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Chris Drawdy, Editor

A FRATERNAL ORGANIZATION OF SOUTHERN MEN

DR. ROBERT L. DABNEY, TRUE CONFEDERATE HERO

By Rev. Bob Slimp

Dr. Robert R. Dabney was a true Confederate hero. Both during and after the war

Dr. Robert Lewis Dabney was Presbyterian Pastor at Tinkling Spring, Virginia and then became Professor of systematic theology at Union Theological Seminary in his native Virginia. As soon as Virginia entered the war, Dabney became Chaplain of the 18th Virginia Infantry Regiment, General Stonewall Jackson decided to make him his Chief of Staff in January, 1862 with rank of Major. He served with Jackson from then on through the Valley Campaign, the Seven Days Battles and through the Battle of Chancellorsville. Jackson's wife asked General Lee that Dabney officiate at the great Southern General's funeral. During the war, Dabney was a member of the Presbyterian Church in the Confederate States which he helped to found.

I am not going to tell y'all about an incident that took place in 1870 after he became moderator of the Presbyterian Church in the US which replaced the PCCS. In 1970, the leaders of the Presbyterian Church in the USA (the Northern Church) appealed for reunion. Dabney fought this attempt, but unfortunately a majority of the Southern churches wanted to see what the Yankees wanted to offer them. Dr. Green's records the following account of Dabney's role in the meeting. "Dr, Dabney, the Moderator, had called Dr. J. J. Bullock to take the chair, although Dabney was on the floor, he was not going to speak until he heard what the Yankees wanted. Many of the speeches he heard sickened him. "The adroit Yankees seemed *he says, to have cowed all our men by the insinuated threat that if they did not come in smoothly the whole Christian world would say it was because we were in the sulks at being whipped in a secular war, which would leave our church more clearly on a political basis than we charged theirs with being. So the tone of many of these speeches was that we had no right to consult any feelings, but must act upon the dry logic of the fact that both churches, though they have been killing each other for four years, professed to hold the same Confessions." The early speeches however, Dr. Palmer's excepted, did not represent the mind of the body, They were really waiting to be forced by a man in whose honesty all had the utmost confidence, The Assembly was waiting for Dabney. The night was wearing on. Some talked of adjournment. The alert Dr, H. K. Wilson shoved himself close to Dabney and whispered, "Dr. Dabney, you must speak. This debate is taking a fatal turn; these men are all entangling themselves on the wrong side." "No" whispered Dabney. I am Moderator and I don't want to be thought as intruding in this debate." Rev. Dr. Green said, "We have the right to hear from you and we are waiting for you to speak Dr." Green writes, "He was on his feet in a moment. He began in this way: Mr. Chairman, I feel as f I were talking to people across a river a mile wide. If you are pleased with such speeches as you have heard, it is useless for me to express my thoughts. I do not profess to be as good as some people; I hear brethren saying it is time to forgive them. What! Forgive these people, who have invaded our country, burned our cities, destroyed our homes, slain our young men, and spread desolation and ruin over our land! No, I do not forgive them. But you say, 'They have changed their feelings toward us, are kind.' And why should they not be kind? Have we ever done anything to make them feel unkind to us? Have we ever harmed or wronged them? They are amiable and peaceful, are they? And is not the gorged tiger amiable and peaceful? when he has filled himself with the calf he has devoured, he lies down in a kind good humor; but wait till he has digested his meal, and will he opt be fierce again? They have gorged



Robert Lewis Dabney

Let the stranger who may in future times read this inscription, recognize that there were men, whom power could not corrupt, whom death could not terrify, whom defeat could not dishonor, and let their virtues plead, for a just judgment of the course in which they perished. Let the South Carolinian of another generation remember that the state taught them how to live and how to die and that from her broken fortunes she has preserved for her children the priceless treasure of their memories teaching all who may claim the same birth rate that truth, courage, and patriotism endure forever. ~ Confederate Soldiers Monument, Columbia SC

This month, the Wade Hampton Camp was introduced to the Kelly Cemetery, a family cemetery located adjacent to Lake Katherine in Columbia's Forest Acres. The small cemetery has been well maintained by Mark Lynn, one of our newest compatriots. Mark invited the camp

to take part in dedicating a headstone for Pvt. Malcolm Marsh of Hampton's Legion. Pvt. Marsh is an ancestor of Camp Compatriot Wyman Looney. While in attendance, Mark gave our group a bit of the history of the Kelley Cemetery.

The two hundred year old cemetery contains approximately 300 graves of which roughly half are marked. The cemetery has a mid 20th century era brick wall that segregates the marked graves from the surrounding community, but many more family graves are unmarked beyond the wall and into neighboring yards. There are about a dozen confederate graves that are marked, but we learned of several unmarked from Mark's memories of family photos showing the iron crosses that once stood in the cemetery. The cemetery endured vandals in the 1960's that raided it of many markings of the confederate occupants. Some of the confederate headstones have been replaced by family members such as Mark, with several of original 19th century sandstone

markers remaining intact.

Being a part of the dedication of the headstone of Pvt Marsh is certainly one of the more fulfilling jobs as commander of the Camp, but it reminds me of the sadness of the large number of unmarked or unattended graves in existence. People that were a son, or father, or grandfather to someone in this world, but now another fatality to the erosion of time. We as Sons of Confederate Veterans have sworn as our duty, that our families will not be forgotten. However, we are not the majority. Modern day tools such as ancestry.com and footnotes.com make finding family members much easier than ever before. Still, it takes interest in family history to keep the ancestor from becoming lost. As terrible as the vandals that raided the Kelly Cemetery in the 1960s were, it is much more terrible that someone has been lost to the neglect of their family history.

I hope to see everyone at this month's meeting July 21st at 6pm at Seawells. ☾

WALTER W. LINDLER

CHAPLAIN'S WITNESS

Remembering our Fathers

June is a very special month to remember our ancestors who fought for us in the Civil War and the father that brought us into the world. I am reminded of a sermon the late Rev. Earl Loadholt wrote on June 18, 1978, Entitled "Prayer, Love and Hickory".

Since I was never gifted with a child I can only think back over my childhood and remember my Dad at this special time of year. He never became president or held a political office and never served in the military, except for a short time in the old C.C. Camp for a short period of time.

Like most fathers he wanted his children to have a better life and education than he had been able to afford. Born to a farmer in the early 1900's he grew up the hard way working on a farm. As a teenager he worked in a country gas station and made the best hotdog chili that you ever put in your mouth. In later years he married my mom and moved to Columbia to drive a bread truck for \$14.50 a week. On this salary he provided for my mom and in 1937 had their first child that he provided for in every way possible. Then in 1948 I was born.

Like most children I took for granted just how much my dad wanted the very best or at least better than he had. He and mom raised their vegetables, sold flowers to many of the florist around Columbia and even had my brother selling vegetables out of his little red wagon in the neighborhood. I was lucky I was too young then to have that luxury.

Like other parents mine wanted my brother and I to be raised knowing that God was and still is a very important part of our lives. I quickly learned that my dad ruled with a strict and fair hand. We didn't talk back and we knew to listen

when we were spoken to and we didn't interrupt when the adults were having a conversation.

As I grew older I realized just how lucky I was to have a dad like mine. The morals that he taught were strong indeed. I realized that the greatest gift I ever received from my dad was his unconditional love not only for my mom and brother, but for me as well.

I couldn't understand why he had to bring out his hickory stick or his belt when I had done something I knew was wrong, but he did. Today I know why. He wanted me to know right from wrong and to respect other people for whom they were.

I can only imagine what the children of our ancestors who were fighting in the Civil War were thinking on Father's Day and not being able to celebrate and show their love for them on that special day. I am sure that the children during that time were disciplined in the spirit of LOVE like me. Our fathers knew that if we were not disciplined in this spirit we were headed for trouble.

The bible was the most important book in our home and I can imagine in the homes of many of our Civil War soldiers as well. Devotions took place at bedtime after all the homework was finished and dad was sure I had learned all my spelling and multiplication tables. Wow did he ever drill me on these.

We never said goodnight and hugged one another until we had said together The Lord's Prayer. All the things I thought I needed as a child were really not important, but the love of my family and the directions that my dad and mom guided me were all that really counted because this was all I needed to understand that their love for me was very precious in every way.

I hope we all take the time to remember our dads this month and thank them for all the sacrifices that were made for us to have a better

life. If you are fortunate enough to still have your dad take time to visit, give him a hug and most of all tell him how much you love him. Then thank him for the times he used that hickory even though it hurt, but it was all for the love they had for us.

"Fathers are the biggest source of strength for a child. The innocent eyes of a child perceive father as the all-powerful, most knowledgeable, most truly affectionate and the most important person in the family. For daughters, fathers are the first men they adore and fall in love with. For sons their fathers are the strongest person they know and someone they aspire to emulate. Even as we are grown men fathers are someone whom we look up to for the most experienced and honest advice that is always in our best interest. For this great figure in our life that we know as father-it becomes our utmost duty to pay our humblest respects on the occasion of Father's Day."

On this day and every day I give big thanks to my dad for the adorable scolding and affectionate punishments. We all owe a big thanks to our Dads.

Fathers would never give a smallest hint to let us know how hard they worked to take care of our needs and fulfill even the smallest of our demands. This has reminded me of so many things. The greatest man I ever knew and I was fortunate enough to have in my life I call Dad. Father's day is June 19th

If your father is still living call or visit him on this day. If he has passed away, give thanks for all he has done for you. And say a prayer of thanksgiving.

"Loving God we give thanks for our dads for what they have taught us, sacrificed for us, provided for us and how they lead us on the right path throughout our lives."

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY DAD WITH THE GREATEST OF LOVE ☾

themselves with everything they could take from us. They have destroyed us. Why should they not be amiable and kind? Do you believe that the same old tiger nature is not in them? Just wrest from them anything they have taken from us, and see." Dr. Green continues: Dabney went on for an hour. I never heard such a philippic (which means any vicious verbal attack). I was frightened, but I believed every word he said, but I thought I had never encountered before such a terrible man." *the use of the word "terrible" by Dr. Green I takes for granted that it is in the old traditional sense of the word, "to speak with intense emotion to frighten the hearers; speaking to frighten." Terrible in the sense of ' God's terrible swift sword.' etc.

While I was writing the background at the beginning of this piece, I give all credit to Dr. John R. de Witt, a renowned theologian, seminary professor and immediate past pastor of First Presbyterian Church here in Columbia. He loves men like Dabney, Thornwell, Palmer, Furman and other Southern pastors of the Confederate War Era. I also give him credit for his interpretation of the word

"terrible". I wish to add that should the Southern Church have united with the Northern Church, it would have been outnumbered more than two to one. Just prior to the meeting mentioned above, the Northern Church through the Reconstruction had taken away Zion Church in Charleston; a Church started by Southern churches slaves and free blacks and handed on a silver platter to the Northern Presbyterians. At the time, the church pastors were white, and all had seen service in the war. They still wanted to proclaim the Gospel of Christ to the blacks. As you might suspect, where there had been good will between the blacks and white Christians, but Yankees managed to change what had worked even during the war to serious tension and ill will between the races. This is exactly why the Northern Church wanted to unite with the defeated Southerners. Robert L. Dabney is a truly great Southerner. Stonewall Jackson saw something in this man to use this Chaplain as a line officer and his Chief of Staff. Dr. Dabney's refusal to compromise with the Yankees, who

wanted the Southern Church to join them so that they could dominate them in the future, was such a "philippic" as Dr. Green reported, that he ended the matter right then and there. He frightened them so completely by shouting at them what they were like and what they wanted that he won the day and prevented any more discussion of the Southern Church joining the Yankee Church.

We are sometimes faced with the same types of appeals by our Northern antagonists; we need to follow the courage of good old Dr. Robert Dabney, Stonewall Jackson's chosen Chief of Staff. Only by standing in the same "frightening" way to those who would try to sweet talk us out of all of our Southern symbols, history and culture will we be able to defeat them. We must have the character of Dabney to do what is right, but by following his example we can win the battle now being waged against us, and this includes the spiritual and well as the secular battles.

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ADJUTANT'S REPORT

CARL POTTER

Compatriots:

I have asked for and been granted consent of the Executive Council on a new project. We are honoring our Ancestors beginning this year and for the next 4 years with the Sesquicentennial Celebration events across the country. This is a Historical event that I am proud to be a part of. However, I believe that we should also recognize our soldiers and brothers in arms that are here among us. To my knowledge no one here at the Wade Hampton Camp has taken the opportunity to honor the men that has served our country that are standing in the ranks among us. It is time that we do. The Sons Of Confederate Veterans has authorized a War Service Medal for this purpose. The eligibility dates for the War Service Medal are the dates determined by the American Legion which are: (World War I) April 6, 1917 to November 11, 1918; (World War II)

December 7, 1941 to December 31, 1946 (Korean War) June 25, 1950 to January 31, 1955; (Vietnam War) Jan 1, 1961 to May 7, 1975; (Lebanon/Grenada) August 24, 1982 to July 31, 1984; (Operation Just Cause - Panama) December 20, 1989 to January 31, 1990; (Operation Desert Shield/Storm) August 2, 1990 to Nov 30, 1995; (Operation Iraqi Freedom and Afghanistan) - Sept. 11, 2001 to present; (Cessation not yet defined). All dates are inclusive. What I need from each person that is eligible is a copy of your DD-214 showing that you were honorably discharged from service following at least one of the above dates. Please **bring it to me at the June or July** meeting if you wish to be included in this ceremony. **DO NOT BRING ME YOUR ORIGINAL DD-214** I have no way of safe guarding it, please bring me a

copy of the original. I must send this off to National Headquarters along with a lengthy form. So be prepared to answer some questions or you can go to the National website under forms. Go to the bottom of the page, it is the last form, fill it out and bring it with you to the meeting. I will send them all in together as one to National. I will be asking National Commander Givens and State Commander Simpson to present the Medals as soon as we can get everything arranged. This will be a one-time event for our current membership. **Make certain that your dues are current.** If you have previously been awarded this Medal, please let me know this as well. Hopefully, in the future each new member will be asked if he served and also presented with the Medal if appropriate. ☪

Important Dates in The Second American Revolution.

Jul. 13, 1821:	Birthday of General Nathan Bedford Forrest (1821-1877)
Jul. 05, 1861:	Battle of Carthage, MO. Confederate victory halts Federal advance into southwest MO.
Jul. 10, 1861:	Confederate government signs treaty with Creek Indians.
Jul. 10, 1861:	Federal siege of Battery Wagner in Charleston Harbor begins.
Jul. 18, 1861:	Heavy skirmishing along Bull Run.
Jul. 21, 1861:	Battle of First Manassas, VA. Confederates rout Federal Army in the first great battle of the war.
Jul. 15, 1862:	Confederate ironclad <i>Arkansas</i> attacks and badly damages three Federal vessels at Vicksburg.
Jul. 1, 1863:	Battle of Gettysburg, PA begins
Jul. 02, 1863:	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.
Jul. 03, 1863:	Battle of Gettysburg ends with the Pickett-Pettigrew charge.
Jul. 04, 1863:	Vicksburg surrendered to Federals. Confederate victory at Sewanee, TN.
Jul. 13, 1863:	Draft riots in New York City in response to the Federal Conscription Act.
Jul. 9, 1864:	Battle of Monocacy, MD. Advance on Washington, Jubal Early's infantry reach Fredericksburg and rout the Union defenders.
Jul. 12, 1864:	Confederate Cavalry under Gen. Jubal Early invade the suburbs of Washington, DC.
Jul. 24, 1864:	Second Battle of Kernstown, VA. Confederates inflict heavy losses.
Jul. 30, 1864:	Battle of the Crater, Petersburg, VA.

July Camp Meeting
THURSDAY, JULY 21ST
6 O'CLOCK P.M.



SEAWELL'S
RESTAURANT
1125 Rosewood Drive
Columbia, SC

SPEAKER
Gene Hogan,
ANV Councilman



WWW.WADEHAMPTONCAMP.ORG



Wagener, SC 29164

PO Box 70

C/O Adjutant Carl Potter
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