



THE LEGIONARY

OCTOBER 2014

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

IMPORTANT

The Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton Camp's October meeting date has been changed to Thursday, October 30. There is no change in start time and location. We look forward to seeing you at

Record of Privation in Prison _____ CV-October_1893

Johnson's Island, located in Sandusky Bay, Lake Erie, served as a Prisoner of War depot for Confederate Officers from April, 1862 through September, 1865. During that period, over 10,000 Southern officers were imprisoned on the island. Colonel Benjamin W. Johnson, commander of the 15th Arkansas Infantry Regiment at Port Hudson, was there from September, 1863 until March, 1865. He wrote the following account of the conditions at Johnson's Island for Confederate Veteran magazine.



Sketch of Johnson Island Confederate Prison.



Johnson's Island Confederate Cemetery



Colonel Benjamin W. Johnson

A friend of mine calls attention to an article, either by some Northern writer or some apostate from the South, pretending to give a true account of

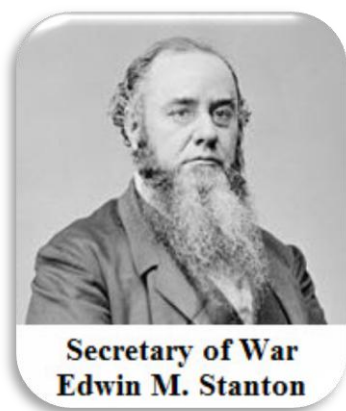
prison life at Johnson's Island during our civil war; and I must say that he either was never on the island during the years 1864 and 1865, or has joined the great army of Mulhatton. I was the colonel of the Fifteenth Arkansas Regiment of Infantry, and on July 9, 1863, was surrendered at Port Hudson, La. From there I was taken to New Orleans, and confined for a time in the Custom House. After that I was transported to Governor's Island, N. Y. Thence I was transferred to Johnson's Island in the fall of 1863. All prisoners were treated well at both of these former places, and there was no complaint, and could not have been any. When I reached Johnson's Island the prison was not crowded, and the rations

were good in quality and sufficient in quantity. In addition to this there was inside of the prison a good sutler's establishment, where we could buy any article that we wished, except liquor - that is, had we the wherewith to purchase.

In the winter of 1863-64 each prisoner was furnished with two so-called blankets, but if any sheep ever furnished any wool that entered into the make-up of those blankets, he must have been of a hairy description, as they were made shoddy and no wool in them. Each prisoner, when he entered that prison, was furnished with two of such blankets, and never received any more. The bedding in the bunks consisted of about as much wheat straw

as would give an ordinary cow a scant meal. Neither the straw nor blankets were ever changed while I was there.

This prison consisted of thirteen buildings, one of which was reserved for a hospital and the others for living quarters, and when fully occupied would accommodate about fifteen hundred men. They were two-story frame box houses, and with no wood at night and with the temperature down at one time to twenty-seven degrees below zero it kept the boys quite lively to keep from freezing. In the summer of 1864 the sutler shop was moved out, and rations, which up to that time had been abundant, began to grow short. Complaint was made to the commandant of the prison, who, by the way, was quite a gentleman, and the reply we received was that he was "simply obeying orders from headquarters," which, we supposed, was, the War Department, presided over at that time by Mr. Edwin M. Stanton. The rations continue to grow short until it began to look like starvation.



**Secretary of War
Edwin M. Stanton**

In the fall of that year we were introduced to a new kind of ration, called white fish. This salted fish was about as palatable and juicy as smoked codfish. I suppose that there were hundreds who had never heard of or seen a white fish, much less eaten one; but even the fish was issued only in half rations. The excuse for this was that bacon was high and fish cheap. Each block in this prison had a chief of the mess who drew the rations for his block, and each room had its chief under him. When rations got down so short every man gathered around his mess chief to see that he got his share of the grub. The long fellow got as much as the short one, the fat fellow as much as the lean one and the hungry ones got just the same. It was certainly equality. I have seen men draw their rations, look at the pile, and remark that they could eat five times that day's rations, and they could have done so. Here was equality. The general didn't get any more than the lieutenant. There was no excuse for such meanness, and many died from diseases brought on from the want of sufficient food.

At the time this reduction in rations took place I suppose that the prison had the largest and happiest army of rats on the face of the earth. Great, big, fat fellows, who had been rolling in luxury on crusts and bones. But soon they began to disappear. They never deserted, nor were they ever paroled, but they never regained their liberty. The boys said they ate fine; I can't say it. But this was not the worst of our troubles. That prison, like a street car, seemed never to get full. When I reached there I think about fifteen

hundred were in prison.

They continued to come, and when I left, except those who went out in boxes to the graveyard, there were about twenty-seven hundred men in the prison. There was one of these buildings, Block No. 13, known as the "boar's nest." When a prisoner could not get a place in any of the other blocks, he had to betake himself to the "boar's nest," which building consisted, as I recollect, of four rooms about fifty feet long and twenty feet wide; and when I left there, in March of 1865, there were not less than twenty-seven hundred and fifty in this prison and not less than three hundred and fifty in this "boar's nest," which was a living, sweltering, stifling lot of humanity. They had to cook, eat, and sleep in that building. In the winter of 1864-65 smallpox broke out in this building. There were no pest houses inside of this prison, and when we asked that these smallpox patients be taken elsewhere, we were informed that we could take care of them ourselves, as there was no pest house on the island. This is one time that Providence seemed to have smiled on the unfortunate, for, according to my recollection, only about ten or twelve were affected with the disease, and only two or three died. I have interrogated others, whom I left there, as I said before, in March, 1865, and they all tell me that the conditions in that prison never changed for the better. I hope never again to see that miserable place. The black hole of Calcutta possibly was worse, but Andersonville could not have been as bad.



COL. ISAIAH G. W. STEEDMAN

CITADEL ARCHIVES



Colonel Isaiah George Washington Steedman was the commander of the northern portion of the river batteries at Port Hudson, and on May 22, 1863, was given command of the entire left wing of the Confederate defensive forces, which included Fort Desperate.

Born in South Carolina, Steedman moved to Alabama and became a physician. He volunteered for military service as soon as Alabama seceded, and became Colonel of the 1st Alabama Infantry Regiment in February, 1862. Steedman and most of this regiment was captured at Island No. 10, and after being released in September, 1862, Steedman and the unit were sent to Port Hudson, arriving on October 4, 1862.

After the surrender of Port Hudson on July 9, 1863, Col. Steedman and the rest of the officers were sent to New Orleans. Steedman and others were sent on to Governor's Island, New York by sea, and thence to Johnson's Island, Ohio, where he was held until the spring of 1865. While there he was in charge of the prison hospital. At the close of the war, he was paroled and returned to Alabama where he began practicing medicine. He moved to St. Louis in 1866 and practiced there as a physician until retiring in 1880. He died on May 15, 1917 and is buried at the Bellefontaine Cemetery in St. Louis, MO.



COMMANDERS CORNER

TERRY M. HUGHEY

For those who attended our September Camp Meeting you witnessed a most rousing presentation on the *Battle for Franklin* by Dr. Terry Rude. It was a presentation skillfully displayed and exquisitely presented and is without a doubt the best I have been privileged to see since joining the SCV. Dr. Rude's presentation on the *Battle for Franklin*, along with his superb oratorical skills, was most interesting,

Informative and instilled an even greater pride in our southern heritage and especially in the Confederate soldier's honor, courage, commitment, sacrifice and heroic efforts we can only hope we can emulate and ensure we pass along to the next generation; that is our *Cause*.

I hope to see you at our October Camp meeting on the 30th. Mr. Allen Roberson, the Director of the SC

Confederate Relic Room and Military Museum will be our guest speaker.

The topic of Mr. Roberson's talk will be the Saluda Guard's Banner preservation efforts, along with the Museum's flag preservation program. Our Camp's efforts to preserve these symbols of our heritage, along with your Camp Meeting attendance help in our efforts to meet the challenges we face in today's society and fulfill our pledge to our *Cause*.



Speaker Bio



Mr. Robinson was born and raised in Belton, SC. Mr. Roberson attended Clemson University, but graduated from the University of South Carolina with a BA degree in English and History. He earned a graduate degree from USC in Museum Administration and also is a 2001 graduate of the SC Executive Institute.

Mr. Roberson began his career at McKissick Museum and he worked for the SC Department of Archives and History. Mr. Roberson also worked as a Registrar and later as Collections Curator at the US Marine Corps Museum at Paris Inland. Mr. Roberson was hired in 1998 by the SC Budget and Control Board to restructure, revitalize and relocate the SC Confederate Relic Room and Military Museum; now located in the Columbia Mills Building on Gervais Street.



CHAPLAINS WITNESS

WALTER LINDLER

WHERE GOD WANTS US

"AND THERE WILL BE NO MORE NIGHT: THEY NEED NO LIGHT OF LAMP OR SUN, FOR THE LORD GOD WILL BE THEIR LIGHT" REVELATIONS CHAPTER 22 VERSE 5

THE FIRST CHAPTER OF THE BIBLE BEGAN WITH DARKNESS THAT COVERED THE EARTH. GOD'S FIRST ACT WAS TO CREATE LIGHT. THE NEXT CHAPTER DESCRIBES GOD'S CREATION OF ADAM AND EVE WHOM GOD PLACED IN THE GARDEN OF EDEN WITH THE TREE OF LIFE AS ITS CENTER. ADAM AND EVE LIVED A PERFECT LIFE IN THE CLOSE FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD---UNTIL SIN ENTERED AND THEY WERE EXPELLED FROM THE GARDEN.

THE LAST CHAPTER OF THE BIBLE REVEALED THAT ONE DAY GOD WILL RESTORE PARADISE. INSTEAD OF A GARDEN, PARADISE IS DESCRIBED AS A BEAUTIFUL CITY, THE NEW JERUSALEM. THE TREE OF LIFE REAPPEARED, STRADDLING THE RIVER OF LIFE, AND ITS LEAVES WILL HEAL THE NATIONS.

AS ON THE FIRST DAY OF CREATION, LIGHT WILL COME SOLELY FROM THE GLORY OF GOD. THERE WILL BE NO DARKNESS---NO EVIL---IN THE CITY.

CONSIDERING THE LIGHT OF THIS HEAVENLY CITY CAN HELP US AS WE LIVE WITH DARKNESS---BOTH LUTERAL--AND SPIRITUAL--ON EARTH. THE LIGHT OF CHRIST LIVING IN US, CAN GIVE US CONFIDENCE TO FACE DARKNESS WITH COURAGE AND PERSEVERANCE.

OUR LIGHT SHALL OVERCOME ALL OUR DARKNESS AND WE SHALL CONTINUE KNOWING THAT OUR LORD GOD, JESUS CHRIST IS IN TOTAL CONTROL IF WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE IN HIM. DOING SO WE WILL HAVE ETERNAL LIFE.

*"LIGHT OF THE WORLD, ILLUMINE THE DARKNESS AND EMPOWER ME TO PERSEVERE UNTIL THE END" AMEN
ANSWER OUR PRAYERS OH LORD AS WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE MOANING AND THOSE WHO ARE DISTRESSED AND IN NEED OF GOD'S HEALING ARMS.*

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.

Bill and Anita Calliham

Mark Lynn

Bill Smyth's wife Ann

Bill Chisholm

Rusty James nephew of Scott James

Robert Spigner

Jesse Folk





Adjutant's Desk

CHARLIE BRAY

I am proud to report that we have received **87%** of our membership's renewals for a total of 141 members. Additionally we had 5 new members join our ranks since the July camp meeting and it appears we will have 1 more new member inducted during the October 30th meeting. I encourage those of you who have not sent in your dues to please do so as soon as possible.

If you have questions regarding dues please contact me as shown below.

Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton Camp 273

507 Sail Point Way

Columbia, SC 29212-8711

Home TN: 803-749-1042

Cell TN: 803-414-6808

E-Mail: cdbiii@bellsouth.net

I am pleased to announce that once again we will not be raising our dues.

What is the makeup of your dues?

New Members: \$65.00

- National \$40.00 (includes \$5.00 recording fee and \$5.00 SCV pin)
- Division \$10.00
- Camp \$15.00

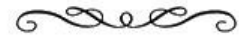
Renewing Members: \$55.00

- National \$30.00
\$35.00 after November 1, 2014
- Division \$10.00
\$15.00 after August 1, 2014
- Camp \$15.00

Reinstating Members: \$65.00

- National \$35.00 (includes \$5.00 reinstate fee)
- Division \$15.00 (includes \$5.00 reinstate fee)
- Camp \$15.00.

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. Remember, it is your duty to see that the **TRUE HISTORY of the South is PRESENTED to FUTURE GENERATIONS.**

Renewal letters and ID cards have been mailed to all members who are current on their dues. If you have paid your dues and not received your renewal package, please contact me as shown above and I will get your package to you ASAP.

Veteran's Day Parade Announcement

The Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton Camp 273 will once again participate in the Lexington Veterans Day parade on the **2nd of November** and the Columbia Veteran's Day Parade on the **12th of November**. We will have automobiles available for those veterans unable to walk the parade route. Camp member Don Jones and the "**Amick Junction Band**" will once again participate and will be playing patriotic music with our beloved "**Dixie**" played on numerous occasions along the parade routes in both the Columbia and Lexington parades. Once again the City of Columbia's 36h Veterans Day Parade will have **Wounded Warriors** in attendance, sitting to the right of the reviewing stand! We are very excited to have them once again attending the parade!

Dress Protocol for Camp Participants:

- Those of you have long ago left the armed services and have your old uniform; we encourage you to wear it.
- If you are currently an active member of any branch of the armed services we encourage you to wear your uniform.
- Those of you wishing to celebrate your ancestor's service during the War Between the States are encouraged to wear your Confederate uniform.
- Finally anyone with military service who marches without a uniform, we request you wear a coat and tie.

Please send a confirming email or call if you plan to participate in the parade. If you have a physical issue that would prevent you from marching, please let us know so we can make arrangements for a place in one of the cars we will be using.

I will be sending out additional details for both parades detailing where we will form up for each parade as well as parade rules.

Contact Information:

Charles Bray

Home TN: (803) 749-1042

Cell TN: (803) 414-6808

E-Mail: cdbiii@bellsouth.net



"Unsurpassed Valor, Courage and Devotion to Liberty"

Theodore Roosevelt recognized General Robert E. Lee as "the very greatest of captains that the English-speaking peoples have brought forth"; Dwight Eisenhower also praised Lee as a leader "never disheartened by a reverse or obstacle." Through all his many trials, he remained selfless almost to a fault and unfailing in his belief in God. Taken altogether, he was noble as a leader and as a man and unsullied as I read the pages of our history."

"Rev. J.H. McNeilly, of Nashville, Tenn., writes:

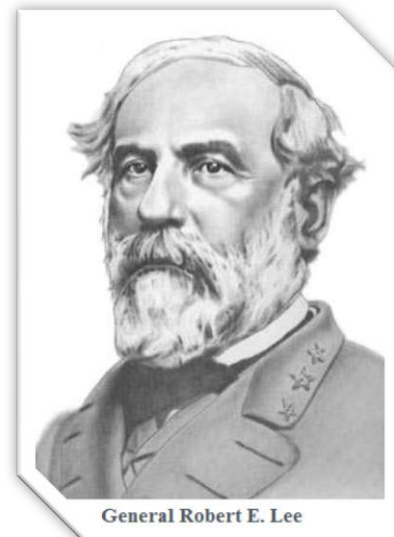
"I wish to call the attention of the [Confederate] Veteran's readers to one of the noblest tributes to Lee and his army which I have ever read. It occurs in the "Life of Thomas H. Benton," pages 37, 38, by Theodore Roosevelt, now Governor of New York, in the "American Statesmen Series." The author is speaking of the influences which formed Benton's character, among them the militant spirit of his native South; and he is then led to mention that influence in making the Southern army and its great commander. He quotes as follows:

"No man who is not willing to bear arms and to fight for his rights can give a good reason why he should be entitled to the privilege of living in a free community. The decline of the militant spirit in the Northeast during the first half of this century was much to be

regretted. To it is due more than to any other cause the undoubted average individual inferiority of the Northern compared with the Southern troops – at any rate, at the beginning of the great war of the rebellion.

The Southerners, by their whole mode of living, their habits, and their love of outdoor sports, kept up their warlike spirit, while in the North the so-called upper classes developed along the lines of a wealthy and timid bourgeoisie type, measuring everything by a mercantile standard (a peculiar debasing one, if taken purely by itself), and submitting to be ruled in local affairs by low, foreign mobs, and in national matters by their arrogant Southern kinsmen.

The militant spirit of these last certainly stood them in good stead in the civil war. The world has never seen better soldiers than those who followed Lee, and their leader will undoubtedly rank, without any exception, as the very



General Robert E. Lee

greatest of all the great captains that the English-speaking peoples have brought forth; and this although the last and chief of his antagonists may himself claim to stand as the full equal of Marlborough or Wellington."



GENEROUS ACTION OF A COMRADE

Miss Claudine Rhett, wrote from Columbia, S. C, October 30th: Last Sunday night, we had a large gathering of Survivors, and citizens, at the First Baptist Church of this city, where the convention which passed the ordinance of Secession first met, to listen to the annual sermon preached to Camp Hampton, by the Rev. B. P. H. Elwell, their chaplain, himself a one-armed Confederate soldier. This discourse was eloquent, manly, and true to the principles of "the right of self-government." His text was from Samuel, 2d book, 27th verse: *"How are the mighty fallen and the weapons of war perished."* Gen'l M.C. Butler commands Camp Hampton.

During a pause in one of the engagements fought in Virginia, Col. M.C. Butler, of Hampton's Cavalry, and Major Farley, the famous scout, were sitting quietly on horseback talking together, when suddenly a ball struck Col. Butler above the ankle, passed through his horse, killing it, proceeded to crush Major Farley's leg, and killed his horse also.

Some of the soldiers rushed quickly forward, and disengaged the fallen officers from their dead horses, but it was found that both of these gentlemen would have to suffer the amputation of a limb. Surgeons were sent for, and they were laid in the shade of a big tree nearby.

When the surgeon, Dr. B. W. Taylor, arrived to perform the double operation, he first approached Col. Butler, the ranking officer, and said to him, "Colonel, I have very little chloroform, but I will share it equally between you and the Major."

"No," replied Col. Butler, "keep it all for Farley, who is worse off than I am. I can bear the pain without it."

The ordeal was accordingly endured, without the aid of this alleviating adjunct of surgery, and the generous hero happily survived the operation. As soon as he was able to ride, Butler returned to the field of duty, resumed the command of his regiment, and rose to be the youngest (and the handsomest) Major General in the service of the Confederate States.

He now holds the position of United States Senator from South Carolina.

The gallant Farley died a few days after the above mentioned incident, in spite of the magnanimous self-renunciation of his comrade.



Important Dates in Lincoln's War to Prevent Southern Independence

- Oct. 2, 1861 Following two days of nonstop rain the Battle of Greenbrier was fought. When the results were calculated the Union had eight men killed and thirty-five men wounded. The Confederates had lost six men, had thirty-five wounded, and thirteen men missing. The result of the Battle of Greenbrier River is inconclusive.
- Oct. 4, 1861 President Lincoln views a tethered hot-air balloon ascent outside Washington D. C. The balloon was considered a top secret observation instrument to be used for observation during battles
- Oct. 21, 1861 At the battle of Ball's Bluff a prominent US Senator in uniform, Colonel Edward Baker, a confidant of Pres. Lincoln was killed and became the "only" U.S. Senator ever killed in battle.
- Oct. 8, 1862 Despite being among the bloodiest battles of the war, the number of troops that participated in the Battle of Perryville – also known as the Battle of Champlin Hills – was small by comparison with other famous battles, such as Gettysburg and Antietam. Union forces numbered 22,000 against 16,000 Confederates at Perryville.
- Oct. 29, 1863 Union casualties were 4,200 / Confederates casualties were 3,400. Jefferson Davis grants Nathan Bedford Forrest's request for an independent command in north Mississippi and west Tennessee. This frees him from Braxton Bragg.
- Oct. 2, 1864 In Augusta, Jefferson Davis meets with P. G. T. Beauregard to give him command of the Department of Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi.
- Oct. 5, 1864 Gen. Hood issues orders to Gen. Samuel French to advance to Allatoona Pass and attack the entrenched Union force within a star fort on top of mountain overlooking a train pass carved out of dirt and stone. Based on the ratio of men committed to battle to the casualties, Allatoona Pass was the bloodiest battle of the Civil War.

March Camp Meeting
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30
6 O'CLOCK P.M.



SEAWELL'S
RESTAURANT

1125 Rosewood Drive
Columbia, SC

SPEAKER

Mr. Allen Robertson

*"Saluda Flag & Banner Conservation
and the Confederate Relic Room"*

WWW.WADEHAMPTONCAMP.ORG



Columbia, SC 29212

507 Sail Point Way

C/O Adjutant Charles D. Bray III

A Non-Profit Organization

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