



THE BRIDGE

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



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Friends and Compatriots,

What a blessing it is to see blue skies and sunshine; it definitely lifts the spirit after so many dreary days with rain. We will give thanks for the rain too, however, since it probably won't be long before we're saying, "Lord, we sure could use some rain."

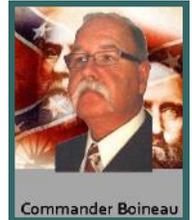
All things considered, we had a pretty good time at the Broxton Bridge Reenactment; I hope you were able to make it. With the faithful help of Carl Platts, Jimmy Wingard, Donny Webster, Buzz Braxton and Coleman Loadholt strategically located next door with his historic lemonade, we represented Camp 842 honorably. I mention also Donny Ayers who tirelessly buttonholed many, many visitors to sell them a ticket on our Glock 43. "Buzz" advises me that 160 Glock raffle tickets were sold and that with over a month left before the drawing, things look positive for selling all of the 1000 tickets. In addition, we sold several flags flown at our site in Orangeburg; these were encased in shadowboxes constructed by yours truly. We also sold several of Donald Steedley's handcrafted canes and bandanas; our total intake for the weekend was \$1000 which in these times is not bad. Please get your ticket money to "Buzz" as soon as you can so we can better finalize our plans.

I would like to remind you of the upcoming South Carolina Division Convention to take place in Spartanburg on March 20th and 21st. Details regarding agenda, lodging, etc. is available on the SC Division website. Keep in mind also the May 23rd reinterment ceremony for General Nathan Bedford Forrest and Mary Ann Montgomery Forrest at Elm Springs, SCV Headquarters in Columbia, Tennessee; see your March/April *Confederate Veteran* for a more in-depth article. The ribbon cutting ceremony for the National Confederate Museum at Elm Springs will be the same day with the Grand Opening taking place that afternoon. Again, check out the Commander-in-Chief's message on page 4 of your current *Confederate Veteran*.

Let us be faithful to participate in Southern Heritage events as much our schedules and possibly PC jobs will permit; who would ever thought that you would be unable to honor your ancestor in the United States of America for fear of retribution from some ignorant political lemming or possibly your own employer? This makes it all the more important to choose leaders wisely from among those who cherish and honor the foundational documents of our nation.

I hope to see you at Barker's Mill on March 17th,

Pete



Commander Boineau

**TURN IN YOUR MONEY NOW!
HOPEFULLY, THERE ARE NO UNSOLD
TICKETS.
DRAWING WILL BE AT OUR ANNUAL
BANQUET APRIL 18TH.**



The Answer to Our Deepest Needs

By Billy Graham

Jesus taught that Christians are “the salt of the earth” (Matthew 5:13). Salt adds zest to food, and it is a preservative. If it were not for the Christian salt, our society would become corrupt. Take all the Christians out of America and see what chaos would be created overnight. It is partially because the church has lost its saltiness that we have such appalling moral and social needs now.

Jesus also said: “You are the light of the world” (Matthew 5:14). The darkness of our world is getting ever darker. There is only one true light shining, the light of Jesus Christ, which is reflected by those who trust and believe in Him.

But just as there is danger that salt will lose its saltiness, so there is danger that light may be lost in darkness if it is not tended and given a chance to shine. The lives of the early Christians were their invincible witness. The world may argue against a creed, but it cannot argue against changed lives.

That is what the simple Gospel of Jesus Christ does when it is preached in the power and authority of the Holy Spirit.

Not only do we as Christians follow Christ and learn from Him, but we also must act. ***The world judges Christians by our life, not by our belief. Our acts are an indication of our faith.***

Editor: The truth of that last sentence places a great responsibility on those who bear the name of Jesus Christ. Are we as Christians careful about the messages our conduct is sending to the world? What does our conduct say about us as Southerners?



Identity Politics Smear Robert E. Lee

Paul Craig Roberts



Robert E. Lee has been dead for 150 years, but the Identity Politics freaks can't leave him alone. The latest attack on Lee is by Counter Punch music writer Lee Ballinger reviewing a one-sided and utterly false book by John Reeves with the biased title of “The Lost Indictment of Robert E. Lee.”

The lost indictment of Robert E. Lee is the 1865 indictment of Lee, Jefferson Davis, Confederate generals James Longstreet, Jubal Early, Richard Ewell, and 32 others for treason by federal judge John C. Underwood, a vehemently and vengeful anti-South Reconstruction judge, who biased the grand jury with his denunciation of the indicted Southerners as men with “hands dripping with the blood of slaughtered innocents.”

Underwood's indictment was recognized as the worst form of political demagoguery. The Commander of the Union Army General Ulysses S. Grant himself had the indictment quashed. But Reeves and Ballinger think that an indictment reflecting Underwood's personal hatred of the South is enough to remake Robert E. Lee from a white hat into a black hat. Ballinger concludes that it is obvious that Robert E. Lee was a traitor who deserved the gallows more than John Brown.

In his fawning review of Reeves' ridiculous book, Ballinger, either from dishonesty or ignorance, misinforms the reader that:

— “It was Robert E. Lee who put down the attempt of a real hero, John Brown, to incite a slave rebellion at Harper's Ferry, Virginia in 1859. Brown was found guilty of treason against the state of Virginia and hanged after a jury deliberated for all of 45 minutes. On the other hand, Lee was indicted for treason on June 7, 1865 but was never punished for it.”

— Lee was a rich man “who owned or managed 200 slaves. According to former slave Wesley Norris, Lee frequently egged on his overseers as they whipped Lee's slaves.”

— “Lee led a slaveholder's rebellion that cost 800,000 lives.” . . . “Slavery (and slave owners) caused the Civil War.”

Let's take a look at these extraordinary charges: Lee is responsible for John Brown's death for treason, but got away with his own treason; Lee owned 200 slaves and encouraged their whippings; Lee was a traitor who led a slaveholders' rebellion.

John Brown led an attempted uprising that seized the Federal Arsenal in Harpers Ferry, not Virginia's arsenal. Lee was a United States Military officer sent by U.S. President James Buchanan to suppress the uprising. Lee carried out the orders of the President of the United States. The Confederacy did not exist. The Army of Northern Virginia did not exist. Brown was tried by a jury and convicted. Lee was not a member of the jury. Lee's political indictment by a crazed Reconstruction judge was quashed by the leader of the Union Army to whom Lee had surrendered. Underwood's case against Lee was not considered by the U.S. government to be fit for trial.

Lee was a U.S. military officer. He fought for the United States in Mexico and against Comanches and Apaches and served as Superintendent of the U.S. Military Academy. He spent his life in the U.S. Army, not running a plantation. He owned no plantation, much less 200 slaves. He took a two-year leave from the U.S. Army to settle his father-in-law's estate which required all slaves to be freed. Settling his father-in-law's estate was Lee's experience as a “plantation and slave owner.”

Lee led no rebellion. There was no slave-owners' rebellion. There was secession. Neither Reeves nor Ballinger comprehend that

prior to Lincoln's war, residents of the states thought of themselves as citizens of the states, not as US citizens. Lee was opposed to the breakup of the Union and spoke against it. When offered Union command of the defense of Washington, Lee replied: "If I owned the four millions of slaves in the South I would sacrifice them all to the Union; but how can I draw my sword upon Virginia, my native state?" When it became clear that the North was going to invade the South, Lee resigned his U.S. Army commission and returned to his country—Virginia.

Reeves and Ballinger are so ignorant of the facts they don't even know that Lee was not offered a Confederate field command until the second year of the war. Moreover, his field command was the Army of Northern Virginia.

There was no civil war. A civil war is when two sides compete for control of the government. The Confederacy was a separate government. The war was the War of Northern Aggression. The South was an independent country formed on the same basis as the 13 English colonies, which had as much slavery as the Confederacy, formed the United States. Lee could not possibly be a traitor as he fought for his country. He fought, as all Southerners did, because they were invaded by Lincoln who was determined to hold on to the empire, just as the British were determined to hold on to their empire in North America. As President Lincoln said over and over, he invaded the South in order to "save the Union," not to free slaves.

The South seceded because of the tariff, which had long been the contention between the North and South. The tariff exploited the South economically for the benefit of the North. Slavery was a states' rights issue. Lincoln said many times that he had no authority to abolish slavery. But tariffs were a federal issue. Lincoln said there was no need for war if the South just paid the tariff.

The Emancipation Proclamation did not free any slaves. It was a war measure for the purpose of causing a slave rebellion in the South, thereby depleting the Confederate lines of soldiers as men rushed home to defend the women and children. The slaves did not revolt, and the Confederate lines held. Lincoln's Secretary of State said that the president has freed the slaves in the territory over which we have no control and left them in slavery in the areas that we do control.

The level of ignorance displayed by Reeves and Ballinger is worrisome. Perhaps the explanation is that hate is far more important to the left than facts and Reeves' sorry excuse for a history is that he is hitching his wagon to the Identity Politics movement that defines white people as racist.

Ballinger goes on and on about Lee's undeserved reputation as if Lee had bestowed it upon himself. But Lee's reputation was based on his character as a person who, unlike Sherman and Sheridan, fought clean and urged reconciliation between North and South. It was U.S. presidents, such as Andrew Johnson and Woodrow Wilson, and northern newspaper editors, such as the New York Tribune's Horace Greeley, who saw Lee as a "model to men who would be morally great."

When the United States was a white country, reconciliation between whites was important. Now that the United States is an Identity Politics country, it is important to hate white people. Every year Identity Politics produces more self-hating whites to join the ranks of Reeves and Ballinger.

The southern states believed secession was justified. The states wanted to make a legal, constitutional case in order to block Washington from proclaiming an act of rebellion and sedition and starting a war. The Southern states were seceding because of the tariff, but could not make a constitutional case for secession on the basis of the tariff as tariffs were allocated as a Federal responsibility by the Constitution. However, slavery was a states' rights issue. The only constitutional case the South could make was based on the refusal of some northern states to abide by the Fugitive Slave Act of 1850, a Federal statute that required the return of run-away slaves. The South made its constitutional case on the fact that northern states were not keeping their legal and constitutional responsibilities and had themselves dissolved the agreement that was the basis of the union. This is the reason state secession documents cite slavery issues.

It would have been better for the South to say that secession was based on the North's exploitation of the South. If Karl Marx had published Vol. 1 of Capital in 1857 instead of 1867, the South would have had a popular basis for its exploitation case. But the southern states could not see into the future. The southern politicians did not know that whites would become self-hating people who would empower black Americans and illegal immigrants as victims of white people and misuse southern secession arguments as proof of white racism.

The British today have made the identical mistake as the South made by trying to buy their way out of the European Union instead of just leaving on the grounds that membership is a violation of British sovereignty and law accountable to British citizens. Government works to expand centralized control. Lincoln succeeded in shattering the 10th Amendment's limit on central power. The real achievement of the War of Northern Aggression was to centralize power over the American people. All of them.



Mary Ann Montgomery was born October 24, 1826 in Franklin, Tennessee. She was the daughter of William and Elizabeth Montgomery.

She met Nathan Bedford Forrest in the most romantic of ways. One Sunday in August of 1845, on the way home from church the Montgomery's buggy became stranded crossing a stream. Forrest rode up and waded the stream, carrying both Mary Ann and her mother safely to the other side. He introduced himself and asked to call on Mary Ann. The couple fell in love quickly and he was able to gain permission to marry her. They married September 25, 1845. Mary Ann Montgomery Forrest died in January 1893 in Memphis.



The Bridge

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Sons of Confederate Veterans



Presenting the true history of the South
since 1896

Camp No. 842 Calendar

Mar 17	Regular Camp Meeting 7 pm
Mar 20-21	SC Division Convention Spartanburg
Apr 18	Annual Banquet - Pastor John Weaver
Apr 21	Regular Camp Meeting 7 pm
May 8	Rivers Bridge Confederate Memorial Day

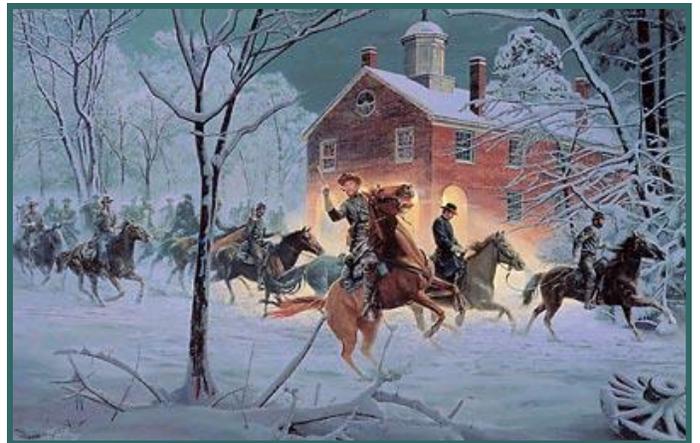
Sons of Confederate Veterans

The Fairfax Raid

At Fairfax Court House, Mosby and his men rounded up more than 30 Federal prisoners - including General Edwin H. Stoughton. The feat would make Mosby famous as the Confederate "Gray Ghost" and would give "Mosby's Rangers" a fearsome reputation.

They moved boldly through the winter night. Slipping through enemy lines, the tiny band of gray-clad horse soldiers rode quietly past the snow-covered fields and forests of northern Virginia. Leading them was 29-year-old Lieutenant John Singleton Mosby, a former scout for Confederate cavalry commander J. E. B. Stuart. Their target was Fairfax Court House and their intent was to capture a Yankee general.

"I shall mount the stars tonight," Mosby had vowed as the raid began, "or sink lower than plummet ever sounded." Outside Fairfax Court House, they passed undetected through a gap in the Northern picket line and entered the village in the early



morning darkness. There Mosby raided the headquarters of Brigadier General Edwin H. Stoughton, and roused the Federal general from his bed with a slap on the backside. Stoughton demanded to know who had so rudely awakened him. Recalled Mosby: "I then asked him if he had ever heard of Mosby, and he said he had. 'I am Mosby,' I said... 'be quick and dress.'"

Evading several thousand Northern troops, Mosby and his men made their way back to Confederate lines leading a string of captured horses, more than 30 Federal prisoners and a dejected Federal brigadier general. Mosby's Fairfax Raid ended Stoughton's military career, brightened Southern spirits and produced a promotion for Mosby. It was, proclaimed J. E. B. Stuart, "A feat unparalleled in the war...." Mosby's men, Company A of the 43rd Battalion of Virginia Cavalry, became known as "Mosby's Rangers," and Colonel John Singleton Mosby became famous as the Confederate "Gray Ghost."