

# *The Delta General*

Camp Website: [www.humphreys1625.com](http://www.humphreys1625.com)



## Sherman's Burning of Columbia, South Carolina, A Woman's View!

September 2025, Volume 28, Issue 9

Dedicated to the Memory of Brigadier General Benjamin G. Humphreys

## **Commander's Comments — Michael Anthony**

Greetings men and ladies of the Benjamin G Humphreys Camp, the Brigadier General Charles Clark Chapter of the Military Order of the Stars and Bars, the Ella Palmer Chapter of the Order of the Confederate Rose, and our friends and followers who read this newsletter. In this article, I will begin with two questions. The School year has started, and now that is has, everyone seems to be busier. How many times have you thought: "I would love to, but I just don't have time right now"? I certainly have thought that recently. Now, transition to this question: "Why did I join the Sons of Confederate Veterans"? And think about that.

No matter the reason a person joins the Sons of Confederate Veterans, when a man joins, he repeats the charge given to all of us by General Steven D Lee in 1906: "...we will commit to the vindication of the Cause for which we fought. . ." So as a Son of a Confederate Veteran, you must do what is in your power to vindicate your noble and honorable ancestor and protect his good name in the face of those misguided, misinformed, and simply dangerous people who want to trample upon all that is good and right about our Nation and the values that are embodied by the Cause. Now circling back to the thought which permeates so many of our minds about not having enough time.

Where am I going with this? As some of you know the Confederate Monument in Brandon is under threat. The mayor of Brandon, Mister Butch Lee, is floating the idea of moving the Monument, supposedly in the interest of "safety for the Monument". This is a false idea, because it would be much easier and cheaper for the City of Brandon to erect a concrete barrier around the Monument to protect it than moving it. Mayor Lee was engaged in a very challenging primary election earlier this year, and to win his primary election, he made promises to members of the Brandon community that included moving the Confederate Monument. There are people fighting to move this Monument, but there are also people like you who know the True history of the Confederacy and recognize the Cause your ancestor fought for was noble and just. The Confederate Monument is a tribute to men who left their farms, businesses, pulpits, homes, and families to fight for something greater than themselves.

So, what can you do to help protect and preserve this Monument? The leaders of the Mississippi Division have made this way to Live the Charge very easy for you. Each of you reading this article will receive at least one postcard to mail. Postcards will be mailed to each member of the Brandon City Council, the Mayor of Brandon, and each of the Rankin County Supervisors. All you have to do is write your name and address at the top of the postcard and affix a sixty-one-cent stamp to the postcard. You do not have to live in Brandon or Rankin County, be a registered voter, or even a member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans to mail this postcard. By writing your name and address on the postcard and mailing it, you are Living the Charge. If all true patriots and members of the public who care about preserving our Confederate and American history for all to learn mail the postcards, the people who make decisions in Brandon and Rankin County will see that the Brandon Confederate Monument needs to remain where it was placed so many years ago. That this Monument is an American Monument: a tribute to Americans who sacrificed all and fought for the Constitutional Liberty and Freedom that now allows all of us to be free. Even free to disagree.

In advance, thank you for mailing your postcard and Living the Charge. Together we will preserve and protect our shared history for all Americans to learn and understand.

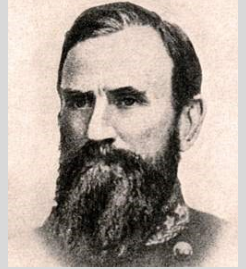
Deo Vindice,  
Michael

## **Camp Meeting Saturday, September 13, 2025**

There is no guest speaker because the Camp Commander, Michael Anthony, has a lot of information to disseminate to the members. There are a lot of items on the agenda that requires your attention as well.

### **Camp Meeting Dinner Menu provided by the OCR:**

- ◆ Sandwiches, chips, snacks, and drinks



### **Contents:**

#### **Camp News pp. 2-4**

- ◆ Commander's Report
- ◆ Adjutant's Report
- ◆ Camp Chaplain's Report
- ◆ Renew Your Dues
- ◆ MOS&B Article—The Bear River Massacre

#### **Division News pp. 5-6**

- ◆ Commander Dawes Announces Run for AoT Councilman in 2026
- ◆ Beauvoir

#### **National News pp 6-11**

- ◆ 21st Century Confederate Heros
- ◆ 2026 National Reunion
- ◆ National Office Announcements

#### **Articles pp. 11– 15**

- ◆ The Burning of Columbia, SC; A Woman's View

Larry McCluney, Editor:  
Confederate @suddenlink.net

The Delta General is published 12 times a year by the Brig/General Benjamin G. Humphreys Camp as a service to its members. The articles, photographs, and content of the Delta General may not be reproduced without permission of the Editor. The opinions expressed by the authors of signed articles reflect the personal views of the writers and not necessarily the views of Camp #1625. The Editor reserves the right to accept or reject any article.



## Adjutant's Report—Dan McCaskill

Dan McCaskill was not present and he asked Larry McCluney to fill in, who also had to fill in for our Camp Commander who was away on a DEC meeting in Jackson.

1. 10 people attending the Camp meeting including our two guests
2. Prayer was given by Charles Stillman and the pledges were given as well as the Charge by Color-Sgt Earl Allen
3. Minutes from the last meeting were approved unanimously
4. In a written report, dated August 4, Dan McCaskill stated we had 34 members renewed dues (as of publication of this newsletter we are at 48). Dan also wrote about our finances that stood at \$2,654 as of August, and that the Canopy was here and was being decorated
5. It was announced that a Camp in Missouri was financing a headstone to be placed at the Greenville Cemetery for a Missouri Confederate who died at Greenville
6. Camp voted to table voting on Carrollton Pillgrimage until September but did vote to purchase 24 MS 1894 flags for the event.
7. Camp voted to allow the expenditure of up to 75.00 to purchase a Betsy Ross Flag for the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution
8. Broke for Dinner provided by the OCR at 6:20
9. At 6:45 meeting resumed as Larry McCluney gave a report on the Arlington Monument to be returned, the General Albert Pike Monument in Washington, D.C. and the Carl and Nancy Ford Southern Education Conference
10. A report was also given by Larry McCluney about the 2028 National Reunion to be held in Oxford, MS
11. Jimmy Atwood spoke and read letters on a soldier in Barksdale's Brigade during the war tracing his experiences from the beginning of the war until his death in the Peach Orchard at Gettysburg.
12. Larry McCluney gave the Benediction and everyone sang Dixie
13. Dismissed by 7:45 pm

## Additional Information from the Adjutant

Compatriots, the membership renewal season came to an end this past August 31st. First, I would like to thank all who renewed their membership and to two compatriots who have re-joined our Camp and the Sons of Confederate Veterans. Our renewal rate was almost 100%. Sadly, we had one member who did not renew but we are not giving up hope on getting him back. We had two past members to re-join, Ray Ruble and Thomas Haik. Welcome back! With this, our Camp membership is up to 48 and we have two other past members expressing a desire to re-join the Camp. To continue this positive growth, we need members to actively recruit, young members if possible. The Camp is planning to have a Recruitment Table at the Carrollton Pioneer Days the first Saturday in October and we need members and non-members to help man this table. On another note, our Confederate Headstone project is progressing nicely. The two headstones that were ordered are now in my possession. I am waiting for rain to soften the ground and cooler weather so I can install the headstones in the UDC Plot. I want to thank all the members who made donations for this project. Along this line, I received a request to have a headstone placed in the Greenville Cemetery, from a Missouri Camp, for a Missouri Veteran who was dumped in Greenville by the yankees and who died here on January 1, 1863. I have contacted Columbus Marble Works for an invoice for the stone. The Missouri Camp has sent me the money to purchase the stone. Now we wait. We will have three headstones to dedicate at our next Confederate Memorial Service in the spring, hopefully in April. God Bless the South Dan A. McCaskill Camp Adjutant

## The Chaplain's Pen — Earl McCown

*"Give us this day our daily bread."*

Matthew 6:11

Jesus often reminded His followers not to worry. He told them not to be anxious about tomorrow's needs or potential problems (Matthre 6:25). Rather, Jesus stressed a daily reliance on the Father, who provides for His children day by day.

As the Israelites wandered in the desert, they had no way to get food. Miraculously, God provided manna that appeared on the ground each morning. God's provision was sufficient for one day at a time. Each day the children of Israel received fresh manna as

a tangible reminder of God's love for them. If they attempted to store it for the days to come, they found that it had spoiled by the next day. It was impossible to stockpile God's provision because God wanted them to trust in Him, not in their pantry. God's grace was sufficient for each day.

God wants us to trust Him daily with our needs. This trust does not make us poor planners or careless with our futures, unprepared to face what may come. Rather, it keeps our relationship with the Lord in its proper perspective as He reminds us daily of our dependence upon Him. God is aware of what tomorrow will bring and how we should prepare for it. He knows the problems we will face, and He has already made provision for us to overcome them. He asks us to trust in Him daily. Our faith in Him today cannot substitute for our trust in Him tomorrow. If we walk with Him closely today, we will be in the center of His will tomorrow.



## Friends of Beauvoir

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

## Bricks for Beauvoir

Honor your Confederate ancestors while supporting Beauvoir. Each brick that you purchase will be engraved with your ancestors rank, name, unit, and company. The memorial bricks will be laid creating a sidewalk from the UDC Arch to the Tomb of the Unknown Confederate soldier. For more information on these opportunities, please visit [www.visitbeauvoir.org](http://www.visitbeauvoir.org) or contact Beauvoir directly at (228) 388-4400

## BEAUVIOR

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



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



## **Brig/General Charles Clark** **Chapter 253, MOS&B**

### **THE BEAR RIVER** **MASSACRE**

**A Travesty committed by the  
Union Army.**

**By David Whitaker, DCS**

On January 29th, 1863, one of the greatest massacres of American Indians by U.S. Troops in our history occurred. This happened about a mile north of the present town of Preston, Idaho, located just a little north of the Utah-- Idaho border. The area is known as the Cache Valley. During the War Between the States the Confederacy had allied with the Choctaw, Chickasaw, Cherokee, Seminole and Creek Indians but not with the Shoshones of this area. The CSA Indian alliance caused the Federal Government to take a very harsh stand against most all Indians, including the Shoshones. The Shoshones were independent people and really wanted nothing to do with the white man. The Confederacy had even annexed the Indian Territory, now Oklahoma, which also was of great concern to the Union.

When the war broke out in 1861, President Abraham Lincoln ordered several regiments of volunteers to be raised from the population of California (California became a state in 1850) to help protect the lines of communication to the west. Also, the Union did not trust the Mormons because of the Mountain Massacre which occurred in Utah in September of 1857. This massacre took the lives of 120 men, women and children from Arkansas going to California. Because of this the Union felt it wise to keep a force in the Utah area. The Mormon settlers and their militia were loyal to Brigham Young, not the Federal Government. The Shoshones were loyal to no one. Both the Mormons and the Indians were considered threats to the Union.

A California Regiment was ordered to Utah with orders to protect the Overland Mail Route and keep the peace in the area. Colonel Patrick Edward Connor was placed in command of the 3rd California Volunteer Infantry Regiment and his first duty was to move out to Utah and build Fort Douglas as his primary base of operations. This fort was located in the Salt Lake City area.

The Cache Valley was the hunting grounds for the local tribe of the Shoshone Indians. This valley was abundant with game like deer, buffalo and elk. The Bear River was also a fisherman's paradise. First the fur traders came into the valley and made it a central staging area for hunting trips into the surrounding mountains.

Then the Mormon farmers moved into the Cache Valley taking over land and water. The 450 Shoshones that lived there were not at all happy with this situation. The competition for food intensified. The local Indian Agent wrote the U.S. Department of Interior that the Indian population has become impoverished by the introduction of the white population. He wanted a reservation in the Cache Valley to protect the Indians resources. Once the war for Southern independence started, this recommendation was placed on the back burner. The conditions were ripe for conflict. The Indians were under intense pressure and with the arrival of the settlers, did the only thing they knew to do - attack the farmers and ranchers as a matter of survival. Then gold was discovered just north of the Cache Valley in July of 1862. Now the Shoshones were competing with the Mormon settlers, pioneers moving west on the Oregon and California trails, gold miners coming to the area seeking their fortune and building a trail through Cache Valley to Salt Lake City for the miners to travel. Colonel Connor and his 3rd Infantry Regiment were called in to deal with the Shoshones "and keep the peace. The Californian soldiers were a disgruntled bunch because they wanted to go east

and fight Confederates. They were in no mood to be nice to anyone, especially the Shoshones.

Finally an incident happened that triggered the conflict. A group of miners got lost and camped on the west side of the Bear River just two miles from the Shoshone winter camp. The Indians attacked this group and killed one man. The rest escaped to Salt Lake City and reported the Indian attack. Colonel Connor was called upon to issue warrants for the Shoshone Indian chiefs. He had determined that it was this same band of Indians that was responsible for numerous murders on the Overland Mail Route over the last 15 years and would deal with them immediately regardless of the prevailing extremely cold weather and deep snow.

On January 22, 1863 a company of infantry left Fort Douglas for the Cache Valley. Three days later a group of cavalry left to join the first group making a total of 300 Union soldiers led by Colonel Connor. Colonel Connor had made it plain that he would not take prisoners.

On January 28th the Union troops arrived in Franklin, Idaho, a small town near the Cache Valley. Three Shoshone Indians saw the troops enter the town and ran to warn the other Indians which cost the troops the element of surprise that Colonel Connor was counting on. Connor issued an order to move out at one hour past midnight but was delayed two hours looking for a guide. The weather was extremely cold; below zero with a foot of snow on the ground. The first Troops to arrive at the Shoshone campsite was the 2nd California Cavalry Regiment. The howitzers never arrived because they were caught in a snow drift five miles away. Because of the bad weather the troops had problems even getting into a proper battle formation.

The Shoshones were expecting the troops so had made hiding positions and other defensive plans to protect their camp and their women and children. The Indians were really not expecting a full-fledge attack but rather had expected the Army was coming to negotiate with them. They did not realize that 300 blood-thirsty soldiers were on their way.

At 6 A.M. Colonel Connor ordered a charge across an open field to the Shoshone village and as a consequence received most of his casualties. The troopers were beaten back by the well-fortified defenders. Colonel Connor then sent several groups of soldiers to flank all sides of the village. This tactic was effective and by 8 A.M. the Shoshones were running out of bullets and resorted to using bows and arrows and their tomahawks. Had the Indians not run out of ammunition it would have been an entirely different story but at this point the military operation was over and the massacre began.

Colonel Connor lost complete control and discipline of his soldiers as they resorted to total slaughter of the men, women and children. Women were raped, and then killed. Women and children had their heads bashed in.

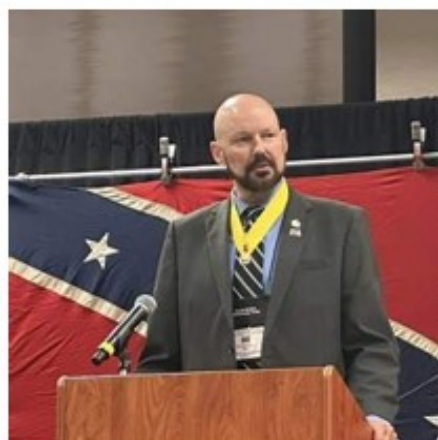
The men who were not able to escape were gunned down. It was wholesale slaughter. Union soldiers were shooting any and all Indians found at point blank range. Following the massacre the soldiers began burning teepees, killing anyone found inside. The number of casualties suffered by the soldiers was 23. The Indians lost at least 300 people of which 90 were women and children. Of the 300 killed it is estimated that 50 of the 300 froze to death that night. 75 Indian lodges were destroyed as well as all the food. 175 horses were taken. The soldiers returned to their camp leaving all the dead Indians for the wolves. How many of the Shoshones that froze to death that night will always be unknown. What a great travesty this was. No wonder there is so little known about this event.





## Mississippi Division News:

### **ANNOUNCEMENT: Forrest S. Daws for Army of Tennessee Councilman in 2026**



Gentlemen of the Army of Tennessee,

If I have not yet had the honor of meeting you, my name is Forrest S. Daws and I am the current Commander of the Mississippi Division and Historian-in-Chief of the Sons of Confederate Veterans. I am from and currently live in Wayne County, Mississippi. If you don't know where that is, it's about 90 miles up from the Gulf Coast right on the Alabama/Mississippi state line.

After graduating from high school, I attended Jones County Junior College for a year before I enlisted in the United States Navy. After my brief time in the Navy, I was blessed to attend several colleges and universities during my formal educational journey. Some of those schools were The University of Mississippi, William Carey University, Duke University, The University of Texas, and the University of West Florida. I have an AA degree in General Studies, a BS degree

in Social Science, a second BS degree in Communications with an emphasis in Public Relations, a MEd degree in the Art of Teaching, and various post graduate studies and certificates in multiple areas such as land management, archaeology, and non-profit management.

I am currently the Athletic Director at Wayne Academy, a small private school in Waynesboro, Mississippi. I previously taught AP U.S. History and AP U.S. Government and Politics, in addition to spending 22 seasons as a high school basketball coach. I am also a third generation Petroleum Landman and I currently manage our family's petroleum land management business, and industry we've been involved with since 1939. My son and I also own and operate a small farm in Wayne County, where we raise Texas Longhorn Cattle, American Quarter Horses, and British Labs, in addition to growing and managing timber.

As you can probably ascertain from my brief biographical background, my life has provided me with numerous experiences that have helped prepare me for my various positions in the SCV. A Coach is the leader of a team, teaching and strengthening the skills of the players, formulating strategies to best help the team win, managing egos, and putting the right people in the right positions to best maximize your strengths and limit your weaknesses. As a Coach, I compiled a winning record over my 22 years on the bench, winning multiple district and regional state championships along the way. I mentored young men and women who went on to sign college scholarships, furthering their education and bettering their lives. As a Landman, I spent countless hours in courthouses, reading legal documents to determine ownership of both surface land and mineral and royalty rights. Once ownership was determined, I would then negotiate leases or sales with owners on behalf of various individuals or companies who hired me. This experience has been invaluable to me in the SCV. My time in education has provided obvious benefits, while my time in sports administration has seen me juggle the scheduling and managing of almost 20 different sports teams. The additional responsibilities of planning security, coordinating EMS services, assigning concession duties, handling finances, etc. have all be beneficial.

However, as helpful as my real-world experience has been, nothing has prepared me more than the various positions I've held in the SCV. I can honestly say I have learned something in every position I have held thus far. Whether it be spending 20 years as a Camp Commander leading a small, rural Camp to a 264 percent growth in membership, serving on the Mississippi Division Executive Council for the first time and working to improve communications between Camps as a Brigade Councilman, fighting to protect Confederate Monuments as Chairman of the Mississippi Division Monuments Committee, working at the National level as Historian-in-Chief to document and preserve the history of the SCV, or taking the reins of the Mississippi Division as Division Commander, it has shaped me into a better member and a better, more qualified leader. I have been blessed to receive additional experience by serving as the Secretary and Treasurer of the Combined Boards of Beauvoir, the Jefferson Davis Home and Presidential Library, for the last two years. During that time, I helped guide the corporation through a successful external audit while working with the Executive Director to cut spending, eliminate debt, and improve facilities. We have completed a completely new website, which is much more informative and user friendly than the previous site. We are in the middle of a massive overhaul of the museum in the Jefferson Davis Presidential Library, presenting more engaging and historically accurate exhibits.



When Past Commander-in-Chief Jason Boshers was elected CiC in 2022, he said something that stuck with me. He said that some people seek titles, but all aren't willing to do the job. He assured the membership that he was there to do the job. I echo that sentiment. While I would be absolutely honored to be awarded the privilege of carrying the title of Army of Tennessee Councilman, what I really want is the opportunity to do the job. If given the opportunity, I will put both my real world and my SCV experience to work for the members of the AoT and the organization as a whole.

Gentlemen, I truly believe we are at a crossroads in our organization. It's time. Time to go on the offensive. Time to be proud of our past, while embracing new and fresh ideas for the future. Time to reenergize our membership and build our organization into something the enemy will fear. I don't do this for me. I do this for our ancestors and I do this for my son and the next generation. Since 1896 (and even before) The Sons of Confederate Veterans have been the guardians of Southern History. During that time, we have achieved some pretty remarkable things. However, our work is far from finished. The world has changed, and while we should never compromise our values, we must adjust our strategies in our fight. Next year, we will elect the leadership that will take us into the future. Next Summer in Kentucky, I humbly ask for your vote and your support in my bid to become the next Army of Tennessee Councilman. I ask you to join me in working together to honor our ancestors and securing the future of the SCV. I ask you to Ride with Forrest. #ridewithforrest

For the Cause,

Forrest S. Daws

Commander

Mississippi Division

Historian-in-Chief, SCV

### SCV National News



### 21st Century Confederate Heroes

The National Sons of Confederate Veterans welcomes you to the 21st-Century Confederate Heroes. Your generous donation will serve to remember and honor our Confederate Heroes and our beloved Southland. The program comes with many perks.

- 1) Flag streamer or Neck Ribbon a. If you submit as an individual, you will receive a neck ribbon with a 21st Century Confederate Heroes medal on the ribbon. b. If you submitted as a camp, division or organization, you will receive a 21st Century Confederate Heroes streamer for your flag.
- 2) Paver – a paver placed on the Walkway of Confederate Heroes from the Museum to the Forrest Plaza
- 3) Certificate – A certificate documenting for future generations your membership as a Confederate Hero
- 4) A copy of the hardcover book 21st Century Confederate Heroes with a page dedicated to the information provided by you that details the individual or camp, etc. you wish to memorialize. Up to three photos may be included
- 5) Donor recognition in the National Confederate Museum – A Television will be placed inside the Museum's gift shop. This TV will display PowerPoint slides of the information 21st Century Confederate Heroes members provide. It can be you, your family, your ancestor, your camp, etc.
- 6) A Flag flown from the Forrest Plaza – One of the purposes of the 21st Century Confederate Heroes is to restore the Forrest Plaza. Once the plaza has been rebuilt and the flagpole is placed, every month for a year a donor will be drawn to receive the flag flown the previous month.
- 7) A QR Code on a sign will be placed near the Forrest Plaza identifying all those who donated \$1,000 or more to the restoration of the Forrest Plaza prior to the 21st Century Confederate Heroes campaign.

Notes:

Make checks out the Sons of Confederate Veterans and note 21st CCH in the memo line of your check.

For more information contact Commander-in-Chief Walter D. Kennedy at: [CiC@scv.org](mailto:CiC@scv.org)



## National News

### Lt Commander-in-Chief Candidacy Announcement Roy P. Hudson

It is with immense pride and a deep sense of purpose that I announce my intent to run for the esteemed office of Lieutenant Commander-in Chief of The Sons of Confederate Veterans in 2026. My journey as your AOT Councilman has allowed me the privilege of traveling extensively throughout our Confederation, meeting so many of you and, most importantly, truly listening to your concerns. I am now ready, more than ever, to act decisively on those insights.



This decision to seek higher office was affirmed by the unwavering encouragement of compatriots from all three armies. I eagerly anticipate making formal announcements at our reunion in Houston, where I look forward to engaging in meaningful conversations with many of you.

We are part of a truly great organization, and I firmly believe we possess the potential not just to survive, but to truly thrive and grow even stronger! It's time for the SCV to boldly go on the offensive to attract new members and expand our reach, and I have a clear plan to accomplish just that. My vision for our future is rooted in a fundamental truth: the undeniable strength and vitality of the SCV lie within our local Camps. Therefore, I commit to dedicating every ounce of my authority and effort at the National Level to ensuring that all our actions and initiatives are squarely focused on empowering and supporting our Camps, providing them with the resources and guidance they need to succeed and flourish.

With your steadfast support and the help of God, I am confident that we will achieve remarkable success together.

I invite you to reach out to me directly at [scvroymhudson@gmail.com](mailto:scvroymhudson@gmail.com) with any questions or thoughts you may have. I look forward to hearing from you!

Deo Vindice  
Roy P. Hudson

### Candidate Announcement - Charles Lauret for Lt. CiC, 2026

"I, Charles E. Lauret, am officially announcing my candidacy for the position of Lieutenant Commander in Chief of the Sons of Confederate Veterans at the 131st Annual Reunion which will be held next year in Lexington, Kentucky. I am excited at the prospect of serving you and the Charge on the SCV national level and at a time when the man in charge of recruiting and retention is so vitally important in the face of dwindling numbers. Stepping up to take charge in these times when many historical and genealogical organizations are suffering similar membership issues is no small task. I am eager and excited to take on this challenge. I am asking you to put my experience and knowledge to work toward this goal as your Lt. CiC. I feel confident that with the men and tal-



ent we have, that working together we can not only stop this trend, but grow instead.

I am married to my wife of 33 years, Amy and we have three grown children and two grandchildren. I am a member of St. Peter's Catholic Church and serve as Deputy Grand Knight in our Knights of Columbus Council. I am a Marine Corps Veteran, a retired law enforcement officer with over 28 years of service. I am a 2009 graduate of the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, having obtained a B.S. degree in Behavioral Science.

I have been a member of the SCV since 2000 and have since become a life member of both the SCV and the Louisiana Division. I originally joined as a member of the Bernard Eble HQ Camp in Louisiana and went straight to work helping to form the Gen. Alfred Mouton Camp #778 of Opelousas, La. Upon chartering, I served as 1st Lt. Commander and subsequently Commander, an office which I am currently acting in until elections in the fall. In addition to serving my Camp, I have also served the Louisiana Division. I have served as Commander of the Southwest Brigade, 1st Lt. Commander and then Commander 2008 to 2010. In 2010, I was appointed Chief Aide de Camp serving on CiC Givens's staff. From 2012 to 2016, I served as Councilman and Commander of the Army of Trans Mississippi. From 2016 to 2020, I had the distinct honor and privilege to serve in the appointed position of National Chief of Staff for Commanders in Chief Tom Strain and Paul Gramling. I also served as Chief of Staff of the Louisiana Division from 2018 to 2022. I served again as ATM Councilman from 2022 to 2024. My previous service on the General Executive Council for ten years was enriching and provided me with vast experience in the operation of our organization. I am proud to say that during my tenures in all of the aforementioned positions, I have cultivated and always had positive working relationships with fellow GEC members and members across the Confederation.

In choosing to run, I want to bring to the table a positive solutions-based approach to challenges we face, develop plans to continue the making of a larger footprint in the digital landscape, improve upon the efforts that increase visibility and fundraising for the Southern Heritage Center and all of its facilities. I have some great ideas that I look forward to sharing with you in the coming months. Just remember, the Lt. CiC is one person and one person cannot and should not fight this fight alone. It's going to take all of us and I want to be the man in that position to work with you and for you to capitalize on the promotional successes and programs we have seen over the last few years and to implement new and more successful ones. If you want someone with the success of the SCV and its future in mind, someone with a proven resume of dedication to service on all levels and someone ever mindful that all we do is for the honor of our illustrious Ancestors, I ask for your support in electing me as Lt. Commander in Chief in 2026." Charles Lauret Website: [www.LAURET4DIXIE.com](http://www.LAURET4DIXIE.com) Contact: [clauret.scv@gmail.com](mailto:clauret.scv@gmail.com) Facebook: Charles "SCV" Lauret/Instagram: @LAURET4DIXIE/X: @Lauret4Dixie



**Monday and Thursday Nights @7:00 PM CT. Go to Facebook and look it up.**



**SOUVENIR**

# 2026 KENTUCKY CAMPAIGN

## 131<sup>st</sup> Sons of Confederate Veterans



**National Reunion**  
[131scv.org](http://131scv.org)



JULY 16-19  
LEXINGTON

HOSTED BY THE KENTUCKY DIVISION BLUEGRASS BRIGADE









TO ALL SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS, WHERESOEVER DISPersed THROUGHOUT THE BROAD LAND,  
AND GIVE YOU GENUINE FRATERNAL AND KENTUCKY WELCOME TO OUR METROPOLIS OF THE SOUTH

FOR FULL REUNION DETAILS, HOTEL RESERVATIONS, AND REUNION REGISTRATION:

## [131scv.org](http://131scv.org)

CONTACT INFORMATION: [KentuckyBlueGrass2026@gmail.com](mailto:KentuckyBlueGrass2026@gmail.com) (606) 289-2925



EASILY REACHED BY INTERSTATE OR WITHIN AN  
HOUR OF CINCINNATI AND LOUISVILLE AIRPORTS



CONVENIENTLY LOCATED IN THE HEART OF THE BLUEGRASS,  
JUST MINUTES FROM THE LEXINGTON AIRPORT!

## [131scv.org](http://131scv.org)





## *Griffin Gate Marriot*

See the Marriot

### ***Lexington, Kentucky - the heart of the Bluegrass!***

*We have reserved a select number of rooms - Monday & Tuesday nights are already near capacity. Consider staying at **The Beaumont Inn** in Harrodsburg, Kentucky (same group rates) and touring the nearby Perryville Battlefield early in the week.*

*Still plenty of available rooms - Thursday thru Saturday, but they are filling quickly. Reserve your rooms early.*

*If the hotel site will not easily accept your reservation - call 502-229-2925 and we will increase the number of available rooms.*

# 131st Sons of Confederate Veterans National Reunion

Griffin Gate Resort and Conference Center Lexington, Kentucky

July 15-19, 2026



## REGISTRATION FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Member # \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

SVC Camp Name \_\_\_\_\_ Camp # \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Your Rank, Title or Position \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse Name (for name badge) \_\_\_\_\_

DATE:	TIME:	EVENT:	PRICE	QTY	TOTAL
ALL		<b>SCV Only Reunion Registration</b> includes 1 Medal (All SCV Members must pay for Registration.) Early Registration at: Houston \$90/After Houston \$110) <b>Registration Ends June 20, 2026</b>	\$90.		
Sat July 11, 2026	5:00 pm	"Welcome to Kentucky!" BBQ <b>No Charge</b> . Please check for attending/how many			
Tues July 14, 2026	6:00 pm	Dinner- Battle of Richmond - Phil Seyfrit	\$85.		
Wed July 15, 2026	9am-5pm	Richmond Battlefield Tour - Lunch included	\$90.		
Thurs July 16, 2026	6:45-7:45	Chaplain's Breakfast	\$55.		
Thurs July 16, 2026	12:30-1:30	Heritage Luncheon	\$65.		
Thurs July 16, 2026	1:45-6 pm	Kentucky Military Museum Tour and Bourbon Tour	\$85.		
Fri July 17, 2026	6:45-7:45	History Breakfast	\$55.		
Fri July 17, 2026	12:15-1:30	SCV Awards Luncheon	\$65.		
Fri July 17, 2026	6:45-7:45	Mechanized Cavalry Breakfast	\$55.		
Sat July 18, 2026	6-7 pm	SCV Awards Banquet and Ball	\$130.		
		EXTRA Ancestor Memorial Ad (1 free with registration) to submit extra ancestor use the back of this form or separate sheet	\$10.		
		EXTRA Reunion Medal (note: 1 medal is included with registration)	\$35.		
		2026 Numbered (1-25) Reunion Medal (This medal is NOT included with registration )	\$110.		
		FINAL TOTAL - Registration Only _____ PAID _____ CHECK _____			
		<i>Prices for Tours and Meals will be determined at a later date.</i>			

Make Check Payable to : 2026 SCV Reunion  
Mail to: Kentucky Bluegrass 2026 / Kris Hawkins  
P.O. Box 122 Harrodsburg, KY 40330





## THE NATIONAL CONFEDERATE MUSEUM AT ELM SPRINGS

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

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

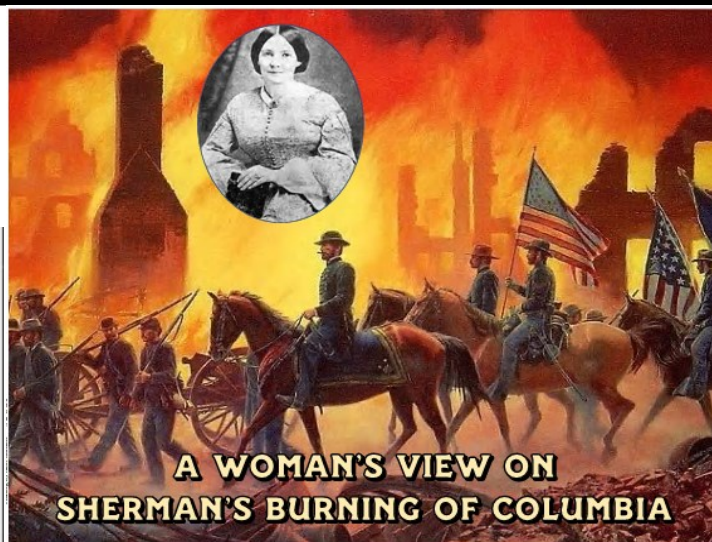
The General Executive Council of the Sons of Confederate Veterans made the commitment in October of 2008 to start the process to erect a new building that will have two purposes. One of the uses of this new building will be to give us office space and return Elm Springs to its original grandeur. However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

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

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

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

Or you can call 1-800-MY-DIXIE to pay by credit card.  
[www.theconfederatemuseum.com](http://www.theconfederatemuseum.com)



*By Ethel Seabrook Nepveux*

The following article and its introduction are extracted from Ethel Nepveux's book: "Sarah Henry Bryce 1825-1901 - A Glimpse at a Remarkable Woman in the Turbulent Civil War Era", published by the author, Charleston 1994.

### INTRODUCTION

Sarah Margaret Henry Bryce was a hard working nineteenth century southern woman, wife and mother who had an unusual sense of history. By the time she died, she had preserved more than five hundred documents, dating from 1820 to 1901. When she moved to Philadelphia, she put her paper in metal boxes and left them with her daughter, Caledonia. Sarah Bryce published two articles: one explaining how she saved her house during the burning of Columbia by Sherman's troops, and the other about her four years of work in Columbia hospitals, helping soldiers departing for and returning from the battlefronts.<sup>1</sup>

She bore ten children in twenty-two years and was a widow at the age of forty-two. Her extraordinary accomplishments were the result of her unusually hearty constitution as well as her dependable and wealthy husband, Campbell, who provided constant household help. Her husband, Campbell Robert Bryce, was born on October 6, 1817. Campbell and Eli Giles Henry, his future brother-in-law, attended the South Carolina College in 1837. In the winter of 1839-40, Campbell Bryce traveled from Columbia (South Carolina) to Canton (Mississippi) to visit his former classmate. On February 9, Campbell wrote to his mother that he wanted to marry Giles' sister, fifteen-year-old Sarah Margaret. Sarah Margaret Henry Bryce, born in 1825, was the youngest child of William D. Henry and Margaret Ross.

On June 1, 1840, Campbell wrote to Sarah that his father had agreed for him to return to Mississippi early in the fall "to claim his bride" if she consented. Campbell was also studying hard for the law examinations coming up in November, having missed the previous examinations before the Court of Appeals. According to an obituary in Columbia's *The State*, Campbell passed the Mississippi bar and practiced law at Koseiusko for eighteen months. Campbell finally was able to return to Canton. He and Sarah were married February 11, 1841, in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church of Canton. After the wedding, Campbell and Sarah Bryce returned to Columbia where Campbell had a house built for the family on two acres on the southwest corner of Pickens and Blanding Streets in the fashionable part of the city. Sarah's accounts of this house have been very useful to historians.<sup>2</sup>

This area was the center of activities for the Southern Presbyterian Church's Columbia Theological seminary, located on the block southeast of Pickens and Blanding. The Reverent and Mrs. Howe lived on the northwest corner. He was the president of the Seminary and later became famous as the historian for the Presbyteri-

an Church of South Carolina. Although they were a generation older than Sarah and Campbell, their children were the same ages and they grew up together. Just across the street, on the block northeast of Pickens and Blanding, was a mansion that had been built by Wade Hampton for his second wife. Their daughter married John S. Preston who amassed a fortune in a Louisiana sugar plantation and had a brilliant military career during the Civil War, advancing to the rank of brigadier general. Civil War writer Mary Boykin Chestnut adored the Prestons and visited frequently at their mansion in Columbia.<sup>3</sup> After their return to Columbia, Sarah and Campbell wasted no time producing offspring. Sarah (Sallie) was born in 1842, John in 1843, Margaret in 1845, Caledonia in 1848, Elizabeth in 1849, Mary in 1853, Henrietta in 1860 and Florence in 1864.

Meanwhile, Campbell was becoming a man of influence in Columbia. In 1844, he delivered a speech on the third anniversary of the founding of the Palmetto Lodge, a branch of the Independent Order of Odd Fellowship, which had been started twenty-six years earlier in Baltimore with authority from the parent society in England. Campbell was also concerned about the impact of new laws on Southerners who moved west when their fields became unproductive due to the lack of modern fertilizer. He argued that the proposed Wilmot Proviso would stop slaves from being taken into lands won by war. Campbell wanted Southerners to be able to take their slaves with them, saying, "the fruits of the Mexican War ... won by Southern valor under Southern skill ... though drenched in Southern blood, bear no fruit of victory for us." Northerners did not want Southerners there to control votes in the United States Congress against tariffs that were paid mostly in the South and spent on Northern internal improvements. Also, the Northerners did not want any African Americans and especially Free Blacks in the territories to compete with Northern labor.

The years from 1850 to 1860 were eventful ones for Campbell and Sarah. They lost three parents and two children but became quite wealthy. The 1860 census shows \$50,000 in real estate and \$20,000 in other property. On the census reports, Campbell listed his occupation as planter. He had a 1,433-acre plantation with a gin house, gristmill, and sawmill - all run by steam. Campbell listed 52 slaves in his 1863 will. John and Campbell diversified their investments, owning stock in banks, railroads, utilities, and insurance companies at a time when most rich Southerners held the bulk of their estates in land and slaves, many borrowing money to increase their purchases in them. Campbell served in the South Carolina Legislature in 1854 and again in 1862.

The Bryce family letters can be a boon to historians as they give insight to the activities of southern families before and during the Civil War. These letters were written to Sarah and not by her, as for example, were the diaries of two other well known Southern women, Mary B. Chestnut and Keziah Brevard. There is little written by Sarah herself except the previously mentioned published material. The Bryce files also include letters to and from Sarah's son-in-law, Fred Trenholm, who was sent to Liverpool during the last years of the Civil war because of illness. His Letters from his parents and friends are especially important because the Trenholm residences were burned or occupied by Federal officials, and these letters are almost all of the wartime letters that remain.

The following pages are designed to provide the reader with a brief glimpse at the lives of Sarah and her family, as well as the era in which they lived. Hopefully, this brief glimpse will serve to encourage the inquisitive reader to delve further into the life of Sarah Margaret Henry Bryce, a remarkable woman who contributed much to the well being of her society.

## THE CIVIL WAR YEARS AND THE BURNING OF COLUMBIA

Secession of the Southern states began in December 1860, and war broke out April 12, 1861, at Fort Sumter in Charleston. Campbell "materially aided" the Confederacy by mounting and

equipping a company known as the Congaree Troop, sometimes called the Kangaroos. The men left for Richmond with Campbell as the first lieutenant. Sarah donated her carriage horses to the cause.<sup>4</sup>

Seventeen-year-old John enlisted and was sent to seacoast duty near Adams Run, South Carolina. He wrote to his mother on March 11, 1861. He returned to Columbia and traveled to Virginia with the first company of mounted men with whom he served throughout the war. William Howe also enlisted, and young George joined later when the enlistment age was lowered to sixteen.<sup>5</sup>

On September 15, Campbell wrote to Callie from Camp Griffin in Virginia, where he and John were stationed. He asked that Maggie, Libbie, and Tiny (Mamie) write to him. He ended his letter with, "*Tell all the servants in the house and yard, Howd'ye ... and Abram and those at the plantation. Give my love to Grandmother, Miss Amanda, Aunt Jane, Uncle Robert and family, Mr. and Mrs. Crawford, Dr. and Mrs. Howe and Emily. Kiss your mother and sisters.*"

In the winter of 1861-62, Sarah traveled to Virginia to be near Campbell, but the winter, the rigors of Army life, and his bad hearing were proving too much for him. After a few months he received a medical discharge, and they returned home. Back in Columbia, Sarah took over as the president of an organization called "The Soldiers Relief Association", composed of ladies who procured material and supervised the making of uniforms and underclothing for the Army. Mrs. David McCord had been the first president, and a Miss Hampton, the second. Wives, mothers, and sisters of soldiers were paid for the sewing, which was performed, by them or their servants. Sometimes more than a hundred women from the Sand Hills would be waiting for the work. Sarah was able to procure cloth from Mrs. James Gregg of the Graniteville Manufacturing Company. At first, the work rooms were in the courthouse; then, in Gracy's old store; and, finally, in the little chapel in the Theological Seminary - a very convenient location for Sarah. In addition to sewing, women were asked to help mold bullets and make cartridges. Sallie was taught by her father and soon was teaching a large and enthusiastic class.<sup>6</sup>

During this period, Sarah also became very active in hospitals, and she was to publish an article about the hospitals of Columbia during the four years of the war. In her hospital service, she worked closely with two other Sarahs - Mrs. George Howe and Mrs. John Bryce, her mother-in-law. (In her publication, she refers to friends and co-workers by their title and last name only, such as Mrs. Howe and Mrs. Bryce, making exact identification of people difficult.)

Columbia hospitals were very busy places during the Civil War. Some of the bloodiest sights South Carolina civilians saw were in Columbia when soldiers returned by train from the battlefield. Meanwhile, soldiers going north were often ill. Once 3,000 volunteers were camped near Columbia waiting to go to Virginia. Bad weather set in and there was an epidemic of measles, followed by pneumonia. Mrs. Howe, the president of an existing hospital association, and Sarah went in Sarah's pony carriage during a big gale to try to find shelter for the sick men whose tents had blown down. The ladies met Dr. John Adger, a retired foreign minister and professor at the seminary, who tried to get them to go home. He ended up giving them a twenty-dollar bill.<sup>7</sup> They then went to see Mr. Crawford at the Commercial Bank. Yielding to their flattery, he gave them a contribution and sent them to the fairgrounds building, which they obtained after some negotiating. With the contributions, they purchased cots, bedding, and crockery. They told the officers to send in the men, but, initially, the men were afraid of a "hors-pi-tul" and wouldn't come. The three Sarahs took a train to the camp and persuaded the men to come. According to Sarah's recollections, this was the first hospital in Columbia for sick soldiers.<sup>7</sup>



There were no nurses at first, and Mrs. Howe and Mrs. Bryce, Sr., helped the very sick undress. The ladies of Columbia formed committees for each day. Dr. Fair was appointed surgeon; Mrs. Howe, president; and Mrs. Bryce, vice-president.<sup>8</sup> Mrs. Howe lost an eye after catching erysipelas from the patients. Sarah often prayed with dying soldiers and related God's promises to them.<sup>8</sup>

When Sarah, Mrs. Howe, and Mrs. Bryce went to retrieve the cots and bedding, a boy of seventeen lay on a stretcher with typhoid fever. Someone mentioned there should be accommodations at the depot for sick soldiers. Sarah claimed she promised at once to establish a "wayside hospital" a name that she coined. Campbell found the ladies an old building, which had been used as a depository for ice, obtained permission for its use, and sent carpenters to put in a floor. General John Preston, who was in charge of the prison camp at Columbia, said he was glad Sarah had undertaken the care of the soldiers who arrived at the Charleston depot.

Sarah put four men with measles into her carriage and took them to a boarding house. Mrs. John Fisher and the ladies of the Young Ladies' Hospital Association fixed a temporary place in a small room until the ice house was ready. According to Sarah, the first board of managers of the Wayside Hospital was composed of Mrs. Howe, Mrs. Bryce, Mrs. John Fisher, Miss Mary Stark, Amanda Graeser, and herself. Almost all the women of Columbia helped. Not only did Mrs. Bryce give her time, but she allowed her house to be used as the depot for supplies that were sent from all parts of the state.<sup>9</sup>

By the summer of 1862, the government had taken charge and had moved the sick to South Carolina College buildings, which were empty. Mary Boykin Chesnut recorded in June that Mrs. McCord had taken possession of the college buildings for her hospital. Mrs. Chesnut would not visit the hospital and said, "*After my failure, illness, and fainting in Richmond, I have deemed it wise to do my hospital work from the outside. I felt humiliated at having to make this confession of weakness to Mrs. McCord.*"<sup>10</sup>

Mrs. Chesnut never mentioned any of the three Sarahs nor seemed to know that they existed. She called Mrs. Thornwell a war horse. She gave Mrs. Fisher and Mrs. Izard credit for starting a wayside hospital at the point where all the railroads meet - at the Columbia junction. She again said, "I am too feeble to attend in person." She was very close to the Preston girls who were regular helpers at the hospitals, and later she did begin helping as well.

During the winter, Sarah and Sallie went looking for and found a larger building, which could hold more beds. Sarah and her friend, Augusta Palmer, who was back in Columbia, often sat up with the very ill men. Mrs. Rhett and Mrs. Squire became experts at dressing wounds. Once Mrs. Squire cleaned a boy of sixteen who arrived filthy and who had been blistered before leaving Richmond. After four days on the road without the blister being removed, he had six hideous blisters. Sarah was nearby when an operation was going on and saw an arm and a leg placed on the window sill. Young ladies who assisted in the hospitals included three of the Bryce daughters (Sallie, Maggie, and Callie Bryce), Mary Preston, Emily Howe, and Isabella Martin who inherited and was one of the editors of the Chesnut diary. Approximately 75,000 soldiers are supposed to have passed through the Wayside Hospital of Columbia.

Campbell made a will in September leaving everything to Sarah except assets from his father, which were to go to the children. Bequests were not to be subject to the debts, contracts, or control of any husband. The will was witnessed by John Crawford.

Sallie had married William Anderson Clarkson (the son of the former Amelia Pringle of Charleston)<sup>11</sup>, and she followed him to Virginia near the Rappahannock River where he was a lieutenant in Hampton's cavalry. Campbell wrote to her that he had been carrying his arm in a sling from a huge boil but had gone to the

legislature anyway. He was again serving in the South Carolina House of Representatives as he had in 1854. He wrote there had been much sickness on the plantation but her mother, with her characteristic energy, had gone to see if she could help the sufferers. He had packaged and was sending to Sallie green hams, sausages, molasses, and nuts. He told about a huge wedding celebration where Sarah had been on the platform close to the wedding party. He was pleased the Sallie was meeting important people.

Sarah's brother, the Honorable Eli Giles Henry, was killed in action on July 1, 1862, and was given a hero's funeral in Canton. He had a promotion to brigadier general in his pocket. A public monument to him was paid for by the citizens of Madison County.

Because of ill health, Dr. Benjamin Palmer returned to Columbia after serving as a chaplain in General Beauregard's army and was preaching eloquent sermons in the First Presbyterian Church. He felt that slavery was doomed, but he wanted no outside interference in South Carolina's affairs. Mary Boykin Chesnut frequently attended his services with friends.<sup>12</sup>

In December, Campbell was one of a group of citizens of Columbia who wrote to the Confederate Secretary of War to ask for an army corps to save South Carolina and Georgia so that supplies and food could still be sent to the Army of Virginia.<sup>13</sup> Also, in December, Florence Maud Bryce was born - the tenth and last child of Sarah and Campbell Bryce.

On February 14, 1865, Columbia citizens were awaiting the arrival of General William T. Sherman's army. Since South Carolina had been the foremost leader in rebellion, its people were expecting the worst. Sherman had said he had marched through Georgia with gloves on, but he would come to Columbia with bare hands.<sup>14</sup> Campbell thought it necessary for the family to leave Columbia and filled a wagon, pulled by four mules, with provisions. Sarah and Augusta Palmer had other thoughts, however. They decided they did not intend to undergo the trials and hardships of refugees. At the same time, Sarah was determined to save her house.<sup>15</sup> When Campbell prepared a carriage for her, Sarah told him she would not go. She took pride in being an obedient wife, and this was the first time in her life that she had disobeyed him.

Amidst reports of men being injured by the invading troops, Campbell and the Rev. Palmer reluctantly agreed to leave their wives and go. Amanda Graeser, a friend, remained with Sarah. Sarah's three older unmarried daughters were sent to Charlotte to stay with their grandmother, who was afraid of being burned alive. Augusta Palmer and her young daughters went to the home of Dr. Howe, who also had remained.

When the Federal troops entered Columbia, two of their soldiers warned Sarah to bring all the provisions that were being stored in warehouses inside the main house. The house had a large cellar, containing four rooms and a wide hall. Sarah already had her chickens, ducks, and turkeys locked in one room where they neither cheeped, quacked, nor crowed for the three days and nights during which the Federal Army occupied the town. Now, she and the servants brought in provisions that Campbell had sent from the plantation - barrels or corned beef and molasses, meal, flour, lard and tallow, bacon, and a wagonload of valuable light wood.

Then, she and Amanda Graeser went looking for General Sherman to ask for a guard. They had to travel on foot because Campbell had taken the horses with him. They encountered a fierce windstorm along the way, and as they walked along Blanding Street toward the center of town, other ladies joined them. They passed drunken soldiers and Negroes carousing shouting, embracing, cursing, and preaching. One man was standing on a pile of boxes reminding the officers and men that this was the hotbed of secession, and they were free to do as they pleased. Frequently they did. For example, one Sunday, Dr.

Howe was standing a little distance from his house when a soldier grabbed his watch. Although he was lame and walked with crutches, Dr. Howe held on to the watch and walked crab fashion until a guard came to his rescue. Undaunted by the unruly crowds of men, Sarah and Amanda continued in search of General Sherman and were told to go to the Provost Marshal's office. There, a captain stepped up and offered to find them some guards and led them to his own men who turned out to be good choices as they protected her house faithfully in return for food and shelter.

Once, according to accounts, soldiers came and demanded her carriage, saying the general had sent for it. Sarah refused to hand over the wheels, which she had taken off and hidden. Finally, the men gave up saying, "It is such a d--d good Yankee trick, she deserves to keep it."

Having been successful once, she and Amanda set out again to look for General Sherman, this time seeking guards for her mother-in-law's valuable house. They found the general paying a social visit to Mr. and Mrs. Harris Simons, friends of Sarah's and refugees from Charleston who were living in one of Campbell's houses.<sup>16</sup> Sherman had been a friend of Harris Simon's brother, the Honorable James Simons of Charleston. The Simons' son was an artillery lieutenant, stationed with his company in Charlotte where he courted Maggie upon her arrival there with her grandmother. The Simons' daughter, Harriet, was married to William Simons. (She wrote an account of Sherman's visit and may be confused with her mother who is mentioned in Sherman's Memoirs).

At the Simons' house, the two women found Sherman seated at a table writing. In the room were the Rev. A. Toomer Porter of Charleston and Dr. Robert Gibbes. They were successful in persuading Sherman to write an order for guards. The guards went to Mrs. Bryce's house; however, they soon left, saying the house could not be saved.

On February 17 it was almost dusk when Sarah saw three sky-rockets (red, white, and blue) rushing skyward, after which fires broke out. She wrote that Federal soldiers cut the fire hoses with axes and stuck their bayonets in them. The soldiers also destroyed the fire engines, the waterworks, and the gasworks. Dr. Porter was another witness to the burning of Columbia. He reported that he saw three balloons go up and, within ten minutes, about eight fires broke out approximately equal distance from each other and stretching almost entirely across town. He said, "*I myself, saw men with balls of cotton dipped in turpentine enter house after house.*"<sup>17</sup>

Sarah and Amanda stood watch duty to allow the guards to get some sleep. Immense flakes of fire passed over the house all night, but Sarah took consolation in the fact that they did pass over. The fires kept coming closer and finally, around 3 a.m. on the morning of the 18th, she went upstairs, roused the children, and dressed them for departure. Maud was two months old; Nina, five; and Mamie, twelve. (Sarah's recollections don't account for having an infant with them). The guards offered to stay and try to save the house.

Sarah, Amanda, the cook, Harriet, and servants, Charlotte and Manda, walked across the street to old Mrs. Hampton's house where the Federal General Logan had his headquarters.<sup>18</sup> Soon the roof of that house caught fire, and Sarah's group rushed outside. Her thoughts turned to the lunatic asylum, and she hoped the Federals would not burn up the "poor crazy people". She decided to head in that direction.

As they walked along the street, Amanda gathered a few garments in her skirt, only to lose one thing after another, starting with her umbrella. She would say, "*There goes my last pair of stockings*", and "*Oh, my night gown is gone.*" They sat down in front of the Male Academy for a while. Mrs. Simons offered to share a box with Sarah to sit on, reporting that her home had been burned. Sherman, in his Memoirs, stated he sent an ambulance to the asylum for Mrs. Simons (formerly Mrs. Wragg), and her children, and had them brought to his headquarters.

Sarah and Amanda resumed their journey and, upon reaching the asylum, they found the whole front of the enclosure covered with people whose personal objects were in boxes and trunks or tied up in sheets. Sarah's friend, Mrs. Parker, the wife of the resident physician and superintendent, took them into a room where there was a fire. At about sunrise, a little boy came in saying, "*Mrs. Bryce, your house is still standing. It must have been robbed, though I did not see anyone in it.*" Sarah rushed home and found the house safe. One guard was asleep in a large armchair, and a wood fire was blazing in the sitting room. She gratefully thanked both men, and Harriet "*seated them down to a good breakfast of hominy, ham, eggs, flaky hot biscuits, and true coffee.*" (She had been saving the coffee for special occasion).

Amanda and Sarah went across the street to see how the Howes fared and found their house safe, and the Palmer girls asleep there. The Howe's house was saved by a refugee houseguest, Mrs. Elias VanderHorst, who had brought her daughter and grandchildren from Charleston. The lady was descended from the New York Morris family of Revolutionary fame and still had enough influential Northern relatives to impress New York native Sherman. The Crawford house down the street was also safe, but much of Columbia was in bad shape. Emma LeConte wrote that Blanding, "*the finest street in town*" was a sad picture, and that the Clarkson house with the white columns looked like an old Greek ruin.

The burning was not restricted to the city. On the plantation everything was burned, including the agricultural implements, and the stock was killed. The steam gin house, grist mill, and sawmill were gone. Daddy Joe fell on his knees and begged that they might be spared, saying, "Please massa, don't burn dem; dat's where we make our bread. We have a good owner who is good to his people. For God's sake, don't burn dem." His pleas were in vain.

Initially, the Hampton-Preston mansion was saved because General John A. (Black Jack) Logan had his headquarters there. When he was leaving, he had barrels of pitch placed in the cellar and was ready to set them afire when a line of Catholic nuns and pupils entered. They had marched through blazing streets from their burned out Ursuline Convent on the corner of Main and Blanding. Sara Aldrich described her dangerous trip down Blanding to Pickens.

The Mother Superior of the convent and academy, where daughters of many Protestants went to school, had taught Sherman's daughter, Minnie, in Ohio. Sister Baptista Lynch had an order from Sherman and was able to save General Preston's house, very much to the indignation of General Logan.



Sarah sent food to many people including Dr. Daniel Trezevant and opened her house to her neighbors. She also helped Dr. John Parker feed the patients at the asylum.

Historical markers were later placed near many places where Sarah and Amanda walked.

1 "The Personal Experiences of Mrs. Campbell Bryce during the Burning of Columbia"; "Reminiscences of the Hospitals of Columbia".

2Drie, "Bird's Eye View of Columbia", 1872.

3Dr. G. Howe, "Dictionary of American Biography"; Dr. G. Howe, "History of the Presbyterian Church of South Carolina"; Myers R.M., "The Children of Pride".

4Bryce, "Burning", pp. 5, 6.; Cauthen, Charles, Editor, "State Records of South Carolina", p. 111.

5Dr. George Howe, "Dictionary of American Biography".

6Bryce, "Wayside", p. 4.

7Adger, John B.: "Howe's History of the Presbyterian Church", Vol. 1; Bryce, "Wayside" p. 4.

8Bryce, "Wayside" p. 13.; Moore, John Hammond, Editor, p. 23 (Dr. Samuel Fair had an office and clinic at Plain Hampton and Sumter).

9Bryce, "Wayside" p. 17.

10Chesnut, Diary, pp. 242, 433.

11Fenhagen, Mary Pringle, "Descendants of Judge Robert Pringle", S.C. Historical Magazine, Oct. 1, 1961.

12Chesnut, Diary, pp. 434, 435, 451, 471.

13 Official Records of the Rebellion, Series 1, Vol. 44, p. 1011.

14 Reston, "Sherman's March and Vietnam", pp. 103, 106.

15 Bryce, "Burning".

16 William Gilmore Sims made a list of houses that were burned. The list includes a house on the north side of Blanding Street that was owned by Campbell Bryce and occupied by the Harris Simons family, and the dwelling of Mrs. John Bryce on the south side of Blanding between Sumter and Marion. Salley A. S., Editor, "Sack and Destruction of the City of Columbia"; Sherman, William T., "Memoirs", pp. 285, 286; Baret, "Sherman's March through the Carolinas", pp. 79, 80; Simons, Robert Bentham, "Thomas Grange Simons III, His Forebearers and relations", pp.63; Charleston City Directory, 1859.

17 Porter, "Led On", pp. 159, 160.

18 Foote, Shelby, "The Civil War", pp. 792, 796.

19 Miers, Earl, "When the World Ended", pp. 61, 99 (The house belonging to the Anderson Clarkson's uncle was burned because he had seven sons in the Confederate Army).

## Forrest's Last Ride



*Forrest's Last Ride* is the name of the project to reconstruct the gravesite of Lieutenant General Nathan Bedford Forrest and his wife Mary Ann Montgomery Forrest on the grounds of Historic Elm Springs and the National Confederate Museum. This will be a very large project as the plaza is 50 feet deep and 75 feet wide. Everything that was with the graves is now on the grounds and waiting to be reconstructed. The Equestrian Statue, which is the headstone of the graves will be repaired and returned to its rightful place. This project is for the repair, reconstruction, and placement of the Forrest Gravesite in its entirety and as intended by the artist Charles Henry Neihaus.

On September 18, 2021, we gathered to lay to rest, Lt. Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest and his wife Mary Ann Montgomery Forrest were on the grounds of Historic Elm Springs. On October 1, 2022, the General Executive Council voted to rebuild the entire plaza as it was originally Constructed. The estimated cost to reconstruct the entire plaza is \$150,000. Currently, \$76,000 has already been raised. This project is being done by the great-great-grandsons of General Forrest and the General Executive Council.

*This cannot happen without your help and donations. This cannot be built until the money has been raised. If you wish to contribute, please send your donations to SCV National.*

To pay by check:

Please make your check payable to SCV National with Forrest Plaza in the memo line and mail to:

SCV  
P. O. Box 59  
Columbia, TN 38402

To pay by phone: call 931-380-1844, ext. 209 To pay online: <https://scv.org/paypal-donations/>

*You take them down, and we will put them back up!*



Brig/Gen. Benjamin G.  
Humphreys Camp  
#1625  
1412 North Park Dr  
Greenwood, MS  
38930

E-mail:  
confederate@suddenlink.net

Website:  
www.humphreys1625.com



### **Charge to the Sons of Confederate Veterans**

"To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we will commit the vindication of the cause for which we fought. To your strength will be given the defense of the Confederate soldier's good name, the guardianship of his history, the emulation of his virtues, the perpetuation of those principles which he loved and which you love also, and those ideals which made him glorious and which you also cherish."

LT. GENERAL STEPHEN DILL LEE, COMMANDER GENERAL,  
UNITED CONFEDERATE VETERANS, NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA, APRIL 25, 1906.