



THE REBEL ROUSER

Newsletter for the DCV – Dallas Chapter

May 2008

OUR NEXT MEETING

18 APRIL 2008

Our meeting opened with an invocation, Pledge of Allegiance to the US Flag, Pledge to the Texas Flag, and Salute to the Confederate Flag. President Larry Johnson welcomed everyone.

There was a brief discussion on the advisability of changing the date, frequency, and/or location for our meetings. Nothing will change.

Jay Shelton was nominated and elected to be our chapter Chaplain.

Larry Johnson announced he would attend the Col. Earp ceremonies in Gilmer on April 26.

Lt. Kip Wright presented a calendar of Texas history, highlighting an important occurrence for each month, such as the Battle of Galveston for January, the Secession Convention in February, the Battle of Glorietta Pass in March, etc.

A copy of *Sidelights and Lighter Sides* was given as a door prize.

Our new Chaplain provided a benediction to end our meeting.

COMPARISONS

According to the U. S. Census, in 1860 the population of the United States numbered 31,443,321 persons. Of these, approximately 23,000,000 were in the 22 Northern states. In the 11 Southern states there were about 9,000,000, including 3,500,000 slaves. At the start of the war, the value of all manufactured goods produced in all the Confederate states added up to less than one-fourth of those produced in New York State alone.

Our program this month will be about an area of WBTS history that receives little attention, the War in the Southwest. Chapter Secretary **Ralph Green** will present "**Sherod Hunter and the Confederacy in the West**", a discussion of efforts by Arizonans in behalf of the South.

Just as we were preparing to publish this newsletter we learned that our previously scheduled speaker could not be with us, requiring a last minute search for a replacement. We would welcome suggestions by anyone for potential speakers, including members and guests volunteering themselves. We need your help!

Our meeting will be called to order at **6:30 PM** on **Friday evening, May 16**, in the **Highland Park Cafeteria** in **Casa Linda Shopping Center** at the corner of Garland Road and Buckner Boulevard. Visitors are always welcome so bring some with you! Hope we will see you there! Don't disappoint us!

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:

Mrs. D. Harold Byrd
George Church
E. Murfee Gewin
Ralph Green
Evetts Haley, Jr
Houston DCV
Joseph D. Knight, Jr.
Rodney G. Orr

George Pittard
Ray Satterfield
Dan Shelby
Marshall Surratt
Walbrook Swank
Charles Walker
David Whitaker
James A. Wild

John Wilson

VOTING

A friend commented that selecting your favorite out of today's presidential candidates is like picking your favorite mosquito out of a swarm.

CONTEMPORARY NEWSPAPER VIEWS

"If tyranny and despotism justified the Revolution of 1776, then we do not see why it would not justify the secession of Five Millions of Southrons from the Federal Union in 1861."

-- *New York Tribune*, 5 February 1860

"If it [the Declaration of Independence] justifies the secession from the British empire of 3,000,000 of colonists in 1776, we do not see why it would not justify the secession of 5,000,000 of Southrons from the Federal Union in 1861. If we are mistaken on this point, why does not some one attempt to show wherein why?"

-- *New York Tribune*, 17 December 1860

"If the Declaration of Independence justified the secession of 3,000,000 colonists in 1776, I do not see why the Constitution ratified by the same men should not justify the secession of 5,000,000 of the Southerners from the Federal Union in 1861. We have repeatedly said, and we once more insist that the great principle embodied by Jefferson in the Declaration of Independence that government derives its power from the consent of the governed is sound and just, then if the Cotton States, the Gulf States or any other States choose to form an independent nation they have a clear right to do it. The right to secede may be a revolutionary one, but it exists nevertheless; and we do not see how one party can have a right to do what another party has a right to prevent. We must ever resist the asserted right of any State to remain in the Union and nullify or defy the laws thereof; to withdraw from the Union is another matter. And when a section of our Union resolves to go out, we shall resist any coercive acts to keep it in. We hope never to live in a Republic where one section is pinned to the other section by bayonets."

-- Horace Greeley, *New York Tribune*

"It is highly probable that had a popular election been held at any time during the year following the 4th of July, 1862, on the question of continuing the war, or arresting it on the best attainable terms, a majority would have voted for peace; while it is highly probable that a still larger majority would have voted against emancipation."

-- Horace Greeley, *New York Tribune*

"An attempt to subjugate the seceded States, even if successful could produce nothing but evil -- evil

unmitigated in character and appalling in content."

-- *Detroit Free Press*, 19 February 1861

"The contest is really for empire on the side of the North and for independence on that of the South..."

-- *London Times*, 7 November 1861

"The Union government liberates the enemy's slaves as it would the enemy's cattle, simply to weaken them in the conflict. The principle is not that a human being cannot justly own another, but that he cannot own him unless he is loyal to the United States."

-- *London Spectator* in reference to the Emancipation Proclamation

"[The Union] depends for its continuance on the free consent and will of the sovereign people of each state, and when that consent and will is withdrawn on either part, their Union is gone."

-- *Brooklyn Daily Eagle*, 13 November 1860

"Union depends for its continuance on the free consent and will of the sovereign people of each state, and when that consent and will is withdrawn on either part, their Union is gone. A state coerced to remain in the Union is a subject province and can never be a co-equal member of the American Union."

-- *Bangor (Maine) Daily Union* editorial, 13 November 1860

BENJAMIN F. BUTLER

When you read his contemporaries' critiques, you have to wonder how he was able to achieve the prominence he did. One observer described him: "With his head set immediately on a stout, shapeless body, his very squinting eyes, and a set of arms and legs that look as if made for someone else and hastily glued upon him by mistake, he presents a combination of Victor Emmanuel, Aesop, and Richard III – which is very confusing in the mind." Another said he looked like a New York "Blood-tub" or a "plug-ugly". A politician with no military experience he became a Union major general, although not a successful one. Nicknamed "Beast" and "Spoons", Butler and his Union Army lost every battle, every campaign, and every engagement in which they fought.

RESULT OF NEFARIOUS GOAL

In 1864 some Federal soldiers stole a watch from a Virginia school teacher. That led to the unexpected discovery of proof of Yankee perfidy. Hoping to find a replacement for that watch, a young student of the teacher searched the body of a Union colonel killed in a trap set by a local Richmond defense unit. That colonel was Ulrich Dahlgren who was leading a raid on Richmond when he was trapped and killed. Among the documents the young boy found on Dahlgren was one showing the nefarious purpose of the raid was the kidnapping or murder of Jefferson Davis and other Confederate leaders.

OBEDIENT TO ORDERS

from *The Army Argus and Crisis, Mobile, Ala,*
November 12, 1864

Tennent Lomax, first Colonel of the 3d Alabama Infantry, was a man of great military pride, and spared neither time nor trouble in perfecting his command in all the duties of the soldier. Among the members of his regiment was a Dutchman known as "Schnider." Now Schnider had less penchant for tactics than enjoying a cozy nap. Schnider was upon post - it was the third watch - and Schnider's eyes but little higher than the moon. The Colonel was going the "Grand Rounds." "Who ish dere?" demanded Dutchy. "Grand Rounds!" was the answer. "To Hell mit yer Grand Rounds! I dought it was der Corporal mit der relief." As the consequence of this exchange, Schnider received a severe reprimand with instructions how to properly receive the Grand Rounds. "When the Grand Rounds approach you, sir," said the Colonel, "among other formalities, you must, 'turn out the guards.'" "Yah!"

In due course, it came Schnider's turn to go on guard again. Early in the night the Colonel had occasion to pass beyond the lines at Schnider's post. "Halt!" said the faithful guard as the Colonel approached. The Colonel disregarded the challenge and continued to advance. "Halt I say! Who ish dere?" About this time, the Colonel's foot came into violent contact with a root, which caused him so much pain as to exclaim, "God Almighty!" "Turn out the 12 Apostles!" roared Schnider, "God Almighty ish on der rounds!"

U.S.MONEY

The U.S. Congress authorized the first paper currency, "greenbacks", in 1862. "In God We Trust" first appeared on a U.S. coin in 1864.

PERSONAL MISCELLANY

During the Battle of Antietam, Clara Barton tended the wounded so close to the fighting that a bullet went through her sleeve and killed a man she was treating.

Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr., later Chief Justice of the US Supreme Court, was wounded three times during the Civil War: in the chest at Ball's Bluff, in the back at Antietam and in the heel at Chancellorsville.

Henry Stanley, noted for finding Dr. Livingston in Africa, was captured at Shiloh as a Confederate private in the Sixth Arkansas.

George Pickett's doomed infantry charge at Gettysburg was the first time he took his division into combat.

Hiram Revels of Mississippi became the first black man ever elected to the U.S. Senate. He filled the seat last held by Jefferson Davis.

A "SOLID" WALL

At Fredericksburg in 1862, the Confederate trenches stretched for a distance of seven miles. The troop density was 11,000 per mile, or six men to the yard.

AMBULANCE CORPS

The first organized ambulance corps were used in the Peninsular campaign and at Antietam. In the battle of Gettysburg, 1100 ambulances were in use. The medical director of the Union army boasted that all the wounded were picked up from the field within 12 hours after the battle was over. This was a far cry from the second battle of Bull Run, when many of the wounded were left on the field in the rain, heat, and sun for three or four days.

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Editor – Ralph Green

LEST WE FORGET

I SALUTE THE CONFEDERATE FLAG WITH AFFECTION, REVERENCE, AND UNDYING DEVOTION TO THE CAUSE FOR WHICH IT STANDS.

HOT SHOT

Intended for maritime use, hot shots were solid iron shot heated in a furnace and fired at wooden vessels. Shot furnaces were found in seacoast fortifications as well as aboard ships. Armored shipping reduced hot shot's effectiveness. It was used to set afire the wooden interior at Fort Sumter April 1861, and Confederates at Fort Fisher, North Carolina, used it against the bombarding union fleet January 1865. At its most efficient, it was fired to just pierce the hull of a vessel, then sit smoldering inside a bulkhead, eventually setting the ship afire.

BIG BANGS

Canisters were shells containing about 96 iron balls. Case shots were shells with timed fuses that would burst over the attacking troops' heads, sending pieces of it into them. Round shot was aimed in front of the attacking troops so that it would skip along the ground causing great havoc.

NOT INTIMIDATED

In February of 1863, the Federal commander at Nashville, Gen. Mitchell, ordered the property of Dick McCann, a guerilla, to be burnt. The *Chattanooga Rebel* reported this and stated "Dick McCann has sent in his compliments to Mitchell. "You may burn and b — d, " says Dick. "but if I don't give you h — I my name ain't Dick McCann. " And Dick's the boy to do what he says."

CREATURE OF HABIT

An old Texan, dressed in buckskin and armed with a long rifle, used to go up to the works at Lexington every morning, about seven o'clock, carrying his dinner in a tin pail. Taking a good position, he banged away at the Federals till noon. He then took an hour for dinner and resumed firing till six P. M., when he returned home to supper. The next day would see him walking up with dinner in hand, about to begin again, seven days a week.

A PATRIOTIC FAMILY

In Loudoun County, Virginia, lived a lady named Mrs. Rosset. Mrs. Rossett was distinguished not only by her age (nearly one hundred years) but also by the number of her descendants serving their country in the Confederate army: seventy-six children, grand children and great grand children.

ARKANSAS INSISTED ON PATRIOTISM

In Johnson County, Arkansas, a man was tarred and feathered, rode on a ball, and driven from the country for refusing to take war bonds as a currency. In White County in the same state, a Shylock had his store broken into and his merchandise scattered to the four winds of heaven for making his customers pay a higher price for goods when paid in State currency than when paid in Yankee coin.

A SPIRITED CITY

The city of Columbus, Ga., with a population of about 8,000 souls, supplied the Confederate Army with sixteen infantry companies and two full light artillery companies five colonels, one lieutenant-colonel, four majors, four adjutants, four assistant quartermasters, four assistant commissaries, nineteen captains, and sixty-two lieutenants.

PLACE WAS BUZZIN'

Col. John S. Mosby's wagon train raid near Berryville, Virginia, (August 1864) was jeopardized when a Confederate gun was unknowingly placed over a nest of yellow jackets.