



The Summer Confederate

LEGIONNAIRE

The Newsletter of the General William B. Bate Camp No. 34

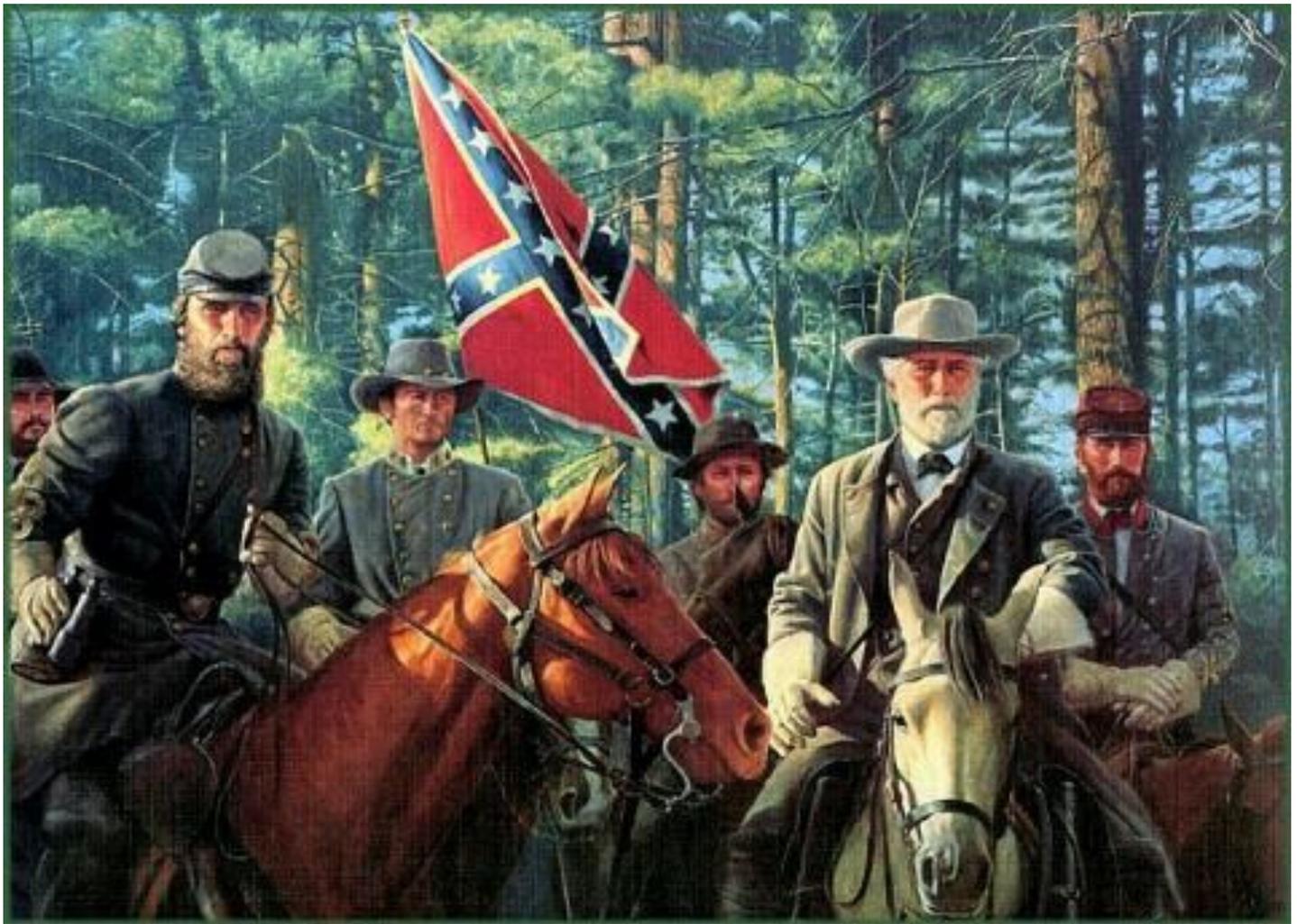
Sons of Confederate Veterans



Volume 5, Issue 1

January 2015

Lee-Jackson Day 2015



OUR NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON JANUARY 8, 2015 AT 7:00 P.M. AT BELIEVER'S FELLOWSHIP AT 126 NORTH WATER AVENUE. PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND. OUR SPEAKER AT THIS MEETING WILL BE TERRY PALMER OF WHITE HOUSE.

Inside this issue:

Battle of Nashville from the January 1909 Confederate Veteran

Camp News

Lee-Jackson day falls in 2015 on January 19. Eventhough we do not have an event scheduled to commemorate Lee-Jackson Day, we ought to pause in our daily lives and take a few moments to honor these patriots and true Christian gentlemen. Today, when there is such an effort to erase all things Confederate from the public arena, these men stand head and shoulders above all in showing us what honor, courage and fidelity to a cause really means.

BATTLE OF NASHVILLE.

BY M. B. MORTON

MANAGING EDITOR NASHVILLE BANNER.

The battle of Nashville, which marked the failure of the last aggressive movement of the armies of the Confederacy, was fought a few miles south of this city December 15 and 16, 1864. Gen. A. P. Stewart wrote to Col. A. P. Mason, assistant adjutant general of the Army of Tennessee: "I deem it proper to say that after the fall of Atlanta the condition of the army and other considerations rendered it necessary, in my judgment, that an offensive campaign should be made in the enemy's rear and on his line of communication. It is not my purpose nor does it pertain to me to explain the reasons which prompted the campaign, but simply to express my concurrence in the views which determined the operations of the army."

For the details of the battle of Nashville contained in this article the Banner and the writer are indebted to Gov. James D. Porter, as the people of Tennessee and the South are indebted to him for a lifetime's service in peace and war, as the generations of Tennesseans yet unborn are indebted to him for his volume in the military history of the South devoted to the Tennessee soldier, and the part he took in the great Civil War. And just one word for the private soldier of Tennessee, the private soldier of the Confederate States of America. No better soldier ever shouldered musket or marched to battle. History tells of no braver man, none with greater powers of endurance, with nerves of iron and sinews of steel, none with more intelligence, none more devoted to duty, and none with a higher conception of

Christian manhood. In the aggregate he made the greatest fighting machine the world has known. He often won his battle under the most adverse circumstances. Name any battle in which he participated where his force came anywhere near equaling the enemy in numbers, and you name a Southern victory.

Governor Porter is particularly well fitted to tell the story of the battle of Nashville. As a young man he was a member of the Legislature and "helped take Tennessee out of the Union." He at once enlisted in the army, and remained in the field until the end, first as adjutant general and chief of staff of Cheatham's Division and then as adjutant general of that army corps. He was with Hood in his march into and out of Tennessee, and was an active participant in the battle of Nashville during both the days of the battle.

The map on page 16 [opposite] gives a good idea of the fortifications in and around Nashville at the time of the battle and the disposition of the forces in the field. The position of the fortifications and lines of battle and troops during the two days' engagement are copied from a map made by Maj. Wilbur F. Foster, who was chief engineering officer of Gen. A. P. Stewart's Corps, serving before, during, and after the battle of Nashville until the surrender at Greensboro, N. C. The Federals had two permanent lines of breastworks, the inner line running from Fort Negley, their



MAP OF THE Battlefield of Nashville.

Dec. 15-16th, 1864.

Drawn by Wilbur F. Foster,
Major Engineer Corps, C. S. A.



EDGEFIELD

NASHVILLE

LEBANON

CHICKEN

MURFREESBORO

Asylum

Wood

Terraces

Greenfield

Steedman

John Overton

EXPLANATIONS.

Confederate Advanced Lines.

Confederate Lines, Morning, Dec. 15th.

Confederate Lines, 1 P. M., Dec. 15th.

Confederate Lines, from Noon to 3 P. M., Dec. 15th.

Federal Lines, 3 P. M., Dec. 15th.

Federal Lines, 4 P. M., Dec. 15th.

Scale of Miles.

Rand, McNally & Co., Engrs., Chicago.

strongest fortification, in a northeasterly loop. Going east, it crossed the Franklin Pike direction to the river, and from Fort Negley and passed on near the A. V. Brown in the other direction by Fort Casino, on residence to Rains Hill, now on the west side what is now Reservoir Hill, to Fort Morton, of the Nolensville Pike. From there it and thence in a northwesterly direction, via extended in a northeasterly direction to the Fort Gillem, in North Nashville, to the N., C. & St. L. Railroad, from which point a Cumberland River not far from the present thin line of cavalry extended in a Hyde's Ferry bridge. The outer line began at northeasterly direction to the Cumberland River. Fort Casino and ran in a south westerly then westerly and then northwesterly direction to the Cumberland River, a short distance below the present Tennessee Central Railroad bridge. This line included part of Belmont Heights, went beyond Vanderbilt University grounds, and crossed the Harding Pike near the present Acklen Park. Within the inner line, near the intersection of Sixteenth Avenue (Belmont) and Division Street, was Fort Houston, on the present site of Maj. E. C. Lewis's residence and adjacent lots. Besides the permanent lines of fortification, a number of temporary breastworks were built south of the city immediately preceding and during the battle.

On the left wing Chalmers's and Rucker's Brigades of Forrest's Cavalry were thrown out in a line of observation extending in a northwesterly direction to the Cumberland River. It will be remembered by his old comrades that General Rucker, who is now a prominent capitalist of Birmingham, Ala., lost his arm and was captured south of the Overton Knobs, on the Granny White Pike, after the battle. Gen. A. P. Stewart commanded the left. Gen. Stephen D. Lee the center, and Gen. B. F. Cheatham the right. From near the center an advance line was thrown out at an angle with the main line extending to the left in a direction a little north of west across the Granny White Pike and across Belmont Terrace, then the Montgomery homestead, and on across Mr. Walter Stokes's farm to the Hillsboro Pike near where it is now crossed by the Tennessee Central Railroad belt line. For several days before the battle the soldiers in their intrenchments, which were only a few hundred yards from the Federal outer line of works around Nashville, were constantly under fire. The old Montgomery homestead, which occupied the crest of what is now Belmont Terrace and which was right in the line of the Confederate works, was destroyed by Federal shots, and the old overseer's house for the Montgomery homestead, now owned by Smith Criddle, was riddled by shot, the marks of which may still be seen. It was

Few of the many thousands of people who annually visit Glendale Park realize that this beautiful and peaceful bit of woodland is almost the exact geographical center of the battle of Nashville and that it was raked by shot and shell when the two armies, the one commanded by Gen. J. B. Hood and the other by Gen. G. H. Thomas, met in deadly conflict. General Hood's headquarters during the battle were near the present palatial residence of Mr. Overton Lea, southwest of Glendale Park. Previous to the battle General Hood's headquarters were at Col. John Overton's residence, Travelers' Rest, where his son, Mr. May Overton, now lives. On the first day of the battle the Confederate lines extended east and west near what is now the northern extremity of the Glendale car line





BATTLE OF NASHVILLE.

at first intended to make this the main battle. The Confederate army had been Confederate line of battle on the left; but it was afterwards determined to make the main line, as already described, about half a mile south of the crest of Belmont Terrace. Just before the battle of December 15 the troops in this line were withdrawn to the main line, the original line being held as a skirmish line. During the light December 15, the first day of the battle. The left flank of the Confederate army was turned, and General Stewart reformed his line, now augmented after nightfall by Cheatham's troops, in a position almost parallel to the Hillsboro Pike on the east side of the pike. The next day, December 16, was the second and main day of the

formed during the preceding night in line of battle extending east and west from a point in the hills west of the Granny White Pike, extending east across the pike and through the northern edge of the present Overton Lea woods pasture, across the present Van L. Kirkman farm and the Franklin Pike to Overton Hill, a short distance north of the John Overton home. The line crossed the Franklin Pike a few hundred yards north of the present Van Leer Kirkman residence.

On the second day of the battle Cheatham's Corps was the left of the army, General Stewart held the center, and General



Lee the light, facing General Steedman across the Franklin Pike.

It may be seen by reference to the map that the Confederates were faced in front by an unbroken line of foes and that the Federals had effected a lodgment in their rear near the Granny White Pike, so that their only feasible line of retreat was by the Franklin Pike. The advance on and the retreat from Nashville were over the Franklin Pike.

After the battle of Franklin, Gen. William B. Bate and Gen. N. B. Forrest were detached from Hood's army and sent to Murfreesboro with five or six thousand men to take that place if possible and to destroy the Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis Railroad, so that reenforcements could not be brought to the Federals over that road. They performed the latter mission with reasonable success, but were unable to take Murfreesboro. General Bate was then ordered to Nashville with his troops, and took part in the second day's fight; but General Forrest and some of the infantry that had been sent to Murfreesboro did not again join Hood's army until Columbia was reached on the retreat.

When asked as to the number of men General Hood had at the battle of Nashville, Governor Porter said: "The ordnance officer, who had charge of the ordnance stores, used to tell me we had fifteen thousand infantry in line. Of course we had more troops than that: we had some at Murfreesboro and some on detached service that did not participate in the action."

"What estimate did he make of the Federal force in and around Nashville at that time?" was asked.

"You know," was the reply, "they had between eighteen thousand and twenty thousand men in line at Franklin, and they were constantly receiving reenforcements. There were five or six thousand troops in Nashville who never went to Franklin. We were in front of Nashville nearly two weeks, and from Rains Hill I could see the reenforcements coming in every day from toward Louisville. I could see them cross the river. Gen. J. H. Wilson had ten thousand cavalry horses. Counting all sorts of men under arms, the Federals had at least seventy-five thousand."

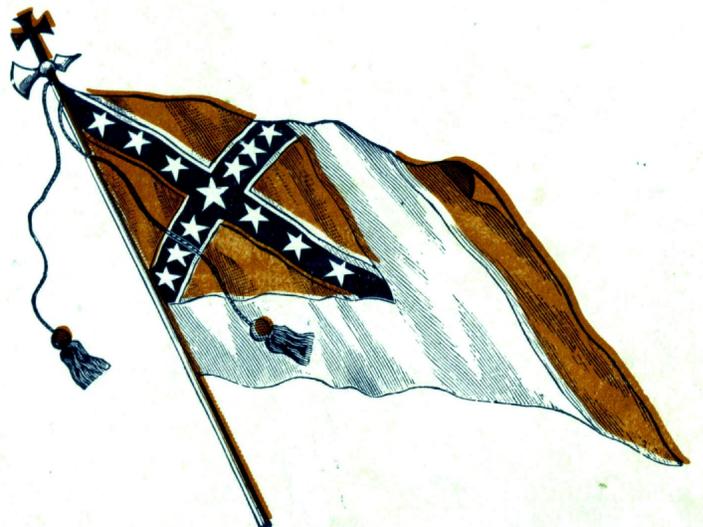
"How many do you estimate they had actually in the fighting?"

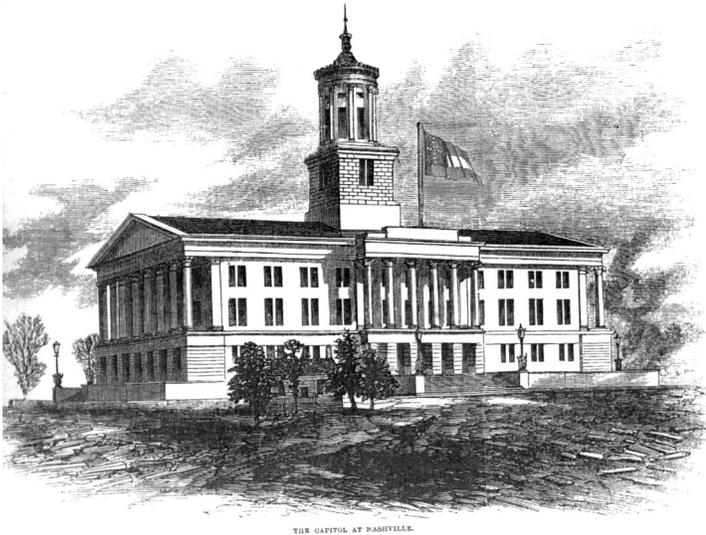
"They did not have that many; but they had them in supporting distance, and that is the same thing as having them there. Their fights were made in detachments. For instance, they attacked us on the right. Steedman came out with his division; he was feeling us to see what was there and to see whether he could turn that flank or not, and we beat him very badly."

Describing the first day of the battle, Governor Porter said:

"Cheatham's Corps was thrown across the Nolensville Pike, with its center at Rains Hill (it used to be spoken of as Ridley's Hill; we called it Ridley's Hill then, but it belonged to Rains, and we got to calling it Rains Hill). Nixon's cavalry was on our right in open order, running across to the river, and was more in observation than anything else.

"On the 15th of December General Steedman came out with his division (and, by the way, he had with him Shafter, who afterwards made such a conspicuous failure in Cuba). General Shafter was commanding a negro regiment. General Corbin, afterwards commander of the United States army, was there also in command of another regiment of negroes. They came out against us in rather handsome style. I do not suppose they had ever been in action before. We fired but one volley. We knocked down over eight hundred of them, and that was the end of it—they retired. They left in disorder—a bad case of disorder.





THE CAPITOL AT NASHVILLE.

"We had no serious action there except with one little brigade. The left of Cleburne's Division of Cheatham's Corps rested on the east side of the Nolensville Pike, held by Govan's Brigade. We had but two divisions, and the other —Cheatham's old division—was west of the pike. On Govan's right, east of the pike, was Granberry's Brigade, General Granberry having been killed at Franklin. The brigade occupied what the soldiers called a lunette—a little open work — with three hundred men. They were attacked by the Federals and gave them a bloody repulse, though themselves sustaining a loss of twenty or thirty men, mostly killed and wounded by sharpshooters. The whole line opened on the Federals, and they left in great disorder, and that was the end of the first day's fight on Hood's right. When we made that fight, we were already under orders to go to the left of the line of battle, where General Stewart's left flank had been forced.

"When the enemy turned Stewart's left flank, he had to drop back three-quarters of a mile and make a second formation parallel with and on the east side of the Hillsboro Pike. He was in this formation when we arrived there late in the evening of the 15th. When the fight began, Gen. Stephen D. Lee held the center of the line of battle ; but when Cheatham's Corps was moved to the extreme left to support Stewart, Lee's Corps became the right flank of General Hood's army.

"So far as that day's fighting was concerned, Lee's Corps sustained itself all along its line. He beat the enemy and drove them back. In fact, there was but little vigor displayed by the Federals. There was

no enterprise, no push, no energy, and Lee, especially Clayton's Division of Lee's Corps, repulsed every assault that was made upon him. Some of Lee's troops were, however, loaned to Stewart to help him on the extreme left, which was all the time supposed to be in jeopardy, and these left the field."

After Stewart made his second formation on the Hillsboro Pike, where he was joined by Cheatham's Corps, there was practically no further fighting on that first day of the battle. During the night the Confederate lines were withdrawn and reformed in front of the Overton Knobs, as already pointed out, extending from the hills on the west side of the Granny White Pike, across the pike and through Overton Lea's woods pasture and Van L. Kirkman's farm and across the Franklin Pike to Overton Hill on the extreme right. In this new formation Cheatham's Corps was on the left, Stewart's in the center, and Lee's on the right. Cleburne's old division was the extreme left of Cheatham's Corps and the extreme left of the Confederate line. Next came Cheatham's old division, under command of General Lowry, and then Bate's Division of Cheatham's Corps. All of Cheatham's Corps was on the left flank, except Gen. J. H. Smith's Brigade of Cleburne's Division, which General Hood had ordered to support Lee. Walthall, of Stewart's Corps, came next to Bate's Division on the right, Walthall also being west of the Granny White Pike.

On the afternoon of the 16th. when the main battle was fought, the Federals made a general attack all along the Confederate line. There had been constant fighting but no general attack during the morning. When they made the general attack, they received a bloody repulse from Lee and all along Stewart's line, part of which was protected by a stone fence on the northern boundary of Overton Lea's farm. On the extreme left the Federals bunched a heavy column of cavalry, and there they pushed Govan, on the left of Cleburne's Division, from the field. Speaking of this, Governor Porter said: "There was no panic about it; they overwhelmed him. It was in a little pocket down there. General Cheatham and I were standing together by a big white oak when a ball passed between us, coming from behind. The enemy had gone there and got behind us. Govan was shot down, the colonel next to him was shot down, and the command devolved on a major. Colonel Field, of the 1st Tennessee, in command of

what was formerly Maney's Brigade, but which at that time was known as Carter's Brigade (General Carter had been killed at Franklin), was ordered to retake the position on the extreme left from which Govan had been forced. This he did, being joined immediately by Gist's Brigade, under command of Col. John H. Anderson, of the 8th Tennessee."

Thus it will be seen that the Federals along the whole line were repulsed and the ground lost on the extreme left had been regained. The Federal troops had, however, passed around the left wing of the army and, until Field advanced, regained and held the ground, reenforced by Anderson, were in the rear of Cheatham's Corps. Then a demonstration was made on Bate's Division, which was on the west of the Granny White Pike, joining Walthall of Stewart's Division. Bate's Division gave way on Shy's Hill, and the Federal army poured through the gap thus made, cutting Hood's army in two and isolating Cheatham's Division from the rest of the army. The enemy was in front on both sides and in the rear of Cheatham's troops, and was in the rear of a part of Stewart's Corps. It was then that Cheatham's troops were ordered to break ranks, each man to look out for himself, and this they did successfully, and Cheatham's Corps assembled that night on the Franklin Pike, joining Lee and Stewart, and marched in order to Franklin. Stewart's Corps retired in like manner, as did part of Lee's. This was an absolute necessity, as it was impossible to lead an organized body of men through the Overton hills.

Speaking of the conclusion of the action on the extreme left, which practically ended the battle of Nashville, Governor Porter said: "The enemy, seeing our army cut in two, poured through the gap in the rear of a part of Stewart's Corps and in the rear of Cheatham's Corps. It required very prompt action to save the brigade commanded by Colonel Field, of the 1st Tennessee, and Gist's Brigade, commanded by Colonel Anderson. They held the extreme left of our army; and when about to follow the stampede, Cheatham ordered Colonel Field to resume his position and open fire on the enemy. This was done, causing the enemy to fall back, and then the order was given to retire. This order meant for the men to climb the hills in their rear and reach the Franklin Pike. It was done promptly, but was not attended by anything like a panic. If our retreat had not been forced at that

hour, we would have retreated that night, as it was impossible to maintain the position we occupied; and if Grant had been in command of the Federals, our little army would have been captured. Our army should have been in Georgia lighting Sherman; but if it was resolved to make a campaign in Tennessee, the fatal delay of a week on the Tennessee River should have been avoided."

The retreat to the Tennessee River was not a rout. It was well conducted, and there was almost constant fighting between the rear guard and General Wilson's cavalry, which conducted a vigorous pursuit almost to the Tennessee River. "Wilson," said Governor Porter, "had organized a corps of ten thousand, and had right here in Nashville the best-appointed cavalry the Federal army had ever had. In fact, the Federal army never had a cavalry corps that amounted to much until just about that time."

On the evening of the last day of the battle Lee covered the retreat of the army on the Franklin Pike and also the next day to Franklin. An incident of Lee's defense of the army is given by Governor Porter. He said: "Lee told me about the attack that was made on him near Brentwood. Old Pettus was with him there. The Federal cavalry was led by a colonel whose name I have forgotten, an officer of the regular army with white (lowing beard. Lee formed a square to receive the charge. The Federal colonel formed his troops in column the width of a company, and the impetus of the charge carried them right through the Confederate square; but they never got back. It is very difficult ordinarily to break a square properly formed, and that one was properly formed by fine soldiers. I have heard Lee and Pettus both tell about it as a magnificent charge and very magnificently led. They were killed, wounded, and disabled in every way."

The weather was bitter cold during the stay at and following the battle of Nashville. Preceding the battle General Cheatham and staff spent the nights at Wesley Greenfield's home, on the Nolensville Pike about a quarter of a mile in the rear of the Confederate lines. The soldiers were half clad and not half shod, thousands being entirely without shoes. When this is considered and the rough, rocky ground over which most of the fighting took place, in many places covered with briars and a thick growth of



prickly pear or cactus, some faint conception of the hardships endured by these heroes of the Southland may be formed. "On the retreat," said Governor Porter, "we had as few desertions as was ever the case with an army under similar circumstances. The presumption would naturally be that most of the desertions would be on the part of Tennesseans, because they were going right by their homes, many in sight of them ; but they stayed with the army. "A private soldier got permission through me to visit his mother. When he got in sight of home and saw the Yankees were there, he turned around, came back, and fell in line. That illustrates how the fellows would do. Barring our real losses in battle, we were as strong when we got to Tupelo as when we crossed the river going into Tennessee. We had practically no desertions.

"General Thomas and his officers promulgated the idea that after the fight our army was a mob and not under the control of the officers ; but there was as good discipline during the retreat as I ever saw. We had with our command the rear of Cheatham's Corps ; we skirmished with the enemy nearly all day before reaching Columbia, and our soldiers never behaved better in their lives. "

At Columbia General Hood put Forrest in command of the rear guard and ordered Walthall to select an infantry command to support him, and he selected two brigades from his own division, two from Cheatham's, and two or three others. He had fifteen or sixteen hundred men. These troops had fierce combats, but no soldiers ever behaved better than they. They had battles on a small scale, they punished the enemy, captured prisoners and captured artillery.

"We had one of the handsomest little combats the first day out before we reached Columbia. I was there at the action of the artillery. We had four guns with the rear brigade. And I will tell you what we did have too (it was a pitiful sight) : we had many barefooted men, and there were ice and snow and sleet. The soldiers would kill a beef, divide the skin, and tie their feet up in the raw hide.

"A little story will illustrate the condition of things. We had reached the hilly country in Giles County, beyond Pulaski. It had snowed and sleeted the day before, and the ground was as slick as glass. We reached a steep hill, and I rode on to its top with the

troops. General Cheatham remained at the foot of the hill, and he knew they were going to have terrible times with that train of his approaching with ordnance stores, quartermaster's stores, etc. He sent word to me to pick out a hundred well-shod men and send them to help push the wagons up. I dismounted and gave my horse to the courier. The fellows soon found out that I was after men with shoes on, and they were highly amused. They would laugh and stick up their feet as I approached. Some would have a pretty good shoe on one foot and on the other a piece of rawhide or a part of a shoe made strong with a string made from a strip of rawhide tied around it, some of them would have all rawhide, some were entirely barefooted, and some would have on old shoe tops with the bottoms of their feet on the ground. I got about twenty or twenty-five men out of that entire army corps, and we got the teams up the hill.

"No, we did not use oxen, as Dr. Wyeth says in his life of Forrest, to move the ordnance from Columbia to the river. I did not see an ox during the entire trip. We used horses and mules, and we had enough to do the work, doubling teams with heavy things like pontoons for bridges. We had the worst roads ever seen. "The skirmishing began immediately after the battle and . lasted until we got almost to the Tennessee River."

"Did the negro troops figure in the battle after the attack upon Cheatham on the first day of the battle of Nashville?" was asked.

"No. We saw no negro troops after that, but some of them were with General Steedman when he attacked Lee on the second day of the battle."

The official record shows that December 10, 1864, General Hood had an effective force of 18,342 infantry, 2,306 cavalry, 2,405 artillery, making a total of 23,053. Two brigades of this force were at Murfreesboro during the battle of Nashville.

The ordnance officer issued ammunition for 15,000 infantry in line of battle. Governor Porter furnishes the following list of Tennessee troops as participating in the battle of Nashville: Cheatham's Corps, Maj. Gen. B. F. Cheatham; James D. Porter, chief of staff and assistant adjutant general. Field's Brigade, Col. Hume R. Field; 4th (P. A.), 6th, 9th, and



50th Tennessee, Lieut. Col. George W. Pease; 1st and 27th Tennessee, Lieut. Col. John F. House; 8th, 16th, and 28th Tennessee, Col. John H. Anderson. Strain's Brigade, Col. Andrew J. Kellar; 4th, 5th, 31st, and 38th Tennessee, Col. L. W. Finley; 19th, 24th, and 41st Tennessee, Capt. D. A. Kennedy.

Gordon's Brigade, Col. William M. Watkins; 12th and 29th Tennessee, Maj. John E. Binns; 12th and 47th Tennessee, Capt. C. N. Wade; 13th, 51st, 52d, and 154th Tennessee, Maj. J. T. Williams.

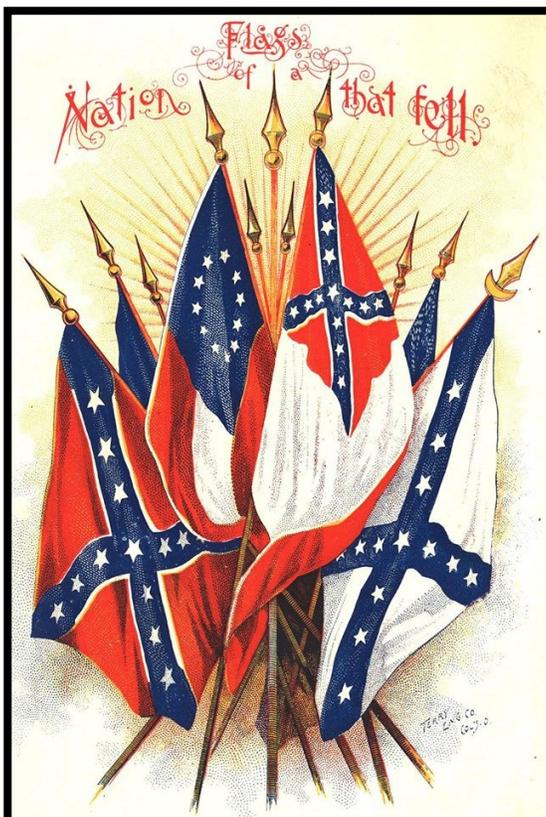
Bate's Division, Gen. William B. Bate; 2d, 10th, 20th, and 37th Tennessee, Lieut. Col. W. M. Shy.

Cleburne's Division ; 35th Tennessee, Col. B. J. Hill, detached. Lee's Corps, Gen. Stephen D. Lee ; Palmer's Brigade, Gen. J. B. Palmer; 3d and 18th Tennessee. Lieut. Col. William R. Butler; 23d, 26th, and 45th Tennessee, Col. Anderson Searcy; 32d Tennessee, Col. John P. McGuire (at Murfreesboro).

Stewart's Corps, Quarles's Brigade, Brig. Gen. George D. Johnston; 42d, 46th, 49th, 53d, and 55th Tennessee, Capt. A. M. Duncan; 48th Tennessee, Col. William M. Vorhies.

When the Army of Tennessee reached Tupelo, Miss., from the 5th of January, 1865, to the 12th (the last date was the time of Cheatham's arrival), the effective total of the infantry was 14,870. Deducting this from the effective infantry on the 10th of December, 1864, which was 18,342, the result will show the losses sustained at the battle of Nashville and the combat in front of Murfreesboro, less the absence of the 4th, 5th, 31st, 33d, 38th, 6th, 9th, 12th, 47th, 73d, 51st, 52d, 154th, 46th, and 55th Tennessee Regiments, furloughed at Corinth by Cheatham by command of General Hood. Two thousand covered all losses at Nashville. This includes killed, wounded, and missing. A large per cent were slightly wounded and

never left the ranks, and many of the missing walked across three States and joined their colors in North Carolina and were paroled with their comrades. General Hood, in his official report, said: "The Tennessee troops entered the State with high hopes as they approached their homes. When the fortunes of war were against us. the same faithful soldiers remained true to their flag. and. with rare exceptions, followed it in retreat as they had borne it in advance."



THE CONFEDERATE VETERAN,
JANUARY 1909

Camp News

As you all know, we had our breakfast on December 6th at Monnell's. It was well attended and I think all had a good time and we did have a short business portion to the breakfast. At that business session, we discussed the attendance of nonmembers at our monthly meetings. As you may recall, we voted twice a couple of years ago that no nonmembers were to

be present at the business portion of our meetings. Despite these votes over the course of time we have had nonmembers at meetings. This has led to a decrease in attendance and, frankly, some background complaints that got back to me that there was some question as to who, in fact, was the Camp Commander and running the show.

Based upon this background, we again voted to have NO nonmembers at any portion of our meetings, either program or business portions. It is my intention based upon this latest vote to enforce it to the letter. Therefore, no nonmembers will be present for any of our future monthly meetings.

The Ladies' Auxiliary will meet at least quarterly and separately from Camp meetings.



The Auxiliary was established as an arm of the Camp to allow our Ladies an avenue to be of service to the Camp and to further our efforts to honor and preserve our ancestor's memories. They are a vital and important part of our Camp. Their contributions are essential to furthering our goals, they do, however, when present at meetings, change the dynamic of our discussions.

The Camp had its Christmas Dinner at Hancock House on the 12th. It was a great event and well attended. As always, Roberta and Carl were gracious hosts and provided great food in welcoming atmosphere. There was wine and hors d'oeuvres before dinner and wine and Victorian Christmas crackers with dessert. As always, this was a fabulous event.

We were scheduled to participate in the Gallatin Christmas Parade on the 13th. We did not do so because we could not get enough Camp members to agree to ride on the float and we, therefore, withdrew from the parade. The Executive Committee agreed that to only have three or four members on the float sent the wrong



message about the size and commitment of the Camp. I think this parade could be an important recruiting tool and if done properly could raise our public profile and give us the kind of positive exposure which can only help with our mission.

We did, however, participate in the Bethpage Christmas Parade on the 20th in conjunction with the Brigadier General Thomas Benton Smith Camp 2177. Joe Long, Sr. and his wife, Martha from the Smith Camp joined Eddie, Tina and Thomas Felts and Donna and I from our Camp.

Our meeting on January 8th will feature Terry Palmer from White House who will speak about Captain Ellis Harper and other War Between the States History.

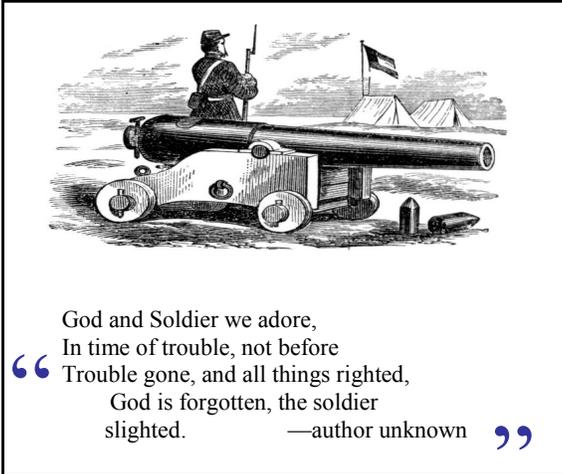


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General William B. Bate Camp 34, Sons of Confederate Veterans

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1 Lt. Commander – Eddie Felts
2 Lt. Commander – John de Leusomme
Adjutant – Kenneth A. Corum
Quartermaster – Richard Hamblen
Treasurer – Kenneth A. Corum
Chaplain – Johnny Keel
Surgeon – Vacant
Historian – G. Franklin Heathman
Color Sergeant – Michael Bassette
Judge Advocate – William Bryan Roehrig, III
Editor – Randy P. Lucas



To:



This graphic summarizes the mission of the General William B. Bate Camp 34. We are to be guardians of the history of the Confederate veteran, to preserve his symbols in reverence and honor. We should further strive to emulate his virtues of courage, loyalty, determination and perseverance. Let us always strive to meet these goals.

