

David's Dispatch

1st Lt. David Richard Reynolds Camp #2270
Sons of Confederate Veterans
Mount Pleasant, Texas



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WINNER OF THE TEXAS DIVISION BEST NEWSLETTER AWARD, 2017 & 2018
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I will say that the Kirby Smith Camp #1209 of Jacksonville, Florida did put on a Wonderful Convention.

Some of you may have heard that I resigned as the 2nd Lieutenant Commander of the Texas Division. I just wanted to make sure that you all know that it was simply because of a difference between the Texas Division Commander and myself. It had nothing to do with the Sons of Confederate Veterans, or anyone else in the SCV. I will be happy to explain it or talk to anyone about it.

UPCOMING EVENTS

NEXT MEETING

Monday, August 17th, 7:00 p.m.
Refreshments at 6:30 p.m.
Old Union Community Center
Hwy 67E, Mount Pleasant, Texas

COMMANDER'S CORNER

by Larry "Joe" Reynolds



After all these months of being quarantined and not being able to attend any SCV meetings or events, it was great to get out and attend the 125th General Reunion in St. Augustine, Florida.

It was a typical National Convention, lots of arguing and fighting about Constitution Revisions and the Budget – we now owe over 7.5 million dollars for the Museum. This was also an election year. Larry Allen McCluney, Jr. was elected as Commander-in-Chief. Jason Bochers was elected Lieutenant Commander in Chief and J. C. Hanna was elected as Army of Trans-Mississippi Commander and Robert Edwards was elected as the ATM Councilman.

DAVIDRREYNOLDS.ORG

This month the following changes have been made to our web site: <http://www.davidrreynolds.org>

- I've updated our Calendar of Events.
- I've updated our Events page to include all known events by the Camp and its members. Please let me know when you do anything for the SCV, this includes attending other camp meeting, public speaking, or even putting flags on graves.

I'm still looking for biographies of your Confederate Ancestor. Please try to come up with a short bio that we can put on-line.

If you have any suggestions, recommendations or comments you can send me an email to: Joe.Reynolds@dauidrreynolds.org and I promise to give it my full consideration.



OUR CHARGE...

"To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we will commit 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 which he loved and which you love also, and those ideals 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!

*Lt. General Stephen Dill Lee, Commander General,
United Confederate Veterans,
New Orleans, Louisiana April 25, 1906*



A BLAST FROM THE PAST

*(Taken from the August 1920 Edition of the
Confederate Veteran - 100 Years Ago)*

FACTS AND FANCIES.

*BY MRS. A. A. CAMPBELL. HISTORIAN
GENERAL U.D.C.*

The individual who attempts to collate facts on Southern literature will doubtless consult Professor Trent and will promptly cull this thought from "The South in the Building of the Nation" : "Neither the Old South nor the New South can fairly be said to

have rivaled New England and the Middle States in contributing to the intellectual development of the nation, nor have they been discreetly zealous in making known what their section has actually accomplished." In a chastened mood this comment from Dr. Kirkland in the same volume may be pondered: "Much has been written of the barrenness of the Old South in the field of literature. Whatever the cause, the fact is undisputed, but the New South has done something to remove this reproach."

I of course the alleged cause is always the assertion that the genius of the South found its outlet in oratory and statesmanship. But the oratory of Daniel Webster did not silence Irving, Prescott, and Hawthorne; nor did the eloquence of Everett prevent the later group of Motley, Bancroft, and Fiske. Desiring to know the very worst about ourselves, the Encyclopedia Britannica is next called upon to testify. Recalling the remarks of the ninth edition on Southern literature, one has secret foreboding as to the result. I suit. An amateur detective, infinitely removed from Sherlock Holmes in either technique or subtlety, would at once divine that no Briton wrote the article, and, tracking the initials back to the pages where individual contributors are unmasked, one is not surprised to find that the author was born in Massachusetts and as a scholar, writer, editor, and professor of literature occupies a distinguished position. Somewhat reassured to find that American literature was in the hands of a compatriot and certain that justice would be done at least to the New England group, one is grieved to discover a note of pessimism. It seems that there has been no product of ideas since Emerson, who was the sole originator of ideas we have ever possessed, and he still holds the patent on them. Then, to conceal nothing, here is the climax: "The imaginative life is feeble and when felt is crude; the poetic pulse is imperceptible."

There is one comforting assurance, albeit not intended as such: "America is in truth perhaps intellectually more remote from Europe than in its earlier days. The contact of its romanticism with that of Europe was, as has been seen, imperfect, but its touch with the later developments and reactions of

the movement in Europe is far more imperfect With Tolstoi, Ibsen, d'Annunzio, Zola, Nietzsche, Maeterlinck, Suderinnann the American people can have no effectual touch; their social tradition and culture make them impenetrable to the present ideas of Europe as they are current in literary forms. Nor has anything been developed from within that is fertile in literature.

Personally, I consider this a compliment to our United States. We have lately discovered where the theories of Nietzsche culminated, and is the teaching of Ibsen and Tolstoi likely to develop qualities which make for happiness, usefulness, and final peace? Is Hedda Gabler the woman one would wish to resemble or "Resurrection" a book one cares to have around except in French, where its perusal will be limited to persons who are probably immune after a course in De Maupassant and a few other French writers, including Zola? As an indication of how very, very far we have strayed from literary art it is recorded with proper humiliation that a large audience enjoys the pietistic novel as perpetrated by E. P. Roe, they being the intellectual heirs and assigns of the readers of Susan Warner's "The Wide, Wide World."

Let us turn next to Dr. Eliot, who ranks as one of the foremost scholars of America. In selecting the Harvard Classics, out of one hundred and fifty poets quoted just two are from the South, the same two who are placed by Mr. Stedman among the seven great poets of our land, Edgar -Allen Poe and Sidney Lanier. They sleep together in Baltimore, one remembered for his marvelous mastery of the short story and the haunting melody of his verse, the other a being of light and beauty, who gave the exquisite definition, "Music is love in search of a word," and transcribed the rippling song of the Chattahoochee. In Dr. Eliot's list of essays, ranking from Cicero to Stevenson, Poe again rescues us from oblivion. Is there a Southern name to equal that of James Russell Lowell? "And in the fiction of the romantic school to which John Esten Cooke, Marian Harland, Augusta Evans, Christian Reid, and Sims belonged is there one novel which will survive as a classic?

Professor Minis states that the brilliant promise of the eighties, when Dr. Page, James Lane Allen, George W. Cable, and Joel Chandler Harris became well known writers, has not been fulfilled, but in Virginia one can hardly agree with this conclusion. Miss Johnston, Miss Glasgow, Henry Sydnor Harrison, and Mrs. Boshier have all written best sellers since then, and John Fox has skillfully depicted the mountaineer in the "Trail of the Lonesome Pine" and other books.

Most people read fiction for diversion when the serious pursuits which demand attention can be laid aside. To this great class—and it is more inclusive than is supposed—the early novels of Mary Johnston came like a breath of spring over a bank of violets.

We had led such dreadfully austere lives with Mary Wilkins and been held down to actualities so strictly by Howells and James that to revel untrammelled in the land of romance with soldiers, Indians, villains, pirates, and most lovely ladies was a delight. "Prisoners of Hope," "To Have and to Hold," and "Audrey" are all charming stories, historically accurate, and abounding in true pictures of colonial life. Then "Lewis Rand" introduces us to a later phase of Virginia society, weaving the trial of Aaron Burr into the plot. In artistic finish and literary grace this novel belongs in the front rank of American literature, although the final tragedy leaves one guessing as to whether this end was inevitable and regretting that another denouement could not have been found.

Ellen Glasgow takes up the theme in a different environment. Her penchant is for a realistic picture of the transition of Virginia from the old order to the new, with its broader opportunities for the development of universal manhood instead of the favored classes. Another Virginia writer of cosmopolitan range is Mrs. Burton Harrison, a belle of the sixties, who carried with her to New York the memory of the dear dead days of auld lang syne. To this brilliant group of novelists should be added a soldier, poet, classical student and writer, the foremost literary figure in Virginia.

Col. William Gordon McCabe, whose brilliant and honored life drew to a peaceful and beautiful close in June.

The Southern Renaissance may be declining, just as the tides rise and fall, but the creative instinct is expressing itself in other ways. My fancy is that the South is on the threshold of a broader and greater intellectual life than it has ever known if it can stand firm against the deluge of materialism, lawlessness, and extravagance which menaces the entire world.



THE CONFEDERATE CORNER

Thomas J. Key Camp #1920
Past-Commander, Jim Thornton



We need family history now more than ever. Knowing, recording, preserving, and sharing our family histories can provide countless benefits to individuals, families, and entire societies. Family history is more than pedigree charts, censuses, and birthdates. It can be a powerful antidote against adverse life experiences that we face today.

The more we discover about our past, the greater a connection we feel to our ancestors. Learning the history of our ancestors helps us gain a greater understanding of the challenges they faced. We are all facing difficult challenges during these current times. Knowing our family history builds resilience. In learning about our ancestors' lives, we can see patterns of overcoming failures and surviving hard

times. Their stories remind us that surely not everything in life will work easily, that disappointments occur, and inequalities exist, but that we can recover, triumph, and find happiness despite hardships.

As you do your family history research, be sure to share what you found with other family members. Learning and sharing the stories, customs, and even how ancestors may have overcome tragedy can help preserve your current family circle, keeping the history alive for generations to come. Each ancestor has a story to share with their descendants. The experiences, adventures, problems, hardships, and celebrations helped shape that ancestor and future generations of the family.

Research shows that children who have been told about their ancestors and know a great deal about their past are better adjusted and more resilient in the face of challenges. These studies found that the more children knew about their family history, the higher their self-esteem and the better able they were to deal with the effects of stress. Family history provides a sense of identity through time, and helps children understand who they are in the world.

Another benefit to teaching your kids about their past: It is a way to get them interested in history. The discovery of an ancestor's role in historical events has been shown to make reading and learning about the history so much more personal for children. They can relate on a personal level. It is no longer just words on a page.

Take a family tree and flip it on its head. In other words, invert the timeline of a family tree and look at it from the perspective of one of your ancestors. From their point of view, you would represent the future. Such a simple exercise produces a profound truth: you are the product of the many generations that came before you.

Chances are many of your ancestors had to overcome considerable personal hardship in their lives. The knowledge that your ancestors had great inner strength can be a powerful motivator for anyone

trying to understand their place in the world. If it were not for them, you would not be here today reading these words. Our family history goes beyond the names and dates we find in our tree. It is about what makes us who we are. It is about people with whom we can form deep connections. It is about people who lived and breathed and suffered and triumphed. It is about roots and branches and leaves and entire forests. It is about all of us.

Deo Vindice!
Jim Thornton



OUR NEW COMMANDER IN CHIEF



Our new Commander-in-Chief Larry Allen McCluney, Jr. and his wife Annette



BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES & OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

August 28th – Hal Fletcher
August 31st – Jerry Lester
August 8th – Mary Ann Brock
August 8th – Tara Simpson
August 11th – Barbara Davey
August 5th – Dave & Barbara Davey
August 12th – Rodney & Billie Love
August 15th – Gary & Penny Oliver
August 16th – Tommy & Misty Reynolds
August 17th – Charles & Jeanette Merka
August 23rd – O. M. & Karen Adams



BATTLES FOUGHT DURING THE MONTH OF AUGUST



Battle of Cedar Mountain - Cedar Mountain Virginia

9 August 1862 - General Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson verses General Nathaniel P. Banks. Casualties: 1338 Confederate, 2353 Union!

Battle of Wilson's Creek - Battle of Wilson's Creek Missouri

10 August 1861 - General Benjamin McCulloch verses General Nathaniel Lyon. Casualties: 1184 Confederate, 1235 Union!

Battle of Deep Bottom Run or Strawberry Plains - Deep Bottom Run Virginia

13-20 August 1864 - General Robert E. Lee verses General Ulysses S. Grant. Casualties: 1000 Confederates, 2899 Union!

Battle of Globe Tavern or Weldon Rail Road - Globe Tavern Virginia

18-21 August 1864 - General Robert E. Lee verses General Ulysses S. Grant. Casualties: 1619 Confederates, 4445 Union!

Battle of Reams Station - Reams Station Virginia

25 August 1864 - General Ambrose P. Hill verses General Winfred S. Hancock. Casualties: 800 Confederate, 2742 Union!

Battle of Richmond Kentucky - Richmond Kentucky

29-30 August 1862 - General Edmund Kirby Smith verses General William Nelson. Casualties: 459 Confederate, 5353 Union!

Second Battle of Manassas - Manassas Virginia

29-30 August 1862 - General Robert E. Lee verses General John Pope. Casualties: 8397 Confederate, 14,754 Union!

Battle of Jonesboro - Jonesboro Georgia

31 August - 1 September 1864 - General William J. Hardee verses General William T. Sherman. Casualties: 2636 Confederates, 1453 Union!



TEXAS HISTORY OF A PREVIOUS EPIDEMIC

When Texas was younger, her pioneers lived in fear of yellow fever, scarlet fever, malarial fever, dengue fever, a handful of generic bilious fevers, and about as many poxes. Before the first blue norther came in each year, people stayed on edge. It came with the pioneer territory. So it's no surprise that in September 1897, when cases of yellow fever popped

up at Ocean Springs, Mississippi, Texans tensed up. Those who had survived the epidemic 30 years before recalled the losses of entire families, and the deaths of thousands.

But things were different in 1897. Telephones supplemented telegraphs, bringing the news faster, and with the inflection of the human voice. People also traveled more, faster and farther than they had in 1867. A fantastic web of rail connected Texans to Texas and to everywhere else. The good part about 1897 was that Texas found out about the outbreak in real time. The bad part about 1897 was that people from infected places might be arriving at the train station in your town any minute. What if they were bringing with them a bug that could wipe your community off the map?

The fever moved down the coast. Mobile, Biloxi, Bay St. Louis. Port towns all over the U.S. quarantined against ships from Gulf ports. Texas likewise locked down her ports to ships from any point east of New Orleans. Police inspected inbound trains to make sure passengers weren't coming from infected towns. The people were cautiously optimistic. Then news of 12 cases in New Orleans hit the papers, and all hell broke loose. New Orleans health officials swore that it was just some lesser fever, but nobody cared. Towns all along the coast declared absolute quarantines against New Orleans and other infected places. Cotton futures plummeted. Ripples of the news were felt in the great east coast financial kingdoms.

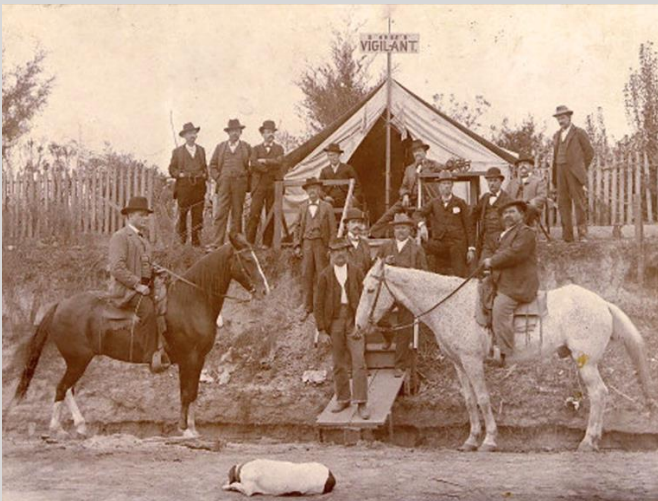
Texas papers daily carried the updated number of cases, deaths and recovered patients in New Orleans. To try to keep her commerce alive, New Orleans declared herself squeaky clean and announced new clean-up measures. It would now clean...wait for it...the asphalt! Just in case yellow fever germs were living on the blacktop, New Orleans was singeing the surface.

But Texans didn't care. Towns in East Texas outright refused to allow trains to stop at their stations. Keep it moving at 25 mph...or else. The State Health Officer, Dr. Swearingen, posted armed guards at all

dirt roads entering Texas from Louisiana. Quarantine camps, like the one below, sprang up outside of railroad towns.



Travelers who were shut out of their destinations because of quarantines, but couldn't turn back because trains weren't running east, were held at these camps for 2 weeks to prove they were disease-free.



Places like Marlin and Georgetown locked themselves down entirely. Nobody could enter. If you lived there and were returning home after lockdown was declared, well that was just too bad. Bryan sent a health official to inspect Houston, on behalf of its citizens, who had heard rumors that the

Bayou City was infected. Denton also issued a quarantine against any outside entry.

Big towns and little towns did the only thing they thought might save them - they cleaned. Galveston appropriated \$5,000 to clean the city gutters, pull weeds and pick up trash. Houston declared that any structure within 250 feet of a sewer line had to tie into the line. Corpus engaged in a city-wide cleanup effort. In Milam County, a volunteer force in Cameron disinfected the town. As far as I know, nobody scorched the pavement to kill germs in Texas.

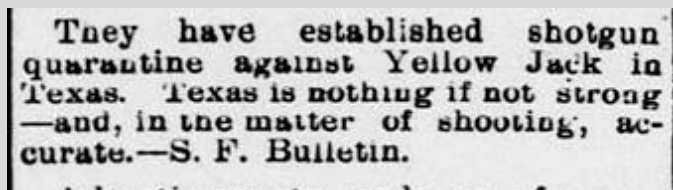
By the third week of September 1897, the papers were filled with quarantine notices and rumors of "suspicious cases." Caldwell, Navasota, Wills Point, Brenham, Tyler, Calvert, La Grange, Huntsville, Brookshire, Hearne, Columbus...even Dallas declared a quarantine against trains and humans from infected or suspicious places.

The holdouts were few. Waxahachie, Palestine and Corsicana said they didn't believe yellow fever was coming to Texas, so they remained open. Naturally, other towns quarantined against the open towns. Overall, everyone quarantined against each other in the spirit of self-preservation. Then nothing happened. Texas thought it had dodged a bullet. The Houston Post published this triumphant but creepy victory cartoon to kick off October 1897.



Orange reported it was resuming business. Hillsboro and Waco lifted their quarantines. Public schools re-opened on October 4 in Richmond. A large crowd at Sabine Pass greeted the first train to arrive there in weeks. Merchants and markets rallied. Everyone was alive again. And that should have been the end of the story.but it wasn't. An October 12, 1897 statement by Dr. Juan Guiteras of the U.S. Marine Hospital, published in the Houston Post, upended Texas in way that made the events of September look like dinner theater. Dr. G's report declared that he had inspected Houston and Galveston, and the fever was present in both places. Yellow Jack, Bronze John, the Saffron Scourge - it had arrived in Texas! About 12 cases, he said, most of them recovered, but definitely yellow fever. Houston and Galveston doctors moved swiftly to denounce Guiteras' statement, claiming it was just dengue fever, not yellow fever. City councils passed resolutions declaring that their cities had one malady and not the other. But the damage was done. Texans flew into action.

Now Texas towns declared quarantines against Houston and Galveston, as well as other places down the coast. The old shotgun quarantine method went into effect. Try to enter from Houston and you had to deal with men with guns. The San Francisco Bulletin summed it up well:



They have established shotgun quarantine against Yellow Jack in Texas. Texas is nothing if not strong—and, in the matter of shooting, accurate.—S. F. Bulletin.

The town of Bryan not only tried to prevent trains from stopping there, they barred trains from entering the county entirely. Picture it like a train robbery, but without the theft part. Brazos County was not alone in this tactic. Texas A&M entered total isolation and declared it would stay that way until the first frost.

In Fayette County, a Muldoon company loading a huge order of rock bound for the Galveston jetties stopped work...no train would be sent to infected Galveston. Folks in Wharton and other towns just fled. Trying to avoid contact with other people - even

their neighbors - they fled to the interior and North Texas.

At Brenham, there was a run on groceries and supplies (yep....19th century toilet paper pirates). People living outside of town were preparing for "a siege in case this yellow fever business comes to the worst." The news from La Grange two days after the cases were announced: "Our streets have been almost deserted this week, owing to people being afraid to come into town."

On the day the Associated Press broke the news of cases in Texas, the Western Union office at Houston was flooded with 750 telegrams and had to call in extra hands to deal with the 900 responses to be sent out. Houston immediately bought from Washington D.C. a new device for mechanical fumigation of mail. The machine, by way of a paddle with thin metal tines, slapped tiny holes in each envelope to allow sulphur or formaldehyde fumes inside to kill germs on the letters.

San Antonio locked down, but the Austin city council couldn't agree to quarantine or not to quarantine, so they just adjourned without doing anything at all. Mayor Rice of Houston, at the pleading of the Houston Cotton Exchange, issued an invitation for town representatives from the Texas interior to come to Houston and inspect it for themselves.

He even offered to provide free transportation. Each town decided independently whether or not they wanted to risk sending their most trusted citizens into Houston. In the end, the handful that went were able to convince others that Houston wasn't a hotbed of yellow fever.

Texas Health Officer Swearingen released the state ordered quarantine of Houston and Galveston when no new cases had appeared for about 10 days.

Less than 2 weeks after the panic began, it subsided. Houston theaters announced they'd resume plays. Public schools re-opened across the state. And the

Houston Post trumpeted the news everyone was waiting to hear.

Trains will run again! Texans and commerce began to move. They shopped, sent letters, received newspapers, saw their neighbors. Texas was gonna be okay. Little did they know, it was those new-fangled window screens they'd installed since the last epidemic that had saved them from heartbreak and death. The discovery that mosquitoes were the cause of the dreaded disease was still a couple years away.



Newspaper editors, with a few days' hindsight under their belts, scoffed at the experts who had raised the alarm of the fever in Texas. Hallettsville bragged on itself for knowing all along that the scare was no big deal. Ain't hindsight grand? This thing we're living through right now is like 1897 in many ways. Every day, we're bombarded with figures and death tallies. Every day we're reminded to stay at home. Every day we're told that the economy is wrecked.

There are pertinent things we don't understand yet, just like those Texans didn't know the damn mosquitoes were the cause of yellow fever. We're leery of the various alarms & predictions of experts, but afraid nonetheless. We're bringing back shotgun quarantine at the Louisiana border. But we are adapting and we are pioneering new ways of doing what needs to be done. We are doing as Texans have always done - moving ably through uncharted territory. And while we don't yet know how our

version of this story ends, we must remember this: the trains will run again. You can count on it.

God & Texas

NEW ARMY OF TRANS-MISSISSIPPI COMMANDER, J.C. HANNA



Outgoing Commander Darryl Maples present the Army of Trans-Mississippi flag to the new Commander, J. C. Hanna

UNITED STATES FLAG

July 4, 1846 the 28th star, representing Texas, was added to the United States flag. Notice how the stars are arranged to honor the Lone Star state. This was the US flag for one year until Iowa was added.



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Opinions expressed by individual writers are their own and do not necessarily reflect official positions of the 1st Lt. David Richard Reynolds Camp #2270. Letters and articles may be submitted to: Joe.Reynolds@davidrreynolds.org (Cutoff for articles is 20th of the month)