



Newsletter of Capt. W.H. McCauley Camp 260 • Dickson County Tennessee



Vol. 1 No. 8

Sons of Confederate Veterans Camp 260

December 2004

Camp 260 Officers

Commander Bryan A. Sharp • Lt. Commander Stephen F. Tucker • Adjutant / Treasurer Joseph R. Bailey
Historian Jack Bowker • Chaplain Paul Reynolds



In 1863 the Yankee blockade of the Southern coast had made it nearly impossible to buy anything in the stores. Scarcity of goods and the consequent high prices put both store-bought presents and raw materials for homemade gifts out of financial reach of most Southern consumers. Quite a few Mothers had to explain to their children that Santa even though he loved all Southern children he would not be able to run the formable blockade on Christmas to bring a gift for them. But somehow looking into their sad eyes made the Mothers go without and dig a little deeper for a small holiday offering from Santa as every one in the South knew **SANTA'S A CONFEDERATE** and would not forget the "Children of the Grand South"...

The Spirit of Christmas Past.....

Christmas Letters from Confederate Soldiers
The Campaign Diaries of Thomas J. Kay, CSA
and Robert J. Campbell
edited by Wirt Armistead Cate, 1938

December 23rd [1863]

Since the cook had been sent out to purchase goods I did the cooking for the mess. He returned at night with a few articles which cost at the following rates: Onions \$2 per dozen; butter \$3 per pound; chickens \$3 each; pork \$1 per pound; also some eggs at \$3 per dozen to make some eggnog for Christmas. Today I wrote a lengthy letter to my wife, but the person I had intended to carry it had gone. This was a disappointment.

December 24th

This morning battalion guard mounting began for the three batteries. It is Christmas Eve. I am sitting in my little cabin and my thoughts carry me away to Helena where I see my good wife before the hearth with three children around her; the eldest a girl standing and looking earnestly into her mother's face; the second a boy five years old, sitting in a small chair looking into the fire; and the youngest a girl about four,

leaning on her mother's lap—all listening attentively to what their intelligent mother is relating in regard to the visits of Santa Claus. having visited them on former Christmas Eves with presents of toys, their curiosity is at its height to know if he will come tonight and fill their stockings. Ah, will not these little innocents be disappointed? Their father has not seen them for twenty months, and is now far away battling for home and liberty, and has no means by which he can convey them toys or money to purchase them. Whether their mother has the means to spare in procuring Christmas presents for them is unknown to me, but I pray heaven to provide her with the necessaries of life, and to bless and cheer the young and innocent hearts of my children during the Christmas holidays. Happy Christmas to my wife and children!

December 25th

Before breakfast the Doctor made some eggnog, a worthy luxury that is seldom enjoyed in the army. Had sausages for breakfast, quite a treat, the first within the last twelve months. Ralph Bailey and Willie Smith called at my cabin about eleven o'clock, when Bailey made the second eggnog. All went smoothly in the battery. Out in the open air some of the men were hopping to the notes of an old fiddle, trying to be merry.

SELMA, November 12, 1864.

General BRAGG:

Following received, dated near Johnsonville, 5th:

My forces under Generals Chalmers and Buford attacked Johnsonville yesterday evening from side of river, destroying the town and burning 3 gun-boats, 11 steamers, and 15 barges, a portion of the latter laden with quartermaster and commissary stores, also burnt most of the stores on the landing and in warehouses. The expedition thus far has resulted in a loss to the enemy of 4 gun-boats, 8 guns each, 14 steam-boats, and 17 barges, and quartermaster's stores estimated at from 75,000 to 120,000 tons. The quantity burned on the wharf and in buildings was immense. Fire still raging.

N. B. FORREST,
Major-General.

R. TAYLOR,
Lieutenant-General.



Sam Watkins Brigade Cmdr. Jason Goodrich presents Nathan Bedford Forrest Park Superintendent Robert Wood with a Johnsonville print & original wood from Forrest's boyhood home in Chapel Hill on behalf of our brigade. An engraved plaque on the print includes the name of all camps in our brigade.

DUE TO THE FIRST SAT. IN JAN. FALLING ON NEW YEAR'S DAY, OUR NEXT MEETING AT ST. PAUL WILL BE MOVED TO THE FOLLOWING SAT. JAN. 8TH AT NOON. TN DIV. CMDR. ED BUTLER WILL BE OUR HONORED GUEST SPEAKER TO START THE YEAR OFF RIGHT & CHRISTEN OUR NEW HOME. HIS PROGRAM WILL BE "THE GREATEST FIGHTING FORCE EVER ASSEMBLED".

PLEASE MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND.

Cleburne Story Told on 140th Anniversary of His Death

By ELIZABETH FARRELL Special to The Daily World

"There was no help for it. The pillow was found and I was a corporal no longer." Patrick Ronayne Cleburne explained his sudden demotion in the British army at age 20. Two years of good behavior earned him the short-lived raise. To ease the rigors of a regimental drill, Cleburne put a pillow in his knapsack instead of the usual 20 pounds of gear. Midway through the drill came a routine order for knapsack inspection. The pillow was exposed.

The man remembered as a great Confederate general served 3 1/2 years under British command in Ireland. He was born March 16, 1828 in Cork, Ireland's southernmost county where palm trees grow on the coastline warmed by the Gulf Stream.

His mother died in 1829. She left a son, 4, a daughter, 3, Patrick Ronayne (named for his grandfather) nearly 2, and an infant son. From solid gentry, Mary Ann Ronayne's dowry was large enough to provide an annual dividend with a lump sum for each child at age 21. His father's death in 1843 forced him to drop out of a Protestant boys school at age 15. Joseph Cleburne prospered as village doctor. A colleague apprenticed young Patrick and taught him to mix powders for prescribed medicine.

When Dr. Cleburne died he left another daughter and three more sons by his second wife. Patrick remained close to his stepmother and siblings while staying with the kind physician's family in a nearby town. Famine swept Ireland in 1845. Cleburne lost his apprenticeship as the rural economy collapsed. He tried to enter a college of pharmacy in Dublin - Apothecaries Hall turned him down. Medical know-how was not enough to offset his lack of training in Latin.

Cleburne then joined the British army. Two weeks shy of his birthday, he claimed to be 18 and called himself a laborer to match the rank-and-file Irish. They enlisted to escape poverty under England's rule. Cleburne's regiment was originally assigned to another English colony, India. Upheaval in Ireland changed that assignment. Starvation faced tenant farmers when blight wiped out the potato crop. Corn and other grain went strictly to England. The British army shielded landlords from desperate tenants and handled forcible evictions.

About British army life Cleburne said, "every feeling of a softer nature is accounted as a contemptible weakness." Widespread hunger and death shook his stepmother's prosperity. Emigration became her goal for the family. But Cleburne was not free to go until he bought his way out of the army. Soldiers were in debt to the British government if they wanted to leave. Cleburne had just turned 21 and inherited part of his mother's dowry. That released him. With his sister and two brothers he crossed the Atlantic Ocean and landed at New Orleans in 1849. Their destination was Cincinnati, praised by a cousin for its job prospects. Cleburne went to work as a drugstore clerk. His experience in Ireland bolstered him.

Through his employer he got another lead. Two doctors, owners of a drugstore in Helena, needed a manager.

Cleburne was hired. About Arkansas' port city, he said, "pistol and Bowie knife decided every quarrel."

His reorganization of the drugstore impressed the doctors. One of them moved and sold Cleburne half of the business. Dr. Charles Nash, now his partner, became a close friend. Arkansas of that era was the frontier, replete with whiskey. Cleburne sometimes drank. After a drunken bout, he resolved to quit drinking. The temperance movement had his approval.

Cleburne continued to advance himself: literary club (history and biographies his favorite), debating society, chess club (which he founded), Masonic Lodge. In 1853 fellow masons selected him to give the keynote address at their convention.

That same year he went to a revival in a wooded area near Helena. A rough-hewn altar and logs for benches formed an outdoor church. Seeing people "worship God beneath His own ethereal roof" moved Cleburne. A law career was on his mind. Nash agreed to sell the drugstore and split the proceeds. Cleburne had enough money to prepare for the bar exam, which took two years of reading. A Helena law firm opened its library to him. His new direction included politics. When fellow Democrat Thomas Hindman had to miss a speech, Cleburne took his place. He spoke in favor of states rights. Adding other issues, he upheld the right of immigrants to own land and Catholics to hold office, under attack by other parties.

During a yellow fever epidemic in 1855 he and Hindman helped doctors tend the sick. The next year, both agreed to buy a newspaper, the Democrat Star. They renamed it the States Rights Democrat. In 1858 Cleburne traded political rallies for longer hours at the law office. Hindman, also a future Confederate general, won a seat in Congress. The newspaper ceased publication. Loyalty to friends prompted quick action. At the drugstore he ejected a man furious at Nash for opposing his Mormon missionary campaign. Nash later moved to Alabama where Cleburne visited him during the war.

Hindman demanded an apology from a political opponent who deliberately insulted him. He asked Cleburne to back him in a confrontation. Tempers flared. The opponent, with his own backup, drew first. In the shootout the man who angered Hindman was unhurt. His cohort died three days later. Though Hindman's wounds were serious, he recovered. Cleburne seemed close to death. A bullet went through his right lung and stopped at his spine. Ten days later the bullet could be taken out but the damage was done.

"My lungs have never been well since I was wounded. I catch cold on the slightest provocation and an hour's excited debate in the courthouse will sometimes fill my mouth with blood," he said.

Change had come to Phillips County's economy. Between 1850 and 1860 cotton production increased fivefold. Land was plentiful in the vicinity. Congress put 7.5 million acres of wetlands up for sale to fund levees on the Mississippi River. Shrewd buyers grabbed large tracts for 20 cents an acre. Cleburne joined two other lawyers to specialize in title disputes. More land speculation lay ahead. A railroad was on the horizon.

So was national conflict. Cleburne wrote to his half-brother Robert in Kentucky, "My own opinion is that the first blood shed on Southern soil in a collision between the Federal troops and the State authorities of any Southern state will be the signal for civil war."

In another letter he wrote of his fondness for Helena and environs. "These people have been my friends and have stood up for me on all occasions. I am with Arkansas in weal or woe."

Defense required preparedness. Cleburne helped organize a militia in Helena and was elected captain. Other volunteer rifle units took hold across the South. Northern gun dealers supplied the growing demand for munitions. A shipment of arms en route to Arkansas gave Cleburne a taste of how war could divide families. Local officials in Cincinnati had seized the shipment.

Helena's city council then called for seizure of the first Cincinnati-owned vessel in their waters. This ill-fated ship, Queen of the West, belonged to the brother of Cleburne's sister's husband.

Caught in the middle, Cleburne displayed intense emotion. When he pleaded with the council to release the ship "as a favor to me," Cleburne wept openly.

To half-brother Robert, after the ship's return, he wrote, "I thought of you all when I did this thing, that it might make you a friend in the crisis which is now upon us." It was the end of April 1861.

Within days he led his riflemen to enter the War Between the States. After a religious service outside the courthouse, they boarded a steamer. Their gathering place was a camp near Memphis.

Cleburne immediately rose to colonel. Ten companies elected him to command their regiment, the 1st Arkansas Volunteer Infantry. To Robert he wrote, "This is a fearfully responsible position and I dread the honor but intend to turn my attention to it and do the best I can for the cause I am embarked on."

Generals were not subject to a vote. Thomas Bradley, a cotton planter, was appointed by the state military board to command units from the eastern half of Arkansas. He botched the job. Gen. Bradley ordered a fruitless chase of Federal troops after a false rumor, badly mishandling troops and supplies. Cleburne took a risk by reporting his superior. Such a report bordered on mutiny. But his concern was the morale of his men.

To state officials he sent this telegram, "Arkansas forces returned from Bearsfield Point between two suns; a quantity of material abandoned; scouting party of picked men abandoned; no enemy nearer than Cairo (Illinois); we are the laughingstock of the Tennesseans." It was July 1861. Bradley resigned and Gen. William Hardee took command. Two months earlier Arkansas had seceded from the Union. A Jefferson Davis appointee, Hardee (later Cleburne's close friend) stood for the Confederacy.

Arkansas volunteers were at a crossroads. Some thought Hardee intrusive, Confederate or not. So troops were allowed to leave for local militia duty instead of serving under Hardee. Eighty percent of Cleburne's regiment stayed. Sixty percent was the average for other regiments. Cleburne's ascent through the ranks to brigadier general

and major general overcame strong bias against the foreign-born. His devotion to his men set him apart, as did a battle flag carried only by his unit.

When one of his soldiers was in custody for failure to report, Cleburne found the reason. Snow was on the ground and the soldier had no shoes. Cleburne ordered his release and rode to army headquarters. A wagonload of shoes arrived the next day.

On a foray into Missouri, Hardee used Greenville's town hall as their command center. A few Federal prisoners were held there. One night Cleburne awakened to shouts about an escape. He went into the hallway with his pistol and fired at someone running.

The lieutenant guarding them had a nightmare that they got away. Half awake, he sounded a false alarm and ran after the imaginary escapees. Cleburne had shot one of his own.

He begged the dying man's forgiveness. Before the lieutenant died, he forgave him. Cleburne felt deep regret the rest of his life.

At Civil War battle sites in Tennessee and Georgia, Cleburne's valor is well documented. In combat he showed remarkable ability to outmaneuver the enemy even when vastly outnumbered.

Of less renown was his proposal that the slaves be freed to fight for the South. He brought to the presentation of his argument a lawyer's skill. Among fellow officers who supported him was Gen. Thomas Hindman.

While camped in northwest Georgia, Cleburne polled his troops about his idea to free slaves for Confederate military service and extend freedom to their families as well. Would Cleburne's men fight side by side with former slaves? All voted yes.

Cleburne met his death Nov. 30, 1864 at the Battle of Franklin (Tenn.) about 170 miles from Helena. After losing two horses he raised his sword and marched forward. A bullet to the heart killed him on the spot.

Forty minutes earlier he made this statement to his commander, Gen. John Hood. "I have more hope in the final success of our cause than I have at any time since the first gun was fired."

<http://www.helena-arkansas.com/articles/2004/11/30/news/news2.txt>



Historic St. Paul Church building will be preserved

"The Historical Society as a whole appreciates the preservation of this old historical site. This building stands grand and alone with need for love and care. This organization promises to be an asset to the community of Charlotte," said Mary Wright, a Trustee of the Dickson County Historical Society.

On November 24 the Dickson County Historical Society sold the St. Paul Church in Charlotte to Captain W. H. McCauley Camp 260, Sons of Confederate Veterans as a meeting house for the group. The historic church building was built in 1909. An active Presbyterian congregation met in the building for about 70 years. The Historical Society acquired the building in 1982 and hosted quilt shows, gospel singings and Historical Society picnics for several years.

"We want the St. Paul Church to be an asset for the community and county," said John C. Luther, a Historical Society Trustee. "When we purchased the old building from the St. Paul Cemetery Association we did so with a promise that it would be kept as a historical shrine. We feel this historical organization can accomplish their goals. They can make the needed repairs that will restore a lot of its historical importance," said Luther.

"As President of the Dickson County Historical Society, I'm very pleased to have this group buy the building," said Jean Story. "Restoring it and keeping the building so people can always enjoy seeing it will make it an asset for the Charlotte community. I'm sure the SCV Camp will treasure and preserve the building as they have told us they would."

"This is really a win-win for the Historical Society and the SCV Camp," said Bryan Sharp, Commander of Camp 260. "Not only will the Old Jailer's House benefit from this sale raising much needed restoration funds, but we've needed a stable meeting place for a long time to help us to educate the public on little known events that happened in our own back yard during the war. We are very grateful that the Historical Society has expressed their confidence in our goals for preserving the historic building & appreciate the opportunity to do so. The Charlotte Road route was frequently traveled by troops & guerrillas of the 1860's era & a few of our members have family buried at St. Paul which makes it even more special for us. We look forward to being good neighbors."

"I've been very proud of the progress of Camp 260 over the past ten years. It's a tremendous achievement that our local group becomes one of the first Sons of Confederate Veterans Camps in the United States to own its own meeting house," said Rick Hollis, founding Commander of Camp 260 and a Historical Society Director.

"We formed the group to study Civil War history and to honor our ancestors who died in war. We have a tremendous group of people who gather every month to discuss history with outstanding speakers," said Hollis. "When unmarked graves are found, we erect tombstones and when cemeteries are overgrown, we work to clean them up. There is a lot of camaraderie and good will among the group."

The Dickson County Historical Society was formed in 1956 and is headquartered in the Old Jailer's House on the Court Square in Charlotte. In 2005 their meetings will be held quarterly. Meeting dates and locations will be announced. Membership dues are \$10 and all persons are invited to attend all meetings.

Captain W. H. McCauley Camp 260 was re-chartered in 1994 and meets monthly at noon on the first Saturday of each month at the St. Paul Church in Charlotte. Membership is a hereditary organization for male descendants of Confederate soldiers. Anyone interested in learning more about becoming a member is invited to attend any regular meeting, which is always open to the public.



(seated l to r): Jean Story, President, Dickson County Historical Society and Bryan Sharp, Commander, Captain W. H. McCauley Camp 260, Sons of Confederate Veterans (standing l to r): Rick Hollis, Founding Commander, McCauley Camp 260 and Historical Society Director, Mary Wright, Historical Society Trustee and John C. Luther, Historical Society Trustee

2nd Annual Lee-Jackson Dinner announced December 05, 2004

The Col. George H. Nixon Camp No. 214 will conduct its 2nd Annual Lee-Jackson Dinner on Friday, January 14, 2005. The event will be held at the Lawrenceburg Golf & Country Club at 6:30PM. Following a catered meal, the keynote address will be delivered by Winston Groom, distinguished author from Point Clear, Alabama.

Mr. Groom has penned several books, most popular of which was adapted as an Academy Award-winning film, *Forrest Gump*. His other works include *Shrouds of Glory*, *Gone the Sun*, *Better Times than These*, and *A Storm in Flanders: The Ypres Salient, 1914-1918: Tragedy and Triumph on the Western Front*. A silent auction will also be held during the event.

Reservations and seating are limited. Tickets for the meal and event will be \$35 each and may be purchased directly from the Col. George H. Nixon Camp No. 214. Personal checks, cashier checks, and money orders will be accepted if made payable to 'SCV Camp 214'; reservations are to be remitted to the below address:

Col. George H. Nixon Camp No. 214
Lee-Jackson Reservations
Post Office Box 602
Lawrenceburg, Tenn. 38464-0602

Reservations must be received on or before January 07, 2004.

Accommodations

For those traveling great distances, a discounted lodging rate has been secured with the Richland Inn of Lawrenceburg. Rooms are reserved at a rate of \$49.95 + tax, all non-smoking with a choice of either two double beds or a single king size.

To place reservations with the Richland Inn of Lawrenceburg, contact them directly at (931) 762-0061. Please remember that you must mention the SCV in order to receive the discounted rate.



The Funeral of Jefferson Davis

By: Calvin E. Johnson, Jr.
Kennesaw, Georgia 30152

The one hundred fifteenth anniversary of the death of Jefferson Davis will take place on December 6, 2004. Many memorable observances will be sponsored to honor this American Icon.

Jefferson Davis graduated from West Point Military Academy, served valiantly during the War with Mexico, was Secretary of War under Franklin Pierce, was United States Senator from Mississippi and was President of the Confederate States of America. He also wrote, *"The Rise and Fall of the Confederate Government."*

Davis was the happiest, with wife Varina, at their last home that was called "Beauvoir". Beauvoir, today, is a memorial shrine to Jefferson Davis with museum and Presidential Library. Located on the Mississippi Gulf Coast it is open daily.

Jefferson Davis left Beauvoir, in November 1889, on a trip to the plantation called Brierfield. There, he took care of family business. On the way through New Orleans the weather turned colder and he was exposed to the rain and cold. Davis came down with a severe cold and bronchitis that was further complicated by Malaria.

Milo Cooper, a former servant to the Davis family, traveled the long distance from Florida when he heard that Davis was sick. It is written that, upon entering Davis' sick room in New Orleans, Louisiana, Cooper burst into tears and threw himself on his knees in prayer that God would spare the life of Davis and bless his family.

Varina was by her husband's side when Jefferson Davis died between 12:30 and 1:00 on the morning of December 6, 1889. The news of Davis' death was front page news of many Southern newspapers. The praises and tributes read similar to this one from New Orleans:

"Throughout the South there are lamentations and tears; in every country on the globe where there are lovers of liberty there is mourning; wherever there are men who admire heroic patriotism; dauntless resolution, fortitude, or intellectual power and supremacy, there is sincere sorrowing. The beloved of our land, the unfaltering upholder of constitutional liberty, the typical hero and sage, is no more; the fearless heart that beats with sympathy for all mankind is stilled forever, a great light is gone-Jefferson Davis Is Dead!"

Varina Davis was said to have been in a state of shock over the death of her husband. Their daughter Margaret accepted the many letters of condolences that arrived, including telegrams from every governor of the former Confederate states. The first came from Louisiana's Governor Francis T. Nichols and Mississippi's Governor Robert Lowry.

The mortal body of Jefferson Davis laid in state at the city hall of New Orleans from midnight on December 6th to the 11th. He was dressed in Confederate gray and flowers adorned the city hall. Confederate flags and the Union flag were hung from above. Thousands of mourners came from out of town to join the residents of New Orleans to pay their respects to the man who once was the South's beloved leader. The men saluted their former leader and the women bowed their heads in prayer. Tears filled the eyes of young people who were born at the time Jefferson Davis was president of the Confederacy. The church bells rang throughout the city.

Those who served as honor guards at the city hall were men of the Army of Northern Virginia Association, the Army of Tennessee, and the Washington Artillery who were in constant attendance.

On December 11, 1889, twenty thousand people lined the streets of New Orleans as the body of Jefferson Davis was taken, by funeral carriage, to Metairie Cemetery in the crescent city. The funeral procession included those who wore the gray during the War Between the States. All flags flew at half mast. Metairie was a temporary burial site. In 1893, Davis was reburied in Hollywood Cemetery in Richmond, Virginia.

It is sad that the War Department of the United States did not lower the United States flag in his honor. Jefferson Davis was the only former Secretary of War who had ever been denied the honor.

Jefferson Davis, today, is studied and admired by those who believe in constitutional government and freedom.

The information for this letter comes from an article in the 1990, first quarter, edition of Southern Partisan Magazine. The article was entitled, "Jefferson Davis' Death" and was written by Peggy Robbins.

<http://shucks.net/shucks/3.htm>

The Jefferson Davis Funeral Train Story

<http://www.shucks.net/shucks/4.htm>

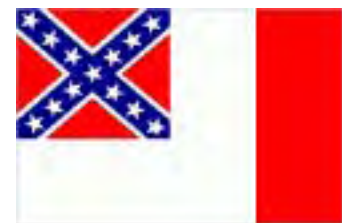
Jefferson Davis Funeral Album

<http://www.nutrias.org/~nopl/photos/jeffd/jeffd.htm>

Charge to the Sons of Confederate Veterans:

"To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we submit 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 he loved and 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."

- Lt. General Stephen Dill Lee, Commander General,
United Confederate Veterans, New Orleans, Louisiana, 1906



Salute to the Confederate Flag

*"I Salute the Confederate Flag with
Affection, Reverence, and Undying
Devotion to the Cause for which it
Stands"*

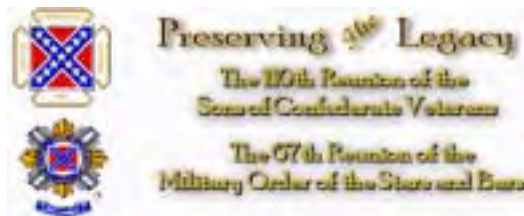
CUMBERLAND FURNACE CEMETERY CLEAN UP THANKS

Gents,

I just wanted to say thanks to all of you who came down to Cumberland Furnace and gave of your time on a pretty day. I feel that we accomplished a great deal of work and this camp has made a lot of friends in Cumberland Furnace! It seemed that we all had a good time spent in fraternal fellowship while accomplishing a meaningful task. I look forward to keeping and making good relationships between historical organizations within the county and using those to accomplish worthwhile projects!

For those of you who could not make it....you missed a fine meal! Thanks to all of those members of the Cumberland Furnace Historic Village Association who really hooked it up for us! Thanks also go to the Cumberland Furnace United Methodist Church for allowing us to use their kitchen facilities. Once again...thanks to everybody for your dedication! Keep your eye in the Dickson Herald as we can expect some good positive press from this. If I don't see any of you before the next meeting, I wish to extend to you and your loved ones my wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

With Confederate Regards,
Adj. Joe Bailey



2005 REUNION

Nashville, Tennessee's Music City Sheraton

July 18th - 23rd

website and info: www.scv2005.com

FEB. 4-6 - Georgia - 10th Annual Great Chickamauga Southern National Civil War Show and Sale
Northwest Georgia Trade & Convention Center, Dalton.

Featuring the best Civil War relic and rare Civil War book dealers in the nation and the largest selection of antique postcard dealers in the south. Features author/historian Richard A. Baumgartner. Top Civil War military antique dealers in the world. Weapons, uniforms, swords, bonds, books, buttons, relics, currency, glassware, jewelry, ladies apparel, documents and more. Admission: \$6. Children under 12 free if accompanied by parent. Special public sneak preview 7 p.m. Friday. Fee: \$15 and includes weekend pass. For more information, call Robert Overstreet, P.O. Box 322, Summerville, Ga. 30747. Phone: 1-800-638-1994.

FEB. 19-20 - Tennessee - 37th Mid-South Civil War and Antique Military Show Fairgrounds Creative Arts Center, Memphis. Show hours are 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday and 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday. One of the oldest and most respected shows in the country with visitors from more than 15 states. Features several large exhibits where proud collectors willingly describe each item and gladly answer any and all questions. Offers a wide variety of quality collectibles, including but not limited to uniforms, rifles, pistols,

FORT NEGLEY TO REOPEN

NASHVILLE, Tenn. - After being closed to the public for nearly 60 years, historic Fort Negley will open in time for the 140th anniversary of the Dec. 15-16, 1864 Battle of Nashville. The re-opening ceremony is scheduled for noon, Friday, Dec. 10.

The opening marks the completion of the first phase of restoration efforts of the Civil War-era inland stone fortification. Visitors will soon be able to stroll along an interpretative walking trail which meanders in and out of the ruins of the fort. An orientation plaza details the history of the Battle of Nashville.

A planned second phase for later next year will add tour guides.

The famous Nashville landmark was constructed by African American laborers during the fall and winter of 1862. The star-shaped fort, which served as headquarters for units of the U.S. Colored Troops, was divided into three sections: The outer redans and bastion fronts, the main works which housed large artillery in reinforced casements and the central wooden stockade.

The fort was designed by U.S. Army engineer James St. Clair Morton. It measured 600 by 300 feet and was composed of dirt, stones and timber. The fort also contained an extensive system of underground magazines and storage spaces.

Fort Negley was the largest Union fort west of Washington, D.C. During the war it served as the largest medical facility in the south. It was a part of the last major battle in the Civil War and was the site of the second largest loss life for soldiers of the U.S. Colored Troops-second only to Petersburg.

The Union army abandoned Fort Negley soon after 1867.

Eventually it fell into ruins. During the 1930s the original fort was filled in and an exact duplicate was built on top as a Works Progress Administration project.

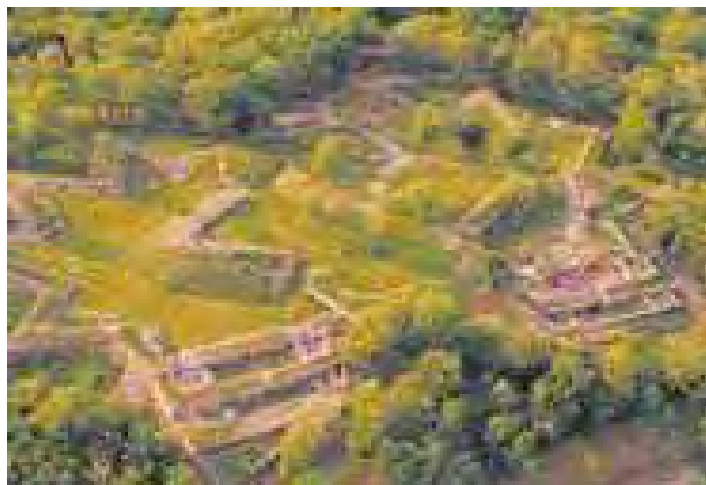
After a few years the fort once again fell into disrepair.

It was closed to the public in 1944.

In 2003, Nashville Mayor Bill Purcell allocated \$2 million for stabilization efforts at the fort. It was originally hoped the fort could be restored, but instead plans were developed to stabilize the site.

It is hoped the reopened fort will add to Middle Tennessee's reputation as a major draw for Civil War enthusiasts. The 28,000-square-foot fort sits on 38 acres near the top of a hill near the intersection of interstates 40 and 65.

For more information about Fort Negley, visit www.bonps.org



swords, books, documents, stamps, limited edition collector prints and other antique military items dating prior to 1898. Admission: \$5 for adults and \$2 for children with Scouts in uniform at half price. Period songs to be played during the show and a living history scene with an authentic camp of soldiers in uniform and marching demonstrations. For more information, call show chairman David Ingram at (901) 566-9383.

Memorial suit to be appealed

by Gabe Morris, vanderbilthustler.com

December 08, 2004

Oral arguments have been scheduled for Jan. 5 in the Tennessee Court of Appeals for a United Daughters of the Confederacy lawsuit against Vanderbilt for removing "Confederate" from the formerly-named Confederate Memorial Hall.

Administrators decided to change the name in 2002.

The case was dismissed in September 2003 by then-Davidson County Chancellor Irvin Kilcrease. Kilcrease found that the contract between the George Peabody College for Teachers and the UDC was "null and void" because a clause of the contract was not met, according to an Oct. 2003 Hustler article.

The UDC contributed \$50,000 to the construction of Memorial Hall in 1935. The building underwent a \$2.5 million renovation in 1987-88, to which the UDC did not contribute.

"The (Chancery) Court has ruled in Vanderbilt's favor — (the UDC) has appealed the decision... Vanderbilt will defend its position and we believe the appeals court will uphold the original decision," said Michael Schoenfeld, vice chancellor for public affairs.

"(The UDC) apparently did not realize that ... discrimination against minorities ... would be against the law," Kilcrease wrote in a memorandum outlining his dismissal of the case. Schoenfeld emphasized that there are currently no plans to move the Confederate engraving on the building, however.

"The name of the building has been Memorial Hall for the last 2 years ... (but) plans have not been made regarding the specific engraving — we will look into this after the legal issues have been resolved," Schoenfeld said.

In court, Vanderbilt said that some prospective students have "refused to attend" Vanderbilt because they were offended by the building's name, according to The City Paper. Administration officials claim that any obligation to the UDC is fulfilled in another plaque on the building.

"There is a plaque on Memorial Hall that was placed there about 15 years ago — we have stated from the beginning that this plaque recognizing (the UDC's) contribution will continue to stay there," Schoenfeld said.

Memorial Hall was originally built to be "a rent-free residence for women students of Confederate ancestry, with financing by the United Daughters of the Confederacy and Peabody College," according to the Vanderbilt Web site.

Vanderbilt merged with Peabody College in 1979.

Congress provides funds for renovation of Confederate headquarters

Associated Press

Dec. 08, 2004

VICKSBURG, Miss. - Congress has allocated \$700,000 for repairs to the house where Confederate Lt. Gen. John C. Pemberton had his headquarters during the Civil War.

The house was added to the Vicksburg National Military Park last year. In 2002, President Bush signed into law a bill adding the Confederate command post to the military park that was created in 1899 to preserve battle sites and siege lines around Vicksburg.

Park officials don't yet know precisely which of the five requests they made to Congress have been approved, said park historian Terry Winschel.

"We're still waiting to see what the language says," Winschel said. "It's an add-on (to an appropriations bill)."

Plans are to operate the home, which was built in 1835, as an interpretive center and museum.

In 1863, Union forces under the command of Maj. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant and Confederate forces under the command of Pemberton fought for control of Vicksburg, a strategic location on the lower Mississippi River.

On July 3, 1863, Pemberton decided to surrender the city while meeting with senior officers at the home. His decision is considered pivotal in the outcome of the Civil War since the surrender gave Union forces control of the Mississippi River and split the Confederacy in half.

The city surrendered to Grant and the Union forces on July 4, 1863.

Information from: The Vicksburg Post,
<http://www.vicksburgpost.com>

N. Chas. donates \$50,000 toward restoring Hunley

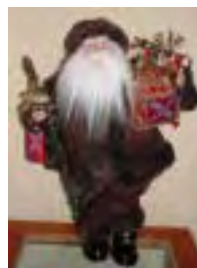
by Chris Rees www.wistv.com

(North Charleston-AP) Dec. 10, 2004 - The City of North Charleston has donated \$50,000 toward the cost of restoring the Confederate submarine Hunley.

A museum to display the first submarine to sink an enemy warship will be built in North Charleston. The city has promised to donate a similar amount annually until the museum opens.

Charleston Senator Glenn McConnell says the donation will help make up for cuts in federal money for the project. The federal Defense Legacy money that has paid most of the project's bills was reduced from \$700,000 last year to \$450,000 this year.

McConnell says he hopes the museum can open by 2008, but that depends on how long it takes to restore the vessel pulled from the Atlantic Ocean off Charleston in 2000.



SAM WATKINS BRIGADE REPORT

12 December, 2004

Compatriots,

I have received the donated relics from artist Jody Thompson of Franklin for our Nathan Bedford Forrest Park Project. He was more than kind & gave us a little bit of everything to display at the park which is being donated to the park for them to have as their property. Relics range from part of a sword, to multiple bullets, to pieces of a canteen, bayonette & a couple of buttons. I would like to ask our good friend Cmdr. Dennis Lampley of Baxter/Fairview #2034 to help in the categorizing of these relics since he is an expert on identifying such things & a former commander in this brigade. We need to have a list by item & pictures to submit to the state for their approval & inventory. As soon as we get the ok from them, Cmdr. Lance Spradlin of the Napier/Waverly Camp 2040, Adj. Joe Bailey of McCauley 260 & I will deliver the items for the permanent display there at Pilot Knob. Contact me if interested in helping as this is a brigade project & all members of the brigade are encouraged to support in their own way.

Elm Springs has donated a limited edition numbered print of Gen. Forrest with Morton's Battery at the Battle of Johnsonville which our brigade had framed with an engraved plaque of every camp's name & number in our brigade. The print was presented to the park in a limited private meeting this week with state park officials & talks are ongoing on our display but look very favorable for us. I wish to thank Brigade Cmdr. Goodrich of Lawrence Co. #214 & Lt. Cmdr. Jackson of Columbia #29 for their help in negotiations. Park Superintendent Robert Wood, formerly of Fort Pillow, has been more than helpful to us in helping to include more into on the actual battle from the Confederate side of the Tennessee River.

The purpose of this project is to get a foot in the door with our local state parks & help in the interpretation our what happened in our own back yard. This will lead to much more if we are successful across the river & finally get the museum opened back up at Johnsonville. The park was thrilled to accept the new addition of the print & Mr. Wood thanks us all for supporting his efforts there.

Caretaker Boots Nix of the Forrest Boyhood Home has donated some original wood, nails, & chinking from the general's home in Chapel Hill. We are submitting official reports of the battle & info on local Confederates of the area.

Please see attached photos.

I will keep you posted on future developments.

Cmdr. B. Sharp
Cap. McCauley 260
DC/SCV

PS: Great job to Cmdr. Spradlin & Bishop Moore on their recent accomplishments in Humphreys Co. with parades & the schools. Please keep the Steve Settle family of Camp #249 in Dover in your prayers as his mother recovers at Vanderbilt hospital from a serious car crash in Clarksville the other night.



SELMA, November 12, 1864.

General BRAGG:

Following received, dated near Johnsonville, 5th:

My forces under Generals Chalmers and Buford attacked Johnsonville yesterday evening from side of river, destroying the town and burning 3 gun-boats, 11 steamers, and 15 barges, a portion of the latter laden with quartermaster and commissary stores, also burnt most of the stores on the landing and in warehouses. The expedition thus far has resulted in a loss to the enemy of 4 gun-boats, 8 guns each, 14 steam-boats, and 17 barges, and quartermaster's stores estimated at from 75,000 to 120,000 tons. The quantity burned on the wharf and in buildings was immense. Fire still raging.

N. B. FORREST,
Major-General.

R. TAYLOR,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FORREST'S CAVALRY CORPS,
Verona, Miss., January 12, 1864.

COLONEL: Continued active service in the field for two months has prevented me from reporting at an earlier day the action of my troops on the expedition along the Tennessee River. I avail myself, however, of the first leisure moment, and have the honor of submitting the following report:

On the 16th of October I ordered Colonel Bell to move with his brigade from Corinth and to form a camp at Lavinia. On the 18th Brigadier-General Buford was ordered to move with the Kentucky brigade to Lexington for the purpose of watching General Hatch, who was reported to be in that direction. I moved from Corinth on the morning of the 19th, with my escort and Rucker's brigade, to Jackson, Tenn. At this place I was joined by Brigadier-General Chalmers with about 250 men of McCulloch's brigade and 300 of Mabry's brigade, which, with Rucker's brigade, constituted his DIVISION. On the 29th I ordered him to proceed to the Tennessee River and there co-operate with Brigadier-General Buford, who was blockading the river at Fort Heiman and Paris Landing. On arriving at the river I found it most, effectually blockaded by a judicious disposition of the troops and batteries sent for this purpose.

On the morning of the 29th, the steamer Mazeppa, with two barges in tow, made here appearance. As she passed the battery at Fort Heiman, supported by Brigadier-General Lyon, she was fired upon by one section of Morton's battery and two 20-pounder Parrott guns. Every shot must have taken effect, as she made for the shore after the THIRD fire and reached the opposite bank in a disabled condition, where she was abandoned by the crew and passengers, who fled to the woods. A hawser was erected on this side of the river and she was towed over, and on being boarded she was found to be heavily loaded with blankets, shoes, clothing, hard bread, &c. While her cargo was being removed to the shore three gun-boats made their appearance, and commenced shelling the men who were engaged in unloading the Mazeppa. They were forced to retire, and fearing the boat might be captured Brigadier-General Buford ordered her to be burned.

On the 30th the steamer Anna came down the river and succeeded in passing both the upper and lower batteries, but was so disabled that she sunk before she reached Paducah. The Anna was followed by two transports (J. W. Cheeseman, the Venus) and two barges under convoy of gun-boat Undine. In attempting to pass my batteries all the boats were disabled. They landed on the opposite side of the river and were abandoned by the crews, who left their dead and wounded. Lieutenant-Colonel Kelley, with two companies of his regiment, was thrown across the river and soon returned to Paris Landing with the boats. The steamer J. W. Cheeseman was so disabled that she was ordered, with the two barges, to be burned; the gun-boat was also burned while moving up the river to Johnsonville. The Venus was recaptured by the enemy on [November 2,] but was destroyed the next day [November 4] at Johnsonville by my batteries.

On the 1st of November I ordered my command to move in the direction of Johnsonville, which place I reached on the 3d. At this point Colonel Mabry joined Colonel Chalmers with Thrall's battery. The wharf at Johnsonville was lined with transports and gun-boats. An immense warehouses presented itself and was represented as being stored with the most valuable supplies, while several acres of the shore were covered with every description of army stores. The fort was situated on a high hill and in a commanding position, and defended by strong works.

All my troops having arrived, I commenced disposing of them with a view of bombarding the enemy. As he commanded the position I designed to occupy, I was necessarily compelled to act with great caution. I planted most of my guns during the night, and while completing the work the next morning my men worked behind ambuscades, which obscured everything from the enemy.



Benton County Confederate Veterans Meeting at Camden, Tennessee, 1900



Thrall's battery of howitzers was placed in position above Johnsonville, while Morton's and Hudson's batteries were placed nearly opposite and just below town.

I ordered a simultaneous assault to commence at 3 o'clock. All my movements for twenty-four hours had been so secretive the enemy seemed to think I had retired, and for the purpose of making a reconnaissance two gun-boats were lashed together and pushed out just before the attack opened. The bombardment commenced by the section of Morton's battery commanded by Lieutenant Brown. The other batteries joined promptly in the assault. The enemy returned the fire from twenty-eight guns on their gun-boats and fourteen guns on the hill. About FIFTY guns were thus engaged at the same time, and the firing was terrific. The gun-boats, in fifteen minutes after the engagement commenced, were set on fire, and made rapidly for the shore, where they were both consumed. My batteries next opened upon the transports, and in a short time they were in flames. The immense amount of stores were also set in fire, together with the huge warehouse above the landing. By night the wharf for nearly one mile up and down the river presented one solid sheet of flame. The enemy continued a furious cannonading on my batteries.

Having completed the work designed by the expedition, I moved my command six miles during the night by the light of the enemy's a burning property. The roads were almost impassable, and the march to Corinth was slow and toilsome, but I reached there on November 10, after an absence of over two weeks, during which time I captured and destroyed 4 gun-boats, 14 transports, 20 barges, 26 pieces of artillery, \$6,700,000 worth of property, and 150 prisoners. Brigadier-General Buford, after supplying his own command, turned over to my chief quartermaster about 9,000 pairs of shoes and 1,000 blankets.

My loss during the entire trip was 2 killed and 9 wounded; that of the enemy will probably reach 500 killed, wounded, and prisoners.

On this expedition my DIVISION commanders, Brigadier-Generals Chalmers and Buford, displayed the same prompt observance in obeying orders, the same kill, coolness, and undaunted courage which they have heretofore exhibited, and for which I thank them.

My brigade commanders, Colonels Bell, Rucker, Crossland, and Mabry, are deserving of the highest commendation for their conduct on this as on all former occasions.

Brigadier-General Lyon, who had been assigned to another department, reported to me on this expedition and rendered much valuable service at Johnsonville and Fort Heiman.

To Captain John W. Morton, acting chief of artillery, and the brave troops under his command, my thanks are especially due for their efficiency and gallantry on this expedition. They fired with a rapidity and accuracy which extorted the commendation of even the enemy. The rammers were shot from the hands of the cannoneers, some of whom were nearly buried amid the dirt which was thrown upon them by the storm of shell which rained upon them by the enemy's batteries.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

N. B. FORREST,
Major-General.

Colonel E. SURGET,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Meridian, Miss.

Numbers 10. Report of Brigadier General James R. Chalmers, C. S. Army, commanding cavalry DIVISION.

HDQRS. CHALMERS' DIVISION, FORREST'S CAVALRY,
Perryville, Tenn., November 8, 1864.

MAJOR: In obedience to orders from Major-General Forrest, commanding, &c., I moved on the morning of the 30th of October from Paris, Tenn., with Rucker's brigade, my escort battalion, and four pieces of rifled artillery (one section of Rice's and one of Hudson's battery), to Paris Landing, on the Tennessee River, where I arrived about 11 a. m. on the same day. I found Colonel Bell at the landing with his brigade, of Buford's DIVISION, and a section of Morton's battery. He reported to me that a short time before my arrival a gun-boat and two transports had passed his position, going down the river, and that in obedience to orders from General Buford he had reserved his fire until they had passed, and had then opened upon them, and he thought had done them some damage. One of the transports succeeded, as I was afterward informed, in passing Fort Heiman, where General Buford was stationed with the Kentucky brigade of his DIVISION, a section of Morton's battery, and the two 20-pounder Parrott guns of Hudson's battery, but was badly crippled in the attempt. The other transport (the Venus) and the gun-boat (the U. S. steamer Undine, Numbers 55) were at a bend of the river about midway between the positions of Colonel Bell and General Buford, and out of the range of the guns of either. After consultation with Colonel Bell, I directed him to move his artillery down the river to a point as nearly as possible opposite to the boats, and to drive them from their position. He rode off to reconnoiter, and on returning reported that the order could not be executed on account of the ground to be passed over. My artillery having arrived was placed in position on the bank of the river above that held by Colonel Bell, with an interval of several hundred yards between the sections.

Colonel Rucker, coming upon the field, suggested that guns should be moved down the river to attack the boats, and on being told that Colonel Bell had reported the ground impracticable for artillery, he proposed that he and I should re-examine it. We accordingly rode down the river, Colonel Bell accompanying us, but before we had found a suitable position a courier reported another transport coming down, and Colonel Bell and I returned to the batteries, leaving Colonel Rucker with orders to continue his reconnaissance. The transport proved to be the J. W. Cheeseman, a stern-wheel steamer. She was allowed to pass the upper battery (Rice's) unmolested, but as soon as she came opposite to the middle battery (Hudson's) the guns of both opened upon her, and her steam pipe was cut and other parts of her machinery disabled. As she was passing Hudson's battery Colonel Bell's battery also opened upon her, and a heavy fire of small-arms being poured into her by troops stationed along the bank of the river, she was soon compelled to surrender. Soon after this Colonel Bell moved his brigade to Fort Heiman, in obedience to orders from General Buford, who I had directed to consolidate his DIVISION at that point.

Colonel Rucker having reported that he had found a practicable route and a good position for attacking the boats below the landing, I directed him to move down to it with the section of Hudson's battery (two 10-pounder Parrott guns), the Fifteenth Regiment, and Twenty-sixth Battalion Tennessee Cavalry, of his brigade, and attack them, which he did with such vigor and success that after a severe artillery duel between his battery and the gun-boat, the latter was disabled and driven to the opposite bank, where all of her officers and crew, who were able to do so, abandoned her and escaped, leaving only the dead and wounded behind.

At the same time Lieutenant-Colonel Kelley, commanding Twenty-sixth Battalion Tennessee Cavalry, attacked the transport Venus, which was defended by a small detachment of U. S. infantry, so sharply that she surrendered to him, and the gallant colonel, going on board of her with two companies of his battalion, crossed the river, took possession of the gun-boat, and brought both safely to the landing.

While this fight was going on another gun-boat (the Numbers 29) appeared above us, and coming to anchor about a mile and a half above our batteries, began to shell them. The upper battery (Rice's) returned a few shots, but finding that the distance was too great for effective firing, I directed it to move up nearer to the boat and ordered a portion of my escort battalion and the cadet company of the Seventh Alabama Cavalry to support the battery and act as sharpshooters. After a brief and spirited engagement the gun-boat weighed anchor and withdrew up the river. The Cheeseman was so badly injured that it was impossible to repair her with the means at our command, and she was afterward burned by order of the major-general commanding, as were also the three barges captured on the same day. The transport Venus and the gun-boat Undine being only slightly injured, were soon put in repair, by his order. These boats being bound down stream, after having delivered their cargoes of freight for the U. S. Government at Johnsonville, contained no stores beyond the usual supplies for their own use and a small quantity of private freight of but little value for army use. The Undine belonged to the class of gun-boats known as "tin-clads," and was one of the largest boats of her class on the river. she carried eight 24-pounder brass howitzers, and when captured had all of her armament and equipment on board of her. An attempt had been made to spike two of the guns and to disable one by placing a shell in its muzzle, but these were soon removed.

I have been more minute than may seem to be necessary in giving all the particulars of the capture of these boats, because I am aware that some dispute has arisen as to what troops are entitled to the honor of their capture. I do not regard this as a matter of much importance, since all that was done was but the execution of the plans of the major-general commanding, and whatever of honor may arise therefrom is due first to him who conceived and then to those who executed them.

All of the troops, so far as I am informed, acquitted themselves well, but I feel it is but to those who took the most prominent part in the execution of those plans that they should receive the greater share of that honor which is the dearest reward of the

soldier. I repeat, therefore, that when the Cheeseman was captured there were six guns playing upon her, of which two (of Morton's battery) belonged to Colonel Bell's command, and four (two of Rice's and two of Hudson's battery) belonged to my command. They were placed on the bank of the river, Rice's being the upper, Hudson's the center, and Morton's the lower battery, and the boat was disabled before she had passed the center battery by one of the first shots fired at her.

The gun-boat Undine and the transport Venus were captured after Colonel Bell had withdrawn his brigade, including his artillery, and when there were no troops present excepting those belonging to this DIVISION. The troops immediately engaged in the capture were the Fifteenth Regiment and the Twenty-sixth Battalion Tennessee Cavalry and one section of Hudson's battery. It has been said, however, that these boats were badly crippled by Colonel Bell as they passed his position in the morning and before any part of this DIVISION had arrived, but in reply to this I would respectfully say that the Venus was not materially injured when she was captured, as is shown by the fact that she was used immediately afterward to tow the gun-boat to the landing. The shot which struck her injured her cabin and upper works, but had not damaged either her machinery or her hull. Colonel Bell stated to me that, in obedience to orders, he did not fire at either of the boats until they had passed his position. This exposed their sterns and larboard sides to his fire, but the shot which disabled the Undine struck her in front and on the starboard side, and could not have come from Colonel Bell's battery. In addition to this, the boat was manageable, and maintained a sharp fight for some time after Colonel Bell had withdrawn his brigade. In view of these circumstances I think it evident that the greater share of the honor of capturing these boats belongs to those troops to whom they were actually surrendered.

Our loss in this affair was 1 man of Rucker's brigade severely wounded; that of the enemy, so far as we have been able to ascertain it, was 5 killed and 6 wounded on the Venus; 3 killed and 4 wounded on the Undine, and 1 wounded on the Cheeseman; total, 8 killed and 11 wounded. We also captured 43 prisoners, among whom was 1 officer and 10 men of the U. S. Infantry. The others belonged to the different boats.

On the morning of November 1 moved my command up the river as far as Danville, where we encamped, placing our guns in position on the river-bank so as to protect our boats (the Undine and Venus), which had been ordered to move up the river, keeping in rear of our batteries.

On the following morning I moved toward Reynoldsburg, in accordance with previous instructions, but was afterward orders, by the major-general commanding, to halt near Davidson's Ferry, and to place my guns in position at that place, which was done. Our boats having ventured too far beyond the protection of our batteries, were attacked by two of the enemy's gun-boats, and the Venus was recaptured by them.

On the 3rd instant we moved up the river opposite to Reynoldsburg and Johnsonville, and had frequent skirmishes during the day with the enemy's gun-boats, of which there were

three at the latter place, but without any decisive results. Here we were joined by Colonel Mabry's brigade of cavalry and Thrall's battery of 12- pounder howitzers, attached to this DIVISION, which had been left at Paris, and had moved directly from that place and take position a short distance above Johnsonville.

On the 4th instant, General Buford having come up with his DIVISION and Morton's battery, the latter was ordered to the position occupied by Colonel Rucker, and my DIVISION was formed as follows: Colonel Mabry, with his brigade and Thrall's battery, on the right immediately above and opposite to Johnsonville; Colonel Rucker, with Morton's battery and the Seventh Alabama Cavalry, immediately below and opposite to that place; Lieutenant-Colonel Kelley, with the Twenty-sixth Tennessee Battalion and two guns of Rice's battery, opposite to Reynoldsburg, and Lieutenant-Colonel Logwood, of the Fifteenth Tennessee Cavalry, with his regiment and a section of Hudson's battery, at Clark's house, still farther down the river and about two miles below Johnsonville.

The enemy had at Johnsonville three gun-boats and a number of transports and barges - variously estimated at from eight to ten of the former and from twelve to fifteen of the latter, some of them laden - together with an immense quantity of Government stores, a part of which was contained in a large warehouse, and the remainder piled upon the bank, covering about an acre of ground. The town was defended by a strong earth-work, well garrisoned and supplied with artillery, and they possessed an additional advantage in the fact that the bank of the river on that side is much higher than that on which we were.

At 2 p. m. the bombardment began, and in a short time one of the gun-boats was set on fire. One after another the others followed, and before night-fall all of the gun-boats, transports, and barges, the warehouse, and the greater part of the stores on the shore, were set on fire and consumed. The enemy kept up a heavy fire from their gun-boats and land batteries until the former were disabled, but without inflicting any serious injury upon us or forcing any part of our troops to abandon their positions. During the engagement five gun-boats came up the river, evidently with the intention of re-enforcing the town, but they retired after a sharp cannonading with the artillery under Colonel Logwood's command.

Our loss in this engagement was very small, but as the official reports have not been received it cannot now be stated with accuracy.

All the officers and men under my command deserve honorable mention for the very creditable manner in which they have borne themselves during the entire expedition, and I do not desire to detract in the slightest degree from the honor due to the others in calling especial attention to the gallant conduct of the Seventh Alabama Cavalry in this their first engagement, and to the very effective service rendered by Thrall's battery in setting fire to the enemy's boats and stores.

My thanks are due to the officers of my staff and to Captain Lawler, Seventh Tennessee Cavalry, and Lieutenant D. F. Holland,

aide-de-camp to Major General D. H. Maury, who were temporarily on staff duty with me, for their efficient services.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAS. R. CHALMERS,

Brigadier-General.

Major J. P. STRANGE,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Forrest's Cavalry.



NEXT MEETING SATURDAY **JAN. 8TH 12 NOON AT ST.** **PAUL IN CHARLOTTE.**

The next meeting of Capt. W. H. McCauley Camp 260 will be held Saturday January 8th / 12 noon at our new home St. Paul Church in Charlotte.

Keep up with all the latest news

visit our camp's website at

<http://scvcamp260.50megs.com>

and thanks to the webmaster for a job well done!

To All Members and their families

A Merry Christmas

