



THE LEGIONARY

FEBRUARY, 2023

A Publication of the Sons of Confederate Veterans

Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton Camp No. 273

Columbia, South Carolina ♦ www.wadehamptoncamp.org

Charles Bray, Acting Editor

A FRATERNAL ORGANIZATION OF SOUTHERN MEN

COMMANDERS CORNER

CHARLES D. BRAY III

Compatriots, 2023 has started off with a successful Lee-Jackson Banquet in January. I was told after the Lee-Jackson that everyone who RSVP'd their attendance attended the Lee-Jackson which in my many years with the camp is the first time that has happened. Our speaker this month will be camp member Compatriot David Lohnes whose subject will be the "House Divided." I look forward to seeing you at this month's meeting.

Please RSVP if you will be attending the Thursday, February 17, 2023, monthly camp meeting. The camp has to provide Seawall's a number of members attending so they may prepare food and set up the facility for our celebration. If we do not receive a positive response from you we will have to estimate the number attending. Should our estimate be too high and fewer members attend we will incur the cost of those who do not attend.

The CHARGE

To you, **SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS**, we submit 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 he loved, and which made him glorious and which you also cherish.

Lt. Gen. Stephen Dill Lee, Commander General
United Confederate Veterans, New Orleans, Louisiana, 1906



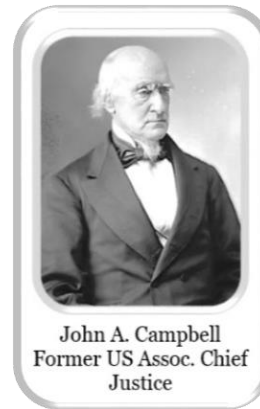
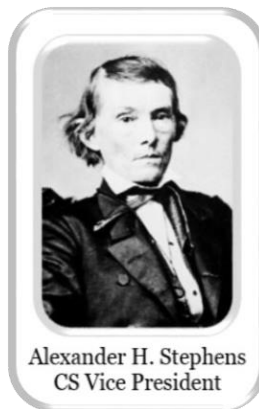
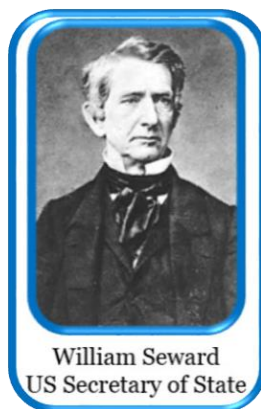
LT. COMMANDER'S TENT

V. A. CANT.

~ Events of February ~

This Month February, 3, 1865, onboard the USS River Queen, five men, U.S. President Abraham Lincoln, U.S. Secretary of State William Seward, C.S. Vice-president Alexander Stephens, along with former U.S. Associate Supreme Court Justice John A. Campbell, Assistant C.S. Secretary of War and C.S. Senate president pro tempore, Robert Mercer Taliaferro Hunter discuss issues and options for peace at the "Hampton Roads Conference" near Fort Monroe. Hopeful rumors the war was ending soon circulated on both sides. However, Lincoln rejected a two-country solution and since the Southern

representatives were authorized to accept independence only, no settlement was possible. The conference quickly ended in failure.



CHAPLAINS WITNESS _____ **V. A. CANT.**

Salt is good, but if the salt has lost its saltiness, how will you make it salty again? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another. Mark 9:50 (ESV)

Columbus was called mad because he decided to sail the uncharted ocean.... Martin Luther was called mad because he presumed to defy the entrenched religious hierarchy of his time. Patrick Henry was considered mad when he cried, "Give me liberty, or give me death!" George Washington was thought to be mad when he decided to continue the war after the winter at Valley Forge, when thousands of his men had died and other thousands had deserted, leaving him only a handful of men. We have become too sophisticated and respectable to be called mad in our generation. Christianity has become so respectable and so conventional that it is now insipid. The salt has lost its flavor.... Would to God that the world found us Christians dangerous enough to call us mad, in these days when materialism and secularism are sweeping over the world. Thank God there are those who sacrifice time, talents, social position, and lucrative posts, and who fling aside every advantage in order to serve the Kingdom of God.

Instill in me, Lord Jesus, the same savor that the disciples showed as they lived so enthusiastically for You. Amen.



Chaplains Prayer List: Please remember our camp compatriots and their family members who are having health problems or have lost a loved one in your prayers.



Terry Hughey

**Pray for our Nation,
State, Communities and
First Responders.**



CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

If you are thinking about attending meetings at any of the listed camps, ***I recommend you check with a member you know and verify the meeting date and location is still valid.***

Event	Date	Contact / Web Site
Hampton Redshirts	March 7, 2023	Meets 6:30 PM – 7:30 PM 1st Tuesday of the Month – Cayce Museum – 1800 12 th Street, Cayce, SC
John M. Kinard Camp 35	March 1, 2023	Meets 7:00 PM 1st Wednesday of the Month – Hawg Heaven – Hwy. 76, Prosperity, SC
Palmetto Camp 22	March 2, 2023	Meets 6:30 PM 1st Thursday of the Month – Cayce Museum, 1800 12 th Street, Cayce, SC
SC 17 th Regiment Camp 2069	February 20, 2023	Meets 7:00PM Third Monday of the Month – 6822 Barnwell Rd. Hilda, SC
15 th Regt. S.C. Volunteers Camp 51	February 28, 2023	Meets 6:30 PM Last Tuesday of the Month – Lizards Thicket – 4616 Augusta Rd. Lexington, SC
Gen. Paul Quattlebaum Camp 412	February 28, 2023	Meets 7:00 PM Last Tuesday of the Month – Shealy's BBQ – 340 East Columbia Ave., Batesburg-Leesville, SC



Quote: James Madison – 4th U. S. President

Americans have the right and advantage of being armed - unlike the citizens of other countries whose governments are afraid to trust the people with arms.



Our Hate Confederates Moment _____ **By Clyde Wilson**

The confederacy makes up a sizable and interesting chunk of American history. Not only interesting but often regarded as admirable. Administration for the Confederacy's brave struggle against great odds and to noble leaders has lasted for generations and is worldwide. Its admirers have even included some of the best of the men who fought against it.

Wiping the Confederacy from American history, a currently mobilized campaign, or dismissing it by a shallow slogan like "treason," is to make our history incomprehensible. It is like omitting Winston Churchill from British history or Bolivar from Latin American history.

The present distinction of memorial works of art and digging up of dead Americans of other times is an entirely trumped up crusade. It reflects no genuine public feeling. Has anybody ever been genuinely "hurt" by such monuments? I doubt it, but even so, uninformed emotions do not justify the government's destruction of other peoples' history. The demand for such is the behavior of Communists and jihadists who are demonstrating their political dominance – their ability to control what we know about ourselves and our past.

The Hate Confederates show their shallowness by ignorance of an essential element of understanding history-continuity. Confederate president Jefferson Davis and Generals R. E. Lee and J. E. Johnston were the sons of officers in the American Revolution. President Zachary Taylor's son, Thomas Jefferson's grandsons, and nephews of Presidents James Madison, Andrew Jackson and James K. Polk were generals in the Southern war for independence. The families of Francis Scott Key and American frontier heroes Daniel Boone and Davy Crockett were Confederates.

In the line of continuity, we might mention heroes of World War II like Patton, Puller, Nimitz, Buckner, Forrest, Chenault, and Audie Murphy— all descendants of Confederates.

Doesn't this rather call into question the whole business which is a party-line attempt to make "treason" preempt the basic issue of the war — the nature of the Union. To make it seem as if the whole business had to do with benevolently freeing the black man. It reduces all our history to the comic book level.

That is a false history. Lincoln's government did not launch the largest military expeditions every seen in North America in order to free the slaves. That was "collateral damage."

Such people never read the Constitution. Their ideas of it are shallow and emotional what they would like for it to mean. It says "Treason against the United States shall consist only in leveling War against them or adhering to their Enemies, giving them aid and comfort." Something which Lincoln was egregiously engaging in. Lee never gave an oath to defend the government and whatever gaggle of politicians had power. The oath required allegiance to the Constitution.

With the support of less than two-fifths of the people, Lincoln used the government to make massive warfare against a large number of the States and their people. Lee would have been a traitor indeed if he had made war on his own people killing, looting, burning them out, and depriving them of their American self-government.

Of course no serious charges of treason was ever pursued against Confederates even though Republicans had near total power at the end of the war.

Here is another point. During the American War of Independence, Edmund Burke pointed out to Parliament that "you cannot draw up an indictment against a whole people." Millions of people fighting for self-government of their own societies under their own chosen leaders cannot be guilty of treason."

People whose knowledge is so shallow that they prefer virtue signaling to the complications of reality are not capable of being trusted with executive, military, or diplomatic power. I have looked up some of the generals now leading the Hate-Confederate movement. These men are not graduates of West Point but of Northeastern colleges. None of them have ever been in harm's way though they have chests full of medals. They are not soldiers but bureaucrats pure and simple. Although according to the net worth reports they have become rich on a government job. Such leadership dooms a regime and may be working out that destiny as we write.

General Siedule, quondam professor of history at West Point writes a book about himself and Robert E. Lee. That is like Joe Biden writing a book about Julius Cesar and me." It is juvenile, self-referential drivel without any relationship to real history.

The elimination of the Confederate memorial at Arlington reaches the height of historical ignorance. The jihadists claim that it gives a sanitized view of slavery. The fact is that the memorial was the first major art work to give respectful attention to African Americans and include them in the Reconciliation then going on.

There had been at least two monuments erected in the South in respectful memory of faithful servants. And many former bondsmen had contributed to the Confederate statues then going up, out of local patriotism or in honor of people they had actually known. It is the jihadists who don't understand American slavery.

For the better part of a century Confederate memorials were considered a natural part of the landscape. They commemorate our people.

Someone has estimated that about one-fourth of the U.S. population has Confederate ancestors. If so, we are stateless people, completely excluded from decision-making about our own history. We had no representation on the group who decided on the elimination of all Southern symbols from society.

Southerners are the only large group of Americans who can trace families back to the 18th century or earlier. And the only Americans who have a personal memory of early American history. I know what my forebears did in the American War for Independence and the Southern War for Independence. And I am not unusual for an ordinary Southerner.

We have no defenders of our people in federal or state power. Only Republicans, shallow, slogan-centered, presentistic placeholders. The regime regards us as non-people. The other side of that coin is that we have no reason to love the regime that hates us or to serve it willingly as Southerners have done for so long.



WBTS Chaplains



CSA Chaplain
Louis Napoleon Nelson

Chaplains were not new to the United States military. They had served since the American Revolution, though not in great numbers. The Civil War would see an increase in their numbers, as well as their influence. The Confederate Congress was the first to authorize Civil War chaplains for service in the army.

“For the overwhelming number of Union and Confederate soldiers, religion was the greatest sustainer of morale during the war. Faith was a refuge in this great time of need. Troops faced battle by forgetting earthly pleasures and looking heavenward.

To the Confederacy also belongs a first in the history of military chaplains—the first black man known to minister to white soldiers. He was known as “Uncle Lewis” and was known to be devout. Uncle Lewis’s full name was Louis Napoleon Nelson and he served with Company M, 7th Tennessee Cavalry, which was part of Nathan Bedford Forrest’s command. According to Nelson’s grandson, Nelson Winbush, his grandfather told him that a number of Yankee soldiers once joined the Tennesseans during a worship service and, after its conclusion, “all shook hands and went back to fighting.”

All told, at least 2387 men and 1 woman served in the Union army as Chaplains, while Confederate records show at least 1303 men serving.

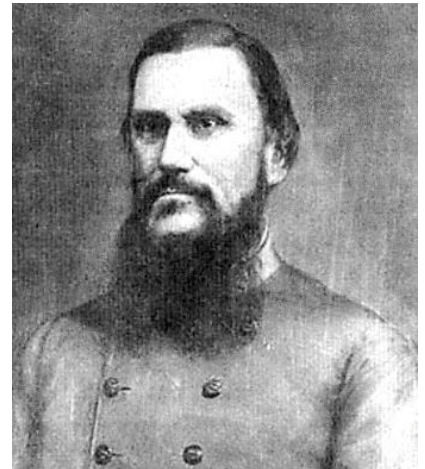
As already noted, chaplains were also known to take on additional responsibilities beyond their ministerial duties. This often exposed them to the same dangers as soldiers. While many exhibited great courage, the battlefield sometimes revealed that ministers were best suited for preaching, not fighting. A somewhat humorous incident serves as an illustration of misplaced talents.

Robert Lewis Dabney was a well-known theologian and pastor who served on Stonewall Jackson’s staff as both aide-de-camp and chaplain. Dabney possessed a fervent belief in the doctrine of providence and this was a frequent topic of his sermons. Major Hugh Nelson and Dabney were present at the battle of Malvern Hill and found themselves under heavy fire. Gen. Jackson was also in the vicinity and as the fire became severe, ordered his staff to dismount and find shelter. Dabney took refuge behind a large, thick oak gate post. About that time, Nelson, whose views on providence did not completely agree with Dabney’s, rode up and galloped directly toward Dabney where he coolly saluted the nervous Chaplain and said:

“Dr. Dabney, every shot, and shell, and bullet is directed by the God of battles, and you must pardon me for expressing my surprise that you should want to put a gate post between you and special providence.” Dabney, without hesitation, replied: “No! Major, you misunderstand the doctrine I teach. The truth is that I regard this gate post as a special providence, under present circumstances.”

Men trained as theologians and preachers displayed amazing courage when facing death, even when presented with an easy means of escape. Albert Gallatin Willis was offered a chaplain’s pardon to avoid a hanging execution by Union soldiers. His response was quite remarkable.

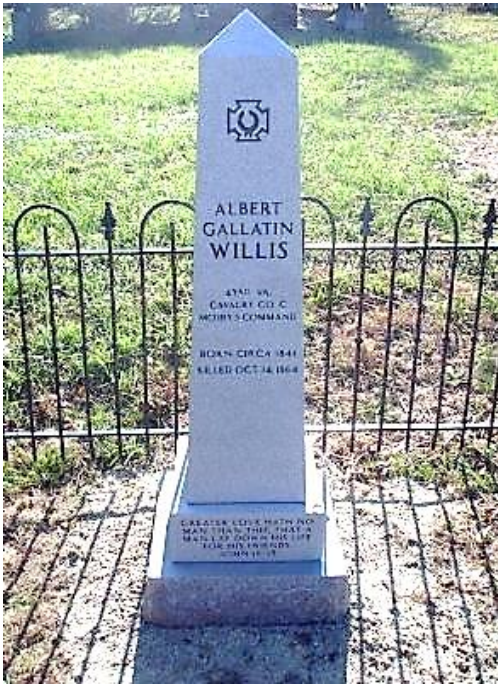
He had been serving with Confederate Colonel John Singleton Mosby’s rangers for several months. Though born into a wealthy Virginia family, Willis chose to pursue a life of gospel ministry and was, at the time the war broke out, studying to be a Baptist preacher. Willis had been looking forward to seeing his home as he headed toward Culpeper, Virginia on October 13, 1864. Mosby’s men enjoyed frequent furloughs as their lightning-quick, hit and run missions allowed them to return to their homes and farms often. But Willis’s horse came up lame near Flint Hill, forcing him to stop at the local farrier’s shop at Gaine’s Crossroad. Suddenly, Willis and an unnamed companion were surrounded by troops of the 2nd West Virginia Cavalry. Taken prisoner, the two soon learned their fate. One of them would be hanged. That order had come from General Ulysses S. Grant as retribution for Federals Mosby had killed. Grant’s order required that one Confederate be hanged “without trial” for each Yankee killed by Mosby’s men.



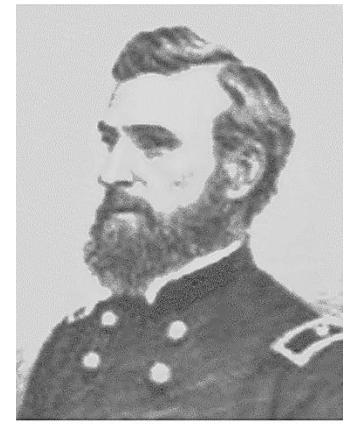
CSA Major
Robert Lewis Dabney

Speaking with the two young men separately, Union Brigadier General William H. Powell informed them they were to draw straws to determine which man would die. Powell also informed Willis that he could claim a chaplain's exemption, if he so chose. Willis had not yet been ordained and did not believe he deserved such consideration. He refused Powell's offer. The two prisoners were brought back together and ordered to draw straws. Willis's unnamed companion drew the short straw and then burst into tears crying, "I have a wife and children, I am not a Christian and am afraid to die!"

Upon hearing those words, Willis spoke up: "I have no family, I am a Christian, and not afraid to die." Due to Willis's willingness to stand in his stead, his companion



was released. Within moments and after praying for his executioners, Albert Gallatin Willis was hanged. Today his remains rest inside a white picket fence in the tiny graveyard of Flint Hill Baptist Church in Flint Hill, Virginia.



Union Brigadier General
William H. Powell

This sort of remarkable bravery in the face of death is something that awes us still today. Death in 19th century America, even without war, was much more of an everyday event than it is to most Americans living in the 21st century. Witnessing family members pass was common as the sick and dying were most often cared for at home. The soldiers who fought during the Civil War were more accustomed to death than we are today. Even so, this reality did little to prepare them for the violent and sudden carnage they would witness on the battlefield. Such brutality would test the metal of many a young man. It was part of a chaplain's duty to console, comfort, and encourage those who wavered in the face of death. One such incident is recounted in the memoirs of Union Chaplain Milton T. Haney of the 55th Illinois Infantry:

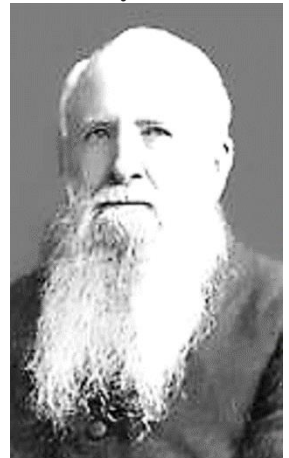
"It was soon understood that we were to assault the enemy in this stronghold . . . One of the boys, who was a brave soldier, came to tell

me that he had a strong conviction if he went into battle he would be killed, and asked me what to do. He had been clearly converted, but had let go his hold on Christ. After reflection, I said: 'You go down that ravine and pray till you get tremendously blessed, and come to me again, and if you then want to be excused, I will see your Captain and get you off.' I knew we were to be there for a time. He obeyed orders and disappeared for an hour, perhaps, but when he reappeared his face was aglow with glory, and coming to me, he said: 'Chaplain, you need not speak to the Captain now. I am all right,' and went into the battle and came out without a scratch."

Stories similar to that of young Albert Willis and Chaplain Haney would be repeated over and over during the Civil War: men of faith doing their duty; self-sacrificing for others, ministering to and encouraging those in their charge—often without recognition and with many of their deeds going unnoticed or having been long forgotten. Retired Army Chaplain and historian John Wesley Brinsfield, Jr. offers a concise summary of the service rendered by Civil War chaplains:

"The contributions of these chaplains continued through the greatest war ever fought on the American continent. They performed heroic service for soldiers and for their country even when they were underpaid, underfed, and unappreciated outside of the army. They conducted the only real evangelistic and pastoral work available for more than 2.5 million soldiers on both sides, efforts which resulted in the rebuilding of hundreds of churches and missionary enterprises after the war. They also became church and community leaders in the latter half of the century with influence far in excess of their numbers."

And in so doing, these chaplains did a great deal of good.



Union Chaplain
Milton L. Haney



Ellison Capers – CSA Brigadier General



**Brig. Gen.
Ellison Capers**

Partly on the strength of his military education, he was elected major of a regiment of South Carolina volunteers and participated in the bombardment of Fort Sumter.

Educator, soldier, minister. Capers was born in Charleston on October 14, 1837, to William Capers and Susan McGill. The Capers men were active and prominent as lawyers, soldiers, and religious leaders. William Capers was a well-known Methodist minister and bishop was instrumental in the 1844 sectional split of the church.

Much in Ellison Capers's early life mirrored the lives of his ancestors. He attended the South Carolina Military Academy (the Citadel), graduating in 1857. Afterward he read law, though he never practiced, and taught at the academy as a professor of mathematics and rhetoric. The outbreak of the Civil War cut short his teaching career. Partly on the strength of his military education, he was elected major of a regiment of South Carolina volunteers and participated in the bombardment of Fort Sumter. Then began a steady, if unspectacular rise. He helped recruit the Twenty-fourth South Carolina Infantry and was elected its lieutenant colonel. Stationed along the South Carolina coast, the regiment saw action at Secessionville on June 16, 1862–

with Capers personally handling an artillery battery that was tardy coming into action. For this he won high praise as well as personal satisfaction, calling it a “delightful” experience. “I am satisfied that the fire of this battery,” he reported, “contributed no little to our success, and am gratified . . . that the general commanding rode to the battery during the close of the engagement and warmly thanked us for our work.” The Twenty-fourth South Carolina was transferred to Mississippi in 1863, and it served with the Army of Tennessee until the end of the war. Capers fought in most of the army's major engagements, suffering wounds at Jackson, Chickamauga, and Franklin. Along the way he was promoted to colonel and then, on March 1, 1865, to brigadier general. He was one of to attain the rank of general in

Life in peacetime South adventurous. From 1866 to of sorts between the war and the power in the state, Capers served Although an active Democrat, the Episcopal ministry. From to parishes in Greenville and became bishop of the Diocese of accepted the chancellorship of position he held until shortly the ties among Confederate religious instruction, and higher also gave Capers a high profile in Capers was active in the edited the South Carolina Evans's *Confederate Military* general of the United

Capers married Charlotte 24, 1859. Together they had Columbia on April 22, 1908 in



**Brig. Gen. Ellison Capers
Trinity Episcopal Cathedral
Columbia, South Carolina**

only four Citadel graduates the Confederate army.

Carolina proved 1868, during an interregnum establishment of Republican as secretary of state. Capers found his calling in 1867 to 1893 he was minister Columbia. In 1894 he South Carolina. In 1904 he the University of the South, a before his death. Because of memorial activities, education, these positions the Lost Cause movement. Southern Historical Society, volume of Clement A. *History*, and was chaplain Confederate Veterans.

Rebecca Palmer on February seven children. He died in Columbia, S.C.



Important Dates in Lincoln's War to Prevent Southern Independence

Feb. 8, 1861	The convention of seceding states unanimously adopts the "Provisional Constitution of the Confederate States, which is largely based on the U.S. Constitution but has several significant differences.
Feb. 18, 1861	"Dixie" becomes the unofficial Confederate States anthem when it is played at a ceremony marking Jefferson Davis' inauguration as provisional president of the Confederate States of America.
Feb. 3, 1862	The Union government decides to treat captured Confederate privateer (non-military raider) crews as prisoners of war, rather than pirates avoiding an eye-for-an-eye hanging of Union POWs.
Feb. 16, 1862	Fort Donaldson, Tennessee surrenders to General Grant. Arguably the loss of Forts Donaldson & Henry was a turning point in the war since the (Cumberland and Tennessee rivers)" are now controlled by Union forces.
Feb. 12, 1863	In the West Indies, the CSS Florida captured the USS Jacob Bell and finds the Jacob Bell contained more than \$2,000,000 worth of cargo. After unloading the Union cargo, the USS Jacob Bell was destroyed.
Feb. 15, 1864	In a secret session, the Confederate Congress appropriates \$5 million for Canadian-based sabotage operations against the North. Former cavalryman Thomas C. Hines is dispatched to Canada to carry out "appropriate enterprises of war against our enemies."
Feb. 17, 1864	Charleston, SC. The Confederate submarine <i>H.L. Hunley</i> becomes the first submarine in history to sink an enemy ship in combat.
Feb. 17, 1865	Columbia, SC is surrendered to Federal troops under the command of Gen. W.T. Sherman. The city is subsequently sacked, looted, and burned by those under the Sherman's command.

**February Camp
Meeting
Thursday, Feb. 17, 2023
6:30 PM**



**Seawell's Restaurant
1125 Rosewood Drive
Columbia, S.C. 29201
Speaker
David Lohnes
"The House Divided"**

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C/O Adjutant Charles D. Bray III
A Non-Profit Organization

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