

# THE HOWLING DAWG

January 2018



"ONE DAWG TO RULE THEM ALL"

**16th Georgia Volunteer Infantry Regiment, Company G**  
***"The Jackson Rifles"***

## LEE & JACKSON - HOW THEY LIVED THEIR LIVES

*"I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore ... Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter..."*

- Revelation 1:18 & 19



*John Paul Strain*

### BATTLEFIELD PRAYER

Generals Robert E. Lee, Stonewall Jackson, and J.E.B. Stuart  
Fredericksburg, Virginia - Near Hamilton's Crossing - December 12, 1862

## Death of Lee Shocked City As No Other

News of the death of Robert E. Lee, beloved chieftain of the Southern army, whose strategy mainly was responsible for the surprising fight staged by the Confederacy, brought a two-day halt in Richmond's business activities.

The general died in the peace of his home at Lexington at 9:30 A. M., October 12, 1870. His end marked the close of his efforts, as president of Washington College, now Washington and Lee University, to educate the youth of the country, a task he selected above all others after the surrender at Appomattox.

### Died Paroled Prisoner

Five years had passed since he last gave orders to his army, but Lee never was pardoned by the Federal Government. He died a paroled soldier of a quondam enemy force.

During his last few years, the white-haired old man manifested no bitter feeling for the North. In fact, he tried whenever oppor-

## LEE & JACKSON

In January we welcome the new year by making a concerted attempt to honor Generals Robert E. Lee and Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson near the date of their respective births (January 19<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>). Since this has been done for more than 150 years, it is now difficult to find new words of tribute regarding these extraordinary lives. Some acts, once obscure, have now become more accessible.

As much as I enjoy reading of the military campaigns for which these great men are so vastly famous, I savor, even more, the accounts of the exemplary lives they lived before God and man. Few native-born Americans even approach the standard they set. I will not recap the standard facts about Generals Lee and Jackson but simply share a few anecdotes that impressed me. They may not be new to you.

## LEE

*"But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day."* – Proverbs 4:18

Robert Edward Lee "was a great person, not so much because of what he did; he was great because of the way he lived; because of what he was." (Emory Thomas) "He always dreamed of being a small businessman, an independent farmer and may have

even regretted becoming a soldier. As an educator he sought to train his students in practical skills that would rebuild the economy of the postwar South.

The Bible was a road map through a fallen world and Southerners [like Lee] accepted it without question with no illusion of creating Heaven on earth. Lee's understanding of human nature made him a good leader that could function in the world he inhabited. He shared the privations of his soldiers and they knew him as a leader who wasted no time on profanity and little on temper; so focused was he on the matter at hand – fighting and winning."

So far, I have probably not told you anything new and I may not be able to. I can only hope that what interests me will, likewise, interest you. Since slavery is still a current topic in the Country, let us wade right in without apprehension.

"Lee fought neither for the right to own slaves nor even for the right to secede ...which he regarded as 'nothing less than revolution' and Lee was not a revolutionary. As for slavery, Lee had always believed in gradual emancipation. He had no slaves of his own and freed every slave he inherited from his father-in-law's estate BEFORE the Union attempted to force emancipation. More than once, Lee made every effort to ensure that the slaves under his care were freed under circumstances where they could support themselves – a step that abolitionists failed to consider." (H.W. Crocker III)



## LEE & JACKSON



Reverend Mack Lee, Robert E. Lee's self-proclaimed cook and body servant wrote: "I was raised by one of the greatest men in the world. There was never one born of a woman greater than General Robert E. Lee, according to my judgment.

All of his servants were set free ten years before the war, but they all remained on the plantation until after the surrender." Mack Lee would stay by the beloved General until Lee's death on Wednesday, October 12, 1870

*"Robert Edward Lee is an ever-present reminder that we can be much more."*

(H.W. Crocker III)

Left: Generals Joseph E. Johnston & Robert E. Lee

## JACKSON

*"Righteous lips are the delight of kings; and they love him that speaketh right."* — Proverbs 16:13

General John Brown Gordon wrote the introduction for Mary Ann Jackson's Memoirs of Stonewall Jackson, including this recollection: *"His career as a soldier was brilliant and dazzling. It had neither the dimness of a dawn, nor the fading of twilight ... few men ever lived who won so great reputation in so short a period and yet remained so free from the usual weakness of personal vanity."*

The way man treats others tells a lot about him. Jackson grew up in the slave-owning ambiance of his point in time. *"Historians have long struggled with the mystery of a man who came from a slaveholding family, owned slaves himself, and yet broke the prevailing law of Virginia to conduct a weekly Colored Sabbath School, where slaves were taught to read and write while also being brought to a personal knowledge of the Christ of Jackson's heart and soul."* (Richard G. Williams Jr.)



Jackson – Mexican War

Slavery remains a hot topic in American today; let us fearlessly plunge right into it. I have often been amazed that modern-day "experts" regarding how the black and white races should coexist have little or no experience living with the other race at all. Thomas Jackson had no such handicap. *"Jackson owned slaves, and members of his family did too. He was always faithful to Miss Fanny, a slave who raised him. Perhaps it was his doting relationship with his nanny and God's command of 'love thy neighbor' that called him to treat slaves humanely. Jackson's six slaves were named Hetty, Cyrus, George, Albert, Amy and Emma. Some of them were presented to Jackson as gifts while others worked toward earning their freedom."* (Michael Aubrecht). He seems to have followed advice similar to what my late father gave me: *"look up to few men and look down on none."* (John Wilber Dobson 1919-1995)

## LEE & JACKSON

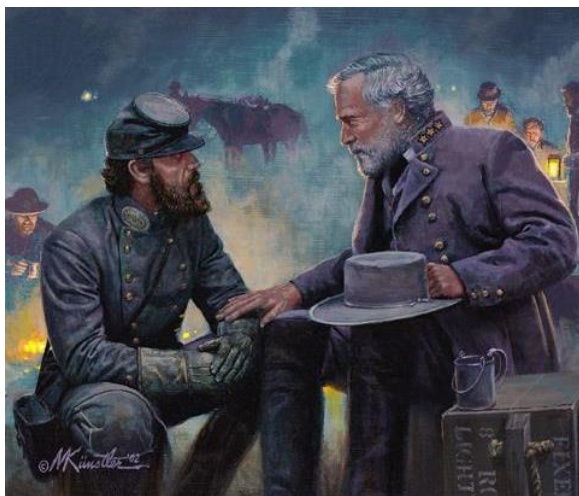
The first slave Jackson "ever owned was a man named Albert, who came to [Jackson] and begged that he would buy him on the condition that he [Albert] might be permitted to emancipate himself by a return of the purchase-money, as he would be able to pay it in annual installments...Jackson granted his request, although he had to wait several years before the debt could be paid...Albert hired himself out as a hotel-waiter and was never an inmate of the family except on one occasion when he had a long spell of illness; [Jackson] took [Albert] to his own home to care for him as an act of humanity, for Albert had no family of his own" (MSJ, page 114)

"Another slave that came into [Jackson's] possession was an old woman, named Amy, who was about to be sold for debt, and who sought from him a deliverance from her troubles...he had no use for her services; but his kind heart was moved by her situation, and he yielded to her entreaties, and gave her a home in a good Christian family." Jackson was in the field, at War, when Amy, "breathed her last, one midnight without any fear ... a friend who had been engaged to care for her wrote to Jackson and the news moved the General to tears. It was only the death of a poor slave – a most insignificant thing in men's eyes – and yet may we not hope that there was joy in Heaven over

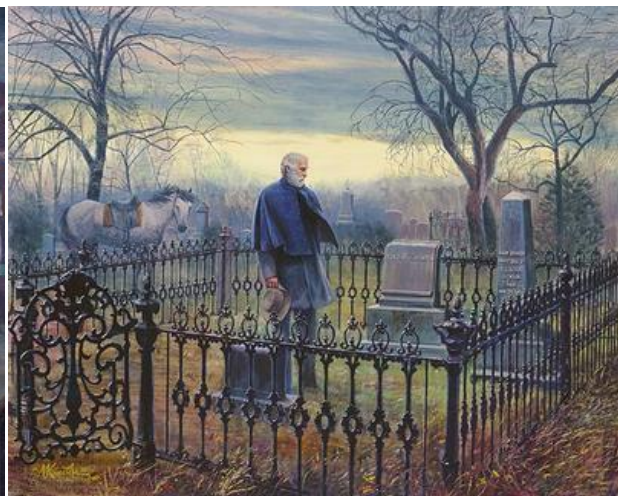


Jackson's Sunday School

another ransomed soul. The 'cup of cold water' (Matthew 10:42) [Jackson] ministered to this poor disciple may avail more in the Master's eye than all the brilliant deeds with which Jackson glorified his Country on the battle-field. So differently do man and his Maker judge." (MSJ, page 115-116 ). We are well-versed in T.J. Jackson the gallant soldier of Manassas, Harper's Ferry, the Shenandoah Valley and Chancellorsville. Is the relationship with his slaves more the measure of the man? What an unspeakable tragedy that such truth is willfully hidden from the black race of America.



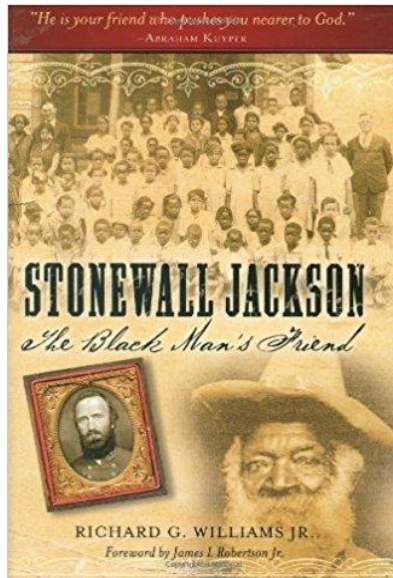
Tactics and Strategy by Mort Kunstler



The Final Visit by Mort Kunstler



## BOOKS TO CONSIDER



### **Stonewall Jackson: The Black Man's Friend**

By Richard G. Williams Jr.

Just when you thought there was nothing left to write about Confederate Gen. Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson, along comes the story of Jackson's desire to bring the word of God to the slaves of the antebellum era.

Many historians have touched on Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson's relationship with African Americans in light of his Christian convictions but this book explores an aspect of his life that is both intriguing and enlightening: his conversion to Christianity and how it affected his relationship with Southern Blacks. The book examines Jackson's documented youthful pangs of conscience regarding the illiteracy of American slaves and how Providence ultimately came to use him to have a lasting and positive impact on Southern slaves.

### **Memoirs of Stonewall Jackson**

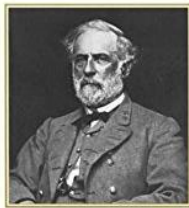
by his widow, Mary Anna Jackson, 1895.

### **Robert E. Lee on Leadership**

by H.W. Crocker III

In this remarkable book, you'll learn the keys to Lee's greatness as a man and a leader. You'll find a general whose standards for personal excellence was second to none, whose leadership was founded on the highest moral principles, and whose character was made of steel. You'll see how he remade a rag-

### **ROBERT E. LEE ON LEADERSHIP**



EXECUTIVE LESSONS  
IN CHARACTER,  
COURAGE, AND VISION

H. W. CROCKER III

tag bunch of men into one of the most impressive fighting forces history has ever known. You'll also discover other sides of Lee—the businessman who inherited the debt-ridden Arlington

plantation and streamlined its operations, the teacher who took a backwater college and made it into a prestigious university, and the motivator who inspired those he led to achieve more than they ever dreamed possible. Each chapter concludes with the extraordinary lessons learned, which can be applied not only to your professional life, but also to your private life as well.

Today's business world requires leaders of uncommon excellence who can overcome the cold brutality of constant change. Robert E. Lee was such a leader. He triumphed over challenges people in business face every day. Guided by his magnificent example, so can you.

### **MEMOIRS OF STONEWALL JACKSON**



BY HIS WIDOW

**MARY ANNA  
JACKSON**

## **THE 16<sup>TH</sup> GEORGIA CO. G – "The Jackson Rifles"**

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

Rev. Joey Young – Hon. Member - 678-978-7213

Capt. Wm. "Rebel" Bradberry, Commanding – 404-242-7213

1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Noah Sprague – 706-491-9755

2<sup>nd</sup> 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. Alan "Cookie" Richards - 478-308-9739

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

1<sup>st</sup> Corp. Brick Lee Nelson - 478-986-1151

2<sup>nd</sup> Corp. Tommy Shover - 478-230-3483

3<sup>rd</sup> Corp. Avery Allen - 478-662-3732

4<sup>th</sup> Corp. Cody Sprague – 478-542-1802

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 - Oliver Lummus – 302-668-8029

Musician - Al McGalliard - 478-318-7266

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



Cover of the Saturday Evening Post April 6, 1940  
Painted by Norman Rockwell

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## **SCHEDULE OF 2018 EVENTS**

JANUARY 18 – SCV CAMP 2218 – LEE-JACKSON BANQUET – 6pm

JANUARY 19 – SCV CAMP 18 – LEE-JACKSON BANQUET

FEBRUARY 15 – SCV CAMP 2218 – REGULAR MEETING – *KIM BECK*

FEBRUARY 16-18 – *BATTLE OF OLUSTEE, FL*

FEBRUARY 24-25 – *BATTLE OF AIKEN, SC*

MARCH 2-4 – *BATTLE OF BROXTON BRIDGE, SC*

MARCH 15 – SCV CAMP 2218 – REGULAR MEETING – *MIKE MCALPIN*

MARCH 16-17 – *BATTLE OF MANASSAS, GA*

APRIL 19 – SCV CAMP 2218 – REGULAR MEETING – *RACHAEL HOLLAND*

MAY 17 – SCV CAMP 2218 – REGULAR MEETING – *STEVE SMITH*



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Macon, GA 31204

Ivis Bradford whose business card appears (above) in this newsletter writes: "I finally updated my Etsy store with new sleeping caps. A few other things are in the works to be added in the near future. Perhaps there are some in need of a cap for the upcoming cooler events, or I would appreciate everyone's assistance in spreading the word about my business. The best kind of advertising is through people you know and trust!!! I would be indebted to you and the other members for any help with advertisement. I continue to welcome custom sewing projects at this time. Here is the link to the store:" <https://www.etsy.com/shop/BarnLucky>

## ALL PRAYER REQUESTS ARE URGENT

*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 bow your heart and head for a moment - just a moment - and ask God to meet these needs according to His will ...*

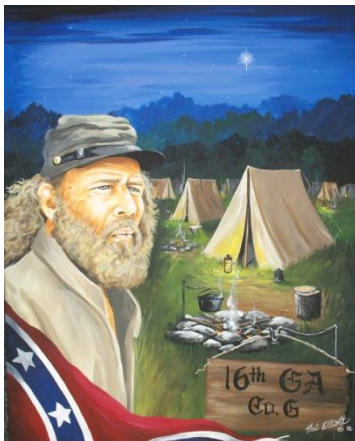


**Urgent  
Prayer Needs**

James Boyd **Sheri Banks** KievThomason Harold Buchanan  
Rev. Joey Young and family Ed & Val Elliott Judi Powers Marsha Herrin  
Steve Galegor Ben (Cooter) Jones Roy and Dana Myers Will Butler Alan Farley  
Gale Red Steve & Ricky Smith & families Bill Cameron Barbara Garnto Mrs. &  
Mrs. Burns The Harrod Family Richard Durham Mike Cook & family  
The Kilpatrick Family Scott Hodges Jack & Jim Munday Ty Burnsed Chuck &  
Diana Layman C.S.A., U.S.A., Israel, Law Enforcement, Paramedics & Firefighters,  
Judges Political Leaders, Missionaries, Our Compatriots, Ministers, Travelers, The  
lonely, bereaved families, Our enemies ... Me & You, that we may boldly witness.

And, **please**, do let me know of others.

(For privacy, in some cases, I do not publish the details but will share if you contact me.)



**James Boyd**  
**15 Meredith Drive Murrayville, Georgia 30564**  
**706-344-7588**

*James and Sarina wish everyone a very Happy and blessed New*

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### **MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS**

If you would "seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, all things would then be added to you." (Matthew 6:33) You are meddling with Christ's business and neglecting your own when you fret about your lot and circumstances. You have been trying to do the providing and forgetting to do the obeying. Be wise and pay attention to the obeying, and let Christ manage the providing. Come and survey your Father's storehouse, and ask whether He will allow you to starve while He has so great an abundance in store. - Alistair Begg



## THE CAMP OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER



Our Camp did not meet in December and we hope everyone had a Merry and blessed time with their friends and families and celebrated the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

We look forward to a prosperous New Year which begins for us on Thursday, January 18, when we will host our annual Lee-Jackson Banquet held at Chevy's (usual meeting place

in Gary, GA). Everyone is invited. No reservations needed.

Please arrive at 6pm to order from the menu and eat at 6pm. Around 7pm, our keynote speaker will be Lt. Col Edward Shelor (pictured, above right) of Georgia Military College. He will also speak at Camp 18's Banquet on January 19.

2018 guest speaker openings are starting to fill up. 4<sup>th</sup> Brigade Commander Kim Beck will be with us in February and will induct incoming officers; Mike McAlpin will come in March, Rachel Holland returns in April and Steve Smith visits with us in May. Please apply to Adj. Dobson if interested in booking 2018 (June-October) dates.

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Ltc. Shelor

## The Georgia Confederates Youth Camp

In 2017, we only had Campers from 4 of the 100+ SCV Camps in Georgia.

Please consider sending one Camper from your Camp for 2018. We will have room for 40 girls and 40 boys. Will you help us fill the Camp. It is more important today than ever that our young folks learn the TRUTH about their Confederate ancestors.

*Al Perry, Director*

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*"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."***

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## Lee Celebration Is Back - In Milledgeville



Please mark your calendars for Saturday, Jan. 20, 2018. We will be back in Milledgeville and the Old Capitol Camp #688 is working hard to make it a great day. We will be having our parade which will start at 10:45AM, lineup is no later than 10:30AM. The parade will head to the First Baptist Church of Milledgeville at 330 S. Liberty Street. The Church is blocks away from the historic landmarks in town and they have been gracious enough to allow us the use of their fellowship hall. It seats 150, I think we will have overflow and that will be great if it

happens. Our speaker is Sam Hood. You probably have heard of Sam, he is a collateral descendant of General John Bell Hood. Period correct flags, only, in good condition.

- Commander Scott Gilbert - GA Division SCV



(Don Troiani)

## An Act of Kindness

Our Alabama friend, Laura Elliot, sent this our way. She said she found it in The Athens Weekly Banner, of July 26, 1892 on page 6, while looking for something else. The article is about the kindness shown by members of the 9th New York Infantry (Hawkins' Zouaves) to a wounded member of the 2nd Georgia Infantry, near Burnside's Bridge, Battle of Antietam, September 17, 1862:

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"Where did you lose your leg, Mr. Ard (1) ?" I inquired.

"I lost it," said the old soldier," at Antietam Creek, or rather

Sharpsburg, on the 17th of September 1862. If you will listen, an old Confederate soldier will talk." I listened and thus ran his story:

"I belonged to the Second Georgia, Toombs' brigade. I was on the extreme right of a few of us who were attempting to prevent Burnside from crossing the lower stone bridge. The fight was on; a ball passed through my thigh, and, while lying on the ground wounded, another ball passed through my right elbow joint. Our forces retreated and the Federals rushed across the creek. Wounded, bleeding, suffering as I was, it was a rare sight to see thousands of well-fed, well-clad soldiers occupying the ground just abandoned by the few ragged, hungry Confederates. The contrast struck me. A regiment of Federals halted near where I was lying. The officer made his men a short speech, which was cheered. Amidst this, I beckoned to an officer near me and requested that he would drag me on the other side of a tree hard by. He at once stepped back to the line and brought four men, who gently picked me up and placed me behind the tree, hastily spreading a blanket for me to lie upon. I requested to know whom to thank for the kindness. The reply was, 'We belong to the Ninth New York Regiment, Hawkins' Zouaves.' These four men hurried back to their places, and the command came from head of column, 'forward, march,' and Burnside's corps passed by.

Very soon an army surgeon came near me. I called to him. Fortunately, I was a Mason, for he was one. He said his name was Humphries (2) , surgeon of the Ninth New York Regiment. Dr. Squires, (3) his assistant, was with him. I asked the surgeon if he could give me any temporary aid, remarking that he had as many of his own across the creek as he could attend to. His reply was that he was under as many obligations to me as to any man. He said he had been a surgeon in the Crimean War. He examined my wounds. He administered chloroform, and when I became conscious my leg was off and my arm bandaged.

In that fix I lay behind the tree. The shot and shell from the Confederate batteries were felling treetops and tearing up the ground all around me. Just before night, the firing ceased and the assistant surgeon, Dr. Squires, returned to me and stitched up the flaps of the amputated limb. There I spent the long night. My sufferings, mental and physical, were agonizing. The weather was hot. Loss of blood created thirst. Nearby, I could hear the rippling Antietam mocking me as I called aloud for water which came not.



**An Act of Kindness** - As a last resort for water I used the grand hailing signal of distress. Some Yankee soldier heard my cry and filled my canteen with water from the creek.

The next morning about sunrise, an ambulance came for me, sent by Dr. Humphries, and took me some two miles to a farmhouse, where Dr. Humphries most tenderly cared for me. He brought a young man who he called Mac and said, 'Mac, I commit this young Georgian, and others to you.'

I found this 'Mac' to be Paul J McLocklin (4) of the Ninth New York Regiment.



John Paul Strain

In some two weeks, we were removed to a field hospital. My friend Mac continued to wait on me as long as I remained, until the 24th of January, 1863. A nobler man than Paul J. McLocklin never lived. While in the hospital, I became acquainted with several members of the Ninth Regiment, and was under the charge of Dr. Humphries until he left for the front, and Dr. Squires was put in charge. In time, I was moved to Frederick City, and I missed the men of the Zouaves.

On the 16th day of May, 1863, I was taken from Frederick City to Baltimore, thence to Fort Norfolk, thence to Fortress Monroe. Here I was transferred to a large steamer, the "Willow Leaf," and the guards on board were Ninth New York men. I was rejoiced. One-legged and maimed I was troubled to know when I reached City Point how I should climb the hill to reach the train that bore the exchanges to "Dixie," but the Ninth New York Zouaves saw me through on board the train.

After the war, Mac and I kept up a correspondence for many years. His letters ceased to come. I wrote again "to be returned to Lumpkin Georgia, if not called for in ten days." The post master at West Winsled, Conn. wrote back, "Your friend Mac died a few months ago." In the meantime, we had exchanged photographs and for years his picture has been hanging upon the wall in my bedroom. If I had money, I would go to Athens, for I want to see the men of the Ninth New York Regiment as I would my own Confederates. (5)

(1) Private George W. Ard, Co K 2nd Georgia Infantry; age 28, enlisted July 7, 1861 at Lumpkin Georgia; wounded September 17, 1862 at Antietam; Sent for exchange May 17, 1863. [https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/24888722/george-washington\\_lafayette-ard](https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/24888722/george-washington_lafayette-ard)

(2) Surgeon George H. Humphreys, 9th New York (Hawkins' Zouaves); age 26, enlisted May 4, 1861 at New York City. <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/83400116/george-hoppin-humphreys>

(3) Surgeon Truman H. Squire, 89th New York Infantry, age 38, enlisted Nov 29, 1861 at Elmira, NY. <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/68972441/truman-h.-squire>

(4) Private Paul J McLocklin, 9th New York (Hawkins' Zouaves) age 18, enlisted Aug 20, 1861; wounded in action Sept 17, 1862 at Antietam; discharged for disability Feb 17, 1863 at Convalescent Camp, Va. <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/55753690/paul-j-mccllocklin>

(5) The survivors of the 3rd Georgia Infantry invited the survivors of the 9th New York (Hawkins' Zouaves,) whom they had faced in battle many times, to their 1892 reunion -

<https://civilwartalk.com/threads/act-of-kindness-9th-new-york-2nd-georgia-at-antietam.141382/>

Sincerely, Laura Elliott Rainbow City, AL (205)229-1236 cell

## Sidney Clopton Lanier - (February 3, 1842 – September 7, 1881) was an

American musician, poet and author. He served in the Confederate States Army, worked on a blockade running ship for which he was imprisoned (resulting in his catching tuberculosis). He taught, worked at a hotel where he gave musical performances, was a church organist, and worked as a lawyer. As a poet he sometimes, though not exclusively, used dialects. Many of his poems are written in heightened, but often archaic, American English. He became a flutist and sold poems to publications. He eventually became a professor of literature at The Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore (where he is buried), and is known for his adaptation of musical meter to poetry. Many schools, other structures and two lakes are named for him, including Lanier Senior High School for Boys in Macon, Georgia which I (John Wayne Dobson) graduated from in 1969.



### 150 Years Ago - Courtesy of: Larry Upthegrove

**December 19, 1867:** In Macon, Georgia, in Christ Episcopal Church, today, Sidney Lanier is married to Mary Day, of New York with whom he will have four sons... Lanier is in poor health. As a Confederate soldier, he joined Company C, 2nd Battalion Georgia Infantry and was captured while blockade-running in November of 1864. During the four months he was imprisoned at Point Lookout, Maryland, he contracted Tuberculosis. When released from prison in February of 1865, he walked home to Macon, Georgia in winter conditions and was extremely ill when he reached home in March. The remainder of his life will be a struggle against time, poverty, and ill health...However, he will still be able to become an accomplished lawyer, musician, author, and poet. His poem "The Marshes of Glynn" is especially dear to the people of Georgia.



Courtesy of: Dorothy Cook

Above, the Lanier family gathers for a photo taken about 1910 at Eliott, Maine.

Back Row: Anna Goldsborough [wife of Robert Simpson Lanier - the poet's son], Elizabeth Waud Masson Lanier [wife of Sidney Lanier – the poet's son], Sidney Lanier, Jr. [son of poet], David Sidney Masson



**Sidney Clopton Lanier** - Lanier [son of Sidney Lanier, Jr. and grandson of poet], Mary Lanier Day [Mrs. Irving Day – daughter of Charles Day Lanier and granddaughter of poet], Elizabeth Day Lanier [Mrs. Elizabeth Lanier Bolling – daughter of Charles Day Lanier and granddaughter of the poet], Josephine Stephens Lanier [Mrs. Russell B. Livermore – daughter of Henry Wysham Lanier and granddaughter of the poet], Albert Gallatin Lanier [twin son of Henry Wysham Lanier and grandson of the poet], May Filed Lanier [wife of Charles Day Lanier, who was the son of the poet], Sidney Lanier {son of Charles Day Lanier and grandson of the poet}.

Front Row: Henry Lanier [twin son of Henry Wysham Lanier and grandson of the poet], Sterling Lanier [son of Sidney Lanier, Jr. and grandson of the poet], Robert Sampson Lanier, Jr. [son of Robert Sampson Lanier and grandson of the poet], **Mary Day Lanier** [widow of the poet, Sidney Lanier], Nancy Campbell Lanier [Mrs. Ralph Connor Reid – daughter of Robert Sampson Lanier and granddaughter of the poet], John Stevenson Lanier [son of Sidney Lanier, Jr. and grandson of the poet].

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## QUOTES

“Granny, as some will recall on the TV comedy, *The Beverly Hillbillies* was an ardent Southerner. I do not know who wrote her script, but have little doubt that it was intended to poke for at those who reverently regard the Southern Confederacy. The truth has a way of coming out Granny as remembered the War as the time when *‘the North invaded America... and she was ‘still ready to fight for the U.S.A. (Undefeated Southerners of America)’*. I am, too. – Duke

“I have been taught never to despair, but to wait expecting the blessing at the last moment.” Granny, as some will recall on the TV comedy, “*The Beverly Hillbillies*” was an ardent Southerner – General T.J. “Stonewall” Jackson



Answer From the December issue:

**Was Captain Henry Wirz (of Andersonville) the only man executed for crimes committed during the War?**

Wirz was not the only man executed for crimes committed in the War itself. Champ Ferguson, a Confederate guerrilla convicted by a Union military commission of killing at least fifty-three captured Union soldiers, and Robert Kennedy, a Confederate officer convicted of plotting to blow up New York landmarks, were both executed in 1865, though Kennedy was executed about two months before the end of the War.

**NEXT QUESTION: What battle did General Robert E. Lee say he “was most proud of”?**

## A LETTER FROM ROBERT E. LEE

### The Slaves of Mr. Custis.

From the *Boston Traveller*.

WASHINGTON, Thursday, Dec. 24.

The emancipation of the slaves left by the late Geo. W. P. Custis, of Arlington, will, it is feared, be much retarded, if not wholly prevented, by the heirs, chief among whom stands John Washington, Esq., the man who cuts down the old ancestral oaks of Mount Vernon to sell for canes, and who charges visitors fifty cents a head for the privilege of visiting the tomb of Washington, and who has turned the home of the Father of his Country into a slaveholding pen. All attempts to see the will of Mr. Custis have proved abortive. After much inquiry, it has been admitted by the heirs that the slaves are to be set free in five years. The poor darkies tell a different story. They of the Arlington House, say that they were called into the room, and stood by the deathbed of their master, and that after having taken leave of each of them personally, he told them that he had left them, and all his servants, their freedom. At Arlington there were about one hundred negroes. Mr. Custis owned two plantations about sixty miles below Richmond, on which were about 250 more slaves. According to the statement of those who were about him at the time of his death, he died in the full possession of his senses. Besides, it is well known that the old gentleman always said that he intended to free his slaves at his death. I have frequently heard him say as much, though not in exact terms. Unfortunately, when this declaration was made to the house servants of Arlington, no white man was in the room, and the testimony of negroes will not be taken in Court. It is already whispered about town that foul play is in process in regard to those negroes on the Virginia plantations; that they are now being sold South; and that all of them will be consigned to hopeless slavery unless something is done. Unless the will is produced, nothing can be done. And that there is a will, and that the will contains something in regard to the emancipation of the negroes, has been publicly admitted by the heirs. It would be awful if the last remaining member of the household of Washington should not be allowed, should be prevented by fraud, from carrying out those precepts which he had learned, standing by the knee, and hearing from the lips, of that immortal Sage!

### The Will of Mr. Custis.

We copied lately from a Washington letter in the *Boston Traveller* a paragraph concerning the emancipation of the slaves of the late Mr. CUSTIS, which we are glad to find corrected in the following letter:

ARLINGTON, Monday, Jan. 4, 1858.

My attention has been called to an article from the *Boston Traveller*, dated Washington, 24th December, republished in the *New-York Times* of the 30th, under the caption of "The Slaves of Mr. Custis."

It is there charged that the emancipation of the slaves will be much retarded, if not wholly prevented, by his heirs; that all attempts to see the will of Mr. Custis have proved abortive; that it is whispered about Washington that foul play is in progress in regard to the negroes on his plantations in Virginia; that they are now being sold South; that all of them will be consigned to hopeless slavery unless something is done; and that nothing can be done unless the will is produced, &c.

As it is also stated that Mr. Washington, of Mount Vernon, is the chief among the heirs who have conspired to suppress the will of Mr. Custis and to defraud the negroes of their rights, I think it proper to state that Mr. Washington is not one of the heirs, has no interest in Mr. Custis' estate, and, so far as my knowledge extends, is ignorant of the provisions of his will. Mr. Custis left his property to his daughter and only child, and her children. His will was submitted to the Alexandria County Court for probate on the first day of its session (7th December) after the arrival of the executor at Arlington, and is there on record in his own handwriting, open to inspection.

There is no desire on the part of the heirs to prevent the execution of its provision in reference to the slaves, nor is there any truth or the least foundation for the assertion that they are being sold South.

What Mr. Custis is said to have stated to the Washington correspondent of the *Boston Traveller*, or to his assembled slaves, on his death bed, is not known to any member of his family. But it is well known that during the brief days of his last illness, he was constantly attended by his daughter, grand-daughter and niece, and faithfully visited by his physician and pastor. So rapid was the progress of his disease, after its symptoms became alarming, that there was no assembly of his servants, and he took leave of but one, who was present when he bade farewell to his family.

R. E. LEE, Executor.

In January 1858, Robert E. Lee wrote to The New York Times, seeking a correction. He was trying to set the record straight about the slaves on his wife's estate in Virginia, and about the last wishes of a dying slave owner. Lee wrote that the people enslaved on his family's property, in what was then known as Alexandria County, were not "*being sold South*," as had been reported. And Lee implied that he would free them within five years.

"He was not a pro-slavery ideologue," Eric Foner, a historian, author and professor of history at Columbia University, said of Lee. "*But I think equally important is that, unlike some white southerners, he never spoke out against slavery.*" When Lee wrote his letter to *The Times*, he was an accomplished United States Army officer acting as the executor of his father-in-law's will. His wife, Mary Anna Custis Lee, great-granddaughter of Martha Custis Washington, had recently inherited her father's estate, Arlington House, along with the slaves who lived there. In his will, Ms. Lee's father, George Washington Parke Custis, said his slaves should be freed five years after his death. An article that was first published by



The Boston Traveller and reprinted in The Times on Dec. 30, 1857, contended that the slaves *"will be consigned to hopeless slavery unless something can be done"* because Mr. Custis's heirs did not want to free them; speculating that the emancipation of slaves at Arlington House was stalled because of *"foul play."* Robert E. Lee begged to differ. Mr. Custis, while dying, told his slaves that they should be freed immediately, rather than five years on. Lee challenged that account. In his letter to The Times, he said that *"there is no desire on the part of the heirs to prevent the execution"* of the will, adding that Mr. Custis, who was *"constantly attended"* by family members during his final days, had never been heard granting immediate freedom to his slaves. The Times published that it was *"glad"* to be corrected on the matter.

In 1862, in accordance with Mr. Custis's will, Lee filed a deed of manumission to free the slaves at Arlington House and at two more plantations Mr. Custis had owned, individually naming more than 150 of them. Of all the letters by Lee that have been collected by archivists and historians over the years, one of the most famous was written to his wife in 1856. *"In this enlightened age, there are few I believe, but what will acknowledge, that slavery as an institution, is a moral & political evil in any Country,"* he wrote and added that slavery was *"a greater evil to the white man than to the black race" in the United States ..."*

By JACEY FORTINAUG. 18, 2017

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### **1st Corporal Miles Jefferson Patrick 1833-1862**

#### **16th Georgia Infantry, Company G**



Miles Patrick grew in the Dry Pond section of Jackson County and married Mary Jane Merck in 1852. They would eventually have five children. Both were members of the Ocone Baptist Church and Miles served as a postmaster, worked as shoe and boot maker and farmed. He was among the first volunteers to leave his beloved Jackson County when the clarions of War sounded. Company B of the 16th, known as "Reynolds Company" also hailed from Jackson County. As a member of the 16th Georgia Infantry, Miles served under Howell Cobb in Virginia in late February 1862. During the winter of 1861-1862 *"the Federals were threatening to take Suffolk, which was an important link to the Wilmington-*

*Weldon Railroad. Two of General Magruder's brigades were ordered to Suffolk. One of these brigades was that of General George W. Randolph, and the other, Cobb's Second Brigade, which consisted of the 16th Georgia Regiment, the Georgia Legion, the 24th Georgia Regiment, the 15th North Carolina Regiment and the 2nd Louisiana Regiment; a total of five thousand men. Abandoning their comfortable quarters at Yorktown they arrived by train at Suffolk on March 7th."*

Fighting had recently occurred at Roanoke Island, North Carolina, but there was, apparently, no fighting at Yorktown although they were expecting an attack all the time and drawing 4-days' rations in preparation for the Suffolk trip.

Sickness seemed to be everywhere at that time. A letter from Eli Landers of the 16th Georgia's "Flint Hill Grays" (Co. H) relates that he was tending several men of his company who had the fever and chills. They were simply lying on the ground in their tents - he speaks of no blankets or quilts. He added that they would probably not be in Suffolk for long and wondered what they would do with all their sick men since there is no hospital there. He mentioned that they had already left some sick in Williamsburg and probably many sick were left behind in Yorktown, as well, when they left there. Corporal Patrick was likely one of them. There is no exact date of death given, but he died in Yorktown that cold March of 1862, and never saw his youngest child, Molly. His wife, Mary Jane, would not pass on until 1916. She drew a widow's pension but that is a long time to live without someone you love. War demands a fearful price from mankind and patriots are willing to pay it. The image of Corporal Patrick is from the book "Portraits of a Southern Place" edited by Tina Harris. The Eli Landers quotations are from "Weep Not For Me Dear Mother" by Elizabeth Roberson. Thanks also, to The Crawford Long Museum, Ceil Jarrett and Laurie J. Anderson.

## Andrew Jackson Marsh

15<sup>th</sup> South Carolina Infantry, Company G



Andrew Jackson Marsh is shown (above) at a Confederate Reunion in southern Alabama, date unknown (probably ca. 1880-1900). He's the 5th from the left on the top row.

Marsh was born March 23, 1844 in Williamsburg County, South Carolina. He originally enlisted in January 1861, but was discharged in February 1861 when the army discovered he was only 17. He re-enlisted on May 10, 1862 with Company G, 15th South Carolina Infantry, was wounded May 3, 1863 and was placed on detached service by a hospital for 90 days. From September 1, 1864 through September 23, 1864 he was back in the hospital for jaundice. Andrew was captured October 19, 1864 at Strasburg, Virginia and sent to Point Lookout, Maryland; exchanged March 28, 1865 and paroled on April 9, 1865.

After the War Andrew married his wife, Martha Elizabeth Betty Revell (born December 30, 1846) in 1871. They moved from South Carolina to Coffee County, Alabama. Both lived very long lives; Andrew died November 15, 1935 at the age of 91. Martha died in February 8, 1941 at the age of 95.

*Graciously supplied by descendant Sherrie' Raleigh*



Andrew Jackson Marsh, circa 1925



# MEMPHIS

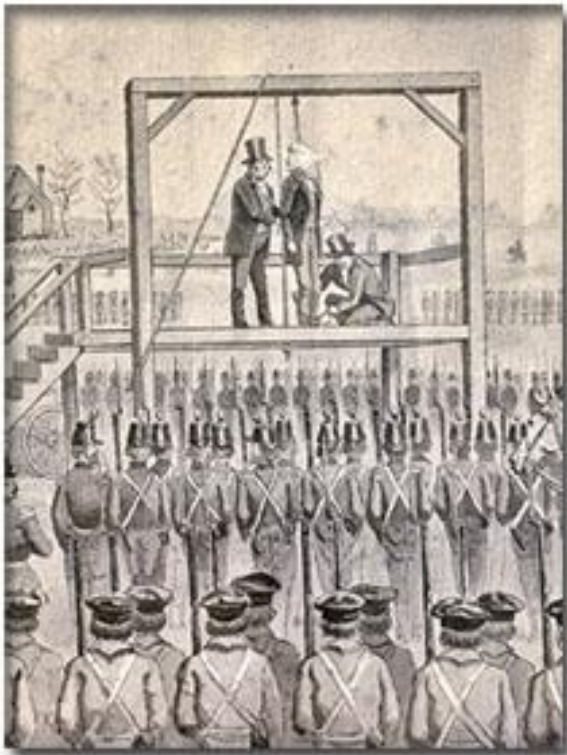
An article by Vox Media out of Memphis, Tennessee, as it related to the criminal and nefarious act by the Memphis City Council in the desecration of the grave and memorial of the Honorable General Nathan Bedford Forrest, read: *Law Makers (mostly White tried to save Confederate Statues)* My comment ... Thank God that Southern Blacks have helped elect some brave White Legislators armed with truth and knowledge on the subject matter, and are willingly to vote the will of the people, both then and now to memorialize the men and women of an integrated Confederate Army who sacrificed their lives for the Southland of America; who will not succumb to the terror of Black Lives Matter, ANTIFA, and the rest of the paid thugs of George Soros as was done in Tampa, and Bradenton, Florida. The article further read... *a city mostly Black found a loop hole (Memphis found a very creative way around Tennessee law)*. This is Vox Media's feeble attempt to insinuate that the Black citizens of Memphis led this charge to desecrate the grave, and Memorial of a man who their ancestors considered their friend. More fake news. What they failed to do, first, was to give an historical accounting of the refugee families, both freed, and indentured, black and white who flocked onto the Nathan Bedford Forrest's Underground Rail Road to escape Ulysses S. Grant's terror; who after he burned Randolph, Tennessee, moved south into the great State of Mississippi where he commenced to burn 43 cities, all the while with his total warfare policy as sanctioned by Abraham Lincoln. A policy of looting, murder, rape of women, girls and boys like no army in the annals of mankind. And, yes the Africans, fled to Memphis, because just like the white folks, they knew that General Forrest, their Champion, would save them; and he did; just as he would after the War there. It was the White Mayor from Indiana who led the sacrilege against the Confederate monuments. He would tell the Tennessee Historical Commission that the Forrest monument was put on a path frequented by black citizens to agitate them. My comment... Poor Yankee; he didn't understand, General Forrest was a beloved figure in the black community. It would have been a high honor for them if the City had buried Forrest on the grounds of Ebenezer Baptist Church with a Memorial to him, not sanctioning this attack on Christendom, and the act of War that it brings once again upon the South. For those who would comment in the Florida Ledger Newspaper that there were no black Confederate soldiers; they don't have to go far to find that repudiated. Try telling that to the granddaughter of black Confederate soldier, the Honorable Christopher Columbus Quarles who along with her son would join us at his gravesite that memorializes him as a Confederate soldier. Try telling that to the Honorable Nelson Winbush, right down the road in Kissimmee, Florida, whose grandfather, the Honorable Napoleon Nelson was to serve as the Chaplain-In-Chief to the Honorable General Nathan Bedford Forrest, along with the forty plus black Confederates who were a part of his Escort. And of whom Forrest would declare that these men stayed with me until the end, and no better Confederates lived than they. Try telling that lie to the ancestors of the Honorable Dr. Alexander Darnes, a black Confederate soldier; Aid de Camp of the Honorable General Kirby Smith. Or, even better yet, just get a copy of the Past Commander of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, the Honorable Charles Kelly Barrow's book titled, The Forgotten Confederate. And, as far as my being an outside agitator; The Florida Sun Sentinel would write in an article that a bum from New York, City, Daniel Israel, who stood at a Hollywood Hills Community forum, and declared that the Honorable General Robert E. Lee was "subhuman white thrash that beat his slaves every day, and men like General Thomas Stonewall Jackson were no better than Lee who fought to maintain the economic institution of slavery."

Your brother, *H.K. Edgerton*

December 27, 2017

## T.J. JACKSON WITNESSED JOHN BROWN'S EXECUTION

"December 2nd, 1859 – John Brown was hung today at about half-past eleven A.M. He behaved with unflinching firmness. The arrangements were well made and well executed under the direction of Colonel Smith. The gibbet (gallows) was erected in a large field, southeast of the town. Brown rode on the head of his coffin from his prison to the place of execution. The coffin was of black walnut, enclosed in a box of poplar of the same shape as the coffin. He was dressed in a black frock coat, black pantaloons, black vest, black slouch hat, white socks, and slippers of predominating red. There was nothing around his neck but his shirt collar. The open wagon in which he rode was strongly guarded on all sides. Captain Williams (formerly assistant professor at VMI) marched immediately in front of the wagon.



The jailer, high sheriff, and several others rode in the same wagon with the prisoner. Brown had his arms tied behind him, and ascended the scaffold with apparent cheerfulness. After reaching the top of the platform, he shook hands with several who were standing around him. The sheriff placed the rope around his neck, then threw a white cap over his head, and asked him if he wished a sign when all should be ready. He replied that it made no difference, provided he *"was not kept waiting too long."* In this condition he stood for about ten minutes on the trap door, which was supported on one side by hinges and on the other (the south side) by a rope. Colonel Smith then announced to the sheriff *"all ready"* which apparently not comprehended by him, and the Colonel had to repeat the order. When the rope was cut by a single blow, Brown fell through about five inches, his knees falling on a level with the position occupied by his feet before the rope was cut. With the fall of his arms, below the elbows, flew up horizontally, his hands clinched. His arms gradually fell, but by spasmodic motions.

There was very little motion of his person for several moments, and soon the wind blew his lifeless body to and fro. His face, upon the scaffold, was turned a little east of south, and in front of him were the cadets, commanded by Major Gilhain. My command was still in front of the cadets, all facing south. One howitzer I assigned to Mr. Trueheart on the left of the cadets, and with the other I remained on the right. Other troops occupied different positions around the scaffold, and altogether it was an imposing but very solemn scene. I was much impressed with the thought that before me stood a man in the full vigor of health, who must in a few moments enter eternity. I sent up the petition that he might be saved. Awful was the thought that he might in a few minutes receive the sentence, Depart, ye wicked, into everlasting fire! I hope that he was prepared to die, but I am doubtful. He refused to have a minister with him. His wife visited him last evening. His body was taken back to the jail, and at six o'clock pm was sent to his wife at Harper's Ferry. When it arrived, the coffin was opened, and his wife saw the remains, after which it was again opened at the depot before leaving for Baltimore, lest there should be an imposition.

## **CATHY'S CLOWN** *The Humor of Kenny Stancil*

An American and his wife were driving in Canada and got lost on the prairie. After what seemed like forever, they finally came to a city. When they saw a gentleman on the sidewalk they pulled up to the curb and the lady let down her window and asked: "Excuse me, sir. Where are we?" The gentleman replied, "Saskatoon, Saskatchewan." The woman let up the window, turned to her husband and said, "We really are lost. They don't even speak English here!"



You do not need a parachute to skydive. You only need a parachute to skydive twice.

I have only one resolution: to rediscover the difference between wants and needs. May I have all I need and want all I have.

Happy New Year!

*Kenny*

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## **DEFINING ANCIENT WORDS**

**gibbet** – a gallows with a projecting arm at the top, from which the bodies of criminals were formerly hung in chains and left suspended after execution.

**chary** – cautiously or suspiciously reluctant to do something – such as being chary of being photographed.

**verdure** - lush green vegetation or the fresh green color of vegetation.

**hydropathic** -a method of treating disease by copious and frequent use of water both externally and internally.

**rockaway** - a light low four-wheel carriage with a fixed top and open sides.

**abattoir** - a slaughterhouse.

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Mary Custis Lee  
and Robert E. Lee, Jr.  
- 1845

**"NEVER TAKE  
COUNSEL FROM  
YOUR FEARS."  
STONEWALL  
JACKSON**



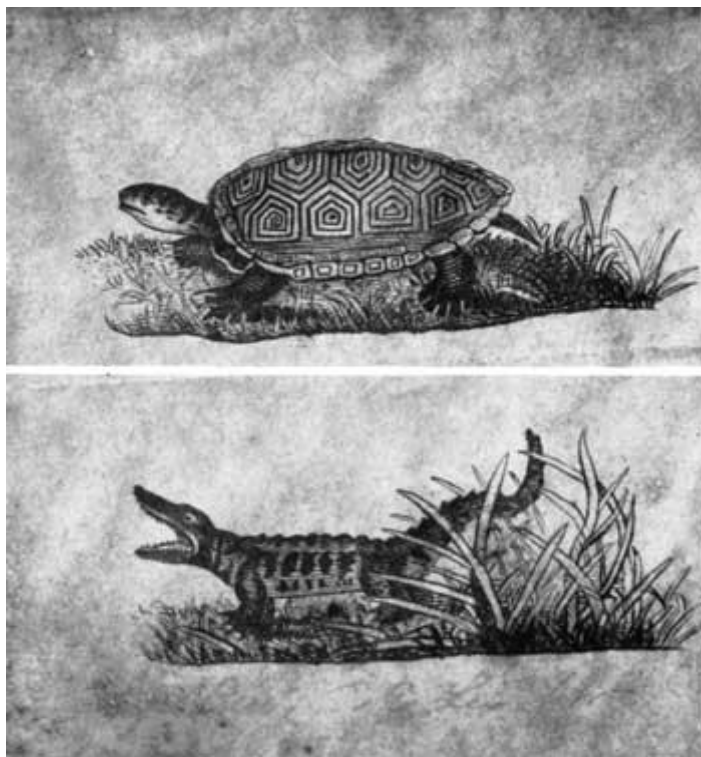


## "BACK BY TEN O'CLOCK"

By design we have not spoken very much about the military exploits of Generals Lee and Jackson. Instead of going into a lot of campaign statistics that most folks have often read, we will offer a few passing insights to the everyday lives of these men: Jackson not obviously loveable, harshly unbending in principle, plain in looks and known to time the aging of bread with a watch. Godly as he was, the man was somewhat prone to falling asleep in church. During his famous Shenandoah Valley Campaign of early 1862, Jackson was coordinating his plan of attack with General Patton (grandfather of the famed General of World War II) Jackson said to Patton, "I will attack Shields (Union Brigadier General James Shields) and by the blessing of God, I hope to be back by ten o'clock. Did you ever before hear a man calculate the time it would take for him to whip an opposing enemy?"

(Campaigns of The Confederate Army by A.L. Hull, 1901)

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*Rare sketch of the terrapin and alligator made by Lt. Lee on Cockspur Island. Copies were apparently given by Lee to members of both the Mackay and Minis families, of Savannah, Ga.; descendents still own the originals.*

## IN SYMPATHY



Douglas Lee Martin, 57, passed away December 24, 2017. A graveside service was held at 2:00PM on Saturday, December 30, 2017 at Parkway Memorial Gardens. Visitation was held on Friday evening, December 29, 2017 from 6:00PM – 8:00PM at Heritage Memorial Funeral Home, Warner Robins, Georgia.

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*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 4:8*

With the New Year dawning let us not dwell on the negative effects of the past year. Let us look to the potential for positive change in the year to come. Focus on the positive things and less on the negative. Seek the kingdom of God first and the rest of God's promises will be given to you (Matthew 6:33). Happy New Year to you and let us give God the glory (Colossians 3:17). Have a wonderful reenactment season and make our ancestors proud (James 4:6-8) . Let us remember that God is good all the time (Psalm 100:5) and loves us. Will you look to the year with hope or trepidation? (2 Timothy 1:7)

- Chaplain Joel B. Whitehead, Jr. 16<sup>th</sup> GA/Camp 2218

## CONVENIENT HELP

*"What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? Can faith save him? If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit? Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone."*

– James 2:14-17



Most folks, are good-hearted enough to help their fellow man in this life, if they can. Whether they are Christians or not does not seem to matter tremendously – some folks are, after all, much nicer than some Christians. Some non-believers can be trusted more than some Christians. Americans often see the television images of starving children or the destitute elderly and are constrained by the love of God to give generously to such causes whether the intended recipients ever reap the benefits or not. Maybe it tugs at your heart strings even more to see those familiar scenes of unfortunate animals than needy people? Many of us will drop a dollar in the Salvation Army kettle at Christmas, or hand out a buck to a fellow beside the road if we can spare it and we think their plight is genuine. Some would give a fellow the shirt off their backs – provided it is a warm day. Folks are real good at dispensing help – if it is *convenient*. If they are tired, or giving aid causes them to go out of their way; if they just cannot spare the time or if they are down to their last dollar ... well, that may be another matter altogether.

In Luke 10 (30-35) Jesus is tells the familiar story of *"a certain man [who] went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, which stripped him of his raiment, and wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead. And by chance there came down a certain priest that way: and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. And likewise a Levite, when he was at the place, came and looked on him, and passed by on the other side. But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was: and when he saw him, he had compassion on him, And went to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him. And on the morrow when he departed, he took out two pence, and gave them to the host, and said unto him, Take care of him; and whatsoever thou spendest more, when I come again, I will repay thee."*

The "Good Samaritan", of course, was not the one who passed by that day. A "priest" and a "Levite" did. In fact they did not even come near the wounded man but "*passed by on the other side*". These were the church folks of the time who just shook their heads and muttered "what a pity". They decided there was nothing they could do and preferred not to get involved. Oh, they might have said "I will pray for you" but they kept on going. The "Good Samaritan" also saw the need but he got



down in the ditch with the injured man with no apparent thought to consequences. That is the way it should be, so says OUR LORD, and the story of the "Good Samaritan" is often mentioned even by an unbelieving world. But how does that play out for us, in our everyday lives?

When lifeguards are trained to save people from drowning, they are cautioned to take care not to let the victim pull them down also. Similarly, desperately needy people will do anything to survive if you help and even if you do not. Satan likes this a whole lot, I think. He is ever ready to "*accuse the brethren*" (Revelation 12:10) of any guilt that he can fabricate. It is no trick to make Christians feel like they have not done enough. When is enough, enough? (Proverbs 30:15-16) This is "*a hard saying*" (John 6:60) When Isaiah told GOD, "*here am I send me*" (Isaiah 6:8) and GOD took him up on the offer saying "*go tell my people.*" (Isaiah 6:9) Isaiah then asked "*Lord, how long*"... (Isaiah 6:11) GOD answered the prophet, sure enough, saying Isaiah would be on the job "*until the cities be wasted without inhabitant, and the houses without man, and the land be utterly desolate, And the LORD have removed men far away, and there be a great forsaking in the midst of the land.*" (Isaiah 6:11-12) That is a long tour of duty – almost like saying "forever;" for us it would be the rest of our lives on earth or until JESUS comes.

If I were a gambler, I would wager that candid pastors and ministers could tell "horror" stories of people they have helped in the past but refuse to help anymore. In one documented example, a local church had helped an elderly lady from time to time; sometimes with food or other assistance such as paying an occasion utility bill. This, apparently, became "expected" by the lady and eventually she was calling the church and "demanding" that they help her. I think all aid stopped there.

Often, in this class, we have discussed among ourselves just what is the proper or the right, or the accepted, Christian way of helping people – and especially those who do not accept help in what we think is a gracious manner. Most people want to help but human nature rebels against those who seem to take advantage. Jude 23 says "*And others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh.*" Some people are hard to help and often Christians are unwilling to do the hard things, to go the extra mile (Matthew 5:41), to put themselves out. They might help, some - but only if it is **convenient**.

I bring this up today because it is one of those things I do not like about me and I would like God to fix. My Daddy often mentioned how my grandfather was known for giving his last dollar to help someone even when it meant he would do without. Perhaps if GOD fixed everything about me, I would forget how much I need HIM, but I could stand a little more compassion and a "*faith with works*" (James 2:17) not just one that smiles and says "*be ye warmed and filled*" (James 2:16). I have no answer for this dilemma but prayerfully seek God often, asking HIM to order my steps and overwhelm my compassions that they will accomplish HIS will.

Jwd

12/31/17

"Which now of these three, thinkest thou, was neighbor unto him that fell among the thieves? And he said, He that shewed mercy on him. Then said Jesus unto him, Go, and do thou likewise." (Luke 10: 36-37)

"Being unwanted, unloved, uncared for, forgotten by everybody, I think, is a much greater hunger and a much greater poverty than the person who has nothing to eat."

– Mother Teresa

## THE WARMTH OF FRIENDSHIP ON A COLD NEW YEAR'S DAY



We had real fine time this first day of 2018. Beth, Earl, Cathy, J.C, and Brenda and I (Duke) rode around parts of Georgia looking at old grist mills and such – some dating back to the 1700's – our kind of fun... Happy New Year from the 16<sup>th</sup> GA!