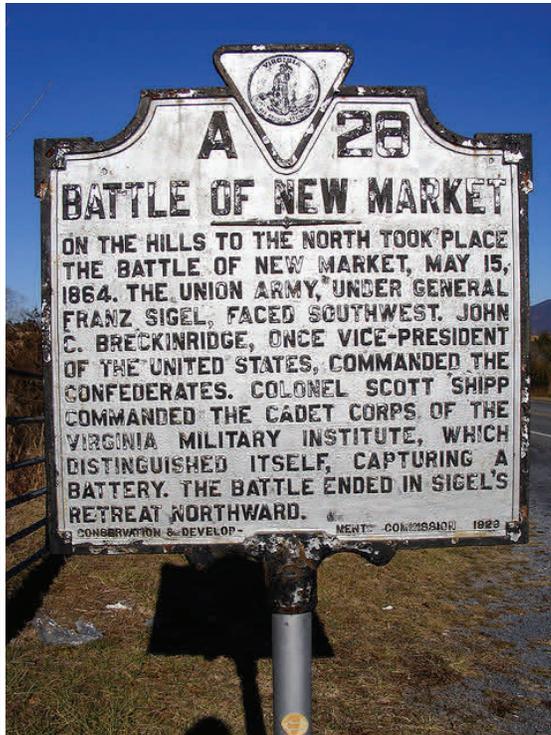


Volume 6, Number 10
October 2014

Officer's Call

Sesquicentennial Series Article #47 Battle of New Market, Virginia

By Larry Wilhoite



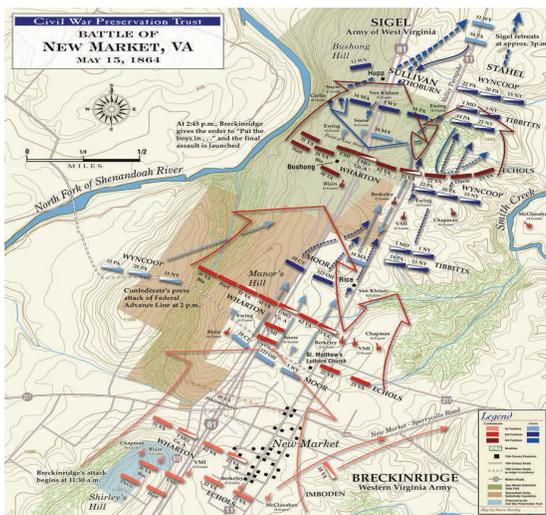
The Battle of New Market in western Virginia has been described as “the biggest little battle of the War Between the States.” Why was New Market, a sleepy little hamlet in the Shenandoah Valley between the Blue Ridge Mountains on the east and the Allegheny Mountains on the west, so vitally important that this battle occurred in the first place?

In the spring of 1864, the country had endured three years of bloody war and the prospects for ending the war looked dim. President Abraham Lincoln had grown weary of incompetent generals leading the Army of the Potomac trying to defeat General Robert E. Lee and his Army of Northern Virginia. General Ulysses S. Grant had a reputation in the West as a fighter and that is what Lincoln desired in the East. After his victory at Chattanooga, Grant was promoted to Lt. General in March of 1864 and made Chief of the Armies of the United States.

Grant’s overall plan was to attack all Confederate positions simultaneously to prevent the South from shifting troops within its interior lines. Sherman was to move against General Joseph E. Johnston and the Army of Tennessee in Georgia; Nathaniel Banks against General E. Kirby Smith and the Army of Trans-Mississippi in Louisiana; Benjamin F. Butler against General P. G. T. Beauregard on the Virginia Peninsula; with three other forces to move on the Shenandoah Valley to prevent reinforcement of Lee’s army from the West.

Author’s note: When one refers to going “up” the Valley, it is in a Southerly direction and “down” the Valley is actually going north.

The Shenandoah Valley, the bread basket of the Confederacy, is 165 miles long from Lexington, Virginia to Harper’s Ferry, West Virginia and about 30 miles wide. Splitting the Valley was the Massanutten Mountain, a 45-mile long mountain running from Harrisburg up the Valley to just north of Strasburg. The only viable way to get across the Massanutten was via New Market Gap. New Market lay just west of the mountain. The Shenandoah River runs



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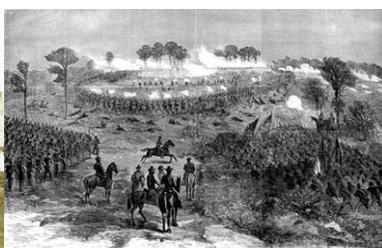
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The MOS&B *Officer's Call*, a leader among heritage magazines, is published monthly by the Military Order of the Stars and Bars.

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

Address all general business or advertising correspondence to MOS&B IHQ, P O Box 56251, Virginia Beach, VA 23456

Commander General's Message



There are great changes that have been occurring in our population over the past several decades. These changes will continue at an accelerated rate. While our over-all population will increase, the number of people of European ancestry will decline. In fact, the population of White Americans will become a minority by the year 2043. We simply don't have a birthrate that will sustain and grow our population. Each year the number of people in this category who will die exceeds the number who will be born.

Ironically, the United States is one of the few industrialized countries with a growing population. In most European countries – and especially Germany and Greece – the population is in decline. The same is true with Japan and South Korea. The U.S. is the exception because of wholesale immigration and the unusually high birthrate of our immigrants. These demographics will have a profound affect on most of the service organizations, clubs, and heritage groups in our country. We have an aging group of White Americans and most immigrants don't join organizations.

As Commander General, I want to take the necessary steps today that will assure our relevancy for future generations. In the past few years, we have been able to maintain our membership at historic levels. However, I do expect that we will soon feel the pressure from our Country's changing demographics. For that reason, we will soon be launching a new membership program. The backbone of this program will be advertisements that will appear in the magazines of leading heritage societies. Our initial ad will appear in the quarterly edition of the *Sons of the American Revolution* quarterly magazine.

We also need to improve our membership retention program. Many of our new members never really get connected to us. They might attend one or two meetings but they eventually drop out from a lack of interest. To combat this trend we simply must have Chapter and Society meetings that are both educational and entertaining. That includes having a guest speaker for every single meeting.

I have worked hard on membership over the past two years. I am particularly excited about our new strategy because it will bring us new members who value heritage organizations like ours. As members of MOS&B we are stewards of our culture and our heritage. We simply must take the necessary steps today to assure us that a new generation will be there to follow in our footsteps. We must also trust those individuals to protect and advance our heritage just as we have done. You have my best wishes.
Deo Vindice!

Wm. Howard Jones

Commander General

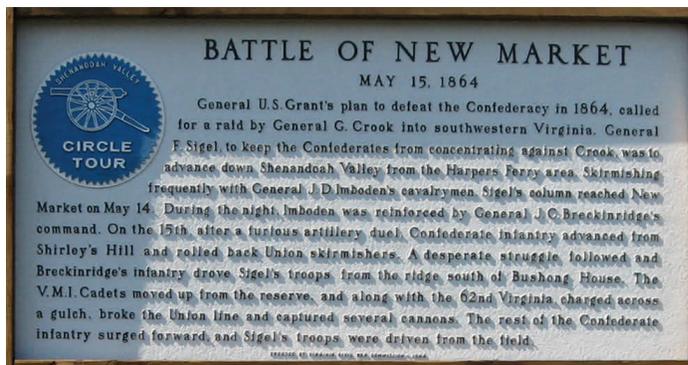
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through the center of the Valley. The Valley was also important to the Confederacy because the Virginia & Tennessee Railroad ran through Staunton and was vital to moving troops and supplies from west to east. Saltville provided needed salt and Wytheville had lead mines for making bullets. These had to be protected at all costs.

To invade the Shenandoah Valley, Lincoln chose Major General Franz Sigel, a popular German immigrant. This was a political appointment as Lincoln felt he needed the German vote to get re-elected. Grant had little faith in Sigel and opposed the appointment. Grant wrote Sherman "if Sigel can't skin himself, he can hold a leg while someone else skins." Sigel now commanded the Department of West Virginia with approximately 9,000 troops and 25 pieces of artillery. His orders were to protect the B&O Railroad from Confederate cavalry raids and to march up the Valley and occupy Staunton. The Federal plan called for two other commands to invade the Valley. Brigadier General George Crook with 6,000 troops was to move southeast from the Kanawha Valley in West Virginia and capture Dublin and sever the Virginia & Tennessee Railroad at New River Bridge. Brigadier General William W. Averell, with 2,000 cavalry, was ordered south to attack Saltville and Wytheville.

On February 25, 1864, command of the Confederate Army in the Shenandoah Valley was assigned to Major General John C. Breckenridge of Kentucky, transferred from the Army of Tennessee. Breckenridge's grandfather had been Thomas Jefferson's Attorney General and his great-great grandfather was a signer of the Declaration of Independence. By trade a lawyer, Breckenridge had served in the Mexican War and although only 35 years of age, served as vice-president under James Buchanan. In 1860, he was nominated for President by the Southern faction of the Democratic Party. Although anti-secession, he finished second to Lincoln. He was then appointed to the U. S. Senate during the secession crisis and took a very pro-Southern stance. He was forced to leave his seat and head south.

The area he was to command was massive and included eastern Tennessee, southwest Virginia and parts of Kentucky. When he arrived, he had only 6,500 troops of all arms. With these troops, he faced approximately 18,000 Federals. Breckenridge appeals to General Lee for reinforcements only to be advised that Lee had no reinforcements to send. Lee suggested the Virginia Military Institute cadets in Lexington. Major General Francis H. Smith, VMI superintendent, ordered Commandant of Ca-



dets Lt. Colonel Scott Ship to have the cadets ready to march by 7 A.M. on May 11th with their two-gun section of artillery. Four companies of armed cadets, artillery, fifer and drummers, and field officers prepared to march to join Breckenridge's army. The average age of these cadets was 18, with some as young as 14, but they were ready to do their duty. Twenty-seven extremely disappointed cadets were left behind to guard VMI. The VMI "army" arrived in Staunton on May 13th.



John C. Breckenridge

Breckenridge prepared to defend the Valley with no thought of an offensive, being outnumbered nearly three to one. To meet the threat from Crook coming from West Virginia, he dispatched Brigadier General John Echols to Lewisburg, West Virginia, 40 miles north of Dublin, Virginia and Colonel John McCausland to Narrows, 20 miles north of Dublin. Scattered over about a 140 mile area, the Confederate cavalry was ready to move to threatened areas. Saltville and Wytheville were now pro-

ected.

Reinforcements did arrive shortly thereafter. Brigadier General Gabriel C. Wharton brought 1,000 badly needed troops and famed General John Hunt Morgan brought his cavalry to join Breckenridge.

President Jefferson Davis and General Lee both felt that it was far more important to protect the Virginia & Tennessee Railroad at Staunton. Loss of this important rail junction would disrupt supplies to Lee's army and also exposed his left flank as he prepared to defend against Grant's onslaught.

Lee was now given full authority of all Confederate forces in the Shenandoah Valley. Lee placed General Imboden under Breckenridge and ordered them to drive Sigel from the Valley.

On May 6th, Breckenridge ordered General Echols and General Wharton to march for Staunton. To de-



lay Sigel, Captain John H. McNeil with about 60 partisan rangers, conducted a raid at Piedmont, West Virginia. They destroyed bridges, several locomotives, freight cars, machine shops and several miles of telegraph lines on the B&O Railroad. Sigel was forced to detach some of his cavalry to capture McNeil's partisans. General Imboden moved from Staunton to Woodstock, a few miles from Strasburg with 1,660 men. His objective was to capture Colonel Jacob Higgins and his cavalry who had been sent by Sigel to deal with McNeil's partisans. Higgins and his command were captured at Lost River Gap and Sigel was now without half his cavalry. Sigel was now north of Strasburg.

The situation in southwest Virginia drastically changed when General Crook defeated the Confederates under Brigadier General Albert Gallatin Jenkins at the battle of Cloyd's Mountain near Dublin. Jenkins was mortally wounded. Crook's forces were badly injured, and he was forced to return west to the Alleghenies. On May 10th, General Morgan defeated Averell's cavalry at Crockett's Cove, relieving Wytheville and Saltville from the threat of the Federals.

Now, Sigel alone faced Breckenridge. He had two infantry brigades in Staunton. Imboden, after defeating Higgins, took up position on Rude's Hill, just north of New Market. The following day, the cadets from VMI arrived in Staunton. The march had been hard on them, many complaining of sore feet and blisters. Cadet Beverly Stannard, Company B, wrote home, "I have suffered more with my feet this march than I ever did on the others together. I hope to get me a more comfortable pair of shoes when this will be remedied." As the cadets marched by, the hardened veterans in the Confederate army sang "Rock-a-bye-baby" at them. Now Brecken-

ridge was ready to meet Sigel on more equal terms.

Sigel deployed Colonel August Moor with the 18th Connecticut, the 123rd Ohio and a six-gun battery on Rice's Hill, a small rise just north of New Market. Sigel hoped Moor could slow Breckenridge's attack long enough until reinforcements could arrive.

Major General John C. Breckenridge commanded two brigades, the Virginia Military Institute cadets, and two batteries of artillery. Wharton's brigade included the 30th and 51st Virginia plus a six-gun battery. General Echols' brigade included the 22nd, 23rd and 26th Virginia plus a six-gun battery. When Echols became incapacitated due to a heart problem, Colonel George S. Patton, Sr. of the 22nd Virginia, replaced him. Yes, his grandson, General George S. Patton, would become one of the most famous generals in World War II.

Breckenridge initially planned to entrench with 5,300 men at Staunton and invite Sigel to attack him. Sigel did not take the bait. General Lee felt that Lynchburg and southwest Virginia were too vulnerable so he ordered Breckenridge to move north and attack Sigel's army. At 6 A.M. on May 13th, the Confederates marched out of Staunton in search of Sigel.

On May 11, 1864, Sigel started up the Valley and entered Woodstock. He then learned that Breckenridge was at Staunton waiting for him. Colonel John Singleton Mosby began harassing Sigel's supply lines. Sigel dispatched Colonel William Boyd and his 1st New York cavalry (about 300 men) and two mountain howitzers, to secure the road to New Market from the east, through New Market Gap. With the Gap secured, Sigel could turn east and threaten Lee's left flank. Boyd had to travel north to Front Royal and around the Massanutten Mountain, travel east of the mountain to Luray and come into New Market Gap from the east. As Boyd approached New Market, he encountered Imboden's troops on May 13th at Smith Creek Bridge. Imboden had laid a trap, sending the 23rd Virginia Cavalry to meet Boyd directly and the 18th Virginia Cavalry with two guns to hit Boyd's troops in the left flank. Boyd was quickly routed, taking this portion of Sigel's cavalry out of action. Thus began the Battle of New Market.

Sigel was advised that only Imboden's force was at New Market so he decided to take the offensive. He sent a cavalry detachment to probe the Confederate position on Rude's Hill. With this divided force, Sigel attacked and drove Imboden back through New Market. Imboden took position on Shirley's Hill just south of New Market with his troops lined east to Smith's Creek. The battlefield was now defined, Smith's Creek on the east and the Shenandoah River on the west.

Sigel now concentrated his army north of New Market on Bushong Hill. His batteries engaged in an artillery duel with Confederate artillery posted on Shirley's Hill for about two hours on May 13th. At about 6 P.M. the Federals began moving toward New Market. Charges by both side were repulsed and by 10 P.M., the fighting of May 13th was over.

The following morning, Sigel, believing only Imboden occupied New Market, divided his forces further. He sent Colonel August Moor with three infantry regiments and about 1,000 cavalymen, to confront the Confederates on Rude's Hill and ascertain their strength. Moor advised Sigel that he was pushing back Imboden and took New Market. Sigel, at this time, learned that Breckenridge was just south of New Market and closing fast. Breckenridge, after conferring with Imboden, ordered him back to New Market to try to hold the town until his arrival the following morning.

Heavy rains continued to fall on the morning of the 15th. Breckenridge held his force just south of New Market for two hours and ordered the 18th Virginia Cavalry to probe the Union line, with the hope of Sigel attacking his position. No attack came. Sigel continue to concentrate his forces on Bushong Hill.

At 10 A.M., Breckenridge decided to attack. "I shall advance on him. We can attack and whip them here, and I'll do it." Wharton's brigade was on the Confederate left, near the Shenandoah River and Echols' brigade on the Confederate right, extending to connect with Imboden's cavalry east of Smith's Creek. The VMI cadets were held in reserve.

Following the bombardment, Wharton's brigade (30th, 51st and 62nd Virginia Infantry) moved over the crest of Shirley's Hill into the New Market Valley. The troops were to be in open order but the cadets were not informed and marched over the crest in drill-field formation, making easy targets for the Federals. Five casualties were sustained by the cadets here. Echols' brigade, consisting of the 22nd and 23rd Virginia Infantry, moved forward with Wharton's



Cadet Private Thomas G. Jefferson, Co. B, was mortally wounded at age 17

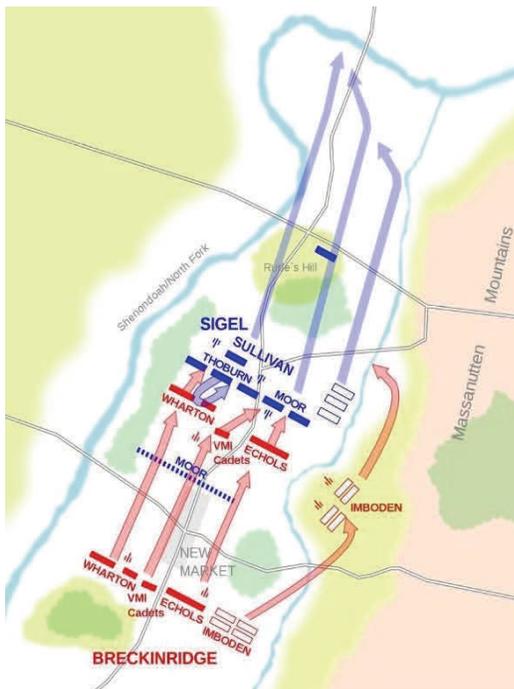
advance. Imboden was ordered to take position on the extreme right of the Confederate line east of Smith Creek with McClanahan's battery. They were to burn the Shenandoah River Bridge at Mount Jackson to cut off Sigel's retreat and trap him between the Shenandoah River and Smith Creek, both swollen due to heavy rains.

At 12:30 P.M. Breckenridge ordered an artillery barrage on the Union line to last an hour. It was raining hard when the order to advance came at 2 P.M.

The Confederates hit the Union's first line, commanded by Colonel August Moor, and flanked both the 123rd Ohio and the 18th Connecticut. Both regiments had to withdraw behind Sigel's second line on Bushong Hill. Sigel's second line, commanded by Colonel Joseph Thoburn, consisted of the 34th Massachusetts (against the Shenandoah River); the 1st West Virginia which extended to the Valley Pike. The 12th West Virginia was held in reserve. Two batteries of artillery were posted on the high ground next to the river. Brigadier General Julius Stahel commanded the cavalry posted east of the pike behind Sigel's artillery on the Valley Pike. Imboden opened on Stahel's cavalry which sent them retreating past the 54th Pennsylvania.

At 2:30 P.M. the Confederates made contact with the second line. The extreme Confederate left was forced to pinch in due to a bend in the Shenandoah River eastward.

The concentrated Confederates came under heavy fire from Union artillery and sustained heavy casualties. On the Confederate right, the 22nd and 23rd Virginia were halted by Stahel's cavalry. The attack was now is shambles, leaving a gaping hole in the center of the Confederate line. Reluctantly Breckenridge gave the order to plug the hole with the VMI cadets. "Put the boys in and may



God forgive me for the order.”

Sigel ordered Stahel to attack with his 2000 cavalry troops. His attack was stopped by Imboden's artillery and Stahel broke for the rear. The 34th Massachusetts and 54th Pennsylvania suffered heavy casualties. The 1st West Virginia had retreated out of the battle. Confusion set in and Sigel lost his nerve. The Confederate counterattack surged forward, with the cadets in the center. Despite torrential downpour of both rain and Union bullets, they surged forward to take the Union artillery in front of the Union line, capturing one gun. The gun was turned on the retreating Yankees as the cadets continued their pursuit, capturing many prisoners. Breckenridge complimented the cadets on their charge and ordered them to fall back to Bushong Hill while the Confederate left and right continued the pursuit. The battle was over by 3:20 P.M. Sigel's reserve artillery, six guns commanded by Captain Henry A. Du Pont, arrived and halted the Confederate pursuit, saving Sigel's army from certain destruction.

Breckenridge expected Sigel to make another stand. His only escape was the Shenandoah River Bridge at Mount Jackson. Imboden advised him that the cavalry had been unable to destroy the bridge, thus Sigel's escape route was still open. Brigadier General Jeremiah C. Sullivan arrived with the rest of Sigel's army and took position on Rude's Hill. When Breckenridge began shelling the Union position, Sigel ordered a general retreat across the Shenandoah River Bridge.

The breadbasket of the Confederacy was again free of Yankee invaders and General Lee no longer worried about his left flank being attacked. The boys from VMI became men that day, with 10 killed and 45 wounded. Five were killed outright and five died of their wounds later. Six were eventually buried on the grounds of VMI. At role call every May 15th, ten special cadets are selected to answer for Cabell, Atwill, Crockett, Hartsfield, Haynes, Jefferson, Jones, McDowell, Stanard, and Wheelwright. When that name is called, the cadet steps forward two paces, salutes and responds "Died on the field of honor."

Larry Wilhoite holds a BS degree in history from Stephen F. Austin State University and is an avid student of the War Between the States. He is Commander, Texas Society, Military Order of the Stars & Bars; adjutant of the O. M. Roberts Camp 178, Sons of Confederate Veterans, Waxahatchie; and a member of the Order of Southern Cross.

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Submittal Entries

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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A print such as this one is available for sale for \$100.00 each. The print is drawn by Samuel J. Massey and the proceeds from the print sales go to fund the Arkansas Society Scholarship Fund.

Please send your inquiries to purchase a copy of this print to mosbcg@cox.net. Your participation in this worthwhile project is greatly appreciated.

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 are, but not limited to, the following: MG Benjamin Cheatam, LG John Bell Hood, MG Earl Van Dorn, Patrick Cleburne, William B. Bates, LG Stephen D. Lee, MG Edward "Allegheny" Johnson, States Right Gist, Otho F. Strahl, MG William W. Loring, Nathan Bedford Forrest, 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.

Confederate Legacy Fund

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



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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.

Thoughts on Freedom - Forgotten principles

We feel that our cause is just and holy; we protest solemnly in the face of mankind that we desire peace at any sacrifice save that of honor and independence; we seek no conquest, no aggrandizement, no concession of any kind from the States with which we were lately confederated; all we ask is to be let alone; that those who never held power over us shall not now attempt our subjugation by arms. This we will, this we must, resist to the direst extremity. The moment that this pretension is abandoned the sword will drop from our grasp, and we shall be ready to enter into treaties of amity and commerce that cannot but be mutually beneficial. So long as this pretension is maintained, with a firm reliance on that Divine Power which covers with its protection the just cause, we will continue to struggle for our inherent right to freedom, independence, and self-government.

Jefferson Davis, April 1861

Headquarter Changes

Gentlemen:

The Headquarters function has been transferred to the management of Compatriot Ed Stack. Effectively immediately all communications to the Order should be sent to:

Headquarters
Military Order of the Stars and Bars
Post Office Box 56251
Virginia Beach, VA 23456

Compatriot Stack now maintains the Order's Master Databases, manages new member applications, assigns new member numbers, and receipts dues payments. He is now the interface between new members and the Genealogist General, new member packages and the Awards Chairman, dues collections and the Adjutant General, and dues deposits and the Treasurer General. The following is Ed Stack's job description.

1. Maintenance of the Headquarters Mailbox and Routing of Communications
2. Master Databases Management

Membership: assigns society numbers to new members; updating all of the fields of the Master Members Database on an ongoing basis.

Ancestors: adds new ancestors from approved new member applications and supplemental applications to the Ancestors Database – involves recording society numbers in tandem with the ancestors; provides a monthly update in Excel Open Source of ancestors to the Web Master for posting on the Order's website.

3. Dues Receipting

The dues collection season is September through December with all collected dues submitted by the end of January; dues continue to "dribble" in outside of this window. The dues are recorded in the Master Member Database.

After receipting, dues checks are sent to the Treasurer General for deposit, or deposited locally in a Wells Fargo account – if available.

4. New Member Applications

New Member Applications are received at Headquarter-

ters, usually in paper format. These are processed into a PDF and sent to the Genealogist General as an email attachment. The Genealogist General reviews the application and if approved notifies Headquarters of the same, which generates a new society #. A PDF of the approved file is sent to the Archivist General along with all paper files.

5. Interface Between the Genealogist General and the Awards Chairman

The needed details for new member packages are sent to the Awards Chairman, who generates and distributes the packages.

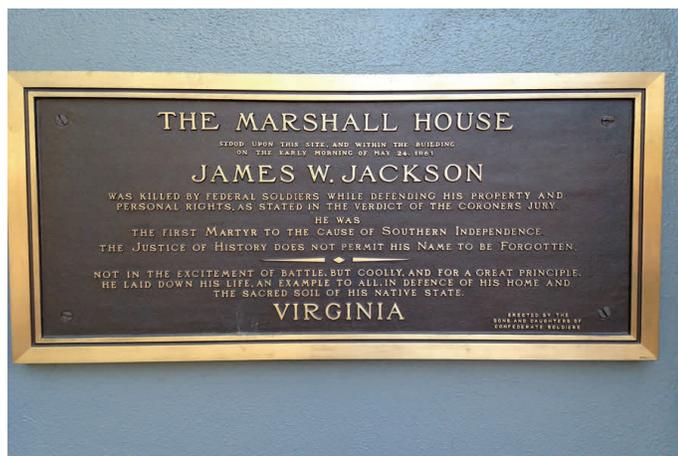
Maintenance of the Master Databases means that Com-patriot Stack has the “official” records of the Order. He is the final arbiter of things such as the dues status of individual members. Any dispute regarding the same must be resolved through him. Any petitioning of change of dues status must be accompanied by supporting documentation.

PCG Waldrop in the capacity of Archivist General continues to maintain and manage the membership records of the Order. Thanks!

Toni Turk
Chief of Staff

MOS&B's Headquarters Has A New Phone Number

In the event that a potential member or active member would like to talk with any Officer of the Military Order of the Stars and Bars, you can call our new phone number and leave a message. This phone line will be monitored on a regular basis. The new Military Order of the Stars and Bars telephone number is 757-656-MOSB.



***78th Annual
MOS&B
General Convention
Alexandria, VA
July 9th - 11th of 2015***

Plan on arriving Wednesday or Thursday and leaving Sunday, July 12. The convention will be held at the Monaco Hotel in the heart of Old Town Alexandria, George Washington’s hometown and Robert E. Lee’s boyhood home. The Monaco offers free shuttle service to and from Ronald Reagan National Airport about four miles away. The hotel stands on the site of the Marshall House famous for one of the first hostile encounters of the War for Southern Independence.



We have obtained a special rate for the convention. The Washington area is loaded with history and places to visit. Consider coming early or staying late to take advantage of the many attractions here. If you make your reservations early, the special rate will extend pre- and post-convention as well, if rooms are available.

And be sure to check out the unique Doggie Yappy Hour held every Thursday night in the courtyard of the Monaco.

The Chaplain General's Thoughts

By Raymond Holder

ROLL CALL

The officer corps of the Confederate military had as one of their primary duties the accountability of the men in their charge. We, as Christians, have the roll call of faith as is written in the eleventh chapter of the book of Hebrews in the New Testament. These Hebrews built not only a nation, but also the faith of our forefathers, which was gathered together in a journey that is taking thousands of years. Jesus, the Christ is the corner stone of our faith.

At our convention in Charleston, I got to know many of you better and I am impressed really with our leadership and how we as the MOS&B are progressing in our own roll call. How can we leave to our family and those we love so as to be on our roll call of Faith? The nobility of living our Christian faith is gloriously difficult. Very recently I discovered the following list of attributes by Jim Tressel in his book called "Life Promises For Success".

YOU ARE AT THE TOP WHEN.....

You have made friends with your past, and you are focused on the present and optimistic about your future.

You have the love of friends and the respect of your enemies.

You are filled with faith, hope, and love and you live without anger, greed, guilt, envy, or thoughts of revenge.

You love the unlovable, give hope to the hopeless, friendship to the friendless, and encouragement to the discouraged.

You can look back in forgiveness, forward in hope, down in compassion, and up with gratitude.

You are secure in who (and whose) you are, so you are at peace with God and fellowship with humanity.

You recognize, confess, develop, and use your God-given physical, mental, and spiritual abilities to the glory of God and for the benefit of humankind.

You stand in front of the Creator of the universe, and He says to you "Well done, my good and faithful servant".

We, in Christ, are chosen of God to live out our glorious Christian Faith. 2nd Peter 1:10-11 says this so well. "Work hard to prove that you really are among those God has called and chosen. Do these things and you will never fall away. Then God will give you a grand entrance into the eternal Kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ." Let us be in that this final roll call.

Hardy Chapter Focus on Youth

By William N. Hardy

The Capt. Leslie Tolbert Hardy Chapter #278 is committed to a goal of educating our youth to appreciate our Southern traditions, history and culture. In furtherance of that goal we are pleased to report that through our efforts, one of our young compatriots Sebastian Torres, was awarded a \$ 907 tuition / room and board scholarship to attend the prestigious Abbeville Institute Summer School this summer at the St. Christopher Center on the beachfront of beautiful Seabrook Island near Charleston, SC!

Through the collaborative efforts of the MOS&B Hardy Chapter, SCV Camp 1395 and the Order of Confederate Rose, the \$250 registration fee, as well as transportation costs were provided to ensure this unique educational opportunity, that will further Sebastian's interest in, and knowledge of, Southern history and culture!



Sebastian is a first year undergraduate student at Eastern Kentucky University, recently elected as Senator-at-Large. Next year he is President elect of Young Americans for Liberty, and Charter Founder of Circle K International (College Kiwanis). Sebastian is grateful for the support shown by his South Florida heritage friends!

Professor Donald Livingston (pictured on the right with Sebastian) President of the Abbeville Institute writes..."Thanks for the generous contribution of \$250 for Sebastian's scholarship... Southern students are isolated, and there is nothing for them in most colleges and universities in respect to their own tradition and people. The South is studied but mainly as a foil for political correctness. Students meeting Southern students, many from outstanding universities, and meeting faculty with national and in some cases international reputations is, for many, a life changing experience as



they come to discover who they are—something they might have felt but have no intellectual appreciation of”.

Sebastian expressed his appreciation to those who facilitated and supported the scholarship as follows; “...I would like to thank you all for your support in the endeavor of sending myself to the Abbeville Institute in Charleston, South Carolina. For those of you who are not familiar, the Abbeville Institute is at the forefront of edu-

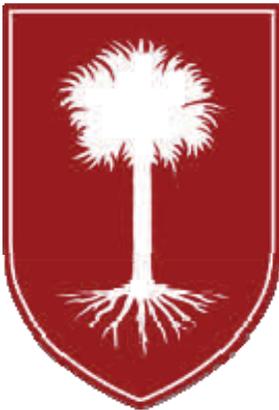
cating youth in the ways of southern history; primarily rooting itself around southern life and understanding The War of 1861’s causes (focusing on economics, politics and culture). Over the week, I had the pleasure to hear excellent academic lectures on subjects such as, the Confederate Constitution, the compact theory and the events that led up to the firing on occupied Fort Sumter. The highlight of our trip was our visit to downtown Charleston. We began the day with a tour of the CSS Hunley; the first submarine to sink a ship (USS Housatonic). The tour was followed with a quick stop at the Magnolia Cemetery to visit the graves of those who piloted her. We then departed into downtown, where Professor Livingston gave us a walking tour of the Battery, Nullification House, the Four Corners and many other

historic sites. The day was ended with a dinner at the Carolina Yacht Club overlooking Fort Sumter and the Harbor. I had the pleasure to meet Immediate Past Commander of the SCV, Michael Givens.

Personally, I would not have been able to attend this wonderful event, if I had not received your support. I would like to counsel you to send another student of college age to the conference. The knowledge and experience that student will gain

cannot be found in any other place, and that student will be much better equipped to spread the truth of the war, and be a great representative for the cause...

In Conclusion, I issue you all (Y’all) a challenge to send another youth, and yourselves (to observe and learn) to the Institute’s summer program, so that we all may be better equipped to stand up for our ancestors and fight the war upon true history. I leave you with this, never doubt that historical interpretation can be used as a political weapon”. Sebastian Torres



The Hardy Chapter is committed to annually raising full scholarship funding to sponsor a qualified and likely student to attend the Abbeville Summer School. We are well on our way to achieving our goal in time for next years summer school.

For further information on the Abbeville Institute’s Summer School visit: www.abbevilleinstitute.org.

Military Order of Stars and Bars Scholarships

To all MOS&B Chapters and Societies,

As you know, The Military Order of Stars and Bars has established a college scholarship program for genealogically proven: (1) descendants of Confederate Officers; (2) descendants of the Confederate Executive or Legislative branches of government; and (3) descendants of members of the Confederate States’ legislatures, judiciary, and executive branches of government. The MOS&B Scholarship Program annually awards the merit based scholarships to worthy individuals who meet eligibility requirements and have been judged on information submitted by the applicant.

It is time to start considering candidates for the 2015 awards. All Chapters and Societies are encouraged to submit applications of worthy individuals for these scholarships. There are certainly many possible candidates among our active membership, active membership’s children, grandchildren and friends.

The General Executive Council has determined that each Department scholarship awarded will be in the amount of one thousand dollars (\$1,000). The number of scholarships awarded each year will be determined by the GEC.

Please carefully read all the necessary information on the MOS&B national website.

<http://www.militaryorderofthestarsandbars.org/scholarship-program/>

Five copies of all requested material should be packaged together and mailed to:

MOS&B Scholarship Committee

c/o Gary M. Loudermilk

2801 14th Street

Brownwood Texas 76801

Applications must be postmarked no later than March 1ST to be eligible.

If you have questions, please contact Committee Chairman Gary M. Loudermilk at the above address or email: gmlhdl@harrisbb.com

Righteous Cause Mythology

By Phil Leigh

From April to July of 1863 British Lieutenant Colonel Arthur J. L. Fremantle visited all but two Confederate states. He entered at Brownsville, Texas and finished by observing the battle of Gettysburg from the Rebel side where he was a character in both Michael Shaara's novel, *The Killer Angels*, and the corresponding film, *Gettysburg*. About 140 years later one of his descendants, Tom Fremantle, retraced his ancestor's steps in the company of a pack mule. Tom summarized the second trip in his book *The Moonshine Mule*. By the time Tom reached northern Virginia he noticed certain people were: ...dismissive of the South. [Some were on a lark while others] were...stuffy types whose opinions had nothing to do with political morality and everything to do with smugness. "My dear, you walked through Alabama - I wouldn't even drive through there! The South's an embarrassment, it's worse than the Third World." When I asked these people if they had ever been to Mississippi or South Carolina, they usually replied, "Lord, no! Never!"...To my surprise I often became passionate in my defense of the South.

Although presently most Northerners accept fellow countrymen from other regions in good will, Tom probably did not realize the contempt toward Southerners displayed by the smug minority stretches back at least 150 years. For example, in 1861 a Massachusetts mill owner, abolitionist, and antebellum weapons supplier to John Brown named Edward Atkinson wrote a booklet entitled *Cheap Cotton by Free Labor*. His concept of "free" meant labor performed by non-slave workers. He advocated destruction of the "planters and businessmen of the cities" in order to rebuild the Union with the "poor white trash composing the large majority of the Cotton States." Throughout the War Atkinson persistently lobbied for the invasion, occupation, and redistribution of Southern lands for the deliberate purpose of cultivating cotton with free labor.

While its unsurprising that an abolitionist dismissed Southerners as "poor white trash" Atkinson's sym-

pathy for ex-slaves was inconsistent with his putative ideology.

[For purposes of argument] we may admit that we must have cotton, and that the emancipated slave will be idle and worthless; we may [disregard that] in our southern climate, labor or starvation would be his only choice...let him starve and exterminate himself if he will and so remove the Negro question - still we must have cotton.

Since the cause declarations of some of the seven Cotton States in the first secession wave cite the protection of slavery as a prime reason for leaving the Union, *Righteous Cause* historians conclude slavery was the only cause of the Civil War. The paragon example is *Battle Cry of Freedom* author James McPherson who said, "Probably...95 percent of serious historians of the Civil War would agree on...what the war was about . . . which was the increasing polarization of the country between the free states and the slave states over issues of slavery...." McPherson and his acolytes dismiss all other issues even when such factors are evident by comparing the US and Confederate constitutions. For example, the Southern central government was prohibited from (1) imposing protective tariffs, (2) spending taxpayer money on public works, and (3) subsidizing private industries. Although Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Arkansas joined the Confederacy and doubled its White population only after the Federal government required they provide soldiers to invade the Cotton States, *Righteous Cause* historians insist that the four upper-south states also fought only for slavery.

The *Righteous Cause* also dismisses the fact that two-thirds of Southern families did not own slaves. Acolytes spill oceans of ink arguing that non-slaveholding Southerners willingly left their homes and risked their lives chiefly - if not exclusively - to promote the "slavocracy." Although tens-of-thousands of Union volunteers rose up spontaneously to defend their homes in Ohio, Indiana, and Pennsylvania when Rebel armies approached those states, *Righteous Cause* historians don't credit Southerners with the same instinct, evidently because of endemic Yankee moral superiority. Of course it's illogical and a lie. As the venerable William C. Davis writes: The widespread northern myth that the Confederates went to the battlefield to perpetuate slavery is just that, a myth. Their letters and diaries, in the tens-of-thousands, reveal again and again, that they

fought and died because their Southern homeland was invaded and their natural instinct was to protect their home and hearth.

Righteous Cause Mythology falsely equates the reasons for secession with the reasons Southerners chose to fight. But they are not the same. Southerners fought to defend their homes. The more pertinent question is to ask why Northerners fought. After all, the Northern states could have let the Southern states leave in peace, without any War at all. It was precisely what prominent abolitionists frequently advocated prior to the War. Examples include William Lloyd Garrison, Henry Beecher, Samuel Howe, John Greenleaf Whittier, James Clark, Gerrit Smith, Joshua Giddings, and even Massachusetts Senator Charles Sumner who would become a leading war hawk. For years Garrison described the constitutional Union as "a covenant with death and agreement with hell."

The *Righteous Cause Myth* is a natural consequence of the false insistence that the South fought for nothing but slavery. Thus, if the South waged war only to preserve slavery, then it logically follows the Yankees waged war for the sole purpose of freeing the slaves. It is a morally comfortable viewpoint for historians who came of age during and after the twentieth century civil rights movement. But it's as phony and useless as a football bat.

Lincoln never told Confederate leaders he would end the War if the Rebels merely freed their slaves. He always insisted upon reunification. During the second half of the war his peace terms were reunification and emancipation, but during the first half both the Federal President and Congress required only reunion. Furthermore, in his first inaugural Lincoln noted that Congress passed and sent to the states for ratification an amendment that would forever protect slavery in the states where it was legal, adding he had "no objection to it being made express and irrevocable." Earlier in the same address he said, "I have no purpose, directly or indirectly, to interfere with the institution of slavery in the States where it exists. I believe I have no lawful right to [or] inclination to do so." Finally, about a month before his preliminary Emancipation Proclamation in September 1862 Lincoln wrote a newspaperman, "If I could save the Union without freeing any slave I would do it, and if I could save it by freeing all the slaves I would do it; and if I could save it by freeing some and leaving others alone I would also do that."

Northern attitudes toward Blacks were also inconsistent with *Righteous Cause Mythology*. Sixteen of the

twenty-two loyal states did not permit them to vote although their population percentages were tiny. The Oregon constitution prohibited free Blacks to immigrate, Illinois would not admit them unless they arrived with \$1,000 or more, and other Northern states had similar restrictions. Around the mid point of the war Lincoln sent Adjutant General Lorenzo Thomas into occupied regions of the lower Mississippi Valley to recruit African-Americans as soldiers and make arrangements for their families. Thomas tried to send Blacks to free states north of the Ohio River, but they were forcibly returned and he concluded: It will not do to send [Black refugees]...into the free states, for the prejudices of the people of those states are against such a measure and some...have enacted laws against the reception of free negroes...[Ex-slaves] are coming in upon us in such numbers that some provision must be made for them. You cannot send them North. You all know the prejudices of the Northern people against receiving large numbers of the colored race. Look upon the river and see the multitude of deserted plantations upon its banks. These are the places for those freedmen.

General Thomas leased plantations to civilian operators including many Northerners as well as some ex-slaves and White Southerners remaining on their lands. A War Department survey indicated that the apparent promise of quick cotton riches attracted undesirable, inexperienced, and underproductive Northern freebooters. Specifically it concluded that the "old planters [were] dealing fairly with the freedmen...[and] have paid them more promptly, more justly and apparently with more willingness than new lessees..." The Southern planters who remained took a longer-term view. They were primarily concerned with earning a living and holding onto their property until the return of peace and civil government.

The *Righteous Cause Myth* crumbles under the weight of such inconsistencies, but its coup de grace comes upon realization that the North fought for the same reason that wars of conquest are always fought, to wit, economic supremacy. Prior to the War the South generated over 75% of the nation's exports thereby providing the economic engine to sustain a favorable trade balance for the nation as a whole and to support the maritime and other commercial trades of the North. Moreover, the lasting Republican policies after the War treated the South as an exploited internal colony while promoting prosperity across the North. Tariffs remained over 40% for the next fifty years thereby requiring

Southerners to purchase artificially overpriced manufactured goods from the North while exporting their own produce to world markets that were competitive to the North degree. Republicans used the South's African-American voting block to retain power for about a dozen years, but thereafter abandoned the Freedman once Republican voting strength in other parts of the country no longer compelled the Party to support Blacks.

Although both Black and White Southerners were impoverished after the War, there was almost no Federal relief. Instead the Republicans imposed a tax on cotton but refused to likewise tax the farm goods specific to Northern states. While the Republican Congress funded a Freedman's Bureau to look after the interests of ex-slaves, the cotton tax alone generated nearly three times as much revenue as was spent by the Freedman's Bureau during its entire existence. Thus, Yankee taxpayers didn't pay for it. Despite its greater need, Federal public works spending in the South was tiny compared to other parts of the country. From 1865 - 1873 less than ten-percent of Federal public works investment was in the South. Massachusetts and New York alone got more than all the states of the former Confederacy combined. During that period the cotton tax alone was about seven times greater than Federal public spending in the South. In short, the South was given no "Marshall Plan" for recovery as was done for Europe after World War II.

For at least twenty years after the War Southern taxpayers witnessed over half of their Federal payments used to fund items that would have been considered reparations if the Confederacy had been an independent defeated country. During that time more than half of the Federal budget was for three items: (1) interest on the Civil War debt, (2) Union veteran pensions, and (3) surpluses for retiring the Federal debt principal. If Germany and Japan were required to pay (1) GI pensions and benefits, (2) interest on US War Bonds, and (3) monies for retiring US War Bonds after World War II such payments would be reparations.

Righteous Cause Mythology ignores such points. Furthermore, it recently became so distorted that it passed through the looking glass where statements from original sources consistent with the mythology are taken at face value, but those inconsistent with it are considered to be lies. In such an upside-down world historical characters like Lincoln did not mean what they wrote or said when it fails to conform to the mythology. Earlier this year *Right-*

eous Cause Mythologist Stephen Berry of the University of Georgia put it this way: But proving that the South seceded to defend slavery is not the same as proving that the North went to war to destroy it. This case has been made...only in the last ten years...James Oakes has shown that virtually every Northerner, including Lincoln, who pledged "not to interfere with slavery where it already existed" was essentially lying.

Well, in August 1864 Lincoln wrote that he was concerned enough voters might support George McClellan in such a pledge that the general might win the next Presidential election. But, perhaps Abe was just lying. Such assumptions are permitted in Righteous Cause scholarship. And like Tom Sawyer said when the Pastor asked him what the Bible says about lying, Righteous Cause Mythologist can respond, "It's an abomination unto the Lord and an ever present help in a time of trouble."

Phil Leigh is a citizen historian and frequent contributor to the [New York Times Disunion](#) series, which commemorates the Civil War Sesquicentennial. Last year Westholme Publishing released his first book which is an illustrated and annotated version of the memoirs of Confederate Private Sam Watkins entitled [Co. Aytch](#). In May Westholme released another of his books entitled [Trading With the Enemy](#), which is about intersectional trade between the North and South during the Civil War. In February Phil self-published an annotated and illustrated version of Lt. Colonel Arthur Fremantle's [Three Months in the Southern States](#), which is a diary a British observer to our Civil War kept during the pivotal summer of 1863.

Member Name Badges

The BG St. John Richardson Liddell Chapter 271 is offering custom made MOS&B Name Badges. The badges are of a high quality and have a magnetic back. Many of you complimented me on my name badge at the 2014 Convention in Charleston and placed orders even though we had yet to develop the order form.

Looking forward to seeing you all again in Virginia and again as the Liddell Chapter is the host for the 2016 National Convention to be held in Fairhope, Alabama.

Fratrer Pro Causus
David W. Myers 8117
Adjutant
BG St. John Richardson Liddell 271
Baldwin County, Al

ROBERT E. LEE AND TRAVELLER

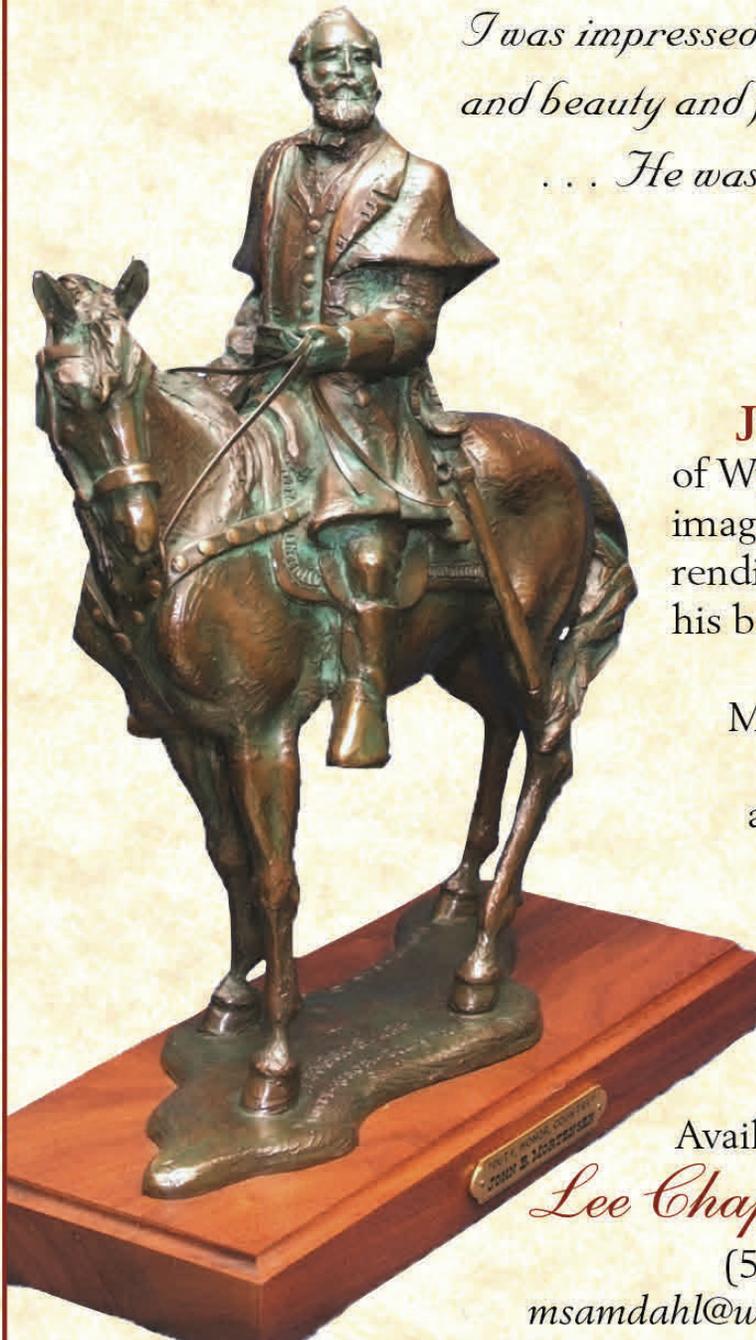
"Traveller moved as if proud of the burden he bore . . .

The horse was beautiful and majestic . . .

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

. . . He was every inch a king."

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



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rendition of Robert E. Lee and
his beloved war horse Traveller.

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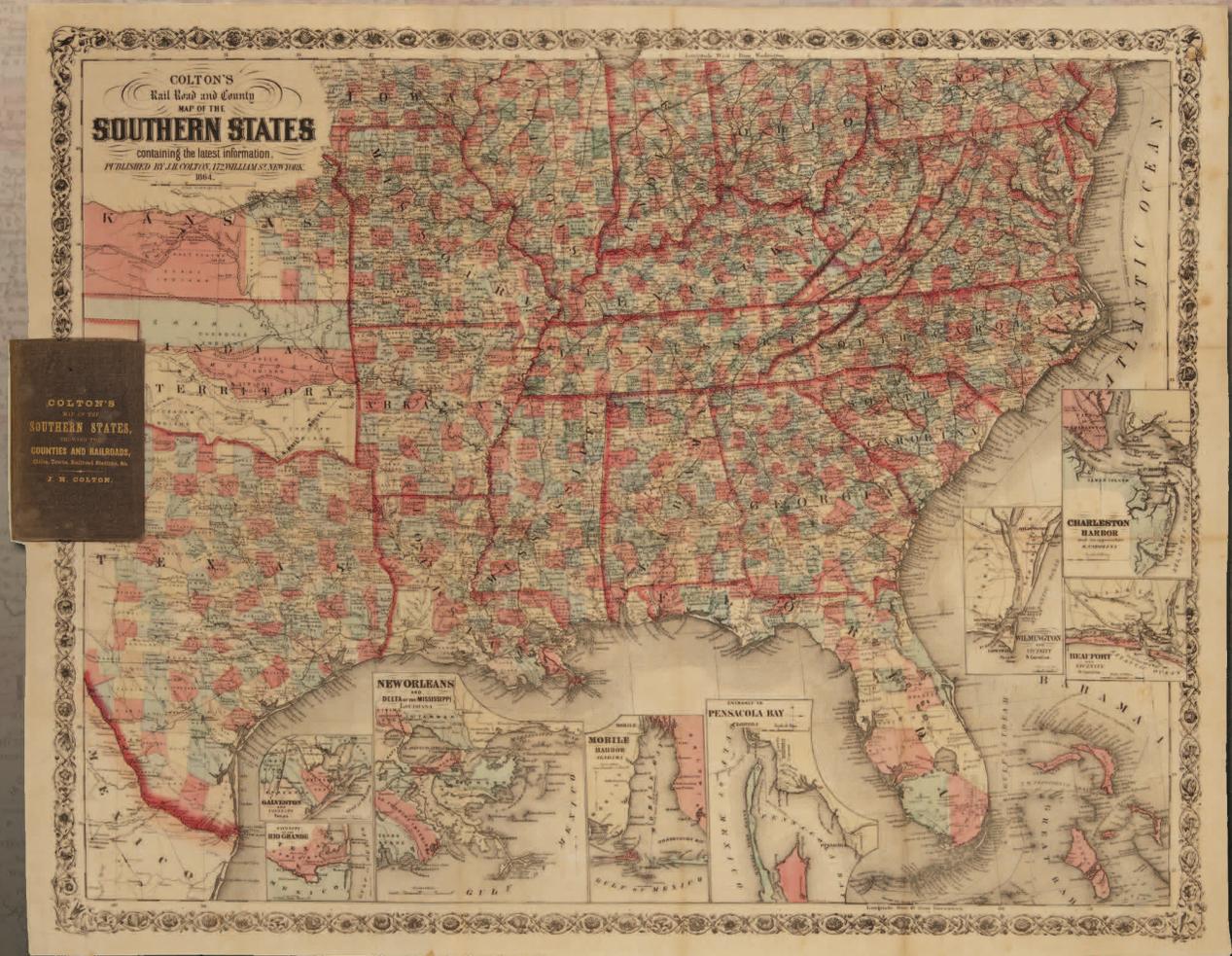
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