

THE LEGIONARY

MARCH 2009

A Publication of the Sons of Confederate Veterans

LT. GEN. WADE HAMPTON CAMP No. 273

Columbia, South Carolina ♦ www.wadehamptoncamp.org

A FRATERNAL ORGANIZATION OF SOUTHERN MEN

THE ANTI-LINCOLN BRIGADE

By Alex Beam

I am not sure about your plans for Feb. 12, 2009, but I say: Start making them now. It will be an unusual day in history, the bicentennial of the births of Abraham Lincoln and Charles Darwin.

Doubtless my atheist - sorry, "humanist" - pals will be inviting me to Darwin Day parties; it's their new Christmas. Who knows what the religious fundamentalists will be up to? Prancing around in monkey costumes, perhaps.

Where Lincoln is concerned, no such schism exists. He is "considered by both historians and ordinary Americans to have been the greatest American president," says the taxpayer-supported website of the Lincoln Bicentennial Commission. *See LINCOLN, Page 3*



MILITARY MUSEUM ACQUIRES CANNONBALL RELATED TO SHERMAN'S MARCH

Hundreds of cannon projectiles were hurled around Columbia, 144 years ago this month during Sherman's march through the city. The South Carolina Confederate Relic Room and Military Museum recently acquired what is most likely one of these cannonballs.

The six pound cannonball was unearthed in the Broad River on February 11, 2009. The timing of this discovery coincides with the 144th anniversary of when the cannonball was likely launched into the water. It was possibly fired by Wiggins' Battery of Arkansas artillery, detailed by General Wheeler, to destroy the remaining bridges leading into Columbia as Sherman approached the city. The Battery was a horse artillery unit in charge of the cannons and they accompanied the cavalry during this action to delay Sherman's approach. They successfully destroyed the bridges with a combination of cannon-fire and fire. As Sherman's forces drew closer, the troops had to put down a new bridge in order to access the city, which delayed them considerably. Sherman entered Columbia on February 17, 1865.

"This is a fascinating historical artifact that we are pleased to now have in our collection and the fact that the cannonball was likely used during efforts to stop Sherman's forces from entering the city provides an interesting piece of material culture related to this pivotal event in Columbia's history," said museum director Allen Roberson. The cannonball is currently undergoing conservation treatment to stabilize it.

It should be noted that the discovery of any artifacts in Columbia's waterways falls under the SC Underwater Antiquities Act and the general public should contact the SC Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology before attempting any exploration.

Source: *In the Loop*. SC B&CB Newsletter. 17 February 2009

Compatriots,

Greetings to you on this Grand and Glorious Day!

Much is happening in the Division this month. First of all let me remind each of you that our South Carolina Division Convention is this month (see Calendar) will be in Anderson, SC. I encourage each of you that has the time to attend this important meeting so you can see what is happening in the SCV.

Our Business meeting is the 19th of March and the speaker will be Ken Bachand. He was scheduled to speak last month but had to cancel due to illness. He has a wonderful program that you don't want to miss!

The camp is selling Vidalia Onions for \$12.00 per bag. Call your family and friends and take their order. Delivery will be on April 17th. This is like Girl Scout Cookies, you don't have to pay until they are delivered!!! My goal for the camp 250 bags. That will be over \$1,300 in profit.

The Battle for Columbia is fast approaching and we *need* people to help with work days before, during and after the battle. Please find time to support the camp in this Living History Event.

The Cemetery project is going full steam and we are trying to locate and map EVERY Confederate Veteran in the state so that their graves will forever be kept up

and Honored on Memorial Day.

The camp will again this year stand guard at the Confederate Memorial on the State House Grounds but since May 10th falls on Mothers Day we will hold our Memorial on Saturday May 9th. Come out and support your Ancestors.

As always I am only a phone call or email away. If you need something please do not hesitate to contact me. I am here for you.

May the Good Lord above shine his brightness on you and your family. May the Luck of the Irish always be with you.

Yours in the cause,
Robert M. Spigner, Commander

CHAPLAIN'S PULPIT

HOWARD HUGHES

"It doesn't matter what others think."

Don't you believe it? Not when it comes to us and our mission to honor our ancestors.

At our February camp meeting, Comander Spigner touched briefly on a most important point. Coincidentally, SC Division Chaplain Ed Westbury and a compatriot from Tennessee did so as well in the current issues of the *Palmetto Partisan* and *Confederate Veteran* respectively. To wit; our deportment as we present ourselves to others as the defenders of those who wore the Butternut and Grey. Gen. S.D. Lee's Charge to us rings hollow unless we adhere to its elements, not the least of which is, "...the emulation of his virtues..."

We know we are correct in our devotion to our Confederate granddaddies, uncles, and cousins, but many others don't.

I believe only a small percentage of those people truly loathe us while the rest just don't know us or what we represent. And too many of both groups figure us to fit the negative stereotypes of which we're all familiar. While heritage defense and disproving revisionist history are crucial, so is how we conduct ourselves collectively and individually. For ages we've seen how the mainstream media prefer to portray us in news stories, alleged entertainment programs, etc. For instance, let there be 498 of us looking and acting respectably at a memorial service or rally, while two rag-tags who aren't even among our ranks show up carrying on waving their Jolly Roger Battle Flag, and where do you think the cameras will converge? And while road rage antics and incendiary auto decals are in bad form anytime, they are particularly detrimental to the image we should be striving to put forth when a

vehicle with a SCV license plate, sticker, etc., is involved in or with such. An old adage comes to mind: "What do you get when you pour a glass of urine into a vat of the finest wine? A vat of urine."

You get the picture.

Anyone dreaming of a time in our lifetimes when we'll get a fair shake from our adversaries is doing just that--dreaming. Forget it--ain't going to happen. We are held to a higher standard, but we can handle it. After all, haven't we been entrusted to perpetuate and defend the memory of those who WERE of a higher standard?

People are watching. Let's fight the enemy tooth and claw without supplying them with any ammo.

Righteousness exalteth a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people. --King Solomon, Proverbs 14:34

OUR ANCESTORS: PVT. WILLIAM JAMES CLARK, C.S.A.

Editor's Note: At the Commander's request, we will begin to highlight some of the ancestors of our camp members in each issue. We will start with Cmdr. Spigner's ancestor... - PCG

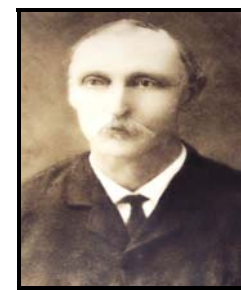
W.J. Clark was born on 10 December 1834 in Charleston, S.C. to William Clark and Ann LaComb Perdriau Clark. About 1854 he moved to an area of Clarendon County which became the Town of Manning by State Legislature in December 1855. He soon met Margaret Ann Stukes the daughter of a large land owner Joseph Hamlet Stukes and Susan Richbourg Stukes and they were married on 5 October 1854 and lived on part of the Stukes land which later became Clark's Hill. They had their first 4 children with the last son being born 2 weeks before he

enlisted as a Private Soldier at Morris Island, S.C. on 15 May 1862 in Company "I", 23rd Regiment, South Carolina Infantry, under the command of Colonel Henry L. Benbow (1829-1906)...

As part of the 23rd Regiment James participated in several battles, including Second. Manassas; Antietam; Charleston Harbor; Petersburg Siege; The Crater; Ft. Stedman; Five Forks, just to name a few...

James was wounded and suffered from extreme exposure near Petersburg, Virginia in January 1864 and was sent to the Base Hospital C.S.A. in Petersburg, Virginia... where he eventually served as Hospital Steward until Lee's surrender at Appomattox.

With that the war now over Pvt. Clark began his long walk home to his lovely wife and children...



To read the conclusion of this most interesting biography, please visit the camp web site where you will find not only biographies of camp ancestors, but much, much more! **CHECK IT OUT!**

Oh, really? Tell that to Bragdon Bowling, commander of the Army of Northern Virginia of the Sons of Confederate Veterans. He won't be lighting any candles for Abraham Lincoln on Feb. 12.

"Lincoln is responsible for the devastation of the founding principles of our country, and you can lay 600,000 bodies at his feet, the casualties of a totally unnecessary war," Bowling told me. As for the bicentennial, "It's just a continuation of the Lincoln myth-making paid for with public dollars."

Bowling sounds like an outlier crank, but south of the Mason-Dixon line his views aren't particularly radical. His anti-Lincoln line springs partly from popular culture, and partly from academic scholarship. In the marketplace of ideas the Lincoln-o-phobes lack the throw weight of, say, David Herbert Donald (of Lincoln, Mass.) or Doris Kearns Goodwin. But they are there, for those who want to hear them.

What's their beef? They view Lincoln as a cynical, self-serving politician with no particular aversion to slavery, who precipitated the Civil War, sorry - the War Against Southern Independence - to keep his Republican party in the White House. "It was all about power," Bowling observed at an anti-Lincoln rally in Richmond in 2003. "All so Lincoln and his friends could consolidate their power to tell other people how to live their lives."

Former University of South

Carolina historian Clyde Wilson particularly objects to the beatification of the 16th president as a genial, all-knowing Christ figure trapped in a bloody hecatomb not of his own making. Writing on the website of the Abbeville Institute, a think tank for revisionist Southern scholarship, Wilson calls Lincoln "the tender-hearted leader who authorized ruthless terrorism against women and children, refused generous offers of prisoner exchange while declaring medicine a contraband of war, accepted Grant's costly policy of losing three men for every one Confederate killed, was not above keeping his own son out of harm's way, and invited his own fate by clandestinely organizing the attempted assassination of Jefferson Davis."

Wilson sent me a copy of a forthcoming anti-Lincoln article, timed to coincide with the bicentennial. Inter alia, it reserves particular scorn for Boston, whose citizens, Wilson believes, fanned the flames of war to ensure the economic hegemony of the industrial North over the agrarian South. Yankee hypocrisy is a favorite target: "New England shippers got rich in the illegal African slave trade to Cuba and Brazil right up to The War and Bostonians owned slave sugar plantations in Cuba even after The War," he writes.

Wilson even assails Ms. Julia Ward Howe of Mt. Vernon Street, for the "bigotry and blasphemy" of her composition, "The Battle Hymn of the

Republic." "She subsumes Christ to her secular vengeance and conquest," he explained to me. That's a little rich, I'd say.

Writer Andrew Ferguson spent time with the Lincoln freaks and the Lincoln phobes to write last year's "Land of Lincoln: Adventures in Abe's America." "Both sides cherry-pick the historical record to suit their preconceptions," he says, "and neither side will acknowledge that Lincoln, like most human beings, was an extremely complicated man, a mix of good and bad."

I asked Emory University philosophy professor Donald Livingston, who is also affiliated with the Abbeville Institute, how he plans to celebrate the bicentennial. "It depends what you think about Lincoln," he answered. "If you think the American political order was founded as a federation of states, then Lincoln was the worst president in our history, because more than anyone else he destroyed that ideology. If you think we were intended to be a unitary state modeled on the French revolution, then he is a great president. I just don't have that view, and I will celebrate the bicentennial accordingly."

Source: *The Boston Globe*. 12/16/2008

Editor's Note: We hope y'all celebrated Honest Abe's 150th Birthday with all of the dignity and respect he deserved! -PCG

SC BILL ADVANCES: STATES' RIGHTS

South Carolina lawmakers have advanced a measure asserting state sovereignty, saying they want to send a message to Washington even though they know it has no practical effect.

The resolution declares the Palmetto State has the right to ignore any federal law or policies it deems unconstitutional. A Senate committee approved it 15-6 Tuesday. The House has already passed a similar measure.

Similar resolutions have been filed in dozens of states nationwide and have been voted down in at least two. Republicans argued the federal government has been overstepping its bounds for years, and Washington needs to be reminded.

Democrats complained it's a

partisan issue directed at the stimulus package. They said the resolution won't change a thing.

Source: *Associated Press*, March 10, 2009

The Resolution (S.424) reads in part as follows:

...[T]he General Assembly of the State of SC, by this resolution, claims for the State of SC sovereignty under the Tenth Amendment to the Constitution of the US over all powers not otherwise enumerated and granted to the federal government by the US Constitution.

Be it further resolved that all governmental agencies, quasi-governmental agencies, and their agents and employees operating within the geographic boundaries of the State of SC, or all governmental agencies and their agents and employees, whose actions have effect on the inhabitants or lands or waters of the State

of SC, shall operate within the confines of the original intent of the Constitution of the US or be subject to penalty of law as provided for now or in the future, within the Constitution of SC, the SC statutes, or the common law as guaranteed by the Constitution of the US.

Be it further resolved that this resolution serves as notice and demand to the federal government, as South Carolina's agent, to cease and desist immediately all mandates that are beyond the scope of the federal government's constitutionally delegated powers...

To read the full text of the resolution, go to <http://tinyurl.com/sc-s-424>.



FROM THE ADJUTANT'S DESK

Gentlemen, as of March 4th, we have
189 regular paid members and
18 paid associate members.

See you at the next meeting and remember,
RECRUTE A NEW MEMBER!!!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Camp Meeting- 19 March

EC Meeting- 23 March

SCSCV Division Convention- March 20-21. Anderson, SC

Sportsman Classic, State Fairgrounds- March 27-29. Wade Hampton Camp will assist Palmetto Camp with a recruitment booth.

Onion Sales now through April 17th

Important Dates in *Our Second War for Independence*:

March 1861

- 16 Jefferson Davis arrives in Montgomery, AL to accept the post of Provisional President of the newly organized C.S.A.
- 02 Texas is admitted into the Confederacy. At Galveston, the Federal Revenue Cutter *Henry Dodge* is seized by Texas State Troops.
- 04 Lincoln is inaugurated president, and newspaper editorials in the South proclaim that this means war.
- 11 The Confederate Congress unanimously adopts the Constitution of the C.S.A.

March 1862

- 04 Confederate troops enter Santa Fe, New Mexico.
- 06 The Battle of Elkhorn Tavern (Pea Ridge) commences.
- 09 Battle of the *Monitor* and the CSS *Virginia* in Hampton Roads, VA
- 18 Judah P. Benjamin appointed Confederate Secretary of State.

March 1864

- 17 Confederate forces attack Federal occupied Corpus Christi, TX.
- 22 After a heavy snowfall in Richmond, Confederate soldiers engage in a grand snowball fight.
- 24 Confederate Cavalry under Gen. N.B. Forrest, captures Union City, TN.

March 1865

- 13 President Davis signs legislation allowing Negroes in the Confederate Army. Gen. Lee acts promptly and soon black troops are seen in Confederate uniforms in Richmond.
- 21 The Battle of Bentonville concludes. It was the last significant effort to halt Sherman's advance.
- 29 Appomattox campaign begins. Near Petersburg, VA, there is heavy fighting near the junction

Next Camp Meeting
Thursday, XXXXXX
6:00 p.m.



Seawell's Restaurant
1125 Rosewood Drive
Columbia, SC

Guest Speaker:
Kenneth Bachand

Topic:
"The Evolution of the Flags"

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