



The Summer Confederate

# LEGIONNAIRE

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

Sons of Confederate Veterans



Volume 5, Issue 2

February 2015

## HOW SAM DAVIS PROCURED CERTAIN PAPERS

Mrs. E. S. Payne, of Castalian Springs, Tenn., has procured a statement from her father, Thomas T. Martin, of Fountain Creek, Tenn., which pertains to the deeply interesting theme of Sam Davis and how he procured certain papers found on his person when captured by the Kansas Jayhawkers. This theory has been advocated from time to time since the wonderful story has been in the public mind. Mr. Martin writes in regard to it as follows:

"I enlisted in Company I, 11th Tennessee Cavalry, and was detached by General Wheeler as an independent scout. I worked with Sam Davis, Polk English, and others. I was with Davis and English a great deal. While one would go in to report, the others would remain and watch the movements of the Federals.

"We made our headquarters for some time at the home of Robert English, a true Southerner, who lived on Big Creek, near Campbellsville, Giles County, Tenn. He was an uncle of Polk English. Just after Sam Davis was hanged Polk English and I went to the home of his



POLK ENGLISH AND THOMAS T. MARTIN.

uncle, Robert English, and he told us then, with the injunction never to reveal the facts while he lived, that one of his young negroes, a sprightly fellow, was in General Dodge's headquarters and heard the officers discussing Sam Davis's mission and the contents of some papers, after which they laid them on the table. The boy watched his chance; and when he got the opportunity, he stole the papers and made tracks for home. He said : 'Marse Bob, here's some papers I got in General Dodge's tent and thought they might be of some use to Marse Sam.' Sam Davis spent the night before he was captured at Bob English's home, and he gave Sam the papers. If Polk English or I had been there, one of us would have been given the papers.

"As soon as I heard the sad news I rode that night from Mr. English's home to Sam Davis's father's home, about forty miles, and told the family the sad fate of their son. At that time the Federals had out a reward of

*Confederate Veteran*, April 1909.

Our next regular meeting will be held on February 12, 2015 at 7:00 P.M. at the new location of Believers Fellowship, still on the Public square but now at 126 North Water Avenue. Please plan to attend.

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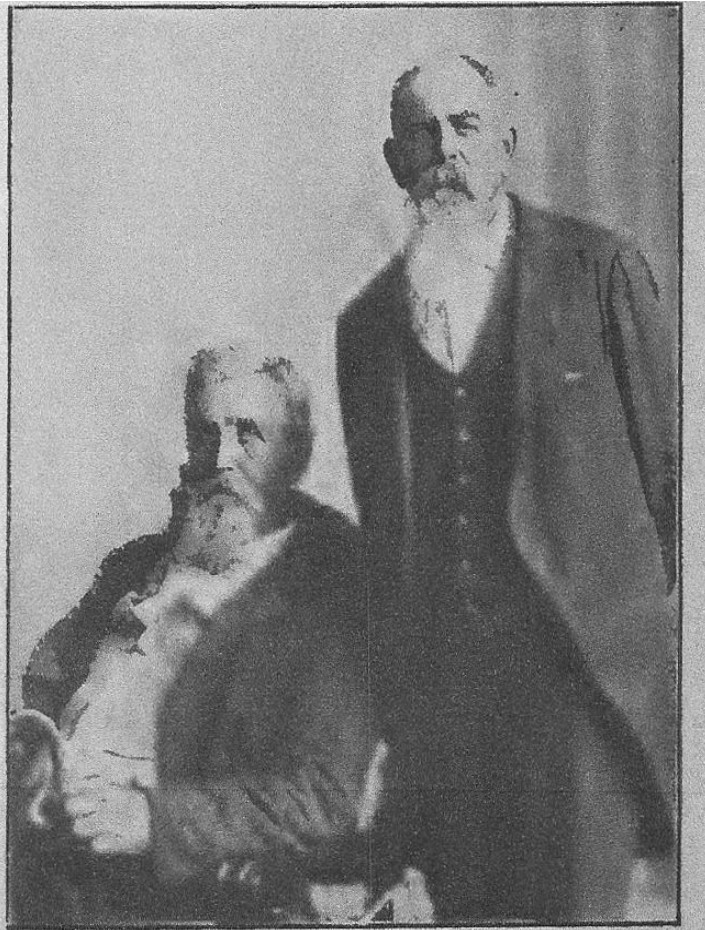
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This Month's speaker will be Dr. Steve Murfree who will give us a presentation on Major General Benjamin F. Cheatham. I know you will enjoy this presentation.

## DEATH OF CHARLES B. ROGAN

## .1 BOY'S IMPRESSIONS AT SHILOH

BY T. B. ANDERSON, GALLATIN, TENN.



W. R. AND CHARLES B. ROGAN—CHARLES STANDING.

C. B. Rogan, a well-known Confederate veteran of Gallatin, Tenn., died in Nashville in June, 1910, aged seventy-one. He enlisted in Company K, 2d Tennessee, and was promoted for gallantry in the battle of Chickamauga, was made lieutenant in the ordnance department, and was detailed to General Bate's staff. He fought in the battles of Shiloh, First Manassas, Chickamauga, Franklin, Murfreesboro, Perryville, Ky., and in all the Georgia Campaign.

Comrade Rogan came from one of the most distinguished Southern families, his grandfather, Hugh Rogan, being one of the first settlers of Tennessee, his name being on the tablet erected to the Cumberland Valley settlers and the Revolutionary monument in the Davidson County Courthouse yard. His great-grandfather, Col. Isaac Bledsoe, one of the "nine Long Hunters," also appears on this list of Revolutionary Heroes. W.R. Rogan is a brother to Charles.

I was in the battle of Shiloh as a boy in the 28th Tennessee Infantry, commanded by Col. John P. Murray, Breckinridge's division. Early in the night of April 6, 1862, we were ordered out from Corinth, and we marched all night. Early next morning we broke in on the Yankees' breakfast arrangements, and we captured the entire camp, securing all of the provisions that the inner man desired. It was ready-cooked, but our business was so pressing that we had no time to eat. After the enemy had time to form, we ran up against something. We fought them for a long time on the crest of a hill with a valley in front. There we lost our major, Jim Tolbert. The ball that ended his life passed so near my head that I dodged.

We had fought them bitterly, when the gallant Gen. John C. Breckinridge rode up, carrying his hat in his hand, and said: "Charge them, Tennesseans! Charge them!" And we did it, sweeping everything before us. In passing over that ravine I could have walked on dead Yankees. When we gained the crest of the intervening hill, we received the surrender of Prentice's Brigade. As a boy I jumped up and down, thinking the war was over on seeing all those men stack their arms. But we fought them the rest of the day, until we crowded them back to the Tennessee River. That evening we lost the noble, the grand Sidney Johnston. We had them about ready to surrender, when we were ordered to lay down in line of battle. Beauregard was then in command, and I wonder why we did not reap the fruits of that victory.



## Judge Stephen Chenault.

Judge Stephen Chenault, a former citizen of Orange for many years and connected with much of the earlier history of the city, died on November 1, 1910, at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Yancey W Holmes, in Hale Center, Tex., at an advanced age. Stephen Chenault served throughout the entire war with Terry's Texas Rangers, and was in all the battles participated in by that famous organization.

After the war he went to Orange, where he lived most of the time afterwards. As Representative in the State Legislature, as County Attorney, and as County Judge of Orange County, he served the people faithfully and well, and was active always in every movement for the good of city and county. He leaves an only daughter, Mrs, Y. W. Holmes, of Hale Center, and a sister, Mrs. Ellen O'Brien, widow of the late Capt. George O'Brien, of Beaumont.

Stephen Chenault was born in Gallatin, Tenn. January 6, 1831, and was thus almost eighty years old at the time of his death. His mother was formerly Miss Anne Trigg, and was related to the McGavocks of Franklin, Tenn. His father, Felix Chenault, removed to Texas when Stephen was about six years old. and he spent his boyhood and young manhood in Gonzales County. In 1854 and 1855 he studied law in Tulane University, New Orleans. He resigned the office of Tax Assessor and Collector of Gonzales County to enlist in the Third Texas Regiment at the outbreak of the great war. He remained with Terry's Texas Rangers for all of the four years.

Returning to Texas after the

surrender, he was again elected Tax Assessor and Collector, but resigned the office and helpful salary, so much needed by the returned penniless soldier, rather than take the iron-clad oath. Later he removed to Orange County and built up a large law practice that extended throughout the East Texas coast district.

He was true to his principles when the test came during the carpetbag rule in Texas, and his counsel was always for moderation and patience. He was a member of the seventeenth legislature, is one of the foremost workers during that notable session for the

appropriation which made the University of Texas possible. Like his parents and his French ancestors, he was a member of the Presbyterian Church, and he was always proud of his Huguenot blood. His wife was Miss Jane McKenzie, also of Texas.

A brave man. Judge Chenault was unassuming in his public life and an ideal husband and father. A fellow-member of the legislature from Galveston wrote of him: "Amiable, modest, unassuming as a companion, watchful and conservative as a Legislator, modest and unobtrusive. a friend whose fidelity was unquestioned."

From sketch sent by W. M. Warren, of Amarillo, Texas.





# CAMP NEWS



For the February meeting I want us to consider our annual calendar. Events I propose the Camp participate in are as follows: 1st Quarter Breakfast, Confederate Decoration Day, Portland Strawberry Festival Parade, Forrest Home, 2nd Quarter Breakfast, 3rd Quarter Breakfast, Cemetery Tour, Gallatin Christmas Parade, 4th Quarter Breakfast, Christmas Banquet, Bethpage Christmas Parade. Events I am NOT recommending include both of the festivals on the Square. When we have done them in the past they have not resulted in any new members nor raised enough money to warrant our participation.

As you all probably know by now, on January 13th I had a heart attack. I am pleased to say that it did almost no damage to my heart and that I am back to normal activities with little restriction. I want to thank you all very humbly for the well wishes and thoughts and prayers I received from the Camp. Your best wishes were greatly appreciated and did much to speed my recovery. I have been very blessed and cannot thank my compatriots enough for your concern and communications.

As I said at the January meeting, I want y'all to think about these events and not to vote on them UNLESS you are prepared to participate. Particularly, those events like parades need an extra effort to attend. Anytime we are putting ourselves out into the public eye we need to look like we have more than four members. So, please,

This Month's speaker will be Dr. Steve Murphree who will give us a presentation on Major General Benjamin F. Cheatham. I know you will enjoy this presentation.





**MAJOR GENERAL BENJAMIN FRANKLIN CHEATHAM**

has used the money for Confederate projects throughout the state as well as the conservation of Confederate relics in the Tennessee State Museum. Original Confederate flags as well as General Cleburne's kepi from the Battle of Franklin. It is incumbent on us, the Sons, to buy these plates so this work can continue.

The Annual Reunion this year will be in Grennville, Tennessee on April 10-11, 2015. The Reunion will be held at the General John Hunt Morgan Inn. We expect the *Forrest's Escort* to come out with an agenda and any proposed Constitutional amendments. One thing that is going to come up at the reunion is additional funds for the fight in Memphis over Forrest Park.

The DEC gave an additional \$10,000 to the fight on the 31st. They are, however, requesting additional funding at this year's Reunion so our Camp needs to decide how we feel about giving the Memphis effort a total of over \$30,000.

Ken and I attended Commander's Call and the DEC Meeting on January 31, 2015. It was a great training opportunity and a great fellowship.

One of the things that arose, however, that caused concern was the decline in the purchases of the Tennessee SCV License plates. The sale of the plates is the Division's main source of revenue. The Tennessee Division does an incredible amount of good with the funds it receives from these plates. It

**GET A TAG ~ SAVE A FLAG**

SEVEN PINES.  
MECHANICSVILLE.  
COLD HARBOR.

**HELP US PRESERVE  
TENNESSEE'S HISTORIC FLAGS**

**~CONFEDERATE HISTORY IS AMERICAN HISTORY~**

FRAZIER'S FARM.  
CEDAR RUN.  
MANASSAS.

Tenn.

OX HILL.  
HARPER'S FERRY.  
SHARPSBURG

**GET YOUR TAG AT  
YOUR LOCAL  
COUNTY CLERK'S  
OFFICE**

JAN TENNESSEE 081  
0260  
SONS OF THE CONFEDERATE VETERANS

**no  
MEMBERSHIP  
REQUIRED  
TNSCV.ORG**

**1800MYSOUTH**

SHEPHERDSTOWN  
FREDERICKSBURG.  
CHANCELLORSVILLE.

# SUMNER CONFEDERATE LEGIIONNAIRE

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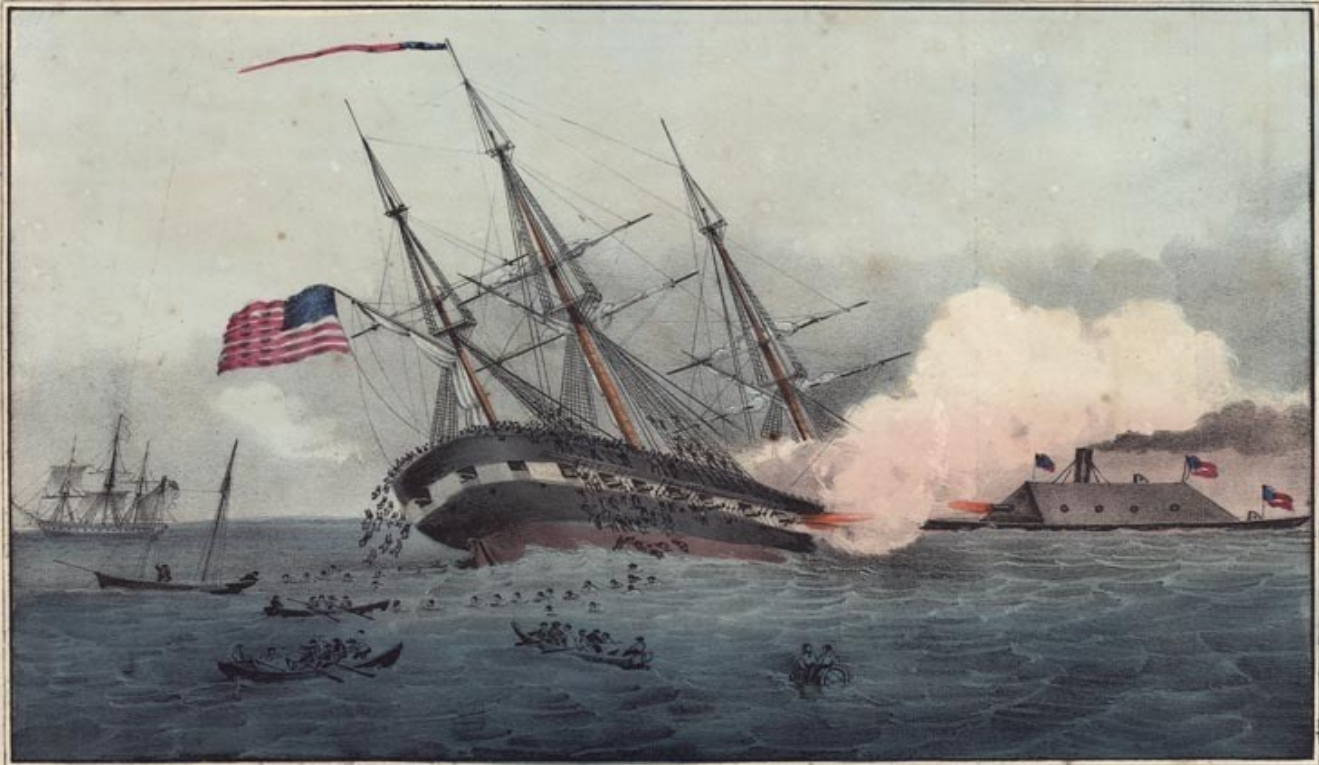
## General William B. Bate Camp 34, Sons of Confederate Veterans

Commander – Randy P. Lucas  
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

### 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.



THE SINKING OF THE "CUMBERLAND" BY THE IRON CLAD "MERRIMACK", OFF NEWPORT NEWS VA; MARCH 8<sup>TH</sup> 1862.

*The Cumberland went down with all her flags flying; destroyed, but not conquered. Her gallant Commander, Lieut. Morris, calling to his crew "Give them a Broadside boys, as she goes"*

ENLARGED BY NEWSPAPER NEWSPAPERS