



THE LEGIONARY

April, 2021

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

VACANT

Based on the RSVP results I am pleased to announce our April 22, 2021 meeting will be held at Seawell's. I have regularly checked South Carolina COVID rates that are posted on DHEC's web site and the infection and death rates have dropped dramatically since January 1, 2021. The rollout of Vaccine has picked up steam and at the time of this writing (April 5) **784,143** are fully vaccinated for **19.1%** of our states residents and **751,255** have started the vaccination process for a total of **1,376,994** doses to **33.5%** of South Carolina Residents. based on the vaccinations given so far, I suspect by the time we have our meeting on April 22nd we will easily have 1.6 million completed or starting the process. Even though the number tested for the period was low We will continue to follow the CDC protocols regarding the face masks and social distancing. One last thing the DHEC test rate for the period ending Monday, April 5 was **4.4%** positive out of **22,454** tests given. The number of test administered in the period was low but the percent positive rate is encouraging.

The RSVP window will close Monday, April 12. However, if you decide to attend the April 22nd meeting after the closing date please email me your confirmation and so I can notify Seawell's of the headcount addition. Remember if you commit to attend and do not attend then the camp has to pay for your food.

I encourage each of you when eligible to get vaccinated and let's return to a normal world.

Charlie Bray, Adjutant

The CHARGE

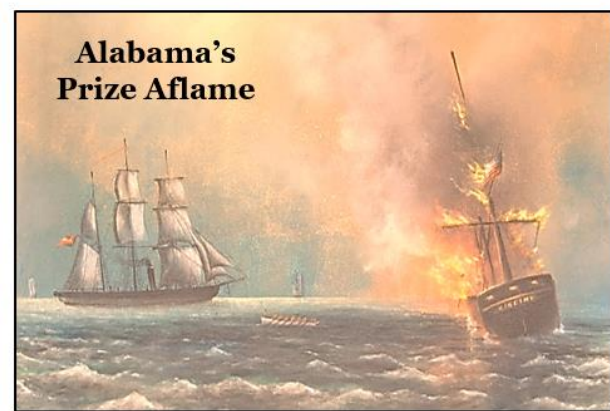
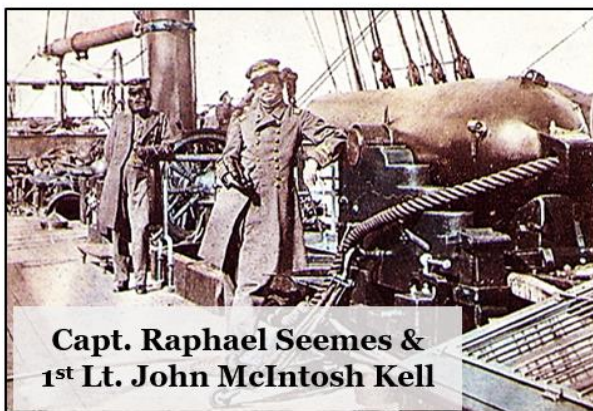
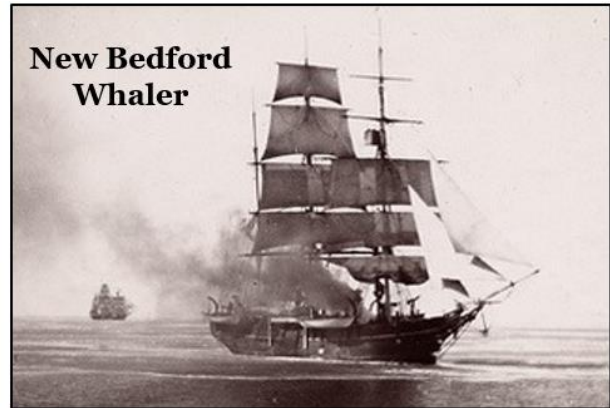
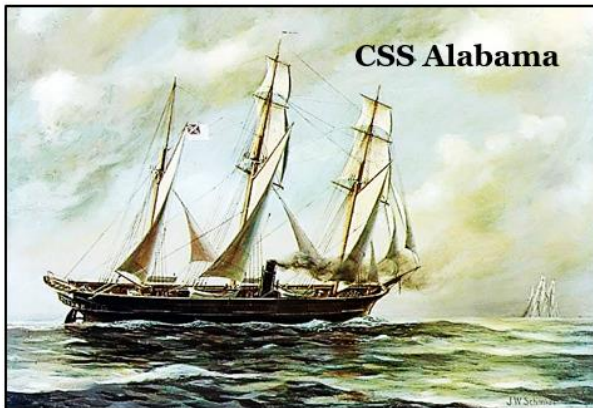
To you, **SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS**, we submit the **VINDICATION** of the cause for which we fought; to your strength will be given the **DEFENSE** of the Confederate soldier's good name, the **GUARDIANSHIP** of his history, the **EMULATION** of his virtues, the **PERPETUATION** of those principles 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



~This Month in Febuary~



This Month (April), in 1863, saw a Confederate Raider put a major dent in the Union Whaling fleet.

The CSS Alabama cruiser prowled the waters off the coast of Brazil and stumbled upon the Lafayette. She was four or five miles off the Alabama's bow and within a couple of hours the commerce raider was upon her. After the Alabama fired the customary warning shot, the first mate of the Lafayette had no recourse but to surrender. The Captain of the bark had died at sea several weeks earlier, and in a panic as the Alabama approached, the first mate of the whaler threw the bark's papers overboard. This act did not save his ship though. Within an hour of her capture the whaling vessel was on fire. This was a \$20,908 bonfire for the owners of the Lafayette.

Subsequently, on April 24, the Alabama captured her ninth New Bedford whaler. This vessel was the Nye which was returning from a thirty-one-month cruise in the Pacific Ocean, "during which her crew had become almost as much Sandwich Islanders, as Americans in appearance." The crew had already shipped home two cargoes of oil, but still had about four hundred and twenty-five barrels onboard as they returned home. The one remaining capstone to finish off such a successful voyage would be to sail down the Acushnet River and into the harbor to deliver these last barrels for their final payday. However, the Alabama would not allow such a triumphal return to port. The overly oily Nye easily went up in flames and the \$31,000 worth of product was destroyed.

Both of these vessels, the Lafayette, and the Nye were captured, in a way, accidentally. Neither were caught on whaling grounds, and both were unlucky enough to cross courses with the Alabama on their way to the whaling grounds or on their way home. A jubilant Semmes remarked, "The fates seemed to have a grudge against New England fishermen, and would persist in throwing them in my way, although I was not on whaling-grounds." Whether it was the fates or the vengeful whales which kept sending whalers the Alabama's way



CHAPLAINS WITNESS

WALTER W. "SOAPY" LINDLER

I sought the Lord, and he answered me and delivered me from all my fears. Those who look to him are radiant and their faces shall never be ashamed. Psalm 34:4-5 ESV

After his congregation had finished singing beautifully and powerfully one of his favorite hymns, a preacher shouted: "Now, if that doesn't ring your bell, your clapper is broken!" Is your clapper broken? Does your bell not ring loud and clear with the things of God? If it doesn't, what might be the reason?

Some affections do not last, They disappear, leaving a void. When we love things of this world, we will tend to love those things for a while till we find them unsatisfying; then we'll move on to something else that seems more promising-and so on. Each of us has a deep capacity for satisfaction. But nothing in this world can fill that capacity. So, we'll find ourselves flitting from one thing to another as the shimmer of hope held out by each worldly affection fades.

But this is not so with true, gracious affections. They leave a lingering perfume and a stronger inclination toward holy living before God. In his remarkable encounter with God, Moses' face did not only shine while he was on the mount, but it continued to shine afterwards as well. When people have been conversing with Christ in some remarkable way, an abiding impact is seen. Their demeanor is affected because they have been with Jesus.

Now that will keep our bell ringing!

"Create in me a pure heart, O God. . . . Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me." In Jesus' name I pray. 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.



Bob Slimp



CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

The posted meeting dates have most likely been cancelled. 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	May. 4, 2021	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	May. 5, 2021	Meets 7:00 PM 1st Wednesday of the Month – Hawg Heaven – Hwy. 76, Prosperity, SC
Palmetto Camp 22	May. 6, 2021	Meets 6:30 PM 1st Thursday of the Month – Cayce Museum, 1800 12 th Street, Cayce, SC
SC 17 th Regiment Camp 2069	Apr. 19, 2021	Meets 7:00PM Third Monday of the Month – 6822 Barnwell Rd. Hilda, SC
15 th Regt. S.C. Volunteers Camp 51	Apr. 27, 2021	Meets 6:30 PM Last Tuesday of the Month – Lizards Thicket – 4616 Augusta Rd. Lexington, SC
Gen. Paul Quattlebaum Camp 412	Apr. 27, 2021	Meets 7:00 PM Last Tuesday of the Month – Shealy's BBQ – 340 East Columbia Ave., Batesburg-Leesville, SC



ADJUTANT'S DESK

CHARLIE BRAY

Our April 18 meeting was wonderful. For the first time in one year, we meet at Seawell's and to me it felt like attending a family reunion. We had 23 in attendance and Seawell's had a great set up which provided for social distancing. Some of the RSVP's received for the March meeting were members declining to return until they had received both shots. I suspect there are others among you doing the same and I look forward to our numbers increasing over the coming weeks.

There is a situation now with the camp that needs to be addressed. I am the only officer left and I need help. At this time the Wade Hampton Camp needs a Commander, Lt. Commander, and Legionary Editor. I feel I should keep the Adjutants position since I have had this position since 2012. Please give this serious consideration and hopefully step up and help. I will help anyone who steps up to help.

In my haste to get to the March meeting I failed to bring a copy of the March Legionary with me which included the definition of "WOKE".

(Definition: Being "woke" refers to being aware of and typically feeling outraged by the suffering of the marginalized in society for the benefit of the privileged. Having knowledge of the effects of the patriarchy, racism, classism and homophobia are examples of "woke" behavior.)

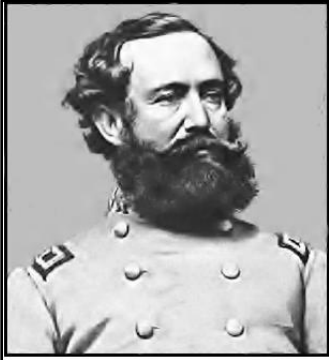


Quote: James Madison (4th USA President – Author of the Bill of Rights)

"Besides the advantage of being armed, which the Americans possess over the people of almost every other nation, the existence of subordinate governments, to which the people are attached, and by which the militia officers are appointed, forms a barrier against the enterprises of ambition, more insurmountable than any which a simple government of any form can admit of."



Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton “From These Ashes”: by Robert L. Atkinson



Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton

Each man in his own time had to face that dreadful realization that the war had come to an end. In this excerpt found in “From These Ashes”, the last desperate moment had come for General Wade Hampton. Here is a glimpse of the anguish he faced when he had to share the terrible news with his men. I’m sharing this passage in honor of his memory and his devoted service to the South.

On April 26th Hampton received a wire from President Davis requesting that he join him at once with a small detachment. Wheeler joined Hampton to see the President. Not as enthusiastic as

Hampton to continue the contest, Wheeler shared his opinion with Davis, advising him that Johnson believed the war was over. However, he promised to stand by him in whatever new endeavors he desired. President Davis gave Wheeler command of Hampton’s cavalry and gave Hampton an order to gather a large escort for their march across the Mississippi.

It was eleven o’clock that night when Hampton reported back to Johnson.

Upon his arrival, General Johnson announced to Hampton, “The army was surrendered earlier today. This time the terms were generous. The same as Grant offered Lee and they’ve been accepted.”

“Why, Sir!” General Hampton argued, “I have not been included in your surrender. I’ve been in the company of the President himself and our Commander-In-Chief has given me much different orders.”

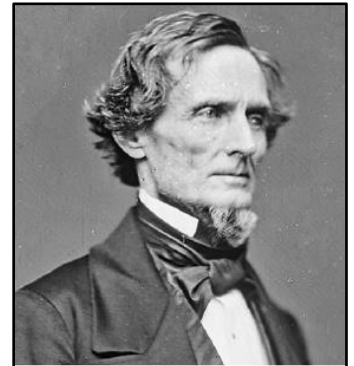
“Perhaps for you that is true,” Johnson said.

“However, your cavalry that remained here in camp has been surrendered and sworn out of service.”

Their heated discussion heard though out the camp, spread like wildfire. Around the fire, the veterans of Butler’s and Young’s Brigades angrily disagreed with General Johnson’s decision. They decided that they were not bound by the surrender any more than General Hampton and rode out of camp that night on horseback.

As soon as General Hampton left Johnson’s headquarters, he was advised of their actions. Immediately he sent a courier to catch up with them. When the courier overtook the veterans of Butler’s and Young’s Brigades, he told them that General Hampton was commanding them to halt and wait there. They reluctantly obeyed. It was during the early morning when General Hampton galloped up on his big bay.

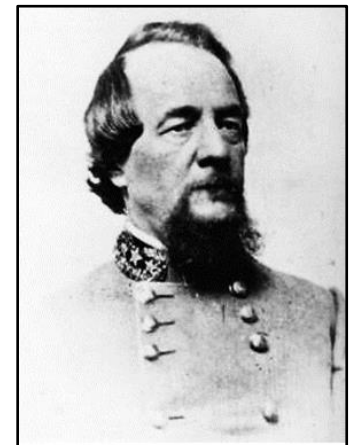
They listened intently to General Hampton words, “My brave, brave boys. I know your hearts for I share the same feelings as you do and I cannot begin to tell you how much I appreciate each and every one of you, who after so much hardship and deprivation are still so willing to share my fate. But I cannot allow you to do this in a way in which would dishonor all your previous endeavors. You have been surrendered with the army. It is very different for me. Once asked by President Davis to relinquish my command to Wheeler, under which you now serve, I no longer am attached to his army as you are. You are not acting under the orders of our Commander-in-Chief as I. Therefore, I cannot allow you to leave as deserters. You must follow the orders of your commander.”



**CSA President
Jefferson Finis Davis**



**Brig. Gen.
Joseph Wheeler**

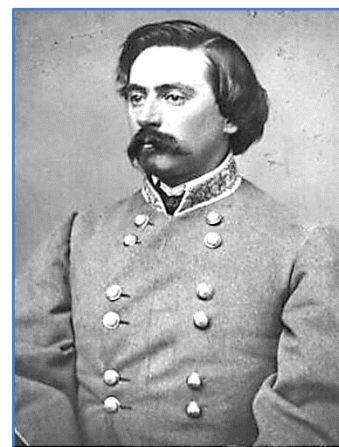


**Brig. Gen.
Joseph E. Johnston**



Brig. Gen.
Matthew Calbraith Butler

The great General's eyes filled with tears and his voice trembled as he looked over his war-hardened veterans. Tears began to fill the soldiers' eyes too. They couldn't keep them from running down their cheeks. They all like children wept unashamed. The sobs General Hampton heard from his men tore through his heart. How he loved these men. Finishing what he had to say, he continued, "So I urge you, my brave boys to return, as the gentlemen you are, and obey my last command to you as soldiers." The words trembled in his throat, "You are ordered to assemble in Greensboro tomorrow and surrender."



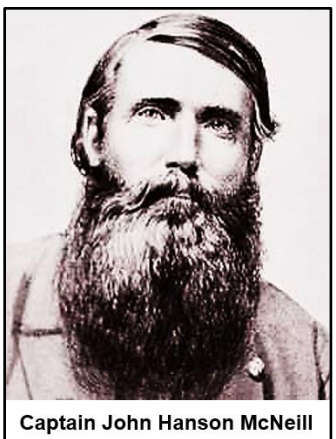
Maj. Gen.
Pierce Manning Butler Young

The men rode solemnly back to camp to wait for the next day to dawn. There was a morbid stillness in camp that night. It was as though they were at a wake. And in many ways, they were. The stillness that prevailed paid respect to all of those who had died in vain. That night a heavy grief of soul and spirit hung over the camp. Their hearts saw no future only the past; a past of loss, a past of hunger and suffering, a past of seeing their homeland laid waste, their women defiled, and their children terrorized. How would they be able to put down their arms and swear an allegiance to a country that had never considered their needs even in peace? Wasn't this the very reason they had taken up arms in the first place? How would any of them put this in their past? It was impossible.



Death of a Partisan Leader

Captain John Hanson "Hanse" McNeill (Born 12-June-1815 – Died 10-November-1864)

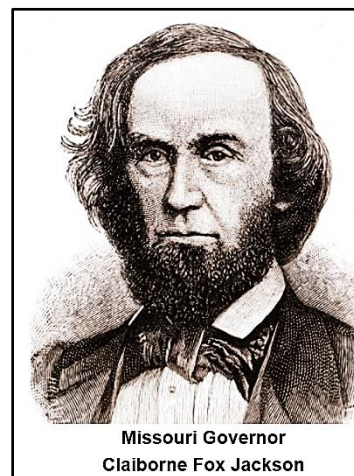


Captain John Hanson McNeill

John McNeill was born 12 June 1815 near Moorefield in Hardy County, Virginia. His father died before he was 4 years old and "Hanse" as he was called, grew up to be a hardworking, slave owning, semi-literate farmer on the South Branch of the Potomac River.

In 1838 he relocated to Bourbon County, Kentucky with his wife and young son. Although quite prosperous, his wife's ill health led to a return to Harding County in 1844. Four years later, in 1848, McNeill again moved his family, this time first to Boone County, Missouri where he established himself in the cattle business, then to Davies County, Missouri where along with a prosperous cattle business he became a minister in the Methodist Church.

When pro-slavery Governor Claiborne F Jackson, in 1861, called for 50,000 militia to defend the state from Unionists, McNeill helped recruit a company from Davies County. The company, of which McNeill was named commander, was mustered in as company B, 1st regiment cavalry, 4th regiment Missouri State Guard under William Y Slack, and included three of McNeill's sons. McNeill and his company would see action in all the early Missouri engagements under the overall command of Sterling Price. The engagements included Boonville, Carthage, Wilson's Creek, and Lexington where McNeill was severely wounded in the right shoulder. One of his sons was killed.



Missouri Governor
Claiborne Fox Jackson

While recruiting in Boone County, McNeill was taken prisoner and imprisoned in Columbia, Missouri. Although granted a limited parole McNeill, along with his son Jesse, were sent to the Federal



**Captain
Jesse Cunningham McNeill**

actions during the 15 May 1864 battle at New Market in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley.

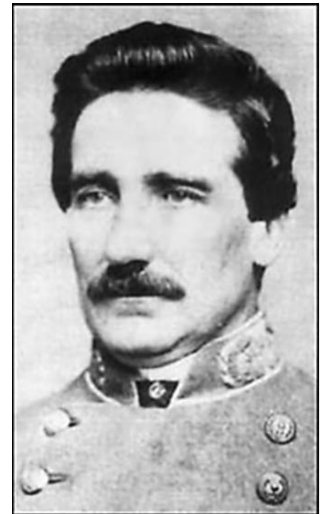
On 3 October 1864 McNeill led his rangers in an attack on Federal troops near Mount Jackson. Although the engagement was a victory for the Confederates with the Union troops surrendering, McNeill was severely wounded. He was taken to the house of a local Methodist minister, Addison Weller. Although the Wellers tried to hide McNeill's identity it was discovered, according to some sources by Phillip Sheridan himself who, having heard rumors of a wounded Confederate officer being cared for at the Weller's, came to investigate. McNeill was taken by ambulance to Harrisonburg, West Virginia where he died on 10



**Captain John Hanson McNeill
Olivet Cemetery
Moorefield, West Virginia**

prison in St. Louis. McNeill escaped from the prison in St Louis on 15 June 1862 and returned to Virginia. He went to Richmond to get permission to form an independent command in Hardy County to harass the Union troops in the area and protect the area residents.

On 5 September 1862 McNeill became captain of company E, 18th Virginia cavalry. The company operated mostly independently in concert with John D Imboden's 1st Virginia Partisan Rangers. Jesse, who had escaped from St Louis before his father, was commissioned a 1st lieutenant. Although McNeill occupied most of their time leading raids on wagon trains and the Baltimore & Ohio railroad, he helped plan and execute a raid into western Virginia in April 1863, screened Confederate movements in West Virginia during the Gettysburg campaign, operated under the command of Thomas L Rosser around Moorefield, and fought in peripheral



**Brigadier General
John Daniel Imboden**

November 1864. There has always been speculation that McNeill was wounded by his own men, but this has never been confirmed or discounted for that matter.

The Captain was quartered in Hill's Hotel while in Harrisonburg. He lingered near death until November 10, 1864, when he died surrounded by his wife and devoted friends. Almost immediately he was buried in the Harrisonburg cemetery with Masonic honors. Some two months later his body was removed to Moorefield and reburied in Cemetery Hill.

It is estimated that from the first to last over 25,000 troops were diverted by the Federal commanders to guard the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad against the McNeill menace. Furthermore, the captures made under the leadership of Captain John Hanson McNeill averaged forty prisoners for every man on the Ranger roster, besides the many horses, cattle, munitions, and wagon trains seized. To this must be added the fact that the Rangers under his command never failed to capture the objective they started for or lost a battle.

Recruit, Recruit, Recruit

***Individuals Interested in joining the Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton Camp 273
should contact.***

Compatriot Bryan Pittman

Phone (803) 608-8813 / E-Mail bpittman3@hotmail.com

Important Dates in Lincoln's War to Prevent Southern Independence

- Apr. 12, 1861 **Charleston, SC** – At 4:30 a.m. on April 12, 1861, Lt. Henry S. Farley, acting upon the command of Capt. George S. James, fired a single 10-inch mortar round from Fort Johnson. (James had offered the first shot to Roger Pryor, a noted Virginia secessionist, who declined, saying, "I could not fire the first gun of the war.") The shell exploded over Fort Sumter as a signal to open the general bombardment from 43 guns and mortars at Fort
- Apr. 15, 1861 **Washington, DC** – President Lincoln issues a public declaration that an insurrection exists and calls for 75,000 militia to stop the rebellion. A result of this call for volunteers, four additional southern states secede from the Union in the following weeks.
- Apr. 11, 1862 **Newport News, VA** – On this date the Confederate ironclad, CSS Virginia, was sailing between Newport News and Hampton Roads. The Virginia spotted three Union merchant ships and quickly captured all three ships.
- Apr. 15, 1862 **Bealton, VA** – On this date Capt. Robert F. Dyer, with the 1st Maine Cavalry, was leading a Union reconnaissance to the Rappahannock River. When they neared Bealton, they encountered a Confederate force. Dyer's cavalry was soon repulsed and forced to withdraw.
- Apr. 7, 1863 **Amite River, LA** – On this day the Union steamer USS Barataria was traveling on the Amite River. It had been sent on a reconnaissance mission. A group of Confederates spotted the ship and attacked it. The ship was eventually captured by the Confederates.
- Apr. 7, 1865 **Hampton Roads, VA** – On this date a group of 4 Confederate soldiers managed to capture and destroy the Union side-wheel steamer, USS Minquas, and 2 barges loaded with quartermasters and commissary stores. The ship's crew managed to escape capture by jumping overboard and swimming ashore.

Y'all Come!!!

**Next Camp
Meeting**

**Thursday, Apr. 22nd
6:00 p.m.**



**SEAWELL'S
1125 Rosewood Drive
Columbia, SC**

WWW.WADEHAMPTONCAMP.ORG



Columbia, SC 29212-8711

507 Sail Point Way

C/O Adjutant Charles D. Bray III

A Non-Profit Organization

SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton III Camp No. 273

The Official Publication of

The Legionary

