

2007 SYMPOSIUM

The 34th Confederate History Symposium was held Saturday, 31 March 2007, at Hill College in Hillsboro. The theme for the Symposium was Hood's Texas Brigade and its eponymous leader. Four excellent speakers discussed John Bell Hood and the magnificent fighting force bearing his name, covering the entire War period as well as some post-War activities. In addition to the speakers, attendees were treated to musical performances and to re-enactors providing historically correct military displays. It was announced that the Hood's Texas Brigade Association Reactivated will soon have Associate Membership for individuals without an ancestor who served in the Brigade. Throughout the day a hospitality room provided free refreshments as well as vendors offering a wide variety of books. The symposium ended with a drawing for door prizes. Some attendees were heard to proclaim this was one of the best in the rich history of the symposium.

AN INSPIRING PERFORMANCE

At a grand ball in wartime Richmond, Miss Hetty Carey appeared dressed as a captive slave, with her hands tied at the wrists. On her bosom she bore the shield of Maryland, indicating thereby the chains by which that State was kept in the Union. During the evening, President Jefferson Davis came forward and released her manacled hands by untying the cords that bound her wrists. This personification of freeing Maryland from her bondage to the Union power drew enthusiastic applause from the assemblage.

A GENTLEMAN AT ALL TIMES

John Hunt Morgan's magnanimity was beautifully illustrated in the capture of a Yankee train and passengers between Nashville and Bowling Green. He burned and destroyed the train consisting of an engine and fifty-three cars to weaken the enemy as much as possible. He also captured a large amount of money. Of the passengers, he paroled the Yankee officers and did not molest the civilians who were not in the war. The women, however, fearing that they would be treated as their own authorities treated Southern ladies, appealed to Col. Morgan not to hurt them. With the gallantry of the true Southern gentleman, he told them that he left it for the vandals of the North to search the persons and insult the honor of helpless women, and that they were as safe from intrusion of injury in his presence as if at home defended by their husbands.

HOOD'S TEXAS BRIGADE ASSOCIATION, REACTIVATED

Hood's Texas Brigade Association, Reactivated is an association of direct and collateral descendants of men who served in Hood's Texas Brigade. It is successor to the original organization founded in 1872 by members of the Brigade. Martha Hartzog, President of HTBAR, addressed the 2007 Symposium at the college March 31. She announced current goals include creating brief biographies of every member of the Brigade and marking every member's grave. She also announced that the organization will soon open its rolls for Associate Memberships for interested parties without a Brigade ancestor. Currently dues are \$20 per year. Application forms may be downloaded from the association's website at www.htba1872.org. Non-computer users may contact Ms. Hartzog by writing her at 605 Pecan Grove Road, Austin, TX 78704. To be included on her e-mail list and receive notices of meetings, e-mail Ms. Hartzog at m.hartzog@mail.utexas.edu. All are welcome at the meetings.

PROMISED TO CALL ON HIM

When a dedicated Southern lady was leaving Norfolk for Richmond, she was approached by the Federal General Mansfield. He politely bade her good-bye and added that he hoped to have the pleasure of calling upon her shortly in Richmond. "Perhaps, General," said the lady, "it may be my privilege to call upon you in Richmond, when I shall endeavor to repay the kindness you have shown me here." "How so?" asked the General, evidently puzzled to comprehend the remark. "Because," the lady replied. "we have many large and commodious tobacco factories in Richmond, to one of which, on your arrival there, you will doubtless be consigned; and while it will not be your privilege to visit the ladies, it will, perhaps, be mine to call upon you, and thus in some measure relieve the tedium of your imprisonment." To this remark the General essayed no answer, but very shortly retired.

A SPIRITED LADY

In Houston, Texas, a man remarked before the mother-in-law of Judge Terry of California that "the South would be whipped." The old lady sprang to her feet. "Never, never!" said she. "Before that time comes, I will volunteer and go to the war myself!"

BACK TO BUSINESS

After the 1862 occupation of Nashville by the Federal army, a bank in New York sent the following impudent dunning letter to a Nashville banker:

March 17, 1862

Dear Sir:

Please accept my hearty congratulations on your return to the Union and on the growing supremacy in your State of that "old glory," the stars and Stripes; and permit me to suggest, as an appropriate commemoration and celebration of the happy event, the payment of that little balance of \$72.59, which you have owed me since the 11th of May, 1861. Don't sent "Secesh" scrip, as it will not pass here.

Respectfully,

GRAY LOOKED BETTER THAN BLUE

The 53rd New York State Militia was attached to Burnside's Division of the Union army. It was quartered in the vicinity of Washington. Discontent arose among the members, from the Colonel to the lowest private. They did not like the "entertainment" to which they had been invited. The complaints of the 53rd became so rancorous and public that Lincoln's Secretary of War issued an order disbanding the regiment and discharging its members. The men of the regiment became discontented private citizens. A few days later, three of the regiment's former officers presented themselves to Confederate pickets, surrendered themselves, and stated they wished to enter the Southern army. Elegantly mounted on fine horses, with good swords and pistols, they were carried to Fredericksburg and then to Richmond where they were welcomed by the highest social leaders of the city.

YANKEES AND MULES

It is said that many Yankee officers could bear with great resignation the loss of their men, but could be inconsolable upon the death of a mule. They were said to declare that they would "rather have ten Yankees killed than one mule." The reason of this was the value of these animals to them in transportation, upon which they were obliged to rely for their long march of invasion, and which became more difficult the farther they advanced.

IRISH CONFEDERATES, *The Civil War's Forgotten Soldiers*, by Phillip Thomas Tucker, McWhiney Foundation Press; \$16.95; 176 pp, 25 photos.

Although a general assumption has been that the Irish fought almost exclusively for the North, many Irishmen fought and died while in the service of the South. Actually, due to the lessons of Irish history, no one in the south responded to the call to strike a blow for independence with more enthusiasm than the Irish. Many Southern Irish looked at Northern Irish in Union uniform with both dismay and disapproval, believing that the shared long history of their homeland fighting for independence should have resulted in Irish favoring the Southern cause. General Richard Taylor marveled at how Irish Confederates would follow their officers to the death. Another Confederate described the Irish in gray as eager to give life and fortune to the cause they loved. Because the Confederacy lost its bid for independence the efforts and achievements of the Confederate Irish have been lost to history. Philip Tucker has gathered and reported in this free-flowing history the impressive combat records of many Southern Irish. He tells the story of hard fighting individuals as well as units, such as the Louisianans who fought under Lee and earned the name of "Lee's Tigers". It is easy reading as well as informational and recognizes a large group of men long denied due credit.

A LARGE FAMILY

After reading of a Georgia soldier six feet ten inches in height, Mr. H. K. Horn said in a note to the *Montgomery Mail* that he had five sons in the Confederate army:

M. J. Horn, 28 years old, 6' 3", 156 pounds

Josiah J. Horn, 26 years old, 6'7", 178 pounds

Isaac J. Horn, 24 years old, 6'7", 202 pounds

Edward L. Horn, 22 years old, 6'3", 175 pounds

Rowlen W. T. Horn, in his 20th year, 6'2", 168 pounds.

SICKENING THOUGHTS

"Green apple quickstep" was the soldier's name for diarrhea. The Southern field cure for it was tea made from the bark of either slippery elm, sweet gum or dogwood. The most common malady affecting Southerners was measles.

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A PLANNED SOUTHERN PLANTER

As reported in a Virginia newspaper

Among the letters picked up on the battle field of Shiloh was one from an Illinois soldier by the name of Donnelly, addressed to his wife, his "dear Sue" as he affectionately called her, in which he told her that he had already picked out a fine house and farm and that, after the war was over, he expected he and his "dear Sue," would be supremely happy in their "sweet Southern home." The women of that region, he said, could be employed to perform the domestic duties of Mrs. Donnelly's household, and the men to plough and plant corn, while "you and I, dear Sue," exclaimed Mr. Donnelly rapturously, "will be as happy as kings." Ah, hopeful Donnelly! He got his "sweet Southern home" a little sooner than he expected. The men who were to plough his land and plant his corn performed their duty even if not to his satisfaction. They ploughed up his little farm and planted him in it. Like thousands of other Yankees who came in quest of Southern farms he secured a small homestead, where no one would ever distress him for rent and taxes. His "dear Sue" could have the consolation of reflecting that she was the widow of a Southern landed proprietor.

NO FANS OF LINCOLN

Abraham Lincoln was not admired by his wife's family. Four of her brothers were Confederate soldiers. One of those, Dr. George Todd, reportedly said Lincoln was "one of the greatest scoundrels unhung." At a party in Kentucky, Lincoln's stepmother-in-law, Mrs. Robert S. Todd, heard a man assaulting the character of John Hunt Morgan. Undeterred by Lincoln's position, Mrs. Todd spoke up vehemently: "I wish there were a thousand like John Morgan!"

OUR SOUTHRON SUPPORTERS

The following have donated \$10 or more to assist with the expenses of the Dallas Chapter, including printing and distribution of the newsletter:

Ron Aldis	Joseph D. Knight, Jr
Dan Coit	George Pittard
Ralph Green	Bobby Rutherford
Doug Guthrie	Ed Smith
Carlos Hedstrom.	Vin Vinson
Charles Walker	

A FRIEND OF THE UNION

John Hunt Morgan disguised himself as a countryman and took a wagon load of meal to Nashville. Leaving his wagon at the door of the St. Cloud Hotel, he went into the dining room of the hotel and sat down opposite Union General McCook. He told the general that he lived in the midst of "secesshers" who were determined that none of their meal would go to the Federals, adding that he was of a different mind and had brought a wagon load of meal for the general. McCook was highly delighted and expressed his gratitude to the plain-looking countryman for his kindness, praised his loyalty to "the old flag," and at once ordered the meal to be taken to the commissary of his brigade and paid for in gold and silver. After this transaction, the counterfeit wagoner returned to McCook's headquarters. There he told the General that if he would send out one hundred and fifty men he would guide them right into that "nest of secesshers and traitors," where they might "bag" large quantity of meal and other "contraband of war," besides a number of the worst rebels that ever opposed this "glorious Union." Gen. McCook fell into the snare. All the arrangements were made and time and place agreed upon for the Federal soldiers to meet their trusty guide. McCook's detachment kept the appointment faithfully, as did Morgan. Morgan had company, a sufficient number of well-armed horsemen to capture the whole Yankee force without firing a gun. He took them quietly and sent them swiftly to the rear to be exchanged. He released one officer to return to McCook with the compliments of the meal-selling acquaintance, who had the pleasure of meeting him at the St. Cloud a few days before.