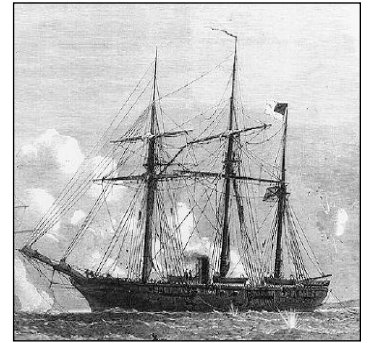


January 2014

The Admiral's Log

Sons of Confederate Veterans
1211 Government St., Mobile, AL 36604
Raphael Semmes Camp 11



Dear Friends and Compatriots of Camp 11,

Greetings and salutations from Camp 11. I certainly hope and pray that this edition of the Log finds all of you doing well.

We finally have some cold weather. I hope all of you have survived it. I am always amazed how the talking weather heads in the media try to come up with new ways to describe plain old cold weather. Arctic Vortex is their newest catch phrase.

Well another month is gone. It went by too fast but we have had a good Confederate month with our commemorations to Generals Lee and Jackson. I would be remiss if I did not mention that the ancestor of our beloved Compatriot Jessie Taylor also celebrates a birthday in January. General Richard Taylor was born on January 27th, 1826. Happy birthday General Taylor!

I knew that when Commander Ringhoffer wrangled Compatriot David Toifel into being our Lee/Jackson speaker we were in for a treat. None of us were disappointed with David's address. Thank you Compatriot Toifel. To quote Compatriot Stephen Ellison, "Wasn't it a glorious day?"

I was especially happy to see the two young boys posted near the podium during the ceremony. William Wolfgang Lee and Aiden McCray are the grandchildren of Compatriot Ken Wyatt. It is always a blessing to see youngsters at our camp events. We could write an entire dissertation on the importance of teaching the Heritage to our youth. We appreciate the efforts of all our members who reach out to our future.

I must send out a thank you to Compatriots Claude Turberville and Dustin Marshall for participating in the Blakeley Camp Lee/Jackson Banquet. On the same night, January 11th, I was in my hometown of Grenada, Mississippi, presenting a program for the General E. C. Walthall SCV Camp Lee/Jackson Banquet. On January 25th I visited the Simpson Mounted Rangers UDC Chapter in Milton, Florida. It was good to see some old friends as well as to make some new ones. Compatriot Joe Dupree has been out there as well. He did his usual good job organizing the Lee/Jackson Salute. He has also delivered a program to our local UDC chapter and will be our speaker at the next camp meeting on January 27th. A hearty thank you goes out to all of you who represent our camp at other venues.

On January 18th we had our first 3rd Saturday Living History at Beauvoir for 2014. I met up there with some of our Mississippi compatriots where we had a good fellowship and met a number of good

folks who appreciated the Heritage. In spite of the cool air we had gorgeous Gulf Coast day at Beauvoir.

Then on January 23rd Matilda and I went for a visit with the fourth graders at St. Luke's Episcopal Elementary School. Now that was a blast! Compatriot Mike Riley's wife, Susan, is a fourth grade teacher there. She and I finalized our plans for the visit at the Lee/Jackson Salute. The presentation was well received and the students were enthusiastic. It just does not get any better than that.

REMEMBER: This month we will hold our meeting at the Dew Drop Inn on Old Shell Road. We hope to see many of you there at 7pm sharp.

Once again I have to report sad news. Compatriot Ken Stanton crossed over to the other side of the river on January 17th. Our camp and the Confederation have truly lost a friend to the Heritage. It is the prayer of our camp that Ken's family will find comfort during this time of loss with the help of the Holy Spirit. Ken will be missed.

Dear friends, do not underestimate the power of prayer. Please be vigilant in your prayers for our camp and its members.

Terry W. "Beetle" Bailey
Editor, The Admiral's Log

A Sesquicentennial Moment, January, 1864

January 1st: The South is in the grip of winter. Temperatures fall below zero as far south as Memphis.

January 3rd: After two and a half years of war the Confederate economy continues to collapse. Food shortages are common throughout the South.

January 7th: Desertions from the Army of the Potomac is now a severe problem.

January 8th: David O. Dodd is convicted of being a Confederate spy and hanged in Little Rock.

January 19th: In a cornfield belonging to William Ruffin Smith, the ironclad "Albemarle" begins to take shape.

January 21st: Due to a shortage of grain Ohio authorities ban the distillation of whiskey.[What a shame!]

[Source: "1400 Days The US Civil War Day By Day"]

WBTS Usage

Huckleberry cavalry: The Missouri State Guard, many of whom eventually joined the Confederate army.

Gump: a fool or dolt

Fresh meat: a five year cadet at West Point.

Freight train: an incoming projectile. The term referred to a shell in flight.

[Source: The Encyclopedia of Civil War Usage by Webb Garrison]

Key Weapons of the WBTS: River Gunboats

While ironclads fought for possession of Confederate harbors, gunboats fought for possession of Confederate held rivers. A few had light iron armor but many were actually protected by "armor" made from cotton bales. The armor had to be light so that the vessels did not draw too much water to navigate shallow rivers and inlets. Although the Confederates managed to construct a few gunboats, they relied mainly on shore-based batteries to guard their navigable rivers.

The North built or converted dozens of gunboats. They played a vital role in the war in the Western Theater. Union gunboats assisted in the capture of Forts Henry and Donelson in February 1862, then exploited these victories by raiding far up the Tennessee and Cumberland rivers, which the forts had been built to defend. They were crucial to the Union army's campaign against Vicksburg, Mississippi, in 1862.

[Source: "The Civil War Day by Day" by Phillip Katcher]

Confederate Birthdays

Alexander Travis Hawthorn was born near Evergreen, in Conecuh County, Alabama, January 10, 1825, and was educated at Evergreen Academy and Mercer University in that state. He then studied law at Yale University for two years, from 1846 to 1847, and located in Camden, Arkansas, where he commenced his practice. When the 6th Arkansas Infantry was organized in 1861, he was elected its lieutenant colonel. By the spring of 1862 he had been appointed colonel of the gallant regiment, which he led at the battle of Shiloh, up to that time the greatest conflict of arms that the New World had ever seen. The soldiers of the South stormed and captured the camp of the victors of Fort Donelson, drove them in complete rout to the protection of their gunboats, and, had not the advance been stayed, would probably have annihilated the army of Grant before Buell could get to its assistance. After Shiloh, the 6th Arkansas was reorganized and re-elected officers in accordance with the April 25, 1862 Conscription Act. Hawthorn was not re-elected, and was reassigned to Arkansas in the Department of the Trans-Mississippi. When the large army of Grant and his powerful fleet were besieging Vicksburg, General Holmes was ordered by Kirby Smith to create a diversion, if possible, in favor of Pemberton, by attacking the strong post of Helena, Ark. This was done, but without success. During the joint campaign against Banks and Steele, in April, 1864, Hawthorn, who on the 28th of February, 1864, had been commissioned brigadier-general, led a brigade (consisting of the 29th, 34th, and 35th Arkansas regiments) in the division of General T.J. Churchill, and made a gallant fight at Jenkins' Ferry, April 30th, during a fierce engagement of several hours' duration. He continued in command of his brigade, under General Churchill, until the close of hostilities.

General Hawthorn emigrated to Brazil after the demise of the Confederacy, but returned to the United States in 1874 and engaged in business in Atlanta. Six years later General Hawthorn entered the Baptist ministry and was ordained, after which he lived in Texas until his death, on May 31, 1899, in Dallas. He is buried in Greenwood Cemetery at Marshall, Texas.

Source: Copied from website <http://www.civilwarhistory.com/010600/othergenerals.htm> that chronicles the history of Arkansas's Confederate history.

Quotes from the Heroes

"I used to have some Christian feeling towards Yankees, but now that they have invaded our country and killed so many of our men and desecrated so many homes, I can't believe that when Christ said "Love your enemies," he meant Yankees. Of course I don't want their souls to be lost, for that would be wicked..." Eliza Frances Andrews in "Thee War-Time Journal of a Georgia Girl 1864-1865"

"If it is a crime to love the South, its cause, and it's President, then I am a criminal. I am in your power; do with me as you please. But I fear you not. I would rather lie down in this prison and die, than to leave it owing allegiance to such a government as yours." Isabella "Belle" Boyd

Two Anecdotes of General Lee

By Walter B. Barker.

The life and character of so noble a man as General Robert E. Lee is a theme that none but our greatest minds should discuss in public or in private, but with your permission the writer, who held an humble position on the staff of Brigadier General Jos. R. Davis, of Mississippi, (nephew of Jefferson Davis), in the Army of Northern Virginia, will relate two little incidents which happened at the "Battle of the Wilderness.":

On the eve of the 5th of May General Lee, with General Stuart, rode to the front, where Stuart's cavalry had encountered the advance of the Federal army. As they rode through the infantry, then awaiting orders, passing a farm house, three young ladies stood at the gate of the residence, holding

a package, which from his gallantry, or good looks, or both, they entrusted to Capt. E.P. Thompson (nephew of Jake Thompson, and now a Mississippi editor), of General Davis's staff, with the request that he deliver the same to General Lee. It contained three handsomely embroidered colored merino over shirts, very much worn in the army. Capt. Thompson at once rode forward to overtake the General, who had by this time reached within range of the shots from Grant's skirmishers, and while under fire tendered the gift as from the ladies. General Lee, with his usual self-possession and courteous bearing, said to Capt. T.: "Return my warmest thanks to the ladies, and be kind enough to deliver the package to one of my couriers: say that I trust I may see and thank them in person.

Early on the morning of the 6th, Grant, who had massed a heavy force in the immediate front of Davis's Mississippi brigade, opened fire and began a forward movement on our lines at this point. Seeing we were unable to check their advance, Colonel Stone (since Governor of Mississippi), commanding Davis's brigade, sent word to General Heth, division commander, that he must be reinforced, which brought to our aid a division of Longstreet's corps, led in person by that able Lieutenant General. It was at this critical crisis that General Lee appeared upon the scene. After the enemy had been repulsed on the right, and while our chieftain was awaiting, in painful anxiety, information from our left wing, a courier — a mere youth — came dashing up with a message from Lieutenant General R.H. Anderson, his small pony panting like a deer that had been pursued by a pack of trained hounds. Delivering his sealed message to General Lee in person, who, after reading it, noticing how tired his pony was, said to him: "Young man, you should have some feeling for your horse; dismount and rest him!" at the same time taking from the small saddlebags attached to his own saddle a buttered biscuit, giving half of it, from his own hand, to the young courier's pony. This act of consideration for the dumb beast made a lasting impression upon my then youthful mind, and taught me ever since to treat all animals as if they had feelings as ourselves. At the moment it occurred to me, hungry as I was, that he had better have divided his biscuit with the rider of the animals, or myself; but I soon appreciated the motive of his hospitality to the poor beast, and, as before stated, learned a lesson in kindness to animals I shall not soon forget.

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[Editor's Note: My newest hero, Pvt. Samuel H. Hankins, Co. E 2nd Mississippi Regiment of Infantry, served under General Davis and Colonel Stone]

Charge to the Sons of Confederate Veterans

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, 25 April 1906**