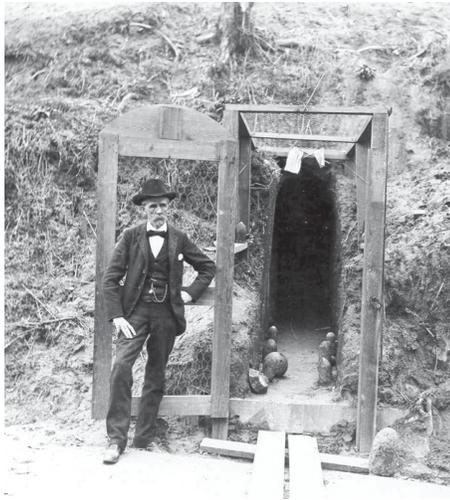


Volume 5, Number 8  
September 2013

## Officer's Call



### Sesquicentennial Series Article #35 **Life in the Caves - Part 1**

By Pam Wilhoite

Before the War Between the States, W. W. Lord resided with his family in Vicksburg, Mississippi. They could not imagine the horror ahead for them during the siege of Vicksburg. As adults, Eliza, called Lida, and son Willie recorded their experiences in the caves. This is their story.

It all began in mid-November 1861. While most Northerners were focusing on Richmond. President Lincoln said during a strategy meeting "Vicksburg is the key. The war can never be brought to a close until that key is in our pocket." Union success would cut the Confederacy in two, disrupt the flow of supplies, and reinforcements from west to

east and provide Federals with a convenient highway for operations.

The Confederates also realized all this too and they prepared to defend Vicksburg - the city known as "The Gibraltar of the West." On May 18, 1862 after the fall of New Orleans, Federal boats steamed up the Mississippi River. Union Captain Phillips sent ashore a "demand for the surrender of Vicksburg".

By night fall, the mayor replied "Mississippians don't know, and refuse to learn how to surrender. If Farragut or Butler can teach them, let them try."

Our first experience with war came one week later when the bombardment of Vicksburg began. Father, who was rector of Christ Episcopal Church, took us to the cellar of the rectory for refuge when the Union fleet turned upon the town. We spent the entire night sitting on a pile of coal covered with rugs and blankets.

The next day while taking advantage of a lull in the bombardment, our entire household, except Father who stayed behind, departed for the Flower's plantation about 10 miles east of town. Before we left we buried the family silver in the church yard. Father's library reported to be the largest private collection in the Southwest, and our other most valuable possessions followed us in a canvas covered army wagon.

Residents remaining in Vicksburg realized that cave could provide the safety they needed. Cave digging in the soft Vicksburg soil began in earnest. People wanted their caves to be as close to their homes as possible so they could get to them quickly. There were so many hills in Vicksburg that it was not hard to find a location. Slaves were ordered by their owners to dig most of the caves. Freedmen established cave digging businesses. Prices ranged from \$30 to \$50 depending on the size of the cave.

(— Continued on Page 4 —)



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R. F. Lee



Gordon



Hood



Jackson





## Features

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## Commander General's Message



This year is the fiftieth anniversary of my release from active duty with the US Army. I served with the Army Security Agency for three years. The first year was spent learning Russian at the Army Language School (now the Defense Language Institute) in Monterey, California. The last two years were spent as an Intercept Operator/Transcriber in Germany. I arrived in Germany in October 1961 – less than two months after construction had begun on the Berlin Wall. A year later we were faced with the Cuban Missile Crisis. When that occurred I was monitoring Russian tank maneuvers along the Elbe River. In the interim, some of my friends and fellow linguists had become “Cold” War casualties. I have created memorials for them at *Together We Served*.

Since my military service I have had a couple of opportunities to use my Russian language. In 1970 I negotiated with the Soviet Government in Moscow and Leningrad (now St. Petersburg) on behalf of the Genealogical Society of Utah to microfilm Russian Church records. Then from 1996 to 1997, in the post-Soviet era, I worked as a consultant with the Moscow Department of Education to develop indigenous educators – the Khanty and Mansi (the reindeer people) in Asiatic Siberia near the Arctic Circle. Barbara has had a chance to experience all of these areas with me.

This month Barbara and I are taking a walk down memory lane. We are visiting many of the locations where I served while in the Army. Most of my duty was spent in the field travelling up and down the East German border. This will be my first return, and accordingly, the first time for Barbara to see where I served. We are combining our visits to military service sites with visits to some of our ancestral origin points. For me these include Glarus, Switzerland and Pieski, Poland. For Barbara it includes Loutzwiller, France and Luxembourg.

Membership in the *Military Order of the Stars and Bars* is a way that we can honor the service of our Confederate ancestors and to take a vicarious trip down memory lane on their behalf and to see where they served and lived. As long as we remember, they endure. They are a part of who we are. We are enlarged through knowledge of our forebears. There are Scriptural promises for us when we honor our heritage. Consider Malachi 4: 5-6 and John 8:32.

Respectfully,

*Toni Turk*

Commander General

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(- Sesquicentennial Article # 35 — From Page 1 - )

Many people set up tents outside the cave entrances to shelter the cooking and eating areas from sun and rain and to provide private places to dress. Ultimately, an estimated 500 caves were dug.

During the winter of 1862-1863, the Yankees made four unsuccessful attempts to take Vicksburg approaching by both land and water.

In the early spring, Grant devised a plan to move his troops south of Vicksburg. There on April 30, 1863 he began his final drive. Battles ensued at Port Gibson, Raymond, and Jackson. The armies then turned and fought at Champion Hill and the Big Black River Bridge.

We spent the entire winter of 1862-63 on the lonely plantation located near the Big Black River. It was so near that during the battle of the Big Black we could hear the firing and smell the gunpowder.

A neighbor rode into the plantation to report the evacuation of Jackson. We spent that entire night packing and watching. The next morning we left behind many of our possessions including Father's library. The family and servants were packed into a wagon and started to town. We were warned that we ran the risk of meeting the Yankees at the cross-roads. At ten o'clock that night we halted on Prospect Hill overlooking the river and city. Below we saw thousands of camp-fires. A beautiful sight but we did not tarry for behind us crept closer and closer the awful shadow of Grant and his soldiers.

At midnight on May 18, 1863 the lines were closed and our little city was in a state of siege.

*Pam Wilhoite writes for Parsons' Rose #9, Texas Society Order of Confederate Rose. For more information, visit [www.omroberts.com](http://www.omroberts.com) or [www.tsocr.org](http://www.tsocr.org).*

## *Trivia of the War Between the States*

1. Who was the last surviving general of the Confederate States of America?
2. What general was reduced to the unofficial rank of colonel after having been drunk at Mill Springs, Kentucky in 1862?
3. Who refused to use pepper on his food, saying it gave him pains in his left leg?
4. Weighing in at 320 pounds, more or less, who was the heaviest Confederate General?
5. What Brigadier General, who was once governor of Virginia, suffered constantly from pleurisy?
6. Under the Confederate States of America Furlough and Bounty Act of 1862, how much cash did a soldier receive for a three-year reenlistment?
7. What five Indian tribes furnished warriors who fought under Albert Pike?
8. What General was carried on the roll of a New Orleans unit as an honorary private, with the color sergeant answering "Absent on Duty" when the roster was called?
9. Who was the only general officer to fight on both sides, as a U.S. Army Captain, and as a C.S.A. Brigadier?
10. What graduate of South Carolina College, who was made a Brigadier at Pensacola, saw his command virtually wiped out at Stone's River?

(- Answers on Page 14 -)

## *Texas Junction Summer Classic Parade*

Below are some pictures of the Texas Junction Summer Classic Parade that took place on August 10, 2013. The Texas Society MOS&B, the 2nd Brigade Texas SCV, and the Mary Harlow Griffith OCR Chapter participated in this parade.





## ROBERT E. LEE AND TRAVELLER

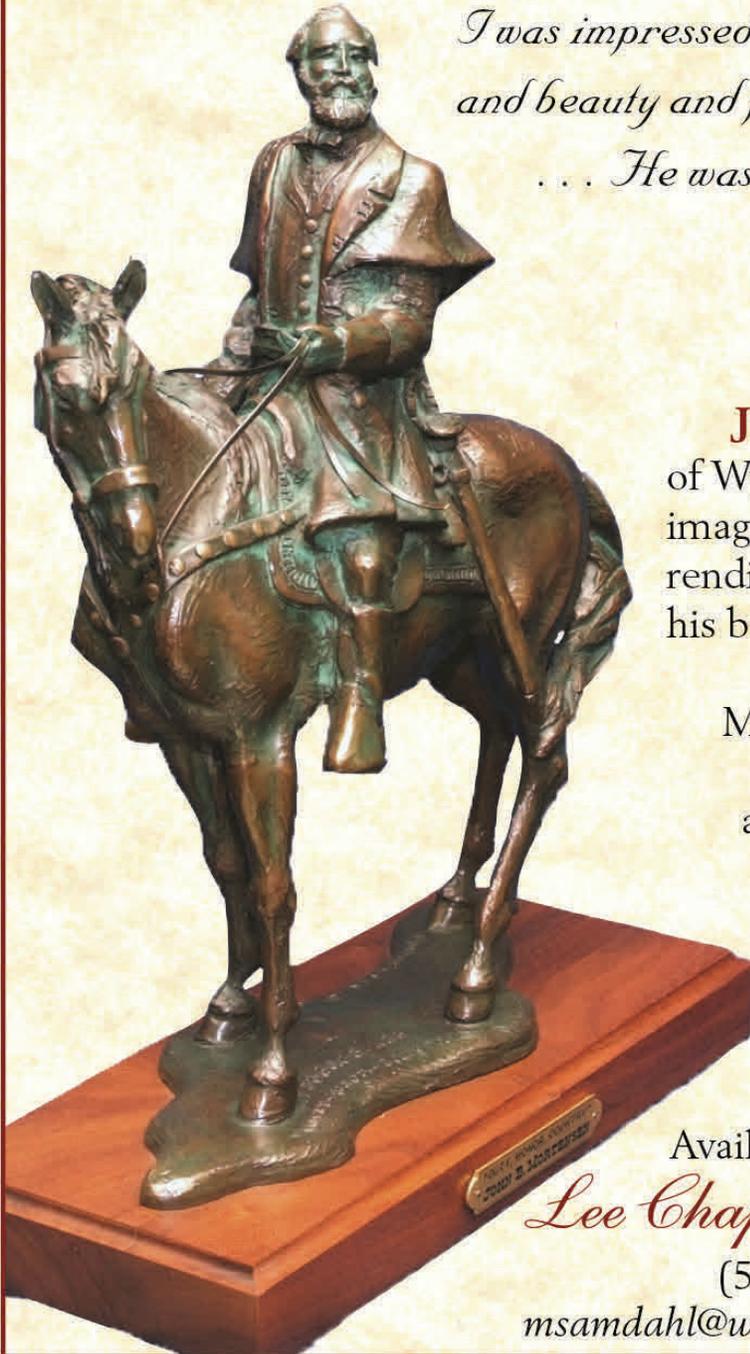
*"Traveller moved as if proud of the burden he bore . . .*

*The horse was beautiful and majestic . . .*

*I was impressed with the greatness  
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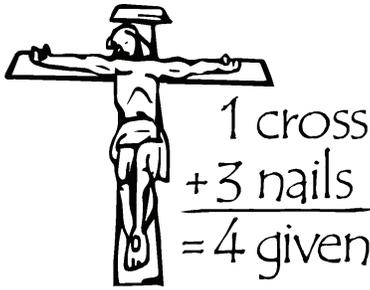
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## The Chaplain General's Thoughts

### *Remember the Scars*

The Confederate soldiers went back to what was left of their homes, defeated and often dejected. Out of the brokenness of their lives, came strength and evidence of God's power in their lives which was expressed in the humilities of rebuilding their lives, their homes, and extending themselves in many countless ways only known to God. Included in my chaplain's article this month is a very touching story given to me by Gary Loudermilk by way of Steve Von Roeder. Each of us has our spiritual and emotional scars we live with. Imagine the physical and emotional scars our confederate ancestors lived with as each came home to attempt to rebuild our Southern homeland. Each of us is living proofs of the exceptional character of these men we revere.

### *Remember the Scars*

John Gordon was a respected general for the South in the Civil War, after the war. He was running for the United States Senate, but a man, who served under him in the war, angry over some political incident, was determined to see him defeated. Everyone knew this man would fight Gordon's bid to become a senator.

During the convention, he angrily stamped down the aisle with his anti-Gordon vote in hand. As he saw Gordon sitting on the platform, he noticed how his once handsome face was disfigured with the scars of battle-marks of his willingness to suffer and bleed for a cause he believed in.

The old soldier was stricken with remorse. Overcome with emotion, he exclaimed, "It's no use, I can't do it. Here's my vote for John Gordon." Then, turning to the general, he said, "Forgive me, General. I had forgotten the scars."

What a difference it makes in our lives when we remember the scars! With so many things to distract us, we don't often take time each day to reflect on what Jesus went through on the cross for us. But, when we are tempted to stray, it is a remembrance of Christ's sacrifice that has the power to draw us back to Him.

"He was wounded for our transgressions. He was bruised for our iniquities: The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed." (Isaiah 53:5)

May I encourage you this day to take a moment to pause and "remember the scars"

***Raymond Holder***

MOS&B Chaplain General

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## Submittal Entries

MOS&B Officer's Call Magazine welcomes submittals via e-mail to [editor@mosbfl.org](mailto:editor@mosbfl.org) or [swampeditor@yahoo.com](mailto:swampeditor@yahoo.com) on or before the 5th day of the month. Pictures are welcome. Please submit articles in Microsoft Word format or as plain text in your e-mail.

## *Army of Tennessee Lecture Series Presentation Inquiry*

The Department of the Army of Tennessee is looking at having a lecture series in which members of the Florida Society, Georgia Society, and the Alabama Society could meet in a agreed upon location such as Dothan, AL or Valdosta, GA to participate in a lecture presentation; as well as, fellowship with members from these three societies.

If you have a particular location that would be a good meeting location or would like to provide input on what the lecture presentation should be about, please contact Compatriot David Denard at [denardodi-an@bellsouth.net](mailto:denardodi-an@bellsouth.net).

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## *DEDICATION TO THE CAUSE*

By Bob Hurst

On April 19, 1861, there was a clash in Baltimore between Union troops and pro-Southern civilians. This came to be known as the "Baltimore Riot" and resulted in what is generally considered to be the occasion of the first bloodshed of the Great War of 1861-65.

Before the conflict occurred, anti-Union sentiment was strong in Maryland and Baltimore was a hotbed of pro-Southern support. Baltimore's mayor and police chief were known supporters of the Southern Cause. In fact, before his inauguration in March 1861, Abraham Lincoln had had to sneak through Baltimore on his way to Washington, D.C. because of rumors of an assassination plot. The hostilities that had begun at Fort Sumter on April 12 only increased the tension in Baltimore between Union and Confederate sympathizers.

When troops from Massachusetts, who were answering Lincoln's call for volunteers, arrived in Baltimore on April 19, they had to be taken through the city by horse-drawn carriages because the rail lines that had brought them there did not go through the city itself. An angry crowd of Southern sympathizers had gathered along the streets carrying the Yankee troops and began blocking the carriages and forcing the troops out of them.

This contingent of secessionists along the route began throwing rocks at the Union troops who, in return, began firing into the crowd with their rifles. This resulted in total chaos and the police were called in to hold back the crowd and allow the troops to reach the train terminal on the west side of town and proceed to Washington. During this encounter, four Union soldiers and twelve civilians were killed with many others being wounded.

Maryland officials were outraged at this happening and demanded that no more Union troops be sent through the state. Baltimore's mayor and police chief even authorized the destruction of several rail bridges to prevent northern troops from entering the city.

Northern newspapers and the Lincoln Administration were outraged at these events. Horace Greeley, publisher of the New York TRIBUNE newspaper, even called for Baltimore to be burned to the ground.

Lincoln soon ordered a large contingent of Union forces into the city and marshal law was declared. The police chief, George P. Kane, city commissioners and other elected officials and some private citizens were arrested. Also arrested were a number of state legislators who had been identified by Lincoln spies as favoring secession and also newspapers publishers and owners who were known to favor secession.

The roles played by Baltimore Police Chief George P. Kane and Maryland Governor Enoch Louis Lowe in working to keep Union troops out of Baltimore and Maryland is well-recorded and well-known. What is less well known is that there was a third party intimately involved in this plot to keep Union troops from passing through Maryland. He was an outstanding individual who was truly dedicated to the Cause and eventually reached the rank of brigadier general in the Confederate Army. His name was Bradley Tyler Johnson.

Bradley Johnson came from a prominent and very interesting family. One grandfather had fought in the Revolutionary War and was the brother of a Maryland governor. Supreme Court Justice Roger Taney was a relative as was Francis Scott Key. One of his cousins married John Quincy Adams who would become the sixth president of the United States.

Johnson graduated from Princeton and then Harvard Law School. He became a respected attorney and eventually the state's attorney for Frederick County, Maryland. He married a lovely woman who was the daughter of a prominent North Carolina congressman and also a close friend of Empress Eugenie of France. The marriage of Bradley Johnson and Jane Saunders proved to be the proverbial "match made in heaven" as she played a major role in both his legal career and his military career.

The day after the riot in Baltimore, Chief Kane sent Johnson a telegram requesting that he bring to Baltimore a unit of troops that he had raised to ensure that there would be Confederate troops on hand should more Union forces attempt to enter the city. On May 8, 1861, Bradley Johnson, now with the rank of colonel, took his troops across the Potomac River and into Virginia and reported to the commander of the Virginia militia at Harper's Ferry. The day before he left, Jane Johnson had turned over their house in Frederick to a secessionist delegation that was meeting with the Maryland legislature. She then went to Virginia to await his arrival. They would never again live in the house in Frederick and, because of Lincoln's imprisonment of Confederate-friendly legislators and others, Maryland would never secede.

While this act of devotion on Jane's part was exemplary, she soon performed in a manner that is almost indescribable.

Although Colonel Johnson's troops had uniforms that he had paid for himself, their only equipment was what they had of their own. This meant few replacement weapons and very little ammunition. Since Maryland had fallen under the control of Federal troops there was no governmental help forthcoming from that source and Virginia was pushed to supply its own wants with weapons, ammunition and other necessities.

Facing this dilemma, Jane Johnson went into action. Boy, did she ever! She first went by train to Raleigh, North Carolina. There, at the capitol with her congressman father at her side, she addressed the North Carolina Legislature with an impassioned plea for weapons and munitions for her husband's unit. The legislature came through with weapons and ammunition sufficient for 500 troops - far more than Colonel Johnson had in his command.

To ensure the safe delivery of the supplies to her husband's unit, she rode in the train car carrying the weapons and supplies rather than a passenger coach. She also found time to approach the citizens of Petersburg and Richmond for monetary donations (which proved to be substantial) to purchase tents for the unit. When I say that this woman was something, I mean that she was REALLY something!

For all that she had accomplished for her husband's unit, the 1st Maryland, Jane Johnson received the personal thanks of the new Confederate commander in the Shenandoah Valley - a young colonel named Jackson. He would later march into immortality as "Stonewall". Her husband was soon to make quite a name for himself, also.

By late May of 1862, Colonel Bradley Johnson and his 1st Maryland Regiment had performed well for Major General Thomas Jackson's Army of the Valley for a full year and many of the troops were ready for a change. Their enlistments had expired for about half the unit and many of these soldiers had requested a transfer to the cavalry. These requests, however, were denied by the Confederate government. This greatly angered these troops so they demanded discharges which were denied by Colonel Johnson.

Noting their anger, Johnson confiscated their weapons and placed them in the custody of the other troops who were remaining steadfast. Being unaware of this situation, General Jackson ordered the 1st Maryland to the front as his army approached Front Royal.

What followed was one of the finest motivational speeches given during that war or any war. Colonel Bradley Johnson brought all his troops together and called them to "attention". He then read the orders from General Jackson. He then explained very carefully to the unit that this meant that he would have to return the orders to General Jackson with the explanation that his troops would not be able to fight because they

were demoralized since some transfers had been denied and that some of his troops were just tired and wanted to go home. He then ended his speech by telling his troops that he was now ashamed of being a Marylander and saying to the assembled troops, "Go Home...boast of it when you meet your fathers, brothers, sisters and sweethearts. Tell them it was you who, when brought face to face with the enemy, proved yourselves...to be cowards."

My, did his tactic work! Shades of General Patton, his troops, unwilling to be considered "cowards", began clamoring for the return of their weapons. They then marched to the front of Jackson's forces and proved to be an amazing fighting machine as they led the Army of the Valley to victory at Front Royal and again days later at Winchester.

To show how inexplicable political actions can be, after the Valley Campaign the 1st Maryland Regiment was dissolved by the Confederate government for political reasons. General Robert E. Lee, however, appointed Colonel Bradley Johnson to command a brigade of four Virginia regiments. His new unit performed admirably at Second Manassas and Sharpsburg and General Jackson was so impressed that he recommended Johnson for promotion to brigadier general. In one of those hard-to-understand instances where politics takes precedence over performance, he was not approved for promotion - ostensibly because he was from Maryland rather than Virginia.

Bradley Johnson's greatest triumph came on March 1, 1864, when his small unit was able to stop the advance on Richmond of the Union forces of Kilpatrick and Dahlgren and force their retreat even though his forces were outnumbered more than 50 to 1. For this amazing feat he was lauded as "the savior of Richmond" and was presented with a commemorative saber by General Wade Hampton. Despite the accolades, he did not receive a promotion to brigadier general.

Finally, four months later, Colonel Bradley Johnson received his long-deserved promotion to brigadier general and took command of a cavalry brigade in General Jubal Early's army in the Shenandoah Valley. He was also with Early on his raid into Maryland. Later, General Johnson was involved in a controversial action near Moorefield, West Virginia, where troops of General Johnson and General John McCausland were defeated by Union forces in a surprise attack. General Johnson blamed General McCausland for the defeat and McCausland blamed Johnson. Johnson requested an investigation but one was never held and General Early sided with McCausland in the matter, possibly because of the Virginia connection.

General Lee, based on Early's decision, removed Bradley Johnson from field command and for the last few months of the war he served as commander of Salisbury Prison in North Carolina.

When the war ended, Bradley Johnson returned to the practice of law - first in Richmond for 14 years and then in Baltimore for 20 years. While in Richmond he served as President of the Richmond City Council and also served in the Virginia Senate. Throughout his after-war years he worked toward founding and supporting Confederate veterans organizations and retirement homes for veterans.

In December 1899 his beloved Jane passed away and he never recovered. He died less than four years later at his son's home in Virginia. His coffin was draped with a Battle Flag of the 1st Maryland Cavalry.

Even though he experienced disappointments during the War because of the delayed promotions and because of General Early siding with General McCausland, Bradley Johnson remained dedicated to the Cause of Southern Independence and remained true to his beloved Confederacy until the very end.

## *Facts and Dates (1860)*

April 23, 1860: The National Convention of the Democratic Party met at Charleston, SC. On April 30th, delegates from the South walked out over dispute about platform. The remainder, led by Stephen Douglas, supported Constitutional decisions and Congressional non-interference in slavery issue of territories. Convention adjourned May 3rd without making a nomination.

Charles Darwin's *Origins of Species*, published in 1859, appeared in America on eve of the War Between the States when the press was preoccupied with politics. Louis Agassiz of Harvard, brilliant Swiss-American naturalist, rejected Darwin's contentions, holding that all species were immutable from the time of creation. Agassiz's position was challenged by his Harvard colleague, botanist Asa Gray, who defended Darwinism as an enrichment of the plan of divine creation.

Olympia Brown admitted to St. Lawrence University, becoming the first woman in America to be permitted to study theology in full fellowship with men.

Prices for shaves, haircuts, and curling raised in Tony Delight's in Chicago, one of the most famous tonso-rial enterprises in America. Shaves went up from 5 cent to 6 cent, haircuts from 10 cent to 12 cent, and curling from 15 cent to 20 cent. Shampoos were now priced at 25 cent.

May 9, 1860: The National Convention of the Constitutional Union Party met in Baltimore and nominated John Bell of Tennessee for the presidency and Edward Everett of Massachusetts for the vice-presidency. The party was composed of the Whig and American parties.

"Old Black Joe", the last of Stephen Foster's "plantation songs", was published. Foster, in bad financial condition and suffering from alcoholism, moved to New York City and began to write sentimental potboilers - as many as 46 songs in one year. He died in Bellevue Hospital, New York City, on January 13, 1864.

John Greenleaf Whittier published *Home Ballads*, a minor collection of lyrics.

May 16-18, 1860: The National Convention of the Republican Party met in Chicago and nominated Abraham Lincoln for the presidency and Hannibal Hamlin of Maine for the vice-presidency.

Ralph Waldo Emerson published *The Conduct of Life*. Emerson reached the fullest perfection of his powers with this work, which was based upon a series of lectures given previously in Pittsburgh and Boston. He emerged as an astute social commentator; as well as, a moral philosopher. The discoveries of science and the theory of evolution, the uses of wealth, the importance of culture, faith and art, and a revaluation of the position of the Transcendentalists were among the topics of *The Conduct of Life*.

June 18 - 23, 1860: Democrats reassembled at Baltimore and nominated Stephen A. Douglas of Illinois for the presidency and Herschel V. Johnson of Georgia for the vice-presidency.

June 28, 1860: Democratic seceders of the Charleston met at Baltimore and nominated John C. Breckinridge of Kentucky for the presidency and Joseph Lane of Oregon for the vice-presidency.

Henry Timrod, South Carolina poet-tutor, published *Poems*, a collection of his nature poetry. Timrod became the poetic voice of the South during the War Between the States, but his reputation rests on the collection of his poems published after his early death in 1867.

Trivia Answers: (1) Felix H. Robertson, (2) George B. Crittenden, (3) Lt. General Thomas J. Jackson, (4) Abraham Buford of Kentucky, (5) Henry A. Wise, (6) Fifty dollars in Confederate Currency, (7) Cherokees, Chickasaws, Creeks, Choctaw, and Seminoles, (8) Pierre Gustave Toutant Beauregard, (9) Frank C. Armstrong, (10) John K. Jackson

# GETTYSBURG BATTLE-FIELD

Hand-colored lithograph by John B. Bachelder, 1863



Bird's-eye panoramic view of the battlefield facing west. Bachelder, John Badger (1825-1894). Subtitled Battle Fought at Gettysburg PA July 1st 2nd & 3rd 1863 by the Federal and Confederate Armies Commanded Respectively by Gen. G. G. Meade and Gen. Robert E. Lee. 1863 copyright. Small map of Soldiers National Cemetery in central lower margin. Facsimile signatures of Union Generals (Doubleday, Newton, Hancock, Birney, Slocum Sykes, Sedgwick, Howard, Williams) verifying accuracy of troop positions, and facsimile of hand-written statement by Meade on the accuracy of topography and troop positions within it.

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The Legacy Fund gives us a unique opportunity to preserve our heritage for the benefit of future generations. It is part of our over-all financial plan. The purpose of the Legacy fund is to provide a source of income for college scholarships and other worthwhile projects to preserve our heritage. We treat this fund as if it were an endowment. Only the income that is generated from this fund is used to fund these projects. The principle will remain intact forever.

We are asking our members to consider MOS&B in their financial planning. Members who donate \$1000 will receive the distinctive *Legion of Merit* neck ribbon and drop. Your donation may be made as a single payment, in two annual payments of \$500 each, or in four annual payments of \$250 each. To date, over 50 of our members have seen fit to support our cause.

As members of the Military Order of Stars and Bars we are proud to honor our ancestors and the cause that they fought for. The Legacy Fund provides us with a unique opportunity to assure our own relevance as an organization. It also assures that our ancestors and our heritage will not be forgotten. But we need your help to make the Legacy Fund grow.

We are deeply indebted to our members for their generosity. Over \$50,000 has already been raised for the Legacy Fund through the generosity of our members. But we need everyone's help to maximize the advantages of the Legacy Fund. Eventually, all of our donations for college scholarships and Southern heritage projects will be paid for by the interest generated from this fund.

Please consider the Legacy Fund in your financial planning. Your gift will be greatly appreciated. *Deo Vindice.*

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## IN MEMORIAM

### **Samuel Alexander Massey Jr.**

Oct. 11, 1929 - Aug. 19, 2013

It is with deep regret that the Military Order of the Stars and Bars inform you of the passing of Samuel Alexander Massey, Jr. He was the Commander of the Captain Tyrie Wright Chapter #6 of Harrison, Arkansas and of the General Patrick R. Cleburne Arkansas MOS&B Society.

Mr. Massey was a long time active member of Southern Heritage Organizations including the MOS&B and his sons are current members. Two of his sons are MOS&B Past National Commanders, Jeff Massey of Oklahoma and Troy Massey of Arkansas.

The closing songs at Mr. Massey's Funeral were God Bless the USA, Dixie and The Army Goes Rolling Along. The Color Guard from Fort Sill performed last military rites at his grave. He was a true American soldier and will be truly missed by all who knew him.

Pictured herein this publication are Mr. Massey at many Annual MOS&B Conventions and other MOS&B events.



## *A Tribute to Samuel A. Massey, Jr.*



It has been a pleasure to know Samuel A. Massey, Jr. and to fellowship with him. He displayed true character of a Southern Gentleman and a positive Christian example that we should all strive for. He will truly be missed by his family and friends. Thanks for the legacy he has left us as individuals and to the Military Order of the Stars and Bars.

We hereby offer our condolences to the Massey family in the passing of their father, grandfather, and great-grandfather we all knew as Commander Sam Massey.

## *Obituary of Samuel A. Massey, Jr.*

Samuel Alexander Massey, Jr. departed this life on Monday, Aug. 19 (2013) at Fayetteville.

He was born Oct. 11, 1929, the 10th and youngest child of Samuel Alexander Massey Sr. and Mary Ellen Beavers Massey. He leaves his wife, Jo Ann O'Neal Massey, and four sons: Sammy Joe Massey, James Troy Massey, Jeffery Wayne Massey and John David Massey. Daughters-in-law: Sheila Ann Fleming Massey, Beverly Jean Campbell Massey and Kimberly Jean Harrison Massey. Sam and Jo Ann were married April 24, 1949 at Rodmans Chapel on Bear Creek, near Marshall. He was preceded in death by his parents and siblings: Cora May Massey, Floy Delphia Massey Sterlin Sutterfield, Okla Gertrude Massey Webb, Eula Ellen Massey Cotton Mabrey, Roy Alexander Massey, Edna Elizabeth Massey Treat, Troy Fountain Massey, Paul Willis Massey, and John Franklin Massey.

He and Jo Ann have nine grandchildren: Whitney Brooke Massey Branch, Kristen Leigh Massey Pearce, Samuel Lance Massey, Daniel James Massey, John Matthew Massey, Ashley Morgan Massey, Tyler David Massey, Nicholas Troy Ward Massey and Shelby Ellen Massey. There are five great-grandchildren: Gabriel Carter Pearce, Caleb Alexander Pearce, Ethan Fleming Pearce, Gavin Raine Massey, and Wyatt Troy Branch.

Pallbearers are his five grandsons and Bo Branch. Honorary pallbearers are his five great-grandsons.

Chief Warrant Officer III Massey retired from the United States Army in 1990, at Fort Sill, Okla., after serving on active duty from 1967 until his retirement. Prior to his active service, he was a charter member of the Marshall National Guard Unit which was established in 1956 and served in that unit until 1967, then went active duty and soon was assigned to his first two tours of duty in Viet Nam. Mr. Massey was the epitome of the United States soldier in carrying out his duties for the country which he dearly loved.

He was an armament repair technician and research, development, test and evaluation technician while serving in Korea, two tours in Germany, Rock Island, Ill., Fort Carson, Colo., and Fort Sill, Okla. For his service to his country, he was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters; Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster; Army Good Conduct Medal; National Defense Service Medal; Vietnam Service Medal with One Silver Service Star; Armed Forces Reserve Medal; Army Service Ribbon; Overseas Service Ribbon with Numeral Three; Vietnam Campaign Medal and the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross Unit Citation.

Mr. Massey was involved in many local and national organizations. He was a member of the Marshall American Legion and Veterans Foreign War, serving as an officer. He was actively involved in the new Searcy County Veterans Memorial Association Building in Marshall and lived to enjoy several events in the building. He was a charter member of the Kiwanis Club of Searcy County, serving as a board member since inception in 2001. He served on the Searcy County Farm Bureau Board of Directors, Searcy County Cattleman's Association, Searcy County Historical Society and NRA. In 2012, he and his wife, Jo Ann, were honored as the Marshall High School Alumni of the Year. In years past, he was a member of the Flintrock Strawberry Association, a charter member of the Marshall Jaycees and Arkansas Forestry Commission 15 year membership.

Mr. Massey loved history and reading. As a youth he read all of the Zane Grey books and in later years loved to travel to those western states where many of the books were written about. Sam and Jo Ann traveled extensively coast to coast. They loved the mountains of Colorado, where they spent many days traveling from Cripple Creek to Mesa Verde. He loved the Monument Valley area in Arizona-Utah where many John Wayne movies were filmed. The Thomas Massey House in Broomall, Pa., was also a favorite destination place, as this was the historical home of his first American immigrant ancestors, Thomas Massey and Phoebe Taylor Massey, arriving in September 1683.

Mr. Massey loved history of all sorts but particularly during the War Between The States. He and his family traveled to nearly all of the battlefields and he could tell you in detail of the actions of each army. He was a charter member of the General Jo Shelby Camp No. 1414, Sons of Confederate Veterans, serving as camp commander; Captain James Tyrie Wright Chapter No. 6, Military Order of Stars and Bars and the General Patrick R. Cleburne, Arkansas Society, Military Order of Stars and Bars, serving as chapter and society commander; United Sons of Confederate Soldiers Association, serving as commander. Mr. Massey was loved in the Confederate circles as he would travel with his wife and family to the many reunions throughout the United States. He was well acquainted with everyone and they enjoyed seeing him and visiting during these reunion visits. He wrote an article entitled "Grandpa's Flag" which he states his grandpa (Private John Crockett Beavers) served under the flag of the Confederacy and was proud to have served. Mr. Massey relates he is proud to continue to honor the flag his grandpa served under but he is also proud of the flag he served under and that is the United States flag. He was a very proud Southern American.

After retirement, Sam enjoyed the life of the farmer. He had farmed all of his life until his active military career started. While in the military he longed to come back to Searcy County and enjoy the life of the "gentleman farmer." The Lord allowed him to enjoy his retirement of 24 years to own and manage cattle on his three farms. He loved the out of doors, attending to his cattle and baling of the hay. Sam and Jo Ann have fixed many a mile of fence together on these farms and loved every minute of it. During his hospital stays the past few years, he would always tell the doctors that he needed to get well so he could go back to his farm and sawmill duties.

He was a devoted Baptist in faith. He was a member of the Campbell Baptist Church until his family left the Campbell Valley and moved to Marshall in 1964. He became a member, later deacon and Sunday School teacher of the Canaan Missionary Baptist Church. He enjoyed discussing the Bible with his pastor, Shirl Williams, and church family at Canaan.

Sam Massey will be remembered as a devoted husband, father and grandfather. Everyone loved him and his jovial style of humor. He was always optimistic and could always see the good things in people and situations. The love of his life and best friend was his wife, Jo Ann. They were "best buds" and enjoyed life to the fullest.

His sons idolized their father as he guided them through life. He was their best friend. The grandchildren and great-grandchildren all loved their "Papa Sam." He remarked recently he hoped live a little longer to watch them grow into young adults.

We will all miss his wit, humor, graciousness and big smile. Hopefully each of us that knew Sam Massey will become a better person as a result of all of his good qualities.

Visitation will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday evening, Aug. 21, at Roller-Coffman Funeral Home in Marshall. The funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 22. Burial will follow at the Campbell Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial donations may be made to the Searcy County Veterans Memorial Association or the Canaan Missionary Baptist Church, at FNB NA, PO Box 475, Marshall, AR 72650.