

THE LEGIONARY

OCTOBER 2007

A Publication of the Sons of Confederate Veterans

Lt. Gen. Wade Hampton Camp No. 273

Columbia, South Carolina www.wadehamptoncamp.org

A FRATERNAL ORGANIZATION OF SOUTHERN MEN

An Irish View of Our Flag

THE ALLIANCE Party appears to be exercising some muddled thinking over the origins and the legitimacy of the American Confederacy flag which is being flown in some loyalist areas of east Belfast in the run-up to the Twelfth.

For Alliance to summarily dismiss the Confederate flag as a racist emblem is to grievously insult the memory and the sacrifice of men and women of great courage, who fought a noble but unsuccessful fight against the numerically stronger and better equipped Union Army in the American Civil War of 1861-65.

The Confederate flag - the distinctive Stars and Bars - has, admittedly, been wrongly used by racist elements in the United States, in a way that sometimes the Union Flag, the Ulster Flag, or the Irish Tricolour, can be dragged in the gutter, by those who, while purporting to uphold what it stands for, show absolutely no respect for it.

While not wanting to enter into the argument over whether or not it should be flown here over the Twelfth, the Stars and Bars is not an illegal paramilitary flag.

It flies from many civic buildings in the United States - and is an emblem with more relevance to Ulster/Irish culture and history, than the Israeli or Palestinian flags that can be seen flying from lamp-posts on our Northern Ireland streets.

The Confederacy in the United States during the mid-19th century was a cause considered lawful and respectable by many

See *Flag*, Page 3



A Confederate flag at the corner of Castlereagh Rd and Grand Parade Belfast

Historical Origins of the Sons of Confederate Veterans

UNITED SONS, CONFEDERATE VETERANS

An Account of the Organization, Aims and Purposes of This Association. List of Officers, Etc.

August 1898

The formation at Richmond last week of the Federation to be known as the United Sons of Confederate Veterans should receive the commendation and support of all true Southerners. Its aims, objects and purposes are not to create or foster in any manner, any feeling against the North, but to hand down to posterity the "story of the glory of the men who wore the gray."

Knowing that "in union there is strength," the sons of those who made the South famous have come together for the systematic and united work of preserving from oblivion the true history of the South. That this step meets with the hearty approval of the "men who wore the gray" is shown by the following resolution, which was adopted at the Convention of the United Confederate Veterans at Richmond, at their regular session.

"Resolved, That this session provide at once for the formation of Sons of Confederate Veterans into a separate national organization. This is urgent from the manifold fact that our ranks are thinning daily, and our loved representatives should step in now and arrange to take charge of Southern history, our relics, mementos and monuments, and stimulate the erection of other monuments to our heroes ere 'taps' are sounded for the last of their fathers."

But before this resolution was adopted the Sons had taken matters in their own hands, and on the evening of June 30th, met at the Auditorium at Richmond, and arranged for the organization of a Federation themselves. At this meeting a committee was appointed to draft a Constitution for the new Association. but they were unable to prepare the same that evening, and the session adjourned at 11 o'clock, to meet the next day.

On July 1st the delegates from the Camp of Sons of Confederate Veterans from the various Southern States, who had been called by the P. E. Lee Camp of Richmond, to assemble for the purpose of forming this Association, adopted a Constitution

See *SCV*, Page 3

Compatriots,

Our Camp continues to prosper as we approach 2008. Our membership is now at 280. That's the highest number I can recall for several years. Congratulations to all of you who recruited this year!

Several of you have not renewed your membership yet. Please remember that if you wait much longer you'll have to pay an extra \$10 reinstatement fee. Go ahead and get that check in the mail. We need every man in the year to come.

Our Camp finances also look quite good. Thanks to the raffles, book sales, and, of course, the revenue from Battle for Columbia, our coffers are filling nicely. The time is near for the Camp to take over all operations of *The Battle for Columbia* event and we're finally financially able to do so.

I'm pleased to announce that our Lee-Jackson Banquet in January will feature the return of Stan Clardy and his outstanding one man musical journey, *Soldiers in Gray*.

You'll not want to miss this one, folks. Keep an eye on upcoming issues of *The Legionary* and the camp web site for more info.

I'm excited about 2008! I hope you are, too.

Please note that our October meeting will be held one week later than usual, on the 25th. November's meeting will be one week earlier than usual on the 15th.

See y'all on the 25th!

Chaplain's Pulpit

—REV. ROBERT SLIMP

Compatriots,

I am going to quote from a Confederate Memorial Address by Bishop Ellison Capers, Episcopal Bishop of South Carolina. During the War for Southern Independence, he was a Brigadier General in the Army of Northern Virginia. This address was delivered at Greenville, SC on May 20, 1890.

Ladies of the Memorial Association:

The return of the springtime commemorates the twenty-fifth anniversary of the surrender of the Southern armies and the down fall of the government of the Confederate States.

A generation has grown into manhood since the memorable spring of 1865. President Davis and the majority of his cabinet have passed away in an honored old age, and, with most of the distinguished soldiers who led our armies, are 'resting under the shade of the trees' beyond the great river that separates them from us! The government against which they led our people triumphed over their counsels, and their armies, crushed to atoms their power, trampled their hopes and rights into the dust, and its proud banner waves over their graves.

The cause they fought for is often denounced as the "rebellion"; or the unholy war for slavery; or it is pitied as 'the lost cause' of an ambitious and arrogant aristocracy. Its history is written, for the most part, by its enemies, and its most sacred archives have been burned to

ashes, or lost in the wreck and ruin of homes, or surrendered to the custody of the conqueror!

And yet we keep memorial days! Our people strew the graves of Confederates with fresh flowers, and though 25 years have elapsed since the soldier returned to his home from the field of his defeat and surrender, yet his countrymen trust and honor his courage! The noblest monuments of art in all our Southland have been erected to commemorate his valor and the perpetuate his heroism, chiseling his uninformed statue in Parian marble, and inscribing for all time, as on our own State monument, the solemn legend of his sacrifices.

Let the stranger who may in future times read this inscription recognize that these were men whom power could not corrupt, whom death could not terrify, whom defeat could not dishonor; and let their virtues plead for just judgment of the cause 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 birthright, that Truth, Courage and Patriotism endure forever.

And this is precisely the meaning of our memorials and monuments - they are for us, and for our children, forever!

These memorial days, the monuments we build to the Confederate dead, proclaim to the civilized world the

self-respect of a people who would not command, as they would not deserve, the respect of civilized nations and patriotic States, if they failed to hold in reverence and honor the sacrifices of men who gave the highest, the best, the last proof which mortal man can give of the sincerity, purity and patriotism of their conduct; "greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his brethren!"

These inspiring words of General, the Bishop Ellison Capers are meant for us today also. Let us continue to defend the memory of our honored Confederate ancestors the fight to repel any attempt to take from us our history and heritage. Instead, we must pass on their true history to all future generations.

One way that we can do this is by participating in the Confederate unit in the Veterans Day Parade in Columbia on November 12. This special unit is being sponsored by the SCV Camps of the South Carolina Midlands. Plan now to attend! There will be a special unit marching behind a Banner that says we are United States Veterans proudly honoring our Confederate Veterans. All American War Veterans who are also members of the SCV should march together. There will be prominent places for SCV members who are not Veterans to also participate in the parade. The exact time and place to gather will be announced. We need a large turn out from our Camp for this parade!

WWW.WADEHAMPTONCAMP.ORG

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

FLAG

millions of people in the Southern states in America, quite a number of whom had Ulster-Scots Presbyterian family origins.

Indeed, support for the Confederacy in the South also came from a significant percentage of Americans from an Irish Roman Catholic background, many of whom left Ireland after the Great Irish Famine, in 1845-49.

Together, rightly, or wrongly, many in the Ulster and Irish diaspora settled in the Southern states considered it a duty to resist the imposition of federal laws by the then Washington Administration.

The Confederate nation composed of 11 Southern states (Texas, Arkansas, Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, Florida, South Carolina, North Carolina and Virginia) that seceded from the United States in 1861.

It came into being at a convention in Montgomery, Alabama, where a constitution was drawn up and a provisional government formed.

The Southern nation survived for four years, but it could not maintain its independence against the greatly superior population, industrial capacity and economic might of the North.

Some of the most distinguished Confederate generals in the Civil War were of Ulster stock, proudly fighting under the Stars and Bars.

General Thomas Jonathan "Stonewall" Jackson, from the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia, is considered one of the foremost army leaders in military history. Jackson, a deeply committed Christian, was the great grandson of John Jackson, who came from the Birches-Tartaraghan area, in Co Armagh.

Another highly acclaimed Confederate general from the Shenandoah Valley was James Ewell Brown (JEB) Stuart, whose great, great grandfather was Londonderry man Archibald Stuart, who emigrated to Pennsylvania in 1726.

There were also Generals Joseph Egleston Johnston, Albert Sidney Johnston,

Daniel Smith Donelson and Leonidas Polk, other leading Confederates with direct family ties to Ulster.

In the Charlotte-Waxhaws region of North Carolina, the homeland of celebrated Ulster-Scots President Andrew Jackson, an estimated 75 per cent of Confederate soldiers in the Civil War were of Ulster origin.

And it was General Robert E. Lee, the legendary commander of the Confederate Army, who, when asked "what race of people makes the best soldiers?", replied: "The Scots who came to this country by way of Ireland - because they have all the dash of the Irish in taking up a position, and all the stubbornness of the Scotch in holding it".

The Confederate definitely does have a certain resonance in Ulster history and culture which has absolutely nothing to do with racism!

Source: "Show Respect for this Flag"
Northern Ireland News, 10 July 2003

SCV

similar in every respect to the Constitution governing the United Confederate Veterans, and permanently organized the United Sons of Confederate Veterans.

The preamble of this Constitution reads: "To encourage the preservation of history, perpetuate the hallowed memories of brave men, to assist in the observance of Memorial Day, to aid and support all Confederate Veterans, widows and orphans. and to perpetuate the record of the services of every Southern Soldier, these are our common aims. These objects we believe will both promote a purer and better private life, and enhance our desire to maintain the "national honor, union and independence of our common country.

The organization of this Association is composed of departments, divisions, brigades and Camps.

The Federation has an Executive Head and three Departments, entitled Army of Northern Virginia Department, consisting of the States of North and South Carolina, Maryland, Virginia and Kentucky.

The Army of Tennessee Department, consisting of the States of Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, Mississippi, Louisiana and Florida. The Trans-Mississippi Department, consisting of the

States and Territories west of the Mississippi excepting Louisiana. Each State constitutes a division and is commanded by a Major General; the Departments are commanded by a Lieutenant General. The States are furthermore divided into brigades which also have their commanders. In this way the work is thoroughly systematized and is so arranged that the most excellent results can be readily obtained.

The officers elected at this first Convention of the United Sons of Confederate Veterans were as follows: Mr. J. E. B. Stuart, of Richmond, General Commanding; Mr. Robert A. Smyth, of Charleston, Lieutenant General in command of the Department of Northern Virginia; Mr. John L. Hardeman, of Macon, Ga., Lieutenant General in command of the Department of Tennessee. The election of the Lieutenant General of the Trans-Mississippi Department was deferred until the organization of State Divisions in that Department; Mr. R. H. Pinckney, of Charleston, Quartermaster General; Mr. George B. Williamson, of Columbia, Tenn., Inspector General; Dr. Stuart McGuire, of Richmond, Surgeon General; Mr. E. P. McKissick, of Ashville,

N. C., Commissary General; Bishop T. F. Gailor, of Tennessee, Grand Chaplain; Mr. T. R. K. Cobb, of Atlanta, Ga., Judge Advocate General.

The officers of this new Association are exerting every effort to thoroughly organize and build up the same, and to this end their efforts will be directed to the formations of Camps of Sons in every city and town of the South.

According to the Constitution the Convention of the United Sons of Confederate Veterans is held at the same time and place as the United Confederate Veterans, so that the next convention will meet at Nashville, Tenn.

The General Commanding has the power to appoint a staff to aid him in his work, as have also the Lieutenant Generals and the Commanders of Divisions. General J. E. B. Stuart has appointed Mr. Edwin P. Cox, of Richmond, Va., his Adjutant General and Chief of Staff. The remainder of his staff has not yet been appointed. The Lieutenant Generals have not as Yet appointed their staff.

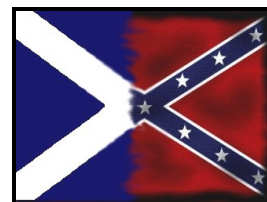
Source: *Confederate Veteran*, Nashville, Tenn., Vol. IV, No. 8, August, 1896.

Important Dates in the *Northern Invasion of the South:*

- Oct. 1, 1864 – General Forrest’s cavalry skirmish with Federal garrisons at Athens & Huntsville, AL.
- Oct. 3, 1862 – Battle of Corinth, MS. Gens. Van Dorn & Price inflict severe losses on Federal troops.
- Oct. 9, 1862 – Gen. Stuart leads 1,800 Confederate cavalymen on a raid into Pennsylvania which lasted several days.
- Oct. 10, 1862 – Federal troops and gunboats engage Gen. Forrest on the Tennessee River. The Confederates inflict serious damage to three vessels.
- Oct. 11, 1862 – Stuart’s cavalymen begin to circle around the stationary Union army, cutting telegraph wires and destroying military equipment.
- Oct. 12, 1870 – Gen. Robert E. Lee dies in Lexington, VA, at the age of 63.
- Oct. 15, 1863 – In Charleston, SC, the C.S.S. *H.L. Hunley* sinks for a second time during a practice dive. Seven men were killed.
- Oct. 18, 1864 – Pro-Southern ladies of Great Britain hold a benefit for Confederate soldiers at St. George’s Hall in Liverpool, England.
- Oct. 21, 1864 – In Missouri, as Price’s Confederates leave Lexington, they defeat the Federals on the Little Blue, and the Federals withdraw from Independence.
- Oct. 23, 1828 – Birthday of Brig. Gen. Turner Ashby of VA (1828-1862)
- Oct. 26, 1864 – Confederate guerrilla “Bloody Bill” Anderson killed near Richmond, MO.
- Oct. 29, 1863 – Federal batteries fire 2,691 shells into Confederate held Ft. Sumter, killing 33 defenders.

Y’all Come!!!

Next Camp Meeting
Thursday, Oct. 25
6:00 PM



Seawell’s Restaurant
1125 Rosewood Drive
Columbia, SC

This month’s speaker will be
James B. Clary
 Author of

A History of the 15th
South Carolina Infantry

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