



Military Order of the Stars & Bars

Confederate War Journal

Officer's Call

November 2011

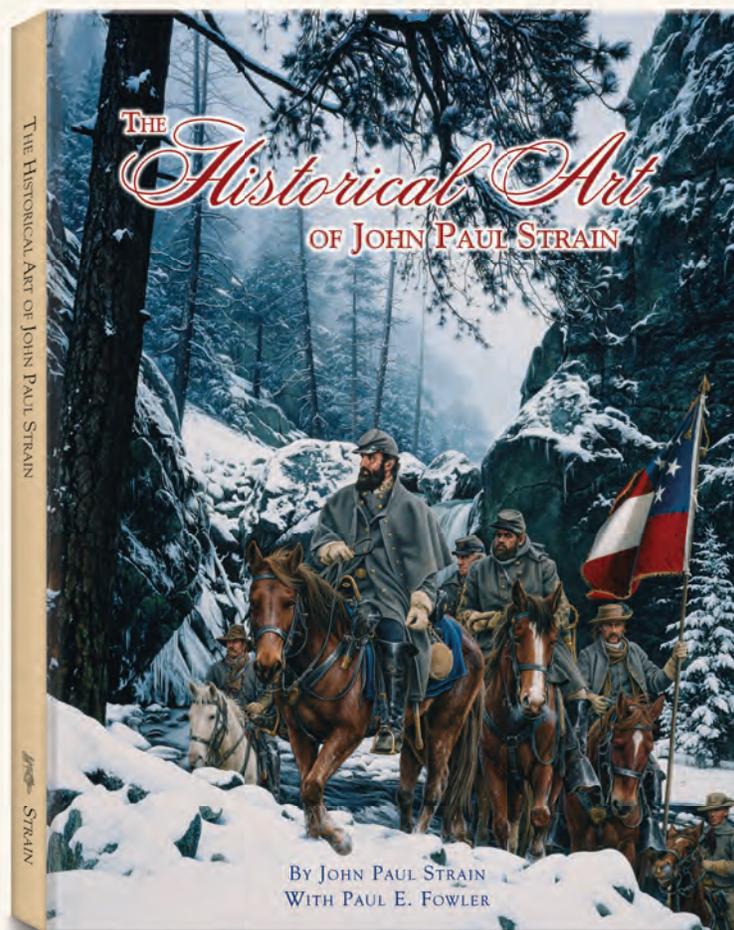
Vol. 3

Keep the Skeer On!



The Red Fox of I.T.
Henry Wirz & Andersonville
Dabney Maury: Officer & Gentleman

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Commander's Message The Long Gray Wall

This third issue of the Confederate War Journal and Officer's Call is a most interesting one! For the second year in a row, renowned artist John Paul Strain has graciously allowed the Order to use one of his significant works as our front cover. I am sure that you will enjoy the theme of General Nathan Bedford Forrest at Brice's Crossroads from the front cover to C. L. Gray's article "Keep the Skeer On!"

It is fascinating the amount of territory that General Forrest and his forces covered in their campaigns. Many sites in Mississippi, Tennessee, Georgia, and Alabama were stamped by the Forrest Cavalry Corps as they provided offensive forces for the protection of the local populace. Frequently, Forrest commanded troops who faced a numerically superior enemy, while lacking sufficient quantities of arms, equipment, horses, and food. Despite the obstacles and shortages, Forrest repeatedly outmaneuvered and outfought the enemy, capturing the necessary supplies and recruiting his "conscripts" to continue the fight for the duration of the war.



His tactical reputation is similar to Robert Roger's reputation as a fighter and leader during the French and Indian War and the Swamp Fox (Marion Frances) of the American Revolution. His "lightning warfare" concepts using mobility and light artillery foreshadowed the German Blitzkrieg in World War II and even the Persian Gulf War.

Not only are we connected to Forrest through geography, but also through our ancestors who rode and fought with him. As our ancestors did at Brice's Crossroads and many other engagements, so do we continue to form "the long gray wall" in our efforts at preservation of our Southern Heritage. May we "never let up" and may our children learn to do the same.

Our grateful appreciation is extended to the Confederate War Journal and *Officer's Call* staff. They have labored diligently and accomplished a lot to provide us with this magazine. Our printer, AlphaGraphics located in Augusta, Georgia has rendered an exceptional service to us over the past eighteen months with very high quality printed magazines.

The first year of the Sesquicentennial is rapidly coming to a close. Are you and your Chapter and State Society involved with projects that commemorate the passage of 150 years? Next year brings us a lot of opportunities to participate in memorial and commemorative events.

Membership dues for 2012 are being collected now by your local Chapter, State Society, and National. I encourage you to pay your dues, as this Order cannot perform its mission or even exist without its members. Gentlemen, the future of the Order is in YOUR hands!

Max L. Waldrop, Jr.
Commander General

Confederate War Journal

& Officers Call

Fall 2011 | VOLUME 3

The Editor's Desk...

Gentlemen of the Order:

We are pleased to return with our third issue of the *Confederate War Journal*. As stated originally such an undertaking takes much in time and money and we strive to provide a publication that is a good investment in our association's future.

I wish to extend my personal thanks to Commander General Max L. Waldrop, Jr. for permitting me the honor of editing this very important publication. Max has consistently demonstrated the traits of a true leader. He has extended great effort to make the Military Order of the Stars and Bars one of the finest historical and ancestral organizations in the nation. We are fortunate to have such a man step forth at this time in our association. I feel very honored to have served in his administration in several capacities, but foremost, I am proud to call him a close personal friend.

From the beginning it has been our desire that the War Journal provide a valuable tool to assist every chapter and society in recruiting new members to our cause while advancing the history of the Confederate Officer Corps.

We have a proud heritage and we sincerely desire that the Confederate War Journal will advance our goals.



Charles H. Smith, DCS, PCG



Cover - "Brice's Crossroads" - Painting by John Paul Strain, returns as our guest artist for the November 2011. Mr. Strain was featured cover artist for the Fall 2010 issue of the *Confederate War Journal*

Features

3 | Keep the Skeer On! C.L. Gray recounts one of Nathan Bedford Forrest's most famous victories, The Battle of Parker's Crossroads. This remains one of the classic encounters that remains a required study for the military.

7 | The Red Fox of Indian Territory. Dr. James G. Caster provides insight into the career of Stand Watie, the "Last General to strike the colors." Watie's sterling and poignant record of adversity, achievement and public service is a record that in his corner of creation made him a legend in his own lifetime.

18 | Henry Wirz and Andersonville. Albert Winkler, Brigham Young University, presents the sad story of Maj. Henry Wirz, commandant of Andersonville prisoner of war camp. Despite his conviction by a vengeance-seeking Union court, much controversy surrounds his actions at Andersonville, and many historians have either condemned or praised him. His trial is analyzed to see if he was fairly convicted or if he was condemned for the need of a scapegoat.

Confederate War Journal

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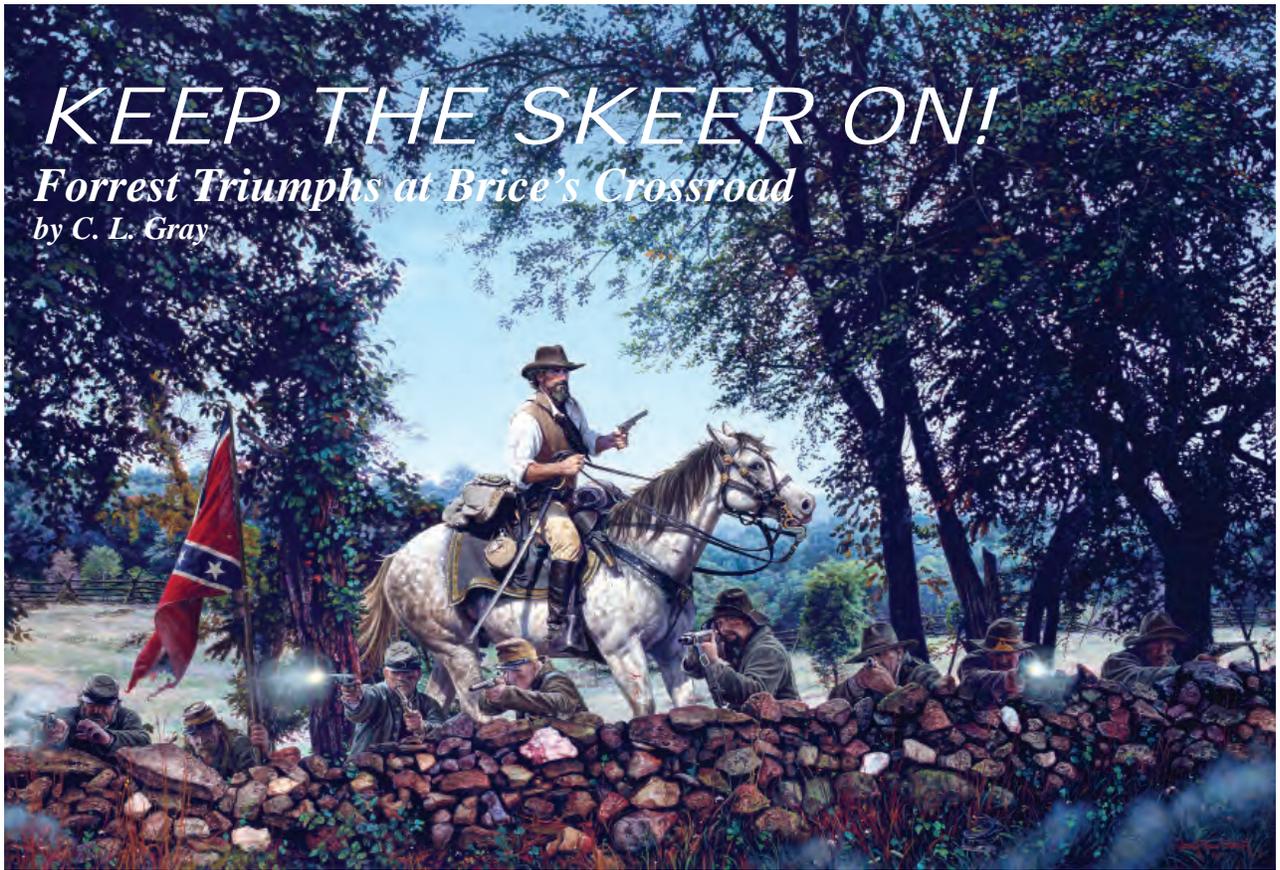
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KEEP THE SKEER ON!

Forrest Triumphs at Brice's Crossroad

by C. L. Gray



"Brice's Crossroads" by John Paul Strain

In April 1864, Union forces were preparing to implement General Ulysses S. Grant's grand design of a coordinated advance against the Confederate armies in the field - Grant upon Lee's Army of Northern Virginia and Richmond and General William T. Sherman against Johnston's Army of Tennessee and Atlanta. In the days before his army was to set out from Chattanooga, Sherman traveled to Nashville to discuss the logistics necessary to supply his army for the upcoming campaign. Sherman's supply line ran through Middle Tennessee where Confederate General Nathan Bedford Forrest operated openly against the railroads Sherman needed to bring his supplies east. Unimpressed with Major General Stephen Hurlbut's efforts to stop Forrest's raids, Sherman relieved him of command and replaced him with another major general, Cadwallader Washburn. Sherman told Washburn that Forrest was to be destroyed, penned-up, or, at the very least, driven from Tennessee. To aid in that task, Sherman sent Brigadier General Samuel D. Sturgis to Memphis to command the cavalry that would, hopefully, eradicate his "Forrest" problem.

After assembling an overwhelming force, Sturgis left Memphis in late April. A portion of his command skirmished with Forrest at Somerville. Forrest retreated, and as Sturgis gave chase, he believed he was pursuing the wind. Each day, the gap widened between the two forces. Sturgis finally gave up, returned to Memphis, and made his excuses and apologies to Sherman.

Forrest rode into Tupelo on May 5th and immediately began preparing for his return to Middle Tennessee. But those plans were interrupted when General Leonidas Polk ordered Forrest's cavalry to undergo an inspection by officers recently arrived from Richmond.

Two weeks later, Polk was in Georgia and Major General Steven D. Lee assumed command of the department. Lee wrote Richmond and suggested Forrest return to Middle Tennessee without delay. But on the day Richmond approved the movement, Lee abruptly cancelled it. Forrest's scout, Captain Thomas Henderson, had sent word from Memphis; the Federals were planning a raid into Mississippi.

Forrest was not one to sit idly on the sidelines. Not when it was in his power to damage the enemy. On May 29th, he told Lee that "the time has arrived, and if I can be spared and allowed 2,000 picked men from (General Abraham) Buford's division

and a battery of artillery, (I) will attempt to cut (the) enemy's communications in Middle Tennessee." [1]

Lee gave permission. On June 1st, Forrest left Tupelo with 2,200 men, six pieces of artillery, and ten days' rations. Left behind at Tupelo and Corinth were 1,400 men under the command of Colonel R.M. Russell. Fifteen hundred additional men were posted at Oxford under Colonel Edmund Rucker.

On the same day Forrest rode for Tennessee, General Sturgis departed Memphis to "smash things" [2] in north Mississippi. His target was the Mobile and Ohio Railroad depots at Corinth, Tupelo, and Okolona. Sturgis also planned to devastate the prairie country in order to make it impossible for any living thing to survive in the area. He would tackle Forrest on his return to Memphis.

Sturgis' men moved slowly. The roads were muddy, slowing the artillery and trains. His plan to feed his men from the countryside backfired. The land had already been stripped bare. Sherman's men had passed this way before.

Forrest's march to Middle Tennessee was halted on June 3rd when a courier from Lee overtook him with news that Sturgis had left Memphis. Lee ordered Forrest to return as quickly as he could. Forrest arrived in Tupelo on June 6th. When he learned the direction of Sturgis' march, he reacted quickly, ordering Rucker to Rienzi and to reconnoiter toward New Albany. Colonel Tyree Bell's brigade followed Rucker to Rienzi. Forrest, his escort, and artillery marched to Booneville.

General Benjamin Grierson, in command of the Federal cavalry, ordered Colonel Edward Winslow's brigade to New Albany, but Winslow found his way blocked by Rucker's brigade. After skirmishing with Winslow, Rucker rode ahead and joined Forrest at Booneville. He reported that the enemy was approaching Brice's Crossroads.

That same evening Sturgis concentrated his force at Stubbs' farm, on the Ripley-Guntown road. He had 8,100 men: 3,200 cavalry, 4,500 infantry, 400 artillerists with 22 cannons.

Brice's Crossroads

Two roads formed Brice's Crossroads: the Ripley-Guntown Road, which Sturgis was marching down, and the Baldwyn-Pontotoc road, which Forrest was using. The crossroads received their names because the roads intersected at right angles in front of Brice's house and Brice's store. The surrounding countryside consisted of a plateau that rose from wide bottomland that had been cut deep by small streams. The plateau was covered with scrub brush, blackjack, and heavy undergrowth. Forrest determined to attack the Union forces there.

June 10th dawned with all the promise of being an oppressive day. Forrest's strategy was to exploit the South's inhospitable heat and humidity against men who were use to cooler climates during the summer months. "Their cavalry will move out ahead of their infantry," Forrest explained to Rucker, "and should reach the crossroads three hours in advance. We can whip their cavalry in that time. As soon as the fight opens, they will send back to have the infantry hurried up. It is going to be hot as hell, and coming on a run for five or six miles, their infantry will be so tired out we will ride right over them." [3]

Forrest started out from Boonesville at four in the morning intending to reach Brice's Crossroads before the enemy. He was at Old Carrollville when a courier arrived with news that the Federals were only four miles from Brice's house. Forrest sent the 7th Tennessee, under the command of Lieutenant Robert Black, on the gallop to engage the enemy.

The Confederates had been on the march for an hour and an half before Grierson left Stubbs' farm. As the cavalry trotted down the road, word reached Colonel George Waring that Forrest had recently passed down the Baldwyn road. Waring sent a strong force toward Baldwyn in hopes of running Forrest to ground. The detachment had not gone far when they ran into Colonel W.W. Faulkner's Kentuckians hidden in the thick trees.

Forrest's strategy included using the topography to conceal his lack of strength. He told Rucker, "The country is densely wooded and the undergrowth is so heavy that when we strike them they will not know how few men we have." [4]

1 Ralph Selph Henry, *Nathan Bedford Forrest: The First with the Most*, (New York, Konecky & Koneck, 1992, 282.

2 Ibid.

3. Ibid, 236

A messenger hurried back to Grierson with news of the skirmish. Grierson dismounted the rest of Waring's 1,450 man brigade and Colonel Edward Winslow's brigade, numbering 1,750 men, and put them in line of battle behind a fence at the edge of a thick wood. He then refused his right in the direction of Brice's house.

The two Federal brigades battled 800 men of Hylan B. Lyon's Kentuckians and Forrest's escort numbering 85 men. Captain Henry Gattrell's company came up, adding another 50 men to the Confederate line.

Even though Forrest did not want the battle to begin until the rest of his men came up, he ordered Lyon to charge the Union position. It was a bluff designed "to puzzle the Federal commander and make him think that there must be a lot more troops back there in the dense woods from which these few so boldly emerged." [5]

Forrest's bluff worked splendidly. By time the Federals realized that the Confederate line was thinly manned, Rucker's 700 men had arrived from Oxford after an 18 mile slog through the mud. They lined up on the left of Lyon and extended the line toward the Guntown Road. Colonel A.W. Johnson and his 500 Alabamians and Colonel Robert Duff's Mississippians arrived and joined Rucker on the left. Forrest still did not have artillery. Captain John W. Morton was dragging his guns through the mud as fast as his tired horses could pull.

Forrest sent an order to Bell to "move fast and fetch all he's got." [6] But Bell was at Rienzi, 25 miles away, and the heat of the day was sapping the strength from his horses.

At 11:00, Forrest rode along his line exhorting his men to move forward when Sergeant Jacob Gaus blew his bugle. No one was to be left behind. The work was dangerous and would have to be done at close quarters. Forrest's words had an electrifying effect. When Gaus' bugle sounded, the men tried to outdo one another in reaching the enemy first. The Federals stood their ground, their repeating rifles performing a deadly work, but the Confederates still came on until the lines collided. The combat was now hand-to-hand.

At 12:30, a satisfied Forrest watched as the Federal cavalry began to retire from the field. His strategy to whip the Union cavalry before the infantry could come up had succeeded. He ordered Colonel C.R. Barteau and the 2nd Tennessee to ride cross-country and get on the Union flank and rear.

A half hour later, the first of the Union infantry arrived. The men had double-quickened the last three-quarters of a mile and, with no rest or water, were hustled into the line. They were not the only ones who arrived on the field. Bell was up and so were Morton and his guns.

Whipping the Infantry

Bell's brigade hurried into position on Rucker's left extending the Confederate line to the Guntown Road. Morton unlimbered his guns and began a rapid fire into the blue line.

Then silence reigned; the calm before the storm. For thirty minutes, both sides positioned and repositioned their troops. The sun beat down on the small crossroads. The temperature and humidity rose. The day could only be described as a scorcher, and men and animals on both sides succumbed to the heat.

Thirty minutes of rest was all Forrest gave his men. Under no circumstance was he going to allow the enemy to "catch their wind." [7] "Get up men," was his order. "I have ordered Bell to charge on the left. When you hear his guns, and the bugle sounds, every man must charge, and we will give them hell." [8]

When the bugle sounded, the men moved too slowly from their positions to suit Forrest. He cursed, then praised, then threatened to shoot the men himself if they were afraid of being shot by Yankee bullets. Finally, he told them he would lead them into battle. [9] The men followed the shirt-sleeved Forrest through the thick undergrowth, through blackjack and brushwood that tore at their clothes and scratched their faces. Once more the fight was at close quarters and rifles were turned into clubs.

4. John Allan Wyeth. *That Devil Forrest: Life of General Nathan Bedford Forrest*. (New York, Harper & Brother 1959) 3505 Henry. *Nathan Bedford Forrest: The First with the Most*. 288.

6. Ibid. 289.

7. Wyeth. *That Devil Forrest: Life of General Nathan Bedford Forrest*. 361

8. Henry. *Nathan Bedford Forrest: The First with the Most*. 292.

Keep the Skeer On

At the climax of the battle, the 2nd Tennessee fell on the Union flank and rear. Barteau had his bugler ride up and down his line sounding the charge in order to fool the Federals into thinking that a large force had descended upon them. The infantry began to give way.

At the front, Forrest knew that the moment of truth had arrived. It was 5:00 and his men had been fighting all day, most of it at close range. He rode down the line again encouraging the men to make one last charge. He also informed Morton that the artillery would be included. Morton double-shotted four guns with canister and hitched up his horses. When the bugle sounded, he rushed his cannon to the front and opened fire on the Federals.

After the battle, Forrest praised Morton for the brilliance of his charge. Morton confessed that when Forrest gave him the order and he realized his guns would be unprotected, he was afraid that they would be taken. Forrest replied, "Well, artillery is made to be captured, and I wanted to see them take yours." [10]

The final charge was a classic Forrest tactic: a fierce attack in the front and a charge on both flanks and in the rear. The rout that began with Barteau's charge was now complete. The Union army turned and fled toward the rear. To keep the skeer on, Forrest ordered his troops to pursue.

Keep the Skeer On

Along the swampy bottoms of the Tishomingo Creek, the Union wagons were parked off the road and waiting for the outcome of the battle. Word finally filtered back from the front to turn the wagons around and retreat over the creek. As the drivers started over the narrow bridge, both cavalry and infantry, defeated and demoralized, descended upon the trains in desperate flight from the pursuing Confederates.

Morton's guns, now reinforced with captured cannon, fired on the retreating soldiers, hitting wagons, killing horses and mules, and stampeding the soldiers. Drivers abandoned their wagons and joined those in flight. Soldiers threw away guns, discarded haversacks and clothing, and waded or swam across the creek.

Knowing that his wagons were in danger of capture, Sturgis ordered them burned. Confederate soldiers watched in fascination as the burning wagons lit up the evening sky. Forrest rode up and demanded, "Don't you see the damned Yanks are burning my wagons? Get off your horses and throw the burning beds off!" The soldiers jumped to and hauled the beds off the wagons saving over a hundred filled with bacon, ammunition, and other needed supplies.

When darkness claimed the field, Forrest ordered his exhausted men to take a much needed rest. He kept the pressure on the routed Federals by sending out small forces to harass and pursue.

At 1:00 a.m., Forrest had his men up and in pursuit. But exhilaration and victory could only fuel the Confederates for so long. Their fatigue caught up with them, and even Forrest fell asleep in the saddle. Forrest sent word to Buford to "gallop up." Buford, worn out, told the courier to inform Forrest that "my men can't gallop up." The battle was over.

On hearing about Sturgis' defeat, Sherman wrote Secretary of War Edwin Stanton, "Forrest is the very devil, and I think he has some of our troops under cower." Forrest would have to be dealt with "if it costs 10,000 lives and breaks the Treasury. There will never be peace in Tennessee until Forrest is dead!"

But Sherman's hounds never caught the *Wizard of the Saddle*. He continued to confound the Federals until the surrender. After the war, in respect for the havoc Forrest played on his supply lines and the fear he invoked in the Federals who chased and fought him, Sherman said to Confederate General Frank C. Armstrong, one of Forrest's trusted lieutenants, "I think Forrest was the most remarkable man our civil war produced on either side." ●

9 Ibid.

10 Wyeth. *That Devil Forrest: Life of Genral Nathan Bedford Forrest*. 365.

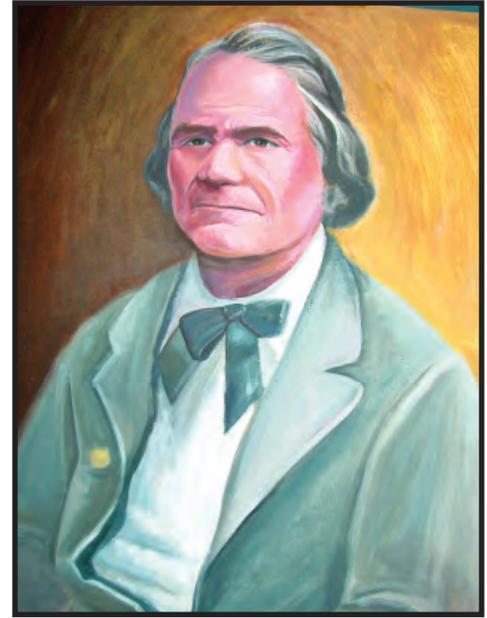
Brigadier General Stand Watie: *The Red Fox of Indian Territory*

By James G. Caster, Ph.D.,

B.G. Douglas H. Cooper, Chapter MOSB Oklahoma City, OK

Brigadier General Stand Watie, Commander of the First Indian Brigade, was the last Confederate general in the field to surrender. He capitulated to Federal authorities at the home of Robert M. Jones, 12 miles west of Doaksville (in present Choctaw County, Oklahoma) on June 23, 1865, some ten weeks after General Lee's surrender at Appomattox. Additionally, General Watie was the only officer of Indian birth, on either side of the War Between the States, to hold general rank field command of troops. Behind these two notable facts lay a sterling and poignant record of adversity, achievement and public service - a record that in his corner of creation made him a legend in his own lifetime. This is his story.

Stand Watie (pronounced Waitee) was born in the Cherokee Nation near Rome, Georgia, on Dec. 12, 1806, a few weeks before the birth of General Robert E. Lee at Stratford Hall, VA. His father, David Waite, was a full-blood Cherokee while his mother was half Cherokee and half white. Both parents became devout Christians in 1814, converted by Moravian missionaries. During the period of 1813-14, Waite's uncle, Major John Ridge, raised a military force of 600 volunteers, mostly mixed-blood Cherokees, to serve with Gen. Andrew Jackson in his military campaign against the "Red Stick" faction of the Creek Nation. Watie's father served as the captain of a company in that unit and fought at the Battle of Horseshoe Bend, in which the "Red Sticks" were soundly defeated. (3.p.3) Military service was to become a Watie family tradition.



Charles H. Smith

Brig. Gen. Stand Watie
"The last to strike the colors"

Young Waite, along with his older brother, Buck Watie, was well-educated at the Springbrook, GA. Moravian Mission school where he learned English and became a devout Christian, a faith which sustained him through many periods of travail and heartbreak. He grew to manhood in the manner of the Southern slave-holding plantation class, but he did not grow very tall - he never stood over 5 feet 4 inches in height, but he was wiry and strong.

He became a legal interpreter for non-English speaking Cherokees. In time he became clerk of the Cherokee Supreme Court and later Speaker of the Cherokee National Council prior to removal to Indian Territory. Waite's older brother, Buck Watie, was further educated at a Moravian school in Connecticut, and changed his name according to Cherokee custom to that of the Baltimore merchant who furnished his scholarship, Elias C. Boudinot. Stand Watie assisted his brother in publishing a newspaper, the Cherokee Phoenix. [1]

In 1830 Congress, at the behest of the Jackson Administration, passed the Indian Removal Act and appropriated \$500,000 to effectuate its provisions, which essentially called for the removal and resettlement by force if necessary of the Five Civilized Tribes - the Cherokees - Choctaws, Chickasaws, Creeks and Seminoles - from their ancestral lands in the southeastern United States to Indian Territory, today's Oklahoma. The respective tribes and the U.S. Government began negotiations for the terms of the removal. Among the Cherokees, the mixed-bloods, led by Major John Ridge, favored signing a treaty for removal and making a new start in the West. However, the full-bloods, led by Principal Chief John Ross, dug in their heels and resisted all efforts to remove them. The Cherokee National Council passed a measure invoking the death penalty for anyone signing a treaty involving the transfer of Cherokee lands without the prior approval of the Council. Despite the threat of death, Major John Ridge, his oldest son, John Ridge, Elias C. Boudinot and Stand Watie signed the Treaty of New Echota in 1835, which obligated the Cherokees to move.

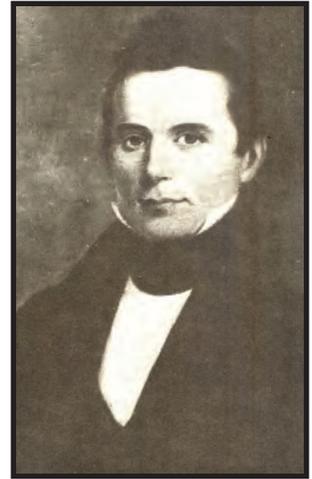
Watie and other prominent members of the Treaty party moved to the Cherokee enclave in Indian Territory in 1837. There they commingled with the Old Settlers, a group of Cherokees who had moved there as early as the 1820s. Watie settled on

Watie

Honey Creek in present Delaware County, OK, and began to build a plantation there. The full-bloods of Chief John Ross were forcibly removed by the U.S. Army over what they later called "The Trail of Tears" with the deaths of about a fourth of the group occurring along the way. By 1839 the Ross faction constituted a substantial majority of the Cherokees in Indian Territory.

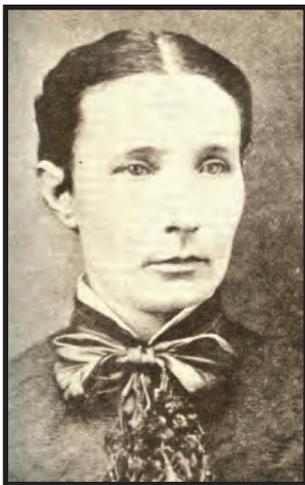
A secret society of the Ross faction, known as "The Pins," set out to kill all of the signers of Treaty of New Echota, whom they held responsible for the removal and the widespread suffering associated with it. The death penalty was to be imposed privately because the signers were protected under the terms of the Treaty of 1835. In 1839 Major Ridge, his oldest son, John Ridge, and Elias C. Boudinot were all murdered. Watie was marked for death but was warned escaped from his store where his elimination had been planned. Stand Watie thus became the leader of the Treaty party and immediately took steps to organize his followers for their protection. To remove them from danger, Watie sent the young children of his murdered kinsmen school in Philadelphia. He called on the U.S. Army authorities at Ft. Gibson to protect his followers under the terms of the Treaty of 1835. The Army brought pressure on John Ross to produce the murderers. Ross claimed that the culprits were unknown and could not be found. Soon thereafter the Cherokee National Council, dominated by full-bloods, passed a measure pardoning the unknown assassins.

The Cherokee Nation suffered through a long period of murders, house burnings, politicking, U.S. Army involvement and lengthy negotiations in Washington, D.C. Watie's followers continued to be murdered; Watie's younger brother, Thomas, was killed in 1845. Watie, himself, was attacked by James Foreman, one of the suspected murderers of Major Ridge, in a store just inside Arkansas in 1842. Foreman, a large man, 6 feet and 215 pounds, began to beat Watie with a bull-whip, while a Foreman relative was dispatched to fetch Foreman's guns. Watie managed to get close enough to Foreman during the fray to stab him with a knife, and then shoot him with a pistol. Watie stood trial for murder in Arkansas' Fourth Judicial Circuit Court in 1843 and was acquitted on the grounds of self-defense. (3, pp.81-88) Finally, a treaty brokered by the Polk Administration in 1846 and signed in Washington, D.C. by representatives of the Old Settlers, Watie's followers and the Ross faction brought a measure of uneasy peace to the Cherokee Nation. (Polk had threatened to divide the Cherokee lands among the three rival factions unless peace was attained.)



OHS

Elias C. Boudinot
Killed by the "Pins"



Sarah Caroline Bell
OHS

On Sept. 18, 1842, Watie married Sarah Caroline Bell, a sister of some of his boyhood classmates. That union produced three boys and two girls. In 1853 Watie was licensed to practice law before all Cherokee courts and was elected to the Cherokee National Council from the Delaware District. Two years later he was reelected to the Council and served as Speaker of that body for the two-year term. (3, pp.109-11) As abolitionist missionaries working among the Cherokees began to agitate for manumission of the slaves, even expelling slaveholders from their churches, Watie and other slaveholders organized the Knights of the Golden Circle, which bitterly opposed abolitionism. [1]

When the War Between the States began, Watie quickly sided with the South, raised a company of his followers as a home guard and served as their captain. At the outbreak of hostilities the Union abandoned all of their military posts in Indian Territory. After some early Confederate victories in the East, Confederate Commissioner Albert Pike, in October 1861, concluded treaties of alliance with first the Cherokees and subsequently the other Civilized Tribes. Watie was commissioned a Colonel in the Confederate Army and his command, enlarged to over 300 officers and men, became known as the Cherokee Mounted Volunteers. [2]

In early military action Watie's command coordinated with other Confederate forces in a campaign against an anti-Confederate group of Creek and Seminole Indians under the leadership of the Creek Chief Opothleyahola as they sought to flee to Kansas. The crucial battle in the campaign was at Chustenahlah (Falling Banks) on a bitterly cold day, December 26, 1861. The Creek group was shattered and sent streaming into Kansas without most of their livestock, wagons and other property, which Watie's men rounded up for the Confederate Commissary.

(Continued on page 9)

Watie's command served as part of Maj. Gen. Earl Van Dorn's army at the Battle of Elkhorn Tavern or Pea Ridge, in North-western Arkansas, on March 5-6, 1862. Watie's men on the first day captured a battery of Union artillery but were later forced to abandon the guns. Federal forces won the battle the second day and Watie's unit screened the Confederate withdrawal. The Southern press praised the Cherokees for their bravery, and spread their fame across Dixie.

Back in Indian Territory Watie's command engaged in a major skirmish with Union forces at Cowskin Prairie (April 1862). Unexpectedly, in July of 1862, Principal Chief John Ross fled the Cherokee Nation with its treasury. Most of Ross's military followers soon defected to the Federal side and enlisted in the Union "Indian Brigade." Try as they might, however, the Federal Cherokees were not able to eliminate Watie's regiment from the war. [5]

The Confederate Cherokees moved promptly to fill the leadership void left by John Ross's departure. In August 1862 Stand Watie was elected their Principal Chief and they formed their own National Council. [4] Throughout the remainder of the war, Watie occupied two important positions concurrently: political head of his people and commander of the Cherokee Mounted Rifles. As chief his time was filled with the minutia of daily government, interaction with the Council and correspondence with Confederate officials - even President Jefferson Davis - regarding monies owed the Cherokees under the Pike Treaty. Militarily, he regaled his superiors for supplies and equipment promised or needed. The heavy burden of his dual capacities cannot be over-emphasized. It added immeasurably to the luster of Watie's reputation.

Of the 89 or so battles and major skirmishes which occurred in Indian Territory during the war, Watie or his troops participated in 18 of them. Some have previously been mentioned. Others included: Old Fort Wayne (Oct. 1862), Webber's Falls (April 1863), Fort Gibson (May 1863), Greenleaf Prairie (June 1863), First Cabin Creek (July 1863) and Gunter's Prairie (Aug. 1864). Watie and his regiment did not participate in the Battle of Honey Springs on July 17, 1863, the greatest battle in Indian Territory. As ordered, they stood guard at a ford a few miles away.

During the second half of the war, Stand Watie became a consummate guerilla raider. He and his men frequently rode all night to surprise an enemy force at dawn. He became known as "The Red Fox," by friend and foe alike, for his cunning and surprise actions.[6] Watie led from the front and never personally ordered a charge he did not lead. One of his most famous raids occurred on October 29, 1863, when Watie raided the Union occupied Cherokee capital at Tahlequah, burning the government buildings there, as well as torching John Ross's opulent home at nearby Park Hill.

Stand Watie was promoted to Brigadier General on May 6, 1861 and given command of the First Indian Brigade. His two greatest victories soon followed. On June 15, 1864, Watie and his command captured the steamboat *J. R. Williams* on the Arkansas River a few miles from present Vian, Ok. The vessel furnished the Rebels a rich haul of food and supplies intended for the Federal garrison at Fort Gibson. On Sept. 19, 1864, in the Second Battle of Cabin Creek, supported by a thousand Texas troops under Col. Richard Gano, Watie captured a Federal wagon train carrying approximately \$1.5 million worth of food and military supplies for Ft. Gibson.[1] To avoid Union counter-attacks Watie and his men took all of the available wagons and supplies, swung far to the west, crossing the Arkansas River west of present Tulsa, Ok, and arrived safely in Confederate territory.

In early 1865, Watie was placed in command of all Confederate Indian troops in Indian Territory, but all was in vain as the Confederacy collapsed and Watie was compelled to surrender as previously noted. Brigadier General Stand Watie rendered two significant contributions to the Confederate cause. First, his free-wheeling guerrilla raids kept thousands of Federal troops stationed in Kansas, Indian Territory and western Arkansas that could have been sent to the eastern war theaters. Second, the Red Fox's forces kept the Texas Road closed as an invasion route into North Texas. No Union soldier entered Texas over the Texas Road except as a prisoner of war.

After the war Watie represented his faction in the Washington, D.C. negotiations leading to the Treaty of 1866. He tried an ill-fated venture into the tobacco business with his nephew, Elias C. Boudinot, and then retired to his old home place along Honey Creek. He died alone there on Sept. 9, 1871, and was buried next to his uncle, Major John Ridge, in Old Polson's Cemetery in Delaware County, Ok. [1]

Stand Watie is remembered in many places. A public elementary school in south Oklahoma City bears his name. A painting depicting his surrender hangs in the Okla. State Senate Complex in the State Capitol. The Stand Watie Society of Oklahoma is dedicated to perpetuating the history of his noble deeds. Finally, Watie is remembered with fondness and respect by the descendants of the Cherokee troopers who rode with him along those dark and dangerous trails when the South bravely challenged for its independence. ●

(Continued on page 10)

ANNOUNCEMENT OF CANDIDACY FOR COMMANDER GENERAL, MOS&B

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Gentlemen of the Order:

I have served as Adjutant General for the past two Commander Generals - Anthony Hodges and Max Waldrop. Improved communications have been a primary focus. Listservs have been developed to reach the general membership, as well as the leadership of the Order. Great energy has been expended to improve the records of the Order, and extensive work has been done constructing a detailed database, extending back to the origins of the Order, converting our records into searchable formats. A special outreach has been made to our veterans and the records of their service are now detailed in our database.

In tandem with the responsibilities of Adjutant General, I have also served as the Genealogist General during the current administration. All Confederate relations used to establish membership in the Order have been reviewed and those determined to meet eligibility requirements have been placed online at the Order's website. Additionally, a Collaterals project has been launched with embedded recruiting messages accessible to the broader heritage community. The Social Security Death Index has been searched to identify those members who are no longer active to determine if they are possibly deceased.

I am a forty-two year member of the Order, being a charter member of the Texas Society and the original Texas Chapter. Currently I am a member of Texas Chapter #5. My service experience includes that of having been both a Chapter and a Society Commander. My B.A. and M.A. were both earned at Midwestern State University (Texas). My master's thesis was a history of the *Thirty-fourth Battalion*

Virginia Cavalry, CSA, and my degree focus was Southern States History. I was admitted into a doctoral program at Texas Tech University. My studies were completed except for the dissertation, which was privately completed. My doctoral degree was awarded by BYU.

My professional career experience embraced forty-two years of service in education. My career included both higher education and public education. I initially retired as an Area Superintendent in the Austin (Texas) ISD in 1994 with thirty years of service which spanned work as a teacher, professor, high school principal and superintendent. A second career was completed in 2007, when I retired as a Federal Programs Director in San Juan County, Utah. I am a military veteran, having worked as a Russian linguist with the US Army during the Berlin Wall and Cuban Missile Crises. I also served a stint with the DIA as an aerial photography Interpreter during the Vietnam War. I am currently in my eighth year of service as the Mayor of Blanding, Utah, having successfully stood election twice.

By predisposition, training and experience I am a collaborator. I adhere to the concept that none of us are as smart as all of us. I believe that the Order has men of great vision, talent and energy. I am committed to cultivating our talent and to provide them with opportunities to serve. The Order has made significant progress since our emergence as an independent heritage society. I vow to build upon this progress and to help ensure the continued viability of the Order into the future. I seek your support to become the Order's next Commander General. I commit to be a working CG.

Thanks!

Toni

Watie (Continued from page 9)

Notes and Sources

- (1) Kenny A. Franks, "Stand Watie," *Encyclopedia of the Confederacy* (New York: *Simon & Schuster, 1993), pp. 1692-1694:
- (2) Mark M. Boatner III, *The Civil War Dictionary* (New York: David McKay Co., Inc., *1959), pp. 894-895.*
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- (4) Alan C. Downs, "Stand Watie," *Encyclopedia of the American Civil War* (New York: *W.W. Norton Co., 2000) pp. 2072-2074.
- (5) Trevor M. Jones, "Indian Brigade," *Encyclopedia of the American Civil War* (New *York: W.W. Norton Co., 2000), p. 1030.
- (6) Wilfred Knight, *Red Fox: Stand Watie and the Confederate Indian Nations During the Civil War Years in Indian Territory* (Glendale, CA: The Arthur H. Clark Co., 1988), p. 143.

Henry Wirz and Andersonville:

The Career of the Most Controversial Swiss American

by Albert Winkler

COURAGE AND DIGNITY IN THE SHADOW OF THE ROPE

International Dispatches is proud to present this balanced article detailing the war service, the Andersonville experience and consequent martyrdom of Captain Henry Wirz.

Written by distinguished American historian Albert Winkler for the *Swiss American Historical Society Review*, Vol. 47, No. 2, June 2011, the article explains how Federal obstinacy and an illegal trial followed by a treacherous offer led to this tragedy.

I am indebted to Albert Winkler, Colonel Heinrich Wirz of Switzerland, and Hubert Leroy in making this dissertation available to our members. Read how Captain Wirz was offered freedom in return for base treachery; how he rejected the offer with utter contempt and showed the World how a Southern Patriot could die with honor and dignity.

Deo Vindice
Roger P Thornton DCS
ADC International Liaison



National Archives

While many Americans of Swiss descent have made valuable contributions to the development of the United States, Henry Wirz has often been viewed with disdain. He was the commander of the infamous Andersonville prison where nearly 13,000 Union prisoners died during the American Civil War, and he was one of the two men executed for war crimes relating to that conflict. Despite his conviction in court, much controversy surrounds his actions at Andersonville, and many writers have either condemned or praised him. This paper will review the career of Henry Wirz, examine his conduct at Andersonville, and analyze his trial to see if he was fairly convicted, or if he was condemned for the need of a scapegoat.

Although Wirz was an important historical figure, some scholars of the- Swiss in America have ignored him entirely. Prominent Americans of Swiss Origin and Swiss in American Life do not mention Wirz even though the latter study includes enemies of the United States, John Andre (1750-1780) and Auguste Prevost (1723-1786). Andre was a British spy during the War of Independence who was hanged for his complicity in the treason of Benedict Arnold, and Prevost was a British general in the same conflict who inflicted a severe defeat on the Americans at the siege of Savannah, Georgia, in 1779. [1]

Henry Wirz was born in Zurich on November 25, 1823. He wanted to be a physician, but his father, Hans Caspar Wirz, wanted his son to become a minister. As Henry later admitted, "My father wanted me to study for the pulpit; I did not like it. ... I had an inclination to study medicine, and he [his father] would not let me." The two men compromised, and the younger Wirz became a merchant. He married Emilie Oswald on Sept. 15, 1845, and she bore him two children, Louise Emilie in 1847 and Paul Emil in 1849.[2]

Early in 1847, Hans Caspar Wirz noticed discrepancies in the accounts of his business, and Henry was arrested on January 12 and found guilty of fraud and embezzlement on April 3. He was sentenced to four years in jail and went to the Otenbach penitentiary. Due to ill health, the prisoner was released on June 6, 1848, and the city changed the remainder of his punishment to banishment from the Zurich Canton for twelve years. He then migrated to the United States, landing in New York in April 1849. His wife divorced him in 1853 for abandonment.[3]

[1] *Prominent Americans of Swiss Origin* (New York: White, 1932) and *Swiss in American Life* (Zurich: Muller, 1977), pp. 32-3. Swiss biographers more often include Win in their studies. See, Karl Liiond, *Schweizer in Amerika* (Olten: Walter, 1979), pp. 131-8.

[2] Henry Wirz, "His Life and History from his own Lips," Nov. 8, 1865 *New York Herald*, Nov. 9, 1865. Henry Wirz "Letter," in U. S. Secretary of War, *The Trial of Henry Wirz* 40th Cong., 2d sess., House Executive Documents [Washington, D.C., 1868], p. 17. Hereafter cited as Trial. See also, Rolf Kieser "Hauptmann Henry Wirz und die Hintergründe des Andersonville-Prozesses," *Schweizerische Zeitschrift für Geschichte*, 18, no. I (1968): p. 48; Orvid L. Futch, *History of Andersonville Prison* (np: University of Florida, 1968), p. 16; and Ruedi Studer, *Der Prozess gegen Captain Henry Wirz* *(Nordhausen: Bautz, 2006), pp. 40-1.

Wirz

Wirz went to Kentucky where he met and married Elizabeth Savells Wolf whose husband had died, leaving her with two young girls, Susie and Cornelia Wolf. The couple spoke their vows on May 28, 1854 at Cadiz, Kentucky, and they had two more daughters before the outbreak of the Civil War, but one died prior to the conflict.[4]

Henry Wirz was in Louisiana at the outbreak of the Civil War in 1861 and joined the Confederate army as a private. His unit arrived in Virginia in the summer of 1861 and was given guard duty over Union prisoners in Richmond. Brigadier General John H. Winder, who had responsibility for the Union captives in that city, noticed Wirz's diligence in making lists of prisoners, and Winder soon made him a sergeant with additional duties. Wirz claimed he fought in the Battle of Fair Oaks (Seven Pines) May 31 - June 1, 1862, where "I was wounded by a piece of shell. ... and have nearly lost the use of my right arm." It never healed, and the wound hurt him for the rest of his life. Despite his disability, Wirz advanced to the rank of captain on June 12, 1862, and he continued to work with prisoners. [5]

In 1863, Wirz received a furlough. "I went to Europe and had my wound operated upon at Paris. The doctor there thought that all the dead bone had come out." But the operation failed because "the wound broke open again" three or four months later. When Wirz returned on January 20, 1864, General Winder ordered him to report to Camp Sumter near Andersonville, Georgia, to help with the prisoner of war camp. [6]

The tragedy of Andersonville was caused by the policies on prisoners during the Civil War. A system of prisoner exchange broke down over the issue of African American captives in 1862 because the Confederacy refused to treat them as legitimate prisoners of war. By the end of 1863, the number of prisoners held by each side rose sharply. The conditions were poor in the prison camps both North and South, and mortality rates were high. According to the most reliable numbers: "211,411 Union soldiers were captured during the Civil War of which 16,668 were paroled [released] on the field and 30,218 died while in captivity; and that 462,634 Confederate soldiers were captured during the war, of which number 247,769 were paroled on the field and 25,976 died while in captivity." Subtracting those who were released immediately, 194,743 Union soldiers were incarcerated, and 30,218 died or 15.5%. Of the 214,865 incarcerated Confederate soldiers held, 25,976 died or 12%. [7] This meant that the conditions were similar in the camps of both the North and South because the death rates were comparable.

Many Confederate prisons were in or near Richmond, but the city suffered from shortages of all kinds by 1863, challenging public officials to meet the needs of civilians, soldiers, and prisoners of war. Confederate officials decided to remove the prisoners from the nation's capital. Jefferson Davis justified the choice of Andersonville as a new prison. It "was selected, after careful investigation... it was in a high pine-woods region, in a productive farming country, had never been devastated by the enemy, was well watered and near to Americus, a central depot for collecting the tax in kind and purchasing provisions for our armies. [8]

The location of the camp was poorer than originally assumed. Military action in 1864 hampered the procuring of supplies, a problem made worse by Union cavalry raids on Georgia's rail system. Also, the flow of the stream running through the camp slowed by the summer of 1864, making fresh water difficult to get. The compound was designed to hold ten thousand men, and shortages of supplies meant the prisoners were poorly housed. When the first captives arrived on February 27, 1864, only a stockade was in place with walls fifteen feet high, enclosing sixteen and a half acres. There were few grist mills in the area to grind grain, and too few men to drive cattle to the prison, so the food supply was inadequate. Four hundred captives were soon arriving daily, taxing the ability of the Confederate authorities to care for them. [9]

The average number of men in the prison was 7,500 in March, and there were 10,000 men in the stockade in April. The numbers increased to 22,291 in June, to 29,030 in July, and to 31,678 at the end of that month. In August, the prison held its

[3] Kieser, "Wirz," 48 and Futch, Andersonville. p. 16.

[4] Wirz, "Life," Studer, *Der Prozess*, p. 40, and William Marvel, *Andersonville: the Last Depot* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press. 1994), pp. 35-6.

[5] Wirz, "Life;" Wirz "Letter" in *Trial*, 17; Studer, p. 42; Marvel, *Andersonville*, p. 36; and *The War Dfthe Rebellion: a Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies*, 128 vols. (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1880-1901) series 2, vol. 3: p. 711. All citations in this work are from series 2, which deals with prisoners of war. Hereafter cited as OR.

[6] Studer, pp. 37-8, Wirz, "Life," and Win, *Trial*, p. 804.

[7] William B. Hesseltine, *Civil War Prisons: A Study in War Psychology* (New York: UmIar. 1964). pp. 69-113, 256

[8] *Jefferson Davis, Andersonville and other War-Prisons* (New York: Belford, 1890), [pp. 1-2]. Hereafter cited as Davis, *Andersonville*

[9] Hesseltine, *Civil War Prisons*, 133-5. See also OR vol. 6, pp 992-3, 1000, 1043



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greatest number of captives: 33,006. The number of deaths also rose rapidly. 283 prisoners died in March and 576 in April. The number of deaths in May was 708; in June 1,201; and in July 1,817. The late summer months of August (2,993 deaths) and September (2,677 deaths) were the most severe. In October, 1,595 died; November 499; December 165; January (1865) 197; February 147; and March 108. The last recorded deaths were in April, when 28 men died. According to this list, 12,994 (other historians state 12,913 or 12,949) men died at Andersonville from the 41,000 to 45,000 who were incarcerated there, and the death rate was 28.9% to 31.6%. The men died from many maladies including exposure, hunger, unsanitary water, scurvy, and poor hygiene. [10]

The Confederate congress passed a law on May 12, 1861 mandating that all prisoners of war be given the same rations “in the army of the Confederacy.” But the South often could only supply its soldiers with inadequate rations.

The Confederate congress passed a law on May 12, 1861 mandating that all prisoners of war be given the same rations “in quantity and quality as those enlisted men in the army of the Confederacy.” But the South often could only supply its soldiers with inadequate rations. Jefferson Davis wrote that the reasons for the high death rates in Southern prisons included “insufficient means of transportation,” too few guards due to the lack of manpower in the South, and too few physicians available for prison service. [11]

The Confederacy faced acute transportation problems late in the war. Many horses and mules were taken to support the army, and the rail system was inadequate to meet the needs placed on it, resulting in food shortages. In 1863, food riots broke out in many cities including Richmond, Mobile, and Atlanta. Confederate soldiers often took desperate measures to get food as John O. Casler wrote, “We would get them [rations] from the [Union] dead. I have been so hungry that I have cut the blood off from crackers and eaten them.” [12] The Confederacy could not feed its people or properly supply its army, and the Union captives suffered as well.

When Wirz arrived at Andersonville on March 25, 1864, he faced severe problems. The administration of Fort Sumter was inefficient, and three independent officers had control of the region outside the compound: General Winder, Col. George Cooper Gibbs, and Lt. Col. Alexander W. Persons. These men bickered with each other, were often absent, and did little to solve the major problems of the camp. Without their aid, Captain Wirz was left to resolve many pressing problems, but he only had command of the stockade, and he could do little about the availability of supplies because he had no authority to requisition them. [13]

Yet he worked with intelligence and energy. “Wirz was a constant presence in Camp Sumter, and he worked tirelessly to improve its conditions.” The stream that went through the compound had become an “open sewer” used as a latrine by the inmates. Wirz assigned men to shovel the filth from the stream daily, and he established two dams along the creek, the higher dike for drinking water and the lower for bathing. He wrote that the bread issued to the captives was “of such inferior quality, consisting fully of one-sixth of husk, that it is almost unfit for use and increasing dysentery and other bowel complaints” and recommended that the flour be sifted to remove impurities. He built a bake house, so more cooked food would be available, and he got the prisoners to brew a crude beer made from corn mash and molasses to control scurvy. Wirz also asked for more buckets to issue “rice, beans, vinegar, and molasses” to the men. [14]

[10] Hesselstine, pp. 143, 146, 152; Marvel, p. 238; Trial, pp. 629-40; and Roben Scott Davis, *Ghosts and Shadows of Andersonville* (Macon: Mercer, 2006), pp. 30, 72. *Hereafter cited as Davis, *Ghosts*.

[11] Davis, *Andersonville*, [pp. 2-3,7].

[12] Stephanie McCurry, *Confederate Reckoning: Power and Politics in the Civil War South* (Cambridge: Harvard, 2010), pp. 178-93 and John O. Casler, *Four Years in the Stonewall Brigade* (Girard, Kan.: Appeal, 1906), p. 208.

[13] Lonnie R. Speer, *Portals to Hell: Military Prisons of the Civil War*, (Mechanicsburg, Pa.: Stackpole, 1997), p. 260; and Davis, *Ghosts*, pp. 28-9

[14] Charles W. Sanders, Jr., *While in the Hands of the Enemy: Military Prisons of the Civil War* (Baton Rouge: LSD, 2005), p. 212; and *OR* vol. 7, pp. 89,135-9, and 207. See also Darrett B. Rutman, “The War Crimes and Trial of Henry Wirz,” *Civil War History* 6 (June 1960): no. 2, p. 119, and James Madison Page, *A True History of Andersonville Prison: A Defense of Major Henry Wirz* (New York: Neal, 1908), pp. 101-2.

Wirz

Wirz continued to improve conditions, and he “brought order to the chaos of the camp.” The Captain “tried to compile accurate rolls,” and he made the distribution of rations more orderly by dividing the men into messes of ninety men each. To deal with problems of overcrowding, Wirz had “the original stockade ... enlarged by ten acres in June.”^[15] He has received just praise for his efforts. “Until the day of his arrest he was to exert every effort to alleviate the conditions within the camp and to stem the ever-rising death toll.” Lt. Col. Persons observed Wirz at Andersonville and stated, “I know he labored indefatigably” to help the prisoners.^[16] Wirz likely saved thousands of men who would have otherwise perished, and there was little if anything more he could have done to alleviate the men’s suffering.

Wirz was often harsh as he explained, “Anybody who knows anything about military matters knows that one in command of thirty-five thousand men has to be strict.” At his trial, Wirz was condemned for the nature of the punishment he inflicted on the prisoners. A few men were whipped, more were “bucked and gagged” (tied up), and many were shackled to cannon balls often weighing 32 pounds. Most often men were placed in stocks. By the standards of the war, the punitive measures at Andersonville were not severe, and the Union army often inflicted “brutal punishments” on its own men that left some of them “permanently disabled.”^[17] As punishment, many men often faced little more than Wirz’s infamous profanity.

Many Union prisoners accused him of brutality, stating he needlessly caused the men to suffer, but many of these accounts were fabrications. John McElroy, a Union captive, wrote the most influential narrative of the camp. He defamed Wirz stating that he was guilty of many crimes including “cruelly beating and murdering” captives, but recent historians have denounced the memoir as “a prison novel,” which was “preposterously exaggerated.^[18] A few Union prisoners defended Wirz, including James Madison Page, Herman A. Braun, and Edward Wellington Boate. The latter wrote, “Wirz was as kind-hearted a man as I ever met.” At his trial, a number of former prisoners testified in his defense.^[19]

Three physicians gave testimony at Wirz’s trial and stated that his wounds kept him from committing many of the crimes ascribed to him. Dr. C. M. Ford described Wirz’s right arm, “It is swollen and inflamed, ulcerated in three places; and it has appearance of having been broken. In addition to that, I believe that portions of both bones of the arm are dead.” Ford continued, “I should think him incapable of knocking a man, or lifting a very heavy instrument of any kind, without doing great injury to the arm.” Referring to Wirz’s left arm, Ford said, “There is a very large scar on the left shoulder, and ... the deltoid [shoulder] muscle is entirely gone... only the front part of the muscle of the shoulder remaining.” Ford also testified that Wirz had “dark brown scars” on his legs from scurvy.^[20] The doctors also noted that Wirz was sick and absent from his post at Andersonville throughout August and most of September 1864 when many of the crimes supposedly took place.

Jefferson Davis blamed the Union for the many deaths of prisoners. “The real cause of all the protracted sufferings of prisoners, North and South, is directly due to the inhuman refusal of the Federal Government to exchange prisoners of war.” The Union could have helped its men and saved many lives by sending aid or exchanging captives, but it refused and blamed the Confederacy. As Hesseltine argued, “Official propaganda was undertaken to convince the North that exchange was impossible—that it had been stopped by the South—and that the southerners were actuated by a determination to destroy the lives of the prisoners in their hands.^[21]

General Ulysses S. Grant explained, “It is hard on our men held in Southern prisons not to exchange them, but it is humanity to those left in the ranks to fight our battles. Every man we hold, when released on parole or otherwise, becomes an active soldier against us.”^[22] Grant’s argument only had merit if the Confederate soldiers were superior to Union troops because prisoner exchange would bring an equal number of men to the federal army.

[15] Rutman, “Henry Wirz,” p. 119; Davis, *Ghosts*, p. 27, and Bowie in OR, vol. 7, pp. 136-7

[16] Rutman, “Henry Wirz,” p. 119; and Trial, p. 463

[17] Wirz, “Life,” For examples see, *Trial*, pp. 46, 117, 177, 209, 214, 218, 318, 321, 507, and 768. Bruce Catton, *A Stillness at Appomattox* (New York: Doubleday, 1953), pp. 32-3

[18] John McElroy, *Andersonville: a Story of Rebel Military Prisons* (Toledo: Locke, 1879), p. 641. Davis, *Ghosts*, p. 31; and Futch, p. 138.

[19] Page, *A True History*; Herman A. Braun, *Andersonville: An Object Lesson on Protection, a Critical Sketch* (Milwaukee: Fahsel, 1892); and Boate, “*The True Story of Andersonville Told by a Federal Prisoner*,” *Southern Historical Society Papers* 10 (1882): p. 28[

[20] *Trial*, pp. 657, 803-5..

[21] Davis, *Andersonville*, [p. 11] and William B. Hesseltine. “The Propaganda Literature of Confederate Prisons,” *The Journal of Southern History*, vol. I, no. 1 (Feb. *1935): p. 60.

[22] OR, vol. 7, p. 607.

[23] Hesseltine, p. 226; and William T. Sherman, Aug. 9, 1864, in *Selected Correspondence of the Civil War* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina, 1999), p. 685

Grant's belief that prisoner exchanges helped the South more than the North also overlooked issues including recruiting soldiers and Union morale. Lincoln received many letters begging him to send relief to the prisoners or to exchange them. General William T. Sherman wrote, "I get one hundred letters a day almost asking me to effect the exchange or release of ... Prisoners." [23] The prisoners expected their government to do everything possible for them, and many soldiers felt betrayed. Some of these men directed their anger at President Lincoln. William Keys wrote in August 1864, "Father Abraham [Lincoln] I wish you had my ration of wood to boil coffee for your family, I think you would soon bring on an exchange." He added on September 4 in dismay over Lincoln's refusal to exchange prisoners, "neither experience nor humanity demand or justify our suffering." Another soldier stated, "If the government don't get us out they may go to the Devil with Abraham Lincoln." [24]

On July 20, 1864, the prisoners at Andersonville wrote a petition to their government requesting their exchange. Wirz released a six-man commission of Union soldiers led by Edward Wellington Boate to carry the petition to the North. Boate recorded, "it distresses me to state that the representatives of thirty-eight thousand Union prisoners were treated with silent contempt, the President [Lincoln] declining to see them or have anything to do with them!! I" He added that the policy not to exchange prisoners was the "quintessence of inhumanity, a disgrace to the Administration that carried it out, and a blot upon the country. ... You abandoned your brave men in the hour of their cruelest need. They fought for the Union, and you reached no hand out to save the old faithful, loyal, and devoted servants of the country." [25]

On January 24, 1864 the Confederate commissioner for prisoner exchange, Robert Ould, proposed that each side send its own doctors to oversee the prisoners held by the enemy and "shall be permitted to take charge of their health and comfort... with power to receive and distribute such contributions of money, food and clothing and medicines as may be forwarded for the relief of the prisoners." [26] This proposal gave the Union the opportunity to care for their own men in Confederate prisons, but the offer was ignored.

General Sherman's Georgia campaign gave the Union an opportunity to aid or release captives in Confederate prisons. He marched virtually unopposed across Georgia in November and December 1864 and into South and North Carolina the following year, but he made no attempt to release or bring aid to the Union prisoners nearby. As Robert S. Davis has observed, "Before the year [1865] ended, the United States government tried Wirz for war crimes and hanged him. General Sherman, more responsible than Wirz for prisoners remaining at Andersonville, however, received a hero's welcome in Washington and a full military review. [27]

In September 1864, Confederate officials began removing the captives at Andersonville to other locations. In April of 1865, Wirz sent about one thousand men per day to the Union lines, and the camp was abandoned in May. To defray criticism of its refusal to aid and exchange prisoners, the federal government sought someone to blame and punish for the many deaths. As commander of Union prisoners in the South, General Winder was the logical person, but he died in February 1865 and could not be prosecuted. [28] But Wirz was accessible, and he was arrested on May 7 and brought to Washington, D.C., where his trial started on August 23, 1865.

The trial was illegal because it was run by a military commission. Civilian courts were still operating meaning military courts were unnecessary. Additionally, Wirz never served in the federal army and was not subject to its justice system. The Constitution also states, "The trial of all crimes ... shall be by Jury; and such Trial shall be held in the State where the said Crimes shall have been committed," meaning it had to be a jury trial and had to take place in Georgia. (Article 3, Sec. 2, para. 3) The Fifth Amendment adds that the trial of a "capital" or "infamous crime" is illegal "unless on a presentment or indictment of a Grand Jury." No such jury met. Additionally, all the Confederate soldiers in Georgia were pardoned under the surrender terms of General Joseph E. Johnston on April 26, 1865 which specified that all military personnel "will be permitted to return to their homes, not to be disturbed by the United States authorities." [29] These legalities were ignored in the effort to convict Wirz;

(Continued on page 22)

[24] William Farand Keys "Diary," Rutgers University Libraries and Marvel, pp. 147-8.[25] Italics in the original. See Boate, "Andersonville," p. 31; and Marvel, pp.148-9.

[26] *OR*, vol L 6, pp. 871-2.

[27] Davis, *Ghosts*, p. 161.

[28] Arch Fredric Blakey *General John H. Winder* (Gainesville: University of Florida, 1990),201.

[29] Mark E. Neely, Jr. *The Fate of Liberty: Abraham Lincoln and Civil Liberties* (New York: Oxford, 1991),p.161; and Trial, pp. 9-10.

[30] *Trial*, pp. 3-8.



Restored Portrait of Dabney Maury Reveals an Officer and Gentle Man

By Ruth Ann Coski, Special Correspondent

Quick! What word comes to mind to describe a career army officer, a weather-beaten, battle-hardened veteran? Rough, tough? Steely, stern? In the case of Confederate Maj. Gen. Dabney Herndon Maury (1822-1900), try “gentle.”

Maury’s bemused serenity is readily apparent in a recently-restored oil portrait painted of him when he was a 30-year-old instructor of history, geography, and infantry tactics at West Point in 1852.

The portrait is the work of German-born artist Emanuel Leutze (1816-1868), who is best known as the painter of “Washington Crossing the Delaware.” Leutze lived as a child and young man in Philadelphia and in Fredericksburg. Although he returned to Germany from 1841-1859, he was apparently in the U.S. in the early 1850s.

According to Maury’s daughter-in-law, Leutze was an art instructor at West Point and painted the portrait as a wedding present for Maury’s bride, Leutze, was not in fact on the West Point faculty, but he visited frequently with art instructor Robert Weir and likely executed Maury’s portrait on one of those visits. Maury family members also pointed out that the peculiar blue-gray uniform resulted from a later attempt to transform the West Point blue into Confederate gray.

Dabney Maury’s life’s tale was that of overcoming adversity, with a trail of improbable friendships along the way. After his father died, young “Dab” (as family and friends knew him) looked to his uncle, Commodore Matthew Fontaine Maury, for guidance. “He was the most loveable man I ever knew,” Dab declared. The commodore did his best to steer his admittedly unscholarly nephew through graduation, first from the University of Virginia, and then from West Point, where he was a member of the legendary Class of 1846.

Diminutive and outgoing, Cadet Maury easily made friends at the academy, although he recalled being rebuffed when trying to make the acquaintance of a rawboned classmate by the name of Thomas J. Jackson. Wounded in the Mexican War, Maury developed a lifelong attachment to a fellow convalescent from Virginia, Joseph E. Johnston.

During his years teaching at West Point, Maury enjoyed a collegiality with many of his fellow instructors. In his memoirs he had praise or kind words for them all - including Union generals George McClellan, Fitz John Porter, and Maury roommate, William “Baldy” Smith. Maury recollected that his hunting dogs added greatly to the atmosphere of the hunt and the post. “These dogs were a great comfort to me and to my pupils; for they always accompanied me on my inspections, going before me, and giving due notice of my approach, and they were cherished accordingly by the cadets.”

Life in the U.S. Army was varied for Maury, ranging from academic halls to service on the Texas frontier. He honed his equestrian skills as superintendent of the army’s cavalry school at Carlisle, Pennsylvania, and in 1859 wrote *Skirmish Drill for Mounted Troops*. (As was typical of his fortunes, he was still trying, in the 1890s, to receive recompense for the book from the U.S. government.)

Maury resigned his commission as cavalry captain in the U.S. service in May 1861, but the U.S. Army refused his resignation and dismissed him instead. Undaunted, he rose quickly in Confederate service, appointed brigadier general in March 1862 and major general in November 1862.

Maury was ordered west to Arkansas, where he became chief of staff for Gen. Earl Van Dorn and won commendation for his performance at the battle of Pea Ridge (March 7-8, 1862). He subsequently commanded a division in the Army of the West. Maury was a Virginia general who never served in the Army of Northern Virginia and, not coincidentally, he is much more obscure than the officers whose names are found in the pages of Lee's Lieutenants.

He drew praise from colleagues for his courage and devotion to duty; he also received compliments from adversaries. After the battle at Iuka, Mississippi, in 1862, Maury received a message from Union Gen. William Rosecrans, one of his former teachers. "Tell Maury, I never used to think when I taught him, a little, curly-headed boy at West Point, that he would ever trouble me as he has today."

Maury briefly commanded the Department of East Tennessee and, from July 1863 until the end of the war, commanded the District of the Gulf, with headquarters in Mobile, Alabama. His forces defended that important city against Federal forces until April 12, 1865, and were not surrendered until nearly a month after Appomattox.

With peace came financial ruin for Dabney Maury, an old army officer with no army and no pension. What Maury had, however, was a good word for everybody, and according to surviving correspondence, the feeling was mutual. P. G. T. Beauregard, from New Orleans, asked his French insurance company to consider Maury as a representative for the southern market.

That post did not materialize, but Maury did become an express agent in New Orleans, leaving the Fredericksburg Academy he had co-founded in the hands of a junior professor. During the first administration of Democratic President Grover Cleveland, Maury served as U.S. Minister to Colombia.

While struggling to make a living, Maury was active in the activities of Confederate memorial organizations. Jefferson Davis himself co-signed Maury's application to join the Virginia Division of Confederate Veterans.



Obviously the work of a skilled artist, the portrait of Maury came to life after a badly-needed cleaning at Richmond Conservation Studios.

In 1869, Maury was one of the founders of the Southern Historical Society, an organization dedicated to compiling and preserving manuscripts of the wartime South, the better to contend with histories being written by the victorious North. Maury served as chairman of the SHS executive committee until 1886, recruiting and writing articles and serving, as best he could, as referee among contending accounts of battles and leaders supplied by his former comrades-in-arms.

Men who could not stand one another wrote to Maury and their sentiments consistently evinced a mild, gentlemanly manner that was likely a reflection of the recipient. George McClellan wrote Maury ca. 1878, "signing off. & am meanwhile my dear Dabney always your friend, Geo. McClellan." Letters from Jefferson Davis over the years complimented Maury on his writing and his diplomatic appointment. Never an effusive man, Davis nevertheless ended his missives with, "As ever truly your friend, Jefferson Davis." Joe Johnston was unreservedly warm in his many letters, asking about Maury's health and inquiring about his children and grandchildren, always addressing Dab as "My dear friend."

In his 1894 memoirs, *Recollections of A Virginian in the Mexican, Indian, and Civil Wars*, Maury gave a good-natured review of his life. Unlike many of his peers, Maury did not use his life's story, or the articles he wrote, for self-aggrandizement or revenge. He did allow himself to observe of that standoffish former classmate, Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson

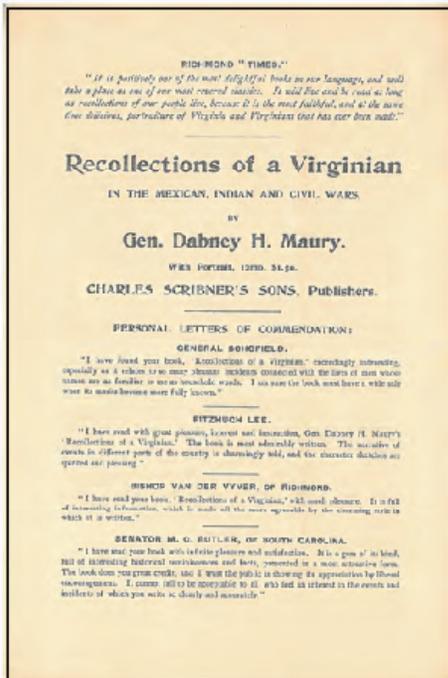
Maury

that he was “filled with conscientious scruples,” and “was at times cruelly unjust.” Maury reproached Jackson’s tendency to bring courts martial charges against the some of the army’s finest, including Gen. Richard Garnett. In an era of bitter recriminations among Confederates, Maury’s comments were, indeed, diplomatic.

When “Little Dab” died at his son’s home in Peoria, Illinois, in 1900, condolences to the family poured in from surviving veterans and all those who had made Maury’s acquaintance. One man wrote, “Greatness was mingled with more, simplicity and unselfish gentleness in him than in any other whom I have ever known.” Maury was buried in Fredericksburg, Virginia, the city of his birth, an officer and a gentleman to the end. ●

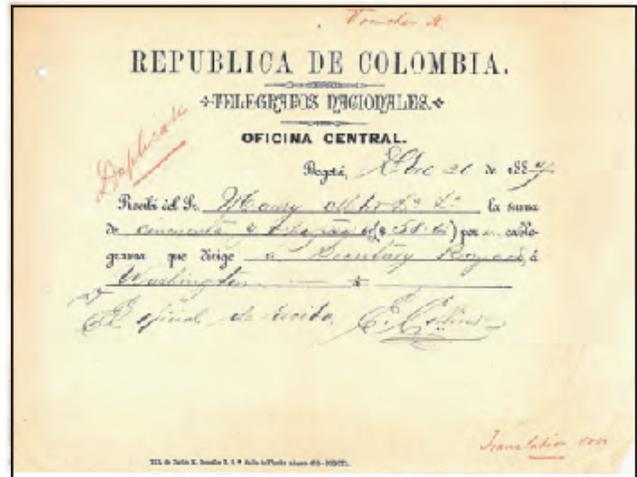


The ladies of Mobile, Alabama, made this unusual Latin Cross pattern silk flag for Maury, which he used as his headquarters flag during the siege of Mobile in March-April 1865

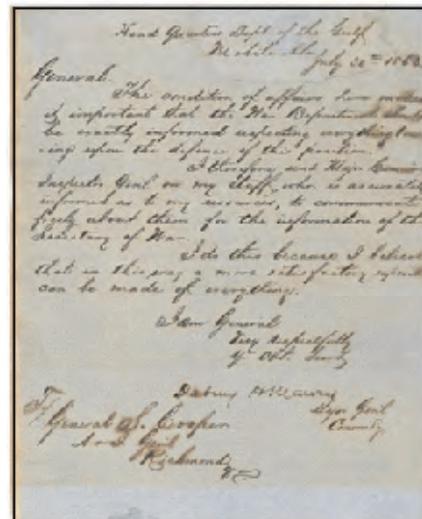


[Dabney Maury handbill for Recollections]

As they do today, publishers in the late-19th century solicited endorsements for their books. Among those who blurbed, Dabney Maury’s *Recollections* (on the back of the handbill shown here) was U.S. Civil Service Commissioner Theodore Roosevelt. The future president wrote: “The book is delightful. General Maury shows the best of all qualities for a writer, the capacity to make a thoroughly readable book; and the work has not only great historical value, but is in its best parts very humorous, and is written throughout with such entire good-nature that no one can help being attracted both to the author and his work.”



Among the documents in the Museum library’s Dabney Maury Collection are several from his service as U.S. minister to Colombia under Secretary of State Thomas F. Bayard and President Grover Cleveland in the 1880s.



For nearly two years, Maury commanded the Department of the Gulf, headquartered in Mobile, Alabama. This communication, in the Museum library collection, was with Confederate Adjutant & Inspector General Samuel Cooper.

The Chaplain's Corner

"Fighting Parsons"

***Lt. Colonel David C. Kelly,
Methodist Preacher***

The Rev. David C. Kelly was an unlikely candidate for a war hero or much less "a fighting parson" in Major General Nathan B. Forrest's Cavalry command. He had intended to be a Methodist preacher and missionary, and to that end was admitted to the Tennessee Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South in 1852. From 1854 to 1858 returned home to receive an appointment as pastor of the Methodist

Church in Franklin, Tennessee. From 1860 to early 1861 he was assigned to be one of two preachers in Huntsville, Alabama, part of the Tennessee Conference in those early days. David Kelly served as a missionary to China. In 1858 he returned home to receive an appointment as pastor of the Methodist Church in Franklin, Tennessee. From 1860 to early 1861 he was assigned to be one of two preachers in Huntsville, Alabama, part of the Tennessee Conference in those early days.

When the war began in the spring of 1861, Nathan B. Forrest was given a commission by Governor Isham Harris of Tennessee to raise a regiment of cavalry. Colonel Forrest ran some newspaper ads to recruit volunteers and began smuggling arms and equipment south from Louisville for his new regiment. The Rev. David Kelly met Colonel Forrest in Memphis and was impressed by his energy, determination, and focused leadership. Kelly accepted a major's commission in Forrest's Tennessee Cavalry Battalion (also at times designated as the 26th Tennessee Cavalry Battalion, but most often as "Forrest's Regiment.") As Forrest's command grew, Kelly was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and given command of "Forrest's Old Regiment."

Forrest himself regarded Kelly as both a regimental commander and his chaplain, although Kelly never held a chaplain's commission. Kelly recalled early on both Forrest's unbending will and his concern for his soldiers:

"This command," Major David C. Kelley wrote, "found that it was his single will, impervious to argument, appeal, or threat, which was ever to be the governing impulse in their movements. Everything necessary to supply their wants, to make them comfortable, he was quick to do, save to change his plans, to which everything had to bend. New men naturally grumbled, but when the work was done all were reconciled by the pride felt in the achievement."

Kelly served under Forrest's leadership throughout the war. He was in every respect a "fighting parson," a title which the men bestowed upon him in 1861. He was imaginative, once capturing a Federal supply ship by ruse, to the immense enjoyment of his men. He was also a combat leader who led from the front. In one of his reports he described a rear-guard action by two of his depleted cavalry regiments:

"August 23, 1864, we moved with the brigade after the retreating Yankees. Attacked them at Abbeville. My command was mounted; the Fifth Mississippi dismounted. We held the position against three regiments of infantry until they had not only flanked us on both sides, but almost closed in our rear. When the order reached me to retire, my flag (the staff and material of which are riddled with shot) was in forty paces of the flag of the advancing infantry.

We lost in this engagement, First Lieutenant J. T. Crews, Company E, killed, an officer of highest worth and coolest bravery; and five wounded.

Brevet Second Lieutenant Nichols, Company F, is specially worthy of notice for gallantry in the last skirmish.

Respectfully submitted,
D. C. KELLEY,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

(Continued on page 32)





Military Order of the Stars & Bars
75th Annual General Convention
San Antonio, Texas
June 7-9, 2012



The Texas Society and the Texas Chapter #5 (Houston) are honored to be the host for the 75th Annual General Convention in San Antonio, Texas. San Antonio is considered one of the top vacation spots in the South. Our hotel is the Old Menger Hotel, probably the oldest hotel west of the Mississippi and is located not only in the middle of all the good shops and restaurants of San Antonio but also next door to the famous Alamo. A step away from the Menger is the famous River Walk (the river that flows through downtown San Antonio). Everyone must take one of the famous boat rides.

The Convention Committee has decided to provide as much free time as possible to those attending because to get the real feel of San Antonio you must leave the hotel and get down on the Riverwalk where the shops and cafes are. Also since June has some uncomfortable weather we are encouraging casual wear as much as possible.

It is never too early to start making plans so mark your calendar accordingly. We encourage everyone to bring their young families. Also there will be no formal bus tours. You will have time for touring, shopping, exploring or just relaxing in the afternoon.

A little bit of history regarding your host city which is a Mecca for history buffs: When the area was first explored by the Spaniards in the late 1600s, a small Indian community was established on the San Pedro Springs area. The Spaniards named this the San Antonio River because it was discovered on the feast day of St Anthony. The actual founding of the city came in 1718 by Father Antonio Olivares, when he established Mission San Antonio de Valero. Soon five Spanish missions, chartered by Canary Islanders were built along the river. The Spanish Governor's Palace was completed on Military Plaza in 1749, and San Fernando de Bexar Church was built by 1758. In 1773 San Antonio de Bexar became the capital of Spanish Texas. By 1778, the settlement's population of more than 2000 was mostly poor Indians and Mexican settlers and was described as 'miserable' by visitors. More of the history of this great City will be presented in later publications.

Mark your calendars.

The Texas Society & the Texas Chapter #5
David G. Whitaker DCS, Chairman

The Battle of the Alamo

Fought February 23 to March 6, 1836, the battle was a pivotal event in the Texas Revolution. Following a 13-day siege, Mexican troops under President General Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna launched an assault on the Alamo (Cottonwoods) Mission near San Antonio de Bexar, modern-day San Antonio, Texas. All but two of the Texian defenders were killed. Santa Anna's perceived cruelty during the battle inspired many Texians, both Texas settlers and adventurers from the United States, to join the Texian Army. Buoyed by a desire for revenge, the Texians defeated the Mexican Army at the Battle of San Jacinto, on April 21, 1836, ending the revolution.



Military Order of the Stars & Bars
75th Annual General Convention
San Antonio, Texas
June 7-9, 2012



Convention Registration Form
TENTATIVE

Name & Title: _____ Chapter: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ St: _____ Zip: _____

Tel: (____) _____ Email: _____

Registration: *(Until June 1, 2012)* _____ @ \$75 \$ _____

Thursday, June 7, 2012

- Registration, 1- 5 pm
- GEC Meeting 1pm
- Texas Society Meeting 4:30 pm
- Barge Dinner 7pm _____ @ \$45 \$ _____

Friday, June 8, 2012

- Forrest Cavalry Breakfast 8-9 am _____ @ \$25 \$ _____
- Registration 7:30 - 9 am
- Opening Ceremony 9 - 9 am
- Business Meeting #1 (Review Bylaw changes, Dept. Meetings) 9:40 - 11:30 am
- *Ladies are; invited to go on the Menger Hotel Tour led by Ernset Malacara*
- Lucehon with Speaker on the Alamo _____ @ \$30 \$ _____

Free Time for Riverwalk

Commaner General's Reception - 5:30 - 7:00 pm (Wine & Cheese only) Dinner on your own.
Compliments of the Texas Chapter #5 & the Texas Society

Saturday, June 9, 2012

- Prayer Breakfast 8 - 9 am _____ @ \$25 \$ _____
- Business Meeting #2 (Election of Officers) 9:30 am
- Awards Luncheon - 12 noon _____ @ \$30 \$ _____

Free Time for Riverwalk

Fiesta Dinner and Speaker 6:30 to 9:00 pm _____ @ \$55 \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Check or Paypal. Make Payable & Mail to:
David Whitaker, MOSB 2012, 20018 Black Canyon, Katy, TX 77450

Convention and Hotel Reservations: Menger Hotel, San Antonio, TX
 204 Alamo Plaza, San Antonio, TX 78205, Tel: (210) 223-4361 or 1-800-394-1454*
Must Request "MOSB for Convention Room Rate of \$115.00

Wirz (Continued from page 15)

The first charge of the indictment stated that Wirz had conspired with Confederate officials to kill Union prisoners, “by subjecting [them] to torture and great suffering, by confining in unhealthy and unwholesome quarters ... by compelling the use



The execution of Maj. Wirz

National Archives

of impure water and by furnishing insufficient and unwholesome food.” The court also charged Wirz with personally murdering thirteen Union soldiers, but the names of each alleged victim was “unknown,” some of the supposed crimes took place when Wuz was away from the prison, and one act involved a violent assault which he was physically incapable of administering. [30] Wirz was so ill during his trial that he had to be carried into court, and he was unable to sit up during the proceedings.

The prosecution, headed by Norton P. Chipman, used the large financial and legal resources of the federal government to prosecute the case, and 148 witnesses testified over 63 days. Some Union soldiers who testified at the trial perjured themselves and gave unreliable and exaggerated testimony, and the trial record “runs heavy with some of the most absurd hearsay that any American judge ever permitted to stand.” [31]

The defense requested many witnesses who were not allowed to testify, and Robert Quld, who came to give evidence on prisoner exchange, was ordered to leave the city or face arrest. No testimony was allowed that questioned the policies of the Union, reflected poorly on President Lincoln, or criticized the North for not exchanging prisoners. Most of the testimony centered on the conditions of the camp, implying that Wirz caused the captives to suffer needlessly, but the court was unsuccessful in proving its main accusations. “His trial failed to produce any credible account of his acting with personal cruelty or evidence of his role in any conspiracy.” [32] In his diary, Wirz expressed dismay on how witnesses for the defense were discredited. “What a mockery this trial is, they say they are anxious that I should have justice done to me, and then when a witness is put on the stand to give testimony they try everything to break him down, if they cannot do it they try to assail his private character.” [33]

Recent historians have condemned the trial. William Marvels stated that “Wirz was a dead man from the start.” Ovid L. Futch wrote that the trial was a “legal lynching of Wirz.” Robert Scott Davis asserted that the trial was “only a formality for a defendant facing the gallows at the hands of a prejudiced court.” Charles W. Sanders claimed “that the entire proceeding was a sham-and a poorly executed sham at that.” The lawyer, Glen W. LaForce, agreed stating that “the trial of Henry Wirz was worse than a mistake, worse even than a miscarriage of justice. The trial of ... Wirz was a national disgrace. Vengeance, not justice, had been served.” [34]

The prosecution tried to implicate many leaders of the Confederacy in a conspiracy to murder prisoners by listing Jefferson Davis and other leaders of the Confederacy as coconspirators. The court also condemned “others whose names are unknown, [who] maliciously and traitorously... destroy[ed] the lives of a large number of Federal prisoners.” [35] No record of such a conspiracy has ever been uncovered, and it was a false accusation created by the prosecution. The trial ended on October 24. Wirz was found guilty and sentenced to hang.

Government agents came to see the condemned man in jail the night before the execution and offered him a pardon to implicate Jefferson Davis in the crimes at Andersonville. Wirz rejected this bribe with contempt as he told a companion. “These men have

(Continued on page 32)

[31] Marvel, [po ix]-x.

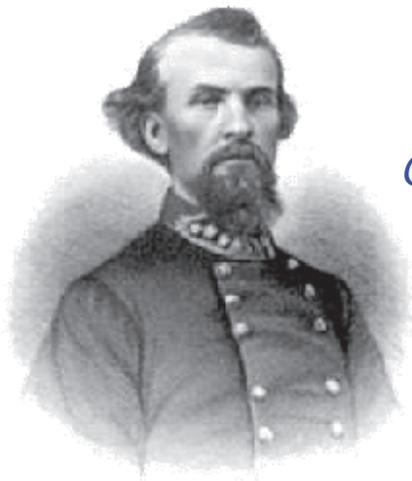
[32] Davis, *Ghosts*, p. 183

[33] Wirz “*Diary*,” Oct. 4, 1865, in *New York Times*, Nov. 15, 1865.

[34] Marvel, p. 243; Futch, p. 120; Davis, *Ghosts*, p. 197; Sanders, *While in the Hands*, p. 295; and Glen W. LaForce, “*The Trial of Major Henry Wirz: a National Disgrace*,” *The Army Lawyer* (June 1988), p. 10.

[35] *Trial*, p. 807.

[36] Quoted by Richard Winder in James J. Williamson, *Prison Life in the Old Capitol and Reminiscences of the Civil War* (West Orange, NJ.: op., 1911), p. 139. See also, C. B. Winder and F. E. Boyle in *The Death and Trial of Henry Wirz* (Raleigh: Uzzell, 1908), pp. 44-50 On the day of his execution, November 10, 1865

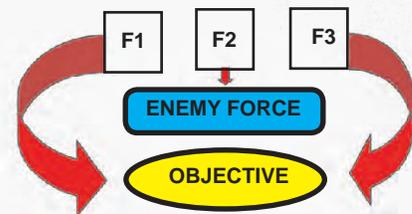


General Nathan Bedford Forrest and the Double Envelopment

By Max Lee Waldrop, Jr.
Commander General

Double Envelopment Defined

Throughout the origins of warfare, the flanking maneuver or flanking attack has been a fundamental basic military tactic. It is defined as an attack made on one or more sides of an enemy force. The double envelopment (pincer movement) is the most effective flanking maneuver. It is a coordinated, simultaneous attack on both sides of the enemy with care taken to avoid friendly fire. The attacking commander uses direct and indirect suppressive fire to “fix and hold” the enemy in place while the maneuvering forces advance to engage the enemy flanks. Once surrounded from several sides and compelled to fight in several directions, the enemy loses the abilities to maneuver and defend and can be possibly destroyed in position. Should both flanking forces link up in the enemy’s rear, the enemy becomes encircled leading to surrender or annihilation.



F - Friendly Force
**Diagram of the Double
Envelopment Maneuver**

Military commanders such as Hannibal at the Battle of Cannae (216 BC), Julius Caesar, Napoleon, Brigadier General Daniel Morgan at the Battle of Cowpens (1781), General Robert E. Lee and General Thomas Jackson at Chancellorsville, and Nathan Bedford Forrest at Parker’s Crossroads have successfully utilized this tactic. In 1991 during the ground campaign of Desert Storm (first Persian Gulf War), the Coalition forces under General Norman Schwarzkopf dramatically used the single envelopment “left hook flanking maneuver” to bypass the Iraqi forces located near the Kuwait-Saudi border. In modern warfare, new variations of envelopment are “vertically” achieved with the use of airborne or air assault troops and ‘amphibiously’ achieved with naval and river forces.

German military strategist, Alfred Graf von Schlieffen, Chief of the German General Staff taught the “Cannae model” of Hannibal’s double envelopment of the Roman Army. He is quoted

“A battle of annihilation can be carried out today according to the same plan devised by Hannibal in long forgotten times. The enemy front is not the goal of the principal attack. The mass of the troops and the reserves should not be concentrated against the enemy front; the essential is that the flanks be crushed. The wings should not be sought at the advanced points of the front but rather along the entire depth and extension of the enemy formation. The annihilation is completed through an attack against the enemy’s rear. To bring about a decisive and annihilating victory requires an attack against the front and against one or both flanks ...” [1]

Forrest As a Tactician

Nathan Bedford Forrest is described by Shelby Foote in his book *The Civil War* as a natural and brilliant tactician who earned the respect of both sides. He enlisted in 1861 as a Private in the Tennessee Mounted Rifles Company, commissioned a Lieutenant Colonel a month later by Tennessee Governor Isham G. Harris with authority to raise and finance his own force of 600-man cavalry, and achieved the rank of Lieutenant General. Foote stated:

“In his first fight, northeast of Bowling Green, the forty year old Forrest improvised a double envelopment, combined it with a frontal assault - classic maneuvers which he could not identify by name and of which he had most likely never heard...” [2]

Forrest

Forrest was called “that devil Forrest” by Sherman and was known for his use of mobility, deception, terrain, inventive tactics, and motivating personal courage on the battlefield. The famous Prussian general and military theorist, Carl von Clausewitz defined tactics as “the art of using troops in battle” and in his first battle, Forrest’s tactical leadership of obtaining offensive, mass, and surprise through the maneuvering of his cavalry (at times dismounted) and flying artillery (used primarily at Parker’s Crossroads) became hallmark characteristics. His often quoted military principle of “Get there first with the most men”^[3] succinctly defines this self-made warrior. After this first battle he was described by a subordinate (Kelley):

“So fierce did his passion become that he was almost equally dangerous to friend or foe, and, as it seemed to some of us, he was too wildly excitable to be capable of judicious command. Later we became aware that excitement neither paralyzed nor mislead his magnificent military genius.” ^[4]

Dan Kennerly in his book *Forrest at Parker’s Crossroads: The Dawn of Lightning War* wrote:

“Unfortunately, Forrest himself did not realize that he had initiated and perfected a new and exciting arm of attack. He had had no formal military training, and therefore could not have comprehended that his intuitive and imaginative use of psychological warfare, artillery maneuver, and small combat commands were the beginnings of armored warfare strategy that would be later utilized in WWII. The Battle of Parker’s Crossroads and the campaign preceding it were truly the dawn of the blitzkrieg - the dawn of lightning war.” ^[5]

Forrest’s greatest victory was at the Battle of Brices Crossroads in northern Mississippi on June 10, 1864 in what has often been called the perfect battle. Forrest defeated and routed Major General Samuel D. Sturgis whose 8,000 man army was more than two times the size of the Confederates. Sturgis later described the battle as “What was confusion became chaos.” In this battle, Forrest was able to effectively use terrain against Sturgis as a bridge in the rear of the Union forces served as a roadblock along the escape route.

The Battle of Parker’s Crossroads

On November 21, 1862 Forrest was ordered to Columbia, Tennessee by General Bragg to lead a strike against General Grant’s extended rail supply and communication lines. At this time, Grant was heavily involved in his planning and preparation for the attack on Vicksburg, MS. Forrest began his movement north out of Columbia with 1,800 men who were poorly equipped on December 10, 1862. Beginning December 19 and carrying through December 27th, Forrest’s unit engaged Union forces in numerous locations at Lexington, Jackson, Humboldt, Trenton, and Union City, Tennessee.

On December 31, Union forces under Colonel Dunham moved from Clarksburg towards Parker’s Crossroads to guard the approaches against the reported proximity of Forrest’s cavalry. Forrest placing his horsemen and artillery in motion, met the Union Indiana 50th Infantry Regiment and 18th Illinois Infantry Regiment at Hicks’ Field one mile northwest of the Crossroads. He immediately flanked the Union’s right flank while constantly bombarding the Union center with Lt Baxter’s grape and canister artillery fire. Dunham’s forces were forced to retreat to the Crossroads where they were kept under intense artillery pressure by Freeman’s and Morton’s Batteries of seven guns. By early afternoon, Forrest had completely divided and surrounded Dunham by use of the double envelopment as he sent the 4th Alabama and the Kentucky Battalion on a flanking maneuver around the Union’s right while simultaneously flanking the Union’s left front with the 4th and 19th Tennessee. Unfortunately, as Forrest was negotiating with Colonel Dunham for the surrender of his brigade, Colonel Fuller’s Ohio Brigade approached from the north in the area where Forrest had sent (before the battle began) Capt McLemore and four cavalry companies to watch for any Union reinforcements. Captain McLemore hearing the commencement of the battle attempted to rejoin his regiment leaving Forrest without a scouting force and exposed to any additional Union reinforcements. ^[6] Fuller captured almost 300 dismounted Confederate cavalry and completely surprised Forrest. Forrest immediately led a charge on Fuller’s left flank with a small reconstituted force. This charge dispersed the enemy’s leading edge resulting in an overnight defensive position. Forrest was then able to make a prudent disengagement and undertake a dramatic race to the Tennessee River. Despite the ignominy of the late afternoon surprise reinforcement of Dunham’s Brigade by Fuller, Forrest completely dominated the field of battle with his effective use of artillery at short range, dismounted cavalry providing support for the artillery, strategic use of terrain, and the successful encirclement of Dunham’s units by maneuvering his forces using the double envelopment. ^[7]

Forrest’s successful raid of Western Tennessee in late 1862 combined with the raid of General Van Dorn on Holly Springs,

(Continued on page 32)

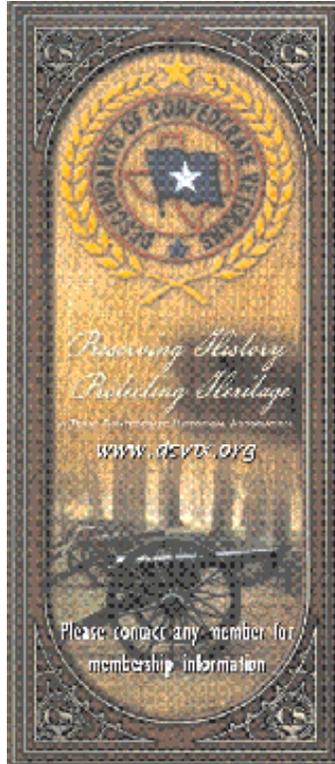
The Descendants of Confederate Veterans

The question has been posed on occasion; who are these DCV guys and what are they all about? Hopefully this article can answer your questions.

In 2005 Texan Steve von Roeder put in motion an idea that had been germinating in his mind for some time. Steve was well known at the time (and still is) as a Southern historian, reenactor of several time periods, member and officer of several history and heritage organizations including the MOS&B, SCV, Texian Legacy Association and others, a well-respected period artillery instructor, wearer-of-many-hats and most of all a Southern gentleman. The idea he had was to form a Confederate heritage and history organization devoid of politics, back room or closed door meetings and other distasteful things and have an organization that remained focused on one thing above all else honoring our Confederate ancestors.

Steve asked his good friend Jim Templin, Confederate history and heritage circles, if his home in Temple, TX, to see how his idea agreed. Steve invited a few of his Texas been around MOS&B and SCV circles for a of the invitees. Men such as Pete Orlebeke, Loudermilk and Ron Aldis were on the Fowlkes and David Whitaker. I was also

The date for the meeting May 15, 2005 Steve they were met with enthusiastic support. On Veterans was born. Officers were elected, documents, obtain 501(c)(3) status, establish and all the other things necessary to start a would compose the written purpose of the From that meeting, the Descendants of five Chapters across Texas with members of foreign countries. The organization has newsletter. The Chapters are currently in-permanent markers at various War Between each year, in commemoration of the War's Historical Marker was placed by the DCV Men's Home in Austin, TX.



also well known (and still is) in Southern and he would host an organizational meeting at would be received. Jim and Helen readily friends to this meeting. Readers who have few years might recognize the names of some Ralph Green, Jim Vogler, Jim Templin, Gary list. Barney Hilburn was there, as was Dale honored to be asked to tag along.

outlined his ideas for the organization and that day, the Descendants of Confederate assignments were made to write governing bank accounts, design a logo and a website new group. The founder, Steve von Roeder, organization and its mission statement. Confederate Veterans (DCV) has grown to in several different states and even a couple at-large members and a statewide electronic volved in various projects, including installing the States related sites all over Texas, one sesquicentennial. Recently an official Texas at the site of the former Texas Confederate

From the inception of the DCV, it was always the intent of the organization to work closely with the MOS&B. If you look at the names mentioned in this article alone you will notice the names of many long-time MOS&B members, many of them life members. It was our great honor and privilege to be able to host the presentation ceremony for the 2011 MOS&B Douglas Southall Freeman Literary Award this fall in Austin, TX during the dedication at the Confederate Men's Home. Many members of the DCV are also members of the MOS&B and hopefully there will be many more.

The DCV is very proud to have been able to maintain the vision of our founder and keep our eyes focused on our target over the years. There is very little room for anything that gets in the way of our honoring our ancestors and we like it that way. Both men and women are welcome in the DCV and an applicant does have to be sponsored by a member to gain admission to the DCV. We appreciate the invitation and opportunity to address the MOS&B community with this article. The entire DCV considers the MOS&B to be good friends and looks forward to our relationship growing. Please drop in on our web site at www.dcvtx.org and look around. Let us know if there is anything we can do to help you.

On behalf of myself, the Board of Directors and members of the DCV I would like to thank Commander General Max Waldrop, the officers and staff, and the members of the MOS&B for what you have done and continue to do for our shared Southern History and Heritage.

God Bless you all.
Steve Lucas

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**Military Order of the Stars and Bars
Balance Sheet
As of September 30, 2011**

	<u>Sep 30, 11</u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Life Member Savings Account	29,579.69
Military Order of the Stars & B	13,203.95
MOS&B Pay Pal Acct.	3,570.00
Total Checking/Savings	<u>46,353.64</u>
Other Current Assets	
Investments Committee Account	204,477.74
Medals/Certificates Inventory	8,983.00
Merchandise Inventory	18,560.50
Total Other Current Assets	<u>232,021.24</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>278,374.88</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>278,374.88</u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Equity	
Opening Balance Equity	257,357.88
Net Income	21,017.00
Total Equity	<u>278,374.88</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>278,374.88</u>



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~ Confederate Legacy Fund ~

by William Howard Jones

Chairman, Grants and Endowment Committee

We are extremely grateful for the generosity of our members. In the past twelve months our members contributed over \$17,000 to the Confederate Legacy Fund. All told, we have received over \$50,000 since the inception of the program.

The Confederate Legacy Fund is an integral part of our over-all financial plan. Only the interest generated from this fund will be spent. The fund's principal will always remain intact. Expenditures from the fund are limited to scholarships and projects that will preserve and enhance our Southern heritage. The Legacy Fund will ultimately eliminate the need for making these types of expenditures from our General Fund. It is a source of income that will continue for perpetuity.

MOS&B is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) corporation. As a result, all donations to the Legacy Fund are 100% tax deductible. Those members who donate \$1000 to the fund will be honored at our national convention and awarded the distinctive Confederate Legacy Legion of Merit neck ribbon and drop. A member may also qualify for the same award by making four payments of \$250 each over a four-year period.

Donating stocks and bonds is another excellent strategy for charitable donations. You can receive an income tax deduction for the full market value of a particular security and, at the same time, avoid all capital gains tax on the transaction. There is a very simple form that has to be filled out by your broker to affect the transfer and no brokerage fee is involved.

We are proud to recognize the recipients of the 2010-2011 Confederate Legion of Merit Award:

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Scott C. Cole - Tazewell, VA
Reinhard J. Dearing, Ph.D. - Slidell, LA
O. David Denard - Norcross, GA
Bill Elmore - Magnolia, AR
Hugh D. Fowlkes - Edmond, OK
PCG Daniel W. Jones - Cary, NC
W. Howard Jones - San Mateo, CA

David H. Rankin, Jr. - Charlotte, NC
Sigmund Reckline - Baroda, MI
Dr. Richard W. Rhone - Tuscaloosa, AL
Alexander Rhoton, M.D. - Chattanooga, TN
Harold K. Roberts, Jr. - Salisbury, NC
Col. Max L. Waldrop - Aiken, SC
Lowry Watkins, Jr. - Louisville, KY
Dr. John D. Williams - Titusville, FL

Thank you, gentlemen, for your generosity. Through your efforts we will help to preserve the memory of our ancestors and the cause that they fought for.

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Metal Memories: A Brief History of the MOSB Convention and Medals 1938-2010

[Part 2]

By Jeffery W. Massey, DCS

The Confederate Veteran Reunions of the 1940's were probably some of the saddest and least respected events in American history. The passing of the lines of the Blue and Grey went pretty much unheralded as the United States was gripped in the throes of the Second World War. A great source of a history of those last Confederate Veterans is Jay Hoar's excellent book "The South's Last Boys In Grey."

*Original caption:
10/9/1940-Washington, DC:
Captain William Banks of
Houston, TX: Private A. T.
Fuller, 93, of DuBuch, LA.:
R.P. Scott, 93, of Dallas TX.,
and Private C.S. Riggan, 98,
of Warren, NC, (l to r) are
pictured as they attended the
Golden Reunion of the United
Confederate Veterans here,*

*(Courtesy of Corbisimages.com/
Originals from UPI-Washington)*



As noted in the previous Part 1 article, the concluding years of the Confederate Reunions were feted events. In 1940 Washington D.C. played host to the Confederate Veterans, including official visits to the White House and official greetings from every branch of Government. Southern Congressional delegations made great coverage by posing and treating with silvered veterans of Grey. However the early October 1940 convention created scheduling difficulties. In an age of postal service, or telegram, communication was an expensive luxury. Scheduling conventions and making convention arrangements was a "young man's job" and the Veterans increasingly relied upon the dutiful few UDC ladies. This author would be remiss in not noting the contribution of Ms. Winnie Booth Kernan. Ms. Kernan, was the daughter of General Andrew B. Booth who had served as Adjutant General from 1919 until 1921, then as Assistant Adjutant General until 1923. Because of her timely and capable assistance to her father, Ms. Kernan continued to attend the national UCV conventions and served as the Assistant Adjutant General through the early 1940's. It was during this time that the majority of correspondence, reunion arrangements, membership records, and other administrative matters were handled personally by Ms. Kernan. Following Ms. Kernan's retirement, the UCV, OSB and SCV records were ultimately kept at the Law Building in Richmond, Virginia under the practiced eye of Colonel Walter L. Hopkins. Colonel Hopkins was former Commander-in-Chief of the SCV, but took great interest in the establishment of the OSB and protection of the UCV. Colonel Hopkins was a noted attorney who permitted the use and storage of UCV/OSB/SCV archives and operations to be conducted from his law offices. The official address for all Confederate activities of the 1940's became the "Law Building, Richmond VA" for many years. Colonel Hopkins was a great steward of Confederate culture for over a quarter century until his death in 1949.

It was at the death of Colonel Hopkins that a strange series of little known events transpired which ultimately would prove to be a historical disaster for the SCV. Following the Little Rock Convention and the memorialization of Colonel Hopkins, there began a scramble to gather the archives and records from his law offices. Since the UCV still officially existed (at least on paper), the papers were the official property of an organization with few members, and no officers/directors, per se. This became increasingly problematic as generations-long petty feuds, coupled with poor communications, prevented a cohesive strategy regarding the historical papers of the Confederate Organizations. While the UDC had generated and controlled their documents and archives for years, such was not the case for the UCV/SCV/OSB with the centralized nature of the organization and ever-aging membership. One figure of this era was a deputy adjutant who managed to procure the records of the SCV from the Law Building. This man would maintain the records for several years.



Col. Walter L. Hopkins

It is about this time the History of the MOS&B would take another turn, this time for the better. Out of the smoke of World War II, came a cadre of military officers who were proud of their Confederate Ancestors and proud of their service on the battlefields of Europe and Pacific war zones. Foremost in the administrative section was William D. McCain of Mississippi. While the biography of General McCain is deserving of great literary prose, pen and paper, it would be too much for this article. General McCain's administrative abilities were recognized by the leaders of the SCV and OSB following the Final UCV Reunion. Of historical note, at the final UCV reunion, the official papers of the UCV were remitted for deposit and archiving with the "War Department - State of Louisiana."



Dr. William D. McCain

General McCain began the arduous task of gathering the OSB records which were in stable and complete condition. McCain had been elected as the Adjutant General for the OSB in 1952, and took over the job from T.J. Fakes. Additionally, McCain took over as SCV Adjutant in Chief at the same time. Part of the combined strategies of both organizations was to formulate a central policy for membership, records, bank records and archives. McCain then requested the SCV archivist to remit the SCV historical records to him at his address. The response would forever haunt the SCV. General McCain was informed the entire historical records of the SCV had been donated to a paper drive during the early part of the Korean War. McCain would state years later that he did not believe a word of it, but there was no way to prove such an accusation across state lines in the early 1950's. So the historical archives of the SCV are forever lost to history due to the pettiness and petulance of one man in a position of authority.

*McCain however would faithfully serve both the SCV and MOS&B organizations until his death in the early 1990's.



Young Confederates with Veteran John Salling in 1951



John Salling & William Boush, Confederate Veterans (1951)

Courtesy Norfolk Public Library, Sergeant Memorial Room



Confederate Veterans Reunion
Original caption: 10/09/1940-Washington, DC: Led by their 95-year-old Commander-in-Chief, Gen. Julius F. Howell (r), of Bristol, VA, members of the United Confederate Veterans, who are holding their Golden Jubilee meeting here, visited the White House, Oct. 9th.

Pictured with Gen. Howell is 124-year-old Major James Monroe, Jr., of Jacksonville, FL., oldest of the veterans. He says he is the son of President James Monroe. (Courtesy of Corbisimages.com/Originals from UPI-Washington)



UCV



William Townsend (105), John Salling (104), and William J. Boush (105) attend the 61st and final reunion of the United Confederate Veterans, held in Norfolk, 30 May - 2 June 1951. (Courtesy Norfolk Public Library, Sergeant Memorial Room)

Wirz *(Continued from page 22)*

just offered me my liberty if I will testify against Mr. Davis, and incriminate him with the charges against the Andersonville Prison. I told them that I could not do this, as I neither knew Mr. Davis personally, officially or socially, but if they expected with the offer of my miserable life to purchase me to treason and treachery to the South they had undervalued me.” [36]

On the day of his execution November 10, 1865, Wirz was concerned about his wife and children, and he sent a letter pleading that they be helped financially. Henry Wirz was taken to the place of execution, and a long list of accusations were read to him as he stood on the scaffold. When asked if he had any last words, Wirz replied, “No sir; only that I am innocent, and will die like a man, my hopes being in the future. I go before my God, the Almighty God, and he will judge between me and you.” Wirz fell when the trap door was released, but the rope failed to break his neck, and he writhed in agony for twenty minutes before he strangled to death. At least, federal revenge ended at that point, and there were no more executions for war crimes.

The tragedy of Andersonville still discredits the nation, and many men in the Union and Confederacy must share the blame for the high death rates in that prison, but Wirz was unfairly singled out for punishment. Henry Wirz was a flawed man who did his best to alleviate suffering and save lives at Andersonville, and he is no stain on the honor of Swiss Americans.

Albert Winkler, Brigham Young University

Double Envelopment *(Continued from page 24)*

Mississippi forced General Grant to leave Grenada, Mississippi and move northward to Memphis, Tennessee to protect his base of supply. This enabled Vicksburg and Pemberton to delay the ultimate siege for another six months. ●

Notes and References

- 1 Battle of Cannae ([http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php/title - Battle of Cannae](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php/title-Battle_of_Cannae))
- 2 Shelby Foote, *The Civil War A Narrative: Fort Sumter to Perryville*. p 172
- 3 Basil W. Duke, *Reminiscences of General Basil W. Duke* (Garden City, New York: Doubleday, Page, 1911) p 346
- 4 Wyeth, *Life of General Nathan Bedford Forrest*, p.35
- 5 Dan Kennerly, *The Dawn of Lightning War : General Forrest and Parker’s Crossroads*. p 11
- 6 Official Records, Series I, Part I, 17:580, 595-597
- 7 Dan Kennerly, *The Dawn of Lightning War: General Forrest and Parker’s Crossroads*. pp 29-42

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ANNOUNCEMENT OF CANDIDACY FOR LT. COMMANDER GENERAL, MOS&B

Howard Jones
1471 Woodberry Avenue
San Mateo, CA 94403
howardandcathy@hotmail.com
(650) 572-0461

Gentlemen of the Order:

I am pleased to announce my candidacy for the position of Lt. Commander General. These past few years I have devoted much of my time and energy to furthering our cause. I am asking for your faith and confidence to continue my pursuit of this goal. My objective is to serve both the Commander General and the members of the Order with distinction and honor. I need your support to achieve these goals.

One of my greatest challenges was creating the California Society. When I first joined the Order we had one Chapter in Los Angeles and only 11 active members. The Chapter was inactive and had not met in several years. In 2008, I began to work with then Adjutant General, Max Waldrop, to create the California Society.

We started to hold regularly scheduled Chapter meetings and our membership soon doubled. Our next step was to form a second Chapter in San Francisco. Today, our members enjoy the bonds of fraternity and camaraderie in a vibrant California Society. I serve as its Commander.

As the ATM Executive Councilor, I serve as a member of the GEC. I also am the Chairman of the Grants & Endowments Committee. In the last twelve months our committee has raised over \$17,000 for the Confederate Legacy Fund. The fund now has a total balance in excess of \$50,000. The revival of our fund raising activities will assure the Order's financial well being for future generations.

I am proud of my Southern heritage. Like you, I want to preserve the memories of our ancestors and the cause that they fought for. My great grand uncle was Capt. Henry Hill Harris, Company G, 8th Arkansas Infantry Regiment. He was a native of Izard County, Arkansas. He fought in all of the major battles with the Army of Tennessee. Wounded at Shiloh and Franklin, his name was added to the Confederate Honor Roll for valor at Chickamauga. Neither he nor his family members are forgotten. In 2012 members of the California Society and the Arkansas Society will honor Capt. Harris for his war service at a graveside ceremony in Melbourne, Arkansas.

Today, many organizations are threatened by falling membership and a lack of relevancy in a changing world. We have a unique opportunity to do the right things today that will preserve and enhance our cause for future generations. These are challenges as we move forward. If elected I pledge to work tirelessly in pursuit of our goals. I would appreciate your support. Deo Vindice.

Sincerely,
Howard Jones, LCS





Growing the Order

By Adjutant General Toni Turk

We are launched into the Sesquicentennial of the War Between the States, and we will soon be celebrating the 75th Anniversary of the Military Order of the Stars and Bars. This is the time to secure the future of our Order by extending its footprint. The following data has been assembled to encourage and to challenge our movers and shakers to advance our cause. By way of explanation, to be chartered as a fully constituted Society there must be at least fifteen members resident within the geographic confines of the Society *currently the Bylaws define that as a State. Included within the residency figures are those with membership in the National At-Large Chapter or in a different State than their residency, as well as membership in a chapter within the State. A viable chapter is described as one having at least five active members.

On September 5, 2011, there were 1624 active members in the Military Order of the Stars and Bars. Of this number 1277 or 79% of the membership of the Order were resident within one of the States of the Confederacy. The breakdown in descending order by residency was:

1. Texas - 222	Society -11 Viable Chapters	7. South Carolina - 116	Society - 6 Viable Chapters
2. Virginia - 186	Society - 9 Viable Chapters	8. Tennessee - 89	Society - 4 Viable Chapters
3. Georgia - 148	Society - 5 Viable Chapters	9. Mississippi - 49	Society - 4 Viable Chapters
4. North Carolina - 137	Society - 7 Viable Chapters	10. Louisiana - 44	Society - 2 Viable Chapters
5. Florida - 125	Society - 12 Viable Chapters	11. Arkansas - 40	Society - 3 Viable Chapters
6. Alabama - 121	Society - 6 Viable Chapters		

Border States, with mixed allegiances during the War, included the following four with a total of 134 resident members or 8% of the total. The breakdown in descending order by membership was:

1. Missouri - 46	Society - 5 Viable Chapters	3. Maryland - 30	Society - 2 Viable Chapters
2. Oklahoma - 36	Society - 3 Viable Chapters	4. Kentucky - 22	----- - -----

An additional twenty-six states, five foreign countries, and the District of Columbia have a total of 196 resident members or 12% of the total. The breakdown in descending order by membership was:

1. California - 28	Society - 2 Viable Chapters	18. Washington - 4	----- - -----
2. Illinois - 21	Society - Viable Chapter	19. Alaska - 3	----- - Viable Chapter
3. Ohio - 17	Society - 2 Viable Chapters	20. Massachusetts - 3	----- - -----
4. Colorado - 13	Provisional - Viable Chapter	21. Minnesota - 3	----- - -----
5. Indiana* - 13	Society - Viable Chapter	22. Vermont - 2	----- - -----
6. Pennsylvania - 10	----- - -----	23. West Virginia - 2	----- - -----
7. Kansas - 9	----- - -----	24. Wisconsin - 2	----- - -----
8. Arizona - 8	----- - -----	25. Idaho - 1	----- - -----
9. Michigan - 7	Provisional - Viable Chapter	26. Montana - 1	----- - -----
10. New York* - 7	Society - Viable Chapter	27. District of Columbia - 3	----- - -----
11. New Mexico - 6	----- - -----	28. Australia - 1	----- - -----
12. Oregon - 6	----- - -----	29. Canada - 2	----- - -----
13. Connecticut* - 5	Society - Viable Chapter	30. Spain - 1	----- - -----
14. Iowa - 4	----- - -----	31. Switzerland - 1	----- - -----
15. Nevada - 4	----- - -----	32. Thailand - 1	----- - -----
16. New Jersey - 4	----- - -----		
17. Utah - 4	----- - -----		

*Understrength

There are inactive members of the Order in the nine non-enumerated States: Delaware, Hawaii, Maine, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Rhode Island, South Dakota and Wyoming. Additionally, there are also inactive members in the following foreign countries: England, France, and Mauritius.

If anyone would like to take on the challenge of building a Chapter or organizing a Society, I am willing to assist with supply-ing contact information to get things started. You may contact me at trturk@frontiernet.net.



THE WAR HORSE

Horses have intelligence that has been known and understood by man for at least 5000 years. Many different breeds have developed over these thousands of years. However there are several names that you will often hear like Charger, draught horse, riding horse, War Horse, Cutting Horse, Mustang and such. Certain breeds were better suited for membership in these various classifications than others. A race horse knows when it is in a race and they understand winning. The Roman War

Horse knew when it was in a fight and certainly knew how to fight. They would bite you, kick you, knock you down and club you to death with their hoofs. Not only did men have horse sense but horses had men sense. They understood how to do their job and work with the riders they were comfortable with. Men knew horses then like men of today know their automobiles, for lack of a better analogy.

This short missive is about the War Horse in North America with a focus on the horses of the Comanche tribes and the horses used in the War Between the States.

It is theorized that the first horse was native to the Great Plains and eons ago crossed over the land bridge to populate Asia, Europe, and the Arab countries of North Africa. In North America the horse became extinct but was eventually reintroduced in 1493 by the Spaniards bringing the domestic Iberian breed to the New World. Many of these Iberians somehow escaped and quickly established large feral herds and eventually developed into the wild North American Mustangs. Apparently they found their new home on the Great Plains to their liking. All of this happened west of the Mississippi River. The Indian tribes east of the Mississippi did not have horses until much later and very few if at all.

The Comanche Indians were by far the greatest warriors of all the Plains Indians. When they brought the horse into their lives around 1650 the Comanche braves became the best horsemen who ever rode. Comanche boys became adept at riding bareback by age six. The braves became so masterful at war using their horses and skillful at killing with their arrows and 14' lances from horseback that they stopped the northern drive of colonial Spain from Mexico and halted the French expansion westward from Louisiana. White settlers arriving from the east prior to the War Between the States paid a heavy price in lives by their invasion of Comanche tribal territory. The Comanche braves were very brutal people. All the men they captured were killed or tortured to death, some more slowly than others; the captive women were gang raped, brutalized, and made slaves which was a slow horrible death. A portion of the young ones would be spared though. The babies were invariably killed while preadolescents were often adopted. It was not uncommon for a Comanche tribe to have a herd of 1000 horses and numerous slaves, many Mexican and Indians from other tribes as well as white settlers. So savage and effective were the Comanche Indians that they forced the creation of the Texas Rangers and it was these men who discovered that the effective use of horses in their battles is what made the Comanche Indians the superb warriors they were. Other Indian tribes would ride their horses to the battle site and dismount to fight. The Comanches did not dismount so had the advantage because they learned to shoot from horseback. These animals had been trained in warfare and knew what they were supposed to do.

Fast forward to the War Between the States. Both sides realized how important the horse was going to be in the war. Some even say the horse was the backbone of both Armies. Horses moved guns and ambulances, food, fought battles, did scouting duties, carried generals and messages, and usually gave their all. Estimates of horse casualties say as many as 1 million were killed. That's more than the 620,000 Americans that were killed in the WBTS.

The Morgans and the Tennessee Walkers were the horse breeds sought after by those needing a mount, but any horse that could do the job was used. Serviceable horses were in high demand because the average life expectancy for a horse used in the war was estimated to be only about six months and the majority did not survive.

The War Horse

Of course, when we think of a horse in the WBTS, we naturally think of a cavalry mount. The battlefield used the horses' natural talents of speed, agility and coyness to a marvelous degree, but many other jobs waited for the horse. Messages needed to be delivered, commanding officers required transportation to other fields of battle and vital equipment was expected to be moved, all by the power of the horse and/or the mule.

The Cavalry were the forces that fought on horseback, armed with rifles, pistols and sabers. Another force on horseback was the Mounted Infantry. These were troops that moved on horseback but dismounted for fighting on foot and were armed principally with rifles.

By 1861 the Texans were in a full war with the Comanche nation and had learned to fight on their terms. This experience was carried into the Confederate Cavalry from Texas. Terry's Texas Rangers (8th Texas Cavalry) was mostly made up of men who, like the Comanche boys, were taught to ride at an early age. They worked with their horse every day and were real cattlemen accustomed to a tough life. Additionally they were hell bent on killing Yankees. They fought with a rifle, two six-shooters, a Bowie knife and two sawed-off shotguns. When they charged a Yankee position they laid down on their horse's back and galloped as fast as the horse could run, all the while giving the Rebel yell. They didn't shoot until they were in the Yankee lines. At this point the horse knew he was in the fight too. The horse would kick, bite, and stomp while his rider was blasting away with his shotguns, then his pistols. By this time the Yankees were usually running in retreat. It goes without saying that many of Terry's Texas Rangers didn't make it back home.

When this writer was about 11 years old he had a horse named *Kentucky*. At that time he really thought that *Kentucky* was smarter than he because she seemed to know more than he. For instance, there was a dirt road in front of his house that led to a huge pine tree forest that was about 50 square miles in area. This is where *Kentucky* and this writer would go ride the trails and it wasn't hard to get lost, but *Kentucky* could always find the way back home in time for supper if you would just let her run.

David G. Whitaker, DCS

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The Fighting Parson (Continued from page 19)

Eventually Major General Forrest was compelled to surrender at Gainesville, Alabama in May of 1865. Rev. David Kelly then went back to his church for assignment as a minister once again. In 1865 Kelly served as pastor of the Methodist Church in Lebanon; in 1874 as Presiding Elder (District Superintendent) of the Nashville District; and in 1886 as Treasurer of the Methodist General Board of Missions. In 1890, while serving a pastorate in Gallatin, he was nominated for the office of Governor of Tennessee. He did not win the election, but he did subsequently serve in 1893 as a delegate from Tennessee to the Methodist General Conference.

David Campbell Kelly represented many Southern clergy, of different denominations, who chose both to fight and to pray for the South. He was obviously a man of many skills and abilities, but probably did not realize when he was ordained in 1852 that one of those skills was to lead cavalymen in battle!

For further information, see Marion E. Lazenby, *History of Methodism in Alabama and West Florida* (1960).

John W. Brinsfield, Chaplain General

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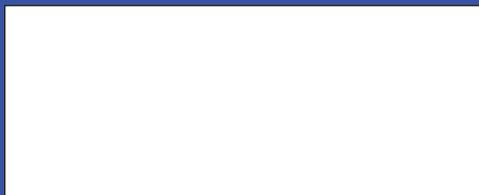
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