



THE BRIDGE

"It is our duty to keep the memory of our heroes green." Jefferson Davis



August 2018

Ambrose Gonzales Newsletter Award Winner 2009, 2012 & 2013

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194 and counting!

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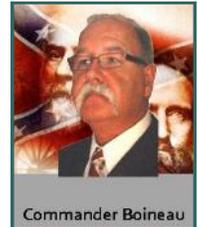
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Vacant

Historian

Compatriots and Friends,

Welcome to the August edition of The Bridge. An article recently came to my attention regarding the state which has the most Confederate Memorials. As I read, I was hoping it would be our dear old Palmetto State, but South Carolina came in fourth with 194 behind Virginia (242), Texas (209), and Georgia (199). Well, with the good Lord willing, our number will increase by one in the not too distant future.



Commander Boineau



Compatriots clearing tree.

Our long awaited Monument to the Signers of the South Carolina Ordinance of Secession will be dedicated on November 10th at Secession Hill in Abbeville, SC. Festivities will begin at 1PM with a parade. It has been a long and winding road the story of which would make for interesting reading and it is finally becoming a reality. We heartily thank those who labored so long and so hard to make it so; may God bless you for your efforts.

Anyone willing to go up on the 9th or early on 10th to help with the final preparations for this event are welcome to do so. A number of Compatriots have already been helping in removing a huge tree that had fallen on the property and have made respectable progress. A block of rooms has been set aside at the Hampton Inn at 1624 Bypass 72 NE, Greenwood, S C 29649; **the phone number is 864-388-9595**. Ask for the Sons of Confederate Veterans rate of \$99.00 per night for a King Bed or 2 Double Beds.

Our Adjutant reports that all but five of our regular members have paid their dues for the coming year and Life Member Marc Loadholt has renewed his membership in the Camp. We have quite a number of former members who for various reasons have let their Camp affiliation lapse; they are a valuable source for reinforcing our current strength and this possibility should be seriously considered.

At our July meeting Compatriot Bart Chassereau shared with us much interesting information concerning the fights at Lawtonville when General Sherman's army visited us in 1865. This month we will continue the series with the actions at Lopers Crossroads. Come join us and learn not only what is contained in the "victor's history," but also some of the truth that might not have made their cut. We'll have supper waitin'.

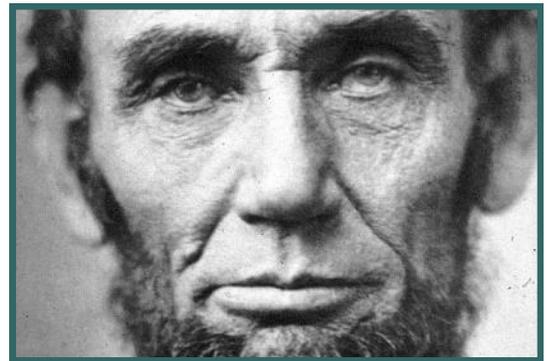
We have a wonderful place to meet at Barker's Mill. Have you wondered who keeps the grounds looking presentable? In the past we have counted on Donnie Webster and Carl Platts, but lately we have had a new man; Carl has "recruited" his Grandson Cameron Platts to the "grounds management team." Thank you Cameron for a job well done.

I'll see you all at Barker's Mill on the 21st I hope,
Pete

Abraham Lincoln

By
H.L. Mencken

Some time ago a publisher told me that there are four kinds of books that seldom, if ever, lose money in the United States—first, murder stories; secondly, novels in which the heroine is forcibly overcome by the hero; thirdly, volumes on spiritualism, occultism and other such claptrap, and fourthly, books on Lincoln. But despite all the vast mass of Lincolniana and the constant discussion of old Abe in other ways, even so elemental a problem as that of his religious ideas—surely an important matter in any competent biography—is yet but half solved. Was he a Christian? Did he believe in the Divinity of Jesus? I am left in doubt. He was very polite about it, and very cautious, as befitted a politician in need of Christian votes, but how much genuine conviction was in that politeness? And if his occasional references to Jesus were thus open to question, what of his rather vague avowals of belief in a personal God and in the immortality of the soul? Herndon and some of his other early friends always maintained that he was an atheist, but the Rev. William E. Barton, one of the best of later Lincolnologists, argues that this atheism was simply disbelief in the idiotic Methodist and Baptist dogmas of his time—that nine Christian churches out of ten, if he were alive today, would admit him to their high privileges and prerogatives without anything worse than a few warning coughs. As for me, I still wonder.



Honest Abe - Statesman or Politician?

Lincoln becomes the American solar myth, the chief butt of American credulity and sentimentality. Washington, of late years, has been perceptibly humanized; every schoolboy now knows that he used to swear a good deal, and was a sharp trader, and had a quick eye for a pretty ankle. But meanwhile the varnishers and veneers have been busily converting Abe into a plaster saint, thus marking him fit for adoration in the Y.M.C.A.'s. All the popular pictures of him show him in his robes of state, and wearing an expression fit for a man about to be hanged. There is, so far as I know, not a single portrait of him showing him smiling—and yet he must have cackled a good deal, first and last: who ever heard of a storyteller who didn't? Worse, there is an obvious effort to pump all his human weaknesses out of him, and so leave him a mere moral apparition, a sort of amalgam of John Wesley and the Holy Ghost. What could be more absurd? Lincoln, in point of fact, was a practical politician of long experience and high talents, and by no means cursed with idealistic superstitions. Until he emerged from Illinois they always put the women, children and clergy to bed when he got a few gourds of corn aboard, and it is a matter of unescapable record that his career in the State Legislature was indistinguishable from that of a Tammany Nietzsche. Even his handling of the slavery question was that of a politician, not that of a messiah. Nothing alarmed him more than the suspicion that he was an Abolitionist, and Barton tells of an occasion when he actually fled town to avoid meeting the issue squarely. An Abolitionist would have published the Emancipation Proclamation the day after the first battle of Bull Run. But Lincoln waited until the time was more favorable—until Lee had been hurled out of Pennsylvania, and more important still, until the political currents were safely running his way. Even so, he freed the slaves in only a part of the country: all the rest continued to clank their chains until he himself was an angel in Heaven.

Like William Jennings Bryan, he was a dark horse made suddenly formidable by fortunate rhetoric. The Douglas debate launched him, and the Cooper Union Speech got him the Presidency. His talent for emotional utterance was an accomplishment of late growth. His early speeches were mere empty fire-works—the hollow rodomontades of the era. But in the middle life he purged his style of ornament and it became almost badly simple—and it is for that simplicity that he is remembered today. The Gettysburg speech is at once the shortest and the most famous oration in American history. Put beside it, all the whoopings of the Websters, Sumners and Everetts seem gaudy and silly. It is eloquence brought to a pellucid and almost gem-like perfection—the highest emotion reduced to a few poetical phrases. Nothing else precisely like it is to be found in the whole range of oratory. Lincoln himself never even remotely approached it. It is genuinely stupendous.

But let us not forget that it is poetry, not logic; beauty, not sense. Think of the argument in it. Put it into the cold words of everyday. The doctrine is simply this: that the Union soldiers who died at Gettysburg sacrificed their lives to the cause of self-determination—"that government of the people, by the people, for the people," should not perish from the earth. It is difficult to imagine anything more untrue. The Union soldiers in that battle actually fought against self-determination; it was the Confederates who fought for the right of their people to govern themselves. What was the practical effect of the battle of Gettysburg? What else than the destruction of the old sovereignty of the States, *i.e.*, of the people of the States? *The Confederates went into battle free; they came out with their freedom subject to the supervision and veto of the rest of the country—and for nearly twenty years that veto was so effective that they enjoyed scarcely more liberty, in the political sense, than so many convicts in the penitentiary.*



About the Author:

Henry Louis "H. L." Mencken

(September 12, 1880 – January 29, 1956)

was an American journalist and magazine editor, popularly known as the "Sage of Baltimore." He is regarded as one of the most influential American writers of the first half of the 20th century. Many of his books are still in print.

SOUTHERN SECESSION DECLARATIONS EXPLAINED

By James W. King

The fact that Causes of Secession Declarations by four of the seceding Southern states list slavery as a cause of secession has led liberals and Marxist Socialists to claim that the South seceded solely for the purpose of keeping and defending slavery. The declaration by Georgia was the most thorough presentation of abuses by the North that justified secession. Those who make such claims berating and disparaging the seceding Southern states for secession do not have a thorough understanding of the political situation that existed prior to and at the time of Southern secession.

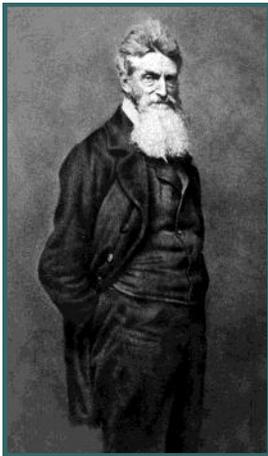
Most Southerners were in favor of gradual orderly emancipation of slaves and it was occurring. Prior to the war there was an estimated five times as many abolition societies in the South as in the North. The Constitution of the Confederate States of America prohibited the importation of slaves. The Northern colonies, later states, of New England--Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New Hampshire, and New York- were primarily responsible for the development of slavery in America. The port cities of New England had grown wealthy from profits derived from the slave trade. Initially the South had resisted slavery but as time went by they succumbed to the encouragement and pressure from New England to purchase and use slave labor on the plantations of the South.

The use of slave labor in the industrial cities of the North had not been successful as it had been in the agricultural South. Therefore the Northern states began emancipating slaves and in 1808 the further importation of slaves was outlawed by the United States of America. But Yankee slave traders, in violation of the law, continued transporting slaves up until the time of the War for Southern Independence (Civil War).

By 1820 to 1830 the slave trade had become unprofitable to most Northerners and agitation began against the Southern states demanding instant abolition of slaves as opposed to the orderly graduated emancipation that was already taking place in the Southern states. Initially the Northern abolitionists were a small but very vocal and militant

group. But abolition sentiment continued to grow and lies and propaganda based on ignorance began to slander the Southern people. The English historian Cecil Chesterman is quoted as saying "what can exceed the hypocrisy of the New England men who accuse the South of grave moral sin while the profits made from the slave trade are still in their pocket".

"What can exceed the hypocrisy of the New England men who accuse the South of grave moral sin while the profits made from the slave trade are still in their pocket?"



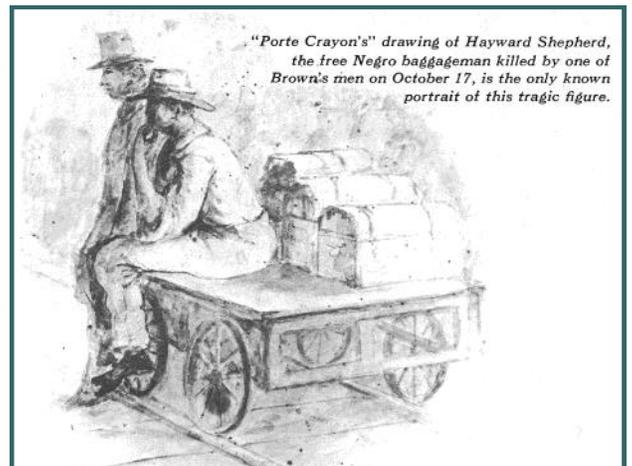
John Brown

The Northern abolitionists were radicals, fanatics, zealots, and criminals and they offered no plan for the compensation of freed slaves to Southerners. Instead they demanded instant abolition and supported and worked to foment a massive slave revolt that would cause the deaths of thousands of Southern men, women, and children similar to that which had occurred in Santa Domingo (Haiti) in the 1790-1803 era. The Marxist Socialist Republican Party that was formed in 1854 had many of these radicals, fanatics, zealots, and criminals as members. The Republican Party passed a resolution that was signed by 68 of 117 members advocating violence against the South as outlined in the 1857 book by Hinton Helper "The Impending Crisis of the South". Then they financed and outfitted criminal and murderer John Brown to go to Virginia and implement a slave rebellion. All through the North the psychopathic murderous criminal John Brown was perceived as a hero and saint who had gone straight to heaven after he was hung in Virginia following his failed attempt to instigate servile insurrection and the planned massive slave rebellion.

Lincoln was a member of this radical group and after he was elected president the South refused to voluntarily be ruled by Northern radicals, fanatics, zealots, and criminals. Southerners determined that the best way to avoid more impending criminal actions by the North was to separate so seven Southern states seceded and this was followed by four more after Lincoln initiated aggression against the seceded states.

The extremely high tariff rate of 47-50% in the upcoming Morrill Tariff was also a major factor in Southern secession. The South was being forced to pay 75-85% of the money to operate the Federal Government and 80-90% of that tax money was being kept and spent in the North.

The Northern industrialists were forcing the South to pay for the industrialization of America at no cost to themselves. The machinery of the Federal Government, which was designed for the common benefit, was made the means of despoiling the South, to enrich the North". The workings of the iniquitous tariffs had reduced the South to a dependent colonial condition, almost as abject as that of the Roman provinces, under their proconsuls nearly 2000 years ago. A coalition of Northern economic interests with the Northern radicals, fanatics, zealots, and criminals forced Southern secession. The Robber had joined hands with the Incendiary and the South was their target.



The Bridge

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Sons of Confederate Veterans



Presenting the true history of the South
since 1896

Camp No. 842 Calendar

Aug 21	Regular Camp Meeting 7PM
Sep 17, 1862	Battle of Sharpsburg (Antietam)
Sep 18	Regular Camp Meeting 7PM
Sep 18, 1863	Battle of Chickamauga
Oct 16	Regular Camp Meeting 7PM
Nov 10	Dedication of SC Signer's Monument
Nov 20	Regular Camp Meeting 7PM

In the Beginning.....

170 men, chosen by a special statewide election carefully and deliberately decided on December 20, 1860, that South Carolina would secede from the Union. The South Carolina Secession Convention was unanimous in its decision, and each elected delegate signed the Ordinance of Secession. These men were the first to say "no more!" to an increasingly overbearing federal government.

BE A PART OF HISTORY !

Be in attendance on



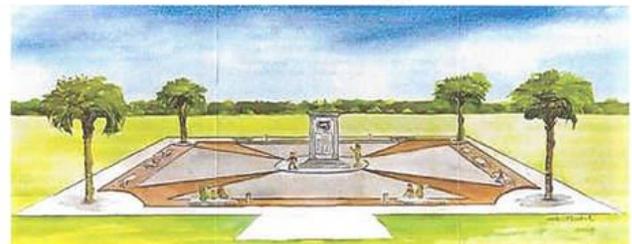
November 10, 2018



in Abbeville, SC for a

Monument Dedication Ceremony

An edifice erected to honor the 170 duly elected men, who risked their lives, families, & fortunes to decide the best action to protect South Carolina citizens from an un-fair & over-bearing government.



Parade steps off at 1:00PM from the town square with unveiling & dedication at Secession Hill

(Festivities to include period dress, music, cannon, & musketry)

Check website for updates at www.scsignersmonument.com

For additional information contact:

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A once in a lifetime event!!! See you there!!!

