

THE LEGIONARY

JUNE 2007

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"

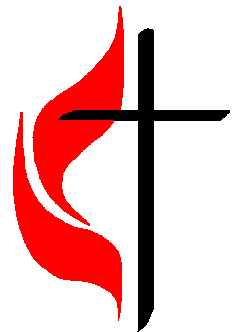
Methodists Call for Removal of Confederate Flag from Statehouse Grounds

Delegates attending the South Carolina United Methodist Conference last week in Florence passed a resolution calling for the removal of the Confederate battle flag from the Statehouse grounds, according to church officials.

The resolution, which recommends the flag be placed in a museum or other appropriate historical context, was brought to the floor of the conference late Wednesday and was approved by a clear majority, according to the Rev. Don Britt, former minister of Trenholm Road United Methodist Church in Columbia.

"There was debate," he said, "but not as contentious as it has been in the past."

Some Methodists in the state have been actively advocating the removal of the Confederate flag for years, he said. About a month ago, a couple dozen church members attended a lecture and



prayer vigil at the Statehouse, spearheaded by Tim McClendon, the church's Columbia district superintendent, Britt said.

The state's Methodists join at least one other religious organization, the South Carolina Christian Action Council, in publicly calling for the removal of the flag.

University of South Carolina football coach Steve Spurrier attracted attention in April when he told a crowd at a banquet in Columbia that he doesn't think the flag should be flown on the Statehouse grounds.

The United Methodist Church was formed in 1968 when the Evangelical United Brethren Church and the Methodist Church merged. Both protestant denominations inherited their predecessors' strong opposition to slavery, and both emphasize the value of diversity.

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Sons of Confederate Veterans Respond To United Methodist Resolution

The following statement was released June 12, 2007 by Christopher M. Sullivan, Commander-in-Chief, Sons of Confederate Veterans headquartered in Elm Springs, Tennessee:

We, of the Sons of Confederate Veterans are distressed to learn of the passage by a divided and narrow margin, a resolution by the South Carolina United Methodist Conference regarding the removal of flags at the South Carolina Statehouse grounds.

Many members of the Sons of Confederate Veterans are also members of the Methodist Church.

Because of their loyalty to local Methodist affiliations in localities throughout South Carolina, they have not until now, spoken out regarding the divisive leftward slant the church has taken in recent years.

We are hearing their protests at the headquarters of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, and are compelled to address their concerns.

A large segment of the membership of the United Methodist Church in South Carolina is made up of generations of families who proudly proclaim Confederate veterans in their ancestry. Many of the local church cemeteries are the final resting place for loyal church members and their families, who served the Confederacy.

As devoted as their love and honor of their ancestors is, they do not believe the church is the place to advance a partisan political agenda. The course described in the controversial resolution advanced by a leftist group at the South Carolina

United Methodist Conference is purely a partisan political issue designed to actively campaign toward changing South

See RESPONSE, Page 3

Commander's Corner

—TOMMY ROLLINS

Compatriots,

The state of the Camp is looking up! Our membership continues to grow, thanks to the many efforts put forth by our members and recruiting committee.

We are looking better financially. This is due to cost reductions in printing *The Legionary* and the fact that I've

gotten better at guessing how many members will attend and eat at each meeting. The Battle for Columbia netted the Camp a small profit this year. Our monthly quartermaster raffle, Red Shirt sales, and book sales along with our fundraising committee raffles also contribute to our

prosperity.

It is time for you to think about who you'd like to be the next Camp Commander. Elections will be held in November and your new commander will need plenty of time beforehand to learn the intricacies of the office. I know you'll make the right choice! See y'all on the 21st!

Chaplain's Pulpit

—REV. ROBERT SLIMP

I am going to quote a poem from the "Poet Laureate of the Confederacy," Henry Timrod. Timrod was a member of Charleston's famous literary society in the 1850's which included a large group of literary men, including the father of Southern Literature, William Gilmore Simms. Of Timrod, Simms said, "I looked upon him as one of our best poets and one of our best critics."

Timrod served in the Confederate Army during the battle of Shiloh. His commanding officer asked him to write descriptions of the battle for Southern newspapers. He also served in combat during the defense of Charleston in 1863.

Although chronically ill with consumption, Timrod wrote one of his most beautiful poems for the Confederate Memorial Service that was held on 16 June 1862 in Magnolia Cemetery, Charleston. This masterpiece was set to music and sung. Described by the

Charleston Courier two days later as being written by our gifted poet, Henry Timrod, 'The poem was sweetly sung by the choir.'

Henry Timrod was a devout Christian. Confederate Memorial Day, now observed on May 10, was first observed in Charleston in June. This is currently the case in Alabama and Texas, where June is Confederate Memorial month.

Timrod's poem is simply entitled "Ode." "Ode" is considered by many scholars to be Henry Timrod's finest poem...

*Sleep sweetly in your humble graves,
Sleep, martyrs of a fallen cause!
Though yet no marble column craves
The pilgrim here to pause
In seeds of laurels in the earth
The garlands of your fame are
sown;
And, somewhere, waiting for its birth,
The shaft is in the stone.
Meanwhile, your sisters for the years*

*Which hold in trust your storied
tombs,
Bring all they now can give you -
tears,*

*And thee memorial blooms.
Small tributes, but your shades will
smile*

*As proudly on these wreaths
today,
As when some cannon-moulded pile
Shall overlook this Bay.*

*Stoop angels hither from the skies!
There is no holier spot of ground
Than where defeated valor lies
By mourning beauty crowned.*

I want to share this poem with y'all because it awakens within us how we feel when we think of our Confederate ancestors. We must determine before God that we will always remember them and lift up their good name for future generations. When they come under attack in our generation, we must defend their honor and sacrifice. ☩

On The Burning of Columbia

—LT. GEN. WADE HAMPTON

Wild Woods, Mississippi, April 21, 1866.

To Hon. REVERDY JOHNSON, United States Senate:

Sir - A few days ago I saw in the published proceedings of Congress that a petition from Benjamin Kawles, of Columbia, South Carolina,

asking compensation for the destruction of his house by the Federal army in February, 1865, had been presented to the Senate, accompanied by a letter from Major-General Sherman:

In this letter General Sherman uses the following language:

"The citizens of Columbia set fire to thousands

of bales of cotton rolled out into the streets, and which were burning before we entered Columbia. I myself, was in the city as early as 9 o'clock, and I saw these fires, and knew that efforts were made to extinguish them, but a high and strong wind kept them alive.

See Columbia, Page 3

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Individuals interested in joining the SCV or this Camp should contact
Comp. Scott James, Ph. (803) 781-1836, E-mail wscottjames@bellsouth.net or
Adjutant Layne Waters, Ph. (803) 798-2429, E-mail lwaters2@sc.rr.com
WE ARE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD MEN!

RESOLUTION

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, citing the Confederate flag's symbolic link to slavery and oppression, has promoted an economic boycott of South Carolina for more than seven years.

Flying the flag on sovereign state grounds, behind which laws are made, is to place the banner in a current context, to make it a living statement of public policy, said the Rev. Joe Darby, pastor of Morris Brown AME Church and NAACP activist. But respecting other people's heritage does not obligate blacks to endure an insult, he said.

Lonnie Randolph, president of the NAACP state conference, rejects the argument that Confederate heritage should be respected. He said he can't respect a past that includes bigotry, white supremacy and hatred. The Confederacy depended on a form of

terrorism, he said, a "violence of intimidation used to obtain a political end," and that cannot be condoned. The state has no business sanctioning bigotry and white supremacy, he said.

Others say that when the flag was moved to the Confederate Soldier's Monument, the issue was resolved. "Unfortunately, there are people in our culture today who make a living by fanning the flames of intolerance and by selling the bigotry of victimhood," Glenn McConnell, president pro tem of the S.C. Senate, wrote in a recent op-ed piece published in *The Post and Courier*.

Darby called the new Methodist resolution a "welcome move."

"It speaks well for diverse people of faith," he said. Not only does the vote reveal how blacks and whites can cross racial lines to find common ground, it suggests that the faith community in South

Carolina might be able to wield some influence, Darby said.

"If we pray together toward that common goal, maybe we can make a difference," he said.

Rhett Jackson, an active member of the United Methodist Church in Columbia who has served in various official capacities over the years, applauded the decision to pass the resolution. Jackson, 82, has been pushing for racial reconciliation for a long time. In South Carolina, Jackson said, the Civil War was fought and lost; it's time to appreciate objects of that era for what they are: part of history.

"We don't need to be celebrating that Confederate flag when we were on the wrong side of that war," he said.

*Source: The Post and Courier
Charleston, SC, June 10, 2007*

RESPONSE

Carolina law regarding memorials and flags on the Statehouse grounds. These very same type memorials and flags that are seen on an individual basis in Methodist and other church cemeteries throughout South Carolina are also similar to the memorials found in practically every county in South

Carolina.

It seems incongruous that this small group of liberal-minded activists would find any pleasure in placing a cloud of hatred over the overwhelming loyal parishioners who seek no more than the peace and love of Christian fellowship. It is understandable why United Methodists are

disenchanted and feel the church of their fathers has deserted them. Many communicate to us their disdain for the recent changes in direction perpetrated by a few who seem more interested in substituting the holy gospel in favor of their own Utopian visions toward social change.

COLUMBIA

"I gave no orders for the burning of your city, but on the contrary, the conflagration resulted from the great imprudence of cutting the cotton bales, whereby the contents were spread to the wind, so that it became an impossibility to arrest the fire.

"I saw in your Columbia newspaper the printed order of General Wade Hampton, that on the approach of the Yankee army all the cotton should thus be burned, and from what I saw myself I have no hesitation in saying that he was the cause of the destruction of your city."

This same charge, made against me by General Sherman, having been brought before the Senate of the United States, I am naturally most solicitous to vindicate myself before the same tribunal. But my State has no representative in that body. Those who should be her constitutional representative and exponents there are debarred the right of entrance into those halls. There are none who have the right to speak for the South; none to

participate in the legislation which governs her; none to impose the taxes she is called upon to pay, and none to vindicate her sons from misrepresentation, injustice or slander.

Under these circumstances I appeal to you, in the confident hope you will use every effort to see that justice is done in this matter.

I deny, emphatically, that any cotton was fired in Columbia by my order.

I deny that the citizens "set fire to thousands of bales rolled out into the street."

I deny that any cotton was on fire when the Federal troops entered the city.

I most respectfully ask of Congress to appoint a committee, charged with the duty of ascertaining and reporting all the facts connected with the destruction of Columbia, and thus fixing upon the proper author of that enormous crime the infamy he richly deserves.

I am willing to submit the case to any honest tribunal. Before any such I pledge myself to prove that I gave a positive order, by direction of General

Beauregard, that no cotton should be fired; that not one bale was on fire when General Sherman's troops took possession of the city; that he promised protection to the city, and that, in spite of his solemn promise, he burned the city to the ground, deliberately, systematically and atrociously.

I, therefore, most earnestly request that Congress may take prompt and efficient measures to investigate this matter fully. Not only is this due to themselves and to the reputation of the United States army, but also to justice and to truth.

Trusting that you will pardon me for troubling you,

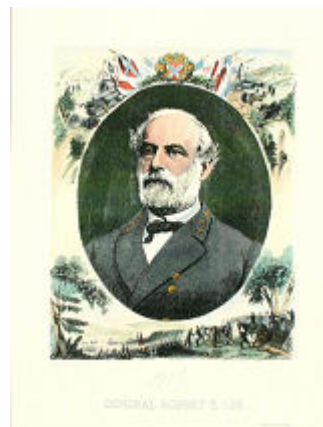
I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WADE HAMPTON.



Important Dates in the (Un)Civil War:

Jun. 1, 1863:	Battle of Cold Harbor, VA begins
Jun. 3, 1863:	Birthday of Confederate President Jefferson Davis
Jun. 6, 1862:	Battle of Memphis, TN. Brig. Gen. Turner Ashby killed in action near Harrisonburg, VA
Jun. 7, 1862:	Union Gen. Butler hangs citizen William B. Mumford for tearing down Union flag over New Orleans Mint.
Jun. 8, 1862:	Valley Campaign. Confederate victory at the Battle of Cross Keys, VA
Jun. 9, 1862:	Valley Campaign. Battle of Port Republic.
Jun. 9, 1863:	Battle of Brandy Station, VA
Jun. 10, 1864:	Gen. N.B. Forrest leads his cavalry to a brilliant victory at Brice's Crossroads
Jun. 11, 1864:	Gen. N.B. Forrest's men follow and attack beaten Federals as they struggle back towards Memphis, TN
Jun. 12, 1864:	Gen. J.E.B. Stuart begins his four day "Ride Around McClellan"
Jun. 13, 1864:	After maneuvering around McClellan's right flank and passing through Hanover Court House, Gen. Stuart and his men fight at Haw's Shop, VA
Jun. 14, 1864:	Atlanta Campaign. Gen. Leonidas Polk killed at Pine Mountain, GA
Jun. 15, 1863:	Battle of Winchester, VA. The British House of Lords debate the seizure of British ships by U.S. vessels.
Jun. 16, 1862:	Battle of Secessionville, James Island, SC
Jun. 20, 1863:	Vicksburg Campaign. The Confederate city comes under intense shelling from Federal batteries.
Jun. 23, 1865:	Ft. Townsend. Gen. Stand Waite surrenders his Indian command in the last formal surrender of a large Confederate force.
Jun. 24, 1863:	Gens. Longstreet and Hill's corps cross the Potomac.
Jun. 25, 1862:	Seven Days' Battles begin with fighting at Oak Grove.
Jun. 28, 1863:	Gen. Lee orders Longstreet, Hill, and Ewell to march towards Gettysburg.

Come one! Come all!
Next Camp Meeting
Thursday, June 21
6:00 PM



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Official Publication of

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