



The Summer Confederate

LEGIONNAIRE

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

Sons of Confederate Veterans



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TEXAS TSUNAMI: THE TEXAS BRIGADE AT SECOND MANASSAS

There never were such men in an army before. They will go anywhere and do anything if properly led.

May 21, 1863

Letter to General John Bell Hood from General Robert E. Lee

By Don Barnhart

General Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson was growing more worried by the hour. His 2nd Corps held off repeated assaults by the Union Army of



Virginia, but it was reaching the breaking point. During the last Union assault, a Louisiana regiment resorted to throwing

rocks after they ran out of ammunition. General James Longstreet's 1st Corps was on its way, but no word yet on its arrival. Where were they? With low ammunition and shrinking numbers, how could the 2nd Corps possibly hold off another attack?

Help was on the way. An officer from Longstreet's command galloped up to Jackson's headquarters with the news. Longstreet had broken through Thoroughfare Gap and was approaching. A suddenly excited Jackson asked, "What brigade is in the lead?" "The Texas Brigade," the young officer replied.

OUR NEXT REGULAR MEETING WILL BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 10, 2016 AT 7:00 P.M. AT THE VISITORS' CENTER AT BLEDSOE CREEK STATE PARK, 400 ZIEGLERS FORT ROAD, GALLATIN. PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND.

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No speaker this month as we are having our elections for officers. If you are interested in serving the Camp, come and put your name up for election.

Henceforth, his command would live off the land at the expense of Virginia farmers. Any guerrilla activity would be met with the hushed excitement spread upon the news of immediate execution of the residents who Longstreet's arrival. Someone else had allegedly harbored them. "Pope is a miscreant," remarked General Robert E. Lee, "who ought to be suppressed." In the wake of his victory during the Seven Days Campaign, General Lee met with his senior generals at

Jeffersonton, Virginia. Suppressing Pope was on the top of the agenda.

With a stocky build, a long beard, and a suffocating ego, Union General John Pope came to Virginia after impressive wins along the Mississippi River at New Madrid and Island No. 10. President Lincoln was in dire need of a more aggressive general to augment the less aggressive command of George McClellan,



General Thomas Jonathan Jackson

whose Army of the Potomac was bottled up along Virginia's James River. Pope's aggressiveness, however, was only matched by his arrogance. Proclaiming "I come to you from the West where we only saw the backs of our enemies," he quickly alienated himself from his fellow officers. Southerners despised him even more. Placed in command of the newly created Army of Virginia, Pope brought a hard hand to Northern Virginia.

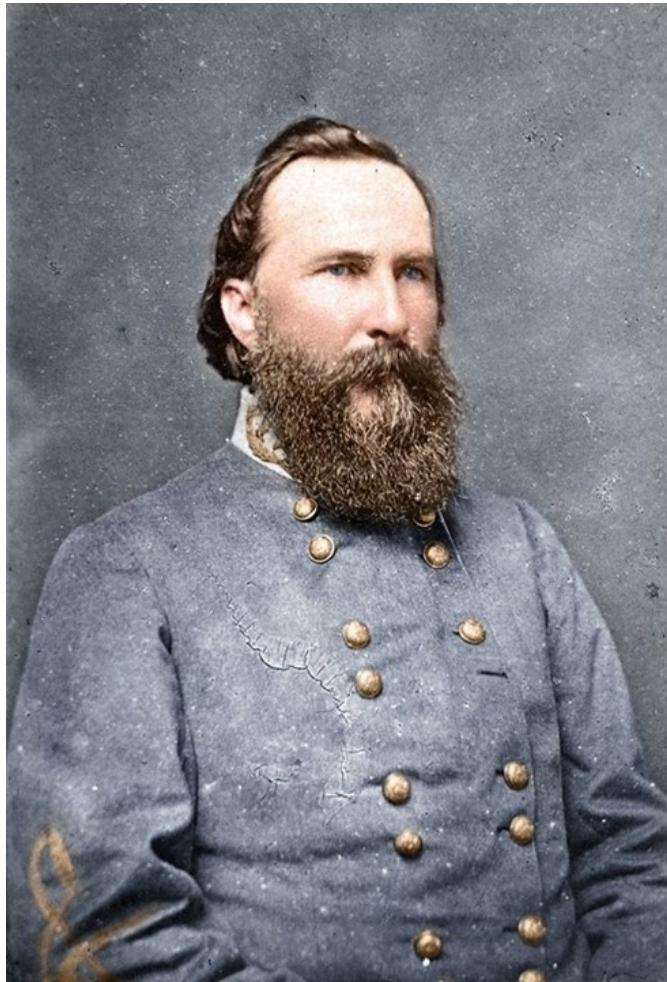
his army between two Union armies: Pope's Army of Virginia in the North and McClellan's Army of the Potomac in the South. The Army of the Potomac alone outnumbered Lee by more than two to one. The plan called for Stonewall Jackson's 2nd Corps to march behind Pope and destroy his supply lines. Pope would then go after Jackson, leaving his current position along the Rappahannock River. Lee and

On August 24, 1862, Lee sat down at a small table with Generals Longstreet, Jackson and his cavalry commander, General Jeb Stuart. He proposed a bold plan that flew in the face of basic military principle. He would divide



Longstreet's 1st Corps would follow behind, regiments were starting to arrive. With fresh troops and overwhelming numbers, Jackson's join with Jackson, and smash Pope before he destruction was assured. The reality was was reinforced by the Army of the Potomac. otherwise. Pope was being sucked into a trap. Time was of the essence. McClellan's A trap spearheaded by the Army of Northern command was being evacuated by boat and Virginia's best brigade. transported to Aquia Landing near Fredericksburg, Virginia. From there it was a short march to Pope's aid. Fortunately, The Texas Brigade consisted of three Texas regiments (the 1st, 4th, and 5th Texas Regiments), the 18th Georgia, and South whom he felt was his inferior. Carolina's famed Hampton's Legion. The three Texas regiments were made up of tough East and Central Texas farm boys. Years of fighting the Mexican Army, bandits and the ever hostile Comanches had instilled a fierce warrior mode in Texas' frontier populace. Handling a firearm was an absolute must. In Texas, the fight was taken to the enemy without appeasement, without remorse, and without weakness. Lee asked Confederate Postmaster General John Reagan for help in obtaining a full division of his fellow Texans. "With such a

Jackson stood up from the table and glared down at his fellow generals. "I shall move within the hour," he said. Considering his success in the Shenandoah Valley, Jackson was well suited for his assigned task. Within a few days, he boldly captured and pillaged Pope's supply base at Manassas Junction, a bonanza for the supply strapped Confederates. Pope went after Jackson and caught up with him at the same Manassas battlefield where Union forces were routed last summer. Dug in along



General James Longstreet

an unfinished railroad embankment, Jackson force," he said, "I could break any line of held off Pope's piecemeal attacks. Pope was battle on earth in an open field." aware of Longstreet's approach but showed little concern. He mistakenly believed Texas Senator Louis Wigfall created Jackson was about to retreat when he was the brigade for service in Virginia. Because actually pulling his men back to refurbish of his duties in the Confederate Congress, he their ammo. In addition, McClellan's passed the command over to





Compatriots,

This month is elections. I have previously announced my intention to seek another term as your Commander. I have been honored to serve and would like to continue to do so. That, of course, is up to you. Regardless of who is elected as Commander, we are facing a crisis of participation in Camp activities. We need to raise money to continue to improve Confederate Circle and our other desired projects, including the Veterans kiosk. The simple fact is that we cannot accomplish anything without two things, money and manpower. The Camp, quite simply, lacks both.

We must decide whether we want our Camp to be active and make positive contributions in honor of Confederate veterans or simply meet occasionally and pretend to be interested in the War and those who fought for their families and way of life. I ask that in focusing on our elections that each of you make that decision as to what

sort of Camp we will be. I want us to be active, holding up our ancestors as the honorable, courageous and good men they were.

By now you will also have heard that the Tennessee Historical Commission denied the City of Memphis' request for a waiver of the Tennessee Heritage Preservation Act of 2015 to allow them to move General Forrest's statue from Forrest Park was denied. The Tennessee Division has worked very hard behind the scenes over the past ten years to gain the credibility in the General Assembly to get one of the strongest heritage preservation law in the South. Thank God for our leadership which has known when to take public stands and when to work behind the scenes to protect Confederate heritage in these times of political correctness designed at cleanse the South of its heritage.

Randy P. Lucas
Commander



GET A TAG ~ SAVE A FLAG

HELP US PRESERVE
 TENNESSEE'S HISTORIC FLAGS
 ~CONFEDERATE HISTORY IS AMERICAN HISTORY~

GET YOUR TAG AT
 YOUR LOCAL
 COUNTY CLERK'S
 OFFICE



NO
 MEMBERSHIP
 REQUIRED
 TNSCV.ORG

1800MYSOUTH

Kentuckian John Bell Hood. Before the war, Hood led troopers of the U.S. 2nd Cavalry against the Comanches. During one encounter near the Rio Grande, he blew two of them away with a shotgun before they could pull him from his saddle. When Kentucky didn't secede from the Union, Hood declared himself a Texan. With his six foot two height, booming voice, and over the top aggressiveness, he was immediately popular with his new command.

The brigade was assembled at Dumfries, Virginia during the winter of 1861-1862. After battling disease and frostbite, the Texas Brigade marched toward the York Peninsula. Their elite status was sealed at the Battle of Gaine's Mill. The Texas Brigade

broke the Federal line which forced the entire Army of the Potomac to retreat from nearby Richmond, the Confederate capital.

While seated on a tree stump, Lee listened to Jackson's report. Longstreet had extended the Confederate line well past the Union left flank. A battle plan began to take shape. Jackson would continue to keep Pope occupied while Longstreet attacked the Union's vulnerable left flank. The Texas Brigade would lead the charge followed by Longstreet's entire corps. If all went well, Pope would be rolled up like a cheap carpet.

"Fall in!" yelled the officers. All blankets, overcoats, and personal effects were to be left behind. Only rifles and cartridge



(Continued from page 5)

boxes would be carried. Rifles were loaded. Bayonets were fixed. The Lone Star flag was unfurled. Concealed in the woods, the Texans formed a 700 yard front. Unaware of their impending doom, two New York regiments were in their path. Signals were sent to "Stonewall" Jackson, "General Longstreet is advancing; look out for and protect his left flank." On August 30, 1862 at 4:00 PM, the Texas Brigade advanced.

A piercing rebel yell emerged from the woods. The Texas Brigade struck the 10th New York Regiment head on, forcing them to flee for their lives into the ranks of the nearby 5th New York. The 5th and 10th were engulfed and annihilated under a



The Texans virtually annihilated the 5th New York Zouaves at 2nd Manassas
<http://www.keithrocco.com/inventory/details.php?productid=169>

hailstorm of bullets. The 5th New York suffered the highest casualties of any Union regiment during the war. One Texan recalled how the Union's uniformed dead had "the appearance of a Texas hillside when carpeted in the spring by wild flowers of many hues and tints." Onward the tide swept toward a battery of artillery. Members of Battery G, 1st Pennsylvania Artillery panicked and left their guns. Within an hour, the Texas brigade had destroyed two regiments and captured an entire battery. Longstreet's attack on Pope's

left followed by Jackson's on his right bent the Army of Virginia into a horseshoe. Pope's Army was forced to retreat. It was Bull Run all over again! Only a timely thunderstorm and a determined stand on Henry House Hill prevented total destruction.

Within a few months, the Army of Northern Virginia had swept Union forces from Virginia. The fight was taken from the gates of Richmond to the gates of Washington D.C. Pope was fired and exiled to

Minnesota. Once again, Lincoln had to rely on George McClellan to rally his beaten army. For the Texas Brigade, they had performed beyond expectations but at a cost 600 casualties. To the end of the war, Lee would rely on his Texans to carry

his dwindling fortunes. Out of the thousands who served in the Texas Brigade, only 617 remained when the brigade surrendered at Appomattox.

<http://warriorsofthelonestar.blogspot.com/2011/10/texas-tsunami-texas-brigade-at-second.html>

Editor's Note





John Bell Hood, pictured as the Colonel of the 4th Texas Infantry. This colorized photo is used by permission from Martin Jacob Wenzl. His work can be found here: <http://www.facebook.com/GolorizedPast> and <http://colorizedpast.tumblr.com/>



As you know in the past we have printed articles which highlight the civilian suffering here in Gallatin during the war. We printed Alice Williamson's Diary in its entirety and other articles about the REAL impact of the war, not just the soldier's view. This is Part II:

Hard Times in the Confederacy

The journals of that day were printed usually upon the poorest paper, made of straw and cotton rags, and so brittle that the slightest touch mutilated it. The ink, like the paper, was of the cheapest and commonest, and left its impression, not only on the face of the sheet, but on the hands no less than on the mind of the reader. Few fonts of new type found their way into the Confederacy during the war, and at the end of four years the facilities for printing had come to a low ebb. It was no uncommon thing for publishers to issue half-sheets in lieu of a complete paper, with scarcely an apology to subscribers for the curtailment of their literary and news rations. It was generally understood that this happened only through stern necessity, and not from any disposition on the part of the news paper men to give less than an equivalent for the subscription



price. Sometimes the journal which on yesterday appeared in all the glory of a six-column page was to-day cut down to a four-column half-sheet; or publication was suspended with the announcement that the stock of materials had been exhausted, and that as soon as the office could be replenished publication would be resumed. Eagerly as the rough sheets were looked for and closely as they were read, a diminution of matter in them, or a failure to appear, caused only passing comment or dissatisfaction. Men's minds were so filled with the thousand things that each day brought forth about them, there were so many rumors in the air, and news flew so rapidly even without newspaper aid, as to

cause them not too greatly to miss that which to-day has come to be one of the veriest necessities of American life—a daily journal full of all the doings of all the world.

Sometimes even the coarse straw-paper failed the publishing fraternity when an edition was absolutely imperative; yet in such emergency the inventive talent never deserted them. It was considered a wonderful journalistic feat on the part of its publishers for the Vicksburg "Citizen," during the siege of that city, to make its appearance, when all other resources had failed, upon wall-paper.

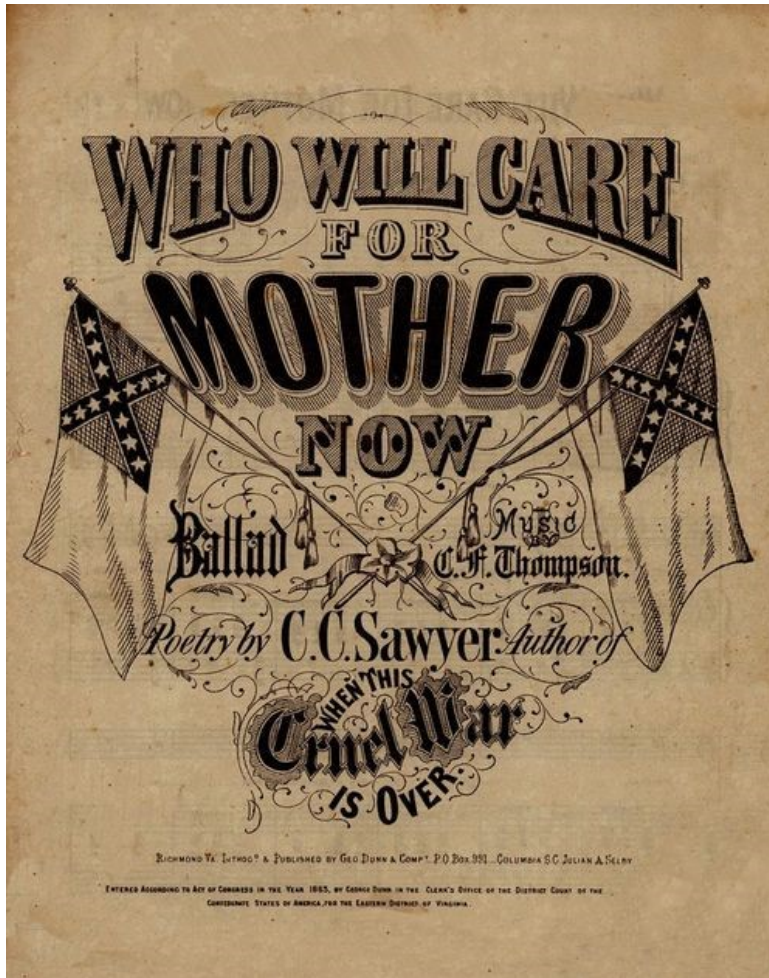
Publishers of books and sheet music dollars per sheet. occupied a scarcely less helpless condition than the newspaper people. Their sole grounds of superiority consisted in the fact that the demands upon them were not so urgent. The girl who sang to her soldier lover the popular songs of that time, "Lorena," "When this Cruel War is Over," "The Standard-bearer" or "Harp of the South,"—which were all duly advertised "at the retail price of one dollar per sheet; the trade supplied, however, at half off, with an additional discount where one hundred of one piece are ordered,"—did not experience that immediate and insistent need of the song and its music which men and women alike felt for the newspaper that would tell them where the last battle had been fought, which army had been victorious, who had been promoted, and who had fallen. The fateful column might contain evil or good report of some dear one, and its coming was full of interest and apprehension. Yet the sheet music, printed, like the newspapers, in the roughest style, upon the commonest paper, with now and then a caricatured lithographic likeness of some Confederate general on the title-page, continued to be sold and sung, even though its price ran from one to two

War songs and war music were the order of the day; and the soldiers in the camps and the small boys in ragged jackets shouted, with an equal zest,

"The despot's heel is on thy shore!"

Or

"Farewell forever to the Star-spangled Banner"



from diminutive paper-covered books of martial ballads. The little song-books cost anywhere from two and a half to five Confederate dollars; and their contents, with a few notable exceptions, were as mediocre as the paper on which they were printed. The sentiment was there, nevertheless; and this was cared for by the singers more than the music or the lyrical or literary excellence of the songs.

The missionary and religious publishing houses never ceased their praiseworthy labor of printing tracts and pamphlets for distribution among the soldiers; but publications of a more ambitious or secular standard were very few. Now and then some adventurous firm in Richmond or Charleston



or New Orleans would issue a badly printed edition of a new novel, reproduced from a copy smuggled in "through the lines" or brought by the blockade-runners from Nassau. Still, even "John Halifax, Gentleman," and "Les Misérables," which first appeared in the South in this way and this dress, lost much of their attractiveness in earlier date. Even the most stylish and



their Confederate garb of inferior ink, bad type, and worse paper.

Reminiscence of books and papers of the period recalls the dire and unfilled want of every species of stationery in each household, and the rough devices which were resorted to for supplying such deficiencies. It was a time when any individual who wished to use an envelope might be compelled first to make it, after the theory of "first catch your hare," etc. The manner of their making

fashionable note paper for correspondence had an extremely unstylish texture, to say nothing of its hue, that ill comported with the red wax stamped with a crested coat of arms. The juice of poke-berries, compounded with vinegar, or the distillation of a vegetable product known as "ink balls," usurped the place of ink, and faded from its original purple or crimson color with great rapidity to one of ugly rust. Steel pens were scarcely to be had for love or Confederate money; and the forgotten accomplishment of trimming a



gray goose-quill to a good nib came to be once more an accomplishment with an ascertained value. The mucilage on the backs of the ill engraved blue ten-cent stamps, adorned with the head of Jefferson Davis, often failed of its purpose; and the fingers, which were not infrequently tired enough after cutting out and making the envelope, trimming the pen, and writing the letter, must need still go through the labor of separating the stamps from each other with a pair of scissors or a penknife, and applying flour-paste to the back of the recalcitrant stamp, to insure the safe carriage of the missive of affection to the far-away soldier whose eyes might never read it.

The boys of that day, bereft of pencils, made them for themselves by melting bullets and pouring the molten lead into the cavity of small reeds from the cane brakes. Trimmed to a point, the home-made pencil, though its mark was faint, sufficed to serve the purposes of the young scribes and mathematicians.

It seems almost a figment of the fancy to recall in detail the array of makeshifts and devices which the hunger and thirst of the hard times compelled. We read with curious interest the item of news in the Virginia newspapers of January, 1865, that Thompson Taylor, Esq., who had charge of the cooking of the New Year's dinner for the soldiers of General Lee's army, sold the surplus grease from the meats cooked to one of the railroad companies for seven dollars per pound.

If we might shut out the memories of the depreciation in value of Confederate money, and of the hardships and want prevalent in the Southern Confederacy at the time, we should doubtless wonder what

strange army was this the remnants of whose magnificent viands could fetch so marvelous a sum; and happy recollections of the luxury and effeminacy of that innumerable array which the great king led into ancient Hellas would flit across our bewildered minds. Yet how different the reality; and how sharply the little item accentuates the story of privation and suffering! Provisions, which were plentiful enough in the days when the Yankees were to be "whipped with corn-stalks," grew constantly scarcer and higher priced. The necessaries of the life of to-day were the luxuries of that storm-and stress time. With "seed-tick" coffee and ordinary brown sugar costing fabulous sums and almost impossible to be obtained, it is small matter of wonder that the unsatisfied appetite of the rebel sharpshooter at his post far to the front often impelled him, though at the risk of detection and death, to call a parley with the Yankee across the line, his nearest neighbor, and persuade him to a barter of the unwanted delicacies for a twist of Virginia home spun tobacco. Perhaps it never affected the mind of either with a sense of incongruity in their friendly dealings to reflect that the duty and the purpose of each was to shoot the other at the earliest opportunity after the cessation of the temporary truce and the return of each to his post.

Lovers of the fragrant after-dinner Mocha were forced to put up with a decoction of sweet potatoes that first had been cut into minute bits and dried on a scaffold in the sun as country housewives dry fruit, and then roasted and ground in a worn-out coffee-mill, or brayed in a mortar with a pestle. In yet more northern latitudes parched rye furnished even a poorer substitute for the Eastern berry; while coupled with the use of

this last commodities; makeshift was the vulgar superstition that it yet the amount of drunkenness was not what produced blindness. might have been expected. A favorite small beer in those sections where the persimmon-

The old women and Dr. Johnsons of trees flourished best was made of the fruit of the Confederacy who could not exist without that tree, and was called in the vernacular of their fixed number of cups of tea a day at least one part of the Confederacy "possum drowned their happy memories of hyson in a toddy." Housekeepers and cooks racked



solution of raspberry leaves, or the more medicinal preparation of the root of the combined the absolutely essential conditions sassafraz bush. It was a gruesome time, and of being at once cheap and nutritious. there were those who survived bullet and Housekeeping, even in old Virginia, famous blade to surrender at last to indigestion and for its cookery, hung a dejected head; and acute dyspepsia. The number and character the whole South was less in want of the army of intoxicating drinks were many and varied. of cooks, which Horace Greeley said it so Corn and rye whisky abounded; while in much needed when he visited it after the some latitudes pine tags and even potato war's end, than of some thing for the army to peelings went into the impromptu still to cook. A rare and famous dish of those days come out pure "mountain dew." No internal was "Confederate duck" - a dish which revenue system aroused the ire of the would have done no discredit to the piping untrammelled distillers, and alcoholic liquors period of peace, and which grew rarer and were cheaper in proportion than most other more famous as the hard times came nearer



home to the Confederacy. This peculiarly named fowl was no fowl at all, but a tender and juicy beefsteak rolled and pinioned around a stuffing of stale bread crumbs, buttered and duly seasoned, and roasted before a roaring fire with spit and drip-pan.

At home and abroad sorghum came to take the place of the vanished sugar. The children at home ate it in their ginger cakes, and the soldiers in camp drank it in their rye-coffee. The molasses and sugar of Louisiana were procurable in degree till the fall of Vicksburg; but the spirit of independence was rife, and each State desired and determined to rely as much as possible on its own products. The theory of State sovereignty was extended even to sorghum ; and its introduction was hailed everywhere as one of the greatest boons of a beneficent Providence. The juice of the cane, extracted in a primitive fashion by crushing the stalks between wooden rollers revolving upon wooden cogs and impelled by horse-and little-darky power, was caught in an ordinary trough, boiled down into proper consistency in preserving kettles, kitchen pots, or what ever might be utilized for the purpose, and barreled for use as sorghum molasses. The syrup thus produced was quite a palatable one, with a slightly acidulous and not disagreeable flavor, but with an unpleasant tendency to make the mouth sore. It was known as "long-sweetening," in contradistinction to its predecessor, "short-sweetening," the sugar that was scarce.

From its use in the place of sugar sorghum soon leaped into high repute as an almost universal food staple. It was warranted to cure any case of hunger in man or beast. Writers in the suggestive daily press

took in elaborate and exhaustive essays to show that sorghum syrup was nearly as nutritious as meat and an exceedingly good substitute for it, while the seed of the sorghum cane was capable of being ground into a meal that made a most excellent and wholesome brown bread. They claimed that the problem of blockaded existence had been solved in the discovery of a plant which produced in itself meat and bread for the human family and provender for cattle. Yet the average denizen of the Confederacy, whether at home or in the army, while rendering due credit to the ingenuity and skill

with which the cause of the "food staple" was advocated by its champions, appealed to the higher arbitrament of his own digestion; and though willing to accord sorghum its real merit as serviceable and useful in the place of something better, he was always ready to exchange it for the more certain and familiar nutriment of bacon and "corn pone." To see it fulfill the functions of sugar in the latest recipe for Confederate coffee and tea was well enough; but quietly to submit to its usurpation of the high places of pork and corn was more than the appetite of hungry rebeldom would endure.

This is the second part of an article written by A.C. Gordon that appeared in The Century Illustrated Monthly Magazine, 1887-88.



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Carmack's Pledge to the South

The South is a land that has known sorrows; it is a land that has broken the ashen crust and moistened it with tears; a land scarred and riven by the plowshare of war and billowed with the graves of her dead; but a land of legend, a land of song, a land of hallowed and heroic memories.

To that land every drop of my blood, every fiber of my being, every pulsation of my heart, is consecrated forever. I was born of her womb; I was nurtured at her breast; and when my last hour shall come, I pray God that I may be pillowed upon her bosom and rocked to sleep within her tender and encircling arms.

General Lee with his men

