

THE HOWLING DAWG

Our world through March 2020



"Everyone has secret sorrows which the world knows not..."

- Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

16th Georgia Volunteer Infantry Regiment, Company G

"The Jackson Rifles"

Broxton's Bridge 2020



Preparing to Cross the Swamp

In 1865, as Sherman's army marched across South Carolina, 1,200 Confederates under General Lafayette McLaws posted at the crossing on the Salkehatchie River. Union soldiers built bridges to bypass McLaws on February 2. The next day two brigades under Union General Francis P. Blair waded through the swamp and flanked the Confederates.



Charge of Weaver's Brigade Across the Salkehatchie
February 3, 1865 - *Battle of River s' (Broxton's) Bridge*



Pictures courtesy of Corp. Brick Lee Nelson

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ONE MORE PICTURE FROM BROXTON'S BRIDGE



As most everyone knows, the 16th Georgia often portrays Federal Infantry. They did so at Broxton's Bridge. The picture above shows some of them.

IN SYMPATHY



It is with heavy hearts that the family of Dr. Charles Garden Johnson announced his passing on Monday, March 2, 2020, at the age of 94 years. Charles is the son of Thomas Clark Johnson and Eleanor Garden. A lifelong resident of Atlanta, Charles graduated from Boys High in 1943. He joined the U.S. Navy in 1944 where he was a Seaman, First Class. He attended the University of Georgia and went on to earn his doctorate degree in medicine. Charles had a lifelong passion for medicine and for helping people. He practiced medicine for fifty years and upon his retirement he continued for the next ten

years in the medical field as director of the Good Shepherd Clinic. Over these years, Charles was honored and recognized with many accolades for his years of dedication to the community. Charles will be lovingly remembered by his wife of 64 years, Rita (Treadwell) and his six children, Michael, Kathryn (Samir) Namour, Barbara (Jan) Ozer, **Charles**, John, and Caroline (Dale) Estes. He will also be remembered by his eight grandchildren and one great-grandchild. A funeral mass was held at 10:30 AM, Friday, March 6, 2020 at St. Philip Benizi Catholic Church with Fr. John Koziol, OFM Conv. officiating. The family received friends from 6-8 PM, Thursday, March 5, 2020 at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers please make contributions in his name to: Good Shepherd Clinic, 6392 Murphy Dr., Morrow, GA 30260, www.goodshepherdclinic.org. Ford-Stewart Funeral Home, Inc., Jonesboro/Stockbridge 770-210-2700. www.fordstewartfuneralhome.com.

Charles Johnson is the father of **Chuck Johnson** of Rum Creek Sutlery

"Be merciful unto me, O GOD, be merciful unto me: for my soul trusteth in THEE: yea, in the shadow of thy wings will I make my refuge, until these calamities be overpast."

- Psalm 57:1

150 Years Ago

By Larry Upthegrove

March 19, 1870: In Atlanta, GA, the "Constitution" ran an article this week about our neighbor to the east: "New Railroad.—We learn that the Stone Mountain Granite Company contemplates building a road around the base of the mountain, with the design of easily transporting granite from the quarries and allowing excursion parties to make the circuit. They have recently erected some of the finest derricks in the South."

March 28, 1870: In San Francisco California, Union General George Henry Thomas, at age 53, meets death from a stroke. None of his blood relatives will mourn or be at his funeral; they being from Virginia, as was he, have never forgiven him for fighting against his state in favor of the Union. Although he was commanding the Military Division of the Pacific at his death, without his family present, he will be buried in Oakwood Cemetery, Troy, New York.



March 29, 1870: In Virginia, five days ago, General Lee, accompanied by his daughter, Agnes left Lexington on a meandering trip of nostalgia. Lee had a heart attack in late March of 1863 and his condition has steadily worsened over the years until now he has the health of a very old man, at age 63. He wants to see certain people and certain things once more in his remaining time.....His first major stop was in Richmond where he was invited to speak to the Legislature. While there he met with General Mosby and had an icy, polite, encounter with General Pickett....Yesterday, they travelled to Warrenton where daughter, Annie, is buried, spending time and giving thanks to the Whites who care for Annie's grave in their own family cemetery. When he asks how he might repay the family's kindness, they ask for a picture of himself and a lock of his hair which he gladly provides. Tonight, they leave, in a sleeping-car to Raleigh.

In Atlanta, GA, this week, Editor of the "Constitution," future Oakland Cemetery resident, Isaac Avery, writes: "*Water.—We had hoped that before this time, the city authorities, or some enterprising organization would have projected a plan to supply our people, not only with good, but also a sufficiency of water. We do not pretend to say that there is no good water in the city, or that it is very scarce, yet we confess that in some localities the water can be vastly improved, at least better water would be more acceptable, and a larger supply than we have in the city would be beneficial. In drinking water in certain localities, we notice that it is not altogether free from impurities, whether the result of contamination from draining, we are unable to say. One thing is certain, namely, water brought here from springs or streams would be superior to it....*" Editor Avery can't know that he is "preaching to the choir." In 20 years, it will be his current boss, William Hemphill, who, as Mayor, will install a huge pump in the Chattahoochee River to pump water to a holding reservoir near 10'th Street and what will become Hemphill Ave. This, in the same year as the creation of Grady Hospital....

March 30, 1870: In Washington also today, Texas is admitted back into the Union as a State. The press and some history books tout this as completing the Union, but that is far from over. Every day in the Congress there are debates on how to further punish Tennessee even though she technically was admitted back into the Union in 1866. There is still a heated debate over the readmission of Georgia with the Governor Bullock, himself, leading the opposition.

THE 16TH GEORGIA CO. G - "The Jackson Rifles"

Colonel (Ret.)-Steven L. "Red Bone" Smith-478-951-4863 or 478-956-3858

Honorary Colonel J. C. Nobles - 478-718-3201

Rev. Joey Young - Honorary Member - 678-978-7213

Captain Wm. "Rebel" Bradberry, *Commanding* - 404-242-7213

1st Lt. Noah Sprague - 706-491-9755

2nd Lt. Charles Whitehead - 478-986-8943

Color Sgt. Kevin Sark - 478-731-8796

Adjutant: 5th Corp. "Duke" Dobson 478-731-5531

Treasurer: 6th Corp. Earl Colvin - 478-214-0687

1st Sgt. (RIP) James "Barefoot" Boyd - 770-219-8302 or 706-344-7588

1st Sgt. Alan "Cookie" Richards - 478-308-9739

2nd Sgt. Nathan Sprague - 478-320-8748

Corp. (Ret.) Mike "Beezer" Banks - 770-467-8123

1st Corp. Brick Lee Nelson - 478-986-1151 or 955-2074

2nd Corp. Matthew Whitehead - 478-607-0235

3rd Corp. Cody Sprague - 478-542-1802

4th Corp. Tommy Shover - 478-230-3483

Lead Chaplain-Joel Whitehead, Jr. - 478-986-8798

Hon. Chaplain Ronnie "Skin" Neal - 478-808 8848

Assistant Chaplain - Charles Hill - 770-845-6878

Musician - Drew Edge - 478-365-1897

Musician - Chance Sprague - 706-491-9755

Musician - Aaron Bradford - 302-668-8029

Musician - Al McGalliard - 478-259-5786

ON FACEBOOK: "JACKSON RIFLES". And @ scv2218.com, thanks to Al McGalliard



(Courtesy: Val Elliott)

SCHEDULE OF 2020 EVENTS

Everyone is aware that so many events (Bentonville, Manassas) and meetings (SCV 2218) have been canceled due to the Corona Virus restrictions. We have received no definitive word regarding the ones listed in black below - the ones in red are canceled or postponed. This is not to predict the fate of any activities planned for these dates one way or the other. As of the date of this publication (March 31st) we just do not know any more. - Duke

APRIL 18 - OLD CLINTON WAR DAYS WORK DAY (see note below)

APRIL 18 - STONE MOUNTAIN MEMORIAL SERVICE IS CANCELED per Tim Pilgrim's info

APRIL 18 - POND TOWN FESTIVAL IN RHINE, GA IS CANCELLED

APRIL 20 - EASTER SUNDAY

APRIL 25 - ROSE HILL CONFEDERATE MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE IS POSTPONED and we have it on good authority that the Confederate Memorial Day Service conducted in Byron by SCV 1399 and the UDC Service in Ft. Valley will, likewise, not be held at this time..

MAY 1 - 3 - OLD CLINTON WAR DAYS - Gray, GA

MAY 10 - MOTHER'S DAY

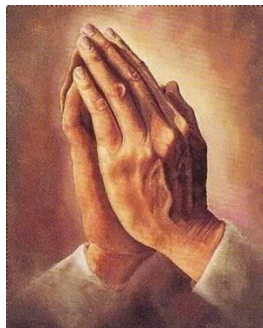
MAY 21 - SCV CAMP 2218 MEETING - Gray, GA - Matt Sims, guest speaker

JUNE 5-6 - 123RD GA DIVISION SCV REUNION - Macon, GA

JUNE 18 - SCV CAMP 2218 MEETING - Gray, GA - Sherrie' Raleigh, guest speaker

REGARDING OLD CLINTON WAR DAYS: "If we do have to cancel, we still need a work day. I'm getting behind on grass cutting and there is a lot of downed limbs. I need some young men for a day and I can take care of the grass". J. Mack

HOW CAN WE PRAY FOR YOU?



You may not recognize many of the names on this page, but does that really matter? They represent real people – genuine needs. Just because you do not know them personally nor the nature of their circumstance does not mean that you cannot pray for them. Bow your heart and head for a moment – just a moment - and ask GOD to meet these needs – ALL OF THEM – according to HIS will ...

**Jimmy Bohler - Steve Smith - Brenda Dobson - Madeline Sanders -
Voncille Sark - Bob Holloway - J.C. Nobles - The Stancil family -
Tom Adkins - Rev. Joey Young and family - Shelly Berryhill - Ben
(Cooter) Jones - Cathy Wheeler - Reba Aultman - Kasey Larson -
Mike Couch & family - Val & Ed Elliott - Tommy Wright - Gale Red
Ethan & Crystal Bloodworth - Ty & Gina Burnsed - Harold & Toni
Buchanan - Roy and Dana Myers - Rev. Alan Farley - Ed Bearss
Mark "Watch Dog" Thompson - Mrs. & Mrs. Herbert Burns -
Richard Durham - as well as, those who preach & teach The
WORD, SCV, UDC, C.S.A., U.S.A., Israel, Law Enforcement, First
Responders, School Bus Drivers & Firefighters, Judges Political
Leaders, Missionaries, Our Compatriots, Ministers, Travelers, The
lonely, bereaved families, The Cannonball House Staff, Our
enemies ... And for Me & You, that we witness boldly, risking
awkwardness and seeming to be foolish.**

**Please, let me know of others that should be on this list. We
especially pray for those who have suffered, lost loved ones, and
those who have served mankind so selflessly due to this Corona
Virus outbreak as well as our world leaders as they deal with it.
May they seek the wisdom of GOD.**



CATHY'S CLOWN

- The Humor of Kenny Stancil

The cowboy was trying to buy a health insurance policy. The insurance agent was going down the list of standard questions.

"Ever have an accident?"

"Nope, nary a one."

"None? You've never had any accidents?"

"Nope. Ain't never had one. Never."

"Well, you said on this form you were bit by a snake once. Wouldn't you consider that an accident?"

"Heck, no. That dang varmint bit me on purpose."

A Florida officer pulled over an eighty-six-year-old woman because her hand signals were confusing. "First you put your hand up, like you're turning right, then you wave your hand up and down, then you turn left," said the officer. "I decided not to turn right," she explains. "Then why the up and down?" asks the officer. "Officer," she sniffs, "I was erasing!"

A man once opened a dry cleaning business next door to the convent? He knocked on the door and asked the Mother Superior if she had any dirty habits.

Editor's Note: During hard times, perhaps, we need an occasional laugh all the more.

"...The joy of the LORD is our strength." - Nehemiah 8:10



"Every day they
wrest my words: all
their thoughts are
against me for evil."

- Psalm 56:5



THE CAMP OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER #2218

Of Old Clinton, Jones County, Georgia

In keeping with the necessity of the times we have suspended Camp meetings until further notice. - *Charles Whitehead, Commander*

"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."

"The Rose Hill Memorial Day Observance scheduled for April 25th at Rose Hill Cemetery, Macon has been cancelled. I'm sure all services that would gather a large crowd will be canceled.

Pondtown Festival in Rhine, GA scheduled for April 18th has been canceled.

April regular camp meetings will be canceled. Please check on your fellow Compatriots by texting or calling. Drop off items at their door if needed. If you are not able to get to a camp member within the brigade, contact me. We will get someone to help.

Compatriots, we are in the midst of this very odd time where we have to be physically apart from one another. That goes against the very nature of how we were created. We were created to have relationships. A relationship with Christ Jesus and with fellow mankind.

Let us continue to pray for vulnerable people, including healthcare workers and so forth, as this pandemic continues. I encourage you also to remember that we ought not be anxious about such things given that our hope is not in a human economy, medical ingenuity, or governmental structures but in the risen Lord and creator of all things. Despite everything going on, know that there is still power in the blood that Jesus shed and it will never lose its power.

Praying that you and your family stay safe and that those who think they are invincible stay far away from you."

Kim M. Beck,

4th Brigade Commander, Regional Deputy Chaplain Georgia Division SCV
Camp #2039 Adjutant, Troop 3 Sgt. Signal Corps, MC 3rd Bat. Co. B

"I've got no respect for any young man who won't join the colors."

--Nathan Bedford Forrest

Congratulations !!!



Mr. & Mrs. Kyle Alexander Wilkinson of Sandersville Ga are pleased to announce the birth of their son **Kole Theodore Aaron Wilkinson** born 3-18-2020 @ 4:22pm weighing 7lbs 8oz and was 20 inches in length. Due to a lengthy 46 hour labor Kole was in NICU for 3 days due to fluid build up in his lungs, he however has recovered well and is doing beautifully. Once returned home the Wilkinson family has settled in and are learning all the ups and downs of having a newborn. Please keep them in your prayers through this trying time of sickness throughout our world.

Any congratulations can be sent to 709 Harrison Street Sandersville GA, 31082.

Private R. E. Wright,

Company C, 55th Georgia



Courtesy of Colonel J.C. Nobles; this is a very good post-War image of **Private R. E. Wright of Company C of the 55th Georgia** Volunteer Infantry Army of Tennessee of Dooly County, Georgia.

It was sent to J.C. by a newly discovered Cousin, Ray Cape. Private Wright is one of their Grand pappies.

Wright was born in Georgia on February 27, 1834. He enlisted May 3, 1862, was wounded during the course of the War, captured at Cumberland Gap on September 9, 1863, and imprisoned at Camp Douglas, Illinois. The captured officers of the 55th were sent to Johnson's Island. The Georgia 55th Infantry Regiment had completed its organization at Camp Randolph, Georgia, in July, 1862. The first Commander, Colonel C. B. Harkie was not very well liked by any of his men.

Cumberland Gap could be considered a "bloodless" victory for Union forces. Near 3 p.m. Confederate General J.W. Frazer agreed to an unconditional surrender of all of the 2,400 Southern men guarding the

Gap. Between 100 -300 men managed to escape through the lines after the surrender had taken place, but the rest of the soldiers, arms, 14 pieces of artillery and the strategic location were now in Union control. This was the last major operation against the Cumberland Gap position and it would remain in Union hands for the rest of the war.

Those men not captured at Cumberland Gap were consolidated into three companies and served as guards at the prisoner of war camps at Andersonville, Georgia and Salisbury, North Carolina. In March, 1865, the detachments of the regiment were ordered to report to General Johnston in North Carolina, but the war ended before the order could be obeyed.

Private Wright would be released from Camp Douglas in June of 1865.

THE PRAYER LIST



"Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto GOD. And the peace of GOD, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through CHRIST JESUS. Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things." - Philippians 4:6-8

As the Corona Virus became such a consuming part of our lives, some have called it media hype or even a hoax. It is abundantly true that the media makes a drama out of everything – "FACT NOT FEAR", my foot! Many people are disappointed, if not downright angry, that this virus has interrupted our precious plans. For some it has ended their life on this earth. The factual world is never the one that the scurrilous media portrays. Whatever your opinion or mine is of COVID-19 one thing is very certain; "the fear is real." If you are addicted to news proliferation, you can stir up all the anxiety you can stand. "We've never been through anything like this before, and the unknown can be terrifying. But it doesn't have to be this way for Christians." (Kathryn Graves)

THE PRAYER LIST (concluded)

Isaiah 43:2 says *"When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee."* The rivers of life do not overflow the Christian and the fire does not even kindle on them. Hopefully, those who don't know JESUS will turn to HIM now.

Fear is worry and worry is fear – they are inseparable twins. In the first recorded conversation GOD ever had with mankind, Adam, said "I was afraid." (Genesis 3:10) Fear has been with us ever since. There is a good fear and bad fear. When the Bible speaks, in many places, (Matthew 28:10, Proverbs 1:7, Psalm 86:11) of fearing the LORD, it means to respect HIM. Philippians 4:6 says *"Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto GOD."* This verse illustrates the difference between good fear and the bad fear of worry. Yes, we worry and I personally do it more than I show. We assume we cannot help it but worry is something we volunteer to do. There is a clear alternative and Philippians 4:6-8 spells it out with great simplicity.

GOD, through HIS inerrant WORD (Psalm 18:30) tells us to bring our fears before HIM. HE invites us to *"Cast all our care upon HIM; for HE cares for us."* (1 Peter 5:7) GOD does require us to write prayer requests down but I think it is always helpful to put anything in writing. List those fears. All of them. Don't miss even one regardless of how small it might be. List them large to small, small to large or randomly as they come to mind. Once you have collected them, **make them your prayer list**. This is the list that GOD invites and expects you to bring before HIM, in prayer. Pray, do not worry, pray. Don't follow the news, pray! Don't seek the "experts", pray! Try to start your day with prayer and end it in the same way. Pray all through the day. Make it is an ongoing conversation with GOD, in which HE delights.

Being free of worry is as simple as that, so says GOD who cannot lie (Numbers 23:19). GOD says that this is the way to go through life and cope with the fears that challenge every step we make, every breath we take, and every beat our hearts. Will it work? GOD, who cannot lie (Titus 1:2), says it will. Face it, at this point what have you got to lose?

Jwd

3/31/20

"Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy GOD: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of MY righteousness."

Southern Soldier

I'll place my knapsack on my back
My rifle on my shoulder
I'll march away to the firing line
And kill that Yankee soldier
And kill that Yankee soldier
I'll march away to the firing line
And kill that Yankee soldier

I'll bid farewell to my wife and child
Farewell to my aged mother
And go and join in the bloody strife
Till this cruel war is over
Till this cruel war is over
I'll go and join in the bloody strife
Till this cruel war is over

If I am shot on the battlefield
And I should not recover
Oh, who will protect my wife and child
And care for my aged mother
And care for my aged mother
Oh, who will protect my wife and child
And care for my aged mother

And if our Southern cause is lost
And Southern rights denied us
We'll be ground beneath the tyrant's
heel
For our demands of justice
For our demands of justice
We'll be ground beneath the tyrant's
heel
For our demands of justice

Before the South shall bow her head
Before the tyrants harm us
I'll give my all to the Southern cause
And die in the Southern army
And die in the Southern army
I'll give my all to the Southern cause
And die in the Southern army

If I must die for my home and land
My spirit will not falter
Oh, here's my heart and here's my
hand
Upon my country's altar

Upon my country's altar
Oh, here's my heart and here's my
hand
Upon my country's altar

Then Heaven be with us in the strife
Be with the Southern soldier
We'll drive the mercenary horde
Beyond our Southern border
Beyond our Southern border
We'll drive the mercenary horde
Beyond our Southern border.

*Produced in the Appalachian hills of the Carolinas in the latter part of the War and kept alive by oral tradition to the 21st century, this version was derived from the lyrics recalled by traditional singer, Miss Minta Morgan. It is probably **the most articulate statement of why most Southern soldiers fought the War** – as one Johnnie replied when so asked, "Why?" by his captors, "'Cause you'uns are here!" Practically all of the expressions of Southern patriotism found in the verses of this song appear nearly verbatim in letters, journals, and diaries written by soldiers during the conflict.*

Middle Georgia Civil War Roundtable

Our initial meeting was held on Tuesday, January 21, 2020 at The Cannonball House, Macon, GA with 19 people in attendance. The name Middle Georgia Civil War Roundtable was decided upon after input from several present. Meetings were scheduled on a quarterly basis for the third Tuesday of January, April, July and October, 2020 at 7pm. A time of fellowship was proposed before each meeting (6:30 to 7:00) to be enjoyed by attendees prior to the start of the actual meeting. Light refreshments are suggested with members encouraged to volunteer to bring something small to eat/drink. Emails will be distributed to members at the first of each meeting month to remind everyone to attend.

Officers elected for a one-year term were:

President, J. Wayne Dobson
Treasurer, Johnny Mack Nickles
Secretary, Cheryl B. Aultman

A committee to select speakers for upcoming meetings was comprised of Johnny Mack Nickles, Marsha M. Luttrell and Cheryl Aultman.

Annual dues of \$15 were decided upon but the collection of said dues was not to begin prior to the 3rd meeting in July (that, now, may be subject to change). Until a treasury is compiled, 'passing the hat' may be used to meet financial needs.

A short by-law document will be drafted by Johnny Mack Nickles.

A sign-up sheet (suggested by Earl Colvin) will be available at future meetings. It will include a column for the individual's name & their email so we are able to let them know of upcoming meetings.

THE NEXT MEETING of Mid-GA-CWRT

Due to the considerations precipitated by COVID-19, the previously-scheduled meeting for Tuesday evening April 21, 2020 at 7pm at The Cannonball House, 856 Mulberry Street in Macon, GA has been postponed to

Tuesday evening, July 21, 2020 at 7pm

Our guest speaker **will still** be Stephen Davis author of a new book, Texas Brigadier to the Fall of Atlanta: John Bell Hood, from Mercer University Press. Stephen Davis is a nationally-known author and recognized expert on the Atlanta Campaign of 1864. This is his seventh book on the subject. He has also written hundreds of articles for both scholarly and popular publications. He is a graduate of Emory University, where he studied under the renowned Bell Wiley and from which he earned his Ph.D. Now retired, he resides in Cumming, Georgia.

SPECIAL OFFER

Due to the 21 April rescheduling, (to July 21) Mercer University Press would like to offer our 1st speaker, Steve Davis' new book Texas Brigadier to the Fall of Atlanta: John Bell Hood to the Mid-GA-CWRT at a special 20% discount and free USA-USPS media mail shipping.

Texas Brigadier to the Fall of Atlanta: John Bell Hood Price: ~~\$35.00~~ \$28.00 +tax
<https://www.mupress.org/Texas-Brigadier-to-the-Fall-of-Atlanta-John-Bell-Hood-P1025.aspx>

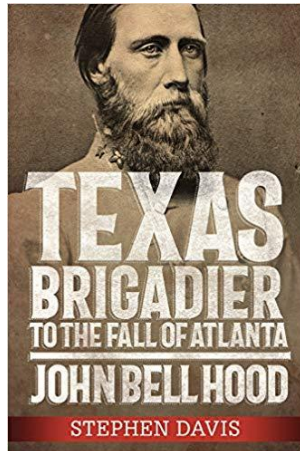
We also have Steve's previous publication available in paperback.
What the Yankees Did to Us: Sherman's Bombardment and Wrecking of Atlanta
Price: ~~\$30.00~~ \$24.00 +tax
<https://www.mupress.org/What-the-Yankees-Did-to-Us-Shermans-Bombardment-and-Wrecking-of-Atlanta-P957.aspx>

We have featured Steve's books, but, we will honor the 20% discount on any of our titles. We have an extensive Civil War List: <https://www.mupress.org/Civil-War-C2055.aspx>

We are here, taking orders, and shipping daily and are fortunate that this office is in a house on Orange Street (on the Mercer Law School campus). Wherever you are, stay safe and when you need something to do, order a book(s). We are still shipping! Give us a call at 478-301-2880 or 1-866-895-1472. – *Marshal Luttrell*

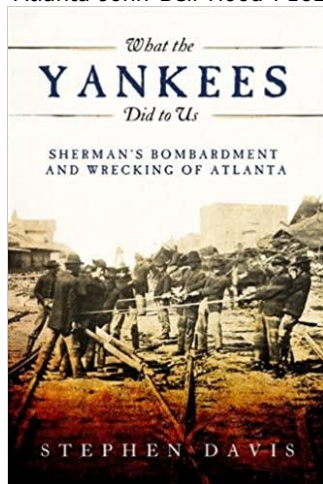
NOTE: We are so pleased and honored to have three members of Mercer University Press as esteemed members of The Middle Georgia Civil War Roundtable. They are Dr. Marc Jolly, Marshall Luttrell and Jenny Toole. Each has been so supportive and instrumental in getting the Round Table established. Their support is simply beyond estimate and is typified by the gracious book offers (above) that they have so graciously extended to Round Table Members. *Wayne Dobson, President Mid-GA-CWRT*

BOOKS BY STEVEN DAVIS



"Late in life, writing his memoirs, John Bell Hood wrote, "no man is justly entitled to be considered a great General, unless he has won his spurs." Hood did not explain how an officer earned his spurs, but he didn't need to. One may assume that such an accomplishment came about when a soldier conscientiously performed his duty, and gave his all in attempting to meet his country's expectations of him. In this work, the first of two volumes, Hood's rise in rank is chronicled. In three years, 1861-1864, Hood rose from lieutenant to full general in the Confederate army. Davis emphasizes Hood's fatal flaw: ambition. Hood constantly sought promotion, even after he had found his highest level of competence as division commander in Robert E. Lee's army.

As corps commander in the Army of Tennessee, his performance was good, but no better. Promoted to succeed Johnston, Hood did his utmost to defend Atlanta against Sherman. In this latter effort he failed. But he had won his spurs, even if he had been denied greatness as a general. <https://www.mupress.org/Texas-Brigadier-to-the-Fall-of-Atlanta-John-Bell-Hood-P1025.aspx>



Like Chicago from Mrs. O Leary's cow, or San Francisco from the earthquake of 1906, Atlanta has earned distinction as one of the most burned cities in American history. During the Civil War, Atlanta was wrecked, but not by burning alone. Longtime Atlantan Stephen Davis tells the story of what the Yankees did to his city. General William T. Sherman's Union forces had invested the city by late July 1864. Northern artillerymen, on Sherman's direct orders, began shelling the interior of Atlanta on 20 July, knowing that civilians still lived there and continued despite their knowledge that women and children were being killed and wounded. Countless buildings were damaged by Northern missiles and the fires they caused. Davis provides the most extensive account of the Federal shelling of Atlanta, relying on contemporary

newspaper accounts more than any previous scholar. The Yankees took Atlanta in early September by cutting its last railroad, which caused Confederate forces to evacuate and allowed Sherman's troops to march in the next day. The Federal army's two and a half-month occupation of the city is rarely covered in books on the Atlanta campaign. Davis makes a point that Sherman's wrecking continued during the occupation when Northern soldiers stripped houses and tore other structures down for wood to build their shanties and huts. Before setting out on his march to the sea, Sherman directed his engineers to demolish the city's railroad complex and what remained of its industrial plant. He cautioned them not to use fire until the day before the army was to set out on its march. Yet fires began the night of 11 November deliberate arson committed against orders by Northern soldiers. Davis details the burning of Atlanta, and studies those accounts that attempt to estimate the extent of destruction in the city.

Colonel Robert A. Smith

44th Regiment Georgia Volunteers

Born December 19, 1824 in Clinton, Jones County, Georgia. R.A. Smith founded the Macon Volunteers when talk of secession first started. Elected Captain of Company B, 2nd Battalion Georgia Infantry, April 20, 1861. Resigned March 24, 1862. Elected Colonel of the 44th Regiment, Georgia Infantry, to rank from March 15, 1862. Mortally wounded at Ellison Mills, near Richmond, Virginia on June 26, 1862 (age 37) while leading his command in a charge on the enemy works. Died of wounds June 28, 1862 Buried in Rose Hill Cemetery. (Macon Telegraph 29 July 1862, p. 3, c. 2)



On the 4th of July, 1862, an immense concourse of soldiers and citizens followed to their resting place in Rose Hill Cemetery, at Macon by the side of the wife of his early manhood, the remains of Col. R. A. Smith, of the 44th Georgia Regiment, whose sun went down in a blaze of glory during the recent conflict near Richmond. It is due to the dead, and may benefit the living, that one who has known and loved him from boyhood, should place on record an outline of his noble character.

At an early age, perhaps when fourteen or fifteen years old, Col. Smith united with the Methodist Church in Macon, where his membership still remained till his death. At the age of sixteen, he entered the Sophomore Class in Oglethorpe University, at which Institution he graduated in the Class of 1843. His student life was marked with respectable attainments in scholarship - genial and courteous intercourse with his associates, and a wide and varied culture in general literature. Many a fragrant hour he spent, after the demands of the recitation room had been met, with a friend, in discussing the books recently read, or, in a social, easy way, talking of the many themes which spring up in the pathway of the lover of letters. These were, indeed, "ambrosial nights" to which, in after years, he loved to recur.

It was a favorite quotation, with Smith, when referring to this period of his life, in conversation with a friend with whom he had enjoyed those hours of social and intellectual communing:

*"We spent them not in lust and wine,
But in the search of deep philosophy,
Arts which I loved."*



The flag of The United Confederate Veterans # 484 Honoring R.A. Smith

(Courtesy of The Cannonball House Museum)

He uniformly exhibited a rare purity and delicacy of conversation and conduct. The smutty anecdote the coarse jest, so common in the unrestrained conversations of young men with each other, never sullied his life. Having won the esteem of his fellow students and the Faculty; having awakened high anticipations that his would be a bright and useful future; having declined to contend for the honor of his class, because of the wrong feelings which such a contest tends to excite; having, at graduating, delivered a brilliant address, which, to this day, though delivered nineteen years ago is remembered by some who heard it, he left his Alma Mater for the busy world.

(R.A. Smith) In due season he was admitted to the Bar. His professional career was characterized by faithfulness, ability and piety. When employed in criminal cases, he made it a constant practice to seek to lead his clients to CHRIST. He visited them in prison, not only to talk with them about the impending trial, but to tell them of JESUS and the trial of the Great Day. He was abundant in good works. He visited the poor, the outcast, the suffering - ministering to them in temporal and spiritual things. For a long time he regularly went to the jail of his county, as a minister to the souls of those who might be confined there - white and black. He labored in Sabbath Schools and prayer meetings for the destitute, besides being regular and diligent as a class leader, superintendent or teacher in the Church Sabbath School, and office bearer in the Church of his choice.



The picture above shows a group of veterans at a reunion who probably served with Colonel Smith. They have the same "R.A. Smith" flag that is now in The Cannonball House collection. Apparently a photo of Smith was attached to the flag (near the staff). The oval where it was attached can still be seen on the flag but Smith's photo likely deteriorated in the passage of time. If anyone has access to a copy of this image or any other of Colonel Smith, it would be a welcome addition to the collection.

(R.A. Smith) A Methodist from conviction, Robert A. Smith had broad, warm sympathies for all who loved the LORD. He loved to unite with members of other churches in doing the work of the MASTER. In his dealings with his friends and acquaintances, he sought opportunity by letter and in conversation, to urge the claims of personal religion. Many are now living whom he has directly urged to come to CHRIST. Eternity alone can reveal the number of stars in his crown. Of his substance, he gave generously and freely for the promotion of religion, and for the relief of distress. No man was more severe upon his own faults or more charitable towards those of others.

He was an ardent patriot as well as Christian. When the War broke out he was Captain of the "Macon Volunteers." He was ordered to Norfolk with his company - they having promptly tendered their services - in the vicinity of which place they remained about a year, doing effective service in aiding to protect the public property there, and the place itself, from the enemy. When the new regiments were formed early in the spring, he was elected Colonel of the 44th Georgia Regiment. With the same zeal and diligence which he exhibited as Captain, he entered upon the more onerous duties of his new position. Night and day he was busy endeavoring to bring the regiment to the highest point of excellency both as soldiers and as men. His unwearied labor and exposure brought on disease, from which he suffered for two months before his death.

The fierce ordeal of the soldier's life did not cause his religion to go out in darkness. Writing to a friend, a few weeks since, he said - "During my recent afflictions I have tried to pray more than ever. Night before last, and last night, I passed most of the time in prayer. My illness kept me awake, but I found relief in calling on the name of the LORD."

At two o'clock on the morning of Thursday, the 26th of June, he received orders for his regiment, then near Richmond, to march towards Ellyson's Mills, preparatory to attacking the enemy's battery there. Feeble as he was, unable to mount his horse without assistance, he moved forward his regiment, to which he had already become strongly attached. When they made the terrific charge upon the battery later in the day, he gallantly led them on foot. During the charge he was wounded in three places, and was finally borne from the field.

Two days afterwards, in the thirty eight year of his age, from the effects of his wounds and disease, he died. His freed spirit sped its way to "the shining shore." The nation, the Church, the family, loving friends, the suffering, the destitute, the outcast, the prisoner, are bereaved. His work is done. History will enter his name on the roll of her Christian heroes. Being dead he yet speaketh. Whoever reads this brief tribute of action to his memory - follow him as he followed CHRIST.

[From the Southern Christian Advocate]

Zack Mobbs' Eagle Scout Project at Ft. Hawkins



Zack is an outstanding young man and the grandson of David (SCV 2218) and Peggy (UDC 25) Dunning.

The entire project is taking place on the grounds of Fort Hawkins historic site in Macon, GA. It includes a covered picnic pavilion (pictured) with six picnic tables, a tool shed next to the blacksmith shop and the reworking of the landscaping at the visitors center.

Peggy Dunning gives us an update by writing: *"So far, they have erected the framework for the picnic pavilion. The concrete was donated and poured on March 30. He (and we) would appreciate any donations, be it materials, money or help. He had hoped to finish this project over spring break but because of the Covid-19 situation, he has not be able to do the fundraising he had hoped to do and so doesn't have all the money he needs. Also, because of social distancing - it is difficult to schedule help."*

