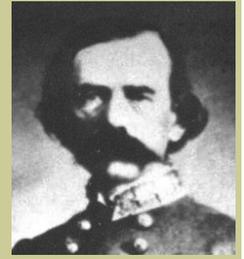




THE DEFENDER



MAJ. GEN. WILLIAM T. MARTIN CAMP 590 MISSISSIPPI DIVISION SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

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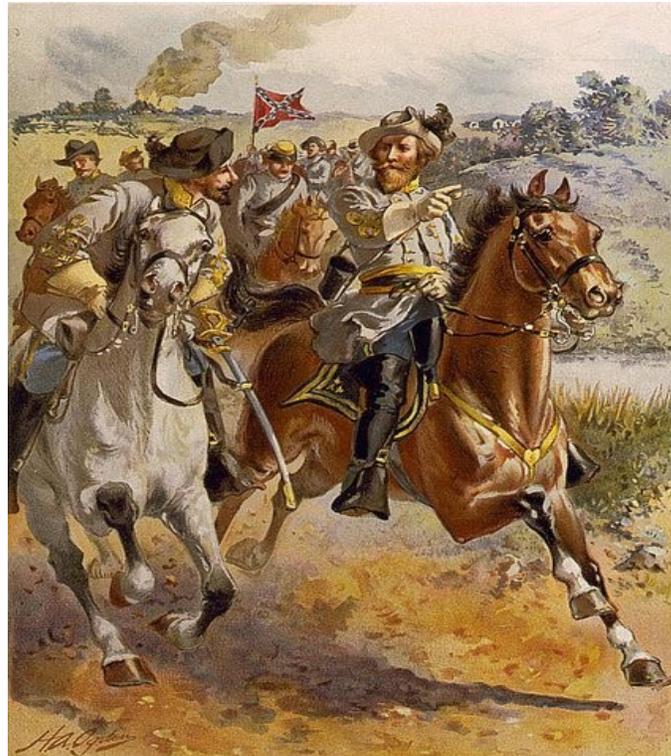
Http:www.law.cornell.eduus code/17/107.shtml

Camp Officers

- Jason Blaney, Commander
- James Young, Adjutant
- James Young, Treasurer
- Don Estes, 1Lt. Cmdr.
- Louis Boyd, 2Lt. Cmdr.
- Earl "Buddy" Emerick, Jr., Chaplain
- Holmes Sturgeon, Esq., Judge Advocate
- Chip Sturdivant, Quartermaster
- Michael Campbell, Color Sgt.
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**Gen. Jeb Stuart leads his cavalry around Union forces.
June 12-15 1862**

Story on page 6

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SCV CHARGE

"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.

FATHER BANNON'S SECRET MISSION.

BY ALBERT C. DANNER, MOBILE, ALA

The article in the *Veteran* for March, page 116, under the heading of "The Pope as a Mediator" and giving a copy of the letter written by Pope Pius IX. to Jefferson Davis. President of the Confederacy, in the year 1863, was read by me with much interest, and possibly I can add an item to it which, taken in connection with the pope's letter, would be something of historical value; hence I give it to you for whatever it may be worth.

There came South with Gen. Sterling Price's army from Missouri a company of infantry, also a fine battery, fully equipped, of Irishmen, fine fighters, and all members of the Catholic Church. With them came from St. Louis a young priest, Father John Bannon, as their chaplain.

Father Bannon was brave, courageous, energetic, and liked by all in the Missouri army, Protestants as well as Catholics. In 1863 he went with our command into Vicksburg for the siege. Just after the surrender of Vicksburg Father Bannon had orders to go at once to Richmond and report to President Davis in person. This he did without its being known except to a few of our command. (We afterwards learned that Father Bannon was sent on a secret mission to Europe in behalf of the Confederacy.)

A few years before the late great world war broke out I was touring with a party of friends by motor over Scotland and Ireland, and we spent Sunday, the 13th of August 1911, at Dublin. While there I determined to hunt up Father Bannon. Before leaving Mobile, I had gotten from a good Catholic friend of mine in St. Louis the address of Father Bannon, and I started out on the Sunday mentioned to find him. I succeeded in doing so without much difficulty. He was at the great church and school building of St. Francis Xavier.

The aged priest was glad to see me. We had a long and interesting talk that afternoon, in which he told me of his interview with President Davis, the orders he had received, and his successful adventures in carrying out the instructions. As all interested have now passed away (Father Bannon died shortly after I saw him in Dublin), there can be no harm in mentioning the matter now.

President Davis instructed Father Bannon to go to Rome, seek an interview with the pope, and try to get him to recognize the Confederacy as a nation, giving many strong arguments and reasons why this should be done. The Emperor of France was willing and anxious to recognize the Confederacy but could not do so alone. England had a large and influential sentiment in favor of her recognition of us, but Queen Victoria stood out against this; and Russia and Germany were the bitter enemies of the Confederacy.

Father Bannon told me about running the blockade on a little schooner out of

Wilmington, N. C., and getting over to one of the British islands, then taking a steamer to Liverpool. From Liverpool it was easy getting to Rome. The pope received him, and he had two long interviews with him on the subject, receiving much encouragement.

When he left the pope, Father Bannon was favorably impressed and hopeful that the pope would join with France in recognizing the Confederate States government. He mailed his report to President Davis by the underground route established by the Confederacy. Father Bannon told me that he was instructed to mail the report to a certain address in London and that the London man forwarded it to an address in Canada, the Confederacy's mail agent in Canada having arrangements by which he sent letters very promptly.

President Davis received the report and thanked Father Bannon for his services. He also gave him permission to return to the Confederacy if he could find a way to do so, otherwise to remain where he was.

Father Bannon could not find a way to get back to this country at that time. The blockade of all of the Southern ports was so complete that it was almost impossible to get through it. Then later, after the giving up of the Confederacy, the party in control of the State of Missouri, largely influenced by the German sentiment there, enacted very stringent and severe laws against priests and other clergymen who had been chaplains in the Confederate army. The authorities in Missouri were particularly bitter toward the clergymen of the Catholic and Southern Methodist Churches, as they were known to be in full sympathy with the Confederacy; so, Father Bannon went to Dublin. A priest of the Jesuit Order, he attached himself to the great church and school of St. Francis Xavier, remaining there the rest of his life.

It became known that a letter was sent by the pope to President Davis as a result of Father Bannon's interview, and I suppose that letter is the one published in the *Veteran*. In that communication the pope says: "We have received with all fitting kindness the gentleman sent by your excellency to deliver your letters."

Father Bannon's visit to the pope was of far greater importance than simply to ask him to use his influence in making peace; but it failed, and the cause of the Southern States was doomed. In their struggle for democracy and the right of a free country to rule itself they seemed to have no friends among the governments of the world at that time. The sentiment of all the governments seemed to be in favor of autocracy, but what a change has come over the world within the last fifty years!

I, as one of the survivors of the Confederate army, have derived much comfort and consolation during the past four years, particularly since the United States with all of her power went into it, to see the free peoples of the entire civilized

world unite in a great war against autocracy, fighting victoriously to establish the same principles for which the Confederate States fought.

Verily the stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone of liberty.

From *The Confederate Veteran*, May 1919; Vol. XXVII, No. 5; pages 180-181

Capt. R. H. Cooper.

In the seventy-eighth year of his age, while returning from the Confederate Reunion at Tulsa, Okla., September 30, 1918, Capt. R. H. Cooper was taken very ill and stopped at the home of his son-in-law, John Stephens, at Byhalia, Miss., where he died in



CAPT. R. H. COOPER.

a few days, October 5, and was taken to Emory Chapel Cemetery, in Marshall County, Miss., near his home, and laid to rest in the presence of a large number of old and young friends. He left surviving him a devoted wife, two sons and two daughters, and a brother and sister.

In May 1861, a company of soldiers was organized at Cockrum, Miss., and R. H. Cooper joined the company. With nine other companies from Mississippi, it was ordered to Corinth, Miss., and helped to form the 17th Mississippi Regiment. Hon. W. S. Featherston was elected its colonel. This regiment was ordered to Virginia in June and was in the first battle of Manassas. July 21, 1861. R. H. Cooper was elected first lieutenant and afterwards promoted to captain of his company (17th Mississippi Regiment). He fought in every battle of his regiment up to the battle of Perryville, where he received a severe wound in the leg and was never able to rejoin his command. He suffered from this wound up to his death. I was with him in all the battles he was engaged in, and I never knew a better officer or braver soldier. I never heard him complain of any duty he was ordered to do.

Those who knew Captain Cooper well often complimented him for his gallantry in battle and his general deportment on the march and in the bivouac. He was an ideal soldier and officer, admired by all who knew him.

[S. W. Benson, Captain of Company F, 17th Mississippi]

From *the Confederate Veteran*, May 1919; Vol. XXVII, No. 5; page 188

ARMISTEAD AT THE BATTLE OF GETTYSBURG.

Extracts from Letters Written by Dr. R. W. Martin to Rev. James Poindexter.

When Armistead's Brigade was in line of battle a short time before the advance was ordered, the general marched up and down in front of his troops encouraging them in every way and said these words: "Men, remember what you are fighting for. Remember your homes, your firesides, your wives, mothers, sisters and your sweethearts."

When the signal guns were fired Armistead instantly called attention, and instantly every man was on his feet. After a few words he walked to the front of the Fifty-third Virginia Regiment, his battalion of direction, and address the color bearer,

"Sergeant, are you going to put those colors on the enemy's works over yonder?"

"Yes, general, if mortal man can do it."

He then exhorted the men to follow their colors and to remember the brave words of their color bearer.

When the advance commenced Armistead placed himself in front of the colors of the Fifty-third Regiment, and from that point watched and directed the advance until within a short distance of the enemy's line. When approximating the advance line General Kemper rode up to him and said, "General, hurry up, my men can stand no more."

He quietly turned to the officer com-

manding his battalion of direction and said, "Colonel, double quick." The double quick soon quickened into a run, the run into a charge, Armistead all the time in front of his line of battle, and when the desperate effort came and the final rush for the rock fence was made he drew his sword, put his hat on the end of it, called upon his men to follow, rushed over the rock fence and was shot just as he reached the enemy's guns between the two lines in the bloody angle, thus sealing with his life's blood the high-water mark of the rebellion.

As Armistead was carried from the field he met Hancock as he was hurrying to the front. They recognized each other, and Hancock dismounted and grasped his hand and told him how sorry he was to see him wounded. Armistead returned his kindly expression and told him the wound was mortal and that he had on his person some things that he wished to entrust to him to be returned when opportunity presented to his people in Virginia. Hancock accepted the commission and tried to persuade Armistead to look upon the bright side, that he probably was not so seriously hurt as he feared, excused himself by saying he was compelled to hurry to the front, left Armistead, promising to see him next

day. In a short time he was wounded himself and they never met again.

This was related to me as I lay on the ground back of the battle line where hundreds of wounded were carried after the fight, by one of Hancock's staff, who rode up just about dusk and found a number of men congregated about me. When he found I was a badly wounded "Johnny Reb" Colonel he dismounted, drove everybody away that I might have fresh air, and commenced a conversation.

When he found that I was of Armistead's Brigade, he said, "Armistead, Armistead. I have just left him, he is mortally wounded," and then related the above, and said, "I will have you taken care of," etc.

Armistead lingered through the 4th and died on the 5th, leaving an example of patriotism, heroism and devotion to duty which ought to be handed down through the ages.

Here's my heart and hand.

Sincerely and truly,

R. W. Martin,

Pittsylvania Tribune.

[See Vol. XXXVH, p. 144—Ed.]

The Southern Historical Society Papers,
Richmond, Va., Apr. 1914. Vol. I.

THE LAST CONFEDERATE PAYROLL

By Joseph M. Broun. From *The Southern Historical Society Papers*, Richmond, Va., April, 1914. Volume I.

In April-May, 1865, while President Davis and cabinet, with Gens. Braggs, Breckenridge and others, and some twenty-five hundred troops, were between Abbeville, S. C., and Washington, Ga., Gen. Toombs' home, I (as a bonded quartermaster), was ordered to receipt for the gold and specie estimated at about \$150,000, then in the wagon train with the president. This gold had been brought from Richmond, Va., in special charge of a company of naval cadets, as I was informed. The enemy was still around us. Our own boys had become demoralized about this gold. They said if they didn't take it, the quartermaster or the Yankees would. That was one time it was not pleasant or safe to be a quartermaster. Discipline was gone. But Gen. Breckenridge, in his mature manhood, was equal to the occasion. In an old Kentucky hunting jacket, he appeared before the men, now almost a mob. He told them they were Southern gentlemen and Confederate soldiers. They must not become highway robbers. They knew how to die bravely; they must live honorably.

He promised them an orderly distribution of enough of the gold to help each one on his way, whether to his home or to the trans-Mississippi department, where good fighting might yet be done. The men were readily controlled and

became quiet and content.

Gen. Bragg, a few of his staff and I, then went to the "gold train" (which we usually tried to conceal). Under Gen. Bragg's directions each of us took about a quart of gold coin and tied it Confederate Gold. 25 up in his handkerchief, as if it were of no great value, so as not to arouse the suspicion of the boys we would pass. With

this treasure uncounted we proceeded back to the town of Washington (some miles), where I opened a pay office, Gen. Bragg still present and superintending the payment. Each soldier, as he presented himself at the window, received a \$20 gold piece and receipted to me therefor. When the soldiers ceased coming, there remained on the table two twenties and one ten. Gen. Bragg, turning to me said: "Captain, you estimate closely. Receipt to yourself for what is left and close the account." I pocketed the \$50 and signed the payroll therefor. Immediately after this payment we all disbanded, each man going his way. This was the last act of the Confederate Government so far as I know. The following night President Davis was captured by the Federal soldiers.

Gen. Bragg and other officers had previously started my receipt list at \$20 each. This payroll I gave as a souvenir to Mrs. William A. Pope, the wife of my inti-

mate friend, William A. Pope. We had been schoolboys together at Frank Minor's Ridgeway Academy, 185 1-2, near Charlottesville, Va., and I, when a student, '55-6, at Georgia University, had visited him. I had been stationed at Washington, Ga., January, '65. I had seen leather belts for carrying specie made by the ladies of Washington, Ga. These I had understood were for the use of those Confederate officers who desired prompt flight from their country; and I was informed that Gen. Toombs and others, to aid their escape, did take with them, very properly, as much of this gold as they could conveniently carry in their respective belts. The residue of this gold (I was informed), was deposited in a bank vault at Washington, Ga. Shortly after the surrender some bankers of Richmond, claiming this gold as their private property, and denying that it ever had been Confederate property, undertook to transport it back to Richmond, Va., overland in wagons, before the railroads had been restored to operation. This gold train in route was partly robbed a time or two, when finally the United States Government took charge of the gold, some one hundred thousand dollars, and deposited it in the treasury at Washington, where it still remains, unsettled as to the ownership.

FOR THE BRETHREN by Rev. Bryan Dabney (*In the Trenches*, May 2018, newsletter Camp 1354)

Some time back, I read a piece by Lawrence Vance concerning The Battle Hymn of the Republic. Pastor Vance's position was that the song was not a Christian hymn. The following is a portion of his remarks about this song from a published article on lewrockwell.com in July of 2006.

"Although most Americans who are familiar with this 'patriotic anthem' rightly connect it with the so-called Civil War, many probably don't know who wrote it, and even fewer know anything about how it came about. The author... was the abolitionist and social activist, Julia Ward Howe (1819–1910). The song first ap-

peared, minus the last verse, on the front cover of The Atlantic Monthly for February 1862. That it originally had six verses can be seen by looking at her first draft, which was written on a scrap of Sanitary Commission paper. Christian hymnbooks that contain this song only include verses one, two, four, and five. The words as it was first published are slightly different than her original draft.

The tune is from a camp-meeting song with a 'Glory Hallelujah' refrain by William Steffe, written about 1856. This tune was in turn used for what became the Union marching song, John Brown's Body, the first verse of which

begins by repeating three times: 'John Brown's body lies a-mouldering in the grave,' and ends with: 'His soul goes marching on!' Other lines read: 'They will hang Jeff Davis to a sour apple tree!' and 'Now, three rousing cheers for the Union.'

According to... Laura E. Richards, et al. (Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1915), in December of 1861, as Howe returned from a review of troops near Washington, her carriage was surrounded and delayed by the marching regiments: she and her companions sang... war songs which every one was singing in those days... [When asked] 'why do you not write some good words for that stirring

tune? 'I have often wished to do so!' she replied. Waking in the gray of the next morning, as she lay waiting for the dawn, the word came to her. 'Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord — ' She lay perfectly still. Line by line, stanza by stanza, the words came sweeping on with the rhythm of marching feet, pauseless, resistless. She saw the long lines swinging into place before her eyes, heard the voice of the nation speaking through her lips. She waited till the voice was silent, till the last line was ended; then sprang from bed, and groping for pen and paper, scrawled in the gray twilight the Battle **CONTINUED ON PAGE 8**

WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY AT IT AGAIN

Not satisfied with the desecration of the Lee Chapel, prohibiting Confederate Memorial Services on the grounds, and caving in to every single demand of the 6 law students several years ago, the new President of Washington and Lee University in Lexington appointed a committee to study the "problem" of the university's association with Lee. The results may shock some, but certainly not any of us who have dealt with the university over the past several years.

The report is available online here... <https://www.wlu.edu/presidents-office/issues-and-initiatives/commission-on-institutional-history-and-community/report-of-the-commission-on-institutional-history-and-community>

It is lengthy and nauseating. We will offer you just a FEW of the committee's recommendations, which should give you enough of an idea of exactly what is about to take place...

"The commission recognized that it will take time to complete the changes proposed for Lee Chapel and to create a new community gathering space. If the chapel continues to be used in the interim, the university should make several modifications. The portrait of Lee

in military garb in the chapel should be replaced by a portrait of Lee in civilian dress. In addition, the fire doors separating the auditorium from the apse should be closed. The Book of Remembrance and the plaque honoring the Confederate soldiers of the Rockbridge Regiment should be temporarily removed during the interim period; if temporary removal is not feasible, didactics should be put in place that will contextualize the objects. In addition, the university should provide guidelines for programming in the chapel during the interim period, and for managing social media connected to the chapel. Finally, in order to avoid commercializing the university's connection to Lee and the Confederacy, the museum shop should be closed during the interim period."

"Display only portraits of Lee that portray him in civilian attire, not as a Confederate general. Acquire and prominently display portraits - in either 2D or 3D media - that feature individuals who represent the university's complete history." (This is campus wide)

"The newly formed naming committee consider renaming three campus buildings named for Lee (Lee House, Lee Chapel, and Lee-Jackson

House)."

Any questions?

For what it's worth, here is President Will Dudley's contact information:

Contact Information
Office of the President:
Washington Hall, 2nd Floor
president@wlu.edu

Mailing Address: 204 West Washington Street Washington and Lee University Lexington, Virginia 24450 (540) 458-8700

Contact him and ask him to ignore the recommendations of this "committee" and leave the Lee Chapel and the school's Confederate history ALONE.

Apparently, the first attacks on Lee and the school's Confederate history were not enough to cause enough alumni to withdraw support. We can only hope this report will open their eyes to what is about to transpire.

From the Dixie Heritage Newsletter. 05/2018

So, what is the problem?

OUR NAMESAKES

The University is named in honor of the pivotal and personal roles that George Washington and Robert E. Lee played in its own history - Washington for his gift that saved the institution from financial ruin in the 18th century, and Lee for his transformative leadership as president of Washington College from 1865 to 1870.

Under his leadership, the college regained its financial footing and enrollment grew to more than 400 students, making it one of largest schools in the South. Upon immediate request of the faculty, the trustees resolved to change the name to Washington and Lee University: "The most munificent patron of our College was George Washington; he who reanimated and infused into it new and vigorous life, after its prostration by war, was Robert Edward Lee. How fit it is that two of the most renowned names of their respective centuries as Washington and Lee be forever hereafter associated indisputably, as Founder and Restorer of our beloved College!" (See Trustee minutes here.)

<https://bit.ly/2LJeUb5>

STUART'S REPORT OF HIS RIDE AROUND McCLELLAN'S ARMY

HDQRS. CAV. BRIG., DEPT. OF NORTH-ERN VIRGINIA June 17, 1862.

GENERAL: In compliance with your written instructions I undertook an expedition to the vicinity of the enemy's lines on the Pamunkey with about 1,200 cavalry and a section of the Stuart Horse Artillery. The cavalry was composed of portions of the First, Fourth, and Ninth Virginia Cavalry. The second named, having no field officer present, was, for the time being, divided between the first and last mentioned, commanded, respectively, by Col. Fitz. Lee and Col. W. H. Fitzhugh Lee; also two squadrons of the Jeff. Davis Legion, commanded by Lieut. Col. W. T. Martin, the section of artillery being commanded by First Lieut. James Breathed.

Although the expedition was prosecuted farther than was contemplated in your instructions I feel assured that the considerations which actuated me will convince you that I did not depart from their spirit, and that the boldness developed in the subsequent direction of the march was the quintessence of prudence.

The destination of the expedition was kept a profound secret (so essential to success) and was known to my command only as the actual march developed it. The force was quietly concentrated beyond the Chickahominy, near Kilby's Station, on the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad, and moved thence parallel to and to the left of that road. Scouts were kept far to the right to ascertain the enemy's whereabouts, and advanced guard, flankers, and rear guard to secure our column against surprise. I purposely directed my first day's march toward Louisa, so as to favor the idea of re-enforcing Jackson, and encamped just opposite Hanover Court-House, near South Anna Bridge (Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad), 22 miles from Richmond.

Our noiseless bivouac was broken early next morning, and without flag or bugle-sound we resumed our march, none but one knew whither. I, however, immediately took occasion to make known my instructions and plans confidentially to the regimental commanders, so as to secure an intelligent action and co-operation in whatever might occur. Scouts had returned, indicating no serious obstacles to my march from that to Old Church, directly in rear of and on the overland avenue of communication to New Bridge and vicinity.

I proceeded, therefore, via Hanover Court-House, upon the route to Old Church. Upon reaching the vicinity of Hanover Court-House I found it in possession of the enemy; but very little could be ascertained about the strength and nature of his force. I therefore sent Col. Fitz. Lee's regiment (First Virginia Cavalry) to make a detour to the right

and reach the enemy's route behind him, to ascertain his force here and crush it, if possible; but the enemy, proving afterward to be 150 cavalry, did not tarry long, but left, my column following slowly down, expecting every moment to hurl him upon Lee; but owing to a bad marsh Colonel Lee did not reach the intersection of roads in time, and the cavalry (the Regular Sixth) passed on in the direction of Mechanicsville. This course deviating too much from our direction, after the capture of a sergeant they were allowed to proceed without interruption on their way.

Our march led thence to Taliaferro's Mill and Enon Church to Hawes' Shop; here we encountered the first pickets, surprised and caught several vedettes, and pushed boldly forward, keeping advance guard well to the front. The regiment in front was the Ninth Virginia Cavalry (Col. W. H. F. Lee), whose advance guard, intrusted to the command of the adjutant (Lieutenant Robins), did admirable service, Lieutenant Robins handling it in the most skillful manner, managing to clear the way for the march with little delay, and infusing by a sudden dash at a picket such a wholesome terror that it never paused to take a second look.

Between Hawes' Shop and Old Church the advance guard reported the enemy's cavalry in force in front; it proved to be the Fifth Regular Cavalry (formerly the Second, commanded by yourself). The leading squadron was ordered forward at a brisk gait, the main body following closely, and gave chase to the enemy for a mile or two, but not coming up with him. We crossed the Totopotomoy, a strong position of defense, which the enemy failed to hold, confessing a weakness. In such places half a squadron was deployed afoot as skirmishers till the point of danger was passed.

On, on dashed Robins, here skirting a field, there leaping a fence or ditch, and clearing the woods beyond, when not far from Old Church the enemy made a stand, having been re-enforced.

The only mode of attack being in column of fours along the road, I still preferred to oppose the enemy with one squadron at a time, remembering that he who brings on the field the last cavalry reserve wins the day. The next squadron therefore moved to the front under the lamented Captain Latane, making a most brilliant and successful charge with drawn sabers upon the picketed ground, and, after a hotly contested hand-to-hand conflict, put him to flight, but not till the gallant captain had sealed his devotion to his native soil with his blood. The enemy's rout (two squadrons by one of ours) was complete; they dispersed in terror and confusion, leaving many dead on the field and blood in quantities in their tracks. Their commander, Captain Royall, was reported mortally wounded.

Several officers and a number of privates were taken in this conflict, and a number of horses, arms, and equipments, together with five guidons. The woods and fields were full of the scattered and disorganized foe straggling to and fro, and but for the delay and the great incumbrance which they would have been to our march, many more could and would have been captured.

Col. Fitz. Lee, burning with impatience to cross sabers with his old regiment, galloped to the front at this point and begged to be allowed to participate with his regiment (the First Virginia Cavalry)

in the discomfiture of his old comrades, a request I readily granted, and his leading squadron pushed gallantly down the road to Old Church; but the fragments of Royall's command could not again be rallied, and Colonel Lee's leading squadron charged without resistance into the enemy's camp (five companies), and took possession of a number of horses, a quantity of arms and stores of every kind, several officers and privates. The stores as well as the tents in which everything had been left, were speedily burned, and the march resumed.

Here was the turning point of the expedition. Two routes were before me. - the one to return by Hanover Court-House, the other to pass around through New Kent, taking the chances of having to swim the Chickahominy and make a bold effort to cut the enemy's lines of communication. The Chickahominy was believed by my guide to be fordable near Forge Bridge. I was 14 miles from Hanover Court-House, which I would have to pass. If I returned, the enemy had a much shorter distance to pass to intercept me there; besides, the South Anna was impassable, which still further narrowed the chances of escape in that direction; the enemy, too, would naturally expect me to take that route. These circumstances led me to look with more favor to my favorite scheme, disclosed to you before starting, of passing around. It was only 9 miles to Tunstall's Station, on the York River Railroad, and that point once passed I felt little apprehension beyond. The route was one of all others which I felt sure the enemy would never expect me to take. On that side of the Chickahominy infantry could not reach me before crossing, and I felt able to whip any cavalry force that could be brought against me. Once on the Charles City side, I knew you would, when aware of my position, if necessary, order a diversion in my favor on the Charles City road, to prevent a move to intercept me from the direction of White Oak Swamp. Besides

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

STUART'S RIDE continued from page 6

this, the hope of striking a serious blow at a boastful and insolent foe, which would make him tremble in his shoes, made more agreeable the alternative I chose. In a brief and frank interview with some of my officers I disclosed my views, but while none accorded a full assent, all assured me a hearty support in whatever I did.

With an abiding trust in God, and with such guarantees of success as the two Lees and Martin and their devoted followers, this enterprise I regarded as most promising. Taking care, therefore, more particularly, after this resolve, to inquire of the citizens the distance and the route to Hanover Court-House, I kept my horse's head steadily toward Tunstall's Station.

There was something of the sublime in the implicit confidence and unquestioning trust of the rank and file in a leader guiding them straight, apparently, into the very jaws of the enemy, every step appearing to them to diminish the faintest hope of extrication. Reports of the enemy's strength at Garlick's and Tunstall's were conflicting, but generally indicated a small number. Prisoners were captured at every step, and including officers, soldiers, and negroes.

The rear now became of as much importance as the front, but the duties of rear guard devolving upon the Jeff. Davis Legion, with the howitzer attached, its conduct was intrusted to its commander, Lieutenant-Colonel Martin, in whose judgment and skill I had entire confidence. He was not attacked, but at one time the enemy appeared in his rear bearing a flag of truce, and party, 25 in number, bearing it, actually surrendered to his rear guard, so great was the consternation produced by our march. An assistant surgeon was also taken. He was route and not in charge of sick.

Upon arriving opposite Garlick's I ordered a squadron from the Ninth Virginia Cavalry to destroy whatever could be found at the landing on the Pamunkey. Two transports loaded with stores and a large number of wagons were here burned, and the squadron rejoined the column with a large number of prisoners, horses, and mules. A squadron of the First Virginia Cavalry (Hammond's) assisted in this destruction. A few picked men, including my aides, Burke, Farley, and Mosby, were pushed forward rapidly to Tunstall's to cut the wires and secure the depot. Five companies of cavalry, escorting large wagon trains, were in sight and seemed at first disposed to dispute our progress, but the sight of our column, led by Lee, of the Ninth, boldly advancing to the combat, was enough. Content with a distant view, they fled, leaving their train in our hands. The party that reached the railroad at Tunstall's surprised the guard at the depot (15 or 20 infantry), captured them without their firing a gun, and set

about obstructing the railroad, but before it could be thoroughly done, and just as the head of our column reached it, a train of cars came thundering down from the Grand Army. It had troops on board and we prepared to attack it. The train swept off the obstructions without being thrown from the track, but our fire, delivered at only a few rods' distance, either killed or caused to feign death every one on board, the engineer being one of the first victims from the unerring fire of Captain Farley. It is fair to presume that a serious collision took place on its arrival at the White House, for it made extraordinary speed in that direction. The railroad bridge over Black Creek was fired under the direction of Lieutenant Burke, and it being now dark, the burning of the immense wagon train and the extricating of the teams involved much labor and delay and illuminated the country for miles. The roads at this point were far worse than ours, and the artillery had much difficulty in passing. Our march was finally continued by bright moonlight to Talleyville, where we halted 3½ hours for the column to close up. At this point we passed a large hospital of 150 patients. I deemed it proper not to molest the surgeons and attendants in charge.

At 12 o'clock at night the march was continued without incident under the most favorable auspices to Forge Bridge (8 miles), over the Chickahominy, where we arrived just at daylight. Lee, of the Ninth, by personal experiment having found the stream not fordable, axes were sent for and every means taken to overcome the difficulties by improvised bridges and swimming. I immediately dispatched to you information of my situation and asked for the diversion already referred to. The progress in crossing was very slow at the point chosen, just above Forge Bridge, and learning that at the bridge proper enough of the debris of the old bridge remained to facilitate the construction of another, material for which was afforded by a large warehouse adjacent, I moved to that point at once. Lieut. Redmond Burke, who in every sphere has rendered most valuable service and deserves the highest consideration at the hands of the Government, set to work with a party to construct the bridge. A footbridge was soon improvised, and the horses were crossed over as rapidly as possible by swimming. Burke's work proceeded like magic; in three hours it was ready to bear artillery and cavalry, and as half of the latter had not yet crossed, the bridge enabled the whole to reach the other bank by 1 p.m. Another branch of the Chickahominy still farther on was with some difficulty forded, and the march was continued without interruption toward Richmond. Having passed the point of danger, I left the column with Colonel Lee, of the First. I rode on

to report in person to you, reaching your headquarters at daylight next morning.

Returning to my command soon after, the prisoners, 165 in number, were transferred to the proper authority; 260 horses and mules captured, with more or less harness, were transferred to the quartermaster's departments of the different regiments, and the commands were sent to their respective camps. The number of captured arms has not been as yet accurately ascertained.

A pole was broken, which obliged us to abandon a limber this side of the Chickahominy.

The success attending this expedition will no doubt cause 10,000 or

15,000 men to be detached from the enemy's main body to guard his communication, besides accomplishing the destruction of millions' worth of property and the interruption for a time of his railroad communication.

The three commanders (the two Lees and Martin) exhibited the characteristics of skillful commanders, keeping their commands well in hand and managing them with skill and good judgment, which proved them worthy of a higher trust. Their brave men behaved with coolness and intrepidity in danger, unswerving resolution before difficulties, and stood unappalled before the rushing torrent of the Chickahominy, with the probability of an enemy at their heels armed with the fury of a tigress robbed of her whelps.

The perfect order and systematic disposition for crossing maintained throughout the passage insured its success and rendered it the crowning feature of a successful expedition.

I hope, general, that your sense of delicacy, so manifest on former occasions, will not prompt you to award to the two Lees (your son and nephew) less than their full measure of praise. Embalmed in the hearts and affections of their regiments; tried on many occasions requiring coolness, decision, and bravery; everywhere present to animate, direct, and control, they held their regiments in their grasp and proved themselves brilliant cavalry leaders.

The discipline maintained by Lieutenant-Colonel Martin in his command and referred to in his report is especially worthy of notice, as also his reference to the energy displayed by First Lieut. James Breathed, of the Stuart Horse Artillery.

I am most of all indebted to First Lieut. D. A. Timberlake, Corpl. Turner Doswell, and Private J. A. Timberlake, Fourth Virginia Cavalry; Second Lieut. Jones R. Christian and Private R. E. Frayser, Third Virginia Cavalry, who were ever in advance, and without whose thorough knowledge of the country and valuable assistance rendered I could

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STUART'S RIDE Continued

have effected nothing.

Asst. Surg. J. B. Fontaine, Fourth Virginia Cavalry (the enemy giving him little to do in his profession), was bold and indefatigable in reconnaissance, and was particularly active in his effort to complete the bridge.

Capt. Heros von Borcke, a Prussian cavalry officer, who lately ran the blockade, assigned me by the honorable Secretary of War, joined in the charge of the First Squadron in gallant style, and subsequently, by his energy, skill, and activity, won the praise and admiration of all.

To my staff present my thanks are especially due for the diligent performance of the duties assigned them; they were as follows: First Lieut. John Esten Cooke, ordnance officer, my principal staff officer for the occasion; First Lieut. C. Dabney, aide-de-camp.

Rev. Mr. Landstreet, Captains Farley, Towles, Fitzhugh, and Mosby rendered conspicuous and gallant service during the whole expedition.

My escort, under Corporal Hagan, are entitled individually to my thanks for their zeal and devotion to duty, particularly Privates Carson, of the Jeff. Davis Legion, and Pierson, of the Fourth Virginia Cavalry.

Herewith are submitted the reports of subordinate commanders, marked A, B, and C, and a map, D, showing my route, and papers, E, containing recommendations for promotion, and F, containing congratulatory orders published to the command upon its return.

I have the honor to be, general, your most obedient servant,

J. E. B. STUART, Brigadier-General, Commanding Cavalry.

General R. E. LEE, Commanding Department Northern Virginia.

<http://vcwsg.com/PDF%20Files/Jeb%20Stuarts%20Ride.pdf>

**FOR THE BRETHREN—continued from page 5**

the Battle Hymn of the Republic. She was used to writing thus; verses often came to her at night, and must be scribbled in the dark for fear of waking the baby; she crept back to bed, and as she fell asleep she said to herself, 'I like this better than most things I have written.' In the morning, while recalling the incident, she found she had forgotten the words.

Ignorance of history is no sin and can easily be remedied with a computer and a search engine or a trip to the library. But more important than the history behind this 'hymn' is the theology behind it. Hymns are sung in church as part of the worship of God. They contain a spiritual message. Hymns should not be sung in church merely because they have a nice tune. The words of a hymn are therefore very important. Although the Bible likens Christians to soldiers (2 Timothy 2:3), and the Christian life to a battle (1 Timothy 1:18), the Battle Hymn of the Republic is not a song that should be on the lips of any Christian. It is not a Christian hymn at all. It is a disgrace that [it] even appears in a Christian hymnbook alongside of such great hymns of the faith as: Blessed Redeemer, All Hail the Power of Jesus Name, The Way of the Cross Leads Home, That Beautiful Name, and O Worship the King. Julia Ward Howe was a Unitarian and wrote the song as a partisan Unionist during the beginning of the Civil War. The Battle Hymn of the Republic is religious war propaganda. It is no more a Christian hymn than White Christmas.

Like many who lived during the nineteenth century, Howe was very familiar with the Bible. Consequently, the language and imagery of the Battle Hymn of the Republic are largely biblical. The problem, however, is that Howe applied the judgment of the 'day of the Lord' to the destruction of the Southern armies by the North. A brief historical and biblical analysis of each verse... is as follows: 'Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord: He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored; He hath loosed the fateful lightning of His terrible swift sword: His truth is marching on.'

'Mine eyes have seen' is from the prophet Isaiah's vision of the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up (Isaiah 6:1). But rather than seeing the coming of the Lord, Isaiah saw the King, the LORD of hosts (Isaiah 6:5). Howe never saw the coming of the Lord, and the very idea that the coming of the Union Army was akin to the coming of the Lord is blasphemous. 'Trampling out the vintage' is a reference to the end times spoken of in the Book of Revelation: the wine of the wrath of God (Revelation 14:10), the cup of the wine of the fierceness of his wrath (Revelation 16:19), he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness

and wrath of Almighty God (Revelation 19:15). Howe originally used the word winepress instead of 'vintage.' The word 'trampling' is taken from the Old Testament: I have trodden the winepress alone; and of the people there was none with me: for I will tread them in mine anger, and trample them in my fury; and their blood shall be sprinkled upon my garments, and I will stain all my raiment (Isaiah 63:3). Lightning is sometimes associated with the judgment of God (Psalm 18:14, 144:6; Revelation 8:5, 11:19, 16:18). The 'terrible swift sword' is a reference to Christ's sword (Revelation 1:16, 2:12, 2:16, 19:15, 19:21). God's truth is not marching on, it is fallen in the street (Isaiah 59:14). And the Union Army marching is certainly not God's truth personified, not when the Bible reserves that honor for Jesus Christ (John 14:6). 'I have seen Him in the watch-fires of a hundred circling camps, They have builded Him an altar in the evening dews and damps; I can read His righteous sentence by the dim and flaring lamps: His day is marching on.' In this verse God is said to be in the camps of the Union Army, a dubious proposition, considering that it was an invading army. 'Builded Him an altar' is straight out of the Bible (Genesis 8:20; Exodus 24:4; Ezra 3:2). 'God's righteous sentence' is perhaps taken from references to God's righteous judgment (Romans 2:5) or righteous judgments (Psalm 119:160). 'His day' is a reference to the day of the Lord, falsely equating the marching of the Union Army with the judgment of God. 'I have read a fiery gospel writ in burnished rows of steel: As ye deal with my contemners, so with you my grace shall deal; Let the Hero, born of woman, crush the serpent with his heel, Since God is marching on.'

This verse is so blasphemous that it is not included in Christian hymnals... Perhaps if it was then Christians would have their eyes opened as to the true nature of this 'hymn.' The 'burnished rows of steel' refer to the polished Union cannons. This is not the gospel of the grace of God (Acts 20:24). This is another gospel, of which the Apostle Paul said: But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed (Galatians 1:8). And what grace is this: Punish the evil Southerners and I will give you grace? This concept of grace is foreign to the New Testament. Jesus Christ crushing the serpent with his heel is a perversion of Genesis 3:15 where the Lord says to the serpent: And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel. And in the New Testament, when the Apostle

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Paul said that the God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly (Romans 16:20), he was not referring to anything that was to take place during the American Civil War. And God certainly was not 'marching on' under the figure of the Union Army.

'He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never call retreat; He is sifting out the hearts of men before His judgment-seat: Oh, be swift, my soul, to answer Him! be jubilant, my feet! Our God is marching on.' Howe's reference to a trumpet instead of a bugle has biblical overtones. A trumpet figures prominently in references to the end times (Matthew 24:31; 1 Corinthians 15:52; Revelation 1:10, 4:1, 8:13, 9:14). The judgment seat is a reference to the judgment seat of Christ, mentioned twice by the Apostle Paul (Romans 14:10; 2 Corinthians 5:10). God has not yet sifted out the hearts of Christians at this judgment, nor yet the hearts of anyone else at the 'great white throne' judgment (Revelation 20:11–13). One thing is for sure, Christians had better be swift to answer the Lord at the Judgment when asked why they sang such a blasphemous song.

'In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea, With a glory in his bosom that transfigures you and me: As he died to make men holy, let us die to make men free, While God is marching on.'

Christ was not born 'in the beauty of the lilies.' He was laid in a manger (Luke 2:7), not in a garden. The 'glory in His bosom' is certainly scriptural, and is a reference to the account of Christ's transfiguration before his disciples where his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light (Matthew 17:2). But he was the one who was transfigured. The glory of Christ transfiguring 'you and me' is pure universalism as advocated by Unitarians. The third line in this verse is one of the most egregious in the whole 'hymn.' Not only does the phrase 'as he died to make men holy' also smack of universalism, equating the Atonement of the Son of God with the death of Union soldiers supposedly dying to 'make men free,' it is the height of blasphemy. This phrase also shows us that there are other reasons besides biblical ones for not singing the Battle Hymn, for, theological questions aside, the Union soldiers didn't 'die to make men free.' This is the great myth of the Civil War and would be news to Abraham Lincoln since he maintained that freeing the slaves was not what his war was about. In an August 22, 1862, letter to Horace Greeley, the editor of the New York Tribune, Lincoln explained: 'My paramount object in this struggle is to save the Union, and it is not either to save or destroy slavery. If I could save the Union without freeing any slave, I would do it; and if I could save it by freeing some and leaving others alone I

would also do that. What I do about slavery, and the colored race, I do because I believe it helps to save the Union.'

Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation freed no one since not only did it only apply to slaves in the states that were in rebellion against the United States, where the U.S. government had no authority, but it specifically exempted all the territory that was occupied by Union armies, where the U.S. government had authority. The fact that many churches today in the Deep South sing the Battle Hymn shows just how strong this myth has taken hold.

In 1901, in the wake of American imperialism in the Spanish and Philippine Wars, Mark Twain penned a parody of the Battle Hymn, from the perspective of an American industrialist, entitled The Battle Hymn of the Republic, Updated: 'Mine eyes have seen the orgy of the launching of the Sword; He is searching out the hoardings where the stranger's wealth is stored; He hath loosed his fateful lightnings, and with woe and death has scored; His lust is marching on!

I have seen him in the watch-fires of a hundred circling camps; They have builded him an altar in the Eastern dews and damps; I have read his doomful mission by the dim and flaring lamps His night is marching on.

I have read his bandit gospel writ in burnished rows of steel: "As ye deal with my pretensions, so with you my wrath shall deal; Let the faithless son of Freedom crush the patriot with his heel; Lo, Greed is marching on!"

We have legalized the strumpet and are guarding her retreat; Greed is seeking out commercial souls before his judgment seat; O, be swift, ye clods, to answer him! be jubilant my feet! Our god is marching on!

In a sordid slime harmonious Greed was born in yonder ditch, With a longing in his bosom-and for others' goods an itch. As Christ died to make men holy, let men die to make us rich — Our god is marching on.'

The Battle Hymn of the Republic ought to be parodied, satirized, and lampooned. It has nothing to do with God or Christianity. It is not a Christian hymn. It does not belong in a Christian hymnbook. It should not be sung in any Christian church — Northern or Southern. It should not be on the lips of any Christian — Yankee or Southerner. It is partisan political paean to bogus history and faulty theology. For much too long Christians have sung this 'hymn' with religious fervor while remaining in ignorance as to its history and theology. For much too long pastors and song leaders have included this 'hymn' in church services without stopping to consider whether it is an appropriate song for a Christian worship service. Disparaging the singing of this song has nothing to

do with being a Confederate sympathizer, or being unpatriotic or anti-Lincoln, but it has everything to do with exercising biblical discernment. Traditions are hard to break, and especially religious ones, but the singing of the "Battle Hymn of the Republic" is one that must go."

And with Lawrence Vance, I most wholeheartedly concur. This so-called "hymn" is what I have termed an "abomination of desecration" on account of its message and the endgame it sanctioned. As to the former, it sought to justify a terrible act of aggression for which there was no legal or constitutional basis. While concerning the latter, it resulted in the wholesale destruction of lands, properties, livelihoods and lives of fellow Christians. Christian hymns are supposed to be songs directed to God. They ought to be vehicles that lift up his name, his triune nature, his wonderful love for us, as well as the joy we have in our hearts for his atoning sacrifice. They may include the trials we face or the tragedies that we experience but all should be in keeping with the expressed teachings and fundamentals of the Christian faith as found within the pages of Scripture. But The Battle Hymn of the Republic is not about the advancement of God's purpose for humanity. God never called on Christians to kill in his name, or to advance the cause of Christ upon the earth using anything other than the sword of the Spirit (Ephesians 6:17). To use a Muslim expression, it advocates "jihad" or "holy war" by Christians against Christians. As Lawrence Vance has noted, Howe was a Unitarian, while the majority of those who sang her song were Trinitarian Christians. Her song provided Northern soldiers with their justification and motivation to make war on their fellow Trinitarians based upon the false doctrines to which she adhered and not what they had been taught in their churches. The lust for blood, pillage and plunder knows no bounds and heeds no calling other than those voices that approve of such behavior.

The Battle Hymn of the Republic was a war propaganda song much like Over There, or The White Cliffs of Dover, or Keep the home-fires burning. But unlike the former, the latter songs were not listed in any church hymnal precisely because they had nothing to do with Christ or the gospel message.

Let us pray, Holy Father, as you have given to us thy word, so let us take and inwardly digest its meaning not only for today but every day; and bless us O LORD with spiritual discernment, that we may avoid those messages of false prophets and teachers, both of today and in times past, which contain a figment of truth while masking a host of lies and distortions; and these things we beg in the name of him who is our Saviour and Lord, even Jesus Christ. Amen.

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