



# THE LEGIONARY

JULY, 2023

A Publication of the Sons of Confederate Veterans  
Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton Camp No. 273  
Columbia, South Carolina ♦ [www.wadehamptoncamp.org](http://www.wadehamptoncamp.org)  
*Charles Bray, Acting Editor*

## A FRATERNAL ORGANIZATION OF SOUTHERN MEN

### COMMANDERS CORNER

CHARLES D. BRAY III

Compatriots,

Just a reminder, Membership Renewal Statements (MRS) have been sent out and all members should have received their MRS statements. If you have not received your MRS statement **“PLEASE”** contact me and let me know so I can get with SC Division Adjutant and determine what is wrong and correct the issue. I encourage each member when he receives his renewal statement to please send it in as soon as possible.

My contact information is;

Home TN:  
803-749-1042

Cell TN:  
803-414-6808

Email  
cdbiii@bellsouth.net

### Membership Renewal Information

**SCV HQ Fiscal Year – August 1, 2023 to July 31, 2024**

**Renewing Members:**  
National \$35.00

SC Division \$10.00

WHC-273 \$15.00

Total Dues **\$60.00**



**Please RSVP if you will be attending the Thursday, July 20, 2023, monthly camp meeting.** We need for our forecasted attendance to be as accurate as possible in order to hold expenses down.

Our speaker this month will be Joe Long whose program will be “South Carolina Boys Brigade”.

### 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**



## ~ Events of July ~

**Charleston Light Dragoons Flag is Coming Home to South Carolina!**

COLUMBIA, S.C. – The Charleston Light Dragoons – formed in the eighteenth century – were not your everyday cavalry unit. They were more like a very exclusive social club, made up of the sons of the colony's wealthiest citizens. They had strict rules, but the punishment for infractions usually involved alcohol – either being forced to drink large quantities, or buy drinks for the other guys.

They had relatively little combat experience for a long time. That changed dramatically in 1864, when they were sent to Virginia as part of the 4th South Carolina Cavalry Regiment, and encountered some of the bitterest fighting in the Civil War. At some point while fighting Union cavalry from Michigan, they lost a flag that served as a rallying point in battle.

And now, someone in Michigan wants to give it back, to the South Carolina Confederate Relic Room and Military Museum. Dave Downing is coming down to Columbia on July 5 to do just that. The public is invited to the presentation in the museum's Education Room at noon on that date. Downing will tell the story of how he found the lost flag. And Eric Emerson, director of the South Carolina Department of Archives and History, will tell the colorful story of the Dragoons themselves.

Dave Downing is among other things a Civil War re-enactor – one who usually wears blue instead of gray. He also volunteers in a project called Save the Flags, which has preserved, researched and displayed about 270 banners carried by Michigan soldiers in the Civil War, the Spanish American War and World War I. About 10 years ago, he was speaking to a community group about that project, and afterwards, one of the listeners came up to him and said, "I've got this flag..."

"He came back the next day and gave it to me," Downing recalls. It was in really good shape, for a Civil War flag – so good that he decided it must be a reproduction. He set it aside, and didn't think about it until two or three years ago.

Then, the Save the Flags project received another flag donation from the same period. It was real, but looked like it had come fresh and new from a package. That made him think of the flag he had set aside. He thought, "I wonder if it's the real thing?" He submitted photos of it to a renowned expert who restores historical flags, who pronounced, "This thing is original. There's no way it's a reproduction."

There was no question where it came from, with the huge letters S and C on a blue field, and between the letters a crudely formed palmetto tree with "Charleston Light Dragoons" printed on it.

"This doesn't belong in Michigan," he decided. "It belongs in South Carolina."

Someone with the flag project knew about the Relic Room and its successful textile conservation program, and gave Downing the name and number of Executive Director Allen Roberson – to whom he will deliver the flag on July 5.

While it's finally been found, the flag is still wrapped in mystery: "I'd never met the gentleman who gave it to me," says Downing. "I don't know his name; I don't have his number."

Dr. Emerson is focused on a different mystery: how the guidon – which is what he, being a historian, properly calls this particular flag – got lost in the first place. He is the author of *Sons of Privilege: The Charleston Light Dragoons in the Civil War*.

He thinks it happened at one of several desperate battles the unit fought in the spring of 1864 against the Michigan Cavalry Brigade, commanded by George Armstrong Custer – yes, the Little Big Horn guy. And of course, those Yankee soldiers were battle-hardened and had a huge advantage in firepower, as they carried Spencer repeating rifles.



At one point, Dr. Emerson considered that maybe it happened at the Battle of Old Church, or Matadequin Creek, on May 30. But then he realized that at that fight Thomas Lining, the unit's color sergeant, had the flag back in the rear area, as he was one of those left behind to hold the horses while other dragoons went into the fight on foot.

He now believes the flag was lost at Trevilian Station in June, but the evidence is incomplete. There, as it happened, lining – frustrated at being kept out of the action – swapped places with another soldier and participated in the fighting, with fatal consequences: He bled to death after being hit in the femoral artery, making him one of 800 Confederate casualties in that engagement. It was the largest all-cavalry battle of the war.

The guidon was likely left with the other soldier in the rear. Emerson suspects that soldier was Burgess Gordon. But the flag still wasn't safe, because at one point in this battle, "Custer and his brigade found a gap between Hampton's troops and the Virginians of Fitzhugh Lee and rode into the rear of the Confederate line." And Gordon was captured.

The theories are fascinating, if not certain. But however it was lost, the flag is coming home to South Carolina on the day after Independence Day.

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## CHAPLAINS WITNESS

WALTER LINDLER

***But as for you. O man of God flee these things. Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness, gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called an about which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. (1 Timothy 6:11, 12 ESV)***

Even though we have experienced the 2023 Fourth of July as the day the founders of the country made it clear they were willing to fight for their freedom. A close reading of history shows that those founders disagreed on which freedoms and how to fight for them.

We don't have to disagree on what it means for Christians to fight the good fight of faith. The Bible is clear. It encourages Christians to flee from the love of money and to pursue things like righteousness and godliness instead. In our Christian freedom, we demonstrate persistent love for the people around us, confident that God will continue to bless us with forgiveness. With a stable government, Christians have the blessing to fight the good fight of faith with gentleness.

In a country with freedom of religion, Christians have gone beyond individual works of kindness and pooled their resources to help their whole communities in the areas of medical care, community support, and a social safety net. The Christian emphasis on helping women and children, widows, and orphans, continues to influence every country where the gospel is proclaimed to the joy and edifying of Christ's holy people.

Even more important than these physical blessings are the message Christians have been privileged to proclaim. It is the message of full and free forgiveness found only in the saving work of Jesus. It is the message of freedom from the punishment our sins deserve and freedom to love and serve others to thank God for sending his Son to save us.

On this Fourth of July 2023, I hope we all thanked the Lord for his blessings, large and small. Look for ways to serve others, especially with the good news about Jesus.

***Almighty God, help me use the freedom you have won to serve the people you have brought into my life.***



***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.



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



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## 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
John M. Kinard Camp 35	August 2, 2023	Meets 7:00 PM <b>1st Wednesday of the Month</b> – Hawg Heaven – Hwy. 76, Prosperity, SC
Palmetto Camp 22	August 3, 2023	Meets 6:30 PM <b>1st Thursday of the Month</b> – Cayce Museum, 1800 12 <sup>th</sup> Street, Cayce, SC
SC 17 <sup>th</sup> Regiment Camp 2069	July 17, 2023	Meets 7:00PM <b>Third Monday of the Month</b> – 6822 Barnwell Rd. Hilda, SC
15 <sup>th</sup> Regt. S.C. Volunteers Camp 51	July 25, 2023	Meets 6:30 PM <b>Last Tuesday of the Month</b> – Lizards Thicket – 4616 Augusta Rd. Lexington, SC
Gen. Paul Quattlebaum Camp 412	July 25, 2023	Meets 7:00 PM <b>Last Tuesday of the Month</b> – Shealy's BBQ – 340 East Columbia Ave., Batesburg-Leesville, SC

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**Quote: Benjamin Franklin** – American statesman, printer, scientist and writer

*"God grant that not only the love of liberty but a thorough knowledge of the rights of man may pervade all the nations of the earth, so that a philosopher may set his foot anywhere on its surface and say: This is my country."*

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## The Slaughter of Lincoln's War by Drew E. VandeCreek



Abraham Lincoln



Union Gen.  
George McClellan



CSA Gen.  
Robert E. Lee

Prodded by Lincoln to be on the offensive in early September 1862, the north's early savior Gen. George McClellan began his pursuit of Gen. Robert E. Lee's army into Maryland. Though his army was numerically inferior, Lee audaciously scattered his forces into strong positions, invited costly enemy assaults and then concentrated all for his opponent to fruitlessly assault. McClellan declined the bait and to Lincoln's chagrin, retreated. After the carnage and burials, Lincoln demanded yet more troops to continue the invasion.

"Except for a belch of musketry here and there, the roar of battle at Sharpsburg subsided all along the lines as day turned to dusk. When men's ears stopped ringing, they began to perceive the agonized groans of the wounded, piercing and plaintive nearer by but rolling like the rumble of distant thunder over the rest of the battlefield. Nearly four thousand Americans had died that day, and close to twenty thousand had been wounded – some of them horribly and many fatally – but the road still lay open to Lee's Army of Northern Virginia.

"We do not boast a victory," wrote one of Lee's personal staff two days after the return to Virginia; "it was not sufficiently decisive for that. The Yankees would have claimed a glorious victory had they been on our side and they no doubt claim it anyhow."



Certainly, McClellan counted it a “complete” victory for he had rid Maryland of the invader and had hurt him more than a little in the process. What he had not done, as Abraham Lincoln observed with great disappointment, was to prevent Lee’s escape and compel his surrender.

A short truce on the day after the battle allowed for the retrieval of some of the wounded and burial of a few of the dead. The work demonstrated how abrupt a transformation overcame good men who had become heartless killers in the tumult of battle. A young northern lieutenant from western Virginia suddenly recoiled at the bloodshed between men who spoke the same dialect. “The thought struck me,” he wrote his family, “this is unnatural.” Seeking respite from the slaughter, the lieutenant tried to resign soon after the battle.

The sheer devastation of Sharpsburg contributed substantially to a new epidemic of resignations from the northern army. The colonel of the 107<sup>th</sup> New York promptly departed in the wake of their brutal initiation, while one of their freshly-commissioned captains – whose company was criticized for faltering under fire – spend the next five weeks conniving for a safe home-front assignment as a drillmaster or clerk. A New Hampshire sergeant who had made the charge against Burnside’s Bridge damned Republicans up and down as he toured the battlefield; he supposed that if they could see such carnage, even they might change their minds and demand a settlement “in the name of God.”

Southern prisoners elicited abundant comment, particularly among recruits who had never seen their enemies at a speaking distance. “They are naturally more lithe & active than we”; and much more serious in defense of their homeland than the northern soldiers who had enlisted to stifle the South’s desire for political independence. “There is,” he added, “a look of savageness in their eyes not observable in the good-natured countenance of our men.”

A romantic, reflective sergeant who had left his New Hampshire home less than a month before watched a mass burial of his fellow soldiers that Friday. He supposed that decay alone would dissuade most families from retrieving their loved ones’ remains, and reflected that no mothers, sisters, daughters, or wives would ever weep over these men folks’ graves at twilight or cast flowers on them as anniversaries passed. Only “the sighing wind shall be their funeral dirge.”

(*Lincoln’s Darkest Year: The War in 1862*. William Marvel. Houghton-Mifflin, 2008, pp. 217-226)



## John Dunovant

(Born March 5, 1825, Died October 1, 1864)



John Dunovant  
Born: 05-Mar-1825 – Died: 01-Oct-1864

This is the 12th installment where a CSA General with South Carolina ties is featured. I think my surprise came when I put the list of Generals together and found 46. I hope everyone enjoys reading about these men.

Dunovant was born on March 5, 1825, in Chester, the son of Dr. John Dunovant and Margaret Sloan Quay. Two of his brothers, Alexander and Robert, would be signers of the Ordinance of Secession. John Dunovant fought in the Mexican War as a sergeant in the famed Palmetto Regiment, and in 1855 he was commissioned in the regular army as captain of the Tenth U.S. Infantry. Accessible details of his army service, like details of his early life, are sketchy. Despite lacking a formal military education, Dunovant had used the Mexican War as a springboard into one of the few professions outside planting that southerners respected.

Dunovant resigned his army commission in early 1861 and was appointed major in the South Carolina volunteers. During the bombardment of Fort Sumter, Dunovant earned plaudits for his handling of his command at Fort Moultrie. He was afterward commissioned colonel of the First South Carolina Regiment, which saw duty, but not much action, in and around Charleston. According to **Governor Francis W. Pickens**, *Dunovant’s unit became “the best drilled*

**Regiment in the Service.”** Dunovant commanded the unit until falling from grace in the summer of 1862.

The most flagrant event in Dunovant’s fall was his August 1862 court-martial for drunkenness—a charge that remained tied to his reputation and probably contributed to his death. Dunovant was cashiered, with Confederate president Jefferson Davis’s approval. Yet both previous and subsequent events suggest something at work other than concern for military sobriety. Sometime before the court-martial, Dunovant fell out with a superior, General Roswell S. Ripley, over troop dispositions. Soon after being run out of the service, with several officers weighing in on his behalf, Dunovant was returned to duty as colonel of the Fifth South Carolina cavalry.

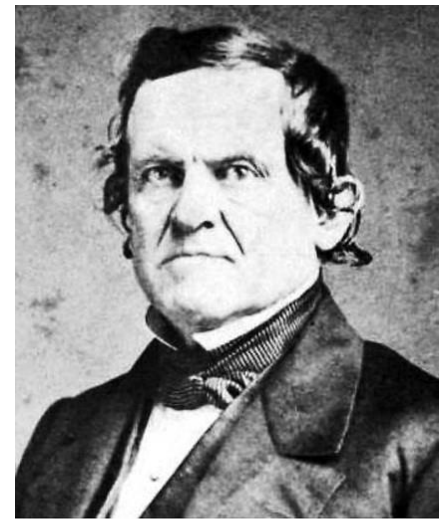
Duty with this unit gave Dunovant a chance to redeem himself. Transferred with other South Carolina units to the Army of Northern Virginia in the spring of 1864—one historian notes that Dunovant and his men “were garbed in neat, even snazzy uniforms, their officers wearing white cotton gloves”—the Fifth S.C. saw action in some of the grittiest fighting of the war. Dunovant earned high praise for his efforts at places such as Drewry’s Bluff, Cold Harbor, and Trevilian Station, proving himself to be more capable in combat than he was in the boredom of South Carolina garrison duty. Davis, who earlier had supported Dunovant’s court-martial sentence, elevated him to the temporary rank of brigadier general in August.

Dunovant was killed on October 1, 1864, during a cavalry charge along the Vaughan Road near Petersburg. In previous days he had made several mistakes in both tactics and reconnaissance; those blunders and past smears on his record may have contributed to what was a desperate gamble at best and a reckless decision at worst.

Yet some measure of Dunovant’s effectiveness as a combat officer can be read into Union reports. Dunovant was shot by Sergeant James T. Clancy of the First New Jersey cavalry. For that shot—which occurred “within ten yards of our line,” according to one report, and which had the effect of “confusing the enemy and greatly aiding his repulse,” according to another—Clancy was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Dunovant was buried in the family cemetery near Chester, South Carolina.

*Longacre, Edward G. Lee’s Cavalrymen: A History of the Mounted Force of the Army of Northern Virginia, 1861–1865. Mechanicsburg, Pa.: Stackpole, 2002. Warner, Ezra J. Generals in Gray: Lives of the Confederate Commanders. Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1959.*



**Francis Wilkinson Pickens**  
Governor: 17-Dec-1860 – 18-Dec-1862



**Inscription:**

**BRIG. GEN. JOHN DUNOVANT**  
Born at CHESTER, S. C. MAR. 5, 1825  
3RD SRGT Co B PALMETTO REG  
MEXICAN WAR 1846 – 1847 CAPT. 10<sup>TH</sup>  
INF. US ARMY. MAJ. C.S.A. OF S.C.  
JAN 1, 1861. Co 1<sup>ST</sup> REG. INF. JULY  
22, 1861 COL. S.C. CAV. 5<sup>TH</sup> REG 1862.  
BRIG. GEN. S. C. CAV. 5<sup>TH</sup> REG. AUG.  
22, 1864. KILLED IN ACTION  
NEAR PETERSBURG, VA. OCT. 1, 1864

## Recognized and Entirely Legal African Business

New England rum was a valuable commodity to trade African kings for slaves – one hundred gallons was sufficient to purchase a male slave in the Guinea trade. Newport, Rhode Island maintained a merchant fleet of 170 vessels in 1750, half of which were engaged exclusively in the slave trade and formed the basis of that regions financial wealth. The American South was the recipient, not the originator, of African slavery.

### Recognized and Entirely Legal African Business

“The ports of London, Liverpool, and Bristol were deeply involved in the [transatlantic] slave trade by the early years of the century, and by the 1760’s the prosperity of Liverpool, whose ships carried more than half the English part of the trade, was commonly thought to rest on the slavers.

The Northern colonies in America took to it, and early in the century Yankee slavers, chiefly operating out of Newport and Bristol in Rhode Island and in much smaller volume out of Boston, Salem and Providence, with a sprinkling of vessels out of Portsmouth, New London and New York, entered the business. In the main, they supplied the West Indies rather than the mainland; the vast majority of slaves brought to American shores came in British hulls.

Although some white men raided and kidnapped blacks along the African coast, such violence was neither prudent nor necessary. The vast majority of slaves were bought from native African slavers at or near the West African coast.

Whites knew almost nothing about Africa farther than fifty or a hundred miles into the interior, and for the most part the European trading companies were content to operate from coastal forts to which efficiently organized African societies were capable of delivering a steady supply of slaves.

Africa had a system or systems of slavery long before white men came to the Guinea Coast, and had regularly enslaved was captives and criminals. Once the European trade opened, the profits to be made from a large external slave market provoked more wars and instigated more rigorous punishment of crime by native chiefs.

Other persons sold themselves or their families for food during famine, or were kidnapped by native gangs. Many native kings ran profitable slave businesses, and responded eagerly to opportunities for greater profits. The slave trade became a recognized and entirely legal form of business in Africa.

Moreover, the Africans took to guns and gunpowder with a rapidity which, while lamentable in many respects, was highly protective in others. Africans had no more impulse toward racial solidarity than Europeans did toward Christian unity. African kings could charge Europeans substantial rents for permission to build trading forts, yet deny them the power to dominate any more land than the immediate territories around the forts.

And it was labor, not territory, that the whites wanted from Africa, and the African kings, through their commission merchants, were usually pleased to sell laborers, accustomed as they were to selling, exchanging, and sometimes giving away their own slaves. At the beginning they probably did not know what they were selling their slaves into, and in the end apparently did not much care.”

*(America at 1750, A Social Portrait, Richard Hofstadter, Vintage Books, 1973, pp. 75-77)*



## The Battle of the Crater, Petersburg, VA – July 30, 1864

The 48<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania Infantry excavated a 510-foot tunnel beneath a Confederate fort southeast of Petersburg. They packed the galleries with 8,000 pounds of powder and ignited the fuse. The blast created a huge gap in the Confederate line, sending more than 300 South Carolinians to their graves. The attacks that followed failed to match the engineering success. Poor planning, communications, and leadership robbed the Battle of the Crater of its potentially decisive results. Bold Confederate counterattacks repaired the breach, focusing particular bitterness upon the black troops who participated in the assaults. Grant pronounced it “the saddest affair I have witnessed in this war.” Union casualties were 3,798 and Confederate casualties were 1,491.





## ***Important Dates in Lincoln's War to Prevent Southern Independence***

July 13, 1821	<b>Chapel Hill, TN</b> – Nathan Bedford Forrest, the “Wizard of the Saddle” for his ingenious use of cavalry forces during the Civil War. He rose from the rank of private to lieutenant general despite having no previous military training.
July 6, 1860	<b>New York, NY</b> - In a letter intended for publication, New York City Mayor Fernando Wood proposes that Democrats run John Breckinridge unopposed in southern states and Stephen Douglas alone in northern ones in order to thwart Lincoln's election.
July 5, 1861	<b>Battle of Carthage, MO</b> – Confederate victory halts Federal advance into southwest Missouri.
July 21, 1861	<b>Battle of First Manassas, VA.</b> – Confederates Army routs Federal Army in the first great battle of the war.
July 15, 1862	<b>Vicksburg, MS</b> – Confederate ironclad <i>Arkansas</i> attacks and badly damages three Federal vessels at Vicksburg.
July 1, 1863	<b>Gettysburg, PA</b> – On this date the Battle of Gettysburg begins.
July 2, 1863	<b>Gettysburg, PA</b> – Battle of Gettysburg continues with action at Little Round Top and Big Round Top, Devil's Den, the Wheatfield, the Peach Orchard, Cemetery Hill, and Culp's Hill.
July 3, 1863	<b>Gettysburg, PA</b> – The Battle of Gettysburg ends with the Pickett-Pettigrew charge.
July 9, 1864	<b>Battle of Monocacy, MD</b> – Lt. Gen. Jubal Early defeated Union forces under Maj. Gen. Lew Wallace. The battle was part of Early's raid through the Shenandoah Valley and into Maryland to divert forces from their siege of Petersburg, VA.
July 12, 1864	<b>Washington, DC</b> – Confederate Cavalry under Gen. Jubal Early made a demonstration against Ft. Stevens north of the city which was repulsed. President Lincoln watched the action and came under fire from Confederate sharpshooters.

**Next Camp Meeting  
Thursday, July 20, 2023  
6:00 PM**



**Seawell's Restaurant  
1125 Rosewood Drive  
Columbia, S.C. 29201  
Speaker  
Joe Long**

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

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