first Marylanders to espouse the cause of the South. The battery was mustered in on the 13th of July, 1861, eight days before the battle of Bull Run. He drew the plans for the guns, which were cast by the Tredegar Iron Works, of Richmond. The battery did picket duty on the Potomac during the winter of 1861-62 and did great damage to Federal boats and transports. In the spring of 1862 it went with the army to Williamsburg. Mechanicsville was the first battle of the seven days' fighting before Richmond,

and old No. 1 gun fired the signal for the attack. Captain Andrews was slightly wounded there, but on the 9th of August he was at Cedar Mountain, and there received a wound from which his recovery was a triumph of mind over matter. Promoted to major, in the spring of 1863 he took command of the battalion, held Sedgwick in check at second Fredericksburg (a part of the Chancellorsville fight), and on June 15, 1863, Lieutenant Colonel Andrews was again wounded on this battle field. On the 6th of June he was again in command of the battalion at Hagerstown. His last active service was at Payne's Farm, November 27, 1863, and Mine Run, December 1. and then he was detailed for special duty in Europe.

"Snowden Andrews belonged to a galaxy of as chivalrous men as the world has ever produced, Maryland men. * * * Maryland had 22,000 men in the Confederate army. They came from the marts of trade, from colleges, the farms and the mills, the forge and the work bench. They were volunteers!

"And now a thought of sadness comes. On that tablet are the names of only two who have not gone over the river to rest under the shade of the trees, and of all the splendid manhood of the 1st Maryland Battery only five survive."

Colonel Andrews came of a military family, and he was a firm believer in military preparedness. He was born in Washington, D. C., on October 29, 1830, the son of Timothy Patrick Andrews and Emily Roseville Snowden. Going to Baltimore in 1849, he established himself as an architect and had a part in making plans for the Governor's mansion at Annapolis and many other important buildings of the time. Sometime before the war came on he learned all he could about artillery, and when the war clouds finally lowered he copied the plans of the Federal guns at Baltimore, which had been patterned by those used by Napoleon, and went to Richmond, where he designed the guns and had them cast by the Tredegar Iron Works. These were the first cannon made for the Confederacy.

While the guns were being cast and mounted he organized the 1st Maryland Light Artillery in Richmond, and this was afterwards known as Andrews's Battery. This he took into the service as its captain, and in its every engagement it gave a splendid account of itself. Captain Andrews was promoted to major in June, 1862, for his courageous bearing in the fighting around Richmond. When in August of that year Brig. Gen. Charles S. Winder was mortally wounded, Major Andrews was near and caught him as he fell, the General dying in his arms.

Major Andrews was severely wounded during the battle of Cedar Mountain, but recovered and again was in the field. In March, 1863, he was promoted to lieutenant colonel. Late in that year he was again so severely wounded that he was unfit for further active service, and on the recommendation of General Lee he and Col. Thomas S. Rhett were sent to England, France, and Germany to inspect and purchase guns for the Confederate army.

Colonel Andrews died in Baltimore in 1903. His grandsons served with great credit in the army and navy during the World War.

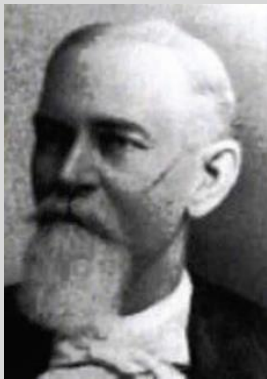
On February 1, 1861, Texas becomes the seventh state to secede from the Union when a state convention votes 166 to 8 in favor of the measure.

The Texans who voted to leave the Union did so over the objections of their governor, Sam Houston. A staunch Unionist, Houston's election in 1859 as governor seemed to indicate that Texas did not share the rising secessionist sentiments of the other Southern states.

However, events swayed many Texans to the secessionist cause. John Brown's raid on the federal armory at Harper's Ferry, Virginia (now West Virginia), in October 1859 had raised the specter of a major slave insurrection, and the ascendant Republican Party made many Texans uneasy about continuing in the Union. After Abraham Lincoln's election to the presidency in November 1860, pressure mounted on Houston to call a convention so that Texas could consider secession. He did so reluctantly in January 1861 and sat in silence on February 1 as the convention voted overwhelmingly in favor of secession. Houston grumbled that Texans were "stilling the voice of reason," and he predicted an "ignoble defeat" for the South. Houston refused to take an oath of allegiance to the Confederacy and was replaced in March 1861 by his lieutenant governor.

Texas' move completed the first round of secession. Seven states—South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas—left the Union before Lincoln took office. Four more states—Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Arkansas—waited until the formal start of the Civil War, with the April 1861 firing on Fort Sumter at Charleston, South Carolina, before deciding to leave the Union. The remaining slave states—Delaware, Maryland, Kentucky, and Missouri— never mustered the necessary majority for secession.

TEXAS SECEDES



Captain William Edgar
1829-1908

LAST CAMP MEETING

Our last meeting was canceled due to Danny "Kid" Tillery being quarantined. Patriot Tillery will be installed as Commander at the next meeting. (cont.)

BATTLES FOUGHT DURING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY



Siege of Fort Donelson - Fort Donelson Tennessee

12-16 February 1862 - General Simon B. Buckner verses General Ulysses S. Grant. Casualties: 16,623 Confederate, 2832 Union!

Battle of Oluste - Olustee Florida

20 February 1864 - General Joseph Finegan verses General Truman Seymour. Casualties: 934 Confederate, 1861 Union!



1 Peter 5:8 "Be self controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion

looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith."

BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES & OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

February 3rd – Terry Landrum

February 14th – Jerry & Kathy Lester

February 1st – This day in 1861 Texas secedes from the union.

February 22nd – This day in 1862 President Jefferson Davis Inaugurated President of the CSA.

GUARDIAN NEWS

by Past Commander Rex McGee



Hopefully with better weather and the arrival of new flags, we will be able to place flags on our gravesites. Due to the vandalism of some cemeteries we are placing flags and leaving them for one or two weeks and then removing them. Later on during the year we can do the same thing and the flags will still look good and folks will be reminded that Confederate soldiers are in the cemetery.

As usual, I'll leave you with the question that Phil Davis, Chairman of both the National and Texas Division

Guardian Program always asks, “Are you a Guardian?
If not, why not?”



Danny “Kid” Tillery administers SCV oath to new members Terry Lee Landrum(lf) and Joshua Wayne Beckham(rt)



Joshua Wayne Beckham is presented with his SCV membership certificate by Danny “Kid” Tillery



Terry Lee Landrum is presented with his SCV membership certificate by Danny “Kid” Tillery



Just a quick note from the writer. This is the first attempt at a newsletter. Thanks to Joe for the format. Please excuse any typographical errors, run on sentences and mistakes. I really don’t know what I am doing. I don’t know where to obtain articles and which ones I can legally add to the newsletter and which ones I cannot. Please send me any information that you think appropriate. I was a biology, chemistry and physics teacher and not an English major. This may be hectic. Please excuse.

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Opinions expressed by individual writers are their own and do not necessarily reflect official positions of the 1st Lt. David Richard Reynolds Camp #2270. Letters and articles may be submitted to: snakemon@aol.com (Cutoff for articles is 20th of the month)