

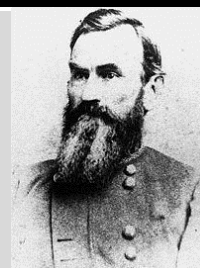
Joe Nokes, Commander

Camp Website: www.humphreys1625.com

The Delta General

July, 2013 Volume 16, Issue 7

Dedicated to the memory of Brig. General Benjamin G. Humphreys



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UPCOMING EVENTS

July 4 - Camp meeting Cancelled

July 14 – Memphis, TN at Forrest
Park Gen. Forrest Birthday
Celebration

July 18-20- National Reunion in
Vicksburg, MS

Battle of Iuka Reenactment –
Labor Day Weekend

August 31, Last day of the "War
Comes to the MS Delta Exhibits"
at the Museum of the MS Delta

September 19-22 - National
Reenactment at Chickamauga,
GA

October 10-13 – Battle of
Farmington, MS

October 17-19 – Fall Muster at
Beauvoir

November ?? – Wirt Adams Raid
in Natchez, MS

Camp News:

Commander's Corner: Joe Nokes

Compatriots,

As always, I hope this edition finds you all well and hale. The weather has turned warm for the summer. And as the weather heats up, SCV related activities and events are heating up across the Division and the Confederation. As I am writing to you, I am on the fields of Gettysburg preparing for the 150th Anniversary reenactment so this Commander's note will be short and brief.

First I want to congratulate Past Commander Alan Palmer for his service over the past two years and his service that is still to be completed as Chairman for the National SCV Reunion in Vicksburg. If you have never attended a National Reunion, this is your opportunity to do so as it will be in our backyard. I know our Camp will be well represented. The more the merrier.

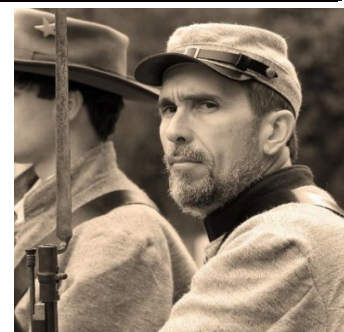
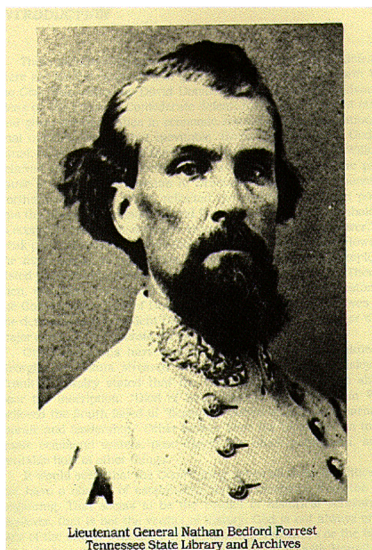
Second, as you may have found out now, our July meeting has been cancelled because July 4 is on our meeting night. Our August meeting will be altered to a picnic and pilgrimage to Gen Humphreys grave at Port Gibson. Tentatively, this will occur August 3rd (First Saturday of August). More info on this event will be made available in the coming weeks.

Last, our Camp was well represented at the Division Reunion, Kenneth Ray, Richard Dillon, Larry McCluney, Dan McCaskill, Alan Palmer, and myself was in attendance. I hope to see more for National Convention as we take care of our Organizations business.

I hope everyone has a great Fourth of July, remember our ancestors that fought at Gettysburg and Vicksburg.

Deo Vindice!!!

Joe Nokes



109th Annual General Nathan Bedford Forrest Birthday Celebration

Sunday, July 14th, 2013 2:00 p.m.
Forrest Park, Memphis
(Yes, it's FORREST Park, Union Ave. @
Manassas St.)

The Public is invited. (Bring your own
lawn chairs)
Guest Speaker, Flag Parade, Opening
Ceremonies,
Proclamations, music, Guest Speaker, 21-
gun Musket Salute,
Wreath-laying
Attend and show Memphis that you care
about Gen. Forrest

Adjutant's Report: Dan McCaskill

7:00 pm Commander Joe Nokes called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. The Meeting was opened with an invocation and blessing by 2nd Lt. Commander Junior Stillman. Joe welcomed all members and guests attending the Meeting and then invited all to partake in the evening meal. After the meal, Joe reconvened the Meeting. Color Sergeant Chris Lewis led the members and guests in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag and salutes to the Flag of Mississippi and the Battle Flag of the Confederacy.

Announcements: There will be a small living history at Ft. Pemberton this weekend, Saturday June 8; there will be a re-enactment at Hernando June 14 - 16; MS Division Reunion will be June 21-23 in Pearl/Jackson; and SCV National Reunion is in Vicksburg July 18-20. In August, Miss Ellie will give a program at The Museum of the Delta on "War on the Home Front. There is some type of event every weekend for the next several months.

Officer Reports: 1st Lt. Commander Larry McCluney reported there would be no speaker for the July meeting because of the 4th of July, the August Meeting would be our pilgrimage to Port Gibson in honor of Benjamin G. Humphreys, September Meeting we will have a speaker coming from Texas; Camp; 2nd Lt. Commander Junior Stillman reported that he is working to find new members; Adjutant Dan McCaskill reported that the Camp membership was still 56; The Camp has \$ 1,273 in the checking account and the Church Fund empty; As Camp Editor, Larry inquired about everyone receiving the Camp Newsletter; As AOT Councilman, Larry reported there would be an AOT meeting in Nashville, TN on June 29th to discuss "Vision 2016" where the SCV is working to reach a goal of 50,000 members ; Larry also announced that the AOT now has its own lapel pin which sells for \$ 5 with the money going into a scholarship fund; Larry also stated he would be announcing his candidacy for AOT Commander at Vicksburg; OCR President Missy Stillman announced that the MS Society had purchased gifts for their upcoming national meeting in July..

Camp Business: The Camp selected 6 delegates for the MS Division Reunion, Joe Nokes as Chairman, Larry McCluney, Nathan McCaskill, Kenneth Ray, Richard Dillon, and Dan McCaskill. This Reunion is an election year and we reviewed all the candidates we would be voting for Division office. The Camp voted to vote for the candidates running for office. We also reviewed the proposed amendments to the Division By-Laws. We voted to support By-Law amendments # 1, 2, 5 and 6 and would vote against amendments # 3 & 4. Junior Stillman made a motion to allow the Camp Delegation to vote in the best interest of the Camp on all issues. The motion was seconded by Jimmy Alford and passed.

Program: Jimmy Alford introduced speaker Don Cabrol who gave a presentation on "Boys State" sponsored by the American Legion. Boys State is a weeklong conference which teaches the boys leadership and statesmanship. Boys State is open to only 11th grade boys. Anyone can sponsor a boy / delegate to Boys State for \$ 275.00. Boys State will be held at Mississippi State University for the next 4 years and will be held the last week of May. One benefit for the boys attending is a \$ 1,000 scholarship if they attend college at the host University. Don encouraged the Camp to sponsor a delegate for next year's Boys State.

With no other business coming before the Camp, the Meeting was turned over to the OCR for their raffle and "Capture the Yankee". The Yankee is still on the loose. The Meeting was closed with a word of prayer from 2nd Lt. Commander Junior Stillman. Attendance for the Meeting was 13.

Order of Confederate Rose Report: Annette McCluney

Ladies,

I hope you are enjoying the summer and making plans for the National OCR Reunion. As you know, this year it will be held in Vicksburg and we have a lot of activities planned. At the state reunion, we finished with most of the gifts and finalizing plans for the reunion. Thus far we have 35 people preregistered and I know we will have a lot that will walk on. Please make all efforts to plan to attend this 20th Anniversary of OCR.



Mississippi Division News:

Flags Conserved by the MS Division

At the State Reunion this year, one of the programs was a tour of the State Archives and view the flags that the SCV has conserved and those that are waiting to be conserved. This writer felt that our Camp membership would like to see how 80% of the car tag money that is collected every month benefits the division's preservation project for these flags. Please see pages 3 and for pictures of the flags that have been conserved.

National SCV News:

National Reunion in Vicksburg, MS

Come to the "Gibraltar of the Confederacy" as the Mississippi Division holds its first National reunion in over 35 years. Make plans for July 18-20 to attend and let's make our numbers in Mississippi the largest delegation to attend. For those who have never been to a National Reunion here is your chance because it is in our own backyard. Mississippians should outnumber any delegation from any Division just because it's in our home state. For a registration form, look at page 5.

Conserved flags in the Collection of the Museum Division, MDAH available for viewing 6/22/2013

4th MS Infantry (1968.44.1)

Returned to the State of Mississippi in 1905. War Dept. capture No.213. Captured near Brentwood Hills during the Battle of Nashville on Dec. 16,1864.



Before Conservation



Conserved by SCV, 2008, \$11,345

6th MS Infantry, Lowry Rifles

(1968.40.1) "Lowry Rifles/The Sunny South" in canton



Before Conservation



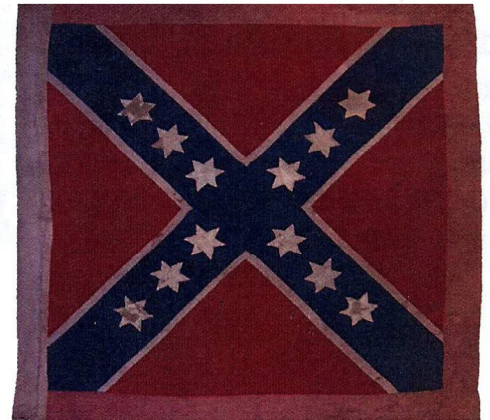
Conserved by MDAH, 1977

7th MS Infantry, (1968.49.1)

Bragg pattern flag made by the firm H. Cassidy of New Orleans. Written on backside of flag is "7th Regt./Mississippi/Vol./ Shiloh/ April 6,1862 Battle"



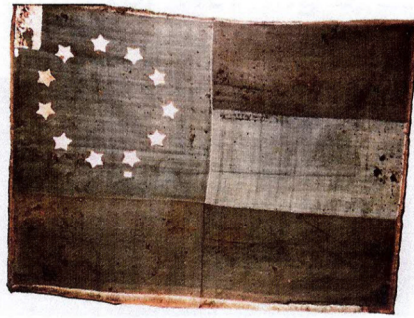
Before Conservation



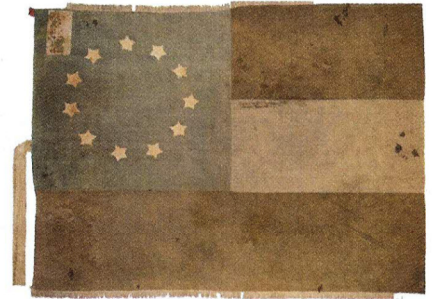
Conserved by McMains Foundation, 2001, \$9000

15th MS Infantry (1960.252.1)

1st National Pattern Confederate battle flag. On top of white stripe near canton is written in black script "Taken by Co. E 2nd Regt. Minnesota Vol. at the Battle of Logans Cross Roads, Kentucky."



Before Conservation



Conserved by SCV, 2009, \$9,335

18th MS Infantry, Co. K, Burt Rifles (1968.38.1)

Made by the Ladies of Jackson with painting by Lee Mallory of Jackson. Flag was presented to the company in the old opera house in Jackson at the corner of State and Amite Streets.



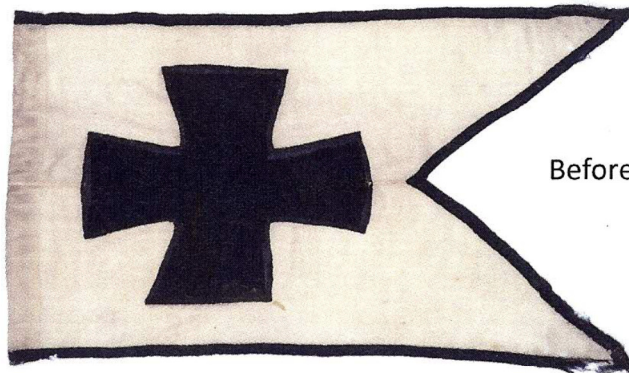
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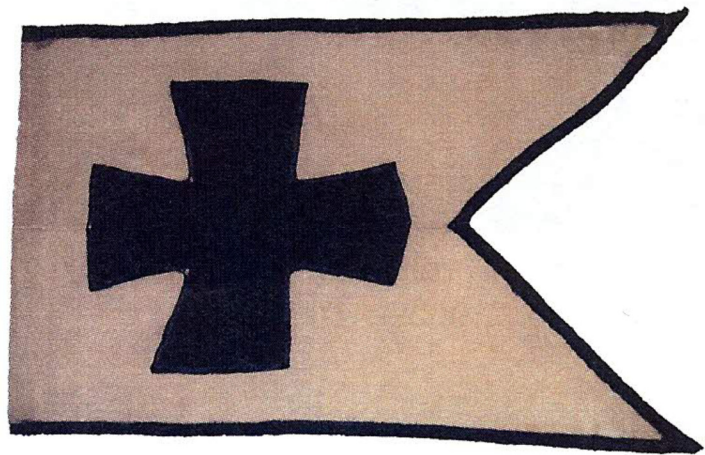
Conserved by SCV, 2007, \$5,600

General Winfield Scott Featherston's Brigade (1995.5.1)

This flag was flown over Gen. Featherston's Brigade headquarters and captured by J.K. Merrifield of St. Louis of the 88th Illinois Inf. at Battle of Franklin in Tennessee, November 30, 1864.



Before Conservation



Conserved by SCV, 2005, \$3025



118th National Reunion Sons of Confederate Veterans Vicksburg, Mississippi, July 18 - 20th, 2013 - Official Registration Form



Name _____ Title/Position _____

SCV Camp Name & Number _____

Personal Address _____

City & State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

Email _____ Spouse's Name _____

Guest Name _____ Guest Name _____

Registration is required of all members attending Reunion. Guests do not pay registration but must pay for meals and events.

Normal (From September 1, 2012 until May 31, 2013) _____ Qty. _____ x \$65.00 = \$ _____

Late (June 1, 2013 until July 20, 2013) _____ Qty. _____ x \$75.00 = \$ _____

Extra Reunion Medal _____ Qty. _____ x \$20.00 = \$ _____

Numbered Special Edition Reunion Medal _____ Qty. _____ x \$50.00 = \$ _____

Forrest Cavalry Breakfast (Thursday) _____ Qty. _____ x \$25.00 = \$ _____

Chaplain's Breakfast (Friday) _____ Qty. _____ x \$25.00 = \$ _____

Heritage Luncheon (Thursday) _____ Qty. _____ x \$30.00 = \$ _____

Awards Luncheon (Friday) _____ Qty. _____ x \$30.00 = \$ _____

MS Shiloh Monument Fish Fry (Friday Evening) _____ Qty. _____ x \$25.00 = \$ _____

Debutante Luncheon (Saturday - free for Debutante, other female guests \$30.00) Qty. _____ x \$30.00 = \$ _____

Grand Ball and Banquet (Saturday) \$120.00 Couple/\$65.00 Single = \$ _____

Tours and Performances

• Vicksburg NMP Tour (Thursday Morning 9:00 to 12:30) _____ Qty. _____ x \$30.00 = \$ _____

• Vicksburg NMP Tour (Thursday Afternoon 1:30 to 5:00) _____ Qty. _____ x \$30.00 = \$ _____

• "Gold in the Hills" Performance – (Thursday, limited 250 seats) Qty. _____ x \$10.00 = \$ _____

• Ladies Tour (Friday 9:00 AM to Noon) of Martha Vick House and Ladies Program and Tour of the Old Courthouse Museum (limited to 112 people) Qty. _____ x \$30.00 = \$ _____

Ancestor Memorial _____ Qty. _____ x \$10.00 = \$ _____

Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____

To insure preregistration, please mail registrations by July 10, 2013. Medals are available while supplies last. The purchase cost of extra Reunion Medals will be refunded if supplies run out. Special Edition Medals are numbered 1 – 50 and numbers will be assigned on a first-come, first-serve basis. If you would like a specific number(s), please make a note on your registration form. All profits from the MS Shiloh Monument Fish Fry go towards erecting a Mississippi Monument at Shiloh National Military Park. Meals and tours will not be available for at-the-door registrations.

**** Note:** To guarantee meal tickets, registration must be received by July 1, 2013

Make Checks Payable to: **SCV Camp 1354 - 2013 Reunion**

Mail Checks to: **2013 SCV Reunion . . . PO Box 820731 . . . Vicksburg, MS 39180-0731**

Contact the Hampton Inn and Suites – 1-601-636-6100 (rates are \$119.00 a night) or the Quality Inn Suites (rates are \$64.00 a night) – 1-601-636-0804. ***** (Hampton Inn and Quality Inn Suites are booked up see website for overflow hotel information)**

Ask for the "SCV Reunion Special Rate." All prices are subject to state and local taxes. For more information Contact: Alan Palmer, Committee Chairman – 662-719-9312 or cptalan61@yahoo.com or Andrew McCaskill, Committee Treasurer – andrewmccaskill@yahoo.com

Reunion Site: <http://2013scvreunion.homestead.com/Index.html>

As the North Rests on Its Laurels, the South Is Rising Fast by Joel Kotkin Jun 17, 2013

The old Confederate states now have America's fastest-growing economies, and populations. Joel Kotkin reports on why Northerners have been slow to notice or credit the South's rise.

One hundred and fifty years after twin defeats at Gettysburg and Vicksburg destroyed the South's quest for independence, the region is again on the rise. People and jobs are flowing there, and Northerners are perplexed by the resurgence of America's home of the ignorant, the obese, the prejudiced and exploited, the religious and the undereducated. Responding to new census data showing the Lone Star State is now home to eight of America's 15 fastest-growing cities, Gawker asked: "What is it that makes Texas so attractive? Is it the prisons? The racism? The deadly weather? The deadly animals? The deadly crime? The deadly political leadership? The costumed sex fetish conventions? The cannibal necromancers?"

The North and South have come to resemble a couple who, although married, dream very different dreams. The South, along with the Plains, is focused on growing its economy, getting rich, and catching up with the North's cultural and financial hegemony. The Yankee nation, by contrast, is largely concerned with preserving its privileged economic and cultural position—with its elites pulling up the ladder behind themselves.

This schism between the old Confederacy and the Northeastern elites is far more relevant and historically grounded than the glib idea of "red" and "blue" Americas. The base of today's Republican Party—once the party of the North—now lies in the former secessionist states, along with adjacent and culturally allied areas, such as Appalachia, the southern Great Plains, and parts of the Southwest, notably Arizona, largely settled by former Southerners.

"In almost every species of conceivable statistics having to do with wealth," John Gunther wrote in 1946, "the South is at the bottom." But even as Gunther was writing, the region had begun a gradual ascendancy, now in its seventh decade. That began with a belated post-WWII push to promote industrialization, much of it in relatively low-wage industries such as textiles. "Southerners don't have any rich relatives. God was a Northerner," the head of the pro-development Southern Regional Council told author Joel Garreau in 1980. "Without a heritage of anything except denial, Southerners, given a chance to improve their standard of living, are doing so."

While the Northeast and Midwest have become increasingly expensive places for businesses to locate, and cool to most new businesses outside of high-tech, entertainment, and high-end financial services, the South tends to want it all—and is willing to sacrifice tax revenue and regulations to get it. A review of state business climates by *CEO Magazine* found that eight of the top 10 most business-friendly states, led by Texas, were from the former Confederacy; Unionist strongholds California, New York, Illinois, and Massachusetts sat at the bottom. The South's advantages come in no small part from decisions that many Northern liberals detest—lack of unions, lower wages, and less stringent environment laws. But for many Southerners, particularly in rural areas, a job at the Toyota plant with a \$15-an-hour starting salary, and full medical benefits, is a vast improvement over a minimum-wage job at Wal-Mart, much less your father's fate chopping cotton on a tenant farm.

And the business-friendly policies that keep costs down appeal to investors. Ten of the top 12 states for locating new plants are in the former confederacy, according to a recent study by *Site Selection* magazine. In 2011 the two largest capital investments in North America (PDF)—both tied to natural-gas production—were in Louisiana.

More recently, the region—led by Texas—has moved up the value-added chain, seizing a fast-growing share of the jobs in higher-wage fields such as auto and aircraft manufacturing, aerospace, technology, and energy. Southern economic growth has now outpaced the rest of the country for a generation and it now constitutes by far the largest economic region in the country. A recent analysis by Trulia projects the edge will widen over the rest of this decade, owing to factors including the region's lower costs and warmer weather.

These developments are slowly reversing the increasingly outdated image of the South as hopelessly backward in high-value-added industries. Alabama and Kentucky are now among the top-five auto-producing states, while the Third Coast corridor between Louisiana and Florida ranks as the world's fourth-largest aerospace hub, behind Toulouse, France; Seattle; and California. Southern growth can also be seen in financial and other business services. The new owners of the New York Stock Exchange are based in Atlanta.

The South's advantages come in no small part from decisions that many Northern liberals detest.

While the recession was tough on many Southern states, the area's recovery generally has been stronger than that of Yankeedom: the unemployment rate in the region is now lower than in the West or the Northeast. The Confederacy no longer dominates the list of states with the highest share of people living in poverty; new census measurements (PDF), adjusted for regional cost of living, place the District of Columbia and California first and second. New York now has a higher real poverty rate than Mississippi.

Over the past five decades, the South has also gained in terms of population as Northern states, and more recently California, have lost momentum. Once a major exporter of people to the Union states, today the migration tide flows the other way. The *hegira* to the sunbelt continues, as last year the region accounted for six of the top eight states attracting domestic migrants—Texas, Florida, North Carolina, Tennessee, South Carolina, and Georgia. Texas and Florida each gained 250,000 net migrants. The top four losers were New York, Illinois, New Jersey, and California.

These trends suggest that the South will expand its dominance as the nation's most populous region. In the 1950s, the Confederacy, the Northeast, and the Midwest all had about the same populations. Today the South is nearly as populous as the Northeast and the Midwest combined, and the Census projects the region will grow far more rapidly (PDF) in the years to come than its costlier Northern counterparts.

Yankees tend to shrug off such numbers as largely the chaff drifting down. "The Feet are moving south and west," *The Atlantic's* Derek Thompson wrote in 2010, "while the Brains are moving toward coastal cities."

Continued on page 7 . . .

To be sure, some Yankee bastions, such as Massachusetts and Connecticut, enjoy much higher percentages of educated people than the South. Every state in the Southeast falls below the national average of percentage of residents 25 and over with at least a bachelor's degree—but virtually every major Southern metropolitan region has been gaining educated workers faster than their Northeastern counterparts. Over the past decade, greater Atlanta added over 300,000 residents with B.A.s, more than the larger Philadelphia region and almost 70,000 more than Boston.

The region—as recently as the 1970s defined by its often ugly biracial politics—has become increasingly diverse, as newly arrived Hispanics and Asians have shifted the racial dynamics. While the vast majority of 19th-century immigrants to America settled in the Northeast and Midwest, today the fastest-growing immigration destinations—including Nashville, Atlanta, and Charlotte—are in the old Confederacy. Houston ranked second in gaining new foreign-born residents in the past decade, just behind New York City, with nearly three times its size. And Houston and Dallas both now attract a higher rate of immigration than Boston, Chicago, Seattle, or Philadelphia.

These immigrants are drawn to the South for the same reasons as other Americans—more jobs, a more affordable cost of living and better entrepreneurial opportunities. A 2011 *Forbes* ranking of best cities for immigrant entrepreneurs—measuring rates of migration, business ownership, and income—found several Southeastern cities at the top of the list, with Atlanta in the top slot, and Nashville coming in third. Then there's the most critical determinant of future power: family formation. The South easily outstrips the Yankee states in growth in its 10-and-under population. Texas and North Carolina expanded their kiddie population by over 15 percent; and every Southern state gained kids except for Katrina-ravaged Louisiana. In contrast New York, Rhode Island, and Michigan lost children by a double-digit margin while every state in the Northeast as well as California suffered net losses.

The differences are most striking when looking at child-population growth among the nation's 51 largest metropolitan areas. Eight of the top ten cities for growth in children under 15 were located in the old Confederacy—Raleigh-Cary, Austin, Charlotte, Dallas, Houston, Orlando, Atlanta, and Nashville. New York, Los Angeles, and Boston, along with several predictable rust-belt locals, ranked in the bottom 10. Historically, regions with demographic and economic momentum tend to overwhelm those who lack it. Numbers mean more congressional seats and more electoral votes, and governors who command a large state budget and the national stage. Unless there is a major political change, the South's demographic elevation will do little to help Democrats there, who, like Northern Republicans, appear to be an endangered species.

Pundits including the *National Journal's* perceptive Ron Brownstein suggest that the GOP's Southern dominance has “masked” the party's decline in much of the rest of the country. Other, more partisan voices, like the *New Yorker's* George Packersimply dismiss Southern conservatives as overmatched by the Obama coalition of minorities, the young, and the highly educated. The even more partisan Robert Shrum correctly points out that the Southern-dominated GOP is increasingly out of step with the rest of the country on a host of social and economic issues, from income inequality to support for gay marriage.

“A lot of sociologists have projected that the South will cease to exist because of things like the Internet and technology,” Jonathan Wells told *Charlotte Magazine*. An associate professor of history at UNCC and author of *Entering the Fray: Gender, Culture, and Politics in the New South*, Wells predicts the region “will lose its distinctive identity that it had in the past.”

It's unlikely, though, that the South will emulate the North's social model of an ever-expanding welfare state and ever more stringent “green” restrictions on business—which hardly constitutes a strong recipe for success for a developing economy. It's difficult to argue, for example, that President Obama's Chicago, broke and with 10 percent unemployment, represents the beacon of the economic future compared to faster-growing Houston, Dallas, Raleigh, or even Atlanta. People or businesses moving from Los Angeles, New York, or Chicago to these cities will no doubt carry their views on social issues with them, but it's doubtful they will look north for economic role models.

Instead, you might see some political leaders, even Democrats, in states such as Pennsylvania, Ohio (a Civil War hotspot for pro-Southern Copperheads), and Michigan come to realize that pro-development policies, such as fracking, offer broader benefits than the head-in-the-sand “green” energy policy that slow growth in places like New York and California. The surviving Southern Democrats (by definition, a tough breed) like Houston Mayor Anise Parker have shown that you can blend social liberalism with “good old boy” pro-business policies.

Politicians like Parker, along with Republicans such as former Florida governor Jeb Bush, represent the real future of the states that once made up the Confederacy. As they look to compete with the Northeast and California for the culture, and high-tech and financial-service firms that are forced to endure the high cost of the coasts, Southerners are likely to at least begin shrugging off their regressive—and costly—social views on issues like gay marriage.

Bluntly put, if the South can finally shake off the worst parts of its cultural baggage, the region's eventual ascendancy over the North seems more than likely. High-tech entrepreneurs, movie-makers, and bankers appreciate lower taxes and more sensible regulation, just like manufacturers and energy companies. And people generally prefer affordable homes and family-friendly cities. Throwing in a little Southern hospitality, friendliness, and courtesy can't hurt either.

Sesquicentennial Article:

Gettysburg 150th Anniversary / Pittsburgh digs in, prepares for war

By Len Barcoucky / Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

In June 1863, President Abraham Lincoln acknowledges that the city offers a tempting target. Meanwhile, Confederate Gen. J.E.B. Stuart and his cavalry are nowhere to be found. The uncertainty leaves Pittsburgh with no choice: Prepare for attack or perish. Pittsburgh offered a tempting target for Confederate forces, Abraham Lincoln told a visitor to his office on June 18, 1863. “The President talked a good deal about Pittsburgh,” a “gentleman of this city” wrote in a letter from Washington published June 22 in the *Daily Pittsburgh Gazette*. Such private correspondence was often the source of out-of-town stories for the region's newspapers.

According to Lincoln, Pittsburgh “was more an object [of military importance] both to the rebels and the country than Harrisburg, as there was an arsenal, some gun foundries, and a good deal of boat building.” Lincoln's comments added to the multiple reports that identified the Forks of the Ohio as a possible target when Gen. Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia invaded Pennsylvania in June 1863. Of even greater concern was the whereabouts of Confederate Gen. J.E.B. Stuart's fast-moving cavalry. No one knew where Stuart's horsemen would turn up next.

Continued on page 8 . . .

Gettysburg continued . . .

A New York businessman named Hewitt had arrived in the city after a journey to Vicksburg, Miss. "He informed one of our leading merchants that it had long been the intention of the rebels to destroy Pittsburgh," according to a story that appeared June 5. "He wished our citizens to be on their guard ..." Another Pittsburgher told of a conversation with a Rebel officer, "in which he stated that it was their intention to destroy the cannon foundry as soon as it was possible for them to do so." That reference was to the Fort Pitt Foundry in what is now Pittsburgh's Strip District, where heavy artillery was produced.

Pittsburgh and its sister city of Allegheny, now the North Side, were rail hubs and home to hundreds of factories and warehouses. The federal government's Allegheny Arsenal was only a few miles away in what was then the separate borough of Lawrenceville.

During that first week in June, residents formed committees of public safety to defend their communities. "The best mode for preventing attack is to be at all times thoroughly prepared for our defense," committee members said in a statement published June 6. Less than a week later, Gen. William T.H. Brooks arrived in Pittsburgh to organize the military and civilian defense of the region as commander of the Department of the Monongahela. Brooks asked that business and factory owners provide at least 2,000 men to start digging entrenchments to protect approaches to Allegheny and Pittsburgh. Meeting June 14 at the Monongahela House on Smithfield Street, the community leaders agreed. The Gazette on June 15 contained some slightly reassuring news. Lee's army had been located on the eastern side of the Allegheny Mountains near Winchester, Va., and Martinsburg, in the new breakaway state of West Virginia. That made a Confederate attack on Harrisburg or Philadelphia more likely than a move against Pittsburgh. But the location of Stuart's cavalry remained unknown.

The public safety committee asked, in a story that appeared June 17, that Allegheny County men "capable of bearing arms forthwith enroll themselves in military organizations for drill, active service and defensive warfare ..." All others were asked to "form themselves into squads for labor, and work upon the fortifications for defense and security of this vicinity." By the end of that week, almost 4,500 men were digging trenches and putting up earthworks on high ground around the cities. The Gazette on June 19 ran lists of companies and the number of workers they provided for defense. Iron makers Jones and Laughlin, for example, had 350 of its workers laboring on Mount Washington.

The Gazette reported that same day that the city's black residents were eager to do their part to defend their homes. "We are informed that the colored men of the two cities sent a deputation to the military authorities, tending their services in any capacity," the story said.

Almost six months after the Emancipation Proclamation freed all slaves in secessionist states, the issue of using black volunteers remained controversial. Brooks did not reply to the proposal from the African-American community to provide about 200 men. "The offer, however, was honorable to them, and we hope that matters can yet be so arranged that they may have an opportunity to render their assistance," the newspaper said. The story noted that some African-Americans were already at work. "We knew that a band of colored men were engaged on the works on the south side of the Monongahela, and are informed that they labored with great energy."

The Gazette also warned that Pittsburgh was in danger of falling behind its cross-state rival in its racial attitudes. "In Philadelphia the services of two or three companies of colored men were offered and accepted, as we see by the papers of that city." In that same day's paper, a familiar name turns up: Joseph Horne, the founder of the department store chain, proposed at a public safety meeting that the merchants of Pittsburgh "suspend all business until the present emergency has passed." His motion was approved. By June 20, more than 6,800 workers were digging fortifications on Mount Washington, Squirrel Hill and more than two dozen other locations around the two cities.

Not everyone was following the rules. The Gazette reported on June 25 that a gang of men had walked down what was then Liberty Street "for the purpose of compelling certain shop keepers to close up their stores." Most complied, the story said. One exception was M. Amburgh, a clothier at Liberty and Smithfield streets. Although his salesman, H.S. Solomons, urged him to close, Amburgh "became very indignant [and] declared he would not shut his store." When Solomons refused to fetch police to disperse the crowd of protesters, Amburgh fired him. He then briefly closed his store, "but after the crowd left, he opened the front door." Conditions grew more tense as the Confederates occupied more Pennsylvania towns. Gazette headlines on June 25 told of "15,000 Rebels in the Cumberland Valley" and "Chambersburg Taken and Guttled." On June 29, Pittsburgh readers learned: "Carlisle evacuated by our troops" and "Longstreet and Ewell's Corps in Pennsylvania."

Work on fortifications around the city continued into the first days of July with a goal of completing them by Independence Day. Brooks had ordered bars and saloons to close Friday and Saturday, July 3 and 4. His proclamation, published in the July 3 Gazette, banned both "the selling or giving away" of alcohol. "The carrying of beer, ale or any kind of liquor to the working parties also is forbidden." "The Fourth passed off very quietly and pleasantly in this vicinity," the Gazette reported on Monday, July 6. "There was a very general response to the call to work upon the fortifications, and thousands were thus employed ... the number of ladies who visited the earth works during the day was very large." While work on all the fortifications had not been completed by the July 4 deadline, the urgency dissipated. What the Gazette called the "Great Battle near Gettysburg" had ended with Lee's army retreating south. The big danger to Pennsylvania had passed. As it wound down its affairs, the public safety committee on July 7 passed a resolution to halt all paid labor on the redoubts, forts and trenches.

Ten Facts About Gettysburg

JULY 1-3, 1863

It is the site of the bloodiest battle of the Civil War and one of the most visited places in the United States, but Gettysburg is still plagued by misinformation. Set the record straight with these ten key facts.

Fact 1: The battle was fought at Gettysburg because of the area road system—it had nothing to do with shoes.

The Town of Gettysburg, population 2,000, was a town on the rise. It boasted three newspapers, two institutes of higher learning, several churches and banks, but no shoe factory or warehouse. The ten roads that led into town are what brought the armies to Gettysburg. The shoe myth can be traced to a late-1870s statement by Confederate general Henry Heth.

Fact 2: The First Day's battle was a much larger engagement than is generally portrayed.

The first day's fighting (at McPherson's Ridge, Oak Hill, Oak Ridge, Seminary Ridge, Barlow's Knoll and in and around the town) involved some 50,000 soldiers of which roughly 15,500 were killed, wounded, captured or missing. The first day in itself ranks as the 12th bloodiest battle of the Civil War—with more casualties than the battles of Bull Run and Franklin combined.

Fact 3: The Second Day's Battle was the largest and costliest of the three days.

The second day's fighting (at Devil's Den, Little Round Top, the Wheatfield, the Peach Orchard, Cemetery Ridge, Trostle's Farm, Culp's Hill and Cemetery Hill) involved at least 100,000 soldiers of which roughly 20,000 were killed, wounded, captured or missing. The second day in itself ranks as the 10th bloodiest battle of the Civil War—with far more casualties than the much larger Battle of Fredericksburg.

Fact 4: Of 120 generals present at Gettysburg, nine were killed or mortally wounded during the battle.

On the Confederate side, generals Semmes, Barksdale, Armistead, Garnett, and Pender (plus Pettigrew during the retreat). On the Union side, generals Reynolds, Zook, Weed, and Farnsworth (and Vincent, promoted posthumously). No other battle claimed as many general officers.

Fact 5: Culp's Hill and Cemetery Hill were far more important than Little Round Top.

While Little Round Top is far more popular today, its importance to the Union army is at least debatable. The same cannot be said for Culp's Hill and Cemetery Hill. The two latter hills formed the center and right of the Union's main position and also protected the Union army's only real lifeline on July 2 and 3—the Baltimore Pike. Had Confederates captured and controlled either of these two hills, the Union army would have had to leave the Gettysburg area. It is as simple as that. Even with its sweeping views and commanding height, the same cannot be said for Little Round Top.

Fact 6: Pickett's Charge was large and grand but by no means the largest charge of the Civil War. Not even close.

Pickett's Charge involved some 12,000 Confederate soldiers, but the Confederate charge at Franklin had roughly 20,000. Even that pales in comparison to the grand Confederate charge at Gaines' Mill which involved more than 50,000 Confederate troops. Even the well-known 260-gun bombardment that preceded Pickett's Charge was not the largest of the war. There was at least one bombardment at Petersburg with more than 400 cannons involved.

Fact 7: The Battle of Gettysburg is by far the costliest battle of the Civil War but not necessarily the largest.

While each of the three days of the Battle of Gettysburg rank in the top 15 bloodiest battles of the Civil War—the 160,000 troops present at Gettysburg are eclipsed by the more than 185,000 at Fredericksburg.

Fact 8: 63 Medals of Honor awarded to Union soldiers for their actions at Gettysburg

The deeds spanned the battlefield and were awarded from wartime into the 20th century. Eight were awarded for actions on July 1, and 28 each for actions on July 2 and July 3.



Fact 9: The Gettysburg Address essentially said the same thing as the famous orator Edward Everett's speech but in 1/60th the time.

When Lincoln uttered these two sentences, "We have come to dedicate a portion of that field as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this," he was essentially repeating an idea that had already been stated—only more succinctly. Everett used more than 5,500 words (the entire speech can be found here) to make the same point. Most every part of the corresponding speeches can be examined this way and leaves no doubt as to why Everett wrote to Lincoln: "I should be glad, if I could flatter myself that I came as near to the central idea of the occasion, in two hours, as you did in two minutes."

Fact 10: While the Gettysburg Battlefield is well-preserved, there are still numerous parcels to be saved.

The Civil War Trust and the National Park Service have identified several unpreserved parcels which are important to the story of America's greatest battle. The battlefield itself is among the best resources for historians and others to learn about the battle. The unique terrain, when used in conjunction with the words of those who fought here, images created on the ground, and monuments placed by the veterans, provides an unparalleled learning opportunity. We must continue to work to preserve this hallowed ground.

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More Facts:

- There are more than 1,400 monuments, markers and tablets at Gettysburg.
- More than 30,000 dead and wounded soldiers were left in the battle's wake.
- More than one-third of all known photographs of dead soldiers on Civil War battlefields were recorded at Gettysburg.
- General George Gordon Meade was only in command for three days before the battle.
- The Battle of Gettysburg started without the knowledge or consent of either army commander -- Lee or Meade.
- The 200,000,000 year-old Gettysburg Sill created the volcanic boulders on the Union right and left flanks.
- The Battle of Gettysburg was fought on some of the hottest days of the summer. The hottest time of the month, nearly 90 degrees, was right during Pickett's Charge on July 3rd.
- It did not rain during the battle, but a heavy downpour soaked the battlefield the day after.
- Most of the battlefield places were nameless before the battle—there was no reason to name them. But the battle made a wheatfield into The Wheatfield and a peach orchard into The Peach Orchard.
- General Lee lost 23 battle flags in Pickett's Charge -- more than he had lost in the previous 14 months combined.