



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 & 2021

WINNER OF THE SCV NATIONAL BEST NEWSLETTER AWARD, 2016, 2017 & 2018

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*

UPCOMING EVENTS

NEXT MEETING

Monday, February 12th, 6:00 p.m.
Zoom Meeting

Texas Division Heritage Defense Training
Saturday, February 10th, 2024
Baylor Club located at McLane Stadium
1001 S. Martin Luther King Blvd
Waco, TX 76704

2024 Texas Division Reunion
June 7th – 9th, 2024
Doubletree by Hilton
611 NW Loop 410
San Antonio, TX 78218

2024 National SCV Reunion

July 16th – 21st, 2024
Embassy Suites by Hilton
5055 International Blvd
North Charleston, SC 29418-5963



TRIVIAL PURSUIT OR – DID YOU KNOW THIS?

Comment: We all sit around from time to time and discuss events, people, and places related to the War of Northern Aggression. But check out how many of these you knew before today. I hope you enjoy this edition. The Editor.

(Answers on Page 9)

1. What was the name of one of Barnard Be's brothers who supervised smuggling operations from Brownsville, TX?
2. A US Army fort was named for what Georgia lawyer and CSA brigadier general whom Lee called "Rock"?
3. What CSA General was a constant sufferer from migraines and dyspepsia?



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!



BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES & OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

February 3rd – Terry Landrum

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.



THE LONE STAR GUARDS.

by B. L. Aycock, Kountze, Tex., 1923

This company was the first infantry troops, Confederate, raised at Waco, Tex., and left Waco under Capt. Ed Ryan, on July 21, 1861, for Virginia. At Marlin several Falls County boys joined, among them the writer, the company reaching Richmond, September 1 1, 1861. This was one of thirty companies raised in the State destined for the seat of

war. Each company had one hundred men. They assembled at Harris- burg and, after three weeks' drilling, were formally enlisted to serve three years, or "endurin o' de wah."

Gov. Frank Lubbock, as the representative of the then infant Confederacy, officiated when these companies became a part of the army to be under the afterwards immortal Lee. We were armed with all sorts of guns except the modern (at that time) arms of war. We entrained on flat cars at Houston for Beaumont, and on the way it was common to hear the report of guns, as the alligators were plentiful along the railroad track; so these braves made war on those innocent creatures as their first exercise in war.

Leaving Beaumont on boat for Sabine Pass, thence up that stream to a place east of Orange, we landed on the Louisiana side. New Orleans was the objective, one hundred and sixty miles—rather New Iberia—that distance to walk. This accomplished, we gladly were soon afloat for the city. Here we encamped in a warehouse to await the rail trip to Richmond. Here at New Orleans was the first time I ever heard ' 'Dixie. " Two little Italian boys with violins played the air that was to be the war cry, the classic, of the Confederacy, and to go down the ages as long as music attunes the soldier's step or patriotism calls to defenders of hearth and home.

A short stay at Knoxville, Tenn, where we saw General Zollicoffer for the first and last time, as he fell at Fishing Creek early in the war. Then all aboard again for Richmond, for the first time viewing across the James that historic place, ever dear to the Confederate heart. Here we were incorporated into Company E, 4th Texas Regiment, and the Lone Star Guards became a thing of the past—as a name. We had a uniform of gray. Captain Ryan, being a merchant of Waco, had gone before hostilities to New York and had the buttons of our jackets show in raised letters, " L. S. G."

About the first sight we were treated to was the Yankee prisoners confined in Libby Prison. These fellows were taken at the First Battle of Manassas. Among them was Congress- man W. W. Corcoran,

of New York, who, it was said, came out from Washington in his buggy to see the rebels thrashed. The Corcoran Library was his contribution to the great things at Washington.

After two months in training camp near Richmond, early in the fall of 1861 (November 20), the brigade was ordered to join the Army of Northern Virginia, then facing the Union army at Centerville. It was given out that an engagement was imminent, but this turned out to be a false alarm after we reached the line on the Potomac. We marched a great part of the way, and our position was on the right wing of the army at Dumfries, some thirty miles down the line from Centerville.

Here we went into winter quarters and saw little but the prosy camp life all that winter of 1861-62. We were then under Gen. Joe Johnston. In March (9th) we took up march to Yorktown, quite a change of base, where the Federal General McClellan expected to either capture the rebel army cooped up in the peninsula, or compel its retreat to the Chickahominy River, a stream bent around Richmond, some seven miles from the Confederate capital.

On May 5, 1862, the retreat of our army from about Yorktown began, and here the Texas brigade was given—as the word came to the ranks—the post of honor—that is to say, the post of danger—to be the rear guard of the army. But, after an all day's march, as we passed through Williamsburg, another command took our place as rear guard, and before any sign of pursuit by the enemy as far as we could see. Several miles after this change, that same evening, the enemy overtook and attacked the force left behind, and here the bloody battle of Williamsburg took place. Thus we escaped, unintentionally, a trial of arms with the enemy. As we were still in the peninsula, we were hurried forward to meet an expected attack at Eltham's Landing, where the enemy did disembark from his gunboats, and a small engagement took place. Instead of cutting off our retreat, they were too late. There I saw the first blood shed in our brigade. After one day here, the Federals betook themselves to their

boats, and our march was continued to the north side of the Chickahominy.

On May 30, our brigade was to "act the part" at the severe battle of Seven Pines. Where again, after occupying the part of the line of battle assigned to us on and along the York River Railroad, we were not engaged. All the fighting of this battle of Seven Pines was a half mile or so to our left. However, here we had a scene. While we were standing there awaiting orders, President Davis and Postmaster General Reagan rode up in our rear, all unheralded. At this juncture a member of our company, one Fitzhugh, threw up his cap and hollowed: "Hurrah for General Reagan!" When to the surprise of Fitzhugh, as well as the rest of us, a fusillade of musketry was discharged by the Yankee troops lying opposite to us on the other side of the railroad. As the enemy didn't take aim or didn't see us through the thick brush between, it was a bloodless demonstration, with one exception. At the command for us to lie down, Sam Chambers, a private at my side, hit the ground so hard that he stuck a stubble in his chin. I saw him feeling of his chin and looking at the blood. I asked Sam if he was wounded, and he had to admit how it occurred. This was all the blood spilled by the brigade at the battle of Seven Pines.

Returning to our camp, after wading in some deep water, it seemed miles the way we went, all was quiet again. Following this, on June 11, 1862, we were ordered to march, and here began one of General Lee's admirable plans to deceive the enemy. (General Johnston was disabled in the engagement just mentioned and was succeeded by the immortal Lee.) I said orders to march! We came back to the city and entrained to the Shenandoah Valley to join Stonewall Jackson, this to make the Federals believe it was another aim to capture Washington. A few days there, and we took up march back to Richmond by another route than we had come. Jackson was to come with his army and attack simultaneously with General Lee to drive McClellan out of the position he held on the Chickahominy. This ruse of General Lee's was an eminent success.

On our return by this circuitous route, on June 26, 1862, in the afternoon, we could hear the booming of cannon, which was the attack from the Richmond side of the Chickahominy, at what was known as the battle of Mechanicsville, the first of the seven days' battles. By night we were in the neighborhood, so to speak, of the battlefield, and were ordered to sleep on our arms. The night was quiet, but the following day, after being maneuvered all day, we had retreated to Powhite Creek, the stream that turned the wheels of Gaines's mill. Late in the evening the brigade was marching we did not know where. A cannon ball came crashing through the trees and struck a few steps ahead of our company with a terrific crash. Word came to us that it took off Jim Smiley's head. There was no halt at that. Soon we were wading through the mill pond above the mill. On and up to high ground, where the field officers were in waiting. Here was the Telegraph Road. On this road our army seemed to be forming for the assault on the entrenched Federals.

We were wheeled to the right and went a short distance, stopped, and were lined up, as if on dress parade. About seven o'clock P.M., facing the west, eight hundred yards in our front, the battle was and had been raging for hours, our forces trying to dislodge Fitzjohn Porter from his strongly fortified position, having two or three lines, one above the other, opposite the Confederate assaulting line.

Through the open field we began the charge to take the place of the line in our front, to relieve them.

We had orders not to fire a gun, and when we got to our men lying flat on the ground, I passed by a fellow who looked up, with such an expression of relief overspreading his face! Up he jumped and away he retreated. I had no time to turn to see him run.

Right here I fired, I believe, my first shot at a Yank, and in an instant came the order to fix bayonets. I could see the Yanks begin to leave their lines and run, and this was the occasion for a rebel yell. On and across the little branchlike creek the Texas brigade followed the routed enemy. By the time I got to where the enemy had been holding the Confederate

line for hours, I was struck down by a ball, a wound in the head and another in quick succession in my left arm, shattering the bone near the shoulder. I lay where I fell for several hours. Later a comrade, Billy Dunklin, found me and aided me to the field hospital in the rear.

(continued next month)

BET YA DIDN'T KNOW!



Black Union soldiers refused their salaries for 18 months to protest being paid lower wages than white soldiers.

When Black soldiers began signing up with the Union Army in early 1863, they were paid \$10 a month. White soldiers were paid at least \$13, with officers earning more. Blacks were further insulted when only they were charged a \$3 monthly fee for clothing, lowering their pay to \$7. As a result, the highest-paid Black soldier earned about half the lowest-paid white soldier's salary. To protest these conditions, Black regiments refused to accept their inferior wages. Finally, pressure from abolitionist congressmen coupled with the courage Black soldiers had shown in combat persuaded Congress to rectify the pay structure. In September 1864, Black soldiers finally received equal pay that was retroactive to their enlistment date. For many, this

meant they finally had enough money to send some home to their families.



Originally entitled "Yankee Doodle," this is one of several versions of a scene painted by A. M. Willard that came to be known as The Spirit of '76. Often imitated or parodied, it is a familiar symbol of American patriotism.

The men and women who lived in the Southern states before 1861 had always enjoyed a grand celebration of the 4th of July. Considering the Southern contribution to the cause of liberty, it seemed only natural to do so. The colonial states from the South had furnished some of the most outstanding leaders of the War for Independence. The guerrilla-fighting Scotch Irish of Appalachia turned the tide of the war at the Battle of King's Mountain. The Southern state of Virginia gave America the author of the Declaration of Independence, Thomas Jefferson. Virginia also contributed the most outstanding leader in the history of the United States, Gen. George Washington.

On Southern soil, the victory over British general Charles Cornwallis occurred when he surrendered to General Washington at Yorktown on October 19, 1781. After the war, the South contributed the nation's first president, George Washington, and went on to provide nine of the first 12 Presidents of the United States: Jefferson (VA), Madison (VA), Monroe (VA), Jackson (SC), Harrison (VA), Tyler (VA), Polk (NC), and Taylor (VA).

When secession came in 1861, the Southern people were proud of their contributions to the struggle for American self-government. As an expression of that perspective, as the two nations began to move toward hostilities, most Southerners felt they would be fighting a second war for independence; against an oppressive United States, that no longer represented their values and rights. Their attitude was no different than that of their brave colonial forefathers who had stood against the King of England for many of the same reasons. This feeling was so strong concerning the principles of the American Revolution that the Confederacy's first national flag closely resembled that of their former countrymen to the North. They, too, loved the red, white, and blue.

When the War Between the States began, the Confederacy continued to celebrate the 4th of July in many cities and towns across Dixie. To the South, the feeling was that the day brought a time to stress the Founding Fathers' principles and less about its current relationship with the United States. As the years went by and the cost of the war came to bear on the homes, the treasury, and the blood which was sacrificed to defend against the Yankees, many Southern communities reduced or eliminated celebrations on July 4th. The 1863 battlefield losses at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, and specifically at Vicksburg—where the defending Confederate Army surrendered on July 4th—all but eliminated the annual celebration. It would be 81 long years before the city of Vicksburg, Mississippi, would celebrate the 4th of July again. It took the end of World War II in Europe to finally bring about the holiday celebration again on the 4th of July 1945.

It is well documented that throughout American history, Southerners have had a proud heritage of fighting for freedom, the right to self-determination, and to be left alone to establish an individual's pursuit of happiness; principles that were reflected in the original purposes for the celebration of the 4th of July and remain cherished by Southerners to this day.

W. Michael Hurley, the Texas Division Commander, is an avid lover of history and genealogy. A 12th-generation Southern American, he is active in several military heritage organizations and historical societies.

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TRIVIAL PURSUIT ANSWERS!

1. Brigadier General Hamilton P Bee (b. South Carolina) After the war, he was steward & superintendent of the A&M College farm. He is buried in the Confederate Cemetery in San Antonio.
2. Brig General Henry Lewis Benning (Ft Benning, southeast of Columbus GA)
- 3..Braxton Bragg (b. North Carolina)

A SOLDIER'S PRAYER

I asked God for strength, that I might achieve.
I was made weak that I might learn humbly to obey.

I asked for health, that I might do greater things.
 I was given infirmity, that I might do greater things.
 I asked for riches, that I might be happy.
 I was given poverty, that I might be wise.
 I asked for power, that I might have the praise of
 men.
 I was given weakness, that I might feel the need of
 God.
 I asked for all things, that I might enjoy life.
 I was given life, that I might enjoy all things.
 I got nothing that I asked for, but everything I
 hoped for.
 Almost despite myself, my prayers were answered.
 I am among all people, most richly blessed.

Unknown Confederate Soldier

LETTER TO THE SMITHSONIAN MAGAZINE, REFUTING THE FALSE CLAIMS ABOUT THE "FORT PILLOW MASSACRE"



A hand-colored 1892 print of the Battle of Fort Pillow

Dear Smithsonian Magazine,

Indoctrination is leaking out. But that's okay, it needs to leak out. You need to purge it out with the truth. The truth of our history is not taught in our government indoctrination centers (public schools) or in the Marxist propaganda factories (universities). The "Ft. Pillow Massacre" is but another lie in the long list of lies regurgitated from the Yankee fairy tales of "history". If you actually want the truth, you will find it here below.

Nathan Bedford Forrest and the Battle of Fort Pillow: *Yankee Myth, Confederate Fact.* by Lochlainn Seabrook

Yankee historians delight in calling Confederate General Nathan Bedford Forrest "the Butcher of Fort Pillow," claiming that he instigated a "racist massacre" of surrendering black Union troops during the battle at Henning, Tennessee, on April 12, 1864. But is this true? Of course not. It is merely the North's fabricated version, one based not on reality, but on opinion, nescience, emotion, socialism, presentism, spite, and an anti-South bias that is still very much alive to this day. For those who are interested in the truth about the conflict, award-winning historian and Forrest scholar Lochlainn Seabrook has written "Nathan Bedford Forrest and the Battle of Fort Pillow: Yankee Myth, Confederate Fact." This brief but comprehensive investigation blows the lid off what pro-North writers like to refer to as a "controversy," but which was in fact nothing more than an ordinary fight in which an overwhelming force (2,500 racially integrated Confederates) assaulted an indefensible fort filled with belligerent drunken soldiers (600 racially segregated Yankees) who re-fused to surrender in the face of impossible odds. Excerpted from Mr. Seabrook's popular title "A Rebel Born: A Defense of Nathan Bedford Forrest," the book contains dozens of pages of new material, along with rare photos and illustrations, maps, details concerning the origins of the battle and the charges against Forrest, official reports, and important eyewitness accounts by those at the scene. Also included: an index, bibliography, and reference notes. This book, which helps restore Forrest's reputation after being unfairly tarnished by 150 years

of slander, falsehoods, and anti-South propaganda, is a must-read for all those who are in search of the truth about "Nathan Bedford Forrest and the Battle of Fort Pillow." For the traditional South Mr. Seabrook's work represents the final word on the matter. Civil War scholar Lochlainn Seabrook, a descendant of the families of Alexander H. Stephens and John S. Mosby, is the most prolific and popular pro-South writer in the world today. Known as the "new Shelby Foote," he is a recipient of the prestigious Jefferson Davis Historical Gold Medal and the author of over 45 books.

<http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/194373710X?ie=UTF8&creativeASIN=194373710X&linkCode=xm2&tag=souhernewvie-20>

FT. PILLOW

Only two weeks after the battle, a U.S. Congressional inquiry could not conclusively determine exactly what happened. Both sides failed to control the action, and only Forrest's direct, personal intervention to stop the shooting saved many of the Union defenders left standing on the beach. Not satisfied with the Congressional inquiry, Union General William T. Sherman convened a not-so-impartial inquiry. He openly stated that he would try and convict General Forrest. However, Sherman's inquiry also ended without substantive evidence to find Forrest culpable.

Northern newspapers criticizing Forrest's effort "to explain away the Fort Pillow affair," however, seem especially disingenuous since the sensationalist accounts by the partisan Northern press bears a large share of the burden for creating and perpetuating the "massacre" claim in the first place. Forrest always disputed claims that his Fort Pillow victory was a "massacre." Any fair-minded judgment as to whether it was truly the racism-inspired, premeditated massacre claimed by the Northern press and Union leaders at the time must also take into consideration the inevitable confusion of desperate, hand-to-hand combat and the many contributing factors that created and exacerbated the disastrous Union rout.

Of course, wartime events concerning Forrest cannot be considered in a vacuum - he has become unfairly associated with the actions of the KKK. Again, a bit of digging instead of accepting "flat earth history" will give the intellectually honest person a different perspective. – Gene Hogan

The history of the War of Northern Aggression was rewritten to cover up the war crimes of Lincoln, Sheridan, Sherman, Grant, Hunter, Cody, and others, and to paint the false picture of the North being the very definition of "virtue and righteousness", while slandering the South and making it out to be the villain. For more than 150 years a false version of history has been force-fed into the minds of Americans. Is it any wonder why we are seeing the cultural genocide of all things Southern and Confederate taking place? Now, the Reconciliation Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery is on the chopping block for destruction, thanks to "Pocahontas" Elizabeth Warren and the Naming Commission, none of whom have the minutest concept of knowledge concerning the truth of our history. The entire collection of their brains could be deposited in a thimble and it would be like marbles in a one million gallon oil storage tank. They are the epitome of what is wrong with this country.

The truth is out there, but it takes a little effort to grasp it, which seems to be far too much for the average recipient of government indoctrination to exert. Such persons seem quite content just to wallow in their ignorance and spew out the accepted false narrative. It is way past time that the true accounts of the War of Northern Aggression be presented in the mainstream, but that will never happen as long as the communists control the media. Those of us who know the truth shall continue to defend our heritage and put the truth out there in response to attacks on our ancestors and the just cause for which they fought. (No, it had nothing to do with slavery.)

Unreconstructed, Jeff Paulk



BET YA DIDN'T KNOW!



Robert E. Lee's Virginia estate was confiscated by the Union and turned into a cemetery during the war.

As war descended on Virginia, Lee and his wife Mary fled their 1,100-acre Virginia estate, known as Arlington, which overlooked Washington, D.C. In 1863 the U.S. government confiscated it for nonpayment of \$92.07 in taxes. Meanwhile, Lincoln gave permission for a cemetery to be built on the property, including a burial vault on the estate's former rose garden. The idea was that, should Lee ever return, he would "have to look at these graves and see the carnage that he had created," according to his biographer Elizabeth Brown Pryor. After the war, the Lees quietly looked into reclaiming Arlington but took no action before they died. In 1877 their oldest son, George Washington Custis Lee, sued the federal government for confiscating Arlington illegally; the Supreme Court agreed and gave it back to him. But what could the Lee family do with an estate littered with corpses? George Lee

sold it back to the government for \$150,000. Over time, 250,000 soldiers would be buried in what is now Arlington National Cemetery.

SHARING FROM DEFENDING THE HERITAGE



This magnificent bronze statue was unceremoniously removed from the campus of Dixie State College years ago... Someone was offended ...

"The sculptor was inspired to create this beautiful work of art by the poem "Two Little Boys". The poem tells of two little boys who played soldiers together and one of their stick horses broke so the other little boy offered to "save" him by pulling him up behind him on his stick horse. Time passed and the War broke out and the two happened to be on the same battlefield and the one who had previously offered the ride on the stick horse was wounded and horseless. The little boy who had been "saved" rode over as an adult to return the favor."

~†Joe Reynolds†~

Should I keep Publishing this Newsletter??? Joe

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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.

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