



THE BRIDGE

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



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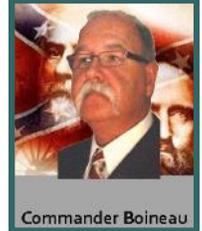
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Compatriots,

It is Friday, September 6th, and to look at the sky today you'd never think that a major hurricane made a near miss on us just yesterday. I believe we can agree that we have been blessed and can thank the Good Lord for it. For those of you fortunate enough to have property at the coast, I trust that your loss has been minimal.



Commander Boineau

Our Camp elections will be coming up in the not too distant future; for those who would like to play a larger role in our Camp administration, please keep this in mind and plan accordingly. There seems to be a tendency in churches and civic organizations to ride the good horses into the ground while the rest enjoy the scenery. At some point though we have to be honest with ourselves and ask, "Is this really the wisest use of assets and the best thing for the organization; is it fair to those who are doing the bulk of the work?" The sad answer just may be, "I don't really care as long as I'm not the one doing the work." I certainly hope that this is not the case in our Camp. Are we prepared for the day when weariness overcomes dedication and key persons just walk away in frustration? How can we address the problem so we don't have to be concerned about it?

On a more positive note; let us consider how we may be an encouragement to one another. One simple way is through attendance. One's very presence can be uplifting to others; it is comforting and reassuring to feel that you are not the only one who holds the beliefs that you do. Just as we lift the spirits of our brothers and sisters in the faith by our presence in church we too can have a positive impact on our SCV Compatriots by being at meetings. If ever this comradery was needed, it is now. Please do your part.

We continue to welcome ideas for making our meetings more appealing so please do not hesitate to share your ideas with us. Many of you travel considerable distances to meetings so we want to make our meetings as much as is possible worthy of the time that you invest. The plain truth is that without you we are nothing; without your input our chances of success are very slim. Can we count on you? I hope to see you at Barker's Mill on the 17th.

Pete

First They Came for the Confederate Flag

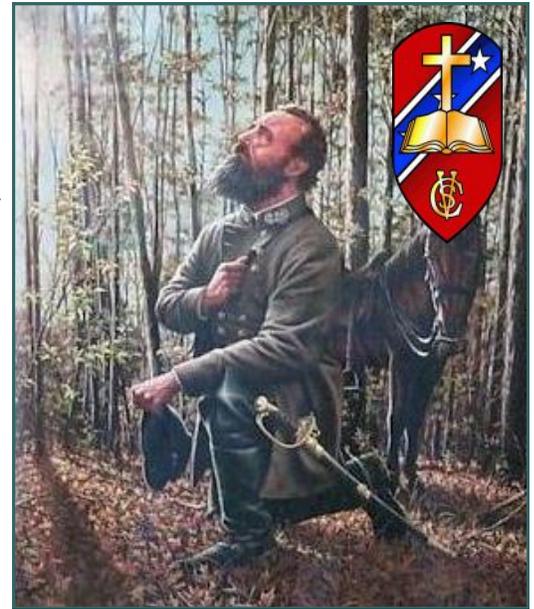
When the hue and cry was raised to get rid of the Confederate Flag from all public venues and even shame folks into removing it from private ones, who came to our defense? That's correct, very few if any. Now they have come for the "Betsy Ross Flag" as a "symbol of hate" because it has been coopted by white supremacists. Does this technique sound familiar? Does this sound like the same old line you fell for when they threw the Confederate Flag "under the bus?" It seems time to refresh your knowledge of not only the history of the south, but the United States in general. This woeful ignorance of history is leading us down the road to serfdom. Don't take the main street media's word for things; open a book and discover again, if not for the first time, the source of our freedoms. It is time well spent.

The Power of Prayer

What a privilege is ours, the privilege of prayer! We are to pray in times of adversity, lest we become faithless and unbelieving. We are to pray in times of prosperity, lest we become boastful and proud. We are to pray in times of danger, lest we become fearful and doubting. We need to pray in times of security, lest we become self-sufficient. Sinners, pray to a merciful God for forgiveness! Christians, pray for an outpouring of God's Spirit upon a willful, evil, unrepentant world. Parents, pray that God may crown your home with grace and mercy! Children, pray for the salvation of your parents!

Christians, saints of God, pray that the dew of Heaven may fall on earth's dry, thirsty ground, and that righteousness may cover the earth as the waters cover the sea. Pray, believing, with this promise of our Savior in mind, "Whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them (Mark 11:24).

"Satan trembles when he sees the weakest saint upon his knees"—so pray, Christian, pray!



September 18-20, 1863: The Battle of Chickamauga

On September 18-20, 1863, Union and Confederate forces engaged in the Battle of Chickamauga, a bloody Civil War battle fought near the Chickamauga Creek in Georgia. The battle ended in a victory for Confederate forces and resulted in 34,000 casualties. It marked the end of a Union offensive in southeastern Tennessee and northwestern Georgia known as the Chickamauga Campaign. It is widely considered to be the second deadliest battle of the Civil War, following the Battle of Gettysburg.

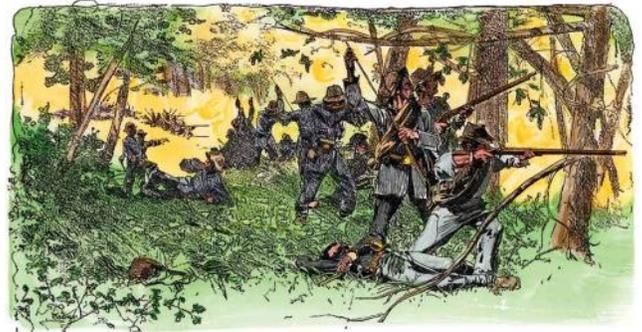
In the summer of 1863, Maj. Gen. William Rosecrans led his Union Army of the Cumberland from Murfreesboro, Tennessee, towards Chattanooga, 140 miles to the south. Chattanooga was an important rail junction for the South. The goal was to use the Federal army of about 60,000 to surround the city and cut off escape for Gen. Braxton Bragg and his Army of the Tennessee numbering about 40,000.

As the Union Army approached Chattanooga in early September, Bragg and his army abandoned the city and retreated to Chickamauga Creek, just 12 miles away. There they awaited reinforcements. More than 30,000 Confederate troops poured in, boosting morale. Now on the offensive, the Confederates set out on the morning of September 18, 1863, to cross two bridges on the Chickamauga Creek. They encountered Union infantry and cavalymen armed with Spencer repeating rifles blocking the way. Skirmishes ensued but Bragg's army eventually made it across the creek.

As evening approached, the Confederates encountered Union troops north of Lee and Gordon's Mills. Rosecrans huddled with George Thomas, a Union general, to strategize and hold open a path of retreat back to Chattanooga for Union forces. Thomas gathered troops and marched through the night to extend Union lines northward and guarantee safe passage. After marching all night, the weary and thirsty soldiers stopped to prepare breakfast near a farm owned by Elijah Kelly. Thomas soon learned that an isolated enemy force was nearby in the woods. He sent a division of his men eastward to contend with them. Fighting broke out in earnest and intensified as it spread across an area covering four miles.

The battle raged throughout September 19th. Confederate forces pounded away at the Union line but were not able to break it, leaving both sides exhausted. As night fell, temperatures dropped, and soldiers endured a night of freezing temperatures. The dead and wounded littered the fields including Merritt J. Simonds of the 42nd Illinois, Company K. He lay wounded on the battlefield for nearly a week before being attended to. On October 8th, he wrote his father a letter saying he had been severely wounded but was optimistic for recovery. He wrote a second letter on October 27th saying, "My leg is now mortifying above the knee and doctors say I cannot live more than two days at the longest. You must not take this to heart but look to a higher source for God's comfort, for it is God's will and I feel resigned to my fate...I would like to have my body taken home and buried beside my mother." Simonds died shortly after and his remains lie in Chattanooga National Cemetery.

The morning of September 20th, Bragg planned a dawn attack against Union forces but a breakdown in communication delayed the first engagement until 9:30 a.m. This allowed Federal soldiers time to organize and set up a defense. In the late morning, incorrect information was transmitted to Rosecrans stating that a gap had developed in the Union line. While attempting to shore up the gap, he inadvertently moved units and created an actual gap. Confederates quickly exploited the weakness and surged through and pushed 1/3 of the Union army, including Rosecrans, off the field. Union soldiers began to retreat. Some of them, however, created a defensive line on Horseshoe Ridge near the farm of George Snodgrass. They held the ridge until evening allowing more Union soldiers to retreat, but the Confederates earned the victory.



THE NEED FOR TRUE GENTLEMEN

by Dr. Rondel Rumburg

Dr. Rumburg is a prolific author, a Presbyterian Pastor, and a former Chaplain-in-Chief of the Sons of Confederate Veterans.

A "gentleman" is a genteel man. In other words he is noble in the Christian sense of the word. he is a man of character. Character is actually what a man is and not what a man is perceived to be or perceives himself to be, which is reputation. Douglas Southall Freeman distilled Robert E. Lee's visible life into one word, "Character!"

General R.E. Lee was considered the consummate Southern Christian gentleman. He exemplified the best in Southern manhood. Freeman remarked, "In Lee the South sees character...Success could no dim it. Public adulation could not tarnish it. Defeat could only test it. For character is invincible."



How can Southern men lead the South back to the culture of their forefathers? Certainly not by aping men such as the drunken Grant, the pyromaniac Sherman, or the agnostic Lincoln. The South must have men such as Lee, Jackson, Stuart Davis, Stevens, Pelham and the myriad of others who were Christian gentlemen. These Christian gentlemen practiced their faith in a manly way. Christian gentlemen are not effeminate! Southern men of Confederate ancestry must seek to become such gentlemen. Unless this is true of us no amount of flag waving, monument preservation, moralizing about our Confederate dead, promotion of Southern literature or any such will make a lasting impact on our generation. We must be men whose lives demand respect and thus have credibility.

First, one needs to be a Christian to be such a gentleman. In creation "God hath made man upright" but in the fall man "sought out many inventions." Man has tried to evade God's mandates for his life. Man outside Christianity has "many inventions" or many fallen speculations of heart that are foreign to God. A christian is a person who has had a regenerating work of the Holy Spirit; has been convicted of his sins against God and has embraced Christ as his only Lord and Savior. He is given a new nature whereby old things have passed away and all things have become new. He then has the Christian graces of love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, meekness, temperance, and many more such attributes, which are the true traits of character. Lee reflected, "I can only say that I am nothing but a poor sinner, trusting in Christ alone for salvation." Lee's life exemplified the presence of those Christian graces.

Second, when a man is a Christian he will be on his way to being a gentleman. Thomas Nelson Page, the great Southern writer wrote, to his father, "To be a...gentleman was his first duty; it embraced being a Christian and all the virtues." Dabney Carr Harrison heart Lee say, "The virtue and fidelity which should characterize a soldier, can be learned from the holy pages of the Bible alone." Lee as president of Washington College, explained the code of honor-"be a gentleman". That was succinct and implied what the culture of the day expected, which included a man who was a practicing Christian. Lee answered an inquiring student, "Young gentlemen, we have no printed rules. We have but one rule here, and that is that every student must be a gentleman." Sadly the Southern culture of today is not producing such men. The cause seems to be ignoring or despising of Biblical Christianity, which leaves men pagans. Paul the apostle warned against "having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof," and he said, "from such turn away."

Lee composed a test for a true gentleman during the war for Southern independence. "The forbearing use of power does not only form a touchstone, but the manner in which an individual enjoys certain advantages over others is a test of a true gentleman. The power which the strong have over the weak, the magistrate over the citizen, the employer over the employed, the educated over the unlettered, the experienced over the confiding, even the clever over the silly - the forbearing or inoffensive use of all this power or authority, or a total abstinence from it when the case admits it, will show the gentleman in plain light. The gentleman does not needlessly remind an offender of a wrong he may have committed against him. He can not only forgive, he can forget; and he strives for that nobleness of self and mildness of character which imparts sufficient strength to let the past be but the past. A true man of honor feels humbled himself when he cannot help humbling others." The need of the hour is Southern men of quality, which is another way of reiterating the point of this article. Lee certainly has a grasp of it and exemplified it. Even so the sons of the Confederate soldiers, as well as other men, should be men of quality. It is written, "Honor your father."

What is required of such Southern men? And what is not meant by it? The men needed are those who not only respect Christianity, but who are Christians in the true sense of the Word. Such men who are needed do not just acknowledge the Bible to be God's Word, but they practice the principles of that Word in every facet of life. The kind of men needed not only favor honor, but they are honorable. They not only desire respect, but they are respectful and respectable. Needed are men who do not just want to be treated honestly, but are men of integrity. Gentlemen respect the Lord, the home, the family, womanhood, neighbors and the church for which the Savior died.

The Old South could not conceive of a Christian who was not a gentleman or a gentleman who was not a Christian. The sons of such illustrious ancestors must return to the old ways if they would experience the old days. ~ Deo Vindice

The Bridge

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Sons of Confederate Veterans



Presenting the true history of the South
since 1896

Camp No. 842 Calendar

Sep 17 Regular Camp Meeting - 7PM
Oct 5 Symposium - *State of Rebellion: South Carolina's Place in the American Revolution*. SC Archives & History Center. Additional info at: 803-896-0339 or DFoster@scdah.sc.gov
Oct 15 Regular Camp Meeting 7PM

Sons of Confederate Veterans

Why did Lincoln break the truce at Fort Pickens and precipitate the war by sending troops to Fort Sumter?

Lincoln did not think that war would result by sending troops to Fort Pickens, and it would give him the appearance of asserting the national authority. But he knew that hostilities would certainly ensue if he attempted to reinforce Fort Sumter. He was, therefore, at first in favor of withdrawing the troops from that Fort, and allowed assurances to that effect to be given out by Seward, his Secretary of State. But the deciding factor with him was the tariff question. In three separate interviews, he asked what would become of his revenue if he allowed the govern-

ment at Montgomery to go on with their ten per cent tariff. He asked, "What would become of his tariff (about 90 per cent on the cost of goods) if he allowed those people at Montgomery to go on with their ten per cent tariff." (See authorities cited in Tyler, Tyler versus Lincoln, p. 4.) Final action was taken when nine Governors of high tariff States waited upon Lincoln and offered him men and supplies. The protective tariff had almost driven the country to war in 1833; it is not surprising that it brought war in 1861. Indeed, this spirit of spoliation was so apparent from the beginning that, at the very first Congress, Grayson, one of our two first Virginia Senators, predicted that the fate reserved to the South was to be "the milch-cow of the Union." The New York Times, after having on March 21, 1861, declared for separation, took the ground nine days later that the material interests of the North would not allow of an independent South!

