



THE BRIDGE

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



September 2016

Ambrose Gonzales Newsletter Award Winner 2009, 2012 & 2013

Volume XXII Issue 9



Camp Officers

Peter D. Boineau

Commander

5149 Broxton Bridge Road

Bamberg, SC 29003

boineausgunshop@gmail.com

Joseph "Buzz" Braxton II

1st Lieutenant Commander

buzzbraxton@gmail.com

Robert Keel

2nd Lieutenant Commander

kline@barnwellsc.com

Donald Webster

3rd Lieutenant Commander

Retention & Recruiting

websterdrd@yahoo.com

Charles L.D. Carlson

Adjutant

Chaplain

Bridge Editor

sev842@wildblue.net

Claude Manuel

Treasurer

manuelcarts@yahoo.com

Carl Platts

Judge Advocate

Carl.platts@yahoo.com

Coleman Loadholt

Quartermaster

Roy Hart, Jr.

Surgeon

Ira Beach

Color Sergeant

ibeach@embarqmail.com

Vacant

Historian

Compatriots and friends,

Well, the summer is history but I hope you had a good one with many pleasant memories made. These months seem to fly by and more and more I am at a loss as to what to write in this space. As your commander, I feel compelled to write words of encouragement in spite of what is going on around us. Your days are no doubt filled with negativity and I need not add to it. Do not misunderstand me, I do not mean that we should hide our heads in the sand concerning the assault on much of what we hold dear. However, it does us absolutely no good to rehash the negative without coming up with a course of action to counter it or, at least, to encourage us to stand firm against it.

We are not the first to feel "the victor's" wrath; our ancestors knew it well. They stood in the way of a centralized government just as we are now impediments to the ultimate fulfillment of the agenda to wield total power over people. I feel sure that at times you feel frustrated and powerless and may ask, "I am but one, what can I do?" There is ample evidence that our ancestors sought firstly spiritual comfort. They remembered the words of the Psalmist who wrote, "I will lift up my eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord, who made heaven and earth." They then sought unity with their friends and neighbors and encouraged one another in whatever way they could. The result was that they persevered. Simple as that may sound, I believe that we can do likewise and at the very least our daily existence will be less stressful. Choose to light a candle rather than curse the darkness.

Mike Skinner and Jim Kilgore of the Colcock Camp in Jasper County were our guests last month. Mike made a very interesting presentation on the often overlooked Battle of Honey Hill. The Colcock Camp is doing some exciting things in cooperation with local government to preserve and make available to the public this little known battle site. He also issued an invitation to our camp for a guided tour of the site in its present state. Let's not let this opportunity escape us; cooler weather is not far away so let us consider putting this on our calendar for the near future.

Our guest speaker for this month had to be changed at the last minute and is unknown at this time. **About 10 men have not renewed as yet, but we continue to hope they will.** As always, take time to contact a camp member whom you may not have seen in a while and ask them to come with you. Like the Marines, we too are looking for "a few good men." Some who aspire to leadership and possess the vigor and energy of "youth" are especially needed. Mind you, I am not denigrating our senior members because I AM ONE. We have all been around long enough to understand exactly what I mean.

Be of good cheer, encourage someone today and meet us at Barker's Mill on Tuesday, September 20, 2016 at 7PM.

Pete

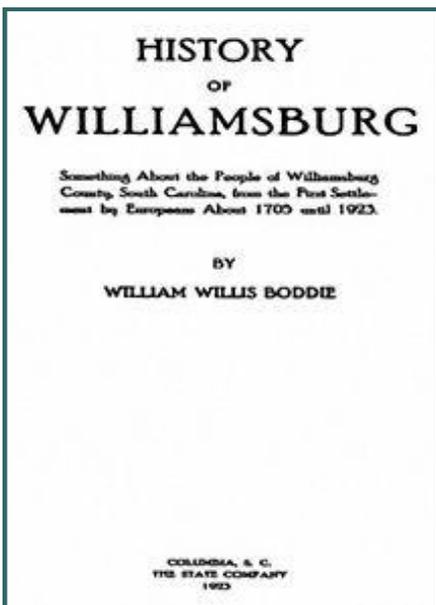


Pete Boineau

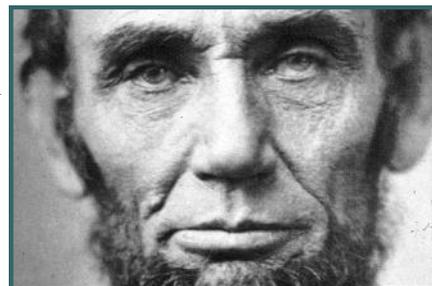
Commander

The following is excerpted from, *History of Williamsburg, from 1705 – 1923*, By William Willis Boddie Columbia, SC; The State Company, 1923.

It follows an account of the losses of soldiers from Williamsburg County in 1864.



Out of all this suffering and death grew hatred for Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States. From the beginning, the Southern people seemed to realize that this man stood between them and the destiny they desired. They called the North Lincolnism and its people Lincolnites. The Southern people were about correct in their estimate of Lincoln's powerful personality. He seems to have been the only man of the War who could have controlled.



Hatred for Abraham Lincoln was, and is, powerful in Williamsburg. No man can measure what this hatred has wrought in Williamsburg. It is interesting to know how the newspapers fed this flame of hatred. In the Courier of November 9, 1864, appears the following under the caption: "God Bless Our Noble President."

"A Republican paper in the North exclaims 'God Bless our Noble President.' To this a Western paper says: 'God bless our noble President; and for what? Bless him for being the poorest apology for a Chief Magistrate the world ever saw. Bless our noble President for being the only clown, buffoon, and story teller ever elevated to a position

of influence in this country. Bless him for filling the land with smutty jokes, with vile mouthed and obscene stories which even blackguards by profession are ashamed to repeat. Bless him for over-riding all law, both human and divine. Bless him for his imbecile incompetency and for his success in ruining a great nation. Bless him for turning a war for the preservation of the Union and for the suppression of the rebellion into a wicked, murderous, crusade for cotton, negroes, and power. Bless him for making a million of widows and five millions of orphans. Bless him for robbing the North of its bone and sinew, and for using the bodies of those who have served for enriching the soil of rebel territory. Bless him for piling mountains of taxes upon us- for the stamps we use-for the depreciation of our currency-for the poverty, ruin, and suffering in the land -for the thousands of women who have been forced into houses of prostitution-f or the thousands of broken hearts -for the thousands of orphan children who -will curse him forever-for the army of cripples-for the corruption in high places-f or the trampling upon the liberties of a free people-for the freeing of negroes by a stroke of his pen-for continuing this war until slaves are free, thus proving the foolishness of his proclamation-for the failure of our armies-for the deprivation of its rights which has made America the home of the oppressed. Yes, bless our noble President.'"

It almost sounds like not everyone was a fan of "Honest Abe."

Corporal Taliaferro N. Simpson (Tally) of the 3rd South Carolina Infantry was killed at Chickamauga on Sunday, September 20, 1863. He was given the middle name "Calhoun" at birth, but changed it later to the initial "N" for nothing. The letter regarding his death begins below and is continued on page 4.

Ringgold, Georgia RR
Sept 22, 1863

My Dear Bro Simpson

It is my mournful duty to communicate to you and your dear family the fact that your son and my young friend, Tally, fell on the bloody field of Sunday last, 20th inst. He was shot through the heart by a Minnie ball, his left arm was broken, and either a canister or grape shot passed through his head, supposed to be after he fell. He was doing his duty and met his fate as a brave soldier. He fell with his face to the foe.

I buried him yesterday, putting him away as carefully as the circumstances allowed. I placed him by the side of Capt Williams whom you know. The grave is marked. It is near the home of R.H. Dyer, Walker County Geo, 4 miles from Crawfish Springs. Harry Miller's boy, Jim, was with me, and should you at any time desire to remove him, Jim can identify the spot.

My Bro, you have my prayers and sympathies under this sore bereavement, for though I know that as much as possible you were prepared for such an event, yet you can but mourn for your first born and noble son. I feel as though I too had lost a child.

Chickamauga

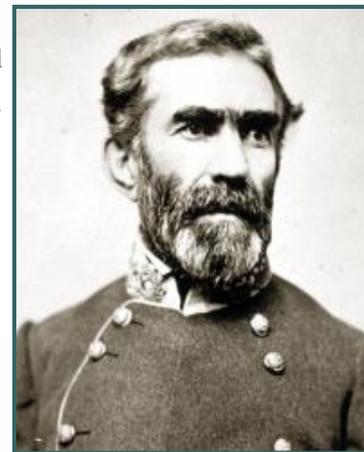
SEPTEMBER 18-20, 1863

In September we quite often recall the dreadful fight at Sharpsburg (Antietam); let us not forget the carnage of bloody Chickamauga.

Did you know that Chickamauga was the largest Confederate victory in the Western theater? At the end of a summer that had seen the disastrous Confederate loss at Gettysburg and Vicksburg, the triumph of the Army of Tennessee at Chickamauga was a well-timed turn around for the Confederates. Bragg's forces at Chickamauga secured a decisive victory, breaking through Federal lines after two days of fierce fighting and driving the Yankee army into a siege at Chattanooga. Bragg, however, could not afford another victory like the one at Chickamauga; he lost nearly twenty percent of his effective fighting force. With 16,170 Union and 18,454 Confederate casualties, the Battle of Chickamauga was the second costliest battle of the War of Northern Aggression, ranking only behind Gettysburg, and was by far the deadliest battle fought in the West.

Two of the bloodiest days of the War for Southern Independence (Sept. 19-20, 1863)

In fall 1863, some of the hardest fighting of the War for Southern Independence occurred in the fields and thick woods of northwest Georgia. The prize was Chattanooga, Tenn., a key rail center and gateway to the Confederate heartland. On Sept. 19, 1863, 66,000 Confederate troops under General Braxton Bragg attempted to dislodge an army of 58,000 Federals under the command of Major General William S. Rosecrans south of Chattanooga at Crawfish Springs, Ga. The ensuing engagement would become known as **the Battle of Chickamauga**, one of the major battles of the War for Southern Independence.



General Braxton Bragg



Cleburne at Chickamauga

Fighting began early in the morning on Sept. 19 between Federal infantry and Confederate cavalry and would spread throughout the day into a general engagement along Lafayette Road. The opposing armies fought desperately all day, often hand-to-hand, resulting in no clear advantage.

During the next day's fighting, Rosecrans mistakenly ordered a troop movement that opened a gap in the Federal line. The gap was opened just as Confederate Lt. General James Longstreet's corps, newly arrived from Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia, attacked that very point. Longstreet's men smashed through the hole, rolling up the Federal line on both sides and routing half of Rosecrans' army.

Union General George H. Thomas rallied many of the retreating Federals and formed a new line of defense on Snodgrass Hill, also known as Horseshoe Ridge, staving off the destruction of the Union army. The defense line held against concentrated Confederate assaults, earning Thomas the nickname "Rock of Chickamauga."

After dark on Sept. 20, the Union army withdrew from the field and retreated into Chattanooga and fortified their position. General Bragg was slow to pursue the retreating Federals, allowing them to gain a firm hold on the city that he would put under siege.

Chickamauga was the bloodiest two-day battle of the war, costing the South 18,000 killed, wounded and missing. The Federals suffered about 16,200 casualties in this epic battle that would have lasting effects on the war.

The Battle of Chickamauga shook up the high command of both the Union and Confederate armies. While the Federals fortified Chattanooga, General Sherman was transferred from Vicksburg to Chattanooga, and General Joseph Hooker with two full corps was ordered down from the Army of the Potomac. General Grant was given overall command of Union forces in the West. The stage was being set for the Atlanta Campaign and the rest of the war in the Western theater.

The Bridge

561 Appleton Road
Allendale, SC 29810

EMAIL: scv842@wildblue.net

WEB: www.riversbridgecamp842.com



Sons of Confederate Veterans



Presenting the true history of the South
since 1896

Camp No. 842 Calendar

Sep 17, 1862	Battle of Sharpsburg (Antietam)
Sep 18-20, 1863	Battle of Chickamauga
Sep 20	Regular Camp Meeting 7 pm
Oct 18	Regular Camp Meeting 7 pm
Oct 8, 1862	Battle of Perryville, Kentucky
Nov 15	Regular Camp Meeting



I have known him since he was a boy, and then he was the son of you whom I number among my dearest friends. May God's grace sustain you and the family and enable you to say "Thy will be done."

Tally was a good soldier & loved by every one for his gentle demeanor. Few have fallen more lamented. I had several close conversations with him on his religious condition, and I assure you you have good grounds to hope that he is now in the heavenly land. I believe he tried to live right, and he died in the discharge of duty. I hope to see you before long and will give you whatever additional particulars I may.

Jim has his watch, ring, & other things and will turn them over to Harry I judge very soon or send them to you. Harry was not in the fight, being left sick at Dalton as we came on. I know nothing of him since.

You will have seen the particulars of this great battle in the papers before you get this, so I will not burden you with them. We have lost heavy, but thank God have up to this

time gained a great victory with every prospect of making it complete & decisive. I cannot give an estimate for the aggregates have not been made up. My regt lost Col Bland & Maj Hard, several captains & lieuts wounded, some seriously, but most slightly. The 3rd Regt lost 166 men, 26 killed, among them Capt (Puts) Williams and dear Tally. I might give you other names, but I know the lists will be published early.

It was the most stubborn fight probably of the war, much depending upon it and both parties aware of the stake. We fought them two days, 19th & 20th. Yesterday they could not be found and only a little fighting late in the day. We have many prisoners their hospitals and wounded. I was in one of the hospitals. It is said we have got many cannon. I counted sixteen, and loads of muskets. It is said the enemy is crossing the river in great confusion and will lose most of his artillery, wagons, and supplies. Oh that it may be so! Amen! I trust the victory will be complete. If so, there will be little to oppose our march to the Ohio. Who knows but this may be the beginning of the end. I could tell you much but I have several letters to write and I am well nigh broken down though I am quite well.

Do give my kindest regards to the family and let me have a constant remembrance in all your prayers, and be assured of the same from me.

Yours in sadness,
John M. Carlisle



GRAVESTONE OF TALLY SIMPSON