

THE HOWLING DAWG

Covering the events of October 2019



"The Blue Hound of Shiloh"

16th Georgia Volunteer Infantry Regiment, Company G

"The Jackson Rifles"

HOW COULD SUCH A THING HAPPEN ?



At Gettysburg 3,311 Georgians had died. Now, the War seemed to have followed their spirits home as the stage was being set for "The Great Georgia Hurricane as The Macon Telegraph called Sherman's march to The Sea. It is far easier to write words than face bullets, yet the newspaper continued, *"he who thinks of fleeing at the approach of his adversary is unworthy of the name of man."*

THE BATTLE OF GRISWOLDVILLE NOVEMBER 22, 1864

In early October of 1864 Sherman was following Alabama Hood toward Alabama but gave up the chase at Snake Creek Gap, turned back to Atlanta and urged Grant to let him March to the Sea. Militia began gathering at Camp Lovejoy as Georgia Governor Joe Brown called all able men between the ages of 16-55 into service. With their flintlocks muskets, squirrel rifles, and shot guns, 200-300 local reserve cavalry, 3 batteries of artillery also arrived. These men were factory workers, city guards, railroad patrols, and other exempted from regular service. They would be recalled back to their homes for a 30-day "harvest furlough."

Tuesday, November 15th Sherman's troops marched from Atlanta after evicting 20-30 thousand civilians. The next day the Militia would skirmish with Union cavalry at Lovejoy's Station losing the two, 3" ordnance rifles that had been taken from Union General George Stoneman at The July 31st, 1864 Battle of Sunshine Church. These were the same guns used by the 24th Indiana to inflict damage on the home of Asa Holt (The Cannonball House, Macon, GA).

Thursday, November 17th Sherman's columns were 58 hours out of Atlanta carrying plenty of sweet potatoes, knapsacks, blankets, rubber ponchos, canteens, rifles and at least 40 rounds of ammunition. To counter this advance, Confederate General Beauregard wired General Hood asking for his help but knew he could not really expect it. Request by Generals Cobb and Taylor got similar results. Robert Toombs (whose Georgians had stalled the Union 9th Corp at the bridge over Antietam Creek) also wired Governor Brown asking for help. Meanwhile Gus Smith ordered his troops to fall back to Forsyth. They marched the 35 miles in 244 hours (mostly dark, arriving cold, tired and hungry and just in time to repel Sherman's cavalry advance and save some supplies there. General Smith then moved his troops by train to Macon amid much confusion concerning Sherman's ultimate destination. Dogging his path were 3,500 scattered Southern horsemen. Macon was accumulating an overload of brass. Only a week after Sherman had left Atlanta, Generals Hardee and Taylor were in Macon, soon to be joined by Governor Joe Brown, Howell Cobb and Major General G.W. Smith. Of these four high-ranking commanders only one, Smith, brought any troops with him – about 3,000 Militia. Brown ordered out these four brigades of Militia (though none were bigger than a regiment) under General Pleasant Philips. General Smith had acquired Anderson's Battery at Atlanta the previous summer. These units with the State Line were positioned in the defenses of Macon. Sherman's March was into its 3rd full day and little could be done to stop it. Maconites were boarding trains heading for Albany.

Friday, November 18th - Saturday, November 19th Kilpatrick's Union Cavalry crossed the Ocmulgee at Planter's Factory and arrived in Clinton on the morning of the 19th as Governor Brown ordered the evacuation of Milledgeville. Letters found on dead Yanks petitioned Northern men to bring home Southern treasures. Georgians were up early and in the East Macon trenches as Southern cavalry was sent toward Clinton to find enemy. At 10:30am the telegraph lines between Macon and Milledgeville were cut at Griswoldville by Union troops ending all communication to the east. Union troops were now in destroying what they could of Monticello as Union columns passed right of Hillsborough in Jasper Co. and Tranquilla in Jones County before camping near Clinton under an increased threat of rain. The night turned very cold as soldiers tore up rail fences to build fires.

Sunday, November 20th Due to dense fog this morning General Wheeler did not see Major General Peter Osterhaus XVth Corps until his men were among the column outside of Clinton. His troopers got within 20 feet of Union General Osterhaus' HQ and captured his servant before Federal Cavalry chased them out of town. Confederate forces, regrouped and chased the Yanks back and headed back toward Macon. At 8am in Macon it was 54 degrees. In just a little more than a week, Hood would be at Franklin, Tennessee.

GRISWOLDVILLE

Monday, November 21st Captain Frederick Ladd and his 100 picked men from the 9th Michigan rode from Clinton where they had been camped to Griswoldville - early. They stayed off the roads and picked their way through the pine woods to avoid Southern pickets. The 9th Michigan charged the town driving out Wheeler's Alabama men to the pines. From there they sniped at Ladd and his men as they continued their second day of destruction in the town. This included 17 locomotives and 100 rail cars. Severe rain set in and the weather turned much colder as snow moved into middle Georgia.

Tuesday, November 22nd Colonel Oliver Baldwin's 5th Kentucky Union Cavalry had been operating several miles out of Macon then rode to Griswoldville. After breakfast on the 22nd to finish the destruction and burning that Captain Ladd had begun two days ago. Every house (about 40) in Griswoldville was burned including the brick, soap and candle factories, saw mill, grist mill, with the various shops and quarters for black and white workers. Spared was Sam Griswold's residence, the home of Colonel Grier a few slave houses and a building occupied by a mill operator. Even the church was burned.

Confederate General Hardee - temporary commander in Georgia - reported that he had 14,680 men present for duty on November 20th but most of these were on the Georgia coast. Hardee now believed that Augusta, not Macon was Sherman's real target. On the day before November 21st, Hardee had ordered the 1st Brigade of Georgia Militia (Carswell's) Commanded by Col. James N. Willis to proceed along the Georgia Central Railroad to Augusta. Rain continued to fall that evening and into the night, then changed to sleet and snow flurries, driven by howling winds.

Tuesday, November 22nd Before dawn Major Ferdinand W. Cook with his Athens and Augusta men marched toward Augusta by way of Griswoldville. It was 30 degrees in Macon at 8am when General Pleasant Philips commanding "Gus" Smith's 2nd, 3rd, & 4th Brigades of the Georgia Militia and Captain Ruel Anderson's battery followed. Lt. Colonel Beverly D. Evans' Georgia State Line would likewise leave for Augusta with orders to avoid battle if they met the enemy, return to Macon or follow Wheeler. General Hardee would leave Macon (by train to Savannah and then Augusta) after issuing these orders and General Taylor would take command. Smith was more of an administrative-type of officer who stayed behind in Macon, catching up on paperwork and regarding the entire movement to Augusta as a mere troop transfer Smith believed it would take four hours to reach Griswoldville. His specific orders were *"to halt before reaching Griswoldville and wait for further orders."*

Upon the cold dawn of November 22nd General Walcutt's - Union 2nd Brigade of Woods' Division was comprised of the 97th Indiana 103rd Illinois, 6th Iowa, 40th Illinois, 100th Indiana, 46th Ohio, 1st Michigan Artillery, Battery B (2-3" Ordnance Rifles). The total was about 1,500 men. Colonel Milo Smith's 1st Brigade, 1st Div. XV Corps consisting of the 76th Ohio, 27th Missouri, 31st and 32nd Missouri, 12th Indiana, 26th Iowa, 29th Missouri had joined Walcutt's command in clearing Wheeler's presence from the town and fields of Griswoldville on the day before. Smith's men then camped a mile behind Walcutt who was on Duncan's Ridge. Smith was near Mountain Springs Baptist Church, one mile east of the spring from whence it got its name. They tore logs from it to erect breastworks. Division HQ was also located in this area along with ammunition supplies and medical services.

In Macon, General Richard Taylor arrived from Montgomery (on Beauregard's orders) by train during a Georgia snowstorm. Advised of the situation Taylor told Cobb (meeting at the Bear's Den on Walnut Street) that the Yanks would have already be in Macon for if they were coming. Sherman's main body was, in fact, now nearing Milledgeville. Cobb praised Taylor's military knowledge, admitting, that he had none. At that moment Governor Joe Brown arrived from Milledgeville. For Cobb this was awkward moment for Brown was the only man in Georgia he refused to speak to. Urgency of the situation overrode personal

GRISWOLDVILLE

concerns or animosities. Smith and General Toombs had also arrived with Brown. General "Gus" Smith had noted sarcastically that Generals Hardee and Taylor had arrived in Macon but brought no troops with them. Toombs hated regular army officers. What a meeting! Then in walks Wheeler, who Toombs really detested. It was a miracle they could agree on anything! The decision was reached during that meeting to send Smith's 3,700 militia along the railroad, east, to ward Savannah across Sherman's front then swing north to Augusta and avoid any conflict. Wheeler would screen the movement. Then it dawned on Taylor and the rest of the military brain trust in Macon that the militia columns would inevitably intersect Sherman. The temperature had dropped 24 degrees in 24 hours in what was the coldest and earliest winter most Georgians could recall.

Joe Wheeler's goal was to remove his cavalry from the Griswoldville area, get in front of Sherman and, thereby, defend Augusta. With Wheeler gone from Griswoldville, Osterhaus, the Prussian, did not see any need to leave Walcutt's infantry Brigade standing in the open, vulnerable to perhaps more cavalry attacks. Osterhaus recalled a section of "open prairie" near the town. The expanse of land contained a ridge overlooking open fields. By putting Walcutt's Brigade there, on Duncan's Ridge they could have a more defensible position on the eastern outskirts of the town from unpredictable Confederate cavalry attacks and they would command both the main wagon road and the railroad.

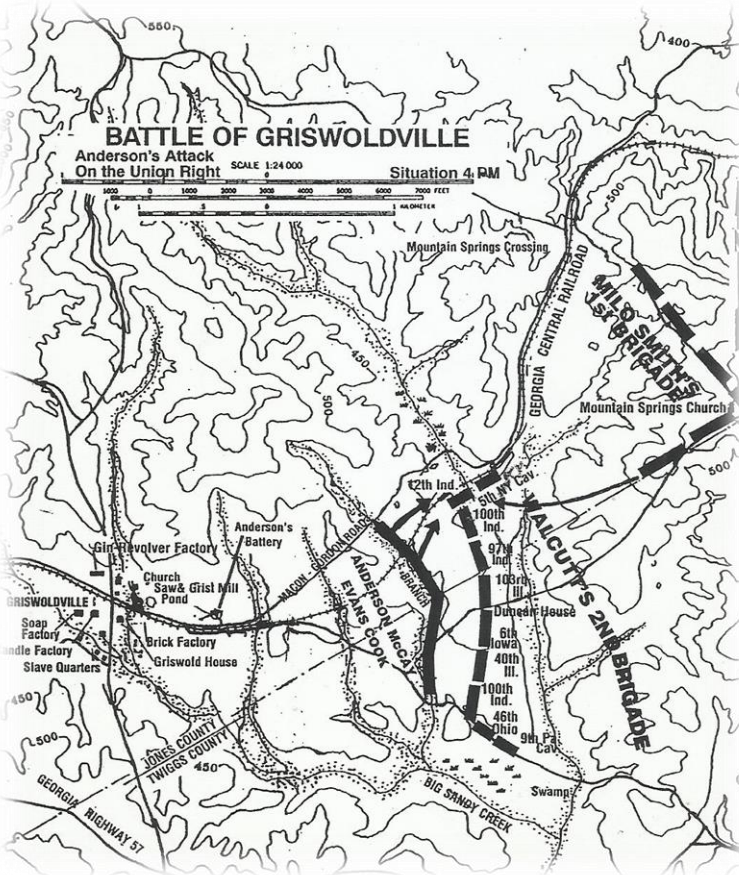
10:30 – 11 AM Wheeler's command had encountered the marching Augusta and Athens battalions and warned them of what lay ahead in Griswoldville. Major Cook put his men in line of battle as they moved down the Macon-Gordon road, near the rail road. They halted one mile from Griswoldville and could hear the firing of General Ferguson's Confederate cavalry (screening for Philips) and see the smoke rising from the town. Cook held his line of battle but would not advance as his orders were to avoid all contact with the enemy. Two hours back, the Militia followed on ice-spewed roads. Wheeler's Cavalry had also encountered Philips column and informed them that a Union force of about 800-1,200 would be to his immediate front when he came to Griswoldville - those odds were about 3 to 1. The route to Augusta went through Griswoldville and Philips decided to proceed as planned.

NOON When Walcutt had been positioned on Duncan's ridge, Captain Albert Arndt's 1st Michigan Battery B (14 men) was already in place at the crest of the ridge and straddling a road running east toward Mountain Springs Church. Walcutt split his Brigade on either side of the road and, thus, deployed his men on either side of the battery, facing west toward Griswoldville. Around this time, Philips lead elements came upon the Athens and Augusta Battalions deployed in line of battle, facing the smoldering town. He quickly learned that the road was not clear as the "brain trust" in Macon had thought. Major Cook quickly briefed Philips on the situation at hand. Philips put his command into a line of battle ordering Beverly Evans' State Line to form a skirmish line and saw the Yankee position on the ridge of the old Duncan Farm, 2 miles southeast of the town. Sam Griswold had bought this property 2 decades ago and in the meantime it had mostly reverted to scrub.

The Union Left to right was the 46th Ohio, 100th Indiana, 40th Illinois, with Arndt's Battery in the road. On the North side of the road was the 6th Iowa. 103rd Illinois and the 97th Indiana. A seventh regiment, the 26th Illinois was detached to train guard duty. The far right of the Union line ended at the Georgia and Central RR and beyond that was swamp. On the far left was Big Sandy Creek swamp. Arndt's battery was slightly behind the infantry line, at the center at the junction of 6th Iowa and the 40th Illinois. The farm house where Walcutt established his headquarters stood on the ridge between the junction of the 103rd Illinois and the 6th Iowa. The Yankee line faced a field that sloped to a branch known as Big Sandy Creek. For yards on each bank grew small, trees, gall berry bushes and bamboo.

GRISWOLDVILLE

Dry, brown, corn stalks from a previous growing season dotted the field. 50 yards in front of the Union line to the right of Arndt's battery behind a half-moon shaped barricade stood a large pine tree. Osterhaus' directions to build breastworks had been half-heartedly obeyed until the approach of Philips' columns sent the Union skirmish line scurrying in and across the open fields to Duncan's Ridge. *"We gathered rails, logs and anything we could get for protection,"* recalled an Iowa soldier.



"We were getting dinner, not dreaming of a fight," said an Illinois infantryman. *"We used everything that would check a ball."* Wrote a member of the 103rd Illinois. Some out

buildings on the farm supplied lumber to build slight breastworks and a skirmish line had been sent out to the far side of the branch to keep a lookout for any returning Confederate cavalry. It would be these skirmishers which exchanged the initial shots with the Athens and Augusta Battalions. Philips, hearing the firing rode to confer with Major Cook again. Cook advised that his men had run into another Yankee skirmish line, but that these had been brushed aside as well. Philips decided to come up in a battle line, sending Anderson's battery to "an eligible site of the railroad on the north side."

NOVEMBER 22 – 12:20PM –

MACON General Toombs, in Macon, sent a dispatch to General Philips, which read:

"General Wheel having retired to the right, keep a close look out with your skirmishers and avoid a fight with a superior force. You can best judge of the direction. The wagon train will not leave this evening p.s. - If it be dangerous to get back, take down the Marion road."

Near the same hour General Smith, in Macon, received a dispatch from Major Cook, advising that Griswoldville had been burned and some Federals were still in the vicinity and advancing on his Athens and Augusta Battalions.

Athens and Augusta had a two hour head start on Philips' Militia. It took about 2 hours to get Cook's message from Griswoldville to Macon and about the same time to get one back to Griswoldville. So, we can conclude that Philips got the 12:20PM dispatch from Toombs about 1:30-2PM

1 – 2 PM GRISWOLDVILLE Philips ordered his Georgians to form a battle line as such: General C.D. Anderson's 3rd Brigade of Militia on the right, the Athens and Augusta Battalions on the immediate left. General Henry McCay's 4th Brigade of the far left and the

GRISWOLDVILLE

400 men of the Lt. Colonel Beverly Evan's Georgia State Line would form a strong skirmish line in the center overlapping the road. About 2pm this line of battle pushed through the smoldering ruins of Griswoldville expecting to draw Union fire but they did not. This was the first look they had of Sherman's handiwork - the utter destruction of a small Southern town. Philips' column had come through the town seeking a place to safely halt and await further orders from General Smith.

2:30 PM - CONFEDERATES FIRST ENGAGE THE ENEMY Major Cook's skirmishers drove the Federal skirmish line down a slope to the branch and up the opposite slope toward Duncan's Ridge. There, he could see a Federal battle line behind some light fortifications at the edge of the timber line. However, the rear of Philip's column had not cleared the town before they heard the crackle of small arms fire 1/2 mile to the front. Firing had erupted between the advance and rear guards of Major Cook and the enemy. Philips ordered his men to advance to the firing.

The Union troops cook fires going, boiling some coffee and likely not carrying much in the way of rations except raw bacon and hardtack. Seeing their pickets being driven in, the Federals unstacked arms and formed their battle line. As Philips men approached, they were able to take cover in a large stand of pine trees. Philips assumed overall command as Cook's skirmishers were still engaged and Arndt's battery began firing on them. As Arndt moved one of his guns to the right to set up a cross fire, the four Confederate Napoleons opened and the initial round hit one of Arndt's two caissons immediately destroying half of his ammunition. Battery B paid a high price for sticking to their guns. Of the fourteen men, two lost legs, one an arm and four more were wounded to some degree - six of his horses were also down. One gunner, William Plumb, gamely tried to serve his gun even though the "sponge and rammer had been shot to pieces." He would later write that they had held their position to the last round of ammunition had been fired, but it is more likely that Arndt pulled his one remaining gun back with ropes harnessed to human backs before the Confederate infantry came within killing range. Free from the threat of Union artillery, Ruel Anderson's command fired along the Federal line, *"making the rails and logs fly pretty lively"*. A member of the 6th Iowa noted, *"the enemy's well-served artillery continued to do serious damage along the entire line of the Brigade. A single shell that struck and exploded in the log barricade at the point where the regimental colors were waving killed a member of the color guard, blowing the top of his head off and saturating the colors with his blood."* Union Lt. Charles W. Wills of the 103rd Illinois wrote of their field of fire: "We had a nice open field without even a fence on it, full 600 yards wide in our front.

PHILIPS' MOMENT OF DECISION General Pleasant Philips now faced one of the most difficult and controversial decisions of his military career - whether or not to attack. His men held their formation in the tree line as Philips assured Major General Smith's aide that he had no intention of attacking. However, Smith's very orders had provided for the option to attack if Philips was not *"pressed by a superior force."* HE WAS NOT. He thought it over. The field was flat and open, allowing easy deployment. Two ravines gave sheltering havens to regroup during the assault. Too, Philips doubted the Yanks would make much of a stand here. They had shown a lack of willingness to engage all morning. It was now abundantly apparent that the Federals were not targeting Macon, but moving toward Milledgeville - the thin line of Federal infantry that blocked Philips path was probably a rear guard that would fade at the first punch. Moreover, the Georgia men of his command - from Jones, Wilkinson and Bibb County, from Macon, itself - had abandoned large swaths of their homeland for the enemy to ravage - now, the enemy was here, sitting straddle of Twiggs and Jones Counties - on THEIR OWN LAND. They were joined by good men from Athens and Augusta and some from Montgomery County, down around Savannah, where Sherman's henchmen were likely

GRISWOLDVILLE

to venture. No sane man wants to fight when it can be avoided, but THESE MEN WERE TIRED OF THOSE WHO CHALLENGED THEIR COURAGE AND THEY MEANT TO DEFEND THEIR STATE! According to one Confederate officer, these men dreaded the *"jeers and sneer they had encountered ...more than Yankee bullets."*

THE ATTACK General Anderson's 3rd Brigade attacked the Federal right, starting from their position on the left or north side of the railroad. Major Cook's Athens and Augusta battalions attacked the Federal left from a formation in the pines that resembled an obtuse angle. They would have to compensate when they advanced to keep their alignment with troops on their left. General McCay's 4th Brigade of GA Militia and Lt. Col. Beverly Evans' State Line would attack the Union center. General Philips kept his own 2nd Brigade, under command of Colonel James N. Mann, in reserve near the center of the line, behind McCay's men. Captain Ruel Anderson's battery, with 130 men, held their position near the rear of Anderson's Brigade, posted near and just north of the railroad at old Number 18 train station in an opening in the pines. They had a clear field of fire toward their target about 880 yards away (maximum Napoleon range was 2,000 yards).. With the artillery horses led to the rear the four cannon relentlessly pounded the crest of the ridge.

The initial Confederate change was into a ravine formed by the sloping sides of the branch. Here, they would take shelter in the swampy area 50-100 yards from Union positions, prior to renewing their assault. *"The Rebel infantry approached at shoulder arms, in good order, as if on parade,"* recorded one admiring Federal. *"The Union main line was deathly quiet as we charged,"* recalled one of the Georgia State Line: About midway across the field, the Yankee position opened fire. *"It was 2:30pm"* recalled an Indiana soldier when *"the music of shot and shell began."* *"As soon as they came within range of our muskets, a most terrific fire was poured into their ranks, doing fearful execution,"* reported the commander of the 103rd Illinois. *"This first volley, fired at 250 yards,"* recorded another member of the 103rd Illinois *"was most terrible; literally mowing down their first line, which halted, wavered and seemed amazed."*

3 PM - THE FULL ADVANCE The Southern infantry had moved forward as their artillery opened. The Georgians advanced leaving the cover of the pines for a space of open field. An Iowa soldier saw it this way: *"The enemy's forces marched out of the timber into the open field with three lines of infantry, either one of which more than covered the brigade front. Their lines were pushed boldly forward, with colors flying and loud cheering by the men, presenting a battle array calculated to appall the stoutest hearts."* Another Iowan remembered *"the enemy advanced in three columns, but our boys who had fought so many battles with Sherman were not frightened at the superiority of numbers."*

Due to the curve of the branch there would be only 50 yards to go to the Union center and only 1200 yards distance to each Union flank. In all, they would be advancing across nearly 880 yards of mostly open terrain against semi-entrenched Veteran Union troops, some armed with Spencers

13-year-old Militia Private Bridges Smith (destined to become Mayor of Macon) stood in the ranks of the 5th Regiment of Georgia Militia. Those who had bayonets fixed them. Next to Bridges was 14-year-old Private W.A. Poe, also from Macon. Lt. Colonel B.D. Evans waited in line with his State Line. He did not have to wait there long. He later wrote: *"I had been in line but a few moments before ordered and attack the enemy in front."*

The first Confederate line of over 1,000 men burst into the open field, flags fluttering in the cold breeze. Their line as still unbroken as they advanced through the old corn fields. Some officers were on horseback.

As Colonel Evans and his State Line moved into the open, he was shocked when he looked to his right and saw only open field. Major Cook's Athens and Augusta men should have been there! Being far on the Confederate right, Cook was the last to get the order to

GRISWOLDVILLE

charge. At the opposite extreme, General Anderson advanced with his Brigade down the hill toward the branch. Philips seemed to play no role after the attack was under way as all three lines expanded to a mile in width. The first line jumped a small stream within 400 yards of the enemy as the Southern artillery increased their rate of fire to three shots per minute causing explosions all over the ridge. Colonel James N. Mann's 2nd Brigade watched from their reserve position. The second line now crossed the small stream.

Anderson's brigade began taking casualties as well-served artillery had a telling effect on the Northern lines. The Spencer rifles began to have a terrible consequence. The Confederates seemed to fire high, coming up hill as Major Cook's Athens and Augusta Battalions were received heavy fire from the Union center and left. The State Line men had pretty much worked their way straight up the road to the Union right center and were facing the 6th Iowa, three companies of the 100th Indiana and the 103rd Illinois. Some of these Union troops were manning the substructure of the dismantled farm building and firing from that cover. Shells from Anderson's battery were hitting the wood rail barricades near the Federal center, filling the air with deadly splinters.

When the first Confederate lines had crossed Big Sandy Creek Branch, Colonel Mann unleashed, without orders, his 2nd Brigade of Georgia Militia (4th, 5th & 6th Militia Regiments), the only reserves. They came from the woods at a run, to the rear of the State Line and the 4th Brigade.

On the far Confederate left, C.D. Anderson realized his attack had gotten off to a bad start. Instead of staying north of the railroad deep cut and, thereby, overlapping the Union far right, his lines swung to the southern side of the railroad and were now nearly opposite the Federal center and facing the 103rd Illinois. Some of his men had stayed to the north side of the track and were now cut off. General Philips' report later stated, *"From some misconception of orders, when the general advance was being made General Anderson's brigade faced to the right and swept across the railroad - save a small detachment on his extreme left that was cut off by a deep cut in the railroad - and participated with the State Line and General McCay's brigade in the direct attack, where they, both officers and men, sustained themselves with decision and gallantry."*

When the State Line troops of Lt. Col. Evans reached the main Branch, they stopped to deliver a volley into the farm buildings in their front where they had been receiving much deadly Northern fire. Still these Union troops had delayed the State Line advance and caused the becoming mixed with other commands on both flanks. Lt. Colonel Evans was wounded and Lt. Col. James Wilson, now in command of the State Line, moved his men forward, across the branch and under the slope of the next hill. From here they fired, finally driving the Union riflemen from the outbuildings and into the main line of Union works. Suddenly, the State Line began receiving fire from the thickets in their rear. This fire was coming from the second line of 2nd Brigade of Georgia Militia and caused much consternation before order could be restored.

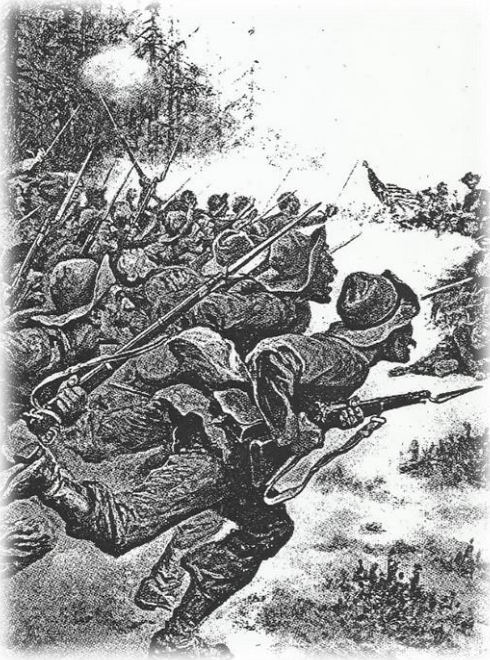
Now, almost all of General Philips' force was bearing down on the Union center and right center as the gray lines overlapped the right center of the Union position and probed for an opening. General Walcutt saw this and began shifting men to his right side to counter the surging Georgians.

3:30 PM The Confederate artillery had a devastating and early success against their Federal counterparts and for a while after that, they had been able to rove up and down the Federal line placing shots wherever they pleased. However, as the Confederate infantry closed in on the ridge, they had to be more careful and more selective. The Duncan farm house had become Walcutt's HQ and it made an appealing target. One of Anderson's well-placed rounds exploded in that vicinity, near Walcutt, driving a shell fragment into the lower part of his right calf, causing a painful and incapacitating wound. He was carried to a field hospital in

GRISWOLDVILLE

the rear, near Mountain Springs Church. It was at this moment that Colonel Catterson of the 97th Indiana assumed overall command.

THE ATTACK GRINDS TO A HALT Incredibly, the Confederate forces had maintained their position in the forward gully for nearly two hours. Philips still had no control once his men were into the final segment of the assault. He vainly tried to get Athens and Augusta to flank the enemy line from the left but that never happened. Moreover his reserves had advanced into the field to join the others in the far gully. The Confederate assault appeared relentless but over most of the field the Confederate line was being driven back into the branch, still "...they moved forward", and came to within 45 yards of Federal works. Here, they attempted to reform their line, but so destructive was the Union fire that they were compelled to retire" and the attack began to grind to a halt. Confederates still fired on the Union line from the ravine and the undergrowth. From the branch groups of determined Southern men would surge forward, only to be shot down or driven back. *"It was as if no living thing could survive the hail of shot and shell they faced as they charged the slope."* The Federals, especially those with the repeating rifles were beginning to run low on cartridges and sent drummers to the rear for re-



supply. Federal supply trains had arrived near the Federal rear despite some mule teams being cut down by Anderson's artillery fire. Fire in the Federal ranks began to slacken and many soldiers there began to fix bayonets with the order being given. Confederate forces kept up enough of a rate of fire from the rim of the gully to discourage any Yankee counter assaults. Southern officers rallied the men to make assaults on the Federal line but these were beaten back by the hail of bullets. The last took place near the end of the engagement when the left wing of General Anderson's brigade (which had gotten separated from the other wing) tried to turn the Federal right flank.

THE AFTERMATH What had kept the Georgians trying for so long had little to do with strategy or tactics? In a telling moment from the battle's aftermath, a mortally wounded militiaman told his captors: *"My neighborhood is ruined and these people are my neighbors."* General Philip's best opportunity to break the blue lines, with bayonets fixed, had arrived and was slowly slipping away as the Union drummers came forward with ammunition. The Union fire suddenly increased and the gray ranks fell back again; a bit thinner. On the extreme right, Cook's men had made it to the branch and were busy trying to regroup. Soon they pitched in to the Union line and hit the center and the 40th Illinois, not the intended target of the weak left side. There Cook's men made one weak attack against the 46th Ohio (just before Walcut had pulled them out to the right). Here, the Confederates were allowed to come within thirty yards before the Union men fired, repulsing the Rebels easily, leaving a number of killed and disabled horses and one prisoner.

Perhaps if Cook had hit where the four companies of the 100th Illinois was spread thin (single rank – ten feet apart), they may have broken through and rolled the line up from left to right. Cook could never quite rightly explain why they went to the center. This attack, if carried out as ordered by Philips could have meant a Southern victory.

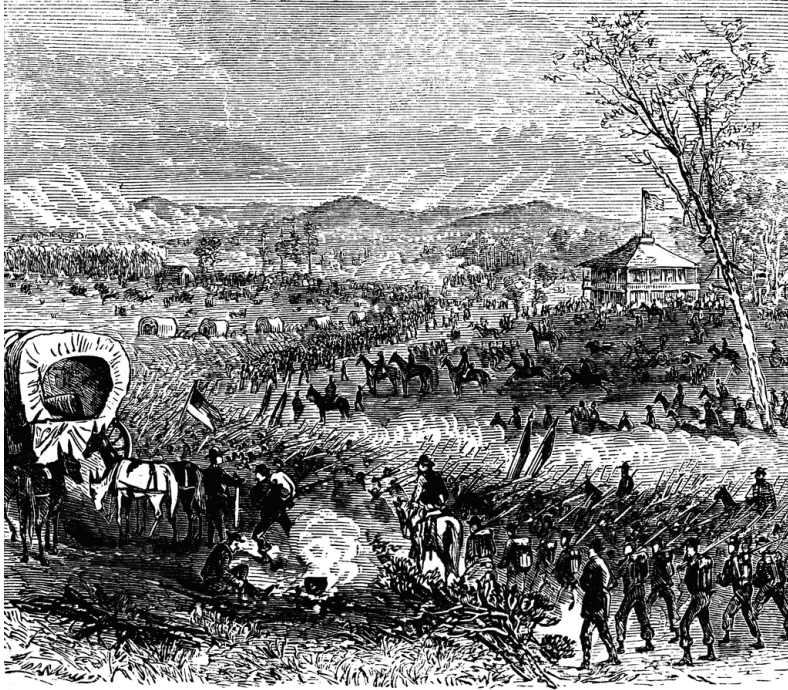
GRISWOLDVILLE

THE HIGH WATER MARK - 4PM General C.D. Anderson was reorganizing his attack. He ordered his commanders to get their men moving to their left in the direction of the RR. For some reason one of Lt. Col. Beverly Evans' regiments, the 2nd Regiment of Georgia Militia, followed General Anderson's Brigade as it moved to the left. Also the State line merged with Anderson's brigade on the left, the wheeling motion brought the State Line left in near proximity to the Union lines and they were able to pour a well-directed fire into the blue ranks, throwing them into momentary confusion. Confederate officers began concentrating on overwhelming the Federal right flank. Meanwhile, General Anderson finally managed to add to his advancing force, the detachment that had been cut off north of the deep railroad cut. With these fresh troops, he once again, tried to turn the Federal right flank. This surge took them within yards of the position of the 46th Ohio, 97th Indiana (one squad of 25 Spencers) and the 100th Indiana. A soldier in the ranks of the 103rd Illinois called it "quite a hard fight." In the 97th Indiana, it seemed that *"the enemy came at us with force and fury."* In the 100th Indiana it seemed that *"the Georgians charged us and fought furiously. We kept on loading and firing till the smoke got so thick it almost blinded us and our guns got so hot they burned our hands."* The Federals were thrown into momentary confusion again as Anderson's men poured into the Union right.

By now, Philips' entire command, except for Anderson's attack on the Union right far left, had pulled back to the Big Sandy Creek Branch. Their attacks had surged some seven times against the Federal line. Soon Anderson's attempt to get around the Union flank would be turned. Here, Col. Abner Redding was shot and killed leading his 7th Regiment Georgia Militia. After an hour and a half, Anderson's men could charge no more. Almost out of ammunition, they halted just yards from the Federal lines and slowly exchanged fire at close range. This Brigade had suffered 25 dead, 116 wounded and 22 missing. Two bullets had passed through Anderson's clothing without hitting him but a third severely wounded his hand. Many of the missing would be found dead on the field. His command began pulling back to the ravine which was directly in the front of Major Johnson's 100th Indiana. The temperature was once again dropping below freezing. Still under enemy fire, in the cold twilight, the Confederates tried to get their wounded to the rear. They recalled the humiliation and pain of having to leave so many on the field at Atlanta. Lt. Col. Beverly Evan's State Line kept up a fire on the ridges trying to cover Anderson's withdrawal. From behind the Federal lines, Colonel Milo Smith's 12th Indiana, under Major Baldwin arrived and Catterson ordered them to reinforce the Federal right. They had arrived just in time to prevent a flanking move by Anderson's men. As dark closed in Catterson asked Milo Smith for one more regiment of reinforcements.

IN MACON - 4:30PM Thomas Hardeman, Assistant Adjutant General sent these orders to General Philips as the battle was nearly over: *"I am directed by the major-general to instruct you to withdraws your troops immediately to some convenient camp this side of the Cross Keys and take a suitable position for the night, unless you receive further orders. You will leave your camp this side of the Cross Keys at day light tomorrow morning and come back to the fortifications. Your note of 2 o'clock has been received. Keep the courier who brings this until you march, and notify us accordingly. When you leave tomorrow morning send a courier, stating the time you begin your march for the fortifications. Put your scouts well out tonight upon all road leading from Clinton; or if the enemy mass upon you from any direction, fall back to the lines of fortifications upon their approach and immediately report the facts. There is a good branch just this side of Walnut Creek. Our cavalry were near Clinton this morning, but are being pushed back by the enemy."*

GRISWOLDVILLE



5PM After the sun had set, the rate of fire from the gully dropped off dramatically then ceased altogether. There was nothing dramatic about the end of the battle. It was almost as if the officers and men on both sides decided that enough was enough. It was growing dark before the Union reinforcements reached the scene of the action. Also returning was none other than Major General Osterhaus. He had been meeting in Gordon with Major General O.O. Howard when he heard "a rather severe cannonade in the direction of Griswoldville." Osterhaus arrived "soon enough to witness the last efforts."

Informed that other troops were being pulled back, C.D.

Anderson ordered his beleaguered heroes to do the same, *"slowly and in good order."* The Confederate Napoleons at No. 18 station limbered and rejoined the other section of Ruel's Anderson's Battery - they had done all they could; It was getting darker and colder by the minute. Felix Pryor of Mann's 2nd Brigade recalled how they left many dead and wounded on the field and to the mercy of the frigid night.

Some militia men apparently called it quits on their own. Private William Bedford Langford recalled heading across the clearing in the rear toward the woods with a friend. *"Just about half way across,"* he often told his daughters, *"Yankees began firing at them. Some twenty to twenty-five bullets hit all around them, but neither man was shot."* Most all after action reports echoed the same sentiment of an unpanicked withdrawal. One militia man did complain in a letter home of "leaving some of our killed and wounded on the field exposed to the severities of a very cold night.

6 PM At the sound of a bugle Col. Catterson sent skirmishers (from at least four regiments) forward from the 100th Indiana, 103rd Illinois, and the 46th Ohio into the decimated enemy lines. They were to bring in all the living Rebels they could.

7 PM Some wounded were taken to the rear, near fires. Others, that could not be moved were covered with blankets removed from the dead. General Philips had planned to halt in Griswoldville so he could send out detachments to bring in the wounded, but orders were waiting for him there, instructing him and his command to return to Macon with all due haste. Thanks to some track repair or simply track that had not been torn up, Philips' command had to march only 2-1/2 miles before they could board trains taking them back to Macon and affording some medical assistance. Union squads broke up captured arms or brought in uninjured prisoners. Some Southern troops had gone into action with their Negro servants and slaves with them. After the retreat back to Griswoldville, some had stayed behind in the covered ravine.

The Federals would use a house owned by a Mr. Baker, two miles from the battlefield, as a hospital for the wounded. The Macon Telegraph and Confederate would report in its

GRISWOLDVILLE

November 30, 1864. Major Johnson, 100th Indiana, and Major Willison of the 103rd Illinois, reported that his men brought in a number of prisoners and small arms. Lt. Col. Alexander of the 46th Ohio reported that in his front lay "about forty of the enemy's dead and a large number of wounded. "Some Confederate prisoners reported that General Philips had been killed. Colonel Robert Catterson reported 42 prisoners and 150 small arms taken.

8 PM

Major Willison, 103rd Illinois Infantry - "At 8 o'clock we received orders to be in readiness to move and at 9PM we moved off the field and rejoined the Division. The Northern wounded were loaded into wagons and moved out with the brigade. U.S. Major General wrote: *"We brought along our wounded (over 200, I believe) in ambulances, jolting over corduroy roads, with much exposure...no loss of life...using rails of newly cut pines, even made our own roads, employing thousands of men"*.

That night in the Union camps many veteran soldiers remained amazed that the Confederates had dared cross the open field to attack their fortified position. Some Georgians, they agreed had advanced more than three times against their line. Some Southern troops would surge forward seven times trying to break the Union line. The Yankees wrote admiringly of the Rebels, "dash", "pluck" and "heroic style at the battle of Griswoldville."

9 PM

Catterson's men were pulled from the line at Duncan's farm and moved on by 9:00PM, that night, joining their division. After the fighting, General Philips and his weary men returned to Griswoldville. Mrs. Griswold, who had remained in her home - which was one of the few houses not torched by the Union troops - would open her 3-story, 20 room home to the many Confederate wounded. The surgeons kept busy throughout the night, sawing of arms and legs and cutting out bullets. One soldier described the scene as *"wounded in all possible manner that you can imagine"*. Among these wounded were General C.D. Anderson, Colonel Mann and Lt. Col. Beverly Evans. The total Southern casualties, which included over 60 officers would exceed 600 men. More than 300 wounded would crowd on the train back to Macon on this cold Georgia night.

9:30 PM

General Philips had intended to camp near the village of Griswoldville so the remaining dead and wounded could be retrieved from the battlefield, but he soon received orders from Macon: *"The superintendent of the Central railroad will have a train by 9:30 o'clock at the break about two miles and a half this side of Griswoldville. Doctor Rains will accompany the train, and will do all in his power to relieve your wounded men. You will please have your wounded removed to this point with all possible speed. The Major-General takes this method of tendering you and the troops of your command his grateful acknowledgements of their gallant conduct in the engagement through which you have passed, and is gratified at your success in driving before you the enemies of your country. Had anything of this character been anticipated, the Major-General and staff would have been with you to have shared your dangers and your honor. The reported advance of the enemy from Clinton makes it necessary that you have your command in position in our works at a very early hour tomorrow morning. You will therefore withdraw them as directed in a previous order, after making suitable arrangements for your wounded and giving sufficient time for your men to recover from the fatigue incident to an engagement. The major-general expects information here from the column advancing from Clinton, and if anything of a serious nature occurs he will meet you in person to aid you giving proper directions to your command. Thomas Hardeman, Jr. - Assistant Adjutant General*

Even with the removal efforts some Confederate wounded were left on the field all during the freezing night, fighting for their lives. Some would eventually lose that fight, dying alone on the on a frozen field that had then been abandoned by friend and foe alike. Carolyn White Williams excellent History of Jones Co. records: *"There was mourning in many homes that night for the boys and men who nobly but vainly died that others might be spared. It was madness to fight...but those boys felt their homes and loved ones were depending upon what they did that day."*

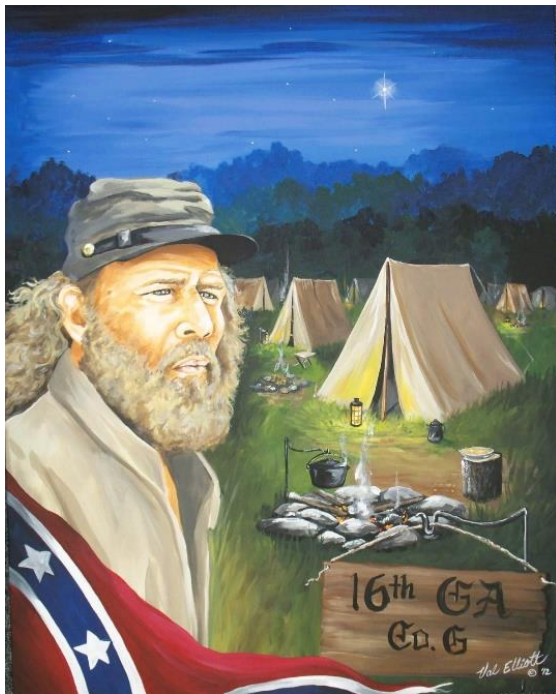
MIDNIGHT

The Yankees had buried their dead, loaded their wounded into ambulances and by midnight only Georgians remained on the field of Griswoldville. One of the last Union soldiers to depart recalled the *"mournful sighing of the wind among the pines and the pitiable moans of the wounded and dying."*

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23rd -2AM

The main body of Confederates who had fought at Griswoldville began arriving back in Macon to streets that were as empty as when they left.

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR 1ST SGT. JAMES D. BOYD



A memorial service will be held in honored remembrance of 16th GA 1st. Sgt. James Boyd who passed from this life to the next on the morning of June 25th, 2019.

This service will be on the same Saturday - November 23rd, 2019 - of our Griswoldville Battlefield Commemoration.

We will gather at the Red Barn in Clinton, GA by 3pm for a time of visitation with the family before marching, at 4 pm, to The Old Clinton Methodist Church Cemetery for the marker placement and a conclusion of the ceremony.

(Art Work Courtesy of: Val Elliott)

13th ANNUAL BATTLE OF GRISWOLDVILLE COMMEMORATION



On behalf of The Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Jarrell Plantation Historic Site, The 16th Georgia Regiment, Co. G, "The Jackson Rifles" and The Camp of The Unknown Soldier #2218 of Old Clinton, Jones County, Georgia, we invite you to the annual living history, memorial service and 156th Battlefield Commemoration. Any heritage organization desiring to lay a wreath during this service should contact Wayne Dobson in advance. We are honored that our guest speaker will be:

Timothy F. Pilgrim, Commander

Georgia Division Sons of Confederate Veterans

The schedule for the November 23, 2019 event is as follows:

9:30AM – 11:30am – Living History Program

10:30am – Battlefield Tour

NOON – Memorial Service Begins and lasts approximately one hour

(NOTE: This event is at the battlefield, NOT at The Jarrell Plantation)

**Please contact Adjutant Wayne Dobson for more information @
waynedobson51@yahoo.com or 478-731-5531 (leave phone or text message).**

Directions

From Gray: Follow Lite-N-Tie Rd southeast to GA Hwy 49. Cross over Hwy 49 to Henderson Rd. Follow for about 3.5 miles and after crossing railroad tracks, turn left on Old Griswoldville Rd. Follow this road for about 1.5 miles and turn left on Baker Rd. Battlefield will be about 1/2 mile on left.

From Macon: Go east on US Hwy 80 for about 2 miles and turn left onto GA Hwy 57. Follow GA Hwy 57 for 4.5 miles and turn left on Ridge Rd. Follow Ridge Rd for just under 2 miles and turn right on Old Griswoldville Rd. Follow this road for about 1.5 miles and turn left on Baker Rd. Battlefield will be about 1/2 mile on left.

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. (Ret.) 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 2019 EVENTS

NOVEMBER 23 - GRISWOLDVILLE COMMEMORATION - TIM PILGRIM - NO 2218 SCV MEETING

DECEMBER - NO 2218 SCV MEETING

DECEMBER 6 - PARADE IN COCHRAN, GA

DECEMBER - PARADE IN DEXTER, GA

DECEMBER 6-7 - RICHLAND CHURCH

DECEMBER 7- Christmas at the Jarrell Plantation 3pm with lantern light tours after dark.

DECEMBER 7- Victorian Christmas Tea at The Cannonball House - Adult mothers and daughters

Noon - 2pm - Price \$15.00 - Reservations required. Limit of 30 people.

JANUARY 16, 2020 - LEE-JACKSON BANQUET - SCV CAMP 2218

PRAYER MATTERS

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 ...

Serena Welch - Logan Smith & family - Vonnelle Sark - Billy Stancil - Bob Holloway - Rev. Joey Young and family - Steve Smith & family - J.C. Nobles - Steve Adkins - Brenda Dobson - Avery & Landon Allen- James & Kellie Morgan and Maddy - Savannah Sprague - Ben (Cooter) Jones - Mark "Watch Dog" Thompson -Rev. Gary Berrier - Cathy Wheeler - Reba Aultman - Kasey Larson - - Val & Ed Elliott -Tommy Wright - Gale Red - Ethan & Crystal Bloodworth - Tom & Ruth Stevens - Ty Burnsed - Harold Buchanan - Dale & Becky Rankin - Kay Busbee - Roy and Dana Myers - Rev. Alan Farley - Ed Bearss - Mrs. & Mrs. Burns - Richard Durham as well as, those who preach & teach The WORD, UDC, C.S.A., U.S.A., Israel, Law Enforcement, Paramedics & 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.
(For privacy, I do not publish the details but will share if you contact me)*

EDITOR'S NOTE

I am sorry this issue is so very late – AGAIN - no excuse, just got behind. I deeply appreciate the fine photographs sent to us by Beth Colvin and Heidi Edge. Over the years these visual contributions have done so much to tell the story even better than words. Duke



THE CAMP OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER #2218 Of Old Clinton, Jones County, Georgia

At our October meeting we enjoyed an excellent presentation about period long rifles by our own Matt Sims. This was his first such offering to the Camp and it was so well-received that we have asked him to continue it in 2020.

Another of our members, Treasurer Al McGalliard, recently spoke at a meeting of The Sidney Lanier #25 UDC Chapter in Macon. His topic was "Point Lookout Prison."

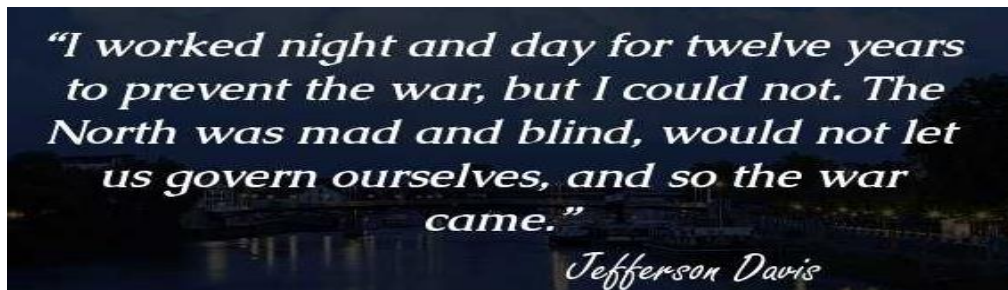
We are honored to announce that our guest speaker for our 2019 Griswoldville commemoration will be Tim Pilgrim, current Commander of the Georgia Division SCV.

There will be no November meeting due to the Griswoldville Commemoration and none in December. Our own Lee Murdock will be our Lee-Jackson Banquet speaker in January of 2020. Please apply to Adjutant Dobson if interested in speaking engagements in 2020 – slots are already filling up rapidly. Al McGalliard (Photo by Cheryl Aultman)



"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.

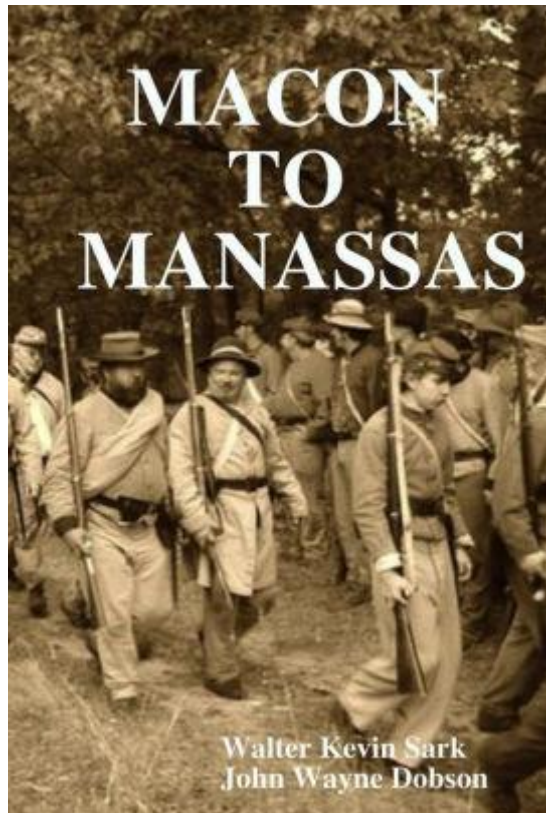
Remember, it is your duty to see that the true history of the South is presented to future generations."



MACON TO MANASSAS

Macon to Manassas - by Walter Kevin Sark and John Wayne Dobson.
Edited by Edward Devries

The State of Georgia was an important source for Confederate implements of War. Nowhere was this more evident than in Macon, Bibb County. Ordnance



facilities and countless factories made everything from campstools to cannons.

Moreover, this city on the Ocmulgee River supplied a substantial amount of the 100,000 Georgians who served the Southland. The Macon vicinity, it is said, enlisted enough men for 23 combat companies. At War's end, it is doubtful that the ranks of 7 such units could have been filled.

As rumors of War increased in 1859, the "Macon Guards" were formed and they eventually became Company C of the 8th Regiment of Georgia Volunteer Infantry. The 8th was organized by Colonel F.S. Bartow in the spring of 1861 and at Manassas, Virginia, on July 21, 1861 the War opened upon them.

History and fiction are both capable of expressing knowledge of the past and the combination of the two can reinstate the details of everyday life that some dismiss as too trivial. Errors are possible and if they do occur, they are exclusively ours. However, we accept that risk for the opportunity to

glimpse into maelstrom of War that befell our home town.

We worked on this project, off and on, for over 20 years. In all things we seek to glorify God and hope you enjoy this book. *Kevin & Wayne*

These books are printed to order and are available through Amazon, Barnes and Noble, Ebay and Kindle.

ISBN-13:9780359960781 Publication date:10/21/2019 Pages:596

Product dimensions: 5.98(w) x 9.02(h) x 1.32(d) Dixie Heritage Press

CATHY'S CLOWN

- The Humor of Kenny Stancil



The Wednesday night church service coincided with the last day of hunting season. During the service, our pastor asked who had bagged a deer. No one raised a hand. Puzzled, the pastor said, "I don't get it. Last week many of you said you wouldn't be at church Sunday because of hunting season. I had the whole congregation pray for your deer." One hunter said, "Well, preacher, it worked. They're all safe."

"Dad, I think the Smiths next door are angry at us." "Why is that?" "They're probably mad because our dog can retrieve the newspaper, and theirs can't." "How could you possibly know that? We don't even subscribe to the paper." "Yeah," the kid told his dad. "That's probably got something to do with it, too."

At some point, most light criminals will have passed through the prism system.

Thanks. Love y'all ... Kenny



JUST STOPPING BY

"A coin left on a headstone lets the deceased soldier's family know that somebody stopped by to pay their respect. Leaving a penny means you visited. A nickel means that you and the deceased soldier trained at boot camp together. If you served with the soldier, you leave a dime. A quarter is very significant because it means that you were there when that soldier was killed.

From the Waterhouse Symbolism Newsletter - by Richard Waterhouse

HEROS OF THE FAITH

Edward McKendree Bounds

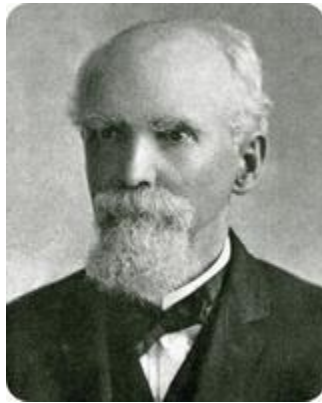
Rev. Joey Young at the
Grave of Edward Bounds/
Bounds' Home

Edward McKendree
Bounds (August 15, 1835 –
August 24, 1913)

prominently known as E.M. Bounds, was an American author, attorney, and member of the Methodist Episcopal Church South clergy. He is known for writing 11 books, nine of which focused on the subject of prayer. Only two of Bounds' books were published before he died.

E.M. Bounds was a pastor at a congregation in the recently formed Methodist Episcopal Church

South, his name was included in a list of 250 names who were to take an oath of allegiance and post a \$500 bond. Edward saw no reason for a U.S. Citizen to take such an oath, he was morally opposed to the Union raising funds in this way, and he didn't have the \$500.^[4] Bounds and the others on the list were arrested in 1861 by Union troops, and Bounds was charged as a Confederate sympathizer. He was held with other non-combatants in a Federal prison in St. Louis for a year and a half. He was then transferred to Memphis and released in a prisoner exchange between the Union and the Confederacy.^[3]



He became a chaplain in the Confederate States Army (3rd Missouri Infantry CSA).^[5] During the Second Battle of Franklin, Bounds suffered a severe forehead injury from a Union saber, and he was taken prisoner. On June 28, 1865, Bounds was among Confederate prisoners who were

released upon the taking of an oath of loyalty to the United States.

Upon his release as a prisoner of the Union Army, he felt compelled to return to war-torn Franklin and help rebuild it spiritually, and he became the pastor of the Franklin Methodist Episcopal Church, South. His primary method was to establish weekly prayer sessions that sometimes lasted several hours. Bounds was regionally celebrated for leading spiritual revival in Franklin and eventually began an itinerant preaching ministry throughout the country.





BEAN SOUP

- 1 pound navy beans
- 1 ½ pounds ham (butt end)
- 2 cups tomatoes, strained
- 2 tsp. parsley
- ½ cup diced potatoes
- ½ cup chopped onion
- 2 cups diced celery
- Salt and pepper

Cover the beans with water and soak overnight. Drain in a large amount of water and cook until almost soft. Wash the ham and cover it with cold water. Boil until tender. Kim off the fat. Add the beans and other vegetables and season with salt and pepper. Cook slowly until vegetables are soft.

POTATO SOUP

Prepare the desired amount of diced potatoes and boil in water until tender. Fry several onions in butter. Add flour to thicken, stirring constantly, and season with salt and pepper. Add a finely chopped clove of garlic. Add onion mixture to cooked potatoes and mix well. Place small pieces of cooked sausage or cooked ham in soup plates and pour hot soup over it.



★ *Georgia Division* ★
Sons of Confederate Veterans



**Annual General Robert E. Lee
Birthday Celebration
Saturday, January 18, 2020 at 11:00 am
Jefferson Davis Memorial Park**

338 Jeff Davis Park Rd, Fitzgerald, GA 31750

*Robert Edward Lee ~
b. January 19, 1807 ~ d. October 12, 1870*

Event Agenda:

Welcome Dan Coleman
Honor Guard Host Camp Jefferson Davis Cowboys # 682
Opening prayer Kim Beck
Salute to Confederate Flag/Pledges Richard Straut
Introduce speaker Al Perry
General Robert E. Lee a Christian Soldier Jack Cowart
Commander's thanks Tim Pilgrim
Announcements Tim Hawkins
Closing remarks Dan Coleman
Benediction Kim Beck
Salute: muskets & artillery

After the Event:

- ~ BBQ Dinner provided by Ga. Division Pit Master Ken Arvin
 - \$5 per BBQ plate including sides and drink. (all proceeds fund the following year BBQ) Children 12 and under plates are free.
- ~ Executive Council Meeting



How Do I Explain Not Celebrating Halloween?

"Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the LORD, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you". 2 Corinthians 6:17

Many of us grew up celebrating Halloween. It signaled that the hot summer was finally over - a sure sign of Fall. Sometimes we had to bundle up against the cold, even here in Georgia. We were Christian folks because we were in church every time the doors opened and almost never thought of Halloween as evil. It was celebrated much like Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas. Many liked a little mystery or a little "spookiness" in our lives and this was it. It was what we did - the way we lived.

Later we learned a little more about the origins of this day which began as a Celtic Summer's End festival some 2,000 years ago. It was during their harvest time and these superstitious people sacrificed the best of their fruits and flocks to appease pagan gods. Moreover, they believed that the dead walked among the living on October 31. They believed that evil spirits could cause them much harm so they dressed up in scary costumes and hovered fearfully around bonfires.

Trick-or-Treating sprung from the going from house to house to beg for soul in return pray for family members who recently died. **Jack-o-Lanterns** guided home. Even **bobbing for apples** had roots. All this information, if we knew it, came from some ol' fashioned preacher likely did not look it up for ourselves. decided that we did not want to hear any these "facts" because our minds were We liked Halloween. It was "harmless" always done.



tradition of cakes and had lost souls mythical probably because we Maybe we more of made up. fun we had

Today there seems to be an increased Halloween push by the retail industry. Decorations and costumes are readily available before Labor Day. Maybe the goal is for Halloween to eclipse the more Christian celebration of Thanksgiving. Christmas, in some ways, has been commercialized beyond being a rival to evil anymore.

At the same time, the Christian community, at large, seems to be more opposed to Halloween. When Christian kids see their classmates having all the spooky fun, parents increasingly have to answer: "Mom, Dad, is it "wrong" to celebrate Halloween?" No one wants to be left out. "When you're young, you want to be the same as everyone else. You want to fit in. Adults understand that Christians live in contrast to the world's ways. Christians are light in the darkness, not of this world.

Honestly, we know it is just not as safe to do door-to-door trick 'o' treating as when we were kids. Even back then we were carefully supervised. Churches and some secular organizations try to offset the lure of Halloween by doing "Fall Festivals" or "Trunk or Treat" events. Churches can use Halloween as a time to build community, to show compassion and to share the message of CHRIST. It is also tug of war between GOD's people and the world and children are the rope. For the sake of discussion, let's put the spooky stuff on a shelf for a moment and ask, "Is it "wrong" to dress up in funny costumes, go out with friends, knock on doors, giggle together and get free candy? Is it wrong to dress up like a princess or a

favorite sports player and go to the church parking lot for a "Trunk-or-Treat" on Halloween? Not Celebrating Halloween may not really be about right and wrong."

As Christians, walking with the LORD, we often operate close to the borders of darkness. GOD is LIGHT (1 John 1:5-6) and HE has nothing to do with darkness – nothing! The fact is this: No matter what we decide to do about Halloween or what we believe about its origins, Halloween has its roots in darkness. No matter how cute the kids look, or how harmless their costumes are, and no matter what reasons someone gives for why they participate in Halloween, it doesn't erase the fact that this "holiday" is way too close to darkness to be comfortable, when our goal is to "walk in the light" as HE is in the light." GOD isn't in Halloween, not even a little bit, so why would risk raising children even on the "cute" side of darkness?

As an alternative Halloween activities, some churches host a "Judgment House" or a "Hell House". These places resemble a Haunted House with a frightening depiction of Hell. They may have flashing red lights to depict fire and add the shrieking screams of those who have realized their doom. The participants are usually church youth groups who walk through various scenes. Following the "walk through," the church makes available spiritual leaders for those who have questions and/or decide to accept CHRIST in his or her life and avoid Hell.

This sounds good because any means that directs a person to salvation is beneficial. Some disagree. This outreach is the church's equivalent to the "Scared Straight" programs offered by jails and prisons. Such programs allow youth to walk through the jailhouse and listen to stories from inmates in order to "scare the youth straight". Researchers often conclude that these programs have little deterrent effects and actually can be harmful to some youth.

While the world needs to understand the destiny of a life lived without salvation, we must decide if fear has a spiritual function. Paul spoke of the correct fear of GOD in Romans 11:20. Charles Spurgeon preached that fear "may be so ennobled by grace and so used for the service of GOD, that it may become the most grand part of man. However, an emotional experience that does not lead to salvation is really nothing at all.

We may have never have had to face our own children asking why their family doesn't celebrate Halloween, but grandchildren have arrived and so we might just as well start the conversation as early as possible. If you must give an answer, don't focus too heavily on the darkness and its pagan roots. That could breed further curiosity. Rather, focus on the LIGHT. Talk to the kids about what you have learned about being the "light of the world" as JESUS wants them to be. Teach them to rejoice that they were born different, into a different family. Don't let them resent that they are Christians. Teach them to love and embrace it.

It is always the choice of the Christian parent to allow or disallow children to participate in the festivities. If the children are old enough to understand, the pagan roots of Halloween may be mentioned. It's a great opportunity to teach what the Bible says about death's finality, the promise of Heaven through JESUS, and the hope of Resurrection. (KJV Scriptures/ Quotes: Dr. Julie Barrier, Chad Napier or Alice Purdy) Jwd 10/27/19

GOD is light, and in HIM is no darkness at all." -1

John 1:5

-24-

ANDERSONVILLE 2019

By Beth Colvin



QUOTES

"History is subject to continual interpretation and revision, but duty is constant. Duty is frozen in the context of the moment in which it is performed. Duty is action, taken after listening and weighing risk and fear against the powerful draw of obligation to God, obligation to family, obligation to community and to the hope of an unknown future".

- Mike McAlpin, Griswoldville, 11/17/12

"We as Southerners continue to seek equal protection under the law, but continue to find ourselves back in the arena that took our ancestors to war in 1861". - H.K. Edgerton

"General Robert E. Lee was once offered \$10,000 a year for the use of his name in connection with a state lottery at a time when money was a pressing issue for him. That was a lot of money back then, but Lee's reply was, 'Gentlemen, my name is all I have left, and that is not for sale!'"

150 Years Ago

By Larry Upthegrove

October 26, 1869: From Milledgeville, GA, the weekly paper, "Federal Union" has this news from Crawfordville, GA: "*Hon. Alex. H. Stephens, in writing to Dr. Colver, October 15 says: 'I have not been out of the house since February but few times, and the was helped out and in. I have very little hope of ever leaving home again.'*" The letter was written in reply to the invitation for Stephens to speak at the State Fair in Macon next month.....

October 27, 1869: In North Georgia, as excitement builds in anticipation of the State Fair coming soon to Macon, GA, so are the people of the Cherokee area of the State anticipating the multi-county event to be held at the new fairgrounds in Rome, Georgia. The latest issue of the "Rome Tri-Weekly" newspaper has this: "*The Rome Fair.—The energetic committee are continually adding new and interesting features to the Fair.....Among the latest we notice that a pidgeon shooting match is advertised. An excellent gun is the premium.....A ball is spoken of during the week.—The workmen are busy on the grounds, and all will be in tip-top order by the third.—Everything indicates that it will be a perfect success. Come everybody and see it.*".....

October 28, 1869: In South Georgia, the "Valdosta Times" reports: "*Fishing Extraordinary.—On account of exceedingly low water in the river, large numbers of fish are caught with seines. Long ago the similar streams and ponds of the country dried up, and now the 'father of the waters' (Withlacoochee River) in this section is drying up too. On Saturday last a party from Valdosta, in the bend of the river, took several bushels of fine trout, bream, perch, catfish, etc.....Not only are the streams and ponds dry and drying, but a large number of the wells of the town and surrounding country have failed to supply the wants of the people, and this now for several months; clouds of dust follow wagons and buggies, and are raised by every puff wind.*".....

SANDERSVILLE 2019

By Heidi Edge

