



THE LEGIONARY

AUGUST, 2020

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

BILLY PITTMAN

Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton camp August 20 meeting is cancelled. Polling results of members who would attend indicates only a handful of camp members would attend.

Compatriots, like last month, whether we have an August meeting is up in the air at this point. Today, Adjutant Charlie Bray sent an email to see if we would have enough people attending to justify the cost of a meeting. My Dad has always told me not to wish my life away, it will go by fast enough. So true, but I do wish good riddance to 2020. This has been a tough year for everyone, and we have to deal with the cards dealt to us.

General Robert E. Lee once said, "The consolidation of the states into one vast empire, sure to be aggressive abroad and despotic at home, will be the certain precursor of ruin which has overwhelmed all that preceded it". After 1865 and the destruction of Jeffersonian America, this Lincolnian nation has predictably and by design become beholden to a handful of Washington DC elitists who are permanently joined at the hip with anyone willing to serve them a dollar and by the way, I include both parties in my opinion. Term limits sure would be great, wouldn't they? Our national debt has soared at a geometric rate, we have saddled our young with foreign debt that can never be satisfied, and we do regrettably, poke our nose in every nation's business (aggressive abroad), also contradictory to George Washington's advice. Many people, mostly the young not necessarily those north of 50, think that 1776 was a long time ago. It really wasn't. Sorry to tell them, but this is a still a very young nation and unfortunately, it may be more divided than ever. It's young enough that everyone in this country should have a detailed handle on our brief history, but finding that kind of knowledge in a young person is a rarity. No, these new crops are only good at parroting the diatribe spoon-fed to them in schools by the previously undereducated lot. It therefore gets progressively worse with each generation. Many nations with more than 500 years of existence have preceded the US. This country is still in many ways wet behind the ears.

Even though I have turned the news off, deleted Facebook (best thing I ever did and I highly recommend it) and avoid social media like the plague it is, I occasionally watch you tube news videos and it's clear that this country is at another political path or crossroad that might make prior disagreements look like a warm-up. The wide acceptance of socialism and mob rule that we've seen take over entire cities, a direct contradiction to the founding principles, rule of law and belief in individual rights, is a huge problem. Without actionable secession and nullification rights, the states and the people who live there only have voting as a weapon. The second amendment is there as well if all else fails because our founders who were very smart guys happened to consider every angle. For years, many have said that only the police should have guns. Well, how is that working out for those in areas where the government and police have abandoned the populace? Yet, these same lawless politicians still stand there today and argue to take guns from the law-abiding, yet again hamstringing the innocent and making them vulnerable to the mob. There are still real Americans who will choose to live free.

Some of those politicians who took an oath to protect the constitution and are supposed to stand up for the rule of law are physically out there on the streets participating in the vandalism shoulder to shoulder with some

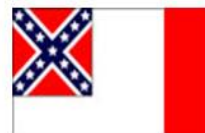
of the worst our country has to offer. Police and civilians with their own opinions are being attacked, maimed, blinded, killed and police departments are being disbanded leaving those in their cities defenseless, so crime rules the day. “*Cruel and oppressive government or rule*” is the definition of tyranny. I would argue that many of the cities in the country are being run by full-fledged tyrants. They are not doing their job. One in particular, not surprisingly from the ultimate elitist hub in the northeast, described his unlawful actions as justified because they “transcended normal realities”. What that means is there are no rules or laws that apply to his supposed morally “superior” side, but there are most certainly rules for the other side. He is the very definition of a tyrant. Ask yourself what the founders would have thought of an elected official who believes his actions “transcend normal realities”, therefore it’s perfectly fine to break the law, but he’ll gladly jail you for doing far less.

General Lee, a man with enduring wisdom and worthy of every monument he’s ever been on, aptly said, “I cannot trust a man to control others who cannot control himself”. There’s a lot of that going on. We have a nation now where the most ignorant, hateful, disrespectful, non-productive and violent people are making the rules in conjunction with half the political representation in this country, who are too spineless to call out their own culprits. The other side of the political coin has also abandoned their responsibility to vigorously stand up for the voters who put them there. They have been extremely disappointing as a whole and I argue they made a conscious choice to fully abandoned conservative, Christian southerners who value their heritage. Instead of burning and looting cities, desecrating cemeteries and tearing down monuments maybe some of these people should read a book (not a northeastern version) about the people they are tearing down. They could learn something from General Lee. Suffice it to say that this country needs a moral and spiritual course correction. We need to turn back to God, the core belief in the individual not the collective, our original founding principles and the love of freedom because it was and remains the right path.

I’ll leave you with this letter below because it can’t be said any better. It’s very prophetic and proves that our southern soldiers knew exactly what they were fighting for. It was a newspaper editorial sent in by 82 year old Jefferson Smith from Charlottesville, VA. It highlighted a letter that his grandfather, a Confederate soldier from NC who served under General J. Johnston Pettigrew, sent to his wife a couple of weeks prior to the Battle of Gettysburg, where he would lose his life defending his state and country.

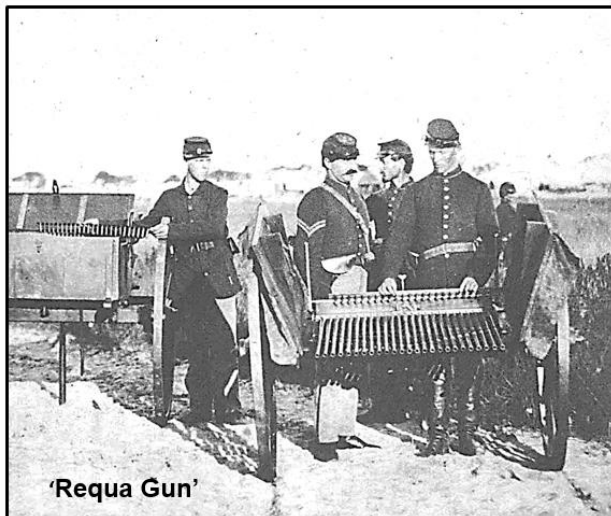
“My lovely wife. I do miss you, and the life we have there on the small plot of land God has given us. More and more, it seems that my thoughts are drifting back there to reside with you. Yet, as badly as I desire to be back home, it is for home for which I deem it best for my presence here with these other men. The proclamation by the Lincoln administration six months prior may appear noble. Were I here in these conditions, simply to keep another man in bondage, I would most certainly walk away into the night, and return unto you. God knows my heart, and the hearts of others here amongst me. We know what is at stake here, and the true reason for this contest that requires the spilling of blood of fellow citizens. Our collective fear is nearly universal. This war, if it is lost, will see ripples carry forward for five, six, seven or more generations. I scruple not to believe, as do others, that the very nature of this country will be forever dispirited. That one day, our great-great grandchildren will be bridled with a federal bit, that will deem how and if they may apply the gospel of Christ to themselves, their families and their communities. Whether or not the land of their forefathers may be deceitfully taken from them through taxation and coercion. A day where only the interests of the northern wealthy will be shouldered by the broken and destitute bodies of the southern poor. This my darling wife, is what keeps me here in this arena of destruction and death.”

Stay well and *keep the faith* during these hard times. General Lee certainly did, and we should emulate his example. God knows everything we are dealing with, including the injustices inflicted upon the memories of our ancestors, and He will vindicate. He is always with us and He knows our hearts as well, just like He knew the heart of that Confederate soldier from NC who wrote that letter and selflessly died at Gettysburg **for us**. Carry on.



~ Events of August ~

This Month (August), in 1863, saw a desperate struggle between the defenders of Fort Wagner and the besieging union forces on Morris Island, Charleston SC.

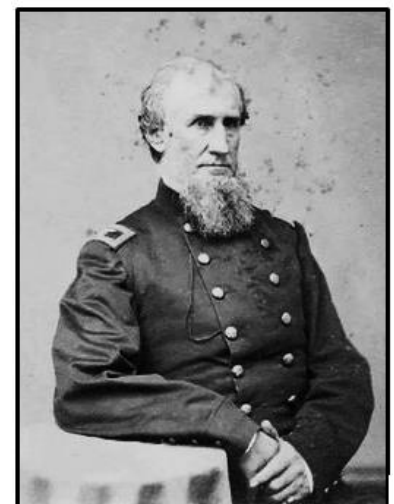


In the days immediately following the second battle of Fort Wagner, Union forces besieged the Confederate works on Morris Island with an array of military novelties. Union gunners made use of a new piece of artillery known as the 'Requa gun' a weapon having 25 rifle barrels mounted on a field carriage. While sappers dug zig-zag trenches toward Fort Wagner a second novelty was used, the calcium floodlight. Bright lights were flashed upon the defenders, blinding them enough to decrease accurate return fire while the Union gunners fired safely from behind the lights.

The Confederate defenders also had advantages. The ground the Union sappers were digging through was shallow sand with a muddy base. The trenching efforts

also began to accidentally uncover Union dead from the previous assaults on Fort Wagner. Disease and bad water plagued soldiers on both sides.

The Union army maintained a constant rotation of soldiers to man the forward trenches of the "grand guard". During the evening of August, the 16th a Confederate artillery shell burst through the bombproof shelter serving as the headquarters for Colonel Joshua B. Howell, commanding officer of the grand guard that evening. A shell fragment struck Colonel Howell, wounding him severely in the head. Despite Howell's quick recovery, the incident prompted the Union commander to exclusively use veteran troops in the forward trenches. Confederates also kept a constant rotation of soldiers through Fort Wagner and Battery Gregg. During the night, rowboats would bring fresh troops from the mainland to replace the garrison. Even though they had won a substantial victory at Fort Wagner, the Confederates fully expected the campaign to continue.



**Union Colonel
Joshua B. Howell**

Martin Luther, writing during the Bubonic Plague of the 1500's (Luther's Works Vol 43 Page 132)

This perfect response to a global pandemic was penned almost 500 years ago when Martin Luther was dealing with The Black Death Plague, he wrote these wise words that can help inform the way we approach things happening in our world right now.

"I shall ask Gad mercifully to protect us. Then I will fumigate, purify the air, administer medicine, and take medicine. I shall avoid places and persons where my presence is not needed in order to not become contaminated, and thus perchance inflict and pollute others, and so cause their death as a result of my negligence. If God should wish to take me, he will surely find me. But I have done what he has expected of me, and so I am not responsible for either my own death or the death of others. If my neighbor needs me, however, I shall not avoid place or person, but will go freely. This is a God-fearing faith because it is neither brash nor foolhardy and does not tempt God."

Almighty God, we come to You with our concern for our family members, friends, co-workers and those people unknown to us. We pray for those who are more likely than others to become severely ill from COVID-19, the elderly and people with chronic health conditions. Protect them from harm and be their comfort in this time of uncertainty and, for many, preventive isolation from loved ones.



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 is still valid.

Event	Date	Contact / Web Site
Hampton Redshirts	Sept. 1, 2020	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	Sept. 2, 2020	Meets 7:00 PM 1st Wednesday of the Month – Hawg Heaven – Hwy. 76, Prosperity, SC
Palmetto Camp 22	Sept. 3, 2020	Meets 6:30 PM 1st Thursday of the Month – Cayce Museum, 1800 12 th Street, Cayce, SC
SC 17 th Regiment Camp 2069	Aug. 17, 2020	Meets 7:00PM Third Monday of the Month – 6822 Barnwell Rd. Hilda, SC
15 th Regt. S.C. Volunteers Camp 51	Aug. 25, 2020	Meets 6:30 PM Last Tuesday of the Month – Lizards Thicket – 4616 Augusta Rd. Lexington, SC
Gen. Paul Quattlebaum Camp 412	Aug. 25, 2020	Meets 7:00 PM Last Tuesday of the Month – Shealy's BBQ – 340 East Columbia Ave., Batesburg-Leesville, SC



ADJUTANT'S DESK

CHARLIE BRAY

Based on responses I have already received from camp members; membership renewals have been coming in at a good rate but have recently slowed. As of July 10, dues have been paid by 81% of camp members and leaves 26 non-renewed. I would love to see everyone paid by August 31. Headquarters provides a grace period extending to August 31 to pay your dues without penalty. Dues paid after August 31 will incur a \$5.00 late fee from SCV Headquarters. I encourage each member whose dues are still outstanding to submit them as soon as possible. Should you have any questions 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, 2020 to July 31, 2021

Renewing Members:

National \$35.00

SC Division \$10.00

WHC-273 \$15.00

Combined Total Dues: **\$60.00**

Today, August 10 I have mailed "ALL" renewal packages to those members who have renewed their membership.

Quote: Robert Lewis Dabney

"I predict that the time will come in this once free America when the battle for religious liberty will have to be fought over again, and will probably be lost, because the people are already ignorant of its true basis and conditions."

Explosion at City Point: August 9, 1864

August 9, 1864: Explosion of Supply Barge *J. E. Kendrick* at City Point, Va.

At 11:40 A. M. A.M. on August 9, 1864, one hundred and fifty years ago today, a massive explosion rocked Ulysses S. Grant's headquarters and the main Union supply base for the Siege of Petersburg at City Point (modern day Hopewell), Virginia. Ulysses S. Grant had a communication out to Washington, D. C. only five minutes later¹:

Five minutes ago an ordnance boat exploded, carrying lumber, grape, canister, and all kinds of shot over this point. Every part of the yard used as my headquarters is tilled with splinters and fragments of shell. I do not know yet what the casualties are beyond my own headquarters. Colonel Babcock is slightly wounded in hand and 1 mounted orderly is killed and 2 or 3 wounded and several horses killed. The damage at the wharf must be considerable both in life and property. As soon as the smoke clears away, I will ascertain and telegraph you.

Chief Quartermaster Rufus Ingalls had the following response for Chief of Staff Andrew A. Humphreys, who asked whether or not the explosion had occurred at City Point, and if so, wondered what it was²:

A barge laden with ordnance stores was accidentally blown up just now while lying at the wharf. There has been considerable destruction of property and loss of life. No officers were killed. The shock was terrific, and of course unlooked for. It is probable we shall never know how the accident occurred. One of your office wagon horses was killed. We are clearing away the ruins at the river.

It was just as the Confederate saboteur, John Maxwell, had hoped. Maxwell had left Richmond on July 26, accompanied by a guide, R. K. Dillard. His mission was to take a the "horological torpedo" (i.e. a time bomb) he had invented and use it against Union shipping on the James River. Maxwell and Dillard ended up in City Point on the morning of August 9 via Norfolk, where they had learned of the massive number of supply vessels gathered near Grant's headquarters. Dillard remained behind while Maxwell found an opportunistic target in the form of the supply barge *J. E. Kendrick*. The ship's captain was absent, and the barge was packed full of ammunition. Maxwell convinced a sentry to have someone bring "the package", his bomb, aboard. Before he handed it over, he activated the bomb, and retired to a bluff with Dillard to observe what effect, if any, his bomb would have. As you've read above, the effect was spectacular. The explosion completely obliterated the *Kendrick*, another barge, and a building on the wharf.

Maxwell's full report on the operation is as follows³:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that in obedience to your order, and with the means and equipment furnished me by you, I left this city 26th of July last, for the line of the James River, to operate with the Horological torpedo against the enemy's vessels navigating that river. I had with me Mr. R. K. Dillard, who was well acquainted with the localities, and whose services I engaged for the expedition. On arriving in Isle of Wight



County, on the 2nd of August, we learned of immense supplies of stores being landed at City Point, and for the purpose, by stratagem, of introducing our machine upon the vessels there discharging stores, started for that point. We reached there before daybreak on the 9th of August last, with a small amount of provisions, having traveled mostly by night and crawled upon our knees to pass the east picket-line. Requesting my companion to remain behind about half a mile I approached cautiously the wharf, with my machine and powder covered by a small box. Finding the captain had come ashore from a barge then at the wharf, I seized the occasion to hurry forward with my box. Being halted by one of the wharf sentinels I succeeded in passing him by representing that the captain had ordered me to convey the box on board. Hailing a man from the barge I put the machine in motion and gave it in his charge. He carried it aboard. The magazine contained about twelve pounds of powder. Rejoining my companion, we retired to a safe distance to witness the effect of our effort. In about an hour the explosion occurred. Its effect was communicated to another barge beyond the one operated upon and also to a large wharf building containing their stores (enemy's), which was totally destroyed. The scene was terrific, and the effect deafened my companion to an extent from which he has not recovered. My own person was severely shocked, but I am thankful to Providence that we have both escaped without lasting injury. We obtained and refer you to the enclosed slips from the enemy's newspapers, which afford their testimony of the terrible effects of this blow. The enemy estimates the loss of life at 58 killed and 126 wounded, but we have reason to believe it greatly exceeded that. The pecuniary damage we heard estimated at \$4,000,000, but, of course, we can give you no account of the extent of it exactly.

I may be permitted, captain, here to remark that in the enemy's statement a party of ladies, it seems, were killed by this explosion. It is saddening to me to realize the fact that the terrible effects of war induce such consequence; but when I remember the ordeal to which our own women have been subjected, and the barbarities of the enemy's crusade against us and them, my feelings are relieved by the reflection that while this catastrophe was not intended by us, it amounts only, in the providence of God, to just retaliation.

This being accomplished, we returned to the objects of our original expedition. We learned that a vessel (the Jane Duffield) was in Warwick River, and with the assistance of Acting Master W. H. Hinds, of the C. S. Navy, joined a volunteer party to capture her. She was boarded on the 17th of September last, and taken without resistance. We did not destroy her, because of the effect it might have had on the neighboring citizens and our own further operations. At the instance of the captain she was bonded, he offering as a hostage, in the nature of security to the bond, one of his crew, who is now held as a prisoner of war on this condition in this city.

In the meanwhile, we operated on the James as the weather and moon co-operated, but without other success than the fear with which the enemy advanced, and the consequent retarding of his movements on the river. We neared success on several occasions. Finding our plan of operations discovered by the enemy, and our persons made known and pursued by troops landed from their boats at Smithfield, we deemed it best to suspend operations in that quarter and return to report to you officially our labors. Your orders were to remain in the enemy's lines as long as we could do so; but I trust this conduct will meet your approval. The material unused has been safely concealed.

I have thus, captain, presented you in detail the operations conducted under your orders and the auspices of your company, and await further orders. Very respectfully, your obedient servant, JOHN MAXWELL.

Although Maxwell's report wasn't discovered until after the war, the explosion did cause changes at City Point. The ordnance depot was moved away from the river and was more heavily guarded. City Point was back up and running as if nothing had happened barely over a week later. Like the Crater explosion and the Confederate mine explosion in the previous week, this explosion was spectacular in its visual and auditory effects, but ultimately had very little impact on the Siege of Petersburg.

The CHARGE

To you, **SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS**, we will commit 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 which he loved and which you love also, and those ideals which made him glorious and which you also cherish.



Lt. Gen. Stephen Dill Lee, Commander General
United Confederate Veterans,
New Orleans, Louisiana, 1906



Important Dates in Lincoln's War to Prevent Southern Independence

- Aug. 5, 1861 **Washington, DC** – On this date President Lincoln imposes the first federal income tax by signing the “Revenue Act” with which to pursue the WBTS. Lincoln and Congress agreed to impose a 3% tax on annual incomes over \$800.00.
- Aug. 23, 1861 **Potomac Creek, VA** – On this date two Union steamer ships, USS Yankee and USS Release, engaged the Confederate batteries at the mouth of the Potomac Creek. The batteries were commanded by Col. R.M. Cary. After a short time, the ships withdrew from the area.
- Aug. 12, 1862 **Galatin, TN** – Col. John H. Morgan and his raiders swept into Galatin, TN and captured the Union garrison. They burned down the railroad depot and destroyed some trestles. Gen. Morgan then had his men load a captured union supply train with hay drive it into a nearby tunnel and set it on fire. The resulting fire burned the tunnel timbers and the tunnel caved in shutting the railroad down for months.
- Aug. 23, 1863 **Rappahannock River, VA** – On this date a Confederate force was at the mouth of the Rappahannock River. They spotted a couple of ships coming their way. The ships were the Union gunboats USS Satellite and USS Reliance. The Confederates managed to attack and capture the gunboats in a short time.
- Aug. 1, 1864 **Allegany County, MD** – After burning Chambersburg, PA, on July 30, Johnson's and McCausland's cavalry brigades rode towards Cumberland, MD, to disrupt the B&O Railroad. Brig. Gen. Benjamin Kelly organized a small force of soldiers and citizens to meet the Confederate advance.
- On August 1, Kelly ambushed Confederate cavalry near Cumberland at Folck's Mill. Skirmishing continued for several hours. Eventually the Confederates withdrew.

**DUE TO COVID-19
WE WILL NOT
MEET IN AUGUST**



**SEAWELL'S
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C/O Adjutant Charles D. Bray III

A Non-Profit Organization

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