

IN THE TRENCHES

JUNE 2023

FROM THE COMMANDER

Edward Campbell

The warmer weather outside signals that it is almost Summertime. I hope that all of you are staying well and that you have plans for a nice family vacation. Before you make plans, please come to our next Camp meeting of the Lt. Gen. John C. Pemberton Camp, 1354. We will meet on Tuesday June 6 at 6 PM at the DAV building. This day is of course, for World War II buffs, is known as D-Day. The day in which the Allied powers invaded Hitler's "Fortress Europe" and helped to liberate those countries that were under Nazi oppression. Many of our Confederate ancestors had grandsons or great-grandsons who helped in this endeavor or who fought in some theatre of the War in either Europe or Japan. It is fitting and proper that we have just celebrated our National Memorial Day to honor the memory of those Patriots from all wars who fought and died for our freedoms. Of course, we know that Memorial Day had its beginnings in our state just after the War Between the States but as Patriotic Americans it is our duty to remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

Our Speaker for June 6 is Mr. Robert Murphree. Robert is a member of the Jefferson Davis Camp, 635 in Jackson. He is also the founder of the Southern Historical Preservation Society, a group that funds repairs and maintenance of Confederate cemeteries in Mississippi. He will tell us something about this group but his main topic is "Change of Command, Johnston and Hood in Atlanta, 1864". Weather or not you had an ancestor who fought in that theatre, please come and hear this excellent talk. I know that you will

not be disappointed and please if possible bring a friend. Robert is a life-long resident of Jackson and is also the grandson of a Governor of Mississippi so his roots in this state run deep.

If you have not yet made vacation plans, do not forget our Division and National Reunions. They are excellent attempts to have a family vacation and to meet people from all over the state and all over the Country who share our love for our Southland and who strive to see that the truths of History are taught. The Division Reunion or State Convention is fast approaching, June 9-11 in Biloxi. Registration forms can be found on the website. It is not too late to register but if you decide to go, please let us know as all members who attend must have their names placed on our Credentials sheet so that they can vote when the time comes. We will have state elections on Division Officers and also will be voting on several Amendments to the Constitution. I forwarded those Amendments to everyone so please read over them before the Tuesday meeting so that we can discuss them as a Camp and decide how we want our delegates to vote. This will be the last meeting before the Division Reunion. As the next Camp date is July 4, I am recommending that we do not meet in July and if so, this will also be the last meeting before the National Reunion in Hot Springs, Arkansas, July 19-23. I am going and I know of one other from our Camp who is going. If anyone else makes plans to attend this event, please also let me know so that you can be on the National Credentials form. In the latest edition of the Confederate Veteran, there are listed the National Amend-



*John Clifford Pemberton
Lt. General, CSA.*

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *Next Meeting - Tuesday
June 6th at 6:00PM*
- *Division Reunion—June
9th—11th, Beauvoir*
- *National Reunion—July
19th—22nd, Hot
Springs, AR*



ments that are to be considered in Hot Springs. Please bring this to the June 6 meeting so that we can also discuss these amendments.

I am completing the Speaker list for the rest of this year but I am always in need of good Speakers. If anyone has a program that they would like to present or if you know of someone who I have not yet gotten to Speak, please let me know. I am very grateful to all who have already helped me out with this. It can be quiet a job lining up Speaker for 11 months out of the year and I want to say Thank you to all who have helped out with this. It is never too late to line someone up because believe it or not, we will soon be lining Speakers up for 2024.

4 members of our Camp attended the 3rd Brigade picnic at Grand Gulf on May 20. Aubrey Everett was re-elected Brigade Commander by acclamation. We had an election for Brigade Councilman, the office currently held by Randy Coward. There was a problem with the voting so the results are inconclusive. I will discuss this at our Business Meeting. As of now, Cullen Watts from the Franklin Rifles Camp is the Brigade Councilman. Thanks to all who attended this meeting.

I look forward to seeing all of you at the June 6 meeting, you are in for a great program. Please invite someone new to attend if you are able to do so. Again, Thanks to all of you who help to make my job easier and who help to make the John C. Pemberton Camp a successful Camp in the Mississippi Division.

God Bless you and God Bless the South,

Deo Vindice,

Edward Campbell
Commander

Lt. Gen. John C. Pemberton Camp, 1354
Vicksburg, MS

SELECTED BITS OF WISDOM

Rev. Bryan Dabney

A nation that cannot control its borders is not a nation.

Ronald W. Reagan— 20th century American president.

I am not afraid of an army of lions led by a sheep; I am afraid of an army of sheep led by a lion.

Alexander the Great— 4th century B.C. Macedonian king and general.

When ancient opinions and rules of life are taken away, the loss cannot possibly be estimated. From that moment, we have no compass to govern us, nor can we know distinctly to what port to steer.

Edmund Burke— 18th century English statesman.

We saw that the practical effect of Darwin's speculations was to make man one among the beasts. But Huxley and his comrades would end by reducing both man and beast to the level of the clod. Why is it, that any mind possessed even of the culture displayed in these ill-starred speculations, does not resent the unspeakable degradation which they inflict upon mankind? Men would not thus outrage their own natures, without an interested motive. That motive is, doubtless, in many, the craving for license from moral restraints, and release from that accountability to a holy God, which remorse foreshadows. In the more decent it is probably a semi-conscious vanity of intellect, itching for a place apart from the common crowd of thinkers, and a semi-conscious craving for liberty of an irresponsible self-will. They wish not to have this Christ to reign over them. To the sinful mind viewing its destiny superficially, it may seem a fine thing to have no omniscient Master; to be released from the restraints of law; to be held hereafter to no account for conscious guilt. But let us see whether even guilty man has any motive of self-interest to say in his heart, "There is no God," whether atheism is not at least as horrible as hell.

Robert Lewis Dabney— 19th century American minister, author and teacher.

If we are to guard against ignorance and remain free, it is the responsibility of every American to be informed.

Thomas Jefferson —American president and patriot.

Guard with jealous attention the public liberty.

Patrick Henry— 18th and 19th century American patriot.

Heaven is a house, not a tent or tabernacle. All true believers are welcome to that happiness as to their home. There are mansions there, distinct dwellings, an apartment for each. The house itself is lasting; our estate in it is not for a term of years, but a perpetuity.

The Rev. Matthew Henry— 17th and 18th century English pastor and author.

A God-less world is a lawless world. Anarchy comes in when the fear of God goes out.

The Rev. Charles H. Spurgeon— 19th century English pastor and author.

The descent to hell is easy and those who begin by worshipping

power, will soon worship evil.

C. S. Lewis— 20th century English author.

Heaven is a prepared place for a prepared people. He who hopes to be gathered with saints in Heaven, while he only loves the gathering of sinners on earth — is deceiving himself. If he lives and dies in that state of mind, he will find at last that it would have been better if he had never been born!

The Most Rev. J. C. Ryle— 19th century Anglican bishop and author.

I'D GONE WITH MISSISSIPPI
Alphonse-Louis Vin, The Abbeville Institute

In July I'm having my Southern Literature Club read Shelby Foote's central chapter on the Gettysburg Campaign found in the second part of his literary masterpiece, *The Civil War: A Narrative*.

When filmmaker Ken Burns began work on his greatest film, *The Civil War* documentary series, (which remains to this day PBS's most watched presentation with 40 million viewers. I watched it each week with a North Carolinian friend), he gathered all these well-established liberal Civil War historians to pundit (*The Civil War* was fought all about slavery don't you know). The great Southern Agrarian writer Robert Penn Warren rang up Ken Burns and told him he should invite Shelby Foote to represent the Southern side.

As we were overwhelmingly outnumbered in the War (and yet gave the Yankees plenty of hell for invading us), we would be overwhelmingly outnumbered in the most influential Civil War documentary series made ever. At least it seemed that way.

Yes, Shelby Foote was the lone Southern voice in the series. And yet, if you add up all the minutes of airtime that Shelby Foote had in the series, it adds up to an incredible one hour—more than any Yankee pundit in the series combined. Ken Burns did not intend this. Burns with his crew went to meet Shelby Foote at his home in Memphis. The intended interview was much shorter. But as the camera rolled, the artist in Ken Burns overrode his dogmatic side. He told the crew to keep the focus on Foote; keep the camera rolling & the sound recording on. What we have now forever is a master class in storytelling on the pivotal moment in the South's history when we became for a short four years an independent nation but plagued by a sanguinary war waged by our Northern enemy who wished to destroy our peaceful seces-

sion, our economic threat to the North, and for me, the worst thing, the destruction of Southern civilisation.

In the PBS Civil War series, Foote came across as a warm, engaging, sagacious, avuncular, aristocratic Confederate colonel reminiscing about things past in the War for Southern Independence.

Well, millions of viewers made this series the most watched ever on PBS—matching what the big networks might get for special events. Happily married Shelby Foote began getting marital proposals from female fans.

Shelby Foote's Civil War trilogy was very well researched. The envious academic Civil War historians criticised him for his lack of footnotes. He said that his Homeric book was indeed a narrative.

Shelby Foote's Southern historical epic will last centuries after his envious tenured Civil War books fade away. Foote's Civil War narrative belongs in the ranks of Homer's *The Iliad*, Thucydides' *The Peloponnesian War* & Herodotus' *The Persian Wars*. In Shelby Foote's private library there were more than 700 Civil War books he used during his writing. There's also his usage of the 128 volumes of the *Official Record of the War of the Rebellion*. And there are as well, the *Official Records of the Union and Confederate Navies*. He also read the brittle newspapers of the Civil War period.

Shelby Foote used the Interlibrary resources of the Memphis Public Library to get him books and articles he didn't have. Moreover, many battles that Shelby Foote describes in his trilogy, he visited in person—and only in the time and season during which the battle was fought. Other battles he writes about, he gives you the impression that he was there.

Shelby Foote sometimes slept in the battlefield on a chilly morning like our soldiers did over 160 years ago. Shelby could feel the early warmth of fire flames growing to prepare the small soldierly skillets cooking biscuits in bacon grease. He could smell the faint developing odour of brewing chickory coffee. Then men shivered in their overcoats until tasting the first golden warmth of chickory coffee. With his novelist's eye & ear, partnering with his historian's knowledge, Shelby Foote foresaw a panoramic vision of the War for Southern Independence before he wrote it down on special paper, that illustrated his elegant, calligraphic style using only a nib pen which he dipped in ink as he wrote slowly along.

And so, Shelby Foote became a global star with the Civil War series. We who admired his greatness rejoiced at his newfound fame and the hundreds of thousands of copies his

Civil War trilogy would sell. To be honest, until Ken Burns' PBS Civil War series aired, Shelby Foote was an obscure writer and lived modestly. Otherwise, he would be remembered by Southern literary historians as a novelist who wrote some good novels, a masterful Civil War trilogy that never attracted in large measure the public's attention, and for being the lifelong closest friend of the Southern physician, philosopher, and novelist, Walker Percy.

When he did become wealthy, Shelby Foote didn't change much, save being able to afford to take his family on a vacation to my other home city, Paris. He could pay for the college education of his son, Huger. But his home phone number remained along with his home address in the Memphis telephone directory. Fans showed up at the door of his Tudor-style house. He wrote back as many letters as he could to fans. Finally his wife Gwyn, put her foot down and gave Foote much peace and rest.

Like his Best Friend Forever, Walker Percy MD, the French love them both and their books have been translated into the language of Racine, Molière, Corneille, Madame de Sévigny, and Pascal. When I lived for the last time in my beloved Paris, there was a bookshop near my flat. There, on the book racks, I saw paperback translations of the novels of Shelby Foote and Walker Percy.

Why do y'all think Shelby Foote's authenticity moved millions of viewers as opposed to the self-righteous Yankee academics? Shelby Foote was a first rate literary talent—but who did not find his true niche until he wrote his Civil Trilogy.

Moreover, he was authentic because his great-grandfather was a Confederate colonel & fought with his Mississippians at Shiloh. This ancestor was the lord of three plantations. Shelby Foote was a natural, and Foote was always himself, and never thought he would become a celebrity from this PBS Civil War series. Foote also challenged the simplistic orthodoxy that the American Civil War was fought because the South wanted to preserve the institution of slavery. In one segment, Shelby Foote told this story. Union soldiers asked what their Confederate prisoner was fighting for. He responded, "because y'all here."

Later in his life, Shelby Foote was asked about whether he would have fought in the War if he had been living in 1861. Foote replied, "I'd gone with Mississippi

Alphonse-Louis Vinh is a former Fellow of Berkeley College, Yale University and a former Professor at the Catholic University of America.

AN HONORABLE CAUSE

Clyde Wilson, The Abbeville Institute

America is now governed as an ever more centralized nation/state with an increasingly imperialist and left-authoritarian character. But America as a society and a people is no longer coherent. A people, according to St. Augustine, are those "who hold loved things in common." By that reading Americans are not a people.

A recent poll indicates that 44% of Southern people are in favour of separating themselves from blue-state America. The number includes 50% of Independents and 66% of Republicans, representing the more conservative part of the population. Although the fat and satisfied Republican officeholders are not about to embrace the ideas of the grassroots. The same poll shows that 39% of the people of the Pacific states also favour independence from the U.S., although probably for different reasons than the Southerners.

In these times the beleaguered Southern people are throwing up new and interesting voices of defense. It has been evident since at least the 1980s that the ruling elite and the apparatus of the U.S. government is not "a government of the people." The South has no place in a world-wide military empire and crony capitalist state.

The survival and even resurgence of Southern identity in a regime that intensively treats Southerners as a contemptible non-people without any rights to their own history and values, may be surprising. But Southern consciousness has always grown stronger when under attack. Tearing down a statue of Robert E. Lee is bound to create a reaction—such vandalism is a product of ignorance and petty malice that makes decent, civilised people angry.

The Twelve Southerners who published *I'll Take My Stand* in 1930 lived in a strong and widely accepted American state that was not particularly intrusive culturally and morally. They did not imagine an independent South but only hoped to enlighten a materialistic people about certain humane ways that the South could still demonstrate.

A half century later the scholars and writers of the Abbeville Institute successfully took up the mission of preserving the Southern tradition and demonstrating its value to an often hostile world.

History has moved on and we are now in a different time. New times bring new thoughts and a hope for new solutions among people imposed upon by the regime under which they live. The South remains a living and loved reality to a great many people. It is the oldest of American things. Indeed, there is nothing more American than the South.

An example of new stirrings: a group of present-day Southerners have just published *The Honorable Cause: A Free South: Twelve Southern Essays* (amazon). The editor of *The Honorable Cause* suggests that a regime governed by a degenerating elite is ripe for serious change. It is only the South that has a cultural and historical substance to form a real opposition to the current regime. All the Tea Party and Alt-Right nonsense are mere abstractions— notions. Indeed, one of the contributors to the *The Honorable Cause* points out that Southern nationalism is not “White Nationalism,” a baseless theory. To call the new Southern consciousness “racist” or “White Nationalist” is false.

That such a book, by writers mostly younger people, has appeared is indeed an indication of changed times. The twelve writers are intelligent, earnest, and thoughtful. They are a good deal more broadly learned and eloquent than most of the academic and media “experts” we hear all the time. Their idea of a self-governing South is a long shot, but it is not in the least nostalgic and not lacking serious attention to practicalities.

These twelve writers are not as distinguished as the Agrarians or Abbeville scholars. They are a lot closer to the plain folk and it is the plain folk that is their intended audience. They cover, both practically and imaginatively, many aspects of a hopeful movement. Three of the writers are women. It is good Southern women who are in the front lines of resistance to the atheism and moral degeneration of the American regime. There are many facets to the symposium, but the underlying theme is a hope for preserving faith and family and once more achieving the consent of the governed.

It is a source of uneasiness that more than half of the authors use pseudonyms. This can be understood. Who the writers are is not important. Every one of the pen-names used represents an established frequent writer for the identitydixie.com website. Readers are familiar with those pennames, while the real names would be unfamiliar to them.

We live in a time when wealthy New Yorkers identify and target every individual person they don’t like with the intention of destroying them. It is called “doxing,” which is the American

version of Soviet kompramat and has already damaged dozens of people if not more. At least one of the writers in *The Honorable Cause* was put in prison by the feds for a trivial technical violation of a regulation. Several others have been “doxed,” have had their livings destroyed by relentless slander, with the necessity of painfully rebuilding their lives.

These writers have given much food for thought and proof that the South still draws powerful allegiance. Another promising book for these interesting times is T.L. Husley’s *The Constitution of Non-State Government: Field Guide to Texas Secession*. This truly remarkable work deserves to be brought to the attention of Abbevillians and will hopefully get a full review..”

Clyde Wilson is a distinguished Professor Emeritus of History at the University of South Carolina where he was the editor of the multivolume The Papers of John C. Calhoun. He is the M.E. Bradford Distinguished Chair at the Abbeville Institute. He is the author or editor of over thirty books and published over 600 articles, essays and reviews and is co-publisher of www.shotwellpublishing.com, a source for unreconstructed Southern books.

THE “CONFEDERATES WERE TRAITORS” ARGUMENT IS AHISTORICAL

Llyod Garnet

Supporters of the Erasure & Destruction Commission, aka Renaming Commission, are fond of displaying their ignorance regarding the legal framework of the United States under the Constitution. Never is their misguided misapprehension more evident than when they declare that the Confederates were “traitors”.

The charge is so unarguably counterfactual as to be absurd. While forgiveness (not forgetfulness) should be our Christian impulse, it is our duty to our birthright to “life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness”— which is to say, our individual and political sovereignty under God — to firmly set the record straight.

Setting the historical record straight is not a matter of rehashing bygones, which ought to be left as bygones. Rather, understanding the important Constitutional arguments involved then, is critical to grasping the political and social arguments now. As the current arguments by the ignorant and the malevolent, have today devolved

into riotous violence, injury and destruction of property, iconic art and symbolic reminders of our worthy heritage, it should be obvious that appreciation for the concept of “government by consent of the governed” is at stake.

FIRST, we must start with the plain language and known intent of the Constitution, which was adopted within the living memory of some, and by the parents and grandparents of many, who lived through the events of 1860 - 1865.

By that Constitution, the Southern States had, as all states today have the Right to Withdraw from the Union; to assume/resume the powers they previously delegated to the Federal government and establish such governmental arrangements as the people of the respective, sovereign States desire. Nowhere in the Constitution is withdrawal by a sovereign State prohibited. This is not an accident or an oversight by the Framers. It is intentional.

#1) The first Founding Document (“The Declaration of Independence”) was approved by all 13 colonies. In it or by it, they each and collectively declared themselves to be free and independent, sovereign States, and asserted their right of secession from Great Britain as fundamental to government by consent.

#2) When the question was posed in the Constitution Convention, whether the proposed United States could prevent a State from leaving the proposed Union, the idea was summarily rejected. James Madison (“The Father of the Constitution”) advised the assembled delegates, that any attempt to assert such control would doom ratification because the States would never assent to prohibiting the very action by which their independence was gained. As the States had so recently fought a very bloody and costly war, defeating the most powerful nation on Earth, to assert that very right, Madison’s belief is eminently indisputable.

#3) Whereas the Preamble of the preceding Articles of Confederation referred to an objective of establishing a “perpetual Union”, the Framers of the new government’s Constitution deliberately deleted the word “perpetual” from the document.

#4) The Bill of Rights, specifically Amendments IX and X clearly must include the right of the people of any State to withdraw from the Union, as it is not otherwise prohibited anywhere in the Constitution... to this day.

#5) Virginia, Rhode Island and New York all reserved the right to withdraw and/or to resume all of the powers delegated to the Federal government, as a caveat to their ratification of the Constitution and joining the proposed Union. These three States were accepted by their sister States into the Union with this caveat. As the Constitution specifies that all States must be treated equally, the caveat demanded by Rhode Island, New York and Virginia was thus automatically applicable to ALL of the States.

#6) All of the States ratifying the new Constitution, had to first secede

from the previous government under the Articles of Confederation. This they each did independently, with Rhode Island being the last to secede from the first and join the second, in 1790, three years after the first state, Delaware did so. By seceding from Great Britain and again, from the government under the Articles of Confederation, it is manifest that the overarching right of secession was embraced by them all.

#7) It was therefore, clearly and universally believed that the sovereign States had the right to withdraw (secede) from the Union. The right of secession was even taught at West Point, using the textbook *A View Of the Constitution of the United States*, by William A. Rawle, who was one of the foremost Constitutional scholars of the day. A native and lifelong resident of Philadelphia, Rawle was personally well acquainted, met and freely corresponded with a number of the Framers.

#8) Acting in Convention, the New England States asserted their right and threatened to secede at least 4 times — over the Louisiana Purchase of 1803, the War of 1812 (Which war those States effectively “sat out” and did not participate.), the War with Mexico and the admission of the Republic of Texas as a sovereign State. No one questioned the New England States’ right to do so.

SECOND: Therefore, having the Right to Secede and to form a new government of their choosing, South Carolina and the six States, who first joined her, had the right to defend themselves against a hostile military invasion and naval blockade of South Carolina’s only deep water harbor and most important access to existential international markets. (As well as to resist the massive, violent, overland military invasions that were launched upon them soon after.)

“But, but, ...” some irrelevantly feel compelled to declare, “the Confederates fired the first shot at Fort Sumter!” Apparently, they hold that by “firing the first shot” a country is guilty of starting a war, regardless of provocation.

By this logic, the United States was guilty of starting the War with Japan! In the early morning of December 7, 1941, before any attack on Pearl Harbor was even anticipated, the U. S. Navy sank a Japanese submarine. This was the first shot fired in America’s war with Japan, and Americans fired it. No one credibly asserts that the U. S. started World War II. The comparative analogy to what occurred 81 years earlier in Charleston Harbor is solid.

As Japan was merely suspected in November/December 1941, of having launched a war fleet possibly against the United States’ interests in the Pacific, the Lincoln government was by contrast, known to have launched a war fleet to reinforce and resupply Ft. Sumter in Charleston Harbor. By International

Law, all countries have sole jurisdiction over their harbors and Charleston Harbor was subject to the jurisdiction of the CSA.

The purpose of Lincoln's blockading and reinforcing fleet was not to put down a rebellion or insurrection, as he claimed. Rather, the new Confederacy wished only to withdraw and form their own nation, NOT to overthrow the USA. So, Lincoln's actual intent was to defeat the fledgling new nation, before it could fully effect its sustainable independence.

The shots fired at Ft. Sumter by the Confederates, were for the purpose of defending its harbor against further attack and blockade, as they knew additional U.S. warships and reinforcements were on the way. A successful reinforcement of Ft. Sumter would close that vital harbor and severely damage Southern independence hopes. And certainly, they reasoned that Lincoln's military and naval subjugation efforts would not stop with just Charleston Harbor.

Thus, the Confederates having lawfully withdrawn from the Union and formed a new government and nation, according to the desires of the people of the respective sovereign Southern States, opened fire to take possession of Ft. Sumter. That action was necessary to assert the new nation's rights, which are the rights of ALL nations to protect and defend its borders, territory, harbors and access to sea lanes and commercial interests.

When subsequently, Lincoln announced a full scale military invasion of the 7 seceded States, Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee, Arkansas and Missouri, until then pro-Union, were vehemently appalled by the Constitutional violation of this long accepted right to secede from a hostile government and to govern themselves according to their consent. Those 5 States' popular opinions changed virtually overnight from pro-Union to pro-secession, and they severed their Union bonds to defend their sister Southern States and themselves from illegal and violent coercion. The people of the seceded States believed they had a lawful right and a moral obligation to do so.

From the cornerstones of the Founding as detailed in The Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution, the building blocks of the Confederates' intellectual fortress against the defamation of "treason", is summed up by the following question:

IF the right of government by consent is legitimate (It is!), and IF it is not prohibited by the Constitution (It's not!), and IF ALL nations have a right to defend themselves against foreign military and naval aggression (They do!), and IF the former U.S.A. military, naval and civilian government officials' previous oaths were to defend the U. S. Constitution and to obey lawful orders, etc. (They were!), and IF by their resignations, the Southerners concerned were no longer bound by that oath (They weren't!) ... then how could they be guilty of treason?

The answer is that they could not because they were not.

This fact unavoidably came slowly to be understood by the victorious U. S. A.'s legal scholars, jurists and eventually, reluctantly by its politicians soon after the exigencies of warfare had ended and the many ques-

tions and challenges of re-establishing governance began to take precedence.

After the Southern armies had surrendered or voluntarily disbanded, CSA President Jefferson Davis was incarcerated for two years, with the aim of prosecuting and convicting him of treason and then, hanging him.

In attempting to build a case against Davis, however, two successive U.S. Attorneys General, and the first two "Independent Counsels" in U. S. history, all independently concluded that Davis and the Confederates could not be justly convicted of treason.

*It is believed by many that a majority on the U.S. Supreme Court believed so, as well, and were desperate to avoid ruling on the question. In his seminal *The Civil War – A Narrative*, Vol. III, pages 1035 -1039, Shelby Foote describes the evolution among Davis's captors, would be prosecutors and President Johnson's Cabinet, of the realization that Davis was not guilty of treason. Further, they rightly feared that to subject the question to a trial would result not only in Davis's acquittal but that his acquittal would support the legality of secession!*

Highly respected legal experts, in Washington City and all across the North, including, wrote Foote, the Chief Justice of the US Supreme Court, Salmon P. Chase, had reluctantly reached this same conclusion. Caught in a legal bind, and thus out on a legal limb all by himself, Federal Justice Underwood, the presiding judge, finally dismissed the charges against Davis, using a convoluted, incoherent argument claiming justification by the newly ratified 14th Amendment, ex post facto.

Thus, by a legalistic pretense, did Justice Underwood save the bloody, deadly, costly military conquest of the Southern people, from being civilly, peacefully reversed in the Court of Law!

FOURTH... but SLAVERY!

In no way, can the issue of slavery be related to the charge of "Traitor", which is wrongly assigned by mostly ignorant and a few malevolent accusers against the long dead Confederates. Slavery, morally wrong then as now, was nevertheless legal. And if one supported a lawful activity, it could not be grounds for a charge of treason. If one supported lawful slavery as grounds for lawful secession, even that could not be grounds for treason, either.

This part of the argument could be left at the last sentence above (PERIOD). But some, imbued with 158 years of relentless victors' propaganda to the contrary, might require some supporting context. If so, I will attempt it as briefly as I can.

"In this enlightened age, there are few I believe, but what will acknowledge, that slavery as an institution, is a moral & political evil in any Country.", wrote Robert E. Lee, years before the war. He was probably correct about the prevailing opinion, North and even

South. However loathe I may be to disagree with Marse Robert, based on my extensive reading, I believe most were amazingly ambivalent. And if there was any cause that might justify a war, Ending Slavery should arguably lead the list ... IF ... and ONLY if ... it could NOT be peacefully dismantled.

Here, we should note that a nationwide, orderly, peaceful emancipation of the slaves was never seriously put forth. Some Southerners freed their slaves voluntarily and without compensation. (This commendable act was not without financial hardship, and could be ruinous. The cost to Robert E. Lee's family of freeing 192 or so slaves, for one example, is estimated to have been between \$8 and \$12 million in 2023 dollars.) So, some Southerners talked of government sponsored, compensated and gradual emancipation to allow for peaceful and efficient societal adjustment. But the Northern interests, having decades before rid themselves of slavery, mostly by selling their slaves via New England slave traders, would not hear of it.

In lieu of peaceful and orderly emancipation, a few Northern "radical abolitionists" actively funded and supported violent abolition, such as John Brown's infamous, murderous rampages in Kansas and Virginia. Prior to John Brown's Raid on Harpers Ferry, there were more Emancipation Societies in the South than in the North. But the celebratory Northern reaction to "Bleeding Kansas", Brown's murders and the refusal by Northern States to extradite escaped participants and co-conspirators, resulted in a hardening of Southern attitudes. White Southerners, outnumbered in some communities by Blacks, were understandably fearful of bloody revolts and vengeful reprisals, such as John Brown's, Nat Turner's, Denmark Vesey's, a half dozen others from New York to Louisiana, and the most "successful" genocidal bloodbath in Haiti. Thus, did the previously growing, general Southern appetite for emancipation begin to dramatically wane.

Without getting too deep into all of the complexities and myriad views of slavery, who profited, the tangled interests, whether and how to end it, etc., suffice to say with respect to the specific charge of treason: Slavery was legal from before the beginning, to after the end of the war.

When the war was launched by Lincoln to "preserve the Union", there were 7 Confederate States, all of which permitted slavery, and 9 Union States that permitted slavery. There were more Union "slave states" than Confederate "slave states", when the war was started. Five "slave states" joined the Confederacy upon Lincoln's announcement of war to prevent secession. Four "slave states" remained in the Union. Later, a fifth "slave state", West Virginia, would secede from the Confederacy and join/re-join the Union.

Slavery would not become illegal in the United States until the ratification of the 13th Amendment, which occurred AFTER the

war was over. Ironically, the first state to ratify the Constitution, Delaware, which remained in the Union throughout the war, was the last state to end slavery after ratification of the 13th Amendment.

So if support of lawful slavery were somehow tantamount to the crime of treason, the slave holding Union States of New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Kentucky and Missouri (Claimed by both the Union and the Confederacy), and later, in West Virginia (admitted to the Union during the war as a "slave state") ... and in the slave holding territories of Oklahoma and New Mexico, would have suffered no end of prominent gallows.

At no time, did Lincoln or the Republican Congress declare that ending slavery was an objective of the war. In fact, Lincoln specifically, adamantly said the opposite many times. In fact, Lincoln even said in his first inaugural address that he supported adoption of an Amendment to the Constitution, which would ensure that slavery would be perpetually allowed by the Constitution. Known as the "Corwin Amendment", it was passed by the Republican Congress, but rejected by the Democrats, North and South.

The Republican Congress's official "War Aims Resolution" did not even mention slavery, much less declare abolition as an objective.

As for the much vaunted and ballyhooed "Emancipation Proclamation", only those who haven't carefully read and analyzed it, fantasize that it freed a single slave anywhere.

To put the bizarre allegations of the "slavery = treason" connection away: When the war was started to prevent Southern independence, there more slave states in the USA than in the CSA. The Emancipation Proclamation did not free the slaves, and West Virginia was admitted to the Union as a "slave state" during the war, and after the Emancipation Proclamation was published. Slavery remained legal in the Union, until after the war. Lincoln specifically stated ending slavery was not an objective of the war. And the Republican led U. S. Congress formally omitted any mention that the abolition of slavery was a war aim.

The charge of "treason" against the Confederates is refuted by facts and logic. Neither secession, which was lawful, nor the institution of slavery, which was also lawful, constituted rebellion, insurrection or treason by the lawful authority of the governing U. S. Constitution.

We should not stand quietly by as "know nothings" distort our history, defame our ancestors and mischaracterize the essence of government by consent of the government. Grave harm will fall upon succeeding generations of Americans, regardless of ancestry, if we do.

THE NATIONAL CONFEDERATE MUSEUM AT ELM SPRINGS



The truth about the South's struggle to form a new nation is under attack as never before. The National Battlefield Parks have been taken over by the "it's all about slavery" provocateurs. Museums have changed their collections and interpretations to present what they call the cultural history of the War for Southern Independence. In reality this new perspective is nothing more than South bashing. The forces of political correctness have gone into high gear. They attempt to ban any and all things Confederate through their ideological fascism.

There needs to be at least one place where the people of the South and others can go to learn an accurate account of why so many struggled so long in their attempt to reassert government by the consent of the governed in America!

The General Executive Council of the Sons of Confederate Veterans made the commitment in October of 2008 to start the process to erect a new building that will have two purposes. One of the uses of this new building will be to give us office space and return Elm Springs to its original grandeur. However the main function is to house The Confederate Museum. We are planning a museum that will tell the truth about what motivated the Southern people to struggle for many years to form a new nation. At the SCV Reunion in July of 2009 the GEC set up a building fund for this purpose. One of the goals is to provide an accurate portrayal of the common Confederate soldier, something that is currently absent in most museums and in the media.

These plans have now become a reality. The ground breaking has taken place and the museum is now open.

Take this journey with us and support the museum as a donor or join the Friends of the Museum today!

Send Donations to:
Sons of Confederate Veterans
Attn: National Confederate Museum
P.O. Box 59
Columbia, TN 38402

Or you can call 1-800-MY-DIXIE to pay by credit card.

www.theconfederatemuseum.com

BEAUVIOR

Beauvoir, the historic post-war home of President Jefferson Davis, is owned and operated by the Mississippi Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans. There are several ways that you can participate in the continued preservation of this beloved landmark located in Biloxi, Mississippi.



*Beauvoir - Post-war home of Jefferson Davis.
Biloxi, Mississippi*

Friends of Beauvoir

For as little as \$25 annually, you can become a member of the Friends of Beauvoir. Membership includes tour admission and a 10% discount at the Beauvoir gift shop.

Bricks for Beauvoir

Honor your Confederate ancestors while supporting Beauvoir. Each brick that you purchase will be engraved with your ancestors rank, name, unit, and company. The memorial bricks will be laid creating a sidewalk from the UDC Arch to the Tomb of the Unknown Confederate soldier.

For more information on these opportunities, please visit www.visitbeauvoir.org or contact Beauvoir directly at (228) 388-4400

SOLDIERS REST



A soldier of stone stands guard over the resting place of Confederate Heroes.

Soldiers Rest - Vicksburg, Mississippi

The city of Vicksburg served as a major hospital center in the early years of the Civil War. A section in the Cedar Hill Cemetery was set aside to provide a fitting burial place for Confederate soldiers who died of sickness or wounds. Known as "Soldiers' Rest," the plot in Cedar Hill Cemetery is the final resting place for an estimated 5,000 Confederate soldiers.

A local undertaker, Mr. J.Q. Arnold, was hired by the Confederate government to bury Southern soldiers, and carried out those duties throughout the siege of Vicksburg. Mr. Arnold meticulously maintained records of the soldiers he buried, assigning each one a grave number. Regrettably, his list and map of the cemetery disappeared after the siege, although a portion of his list was re-discovered in the early 1960s, giving the name, rank, company, unit, and date of death for 1,600 soldiers. Approximately 3,500 names are unknown. The document is now part of the archival records at the Old Courthouse Museum in Vicksburg, MS.

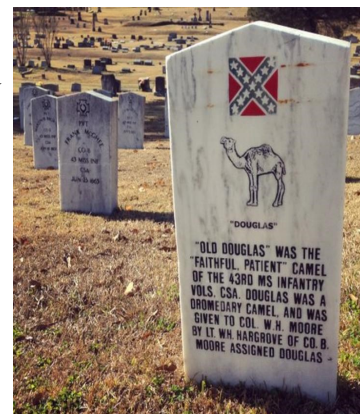
Due to the disappearance of Mr. Arnold's records, only a few private headstones marked the plot until 1893. On April 26 of that year, the ladies of the Confederate Memorial Association dedicated a beautiful stone monument featuring the standing figure of a Confederate Soldier. It was not until the early 1980s, following the discovery of the partial list, that the headstones were erected through the combined effort of the United Daughters of the Confederacy and the Veterans' Administration. The stones were arranged with military precision and placed in state groupings. In 1998, an additional 72 headstones

were erected by the Sons of Confederate Veterans to honor soldiers whose identities were established on a second list which surfaced in the collection of the Old Courthouse Museum.

Soldiers Rest also contains memorial markers for those who died at Cooper's Wells in Hinds County, as well as the sailors who perished on the CSS Arkansas. Unfortunately, stones could not be placed at the actual resting places for the soldiers in both of these groups, so a decision was made to honor their memory by placing memorials for them in Soldier's Rest.

Discoveries continue to be made about the history of Soldier's Rest. As recently as August 2018, a new list of more than 150 previously unknown soldier and widow burials was discovered and is in the process of being added to the records. Ms.

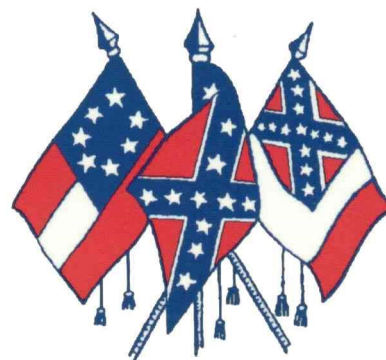
Anna Fuller, in cooperation with several other volunteers, researches and maintains the information about those Confederate heroes who are interred there.



"Old Douglas"

*Near Soldiers Rest in Cedar Hill Cemetery
Vicksburg, Mississippi*

More information about Soldiers Rest, as well as information about events and new memorials can be found at their website: <http://Soldiersrestvicksburg.com/> or on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SoldiersRestCSA>





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<http://www.scv-camp-1354.com>

FIND US ON FACEBOOK AT
WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/SCVCAMP1354

DEFENDING HISTORY SINCE 1896
WWW.SCV.ORG

The Sons of Confederate Veterans (SCV) is a hereditary organization for male descendants of Confederate veterans. It was formed in 1896 as the direct heir of the United Confederate Veterans and serves to preserve the history and legacy of the Confederate soldier. There are ongoing programs at the local, state and national levels in the form of preservation work, marking Confederate soldiers' graves, historical re-enactments, scholarly publications, and regular meetings to discuss the military and political history of the War Between the States and the colorful and heroic men who fought it.

Membership is open to all male descendants of any veteran who served honorably in the Confederate armed forces, and can be obtained through direct or collateral family lines which must be documented genealogically.

For more information, please visit www.scv.org

Edward Campbell

Commander

Larry Holman

Adjutant / Membership

UPCOMING MEETINGS

June 6th—Camp Meeting with Speaker Robert Murphree—216 Miller Street, Vicksburg, MS

June 9—11th—Mississippi Division Reunion—Beauvoir, Biloxi, Mississippi

July 19—22nd—National Reunion—Hot Springs, Arkansas

If you are interested in presenting, please contact Commander Edward Campbell : ewccrystalsprings@yahoo.com

To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we submit the vindication of the Cause for which we fought; to your strength will be given the defense of the Confederate soldier's good name, the guardianship of his history, the emulation of his virtues, the perpetuation of those principles he loved and which made him glorious and which you also cherish. Remember, it is your duty to see that the true history of the South is presented to future generations.

From the stirring speech delivered by Lt. Gen. Stephen Dill Lee, Commander General of the United Confederate Veterans at the New Orleans, Louisiana UCV Convention of 1906.