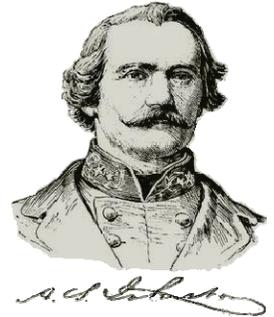


Volume 6, Number 7
July 2014

Officer's Call

Sesquicentennial Series Article #44 General Albert Sidney Johnston, CSA

By Karen Kay Esberger



Future Confederate General Albert Sidney Johnston was born on February, 2, 1803, to Dr. John Johnston and his second wife Abigail Harris in Washington, Mason County, Kentucky. He attended Transylvania College and graduated from West Point in 1826. Offered a position on the staff of US General Winfield Scott, he, instead, opted to join the infantry. He served at Sackett's Harbor, New York in 1826, with the Sixth Infantry at Jefferson Barracks, Missouri, in 1827, and as regimental adjutant in the Black Hawk War, 1832.

In 1829, he married Henrietta Preston who died of tuberculosis in 1836. She bore three children, one living to maturity. In 1843 Johnston married Eliza Griffin and took her to his plantation, China Grove, in Brazoria County, Texas. They had six children.

He joined the Republic of Texas army, as a private, but he was quickly appointed Adjutant General. On January 31, 1837, he became senior Brigadier General in command of the army. As Secretary of War for the Republic in 1838, Johnston led the expedition to expel the Cherokees from East Texas where they lived along the Neches River.

Johnston formed and headed the 1st Texas Rifle Volunteers whom he led in the Mexican War, including the battle of Buena Vista, later being taken into the regular Army, a very unusual occurrence. There, he was Major and Paymaster. By 1856, Johnston was promoted to Colonel and led an expedition of the new 2nd US Cavalry to confront the Mormons in Utah. He was highly regarded for resolving that problem without bloodshed.

While the Confederate States were being organized, Johnston was offered the rank of Major General, second only to General Winfield Scott, in the U.S. Army. Since his adopted state, Texas, had seceded, he refused that proposal and offered his services to the Confederacy.

President Jefferson Davis was very glad to have his old friend in the Confederate ranks and commissioned Johnston as a full general, the second most senior officer in the new nation.

Given command of the Western Department, he was expected to defend the area between the Appalachian Mountains and Mississippi River. Johnston issued a call to the Confederate Governors for 50,000 men, began forming his army, and drilling the men at Bowling Green, Kentucky. Johnston realized the weaknesses of his position---a small, unorganized army, a long line of defense because of friendly territory needing protection, and the rivers which created a more ready entrance for the enemy.

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2014-2016

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The members of the MOS&B are descendants of the Confederate Officer Corps and elected government officials. We are dedicated to the preservation and education of the memory of our ancestors and the traditional values of our Southern Heritage.

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Commander General's Message

As your newly elected Commander General I am looking forward to the challenges we will face over the next two years. Twelve years ago the Order operated under a common administrative staff along with the Sons of Confederate Veterans. Since that time we have transitioned into the *all-volunteer* organization that we have today. This transition has not been easy, but our Past Commanders General have met the challenges and placed us on solid footing. Each one of them has left the Order in better shape at the end of his term. I intend to do the same.



All heritage organizations are now operating in uncharted waters. The demographic changes in today's population threaten all heritage and fraternal organizations. We have a growing population of older Americans and a significant reduction in the age group of individuals who typically join organizations like ours. In addition, many of the members of the "now generation" have entirely different interests. They simply don't value their heritage like we do. These challenges are not unique to MOS&B. They confront all heritage organizations today.

The best way to deal with these demographic trends is to establish a permanent membership program. We need to advertise continuously in the magazines and newsletters of leading genealogical societies. We also need to create a network of *Membership Expeditors* within the Order to handle inquiries from prospective members. Beyond that, we need to revitalize our Chapters and Societies to make them a relevant experience for both current and future members.

I have authored the past two budgets for MOS&B. Our budgets are tight but sufficient enough to support all of our current programs. Eventually I would like to see a budget with revenues large enough to support a paid full time *Executive Officer*. Of course, an increase in revenue can only result from an increase in membership. These two factors will always be linked together.

The transition into a new administration takes several months of preparation. I have worked closely with Commander General Turk during this time to assure that we have selected the best possible candidates for my administration. I am pleased to have Lt. Commander General Harold Davis as a running mate. Harold is the immediate Past-Commander of the South Carolina Society as well as the person in charge of the planning and implementation of the 2014 Charleston convention. Sig Reckline is another member of my team that I'm quite proud of. He has already served as both Chief of Staff and Adjutant General under the previous administration. He has graciously agreed to serve an additional term as Adjutant General under my administration.

I was pleasantly surprised to learn of Commander General Toni Turk's interest in serving as Chief of Staff during my term. Toni has already served the Order in so many ways and his qualifications are legend. Tarry Beasley is another addition to my team. He has agreed to serve as our Judge Advocate General for the next two years. Of interest is the fact that Tarry also served as our JAG under the administration of Past Commander-in-Chief, Charles Smith. I am also pleased to announce that Cain Griffin has agreed to serve as Treasurer General for the next two years. Cain is a Certified Public Accountant and a member of the South Carolina Society. He has also served as an Executive Councilor for the ANV these past two years.

I am most pleased to announce that Chaplin General, Raymond Holder has agreed to serve for an additional term. Raymond is a hard worker that brings us closer to God thru his annual Prayer Breakfasts. I am delighted that he will be continuing his vital work. Max Waldrop has also agreed to serve as Archivist General. Max currently manages all of our membership files from 1938 until the present.

Communications General, Gary Loudermilk, has agreed to serve for an additional term. Gary is a former Commander of the ATM who also does a great job as the Chairman of our college scholarship program. I am very pleased to note that Jeff Sizemore will serve for an additional term as the editor and publisher of both *Officer's Call* and *the Confederate War Journal*. Everyone agrees that Jeff has done a fantastic job. I'm also delighted to note that Ben Willingham will once again honor us with his outstanding work as Historian General. I am pleased to report that Larry Martin has agreed to serve another term as our Genealogist General. And finally, I am happy to announce that

Stephen McGehee will not only continue on as our Webmaster, but he will also assume the position of Quartermaster General. We are indebted to Stephen for all of his fine work.

Beyond our officer positions, we also have a number of Committee Chairmen who work tirelessly on our behalf. The list of Committee Chairmen and Committee Members is a lengthy one and I regret that I can't recognize each and every individual by name. But all of these men do a vital job for us and we are indebted to them. Our challenge is to work together as a team for our own enjoyment as well as the good of the Order.

As the leader of the incoming administration I would like to thank Commander General Turk and his entire team for the great job they have done for the Order. Collectively, they have set the standard for dedicated work and high achievement. In so doing, they have also made our jobs that much easier. And, thank you to all of you who have been so supportive of our new team of Officers and Committee Chairmen. We are looking forward to the challenges ahead.

Deo Vindice!

Wm. Howard Jones

Commander General

- Sesquicentennial Article # 44 - From Page 1 -

Sir James Ferguson visited America in 1861 and wrote a report to Lord Palmerston, British Prime Minister, about the American War. His opinion was that Kentucky and Missouri would be lost to the North within two months. He stated that the South was inferior in equipment, military material and lacked field artillery, rifled ordnance, and gunpowder. He did state that the southern men were more used to carrying and using arms; and that they had been better drilled every day since the (First) Battle of Manasses, as opposed to Federal troops who were disbanded after the battle.

He praised the commanders of the Confederate Army and spoke of a mutual trust, implicit confidence in, and reliance of the generals and enlisted men upon each other. Enlisted men believed in their commanders' prudence and foresight. The commanders' calm assurance rested on completed preparations, willing, and orderly troops. Though unmatched uniforms caused the army to appear quaint, the men maintained a soldierly appearance, well-carried arms, were alert on duty and extraordinarily rapid on the march. He was also favorably impressed with the cavalry.

Ferguson commented on the two-week-old army in Kentucky, already with every department completely organized. Sir James added that each brigade was able to pack and march in 20 minutes. Screened by the surrounding forests, the Confederate commanders were able to accomplish this unopposed and without the enemy's knowledge.

Sir James's greatest surprise was about the composition of the Confederate Army, that the ranks contained many men of wealth and social position, that they

had raised, armed, clothed and horsed themselves. All the Army was united by the necessity of forming and protecting the new nation and cheerfully undertook every duty. All classes of ladies were spinning, weaving, sewing uniforms, and staffing hospitals. The liberty of individuals was respected. The press was free and allowed to publish disagreements without censure. The main complaint published was the desire for the armies to be offensive, not defensive as they were of necessity. Civil violence was said to be rare, and the women and children lived confidently on their plantations with their slaves while the white men were away at war.

Federal General Grant predicted that Johnston would be the most formidable man that the Confederacy could produce. Zachary Taylor's son General Richard Taylor considered that Johnston, the foremost man in the South, had been assigned the most difficult mission in the war---that of defending the Mississippi Valley. General Zachary Taylor himself, under whom Johnston had spent his early days of service, declared him to be the best soldier he had ever commanded. It was nearly universally agreed, north and south, that he was poised to be a hero.

In the midst of the praises and great expectations, Johnston calmly proceeded arranging his command of the entire Confederacy west of the Alleghany, with the exception of the Gulf Coast. He had 25,000 troops available under Price, McCulloch, Hardee, Polk, Zollicoffer, and Buckner. Johnston began to consolidate his force, drilling troops and fortifying his position at Bowling Green, Kentucky. In the face of 100,000 opponents, he was mindful of his long, thin line which was needed to protect friendly, and potentially Confederate, territory.

In spite of Johnston's orders, Crittenden and Zollicoffer engaged the enemy at Mill Spring on January 19, 1862. Their defeat exposed Johnston's right, and he promptly asked the government at Richmond for additional forces. Aware that he would soon be called upon to defend the waterways and other paths into the Confederacy, he ordered the erection of Fort Henry on the Tennessee River and Fort Donelson on the Cumberland River.

However, when Union General Grant attacked Fort Henry, Johnston had no choice but to fall back to the line of the Cumberland in order to defend Nashville.

He intended to make a stand at Fort Donelson, but Buell's presence with 90,000 led to its surrender. Johnston had specifically telegraphed General John B. Floyd to get his troops back to Nashville if he lost the fort. However, Floyd's scouts provided flawed information about the opponent, so it was decided that they could not maintain the position and should surrender. Johnston termed the results as most disastrous and almost without remedy.

Johnston then ordered an evacuation to Nashville because he had to abandon the Cumberland line to save his 8,500 remaining men and concentrate the scattered forces. He reorganized all these within a week at Murfreesboro, Tennessee. Then at Corinth, Mississippi, he was finally reinforced by General Bragg with 10,000 men.

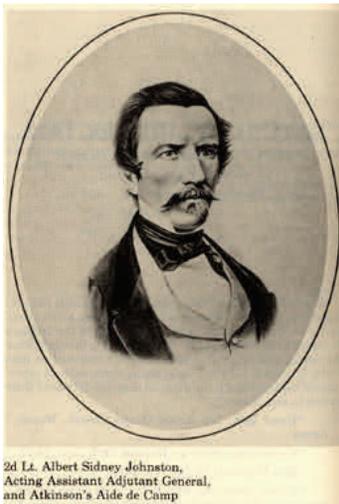
Of course, General Johnston had future battles to face.

Johnston now faced 50,000 enemy soldiers at Nashville, with another 25,000-50,000 coming into Pittsburg Landing. The situation there was a critical, pivotal point. Dramatic possibilities were inherent, as the Confederacy could then recover the upper Mississippi Valley after the recent losses at New Madrid, Mill Spring, and Forts Henry and Donelson. Those losses occurred because Johnston had assigned command of the area west of the Tennessee River to Confederate General P. G. T. Beauregard who should have defended Columbus. Instead, he concentrated his 7000 men on Island #10, near New Madrid, Missouri. When the enemy approached, the location was found to be untenable, and Beauregard soon surrendered all the troops.

These losses undoubtedly contributed to Johnston's decision to concentrate all Confederate troops at Corinth, Mississippi. Then he could engage Grant at the bend of the Tennessee River before Union General D. C. Buell could arrive with reinforcements. Unfortunately, Generals Bragg and Beauregard caused a ten day delay

in the plans for attack because they wanted to reorganize their forces. However, Bragg was made Chief of Staff under Johnston, and Beauregard became second in command. The attack was postponed an additional day because of heavy rain. Beauregard also tried to postpone it indefinitely because he had lost his nerve and urged that it be called off.

Meanwhile, Grant had steamed up the Tennessee and camped on the left bank at Pittsburg Landing, near Shiloh Church, with 58,000 men. This occurred a week before Johnston was able to gather his scattered forces of 40,000. Buell had 87,000 on the way, plus 18,000 other reinforcements were coming.



2d Lt. Albert Sidney Johnston,
Acting Assistant Adjutant General,
and Atkinson's Aide de Camp

Johnston's plan of battle, as communicated to his brigade commanders, was to turn the left flank of the Union, cutting off their line of retreat to the Tennessee River and throwing them back on Owl Creek, where the Union would be obliged to surrender. This was necessary to prevent a deeper incursion into the Confederacy.

On April 3, 1862, General Johnston offered this eloquent and heartfelt address to his army before the Battle of Shiloh.

"Soldiers in the Army of the Mississippi: I have put you in motion to offer battle to the invaders of your country. With the resolution and discipline and valor becoming men fighting, as you are, for all worth living or dying for, you can but march to a decisive

victory over the agrarian mercenaries sent to subjugate you and to despoil you of your liberties, your property and your honor. Remember the precious stake involved; remember the dependence of your mothers, your wives, your sisters and your children, on the result; remember the fair, broad, abounding land, and the happy homes that would be desolated by your defeat. The eyes and hopes of eight millions of people rest upon you. You are expected to show yourselves worth of your lineage; worthy of the women of the South whose noble devotion in this war has never been exceeded in any time."

As the battle was beginning on April 6, 1862, Johnston announced, "Tonight we will water our horses in the Tennessee River." Johnston had his corps in stacked formation, soon pushing Union General W. T. Sherman back past Shiloh Church. Confederate General Leonidas Polk was on the left flank, Confederate General William J. Hardee in the center, and Confederate General John C. Breckinridge's Corps on the right, clearly outlining a formation by columns of corps. Johnston personally made every tactical decision during the battle as long as he lived and was extremely effective in encouraging and inspiring his men.

Sherman's men were unsuspecting, off guard, and

unprepared. For the Union, Pittsburg Landing and nearby Corinth were vital to its strategy of crushing the rebellion by controlling transportation and supply lines. Corinth was a vital rail junction, and Pittsburg Landing was the closest deep river access to Corinth. Those two towns, along with Chattanooga, were most important to the South's transportation needs. But Sherman had told Grant that he expected only some picket-firing or reconnaissance for the next few nights. His unprepared men were surprised upon arising and during breakfast. They were neither dressed nor armed.

The battle was being won that afternoon of April 6 because it was being fought precisely according to plan. The Federals had been pushed back, with men in the area nicknamed the "hornets' nest" being the last to move. Federals had concentrated their troops there after being pushed from other areas of the field. Johnston died leading a brigade to attack a particularly resistant Federal unit. He received a bullet wound just above his right boot unfortunately opening his popliteal artery so that he quickly bled to death without medical aid. He had dispatched his own physician to help prisoners of war and sent his aids on various missions. Ironically, a tourniquet was later found in one of Johnston's pockets.

After Johnston's death, the approaching victory at Shiloh turned into a loss because Beauregard did not order the planned flank attack after assuming command. Johnston had planned to push the contest to a final decision that day, but Beauregard chose to withdraw and delay. Some say his distance away across the field and the oncoming darkness stopped the pursuit. On the second day of the battle, the Federals pushed them all the way back to Corinth, Mississippi, foiling Johnston's plan to prevent the joining of the two Federal armies in Tennessee.

In conclusion, the battle was a brilliant plan, carried out until Johnston's death when leadership changed. He had clearly out-generaled Grant by uniting the parts of his army almost within Grant's sight and attacking him with complete surprise.

No commander, either Confederate or Federal, had ever seen a battle of those dimensions. It was the most brutal fighting thus far in the war and the costliest American battle at that time. After the two-day Battle of Shiloh, there were more dead, wounded or missing in action than in all combined previous American wars. It clearly foreshadowed the long, bloody struggle ahead.

The Confederate soldiers had put forth a spectacular effort during that battle and were well on their way to victory when Johnston died. He was well-trained, experienced, and intelligent. The Confederate losses at Bowling Green, Forts Henry and Donelson should not be laid at his feet because his troops were too thinly spread and inadequately equipped. After each loss, he had asked the Con-

federate government for reinforcements which did not come, nor did adequate supplies and equipment.

Karen Kay Esberger, Ph.D., R.N., is a retired nurse who is now President of Daffan-Latimer 37, the Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy in Ellis County. For further information, see www.txudc.org

Honors Given at First Annual Jefferson Davis Luncheon



Colorado MOS&B Society honors Mr. James Jeffrey during the first annual Jefferson Davis Luncheon on 28th June 2014. Mr. Jeffrey, Director of History & Research in the Denver Library, is an expert on Civil War History.

Pictured are: Wayne Snodgrass, Commander; Mr. Jeffrey; Dave Rodgers, Adjutant; Gary Parrott, Genealogist; and John Luedecke, Lt. Commander.

Mr. Jeffrey is a renowned expert on the Civil War History; and he lectures in Universities, Colleges, Hereditary Societies, and Civic Organizations. He has been very helpful to the Colorado MOS&B Society members in their ancestor research. He has helped hundreds of Colorado researchers.

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The Legacy fund gives our members the opportunity to make a real difference. There is no better time than right now to make a statement for our values and our cause. The Confederate Legacy Fund is the vehicle that assures our relevance for generations to come.

We are extremely grateful to the members of The Confederate Legacy Legion of Merit. These men have chosen to support the Order by donating \$1000 or more to the Legacy Fund. We are indebted to all of our donors for their vision and their generosity.

The Confederate Legacy Fund is an important part of our over-all financial plan. The contributions that are made by our members will remain intact for perpetuity. Only the interest that is generated from the fund will be spent. Our expenditures are limited to scholarships and projects that will preserve and enhance our Southern Heritage. Currently these types of expenditures are paid for from our general fund. The income generated from the Legacy Fund will eventually pay for all of these types of expenditures.

MOS&B is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) corporation. As a result, all donations to the Legacy Fund are 100% tax deductible. In addition, many corporations will match the charitable donations made by its employees. Donating stocks is another excellent strategy for charitable donations. You can receive an income deduction for the full market value of a particular security. At the same time, you will avoid all capital gains tax on the transaction. There is no brokerage fee for this type of transaction.

Please consider MOS&B's Legacy Fund in your financial planning. Those members who make a one-time donation of \$1000 or more will receive the distinctive Confederate Legacy Legion of Merit neck ribbon and drop. A member may also qualify for the same award by utilizing one of our deferred payment plans.

Your generosity is most appreciated. Membership in the Confederate Legacy Legion of Merit will assure that there is always adequate funding for scholarships and Southern heritage projects. Please consider the Confederate Legacy Fund in your financial planning.

BG St. John Richardson Liddell Chapter Installs Surgeon



Compatriot Wilson C. Wilhite, Jr. M.D. receives his commission as BG St. John Richardson Liddell Chapter 271 Surgeon on 19 June 2014 at the Chapter's regular monthly meeting. AOT Councilman/Past 271 Commander Bert D. Blackmon, III performed the ceremony.

Respectfully submitted David W. Myers, Adjutant, BG St J R Liddell Chapter #271 MOS&B.

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We need your correct E-mail address and mailing address. We are sending out the "Officer's Call" electronically; as well as, printed. Please make sure we have your current E-mail and physical address. Contact us at headquarters@mosbihq.org so we may stay in touch.

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MOS&B Officer's Call Magazine welcomes submittals via e-mail to editor@mosbfl.org or 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.

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The Chaplain General's Thoughts

By Raymond Holder

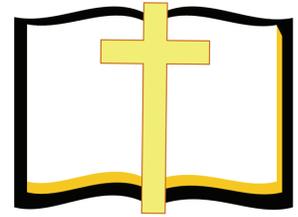
Roll Call of the Faithful

"Enter ye at the strait gate, because strait is the gate and narrow is the way" Matthew 7: 13-14

In January of 2013 I penned an article, "The Nobility of who we are", based upon the words of Oswald Chambers as written by his wife in a devotional call, "All Noble Things are Difficult". This is based upon a favorite piece of scripture of mine, Matthew 7: 13-14. We of the MOS&B are noble people whose confederate ancestors stood and fought for what they believed. We are noble because what we believe in ways of ideas of freedom, which is contrary to the current trends of the culture around us in which we live. Let me explain.

Faithfulness to our duty, honor and our country are the cornerstones of our Christian faith. I believe it is in the soul of each of us to extol these virtues. An excellent example is the patriot patron saint, Robert E. Lee

who led by the example of his personal character. No other American had a comparable influence on the people of the Confederate states. This gentle man of noble character was a true Soldier of the Cross. For-saking all he placed his trust in his God and never lost that Faith.



Thomas Jonathan Jackson otherwise known as Stonewall Jackson also belongs to this roll call of the faithful. He was a living legend among his soldiers who nicknamed their legendary leader, "Old Jack". It was his born again faith which fueled his Presbyterian based Christian faith in the ways he not only conducted his personal life, but also his troops. Upon hearing of Jackson's death at the end of the Battle of Chancellorsville, Lee extolled "I have lost my right arm", and "I know not how to replace him".

Leonidas Polk known as Louisiana's Fighting Bishop was that rare spiritual and military leader who actually stepped out from his pulpit to adorn a Confederate general's uniform not only to lead his troops into actual battles, but also led worship services including revivals among his soldiers, hence another Soldier of the Cross.

What I am describing is an abbreviated roll call of faith of our Confederate leaders. These men of Faith stepped up to an overwhelming challenge. Our own faithfulness is also a virtue we need to realize among ourselves. I am so proud and thankful for all of you, especially those of us who attended the gathering in Charleston recently. Please add your names to the roll call of the faithful, not only of your Christian faith, but also to the legacy of our Southern Heritage.



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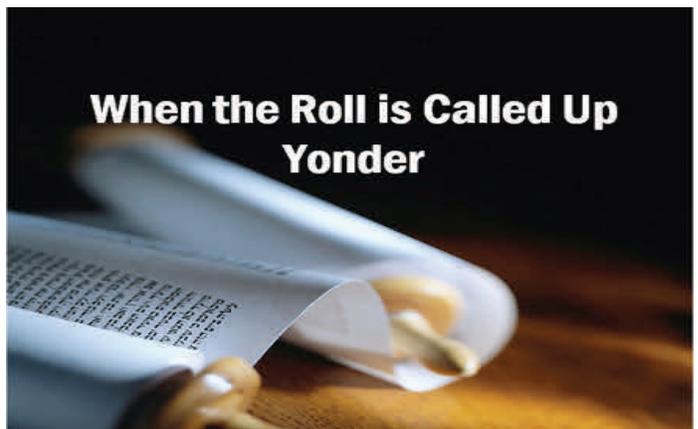
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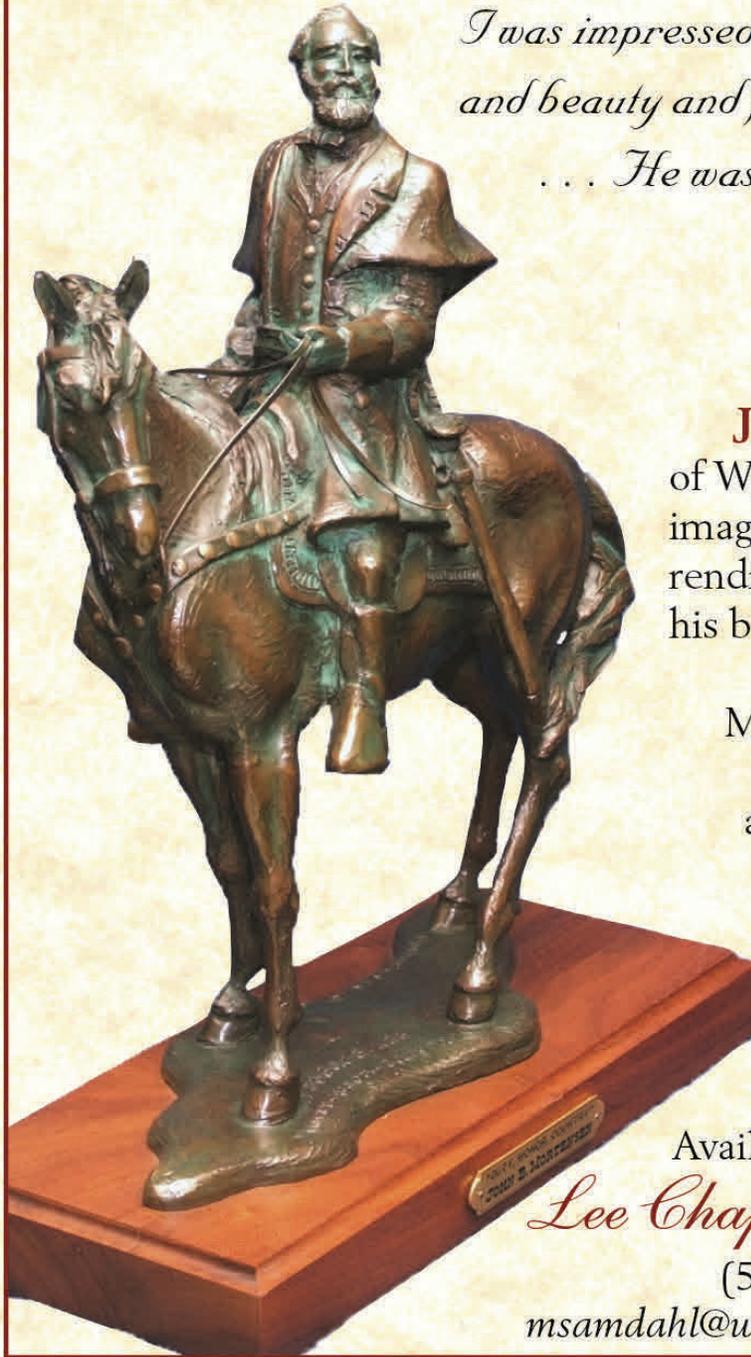
"Traveller moved as if proud of the burden he bore . . .

The horse was beautiful and majestic . . .

*I was impressed with the greatness
and beauty and power . . . of the man*

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Written by a student at
General Lee's College in 1869.



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About the Company:

Sea Raven Press is an independent academic book publishing company located in Nashville, Tennessee, specializing in nonfiction family-friendly books for all ages on the American Civil War (from the South's perspective), Jesus, the Bible, spirituality, the Law of Attraction, theology, health, healing, the paranormal (ghost stories, UFOs), history, biography, social issues, mythology, etymology, family history, and genealogy. The Company takes great pride in producing well researched, historically accurate, provocative books, with one-of-a-kind titles, timeless themes, easy-to-read interiors, rare and original artwork, and lavishly designed covers.

About the Author:

Author Lochlainn Seabrook is the recipient of the prestigious Jefferson Davis Historical Gold Medal. His adult, teen, and children's books have sold thousands of copies throughout the U.S., Canada, Europe, Russia, Australia, and Central and South America. Known as the "new Shelby Foote," Lochlainn is a recognized historian, Bible scholar, and popular Civil War scholar who has penned over two dozen South-oriented books on the War for Southern Independence.

Lochlainn, also an acclaimed screenwriter, has just signed on with renowned filmmaker Christopher Forbes, to bring Lochlainn's screenplay (based on his award-winning book, "A Rebel Born: A Defense of Nathan Bedford Forrest") to the big screen.

Membership Should Mean Something

By Larry Martin, Genealogist General

Membership should mean something; a bold statement yet a true one. As I began my first steps into joining heritage societies I tutored under some excellent genealogists who taught me several things that all heritage societies require and how they apply in the route to ones past.

As a member of several such societies and working towards more, I have come to appreciate how much work goes into an application. And trust me each one has different yet similar standards. For instance the Sons of the American Revolution insists on having special water-marked paper for each application along with 2 sets of proofs, another, the Sons and Daughters of the Pilgrims wants the application on legal size, acid free paper and printed on front and back.

Sons of the Republic of Texas, Texas Rangers Association, Founders and Patriots, Descendants of Mexican War Veterans, War of 1812, Colonial Wars, New England, Mayflower Society and my newest find The Society of Descendants of Lady Godiva (I do not qualify, a friend actually proved she is a lineal descendant of Lady Godiva), indeed there are quite a few of them out there and while all seek the same information and proofs, they want it in the format they chose to accept. And we, the ones who make the application, must follow the established guidelines in order to advance in the process towards membership. I have had applications take months because the process is slow, it must be mailed from point A to point B and then mailed some more for signatures and so forth. It can get frustrating to say the least plus by then they have cashed the check and there you wait.

The Military Order of Stars and Bars depends on volunteers to run, and while I learned as an E-1 never to ever volunteer for anything, I did volunteer for one of the most rewarding jobs in the MOS&B and that was to fill Toni Turks shoes as Genealogist General. Since I began this job I have been privileged to work on many fine family trees, including the MOS&B Collaterals project.

In the Sons of Confederate Veterans I am the Texas Division, 3rd Brigade Guardian and one of the things I do is survey cemeteries in the 3rd Brigade, which covers 15 Texas counties. To do it right, I research each man who was born prior to 1850 for possible Confederate service. When these men died, many of them did not get a proper Veterans grave marker, some merely had a piece of sand stone to make the grave, some have elaborate markers that did mention CSA service. But in most cases you must do some serious detective work to find his service. I have seen a County Historical society say there are 10 Confederate Veterans buried in XXX Ceme-

tery, and at the time they were correct on the information they had. But with today's advanced programs and software and websites you can find there might be 25 Confederates buried there and where they served, and that is very satisfying to mark them with flags, note the G.P.S. coordinates and report the findings to the graves survey project. So genealogical detective work, to me is fun. Learning about a man's family history and his service is even more gratifying.

Genealogy is based on real documents, real proof of each step. It is like being a detective, sometimes you must go back 8-10 generations and come down another ancestor's line to get to a qualifying Officer or Elected Official that allows you to join our organization. A few weeks ago I was speaking to a long time SCV Member who is also a long time Camp commander and he mentioned that in his family it was told he was a descendent of General Thomas Jonathan (Stonewall) Jackson. After gathering the basic information from his application I went to work, spending hours and hours tracing his family all the way back to England and his 9th Great Grandfather and then down the family tree through a distant uncle and in time and using the MOS&B Collaterals as a way to check and verify I did indeed prove him a member of the Jackson family, distant as it is, and low and behold I also discovered this man was also related to Zebulon Pike, who was an American General and lead the expedition in 1806-1807 in Colorado and we all know Pike's Peak is named for this American legend, and best of all I have proofs on this branch of his family.

When we all began the journey to sign up at the MOS&B we all filled out an application, and in that application it asked for proofs. Today's applicants also should download the Membership Application Cover/Instruction Letter. And when you open that PDF file up you see that Toni Turk, our Past Commander General wrote it on December 22, 2012. In it you will see the standards set for applications.

*The Military Order of the Stars and Bars
December 22, 2012
MOS&B
Membership Application*

The preferred method to join the MOS&B is through a Chapter in your area. To determine the closest Chapter, contact our International Headquarters headquarters@militaryorderofthestarsandbars.com. Headquarters can guide you through the process and see that you are placed in contact with a convenient Chapter. If no local Chapter is available, you will join the National At-Large Chapter.

The form necessary to join is available at this site. It may be filled out and printed from your computer. For a direct relationship, fill in the family information starting with you and then continue each generation back to your Confederate relative. For a collateral relationship,

also fill in the family information starting with your collateral relation and continue it back to your Most Recent Common Ancestor (MRCA).

For ties to the Collaterals database, it is only necessary to complete your application back to an already accepted ancestor by the Genealogist General or his representative.

Fill in all of the known dates and locations for each generation.

Proof: To the extent practicable furnish copies of primary documents, i.e.: birth, marriage, death, census and military records. *(This is the 21st Century, you can get Birth and Death certificates back to around 1890 in most all cases. Marriage proofs back to about 1500 can be found easily as well. The advent of the internet and modern communications makes this process easier.)*

Applicants for membership in a local chapter will be assisted by local resources. Those applying for membership in the National At-Large Chapter will be assisted directly by the Genealogist General or his representative.

Proof of acceptable Confederate service is mandatory. Each application from a local chapter must be signed by the applicant and countersigned by the individual recommending the applicant and the local Chapter officer.

If applying for membership in the National At-Large Chapter, the application with supporting documentation along with a check in the amount of fifty dollars (\$50) payable to the MOS&B National should be sent to:

*The Military Order of the Stars and Bars
P.O. Box 1700
White House, Tennessee 37188 1700*

□

Membership in the MOS&B is available to those with a lineal descent from, or collateral blood relationship to, an individual with proven acceptable service to the Confederacy. Collateral relationships must demonstrate a precise degree of cousinship, e.g. 5C5R, or the degree of nephew, e.g. GGNephew.

*Deo Vindice!
Toni Turk, Commander General, (2012-2014)*

So what does this all mean? Well I am very easy to work with, I listen and do try to help all who ask, but I also will stand on the work of those who came before me and adhere to the standards set down by Headquarters MOS&B.

And they are as the letter above attests

1. Make sure the application is from the MOS&B Join-us web page, that is the current acceptable version. <http://www.militaryorderofthestarsandbars.org/join-us/> Click to download the application and all you need is a free copy of Adobe and you can type the application out, save it and work on it, until you are ready to print it out and KEEP a Copy for your records. Again make sure you get the 02 March 2013 Version from the website.

2. Always look for a local/State Chapter, they too are there to help you, as am I. Make sure your current contact information is correct, many times I have sent emails to applicants and they bounce right back, and that slows things down. Make sure you have documented proof of your ancestor showing he was an Officer or an Elected Official of the Confederate States and if you can the dates of service and status at the end of the war are filled out, but if you cannot find the dates its ok, I will look for them as well. I am also well aware the Army of Trans Mississippi burned many records at the end of the war.

3. The Degree of Relation is important as well as providing copies of all cited proofs. And understand that printing off your Ancestry.Com page is NOT proof. Sending a picture of a grave marker simply does not constitute proof, it does lead you in the right direction.

The actual document you cite must be readable and verifiable. If you have collateral relations show me each step from you to the common relation then to the Ancestor. I have spent hours hunting for this missing key information, while you have had it all along, please be precise, it helps. If you need to do a simple chart on a separate piece of paper to show me your lineage that will be great.

But the bottom line is still acceptable cited proofs for each generation. I realize past 1900 they become hard to find, Census records, State Records and more are acceptable, Family Bibles and Historical Genealogical books showing proofs are also acceptable. Your local library, Genealogy society and State Archives will also help you. 4. Dates, these are important, simply putting "about 1840" when that is all you have, can lead me on the right path.

5. Please allow the reproduction of your application, Headquarters scans it and emails it to me, to speed things up. Snail mail isn't fast or all that reliable these days. I am here to help you, not hinder you. I enjoy learning your fascinating family history; there are many times I will say "how cool is that". We all descend from the leaders of the Confederacy, most all, in my eyes are heroes worth emulating. We are Gentleman of the South, we uphold the finest of traditions that our ancestors laid down

for us.

As our Pledge of the Military Order of Stars and Bars tells us;

"We, the posterity of the Officer Corps and civil officials of the Confederacy, do pledge ourselves to commemorate and honor the service of leadership these men rendered in the cause of the fundamental AMERICAN principals of self-determination and states' rights and to perpetuate the true history of their deeds for the edification of ourselves, our society, and for generations yet unborn"

I will always follow the standards set down by Headquarters, always protect your privacy, and always give your application 100% effort and make sure you have an answer as soon as possible.

I look forward to long service to the MOS&B and being your Genealogist General.

BG St. John Richardson Liddell Chapter Inducts New Members



New members were inducted at the BG St. John Richardson Liddell Chapter monthly meeting that was held on June 19, 2014. Pictured (left to right) are Wilson C. Wilhite, MD and Ron Nelson. At the far right is the Liddell Chapter's proud Commander Tommy B. Rhodes, III LTC USA (Retired).

Submitted by David W. Myers, Chapter Adjutant, Baldwin County, Alabama

Gorgas Chapter Sponsors Confederate Memorial Day Ceremony

On April 26, 2014 the Gorgas Chapter, MOS&B, sponsored a Confederate Memorial Day Ceremony in Greenwood Cemetery in Tuscaloosa, AL. Approximately twenty five members and guests of the MOS&B, the SCV, and the UDC attended the ceremony. Gorgas Chapter Commander John Coleman welcomed the group and served as MC. Walter Dockery, DCS, introduced the speakers and spoke about the Confederate officers and personnel who are buried in Greenwood Cemetery. Generals Phillip Dale Roddey and George Doherty Johnston, Capt. Dwight Eddins, over 40 unknown Confederate soldiers, and Sallie Swope, a nurse of the 11th Alabama, are buried there. Recently, engraved black granite plaques were placed on the grave markers of Generals Roddey and Johnston and a dedication service for these plaques honoring the two generals was held during the ceremony.

Special guests, Ms. Netta Holley, great great granddaughter of General Johnston spoke about him and his activities during the War and Mr. Billy Mitchell spoke of the record of his ancestor, a Lieutenant who served under General Roddey. Photographs of Commander Coleman, Walter Dockery, Ms. Holley, Mr. Mitchell, and part of the group of attendees are provided to show the various activities at the ceremony. (submitted by Sam Gambrell, former Adjutant, Gorgas Chapter).



Top Picture: Gorgas Commander John Coleman welcomes attendees.

Middle Picture: Members and guests enjoy the ceremony

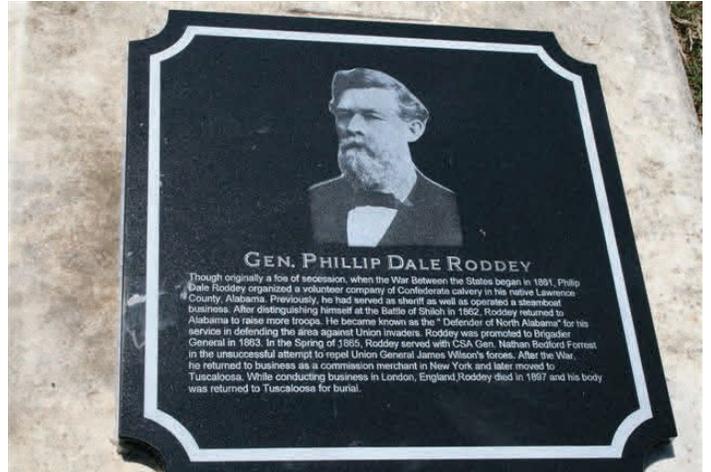
Bottom Picture: Walter Dockery, DCS, speaks about cemetery's history



Above Picture: Ms. Holley speaks about General Johnston



Above Picture: Mr. Mitchell speaks about General Roddey



Gorgas Chapter Honors Four Confederate Generals

Request for Articles for the Upcoming Confederate War Journal

The theme of this year's Confederate War Journal that will come out this coming November will be on the "Battle of Columbia, TN", the "Battle of Nashville, TN" and the "Battle of Franklin, TN". All articles related to the officers and men that served in these battles are welcome.

Some officers that we would like articles on to include in this issue are, but not limited to, the following: MG Benjamin Cheatam, LG John Bell Hood, MG Earl Van Dorn, Patrick Clerburne, William B. Bates, LG Stephen D. Lee, MG Edward "Allegheny" Johnson, State Right Gist, Otho F. Strahl, MG William W. Loring Nathan Bedford Forest, Abraham Buford, etc. Articles on the various regiments and battalions that served in these battles are also welcome.

Please consider writing an article that the MOS&B can include in this issue that marks the 150th Anniversary of the Columbia, Nashville, and Franklin campaign. Send your articles to the attention of our Editor General, Jeff Sizemore, whose email is swampeditor@yahoo.com.

Recently, Gorgas Chapter members Walter Dockery and Richard Rhone worked with the Black Warrior Monument Company to prepare and install engraved, black granite plaques on the grave markers of four Confederate generals. Generals Johnston (b. 1832) and Roddey (b. 1820) are buried in Greenwood Cemetery and Generals Gorgas (b. 1818) and Wood (b. 1823) are buried in Evergreen Cemetery, both cemeteries being in Tuscaloosa. Plaques in Greenwood Cemetery were dedicated during the 2014 Confederate Memorial Day Ceremony and plaques in Evergreen Cemetery will be dedicated at a later date. Funds for the plaques and their installation were provided by the Gorgas Chapter and the Alabama Society, MOS&B. Wording for each plaque is given below and a photograph of the plaque for General Roddey is provided as an example of the four plaques.

General Josiah Gorgas

Although a Pennsylvanian and a West Point military graduate, General Josiah Gorgas followed Alabama in 1861 into the Confederate States of America. As Chief of Ordnance, he used his training and skills to build an extraordinary system of acquisition, manufacture, and distribution of arms and ammunition. In recognition of his outstanding service, Gorgas rose from Brigadier to Major General by the end of the War Between the States. Largely thanks to Gen. Gorgas, Confederate troops seldom lacked weapons even though often short of everything else. He was widely regarded as the most able

administrator in the Confederate government. After the War Gorgas became President of the University of Alabama in 1878. Ill health caused his retirement after only one year and he was appointed the University Librarian. Gen. Gorgas died on May 15, 1883 in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. After his death in 1883 his widow Amelia Gayle Gorgas officially assumed the duties of Librarian.

General George Doherty Johnston

General George Doherty Johnston of Marion, Alabama was a prominent attorney, mayor, and state legislator before the War Between the States. Joining the Confederate Army, he served as a Lieutenant in the Fourth Alabama Infantry at First Manassas in 1861 and was later commissioned a Colonel in the 25th Alabama Infantry. Though wounded shortly after his appointment as a Brigadier General in 1864, and sometimes on crutches while leading his men, Johnston would play a role in every battle of the Army of Tennessee from Shiloh in April 1862 to Bentonville in March 1865. He was regarded as a skillful commander & most gallant officer. Rather than surrender, Gen. Johnston attempted to join with CSA forces still fighting in the West. After the War, Johnston served as Commandant of Cadets at the University of Alabama 1871-73 and as Superintendent of The Citadel in South Carolina 1885-1890. In 1892, he was appointed by President Grover Cleveland as a United States Civil Service Commissioner. Returning to live in Tuscaloosa, Gen. Johnston served in the Alabama State Senate until his death in 1910.

General Phillip Dale Roddey

Though originally a foe of secession, when the War Between the States began in 1861, Phillip Dale Roddey organized a volunteer company of Confederate cavalry in his native Lawrence County, Alabama. Previously, he had served as sheriff as well as operated a steamboat business. After distinguishing himself

at the Battle of Shiloh in 1862, Roddey returned to Alabama to raise more troops. He became known as the "Defender of North Alabama" for his service in defending the area against Union invaders. Roddey was promoted to Brigadier General in 1863. In the Spring of 1865, Roddey served with CSA Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest in the unsuccessful attempt to repel Union General James Wilson's forces. After the War, he returned to business as a commission merchant in New York and later moved to Tuscaloosa. While conducting business in London, England, Roddey died in 1897 and his body was returned to Tuscaloosa for burial.

General Sterling Alexander Martin Wood

General Sterling Alexander Martin Wood, an Alabama attorney, newspaperman, and legislator in the 1850's, served as a confederate Brigadier General during the War Between the States. Wood was wounded while commanding a brigade at the Battle of Shiloh, Tennessee on April 6, 1862. His most notable military service came in October 1862 when he and his brigade fought gallantly in the Battle of Perryville, Kentucky. During the battle, Wood was severely wounded, but resumed his command in November of that year. Wood then led his Army of Tennessee brigade into 1863 at the Battle of Stones River, during the Tullahoma Campaign, and the Battle of Chickamauga. Wood resigned his Confederate military command in October 1863 and resumed his law practice. After the War, he served again in the Alabama Legislature and was a Professor of Law at the University of Alabama from 1889 to 1890. S.A.M. Wood was the attorney for the Alabama Great Southern Railway from the railroad's founding in 1877 until his death at the age of 67 in 1891.

(submitted by Sam Gambrell, former Adjutant, Gorgas Chapter)



Military Order of the Stars and Bars



Commander General
Wm. Howard Jones
1471 Woodberry Avenue
San Mateo, CA 94403-3712

July 24, 2014

Rector J. Donald Childress
Board of Trustees
Washington and Lee University
204 West Washington Street
Lexington, VA 24450

Dear Rector Childress:

I recently wrote to President Ruscio regarding the decision to remove the Confederate Battle Flags from Lee Chapel. Through this action, the University has dishonored the memory of one of our greatest Americans.

As descendants of the Confederate Officer Corps we appreciate the special relationship that we have enjoyed with the University. In fact, the descendants of Robert E. Lee were amongst the founders of our organization. Dr. George Bolling Lee – General Lee's grandson - served as our Commander-in-Chief from 1945 to 1948. His remains are entombed in the Lee Mausoleum. Perhaps he now rests uneasily in view of the recent decision.

Lee Chapel is a shrine to our Southern heritage. It is the one remaining place where we can revere our leader with full military honors. The age of political correctness does not serve us well. It is deceitful and denies the reality of our history. I challenge the students who created this travesty to change the world through their own positive actions. They should not expect the world to change its history for their own benefit.

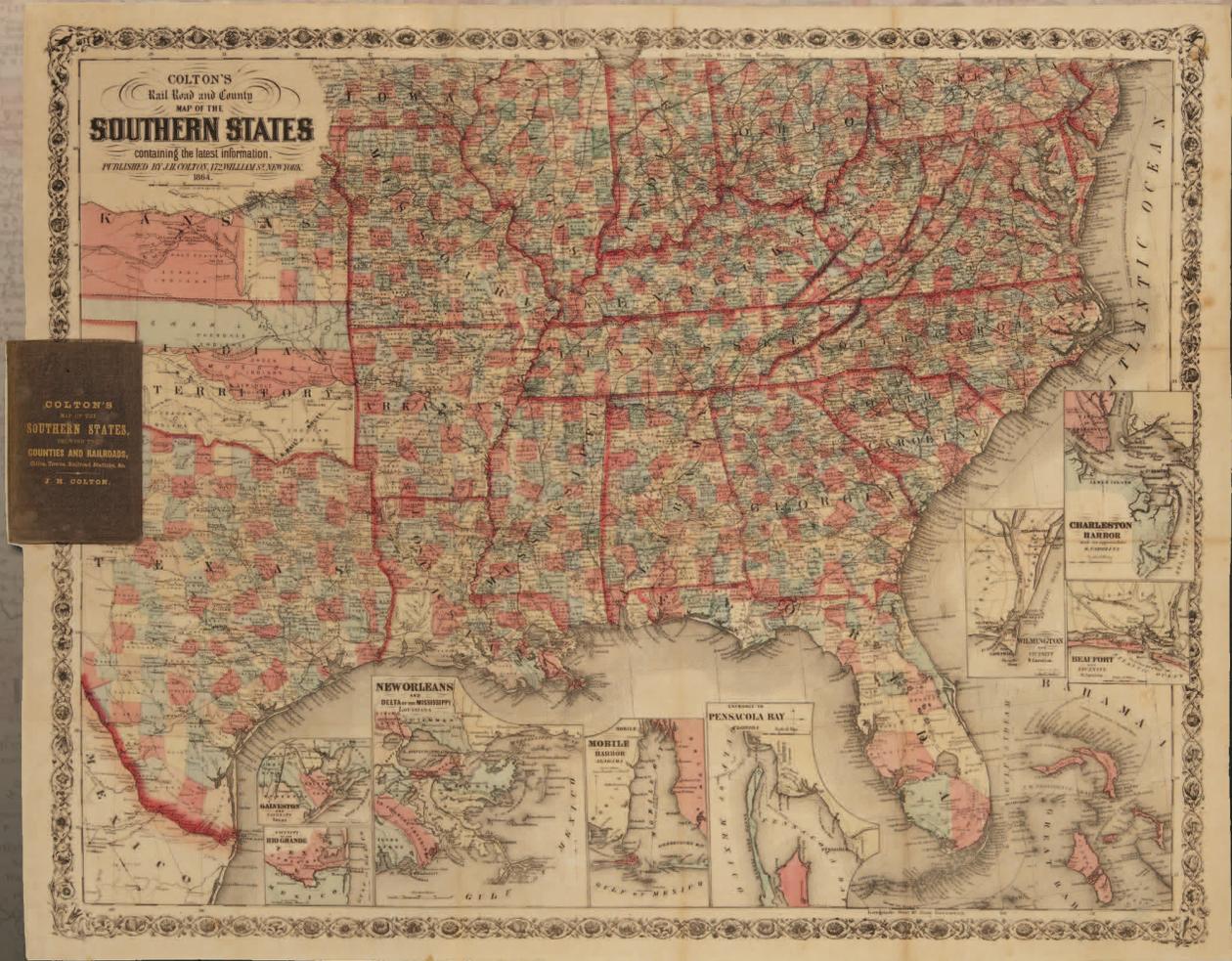
While we disagree with your actions we intend to remain on friendly terms with the University. A few years ago we were happy to provide financial assistance for the partial restoration of Lee Chapel. We will continue to support those programs that will honor his memory. There has never been a finer gentleman than Robert E. Lee. Consider the fact that no other individual in our country has had more of an influence on any University than did Robert Edward Lee. Honor him! Honor him!

Do not surrender to the pressures of political correctness. Be proud of our heritage and defend it from those who would change or erase our history. Washington and Lee University owes much to Robert E. Lee. Through his leadership tiny Washington College was able to survive and evolve into the great institution that it is today. As an old friend, we are asking you to re-consider your decision and once again give Robert Edward Lee the respect and dignity that he deserves.

Yours Truly,

Wm. Howard Jones
Commander General

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