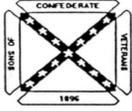
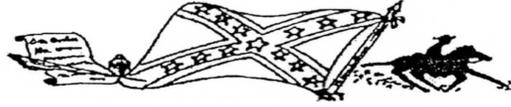


Jones County Rosin Heels



ROSIN HEELS DISPATCH



SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

1861

DEO VINDICE

1865

May

2013

CELEBRATING THE SESQUICENTENNIAL OF THE WAR FOR SOUTHERN INDEPENDENCE

Doug Jefcoat - Commander - 601-425-5485
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Don Green - 1st Lt. Commander - 1-601-270-5316
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Billy Langley - Quartermaster - 601-425-4845

Adjutant - Cotton Norris - 601-426-2949
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THE CHARGE GIVEN BY GENERAL STEPHEN D. LEE 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"

ALERT! ALERT! ALERT!



OK gang, here it is, the news y'all have been anxiously waiting for. We have a meeting this month at Western Sizzlin'!! Now you can breath easier! Yes, and to add to this, Joe Cospers and our very own Rev. Glen Holifield are going to pay for everyone's supper that night. LOL! Don't hold your breath! By the way, we do have a speaker; Mike

Biezer from Vicksburg, who is an SCV member and a long time reenactor. He will tell us about the Battle of Perryville Ky., in which the 27th Miss. Infantry fought and Captain Amos McLemore, "Old Rosin Heel" himself was wounded. The Battle of Perryville was the largest action fought in Kentucky (Second only to The Battle of Fishing Creek) and we should learn a lot of good information from Mike. **7PM at Western Sizzlin'**. Come early, bring a friend/potential member!

UPCOMING EVENTS

NEWTON DEPOT

150th Anniversary of History of Newton Station

On May 25th, our camp has been invited to Newton, MS., to set up a display like we did during Pinefest at Landrum's Homestead. The event will begin at 10AM. At 11AM there will be a service at the old hospital with a color guard present. Between that service until 3PM we will be able to talk to folks about what we have displayed and give them our information papers to take with them. At 3PM there will be a service at the Dolittle Cemetery with a color guard needed there also. After this service, the day's events will be completed. This event is sponsored by the Newton SCV camp. **DIRECTION: Traveling on Hwy. 15 North until you see the first exit to Newton. Take a left and go past Southern Pine, continue over railroad tracks and past an old hospital, then next building on the right is the old depot.**

MISSISSIPPI DIVISION REUNION

This year's host camp is The Lowry Rifles located in Pearl, MS. This year's event will be held on June 21 - 23. All registered SCV members will receive a name badge, a convention medal, a program, and a bag of goodies. Registration at the door will receive the same as long as supplies last. This is a time for meeting other compatriots from various parts of the state and to experience how our division goes about handling the business for state division.

GOOD NEWS AND CONTINUED PRAYER

Cotton Norris's mother, Esther Norris, has recovered and is back at the nursing home in Collins. His mother-in-law is about the same age and Cotton's wife, Sandra, is having to spend 2-3 nights with her mother each week. Also Sandra is going through shoulder therapy for a rotator that is giving her pain. Let's be in prayer for Cotton's family and rejoice for his mother's recovery. If anyone is in need of prayer for themselves or family and friends, please let our camp chaplain, Glen Holifield 601-729-2535 or George Jaynes 601-649-1867 or 428-5570 know so that it can be included in our camp newsletter.

MUCH NEEDED PRAYER

Andy Salassi, one of our camp members who lives in Jackson, has been diagnosed with stage 4 cancer of the colon, and liver. He and Pat, his wife need our prayers. Andy and Pat have been re-enacting for many

years and have been a member of camp 227 also for a long time. Pat's father just passed away recently, so she is still dealing with that loss. Andy is doing well and will begin chemo in 4 weeks with 70% chance of that being successful. So please put them on your personal prayer list and even your church prayer list.

NEW MEMBERS

Mr. Christopher G. Sumrall of Laurel, joins on the service of his great-great-grandfather, Elisha Sumrall, from Wayne County Miss. He was a private in Company I, 36th Reg. Ala. Volunteers. He died on June 6, 1862.

Mr. Glenn L. Sumrall joins our ranks on the same gentleman, Elisha Sumrall, as his son Mr. Christopher G. Sumrall has done.

We welcome this father and son to the Jones County Rosin Heels. These two men are just two of the several men that have joined our camp in recent weeks and we thank God for being blessed by the great influx of new compatriots. We, the members that have been a part of this camp for many years need to be a good example for these that have just joined. They need to know that we are there for them when they have questions and let them know they have the right to put forth their opinion at anytime about any situation. There is always room for improvement and these new members may just have some ideas that we have overlooked. So gentlemen. Welcome to our ranks!!!

FINAL EDITION OF MS CONFEDERATE

FLAG BOOK

By Larry Hawkins



Dear Compatriots & Southern Enthusiasts:

Compatriot Larry Hawkins of the Tennessee Division has spent the last twelve years documenting the Confederate flags used by Mississippians during the War of Northern Aggression.

He has just published the second, expanded, and final edition of "*Flags Used By Mississippi During the War Between the States,*" and that book is now available from Larry.

All proceeds and all research materials will be given to either the conservation of MS CS flags in the MS Dept. Of Archives and History's collection OR to "Beauvoir" last home of President Jefferson Davis.

Mr. Hawkins will not profit one red, Lincoln-debased cent from his decades of effort on behalf of our ancestors.

I am asking each and every one of you to please support this noble cause and purchase a copy or two of Larry's book.

Buy a copy for yourself or your Camp, and purchase a copy for your local library or genealogy center or local history society or local museum.

They would make excellent Christmas or birthday gifts, or a very special "thank you" gift for your Camp's Commander or other deserving Camp Officer.

Every Camp in Mississippi, certainly, should have a copy in its Camp library or records.

The books are \$45 (hardback), plus \$5 shipping or \$32 (softback), plus \$3 for shipping.

Orders may be mailed to:

Larry Hawkins
5597 Fair Cove
Memphis, TN 38115-2316
Make checks to: Larry Hawkins

Mr. Hawkins is a Mississippi native and at this moment a member of the TN. Division SCV.

This info was forwarded to us by Jim Huffman
MS Division Adj. Thank you Mr. Jim.
huffman1234@bellsouth.net

BARKSDALE'S CHARGE

The True High Tide of the Confederacy at Gettysburg

I wanted to let you know about an important and ground-breaking new book that celebrates William Barksdale and his Mississippi boys. As you know, this is a great story, and long overdue about the heroics of Mississippians who almost won it all at Gettysburg, so this is a most timely story with 150th anniversary of the battle of Gettysburg drawing near. Fortunately, we were able to get Mr. Troiani's finest painting for the cover. Assistance in helping to spread the word about this important new book would be much appreciated. Sincerely - Philip Thomas Tucker, PhD

If you order through Amazon.com you pay \$18.72 - save \$14.23

POWDER & CAPS

At our last camp meeting we voted to buy two cases of powder and one case of caps. CoCo and George are going to drive over to Marksville, LA. to buy all the goodies and it will save the camp a \$100 on shipping.

This way CoCo will have enough money where he can automatically buy more powder and caps. We don't know what Harry Reid and all those other idiots in Washington have planned for the sale of gun powder. So we need to stay ahead of the game as much as possible. Speaking of staying ahead, we need to discuss something that CoCo has thought about. If something should happen to him, we still need a couple of our men to be able to buy the powder and caps in bulk. CoCo has some papers he has received from the ATF and we need to discuss this matter at our next camp meeting.

"END WHITE FOLK GUILT"

By H. K. Edgerton

April 13th, 2013

Under the mellowing influence of time and occasional demonstrations at the North of a desire for the restoration of peace and good will, the Southern people have forgotten much--- have forgiven much of the wrongs they and their ancestors bore. If it be less so (and it is) among their invaders and their siblings, it is but another example of the rule that the wrong doer is less able to forgive than he who has suffered causeless wrong.

There was no surrender at Appomattox, and no withdrawal from the theater of war which committed our people and their children to a heritage of shame and dishonor. No cowardice on any battlefield could be as base and shameful as the silent acquiescence in the scheme which continues relentlessly teaching our children in homes and schools that the economic institution of slavery was the cause for the War for Southern Independence, that the prisoners of war held in the South were starved and treated with a barbarous inhumanity, that the Honorable President Jefferson Davis and the Honorable General Robert E. Lee were traitors to their country and false to their oaths, that the young men who left everything to resist the illegal invasion of their homeland, and climbed the slopes at Gettysburg and died willingly on a hundred fields were rebels against a righteous government.

Monstrous violations by the Union army were not attempted to be palliated by them, or even covered by pretext. These were open, avowed and notorious; the general sacking of private houses - the pillaging of money, plate, jewels and other light articles of value, with the destruction of books, works of art, paintings, pictures, private manuscripts and family relics, the hostile acts directly against property of all kinds, as

well as outrages upon non-combatants (Black & White) to the laying waste of whole sections of country; the attempted annihilation of all necessities of life; to the wanton killing of farm stock and domestic animals; the burning of mills, factories, and barns, with their contents of grain and forage, not sparing orchards or growing crops, or the implements of husbandry; the mutilation of county and municipal records of great value, the extraordinary efforts made to stir up servile insurrections, involving the wide spread slaughter of old men, women and children, the impious profanation of temples of worship, and even the brutish desecration of the sanctuaries of the dead.

All these enormities of a savage character against the very existence of civilized society, and so revolting to the natural sentiments of mankind, in open violation of modern usages of mankind in putting down the so called rebellion (Texas v. White), The War Between the States.

The ancestors of those Northern invaders here in the 21st century, just as their kin, come South seeking injury to the peoples of the South and their own profit, with a motivation to convince all man, especially our Southern babies, that the South was made up of tactless people given to acting without deliberation or caution, and deluded by bad men, who attempted in an illegal and wicked manner to overthrow the Union. And that the Southern soldier, however brave, was aroused by no higher motive than the desire to retain the economic institution of slavery. And truly believed that once the world was convinced of this, they would hold the South degraded rather than worthy of honor, and that our children instead of revering their ancestors would be openly ashamed.

They now seek to carry out this facade not by the aid of armed soldiers, but through the active employ poverty pimps, public schools, the judiciary, politicians, Southern scalawags and their organizations. The whole force of journalists, poets, orators, and writers of all sorts are employed in their unholy cause, especially Northern history makers whose books are now in the hands of Southern children.

The history of the human race furnishes no like example of men who, by their own action, have so exposed their children; to men who unconstrained have dishonored the graves and memories of their dead. Our own people have aided and are still aiding with all the insistence of damned and daily school-room iteration in the work of teaching these malignant falsehoods to Southern children, in the work of so representing a

brave people to the world of today and the ages to come.

The details of horror heaped upon the region of the South and its civilian non-combatants by Sherman and Grant, and sanctioned by Lincoln, are so depraved and no less in weight than those of the day that Jesus drug the Cross through the streets of Jerusalem to Golgotha, and generally one is so apprehensive in accounting them for fear of inciting sectional hostilities, the likes of not seen in nearly 150 years.

A Northern soldier writing for the Detroit Free Press gives the following graphic account describing the burning of Marietta, Georgia: "Soldiers rode from house to house, entered without ceremony, and kindled fires in garrets and closets and stood by to see that they were not extinguished. Had one been able to climb to such a height at Atlanta as to enable him to see forty miles around the day Sherman marched out, he would have appalled at the destruction. Hundreds of houses had been burned, every rod of fence destroyed, with orders from Sherman giving them to become vandals. No house escaped fire. And on to Atlanta where he gave orders to burn it to the ground, driving out from the city its whole population of all ages, sexes, and conditions in the fields of a desolated country to starve and die.

On Page 108, Volume I, Colonel G.F.R. Hendersen of the British Staff College, Camberley, England posted this letter written by the Honorable General Robert E. Lee: "There are few, I believe, but will acknowledge that slavery as an institution is a moral and political evil. It is useless to talk at length on its disadvantages. I think it's a greater evil to the White man than to the Colored race, and while my feelings are strongly interested in the latter, my sympathies are deeply engaged for the former. The Blacks are immeasurably better off here than in Africa -- morally, socially and physically. The painful discipline they are undergoing is necessary for their instruction as a race, and I hope will prepare them for better things.

How long their subjection may be necessary is known and ordered by a merciful Providence. Their emancipation will sooner result from the mild and melting influence of Christianity than from the storms and contest of fiery controversy. This influence, though slow is sure. The doctrines and miracles of our Savior have required nearly two thousand years to convert but a small part of the human race, and even among Christians nations what gross errors still exist.

While we see the course of the final abolition of

slavery still is onward, and we give it the aid of our prayers and all justifiable means in our power, we must leave the progress as well as the results in his hands who see the end and who choose to work by slow things, and with whom a thousand years are but a single day.

The Abolitionist must know this, and must see that he has neither the right nor the power of operating except by moral means an suasion; if he means well to the slaves, he must not approve of the mode by which it pleases Providence to accomplish its purposes, the results will nevertheless be the same; and the reasons he gives for interference in what he has no concern holds good for every kind of interference with our neighbors when we disapprove of their conduct.

We of the South are today all that may be honorably meant by the expression "loyal American citizens." But, we are also loyal to the memory of our glorious dead, and we should defend them in our way from false and foul aspersions of Northern historians and Southern scalawags as long as brain can think or tongue and pen can do their office. Mutual respect is needful for the common interest, is essential to a friendly Union, and when slander is promulgated from high places, the public welfare demands that truth should strip falsehood of its power for evil. (The Honorable President Jefferson Davis)

CASSY GRAY'S STIRRING SPEECH:
STONE MOUNTAIN - APRIL 13, 2013

It has been said that a land without remembrance is a land without memories. And a land without memories is a land without history.

Standing before this majestic mountain with its beautiful relief of Robert E. Lee, Jefferson Davis and Stonewall Jackson, it reassures my heart to know that Confederate memories and history are alive and well. For these three men were not only heroes to all in the newfound nation, but they remain heroes, not only for me, but for many of us here this afternoon.

But this imposing edifice would not have been diminished through the years if the designers had chosen three different men to immortalize. If we had gathered to celebrate Albert Sidney Johnston, Patrick Cleburne and Jeb Stuart or John B. Gordon, A. P Hill and Nathan Bedford Forrest. No, this Stone Mountain would not have been diminished at all...for enveloping this monument is a great cloud of witnesses - witnesses dressed in gray and butternut - the brave soldiers who followed Lee and Jackson, fought and died with Cleburne and Gordon and rode with Stuart and Forrest.

The soldiers of the Army of Northern Virginia, the Army of Tennessee and the Army of Trans-Mississippi, who picked up their arms and left their loved ones to defend their homes and their liberty.

I remember the words of General Armistead at Gettysburg as he prepared to obey the order to advance on Cemetery Ridge. He faced his brigade and brought to their remembrance why they were on that battlefield and why they were prepared to lay down their lives for another if the Lord so asked. "For your lands! For your homes! For your sweethearts! For your wives! For Virginia! Forward!" These words survived that bloody day because they reveal the very heart of the Confederate soldier.

When the Lincoln Administration called for 75,000 volunteers to put down the rebellion in the cotton states, the men of the South kissed their wives and children good-bye, enlisted in the army and poured into the instructional camps that had sprung up throughout the South.

They were citizen soldiers, a sundry mix of family, near and distant kin, friends, acquaintances, and strangers. They came from every nook and cranny of Southern society: plantation owners, farmers barely scraping out a living on a few acres, merchants, tradesmen, professionals, students, rich, poor, educated, illiterate, secessionists, unionists, native sons and recent immigrants. A few of them had previous military experience but most of them did not. In the end it was not their differences that shaped them but their similarities.

Their fathers had passed down a legacy of heroism when they had defeated the might of the British empire and had forged a new nation from the wilderness. How could their sons and grandsons do any less in this the second war for independence ?

They may have arrived at the instructional camps as novices to the art of war, but their instructors quickly molded them into soldiers - into companies, regiments, brigades, divisions, corps, and armies. At night, after a hard day of drilling in the hot sun, they would sit around the campfires jesting about the hardships they were willing to endure for the Cause. What did they really know of hardships when their uniforms were whole, their shoes did not let in water and food was abundant ?

But in the four years they had fought, when exactly they could not pinpoint, but some time during those four years, when misery, privation, and death became their daily lot, they had learned the bitter truth. War was the necessity of marching on empty bellies, on bare and bleeding feet through the snow and cold, and fighting even past exhaustion. When the last volley was fired, war was also the sad duty of burying friends you had joked with around the campfires those may

years ago when war was a lark, one Southern could lick a dozen Yankees and heroes never died. If that was not enough, war was the cruel reality of having to do it all again tomorrow if so ordered.

In the long marches and hard fights, they had been purified in the refiner's fire and sifted like wheat by the severe demands of army life. What remained was the only thing that mattered - the assurance that they had been weighed in the balance, on the line and under fire, and had not been found wanting.

They were the courageous and determined soldiers of Robert E. Lee, Stonewall Jackson, Braxton Bragg, John Pemberton, Joseph Johnston, and John Bell Hood. They followed their generals in the advances and in the long retreats. They fought for each piece of ground like it was their home.

Manassas, Shiloh, Chancellorsville, Vicksburg, Chickamauga, Cold Harbor, Atlanta, and Franklin. Never again would soldiers think of these places as quiet towns or villages full of welcoming friends, as green places as quiet towns or villages full of welcoming friends, as green places where they had picnicked with sweethearts on the soft banks of slow moving streams. The tender grasses where they had sat had now been cut to bits by heavy cannon wheels, trampled by desperate feet when bayonet met bayonet and flattened where bodies threshed in agonies. . . And the lazy streams and rivers were redder now than the red clay could ever make them. Never names of places of any more. Now they were the names of graves where friends lay buried, names where McClellan, Grant, Hooker, Meade, and Sherman had tried to force their armies in and Lee's Johnston's, Pemberton's, and Hood's men had doggedly beaten them back.

Each battlefield now sanctified by the blood that was shed in its defense.

At night, exhausted and hungry, the soldiers closed their eyes and dreamed of the red hills of Georgia, the Blue Ridge Mountains covered with mist in the early morning light, the bayous of the Mississippi River, the jungles of cypress swamps and oaks covered with waving curtains of gray moss, fields of golden wheat ripening in the summer sun, and the unending ocean of the coastline.

The first book I read about the war was "*Gone With The Wind*." In the opening chapter, Gerald O'Hara tells his daughter Scarlett that land was the only thing in this world worth working for, worth fighting for, worth dying for. But Gerald was not talking about red clay fields filled with cotton.

Land meant much more than that to him. It was the birthright that was passed from father to son and then from father to son again. It was the place you courted your sweetheart, on his hand, raised a family, and grew old together. It was the place where you visited

graves of mothers and fathers on quiet Sunday afternoons and realized that the ties that bound you to the land were thrust deep into the soil and that soil was well able to sustain generations. The land was filled with familiar voices, scents, and sights. It was the incarnation of all they were. It was as comforting as a mother's warm embrace, and its value was determined by the blood that was shed in its defense.

For the men who stood on the line beneath waving battle flags and marched to the drum's long roll, their patriotism was rooted in love of country, love of home, and love of the old ways that were gone forever.

For the invader had come. The Lincoln administration slipped loose the dogs of war upon the rich farmland of the South and in their rage, they had swept away a civilization.

Nothing remained but memories of old times that would never be forgotten.

Any hope of true freedom in this country ended on a warm spring morning, in a small country hamlet in southern Virginia when Robert E. Lee surrendered the Army of Northern Virginia and the Cause for which the soldier had so long and manfully struggled, for which they had braved dangers, endured privation and sufferings, and had made to many sacrifices. Once they returned home, they plowed their fields, loved their wives, and raided their children under the Stainless Banner, that precious flag for which they had fought.

As the century turned and the grave began to beckon these brave and gallant men, they had one final task to accomplish. They, along with their wives and widows of the fallen, built monuments to their generals, placed memorial markers on battlefields to bear silent witness to their gallantry, and raised up organizations - the Sons of Confederate Veterans, The Military Order of the Stars and Bars, the Daughters of the Confederacy, and the Order of the Confederate Rose - and charged these organizations with a solemn duty: to guard their history, to emulate their virtues, to perpetuate the principles they loved, and to present the true history of the South to future generations. I stand surrounded by men and women who have kept that charge. It is an honor to stand with them, and I thank them for allowing me to do so.

In great deeds, something abides. On great fields something stays. Forms change and pass; bodies disappear, but spirits linger, to consecrate the ground for the vision-place of the soul. And reverent men and women from afar, and generations that know us not and that we know not of should come here, to ponder and to dream...that the power of the vision should pass into their souls.

Let that vision take root in your heart. When tyranny threatened their freedom, the Confederate

soldier did not hesitate to defend the right.

When reminiscing about the surrender, Robert E. Lee observed: "*We failed, but in the good providence of God apparent failure often proves a blessing.*" What a blessing these men have proven to be. What men they were! The war, though war itself is the sum of all evil, revealed to us men of stature, men of integrity, and men of Christian character. How much poorer would we all be if Colonel Lee had remained unknown in Texas, Major Jackson at VMI, Captain Stuart on the plains of Kansas, Patrick Cleburne in his law office or Nathan Bedford Forrest on his plantation in Mississippi?

But war did come and these men, hidden from view, were suddenly revealed...and the fragrance of their lives still lingers and inspires us today.

These men I mentioned, these men on this great Stone Mountain, Lee, Davis, Jackson, Stuart, Cleburne and Forrest were not the exception but the norm. The Confederate soldiers held them out to history as the best of them...but still a part of them, them from them, holding the same values fighting the same battles, accepting their duty, knowing that they could not do more and never wishing to do less.

The inheritance of gallantry and honor they left us has not diminished in the last 150 years, even as that legacy has come under attack by politicians, intellectuals, and academics who would dare tell us who these men were and why they fought and gave their lives. We face an insidious enemy who is in the process of turning Southern emblems of courage and devotion into symbols of hatred and racism.

So now, it is our turn to meet these new invaders on the verge of a just defense and say to all those that would turn our heroes into villains that we will not let you. We will fight to keep their honor. We will fight to keep their history intact, and we will fight to keep their legacy out of your hands.

For the soldiers we honor this morning, the price they paid to defend their land is beyond measure, for what price can we put on a man's life? All we can do is stand in awe of their loyalty and devotion to the South, honor them for their service and their sacrifice, grab the tattered battle flag from their hands and continue the fight to preserve the truth of their legacy.

God bless you! God bless the honored dead who died for our freedom! And God continue to bless these United States of America.

Note: Ms Cassy L. Gray, of Fairfield, Ohio is an historian, a contributing editor to the "*Officer's Call*" the official magazine of the Military Order of the Stars and Bars, and owner/editor of the free on-line e-zine "*The Stainless Banner*" (www.stainlessbanner.com), and publishing company. This speech was delivered April 13, 2013 at Stone Mountain Memorial Park, on the occasion of the 12th National Confederate Memorial Day.

QUOTES

"To understand the world, you must first understand a place like Mississippi."

William Faulkner

Welcome to the South.. .where tea is sweet and accents are sweeter.

From Southern Belle Magazine

BLACK CONFEDERATE PENSIONERS

AFTER THE CIVIL WAR

By James G. Hollandsworth Jr.

The service of African Americans with Confederate army during the American Civil War has long intrigued historians and Civil War buffs. Were these men soldiers or servants? Did they get shot? Why did they serve, and what was the nature of the relationship between black servants and their white masters in uniform? The answers to these questions may never be completely understood, but one thing is clear from a variety of sources: African Americans were an integral part of the Confederate war effort.

Black southerners contributed to the Confederate war effort in four ways. First, as slaves, they provided the labor that fueled the Southern cotton economy and maintained the production of foodstuffs and other commodities. Second, slaves were rented to or drafted by the Confederate government to work on specific projects related to the South's military infrastructure, such as bridges and railroads. Third, black Southerners were part of the work force in the Confederacy's war-related foundries, munitions factories, and mines. In addition, they transported food and war material to the front by wagon, and provided services to wounded and sick soldiers in Confederate hospitals. Last, a large number of black Southerners went to war with the Confederate army as noncombatants, serving as personal servants, company cooks, and grooms.

The lack of reliable information presents a problem with developing a better picture of what black noncombatants did with the Confederate army. Documentation for the use of slave labor on fortifications and railroads is extensive because that type of labor was a matter of official policy and subject to contractual arrangements. The services of black workers in Confederate arsenals, mines, and hospitals were also documented. Unfortunately, the same sort of documentation does not exist for black noncombatants with the Confederate army because their service was not officially recognized. Consequently, the primary source of information

regarding their service is anecdotal, and anecdotes do not provide a reliable basis for drawing historical conclusions. Anecdotes usually originate from a single source and thus lack corroboration. The shortcoming of anecdotes can be illustrated by the widely accepted - but inaccurate - generalization that most African Americans serving with the Confederate army were sent home after 1862.

Fortunately, there is another source of information about the service of these men. Although the information it provides is not as colorful as that found in the anecdotes recorded by Confederate veterans, it has the advantage of having been collected systematically and verified by witnesses. That source of information consists of their applications for Confederate pensions after the war.

Veterans of the Union army who were disabled as a result of their service during the Civil War were eligible for a federal pension s early 1868. However, disabled Confederate veterans hd to wait until their Confederate allies regained political control of the Southern states after Reconstruction to apply for pensions sponsored by the individual states. Although Confederate pensions were limited initially to disabled veterans, it was not long before eligibility was expanded to include veterans who were poor and in need. North Carolina and Florida led the way in 1885, and 1898 all of the states that had seceded from the Union offered pensions to indigent Confederate veterans. Missouri and Kentucky followed suit in 1911 and '912, respectively. These states, with the exception of Missouri, also extended coverage to indigent widows of veterans, as long as they did not remarry.

African Americans who had served with the Confederate army were not included - except in Mississippi, which had included African Americans in the state's pension program from its beginning in 1888. It was not until 1921 that another state extended the eligibility for pensions to African Americans who had served as servants with the Confederate army. Unfortunately, black Southerners who applied for Confederate pensions in the 1920's were, for the most part, very old men. Consequently, the number of black pensioners was small compared to the large number of Confederate veterans in the states that had allowed for pensions decades earlier. For example, Mississippi, which was the only state to include African Americans from its program's beginning in 1888, had 1,739 black pensioners; North Carolina, which first offered pensions in 1927 had 121; South Carolina, which first offered pensions in 1923, had 328; Tennessee, which first offered pensions in 1921, had '95; and Virginia,

which first offered pensions in 1924, had 424 black pensioners.

Initially, Mississippi's pensions for Confederate veterans were limited to soldiers or sailors and their former servants with a disability sustained during the war, such as the loss of a lib, that prevented them from engaging in manual labor, and to women who had been widowed during the war and had not remarried. In 1892, Mississippi expanded the eligibility for pensions to include veterans, their former servants, and unmarried widows "who are now resident in this State, and who are indigent and not able to earn support by their own labor."

Pension applications from African Americans in Mississippi were forwarded to the state auditor's office by pension boards in each county. These applications are now on file in the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, where they are intermingled with applications from white soldiers and widows, all of which are filed alphabetically by last name. Black pensioners can be identified by the special application form that servants were required to use. A review of the applications for Confederate pensions in Mississippi - about 36,000 - reveals 1,739 applications from African Americans.

Pension applications

Pension applications for African Americas were different from those used for soldiers or widows. Questions on the applications for servants asked for the applicant's name, age, the name of the person he had served during the Civil War, and the dates of his service. Questions also asked the unit to which the applicant's master had been assigned. This information, coupled with his master's name, allowed pension boards to verify the applicant's service by checking Confederate muster rolls. This step in the approval process was crucial as contemporary records documenting the service of African Americans were nonexistent. There were no muster rolls for these men, most of whom had no last names at the time of their service.

Other Confederate states also wanted to know what black applicants had done in regard to their service during the war, but they limited the applicant's response to a single word or term, such as "body servant." Interestingly, Mississippi did not start asking for this information until 1922, the same year it stopped asking for the applicant's age.

Surprisingly, none of the states, except Mississippi, asked black applicants if they were wounded as a result of their service with the Confederate army. This omission did not mean, however, that such information

did not find its way onto application forms, for all states allowed the applicant to state why he should be awarded a pension, and applicants were not hesitant to report wounds received during the war. Nevertheless, information about wounds was not systematically obtained from black applicants, except in Mississippi, and the county pension boards in Mississippi stopped collecting wound information in 1922.

Confederate pension programs were administered by the states, and all applications, including affidavits, were completed at the county level, even in those states where final approval rested with a state pension board. At least two witnesses, preferably former Confederate soldiers, were required to sign affidavits under oath attesting that the information provided by the applicant was accurate. As a result, applicants, white or black, were usually known by the people who asked for the information on pension applications and affidavits. In contrast, the federal pension program for Union soldiers was administered centrally in Washington, D.C., where a small group of overworked clerks attempted to sort through thousands of applications from all parts of the country, costing the federal government millions of dollars on fraudulent claims.

Black noncombatants

The proportion of black pensioners among different work categories varied from state to state. The pension statutes in Mississippi, South Carolina, and Tennessee, for example, were intended primarily to reward the service of servants or cooks whose masters were assigned to units in the Confederate army. Despite state variations, an overall pattern of service among the black pensioners is clear. On average, 85 percent of the black pensioners served as servants or cooks with the Confederate army.

The number of black pensioners in Mississippi was large enough to indicate the distribution of black noncombatants within the Confederate army. Unit assignments can be identified for 1,312 black applicants in Mississippi, of which nearly 1,100 were with units raised in the state. Unit assignments of masters (thus that of black noncombatants) by percentage were: infantry, 57 percent; cavalry, 33 percent, artillery, 8 percent; and general staff, 2 percent. Of the seventy-nine infantry and cavalry regiments or battalions with Mississippi designations during the war, only three (4 percent) were not represented by at least one black pensioner after the war.

As black pensioners served in 96 percent of the regiments and battalions from Mississippi, it is evident that African Americans served with every army, in

every theater, both early in the war and late. Furthermore, they were at every major battle of the Civil War east of the Mississippi River. When the end came, black noncombatants with Mississippi units were at Appomattox and Bentonville, Mobile, and Selma.

The age at which black noncombatants began serving with the Confederate army can be calculated from information contained on applications in Mississippi, Tennessee, and Virginia. The modal age (the age that occurs with the greatest frequency in the distribution) for all three states was seventeen. All of the states were remarkably similar when it came to the average length of time these black noncombatants served with the Confederate army (2.6).

A central question about these men is whether some of them ever became soldiers. Unfortunately, applications submitted by black pensioners do not address this question. By filling out a servant's application, these men acknowledged at the onset that they were noncombatants, not soldiers. African Americans who may have enlisted as soldiers in the Confederate army, which would have entitled them to a larger pension, would have applied using a soldier's pension form.

Although applications from black pensioners provide relatively straightforward answers to questions that can be easily measured, such as wounds and their nature, they have serious limitations when it comes to dealing with personal feelings about their service. The question of the black noncombatants' motivation, for example, is only partially resolved by information from pension applications. Questions about motivation did not appear on application forms, and the vast majority of African Americans who labored for the Confederate war effort were slaves. While it is true that many of the slaves who served as black noncombatants may have served willingly, how many - and how willingly - is a matter of speculation. Some black Southerners did volunteer.

The responses to questions on the nearly 3,000 applications from Confederate black pensioners reinforce the conviction that black noncombatants were an important part of the Confederate war effort.

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QUESTION

At our last meeting the speaker was asked by our resident nit-picker, LTC John Cox, what is the meaning of knapsack. Well, Here it is, KNAPSACK: From the Low German *knappsack* or *Dutch knapzak*, from Low German & Dutch *knappen* to make a snapping noise, eat + Low German *sack* or *Dutch zak* sack. *First Known Use: 1603. Taken literally as a "Sack full of snacks."* Answer Provided, as you might expect, by LTC Cox.

LET'S PUT MYTHS TO REST!

BALTIMORE – There is a good reason why the Lincoln legend has taken on such mythical proportions: Much of what Americans think they know about Abraham Lincoln is in fact a myth. Let's consider a few of the more prominent ones.

Myth #1: Lincoln invaded the South to free the slaves. Ending slavery and racial injustice is not why the North invaded. As Lincoln wrote to Horace Greeley on Aug. 22, 1862: "My paramount object in this struggle is to save the Union, and it is not either to save or destroy slavery. If I could save the Union without freeing any slave, I would do it."

Congress announced to the world on July 22, 1861, that the purpose of the war was not "interfering with the rights or established institutions of those states" (i.e., slavery), but to preserve the Union "with the rights of the several states unimpaired." At the time of Fort Sumter (April 12, 1861) only the seven states of the deep South had seceded. There were more slaves in the Union than out of it, and Lincoln had no plans to free any of them.

The North invaded to regain lost federal tax revenue by keeping the Union intact by force of arms. In his First Inaugural Lincoln promised to invade any state that failed to collect "the duties and imposts," and he kept his promise. On April 19, 1861, the reason Lincoln gave for his naval blockade of the Southern ports was that "the collection of the revenue cannot be effectually executed" in the states that had seceded.

Myth #2: Lincoln's war saved the Union. The war may have saved the Union geographically, but it destroyed it philosophically by destroying its voluntary nature. In the Articles of Confederation, the Declaration of Independence, and the Constitution, the states described themselves as "free and independent." They delegated certain powers to the Federal government they had created as their agent but retained sovereignty for themselves.

This was widely understood in the North as well as the South in 1861. As the Brooklyn Daily Eagle

editorialized on Nov. 13, 1860, the Union "depends for its continuance on the free consent and will of the sovereign people of each state, and when that consent and will is withdrawn on either part, their Union is gone." The New York Journal of Commerce concurred, writing on Jan. 12, 1861, that a coerced Union changes the nature of government from "a voluntary one, in which the people are sovereigns, to a despotism where one part of the people are slaves." The majority of Northern newspapers agreed.

Myth #3: Lincoln championed equality and natural rights. His words and, more important, his actions, repudiate this myth. "I have no purpose to introduce political and social equality between the white and black races," he announced in his Aug. 21, 1858, debate with Stephen Douglas. "I, as well as Judge Douglas, am in favor of the race to which I belong having the superior position." And, "Free them [slaves] and make them politically and socially our equals? My own feelings will not admit of this. We cannot, then, make them equals."

In Springfield, Ill., on July 17, 1858, Lincoln said, "What I would most desire would be the separation of the white and black races." On Sept. 18, 1858, in Charleston, Ill., he said: "I will t the very last stand by the law of this state, which forbids the marrying of white people with Negroes."

Lincoln supported the Illinois Constitution, which prohibited the emigration of black people into the state, and he also supported the Illinois Black Codes, which deprived the small number of free blacks in the state any semblance of citizenship. He strongly supported the Fugitive Slave Act, which compelled Northern states to capture runaway slaves and return them to their owners. In his First Inaugural he pledged his support of a proposed constitutional amendment that had just passed the U.S. Senate and the House of Representatives that would have prohibited the federal government from ever having the power "to abolish or interfere, within any State, with domestic institutions hereof, including that of persons held to labor or service by the laws of said State." In his First Inaugural Lincoln advocated making this amendment "express and irrevocable."

Lincoln was also a lifelong advocate of "colonization" or shipping all black people to Africa, Central America, Haiti---anywhere but here. "I cannot make it better known than it already is," he stated in a Dec. 1, 1862, Message to Congress, "that I strongly favor colonization." To Lincoln, blacks could be "equal," but not in the United States.

Myth #4: Lincoln was a defender of the Constitution. Quite the contrary: Generations of historians have labeled Lincoln a “dictator.” “Dictatorship played a decisive role in the North’s successful effort to maintain the Union by force of arms,” wrote Clinton Rossiter in “Constitutional Dictatorship.” And, “Lincoln’s amazing disregard for the Constitution was considered by nobody as legal.”

James G. Randall documented Lincoln’s assault on the Constitution in “Constitutional Problems Under Lincoln.” Lincoln unconstitutionally suspended the writ of habeas corpus and had the military arrest tens of thousands of Northern political opponents, including dozens of newspaper editors and owners. Some 300 newspapers were shut down and all telegraph communication was censored. Northern elections were rigged; Democratic voters were intimidated by federal soldiers; hundreds of New York City draft protesters were gunned down by federal troops; West Virginia was unconstitutionally carved out of Virginia; and the most outspoken member of the Democratic Party opposition, Congressman Clement L. Vallandigham of Ohio, was deported. Duly elected members of the Maryland Legislature were imprisoned, as was the mayor of Baltimore and Congressman Henry May. The border states were systematically disarmed in violation of the Second Amendment and private property was confiscated. Lincoln’s apologists say he had “to destroy the Constitution in order to save it.”

Myth #5: Lincoln was a “great humanitarian” who had “malice toward none.” This is inconsistent with the fact that Lincoln micromanaged the waging of war on civilians, including the burning of entire towns populated only by civilians; massive looting and plundering; rape; and the execution of civilians (See Mark Grimsley, “The Hard Hand of War”). Pro-Lincoln historian Lee Kennett wrote in “Marching Through Georgia” that, had the Confederates somehow won, they would have been justified in “stringing up President Lincoln and the entire Union high command” as war criminals.

Myth #6: War was necessary to end slavery. During the 19th century, dozens of countries, including the British and Spanish empires, ended slavery peacefully through compensated emancipation. Among such countries were Argentina, Columbia, Chile, all of Central America, Mexico, Bolivia, Uruguay, the French and Danish colonies, Ecuador, Peru, and Venezuela. (Lincoln did propose compensated emancipation for the border states, but coupled his proposal with deportation of any freed slaves. He failed to see it through, however). Only in America was war associated with emancipation.

In sum, the power of the state ultimately rests upon a series of myths about the alleged munificence of our rulers. Nothing serves this purpose better than the Lincoln myth. This should be kept in mind by all who visit the new Lincoln statue in Richmond.

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Who is this? Why is he doing that? It’s PVT John Musgrove! Missing a Yankee by a mile in Laurel! That will never, never do young man! Report to Enterprise for basic training! We’ll make a soldier of you yet! Think about it, this is one of the soldiers that will be defending you one day, sleep well.

BRIGADE MEETING **DIXIE COMMUNITY CENTER**

On Friday, June 14th, we will have our quarterly Brigade meeting at the Dixie Community Center. Mr. Tom Robinson will present the evening’s program. He is a bugler and will show and tell how the bugle, drum and fife were used back in the nineteenth century, probably centering in on the usage during the war period. This should be an interesting program. We begin at 7 PM. We eat supper first, so bring a dish of your choice and or a couple of colas.

