



Camp Website: www.humphreys1625.com



The Delta General

Richard Dillon, Camp Commander

Battle for the railroad crossing at Corinth, MS



October 2016, Volume 19, Issue 10

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

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UPCOMING EVENTS

- Camp Meeting – Thursday, September 1, 2016, 7:00 PM at 1st Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall in Indianola

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Brig. General Benjamin G. Humphreys
Camp #1625, SCV
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Camp News:

Commander's Report – Richard Dillon

At the time of publication the Commander had no report.

Camp Meeting, September and October, 2016

Adjutant's Report – Larry McCluney

The speaker for October fell through but because of our "Ancestor Night", Joe Nokes gave a great presentation on his ancestor that was killed at Franklin. We discussed supporting the UDC state convention and supporting the pilgrimage at Carrollton as a recruiting opportunity.

Instead of a Camp meeting for the month of October, the Camp voted to take of tour of Civil War Helena, Arkansas. Four Camp members and 1 OCR member were present as Ron Kelly, local historian, took us on tours of Batteries D and C. We also got a tour of the Delta Cultural Center and visited Maj. General Patrick Cleburne's gravesite and paid our respects.

Afterwards, we all went to El Rio for lunch. Fun was had by all and fellowship. If you did not attend you missed a great event.

Ella Palmer Chapter, #9, OCR; President

Sandra Stillman

(At the Time of Publication there was no report)

Mechanized Cavalry Report

1G STATE MEETING 5 NOV 2016 AT LAKE TIAK O'KHATA LOUISVILLE MISS.

The Mississippi SCVMC State meeting will be held at Lake Tiak O'Khata in Louisville on Sat 5 Nov at SMYTH HALL room 278K. We have met there in the past and is next door to the hotel and across the road from the restaurant on top of the hill. The meeting will start at 2pm. If you plan to stay the night and need a room you can call 1-888-845-6151 for reservations.

This is a maximum effort ride/meeting and need everyone possible to be there. We will be having the election for Captain and nominations should be sent to 1st Sgt. Paul Young. You can also give your nomination to any Lt. or officer in the 1G and they can forward it to Sgt. Young. Do not send me nominations.

If anyone has something to add to the agenda please contact me, Gunner.

We have two items to discuss and vote on dealing with our Constitution before the election. Details of this will be posted on our Private FB page and through email.

As items are added I will post an agenda in the future. The following are the scheduled Annuals..... 2017 North Carolina 2018 South Carolina; 2019 Texas

Thanks and look forward to seeing everyone there. Some have asked and I am running for re-election as Captain of the 1G.

Steven Gunner Rutherford, Captain SCVMC1G Mississippi

Lt. Commander's Report – Brent Mitchell

Dian Bohner was scheduled to be our guest speaker for November but she will be having surgery then and had to cancel. Thus, Bro. James Taylor will be taking her place to speak. It is always a pleasure to have Bro. Taylor and we hope everyone comes out to hear his message.

Honor Your Ancestor

Many of us enjoy talking about our ancestors and the pride we have in doing it. A lot of the times when we are amongst friends we jump at the opportunity to tell our ancestor's stories. Therefore, I challenge everyone to prepare a short presentation about your ancestor to present at a camp meeting. Keep it about 5 minutes in length. I will ask the commander to give a spot on the agenda every month for a short presentation. If your presentation is longer, contact Brent Mitchell so we can make it a Camp program. Also, if you have a picture of your ancestor, bring a copy for everyone to see. Volunteers to start speaking at our September meeting. Last month Joe Nokes gave an excellent program on his ancestor. November will highlight Larry McCluney's Ancestor. Who will volunteer for December?



March in Monroe, LA for Mardi Gras

This use to be an annual thing for our Camp members to participate in and have fun. Lets make plans now to participate next year, February 18, 2017 at 6:00 PM. Mark your as the Camp voted to participate.

Membership Renewals

The South needs all its Sons thus I urge you to get your membership dues in fast. Our goal is 100% renewal. Our annual dues are due on August 1 and the last date is October 31. You should have gotten notification from the Mississippi Division Adjutant. It should describe the dues you owe for the upcoming year and an opportunity to donate to Mississippi Division Projects. The check for dues and donations will be sent to Larry McCluney, your Camp Adjutant as prescribed in your Renewal Notice. National dues of \$30, State Dues of 10, and Camp Dues of \$10. All must be paid to remain a member in good standing. Life memberships can be purchased for National and Mississippi Division. Life membership in the National Organization exempts one from paying annual dues to the National Organization only. It does not exempt you from paying annual dues to the Mississippi Division nor your Camp dues.

Life membership in the Mississippi Division exempts one from paying annual dues to the Mississippi Division only. It does not exempt you from paying annual dues to your Camp dues. For information about Division Life membership go to www.mississippiiscv.org/links.html and then go to article 4.C of the bylaws. For more information about National Life Membership go to www.scv.org, then go to services, then forms and documents, and then life membership application.

Mississippi Division News

Fall Muster

Fall Muster is always the third weekend in October. This year is the 30th event. Meet your brothers in arms at Beauvoir on October 14, 15, 16, 2016.

Friends of Beauvoir

Beauvoir the Home of Jefferson Davis is Owned and Operated by the Mississippi Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans.

Here is an Invitation to give the Past a Future!

Go to http://www.beauvoir.org/Support_Beauvoir/index.html for details

Bricks for Beauvoir

The plans are for a brick plaza around the tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Each brick would cost \$50.00 and would have the name of a Confederate ancestor of members of the SCV who give to the effort. "The Bricks for Beauvoir" Project is spearheaded by Larry McCluney, Past Commander of the Mississippi Division. Thirteen columns, in a crescent, will represent the 13 States of the Confederacy and will fly the flag of each respective State.



National SCV News:

Compatriots,

As you may know, the SCV is moving forward rapidly with the new Confederate Museum at our Headquarters at Elm Springs. With about \$500,000 in our account, we are going to need to raise over \$2.5M to turn this dream into reality.

The 47th Regiment NC Troops Camp 166 in Wake Forest, North Carolina has issued a challenge to each of our camps to raise and donate at least \$1,000 for the Confederate Museum. As I believe that competition is normally healthy, I would like to accept this challenge for our Confederation and I will have a prize for the camp which donates the greatest amount of money for the building of our museum. What that prize is will be a secret, but I can assure you it will be worthy of the momentous sacrifice to achieve it. The start date of the competition is 15 August 2016 and the date we close this competition will be 31 December 2017 so each camp has a little less than 17 months to collect and donate their monies for this significant camp prize. You do not have to make just one donation - we will keep track of each donation for each camp, no matter how small or large. As a reminder, any person or camp who donates \$1,000 or more will be included on a plaque at the new museum.

As much as I look forward to this competition, let us work together in a true spirit of brotherhood as the ultimate prize is our museum. I ask that each camp try to match this challenge and, if possible, exceed it so that we may pay off the debt which we are surely going to have to incur to make this a reality. Our museum is so essential to our long term mission for providing THE educational venue for teaching our ancestors' story properly and with truth. Let us build this museum together for our posterity!

Deo Vindice,
Thos. V. Strain Jr.
75th Commander-in-Chief
Sons of Confederate Veterans

Upcoming National Conventions

2017	Memphis Tennessee July 20-22 2017
2018	Franklin Tennessee
2019	Mobile Alabama

Message from the Chaplain-in-Chief

Dear fellow Chaplains and Friends of the Corps:

As Confederate Americans with strong Christian faith we are faced with challenging days. Our faith, of course, continues to be attacked. There are Christians in certain parts of the world who are dying for their faith. In our own country we view contemporary culture "chipping" away at the moral fiber of biblical truth. What was once discussed only in the closed areas of society is now brought forth into bright light for public display. If one speaks for life, morality, integrity, and purity, that one can be called "hateful, unloving, and prejudice." Our faith is under attack.

In addition, our Confederate heritage is assaulted each day. Flags are being removed. Monuments are being taken down. Street names are being changed. Athletic team mascots are discarded. School names are altered. One who speaks out against this type of uncontrolled hysteria can be branded as "a racist filled with vile hatred." Our Confederate heritage is under attack.

In view of these attacks, let the word go forth. We are people of faith and we will not change or abandon our beliefs. We are people of Southern Heritage and we will not apologize for honoring the Confederate soldier, defending his good name, emulating his virtues, or perpetuating those principles he loved, for we love those same principles. In 1861 the South took a bold stand for freedom, liberty, justice, and self-determination. The easy path, the path of least resistance, and the path without sacrifice would be the path of capitulation. This path the South refused to walk. They took the difficult path and the path of sacrifice; but they had to -- it was the path of truth, honor, duty, and valor.

We are their decedents. Their blood flows in our veins. Their sacred honor is in our hands to defend; and this we will do. We will not go away quietly. We will speak out. We will parade our colors. We will defend our monuments and yes we will build more. For each Confederate flag unjustly removed, we will post two in its place. Confederate Americans are not going away. The hope of our land is found in Southern ways, ways which reflect faith in God, integrity of character, and boldness of spirit.

Our Christian faith leads us to prayer in times of adversity. Many were the prayer meetings on the battlefields of the 1860s. Confederate soldiers and their chaplains banded together at the throne of God to seek His will, guidance, wisdom, protection, and grace. In this time of struggle, we will not do less! We will be found at God's throne on our knees praying for our country and praying for our SCV leaders. We must be steady in faith and strong in heritage in the midst of injustice, tyranny, and prejudice.

During these challenging days I know that we will be in prayer for the good men serving on the GEC. They are called upon to make extremely important decisions and certainly need the guidance of the Lord.

Deo Vindice!
Ray L. Parker
Chaplain-in-Chief

The Battle of Corinth, October 3-4, 1862

As Confederate General Braxton Bragg moved north from Tennessee into Kentucky in September 1862, Union Maj. Gen. Don Carlos Buell pursued him from Nashville with his Army of the Ohio. Confederate forces under Van Dorn and Price in northern Mississippi were expected to advance into Middle Tennessee to support Bragg's effort, but the Confederates also needed to prevent Buell from being reinforced by Maj. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant's Army of the Tennessee. Since the conclusion of the Siege of Corinth that summer, Grant's army had been engaged in protecting supply lines in western Tennessee and northern Mississippi. At the Battle of Iuka on September 19, Maj. Gen. Sterling Price's Confederate Army of the West was defeated by forces under Grant's overall command, but tactically under Rosecrans, the commander of the Army of the Mississippi. (Grant's second column approaching Iuka, commanded by Maj. Gen. Edward Ord, did not participate in the battle as planned. An acoustic shadow apparently prevented Grant and Ord from hearing the sounds of the battle starting.) Price had hoped to combine his small army with Maj. Gen. Earl Van Dorn's Army of West Tennessee and disrupt Grant's communications, but Rosecrans struck first, causing Price to retreat from Iuka. Rosecrans's pursuit of Price was ineffectual.

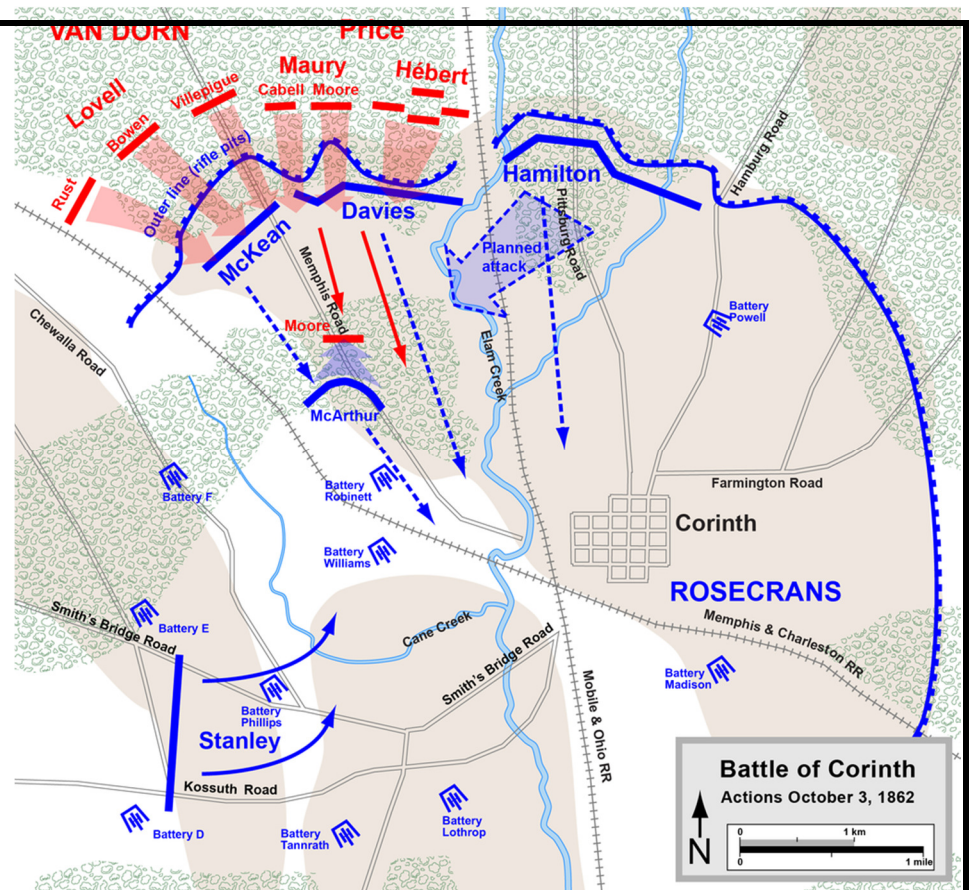
After Iuka, Grant established his headquarters at Jackson, Tennessee, a central location to communicate with his commands at Corinth and Memphis. Rosecrans returned to Corinth. Ord's three divisions of Grant's Army of the Tennessee moved to Bolivar, Tennessee, northwest of Corinth, to join with Maj. Gen. Stephen A. Hurlbut. Thus, Grant's forces in the immediate vicinity consisted of 12,000 men at Bolivar, Rosecrans's 23,000 at Corinth, Maj. Gen. William T. Sherman's 7,000 at Memphis, and another 6,000 as a general reserve at Jackson.

Price's army marched to Ripley where it joined Van Dorn on September 28. Van Dorn was the senior officer and took command of the combined force, numbering about 22,000 men. They marched on the Memphis and Charleston Railroad to Pochontas, Tennessee, on October 1. From this point they had a number of opportunities for further moves and Grant was uncertain about their intentions. When they bivouacked on October 2 at Chewalla, Grant became certain that Corinth was the target. The Confederates hoped to seize Corinth from an unexpected direction, isolating Rosecrans from reinforcements, and then sweep into Middle Tennessee. Grant sent word to Rosecrans to be prepared for an attack, at the same time directing Hurlbut to keep an eye on the enemy and strike him on the flank if a favorable opportunity offered. Despite the warning from Grant, Rosecrans was not convinced that Corinth was necessarily the target of Van Dorn's advance. He believed that the Confederate commander would not be foolhardy enough to attack the fortified town and might well instead choose to strike the Mobile and Ohio railroad and maneuver the U.S. soldiers out of their position.

Along the north and east sides of Corinth, about two miles from the town, was a line of entrenchments, extending from the Chewalla Road on the northwest to the Mobile and Ohio Railroad on the south, that had been constructed by Confederate General P.G.T. Beauregard's army before it evacuated the town in May. These lines were too extensive for Rosecrans's 23,000 men to defend, so with the approval of Grant, Rosecrans modified the lines to emphasize the defense of the town and the ammunition magazines near the junction of the two railroads. The inner line of redoubts, closer to the town, called the Halleck Line, was much more substantial. A number of formidable named batteries, guns positioned in strong earthwork defenses, were part of the inner line: Batteries Robinett, Williams, Phillips, Tannrath, and Lothrop, in the area known as College Hill.^[6] They were connected by breastworks, and during the last four days of September these works had been strengthened, and the trees in the vicinity of the centrally placed Battery Robinett had been felled to form an abatis. Rosecrans's plan was to absorb the expected Confederate advance with a skirmish line at the old Confederate entrenchments and to then meet the bulk of the Confederate attack with his main force along the Halleck Line, about a mile from the center of town. His final stand would be made around the batteries on College Hill. His men were provided with three days' rations and 100 rounds of ammunition. Van Dorn was not aware of the strength of his opponent, who had prudently called in two reinforcing divisions from the Army of the Tennessee to deal with the difficulty of assaulting these prepared positions.

On the morning of October 3, three of Rosecrans's divisions advanced into the old Confederate rifle pits north and northwest of town: McKean on the left, Davies in the center, and Hamilton on the right. Stanley's division was held in reserve south of town. Van Dorn began his assault at 10 a.m. with Lovell's division attacking McArthur's brigade (McKean's division, on the Union left) from three sides. Van Dorn's plan was a double envelopment, in which Lovell would open the fight, in the hope that Rosecrans would weaken his right to reinforce McKean, at which time Price would make the main assault against the U.S. right and enter the works. Lovell made a determined attack on Oliver and as soon as he became engaged Maury opened the fight with Davies's left. McArthur quickly moved four regiments to Oliver's support and at the same time Davies advanced his line to the entrenchments. These movements left a gap between Davies and McKean, through which the Confederates forced their way about 1:30 p.m., and the whole Union line fell back to within half a mile of the redoubts, leaving two pieces of artillery in the hands of the Confederates.

During this part of the action Gen. Hackleman was killed and Gen. Oglesby (the future governor of Illinois) seriously wounded, shot through the lungs. About 3 p.m. Hamilton was ordered to change front and attack the Confederates on the left flank, but through a misunderstanding of the order and the unmasking of a force on Buford's front, so much time was lost that it was sunset before the division was in position for the movement, and it had to be abandoned. Van Dorn in his report says: "One hour more of daylight and victory would have soothed our grief for the loss of the gallant dead who sleep on that lost but not dishonored



field." But one hour more of daylight would have hurled Hamilton's as-yet unengaged brigades on the Confederate's left and rear, which would in all probability have driven Van Dorn from the field and made the second day's battle unnecessary.

So far the advantage had been with the Confederates. Rosecrans had been driven back at all points, and night found his entire army except pickets inside the redoubts. Both sides had been exhausted from the fighting. The weather had been hot (high of 94 °F) and water was scarce, causing many men to nearly faint from their exertions. During the night the Confederates slept within 600 yards of the Union works, and Van Dorn readjusted his lines for the attack the next day. He abandoned his sophisticated plans for double envelopments. Shelby Foote wrote, "His blood was up; it was Rosecrans he was after, and he was after him in the harshest, most straightforward way imaginable. Today he would depend not on deception to complete the destruction begun the day before, but on the rapid point-blank fire of his guns and the naked valor of his infantry." Rosecrans's biographer, William M. Lamers, reported that Rosecrans was confident at the end of the first day of battle, saying "We've got them where we want them" and that some of the general's associates claimed that he was in "magnificent humor." Peter Cozzens, however, suggested that Rosecrans was "tired and bewildered, certain only he was badly outnumbered—at least three to one by his reckoning."^[14] Steven E. Woodworth, a historian specializing in the Western Theater of the American Civil War, portrayed Rosecrans's conduct in a negative light:

Rosecrans ... had not done well. He had failed to anticipate the enemy's action, put little more than half his troops into the battle, and called on his men to fight on ground they could not possibly hold. He had sent a series of confusing and unrealistic orders to his division commanders and had done nothing to coordinate their activities, while he personally remained safely back in Corinth. The movements of the army that day had had nothing to do with any plan of his to develop the enemy or make a fighting withdrawal. The troops and their officers had simply held on as best as they could. At 4:30 a.m. on October 4, the Confederates opened up on the Union inner line of entrenchments with a six-gun battery, which kept up its bombardment until after sunrise. When the guns fell silent, the U.S. troops prepared themselves to resist an attack. But the attack was slow in coming. Van Dorn had directed Hébert to begin the engagement at daylight, and the artillery fire was merely preliminary to enable Hébert to get into position for the assault. At 7 a.m., Hébert sent word to Van Dorn that he was too ill to lead his division, and Brig. Gen. Martin E. Green was ordered to assume command and advance at once. Nearly two hours more elapsed before Green moved to the attack, with four brigades in echelon, until he occupied a position in the woods north of town. There he formed in line, facing south, and made a charge on Battery Powell with the brigades of Gates and McLain (replacing Martin), while the brigades of Moore (replacing Green) and Colbert attacked Hamilton's line. The assault on the battery was successful, capturing the guns and scattering the troops from Illinois and Iowa. Hamilton repulsed the attack on his position and then sent a portion of his command to the assistance of Davies, who rallied his men, drove the Confederates out of the battery, and recaptured the guns.

Maury had been engaged sometime before this. As soon as he heard the firing on his left, he knew that Davies and Hamilton would be kept too busy to interfere with his movements, and gave the order for his division to move straight toward the town. His right encountered a stubborn resistance at about 11 a.m. from Battery Robinett, a redan protected by a five-foot ditch, sporting three 20-pounder Parrott rifles commanded by Lt. Henry Robinett. Fierce hand-to-hand combat ensued, and Maury was forced to retire with heavy losses from arguably the hottest action of the two-day battle. Col. William P. Rogers of the 2nd Texas, a Mexican-American War comrade of President Jefferson Davis, was among those killed in the charge. Col. Lawrence Sullivan Ross of the 6th Texas was thrown from his horse and mistakenly reported killed with Rogers.

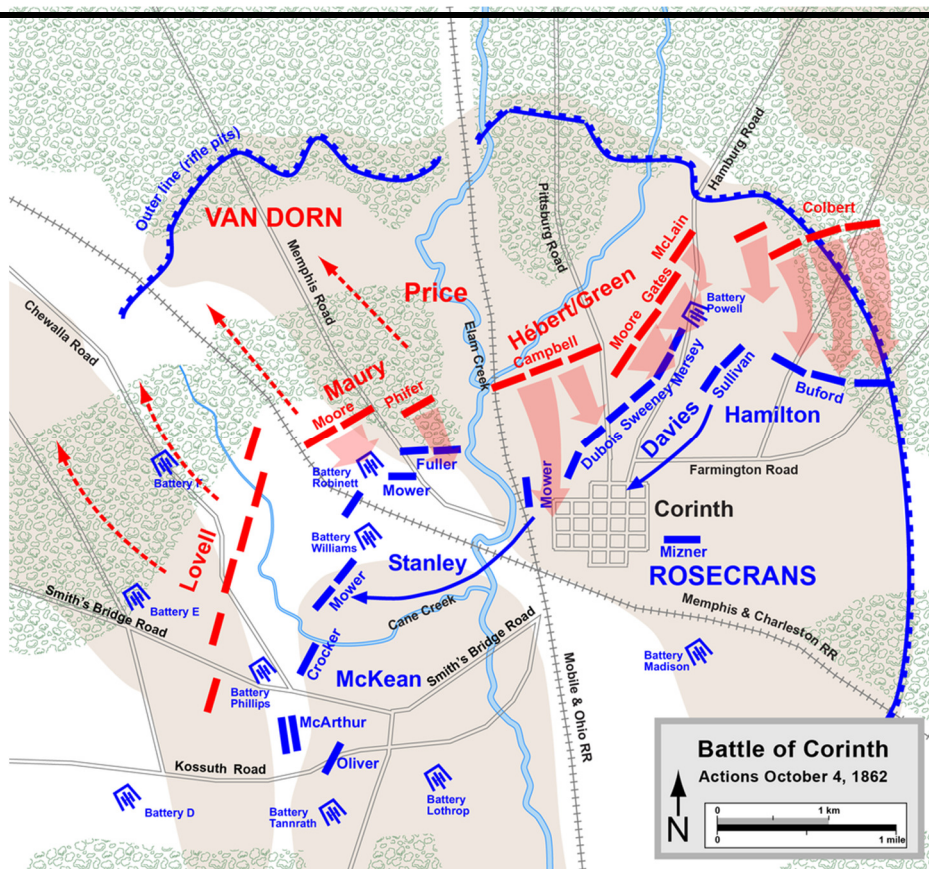
Phifer's brigade on the left met with better success, driving Davies's left flank and entering the town. But their triumph was short-lived, as part of Sullivan's brigade, held as a reserve on Hamilton's left, charged on the Confederates, who were thrown into confusion in the narrow streets, and as they fell back came within range of batteries on both flanks of the Union army, the cross-fire utterly routing them. Cabell's brigade of Maury's division was sent to reinforce the troops that had captured Battery Powell, but before it arrived, Davies and Hamilton had recaptured it, and as Cabell advanced against it, he was met by a murderous fire that caused his men to retreat.

Meanwhile, Lovell had been skirmishing with the Union left in the vicinity of Battery Phillips, in preparation for a general advance. Before his arrangements were complete he was ordered to send a brigade to Maury's assistance, and soon afterward received orders to place his command so as to cover the retreat of the army. At 4 p.m., reinforcements from Grant under the command of Brig. Gen. James B. McPherson arrived from Jackson. But the battle of Corinth had effectively been over since 1 p.m. and the Confederates were in full retreat.

Rosecrans's army lost 2,520 (355 killed, 1,841 wounded, and 324 missing) at Corinth; Van Dorn's losses were 4,233 (473 killed, 1,997 wounded, and 1,763 captured or missing).

Once again, Rosecrans's performance during the second day of the battle has been the subject of dispute among historians. His biographer, Lamers, paints a romantic picture:

One of Davies' men, David Henderson, watched Rosecrans as he dashed in front of the Union lines. Bullets carried his hat away. His hair flew in the wind. As he rode along he shouted: "Soldiers! Stand by your country." "He was the only general I ever knew," Henderson said later, "who was closer to the enemy than we were who fought at the front." Henderson (after the war, a Congressman from Iowa and Speaker of the House of Representatives) wrote that Rosecrans was the "Central leading and victorious spirit. ... By his splendid example in the thickest of the fight he succeeded in restoring the line before it was completely demoralized; and the men, brave when bravely led, fought again."



Peter Cozzens, author of a recent book-length study of *luka and Corinth*, came to the opposite conclusion:

Rosecrans was in the thick of battle, but his presence was hardly inspiring. The Ohioan had lost all control of his infamous temper, and he cursed as cowards everyone who pushed past him until he, too lost hope. ... Rosecrans's histrionics nearly cost him his life. "On the second day I was everywhere on the line of battle," he wrote with disingenuous pride. "Temple Clark of my staff was shot through the breast. My saber-tache strap was caught by a bullet, and my gloves were stained with the blood of a staff officer wounded at my side. An alarm spread that I was killed, but it was soon stopped by my appearance on the field."

Rosecrans's performance immediately after the battle was lackluster. Grant had given him specific orders to pursue Van Dorn without delay, but he did not begin his march until the morning of October 5, explaining that his troops needed rest and the thicketed country made progress difficult by day and impossible by night. At 1 p.m. on October 4, when pursuit would have been most effective, Rosecrans rode along his line to deny in person a rumor that he had been slain.

At Battery Robinett he dismounted, bared his head, and told his soldiers, "I stand in the presence of brave men, and I take my hat off to you." Grant wrote disgustedly, "Two or three hours of pursuit on the day of the battle without anything except what the men carried on their persons, would have been worth more than any pursuit commenced the next day could have possibly been."^[26] Rosecrans returned to Corinth to find that he was a hero in the Northern press. He was soon ordered to Cincinnati, where he was given command of the Army of the Ohio (soon to be renamed the Army of the Cumberland), replacing Don Carlos Buell, who had similarly failed to pursue retreating Confederates from the Battle of Perryville.

Although his army had been badly mauled, Van Dorn escaped completely, evading Union troops sent by Grant later on October 5 at the Battle of Hatchie's Bridge, and marching to Holly Springs, Mississippi. He attributed his defeat to the failure of Hébert to open the second-day engagement on time, but nevertheless he was replaced by Lt. Gen. John C. Pemberton immediately after the battle. There were widespread outcries of indignation throughout the South over the senseless casualties at Corinth. Van Dorn requested a court of inquiry to answer charges that he had been drunk on duty at Corinth and that he had neglected his wounded on the retreat. The court cleared him of all blame by unanimous decision.



Cover detail from book *"The Lost Cause-The Confederate Exodus to Mexico"* by Andrew Rolle. Flag lowered into Rio Grande.

C o n f e d e r a t e s i n E x i l e



he first man of the group to enter the wide waters of the *Rio Grande* and cross into *Mexico* after war's end was *Governor Charles Morehead of Kentucky*. It was 4 July 1865, *Morehead* had been selected to make the first ceremonial crossing in a bid for personal freedom, still clinging to vague hopes of Southern independence. They were on the banks of the river, some 2,000 miles south west of *Chesapeake Capes*. There was a scorching wind stirring a dust storm created by their own column to the rear and a tattered battle flag was carried ahead of Confederate troops through the cactus scrub at *Eagle Pass*. Infantry on foot, pack

mules, and 10 French guns followed the marchers; a train of twelve mule-wagons brought up the rear with the dusty column numbering some one thousand people.



Brigadier General Joseph O. Shelby, (shown to the left) was organizer of the band of Confederate leaders and soldiers; sadly he removed the black-plumed hat, so much a Shelby hallmark, and dropped it into the swirling muddy waters, watching it being carried away with all his Southern aspirations. Shelby had 24 horses killed from under him during the war. He was leading the Iron Brigade and made history with a 41 day raid of some one thousand 500 miles inflicting the destruction some of two million dollars-worth of Federal property and supplies. He'd been spurned earlier when first offering military services to Mexico's hapless



Emperor Maximilian, who was soon to be dragged from office and executed in one of many revolutions to sweep the long suffering country. However Shelby, as did Charles Slaughter Morehead (shown above right) and fellow officers accepted the ruler's alternative offer to establish Confederate colonies south of the border. On Shelby's order, a trooper rode into the Rio Grande carrying a stone, wrapped in the Confederate Battle Flag. A bugler sounded and the trooper tossed the stone and flag into the brown water where it splashed and disappeared from sight. Shelby and Morehead were then accompanied by an illustrious procession including Governor Pendleton Murrah of Texas, Governor Henry Allen of Louisiana and Generals John B. McGruder, Hamilton Bee, John B. Clark, Thomas Hindman, Sterling Price, Trusten Polk, William Hardeman, Danville Leadbetter, Monroe Parsons and George Flournoy. The procession of Generals followed Shelby's example, ceremonially lowering Battle Flags into the muddy waters as they crossed the river; an historic and tragic moment, representing a new page in the South's desperate bid for independence. This was perhaps one of the largest groups to cross over, most were in small groups of ten to fifty men and women, some with children, amounting to what is conservatively estimated to be some ten thousand southern leaders, troopers and soldiers who entered foreign exile. It was never wise to travel into Mexico alone or in smaller groups with bandits, Indians and a corrupt Mexican army waiting to pick off the unwary. The very act of releasing their battle flags into the river was certain indication they had no intentions of returning to seek resurrection.



Maj. Gen Price's family, shortly after being rescued from a shipwreck still wear life jackets. (Image: Civil War Tales-Garrison)

Major General Sterling Price, who rode with the illustrious and what was left of his army across the Rio Grande River into Mexico, was to later inspire the John Wayne and Rock Hudson film *"The Undefeated,"* (still available on DVD and in the Editor's possession.) He sent for members of his family and they sailed for Mexico but were involved in a shipwreck

and made a pitiful sight when photographed amongst the rescued survivors still in their life-jackets. Price was to eventually become leader of a Confederate exile colony in Carlota, Vera Cruz but when this colony also proved a failure, he returned to Missouri. While in Mexico, Price began having severe intestinal problems that grew worse in August 1866 when he contracted typhoid fever. Impoverished and in poor health, Price died of "cholera-like symptoms" in St. Louis Missouri. The death certificate declares the cause of death as "chronic diarrhoea." The funeral for Major General Price was held 3 October 1867 in St. Louis at the First Methodist Episcopal Church; the procession with his body, carried by a black hearse drawn by six matching black horses, was the largest funeral procession in St. Louis up to that point. He was buried in Bellefontaine Cemetery.

However all was not so well in Mexico. While Emperor Maximilian may have encouraged and even subsidized foreign colonization with enticement of land grants and appropriation of land; when France withdrew their support for Maximilian, who was little more than a puppet, he was defeated in 1867, these scattered Confederate colonies ceased to exist. Land titles were never recognized by the victors who'd spent years fighting foreign intervention and occupation, memories of the Mexican War with the US and the loss of Texas were still strong. Most of these displaced 'Mexican Confederates' were to eventually make their way to Brazil.

Many Southerners lost their land during the war, all personal belongings were plundered and they were unwilling to live under the governance of a vindictive United States. Seeing little hope of any improvement in the South's economic position their migration was noted in unpublished research of Betty Antunes de Oliveira who found, in port records of Rio de Janeiro, that some *twenty thousand Americans* entered Brazil from 1865 to 1885. An unknown number returned to the United States after the end of the severely punishing "Reconstruction" but most immigrants adopted Brazilian citizenship and seemed content to live out their days there. They contributed to the nation's wealth with farming and industry. Brazil, scene of the recent Olympics, had also extended hospitality and land to refugee Confederates fleeing persecution, encouraged by Emperor Dom Pedro II of Brazil, but this time it was sincere and genuine. There they established four large communities and collectively sheltered nearly 4 thousand plus political refugees. Brazil offered much more friendly and amicable arrangements. "The Confederados" live in the Portuguese speaking country to this day and still fly the Southern flag and manage their own affairs. They still contribute to the Brazilian economy, much to the chagrin of 'politically correct' Northerners today.

(See page 6, this issue for further reading on Mexicans crossing the border to fight for the South.)

A general amnesty, proclaimed in Washington at cessation of the conflict, specifically excluded all civil, diplomatic and military leaders and wasn't necessarily binding on some extreme U.S. elements bent on revenge against returning soldiers under Grant's amnesty. Major Washington Goldsmith was a veteran of several major engagements with his Georgia men. He teamed up with a Kentuckian and decided on British Honduras as a safe haven. They purchased 150 thousand acres at 25 cents an acre, developed splendid plantations and drew to them numerous other refugees; at its peak, the colony of expatriates numbered more than 200 and they contributed considerably to the prosperity of Honduras.

Some, like Captain John Newland Maffitt fled back to Britain where Liverpool offered a safe haven and many Southern sympathisers; a number lived out their lives there never to return to America. Some, like Maffitt went back, some came here to Australia and New Zealand looking for the better life, mainly because they were of British birth. Some came here because they were wanted for debt in Britain, the colonies were great places to 'get lost.' Gold was discovered in both countries and there was a good life to be had by some. Many Southern officers, navy and army joined the Egyptian Army as officers, some came to fight in the New Zealand Maori Land Wars and so the Confederacy was scattered and truly 'Gone with the Wind.' There will never be an agreement on the numbers of those who fled retribution or the poverty of America at close of war but I believe it to be many more than the conservative estimate of ten thousand. I'm reminded of the song from a Louisiana based musical "The New Moon," "Start me with ten who are stout-hearted men and I'll soon show you ten thousand more." This was at the time of another revolution against France but the small band who crossed the Rio Grande that sad day, grew to be ten thousand and more, as we count the many hundreds of thousands who now trace their ancestry back to those few.

On the 150th anniversary of the end of the American War, a huge festival was held about 5,000 miles (8,000 kilometres) south of the old South, in a rural Brazilian town colonized by the families fleeing Reconstruction. For many of the residents of Santa Barbara d'Oeste and neighbouring Americana in Brazil's south eastern Sao Paulo State they are able to trace ancestry back to those Confederate refugees and it's still a matter of great pride celebrated in high style at the annual 'Festa dos Confederados,' or 'Confederates Party.' Thousands turn out every year, including many who trace their ancestry back to the families who, enticed by the Brazilian government's offers of land grants, settled there from 1865 to around 1875. They're joined by country music enthusiasts, history buffs and locals with a hankering for buttermilk biscuits and all the things so loved by their ancestors. One of those descendants is 77 year old Alcina Tanner Coltre who delights in the annual events. "I don't speak English and the only place I've been to in the U.S. is Disneyworld, but I feel the heritage," Alcina's great-great-grandparents migrated from Mississippi along with their 15-year-old son. "My great-grandfather married a Brazilian woman, so he integrated into Brazilian culture pretty quickly, but it's really important to me to come out



every year to remember where we come from.² The Festa takes place up a dirt road flanked on both sides by sugarcane plantations, in a field that runs up to the 'Cemitério dos Americanos,' or 'American Cemetery,' which began as the resting place of the wife and two daughters of one of the first Confederados and still serves their descendants today.



No concerns about the flag being displayed here. Confederados proudly pose for their picture at the Festa. (Ass. Press image.)

Casey Clabough is author of the 2012 historical novel *Confederados*³ and says, *"The history of the Confederate migrants is one of the lesser-known stories of the Civil War. It's not even known for sure how many people made the arduous journey, with some historical accounts suggesting as few as 3,000, while others say there were as many as 10,000, predominantly from deep south states like Alabama, Louisiana and Georgia. Most were lured by newspaper ads placed in the wake of the war by the government of Brazil's then-emperor, Dom Pedro II, promising land grants to those who would help colonize the South American country's vast and little-explored interior. All were inspired to move away from a punishing 'Reconstruction.'*" Clabough adds, *"They were seen as desirable, well-educated colonists; the Confederados introduced the bull-tongue plow and other agricultural innovations to Brazil. From the point of view of American Southerners who had just gone through this catastrophic conflict and were looking toward an even more dire reconstruction period, it certainly seemed very attractive."*

While Slavery was still legal in Brazil and wasn't to end until 1888, it may also have been a factor allowing the few migrants to continue farming methods enjoyed in the South, though Clabough says, *"It is doubtful many of the Confederados would have been able to afford slaves to gather in their harvests."*

Why the Cherokee Nation Allied Themselves With the Confederate States of America in 1861 By Leonard M. Scruggs

Many have no doubt heard of the valor of the Cherokee warriors under the command of Brigadier General Stand Watie in the West and of Thomas' famous North Carolina Legion in the East during the War for Southern Independence from 1861 to 1865. But why did the Cherokees and their brethren, the Creeks, Seminoles, Choctaws, and Chickasaws determine to make common cause with the Confederate South against the Northern Union? To know their reasons is very instructive as to the issues underlying that tragic war. Most Americans have been propagandized rather than educated in the causes of the war, all this to justify the perpetrators and victors. Considering the Cherokee view uncovers much truth buried by decades of politically correct propaganda and allows a broader and truer perspective.

On August 21, 1861, the Cherokee Nation by a General Convention at Tahlequah (in Oklahoma) declared its common cause with the Confederate States against the Northern Union. A treaty was concluded on October 7th between the Confederate States and the Cherokee Nation, and on October 9th, John Ross, the Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation called into session the Cherokee National Committee and National Council to approve and implement that treaty and a future course of action.

The Cherokees had at first considerable consternation over the growing conflict and desired to remain neutral. They had much common economy and contact with their Confederate neighbors, but their treaties were with the government of the United States. The Northern conduct of the war against their neighbors, strong repression of Northern political dissent, and the roughshod trampling of the U. S Constitution under the new regime and political powers in Washington soon changed their thinking.

The Cherokee were perhaps the best educated and literate of the American Indian Tribes. They were also among the most Christian. Learning and wisdom were highly esteemed. They revered the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution as particularly important guarantors of their rights and freedoms. It is not surprising then that on October 28, 1861, the National Council issued a Declaration by the People of the Cherokee Nation of the Causes Which Have Impelled them to Unite Their Fortunes With Those of the Confederate States of America.

The introductory words of this declaration strongly resembled the 1776 Declaration of Independence:

"When circumstances beyond their control compel one people to sever the ties which have long existed between them and another state or confederacy, and to contract new alliances and establish new relations for the security of their rights and liberties, it is fit that they should publicly declare the reasons by which their action is justified."

In the next paragraphs of their declaration the Cherokee Council noted their faithful adherence to their treaties with the United States in the past and how they had faithfully attempted neutrality until the present. But the seventh paragraph begins to delineate their alarm with Northern aggression and sympathy with the South:

"But Providence rules the destinies of nations, and events, by inexorable necessity, overrule human resolutions."

Comparing the relatively limited objectives and defensive nature of the Southern cause in contrast to the aggressive actions of the North they remarked of the Confederate States:

"Disclaiming any intention to invade the Northern States, they sought only to repel the invaders from their own soil and to secure the right of governing themselves. They claimed only the privilege asserted in the Declaration of American Independence, and on which the right of Northern States themselves to self-government is formed, and altering their form of government when it became no longer tolerable and establishing new forms for the security of their liberties."

The next paragraph noted the orderly and democratic process by which each of the Confederate States seceded. This was without violence or coercion and nowhere were liberties abridged or civilian courts and authorities made subordinate to the military. Also noted was the growing unity and success of the South against Northern aggression. The following or ninth paragraph contrasts this with ruthless and totalitarian trends in the North:

"But in the Northern States the Cherokee people saw with alarm a violated constitution, all civil liberty put in peril, and all rules of civilized warfare and the dictates of common humanity and decency unhesitatingly disregarded. In the states which still adhered to the Union a military despotism had displaced civilian power and the laws became silent with arms. Free speech and almost free thought became a crime. The right of habeas corpus, guaranteed by the constitution, disappeared at the nod of a Secretary of State or a general of the lowest grade. The mandate of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court was at naught by the military power and this outrage on common right approved by a President sworn to support the constitution. War on the largest scale was waged, and the immense bodies of troops called into the field in the absence of any warranting it under the pretense of suppressing unlawful combination of men."

The tenth paragraph continues the indictment of the Northern political party in power and the conduct of the Union Armies:

"The humanities of war, which even barbarians respect, were no longer thought worthy to be observed. Foreign mercenaries and the scum of the cities and the inmates of prisons were enlisted and organized into brigades and sent into Southern States to aid in subjugating a people struggling for freedom, to burn, to plunder, and to commit the basest of outrages on the women; while the heels of armed tyranny trod upon the necks of Maryland and Missouri, and men of the highest character and position were incarcerated upon suspicion without process of law, in jails, forts, and prison ships, and even women were imprisoned by the arbitrary order of a President and Cabinet Ministers; while the press ceased to be free, and the publication of newspapers was suspended and their issues seized and destroyed; the officers and men taken prisoners in the battles were allowed to remain in captivity by the refusal of the Government to consent to an exchange of prisoners; as they had left their dead on more than one field of battle that had witnessed their defeat, to be buried and their wounded to be cared for by southern hands."

The eleventh paragraph of the Cherokee declaration is a fairly concise summary of their grievances against the political powers now presiding over a new U. S. Government:

"Whatever causes the Cherokee people may have had in the past to complain of some of the southern states, they cannot but feel that their interests and destiny are inseparably connected to those of the south. The war now waging is a war of Northern cupidity and fanaticism against the institution of African servitude; against the commercial freedom of the south, and against the political freedom of the states, and its objects are to annihilate the sovereignty of those states and utterly change the nature of the general government."

The Cherokees felt they had been faithful and loyal to their treaties with the United States, but now perceived that the relationship was not reciprocal and that their very existence as a people was threatened. They had also witnessed the recent exploitation of the properties and rights of Indian tribes in Kansas, Nebraska, and Oregon, and feared that they, too, might soon become victims of Northern rapacity. Therefore, they were compelled to abrogate those treaties in defense of their people, lands, and rights. They felt the Union had already made war on them by their actions.

Finally, appealing to their inalienable right to self-defense and self-determination as a free people, they concluded their declaration with the following words:

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"Obeying the dictates of prudence and providing for the general safety and welfare, confident of the rectitude of their intentions and true to their obligations to duty and honor, they accept the issue thus forced upon them, unite their fortunes now and forever with the Confederate States, and take up arms for the common cause, and with entire confidence of the justice of that cause and with a firm reliance upon Divine Providence, will resolutely abide the consequences. The Cherokees were true to their words. The last shot fired in the war east of the Mississippi was May 6, 1865. This was in an engagement at White Sulphur Springs, near Waynesville, North Carolina, of part of Thomas' Legion against Kirk's infamous Union raiders that had wreaked a murderous terrorism and destruction on the civilian population of Western North Carolina. Col. William H. Thomas' Legion was originally predominantly Cherokee, but had also accrued a large number of North Carolina mountain men. On June 23, 1865, in what was the last land battle of the war, Confederate Brigadier General and Cherokee Chief, Stand Watie, finally surrendered his predominantly Cherokee, Oklahoma Indian force to the Union.

The issues as the Cherokees saw them were 1) self-defense against Northern aggression, both for themselves and their fellow Confederates, 2) the right of self-determination by a free people, 3) protection of their heritage, 4) preservation of their political rights under a constitutional government of law 5) a strong desire to retain the principles of limited government and decentralized power guaranteed by the Constitution, 6) protection of their economic rights and welfare, 7) dismay at the despotism of the party and leaders now in command of the U. S. Government, 8) dismay at the ruthless disregard of commonly accepted rules of warfare by the Union, especially their treatment of civilians and non-combatants, 9) a fear of economic exploitation by corrupt politicians and their supporters based on observed past experience, and 10) alarm at the self-righteous and extreme, punitive, and vengeful pronouncements on the slavery issue voiced by the radical abolitionists and supported by many Northern politicians, journalists, social, and religious (mostly Unitarian) leaders. It should be noted here that some of the Cherokees owned slaves, but the practice was not extensive.

The Cherokee Declaration of October 1861 uncovers a far more complex set of "Civil War" issues than most Americans have been taught. Rediscovered truth is not always welcome. Indeed some of the issues here are so distressing that the general academic, media, and public reaction is to rebury them or shout them down as politically incorrect.

The notion that slavery was the only real or even principal cause of the war is very politically correct and widely held, but historically ignorant. It has served, however, as a convenient ex post facto justification for the war and its conduct. Slavery was an issue, and it was related to many other issues, but it was by no means the only issue, or even the most important underlying issue. It was not even an issue in the way most people think of it. Only about 25% of Southern households owned slaves. For most people, North and South, the slavery issue was not so much whether to keep it or not, but how to phase it out without causing economic and social disruption and disaster. Unfortunately the Southern and Cherokee fear of the radical abolitionists turned out to be well founded. After the Reconstruction Act was passed in 1867 the radical abolitionists and radical Republicans were able to issue in a shameful era of politically punitive and economically exploitive oppression in the South, the results of which lasted many years, and even today are not yet completely erased.

The Cherokee were and are a remarkable people who have impacted the American heritage far beyond their numbers. We can be especially grateful that they made a well thought out and articulate declaration for supporting and joining the Confederate cause in 1861.