



James City Cavalry Picket Lines



October 2016 Dispatch – Williamsburg, Virginia – <http://www.jamescitycavalry.org>

Camp #2095  1st Brigade  Virginia Division  Army of Northern Virginia

A patriotic honor society dedicated to community service and preservation of the true history of the War Between The States.

Next Muster

Wednesday, October 26th, 2016, 6:30pm
Colonial Heritage Club
<http://colonialheritageclub.org/home.asp>
6500 Arthur Hills Drive
Williamsburg, VA 23188



Meal Cost: \$17.00 Per Person
(genuine Confederate currency gladly accepted)

Honored Confederate Soldier:
Captain Theophilus Perry – Co. F – 28th Texas Cavalry

RSVP Required for Compatriots' Ladies & Guests:
All are encouraged to attend.

October Guest Speaker

Dr. John Trammell
Author and Historian



The Amazing CSS *Hunley*

Most people have a vague awareness that the navies were part of the military story in the War for Southern Independence, but few fully appreciate the amazing story of the CSS *Hunley*, the world's first successful attack submarine. *Hunley* represented a significant human and technological effort on the part of Confederate authorities and contradicts the stereotype of the South as anti-industrial and backwards in the antebellum period. In fact, the South was as industrialized as any of the modern European nations of the period and accomplished a number of noteworthy war enterprises to support the effort on the front lines. *Hunley's* story is one of them.

Jack Trammell is an award-winning author and poet born in Berea Kentucky, whose credits include hundreds of articles and stories, and more than twenty books. He was a recent candidate for Congress in Eric Cantor's seat, as well as enjoying a twenty-five year career as an educator in the public schools and as a professor and researcher in higher education. His areas of expertise include social history, disability, education, government, American history, and creative writing. He was a long-time columnist for the Washington Times. His most recent books include *The Fourth Branch of Government: We the People*, and *Tales of a Soldier Revenant*. He can be reached at: jacktrammell@yahoo.com

Camp Journal for Last Muster

Meeting:

Held 28 September at 6:30PM at Colonial Heritage Club,
James City Cty., Va., 39 attendees

Welcome given by Commander Jeff Toalson

Invocation:

Given by Senior Chaplain Fred Breeden

Pledge & Salute to the Flags
Break for Supper

The SCV Charge read by Quartermaster Jerry Thompson

Ancestral Memorial Candle:

Read by Compatriot Charles Eugene Bush in honor of
Private Henry Winder Garrett
VMI Corp & 43rd Virginia Cavalry

Program:

1st Lt. Commander Ed Engle introduced the evening's guest
speaker: Mr. Frank Earnest.

Frank appeared as an elder Major Von Borcke recalling his days
with the Confederacy and later events in the Prussian/Austrian
War.



Major Von Borcke (Frank Earnest)

Committee Reports and Announcements:

Cemetery Report

2nd Lt. Commander Steve White reported a new flag has
been installed at Fort Magruder but needs adjustment. No
dead trees have been found on the property and the moat
area is being mowed. A new flag is needed for Peach Park

Old & New Business

- Update on Christmas Party plans at Colonial Heritage –
Ken Parsons
- SCV dues statement – Ken Parsons
- October meeting on the *Hunley*
- November meeting on *Southern Songs*

Officer Induction

1st Lt. Commander Jim Leach



Cmdr. Toalson and 1st Lt. Cmdr. Jim Leach

Book Raffle

Proceeds were donated to the Camp Treasury
for the raffle of the three donations.

"Dixie"

Benediction

Given by Chaplain Warren Raines.

Adjournment

8:40 PM

Camp Officers



Commander	Jeff Toalson troon24@cox.net
Adjutant	Ken Parsons kparsons320@cox.net
1st Lt. Commander	Ed Engle ece44@cox.net
2nd Lt. Commander	Steve White garrettsgrocery@gmail.com
Historian/Genealogist	Fred Boelt fwb@widomaker.com
Archivist/Editor	Paul Huelskamp paulhuelskamp@cox.net
Quartermaster	Jerry Thompson JerryLThompson@yahoo.com
Senior Chaplain	Fred Breedon fbreedon@yahoo.com
Chaplain	Warren Raines warrenandpaula@verizon.net

Commander's Comments

You overwhelmingly voted to bring our Christmas Party to Colonial Heritage and have them serve us a fine dinner versus our previous 'pot-luck' suppers. You have been emailed copies of the menu and registration form plus one is included in this issue of 'Picket Lines.' Ken must have **50 reserved seats sold by our October 26 meeting.** Mail to him now or bring your form and monies to the October meeting.

Mark Friday, December 16th on your calendars now!

I would like to thank Compatriot Ed Engle for his three years of service as our 1st Lt. Commander. We have all enjoyed the 30 varied speakers that Ed has brought to our meetings. We welcome Compatriot Jim Leach as his replacement. Jim has already booked speakers on 'Buying & Selling Confederate Memorabilia' and 'Pontoon Bridge Building Techniques Employed during the WBTS'.

The Cavalry is pleased to welcome new Compatriots John Holt and Jon Holland.

The Cavalry thanks Billie Earnest and Frank Earnest for the two wonderful talks they provided in August and September. In total they have given us 8 different talks over the years.

Plans are in the works to provide a musical program at our Christmas supper. More details will be forthcoming.

Please include Compatriot Jackson Darst in your prayers. He is currently in rehab working on recovery from a recent stroke.

The *H. L. Hunley* is going to sink the *U. S. S. Housatonic* during our October meeting. This will be an excellent evening to attend. Hope to see over 40 of you on the 26th.

We serve in their memory,

Jeff

Florida Independent Blues Flag

This magnificent blue flag was presented to the men of Company B, 3rd Florida Infantry in 1861. The dark blue background features 7 stars with the date that each of the 'cotton states' seceded, the cotton plant in the center, and the words "ANY FATE BUT SUBMISSION." This flag is in the collection of the Museum of the Confederacy.



Confederate Gravesites

(Contributed by Historian/Genealogist Compatriot Fred Boelt)

We will continue to research a few remaining veterans at Cedar Grove, but in the meantime we will move to the cemetery located behind the Benjamin Waller house at the eastern end of Francis Street. There are four Confederate veterans interred in that rather large family cemetery. All four men were inter-related through the Waller family.

John Cyrus Mercer was born on May 12, 1810, in Fredericksburg, Virginia. He was the son of Hugh Mercer and Louisa Griffin and grandson of General Hugh Mercer of Revolutionary War fame. His early years were spent in Fredericksburg after which he studied medicine and became a physician. Around 1838, he married Mary Catherine Waller (1818-1892), daughter of Robert Page Waller and Eliza Christian Griffin. Their first child was born in Fredericksburg, but the family relocated to Williamsburg about 1841, and their other eight children were born there.

Dr. Mercer served as a surgeon on the USS Constellation and at the Marine Hospital in Norfolk before the Civil War. Undocumented reports also indicate that he served as a surgeon in the Confederate States Navy. Naval records are sketchy at best and since this came from family sources, it is probably true. Additionally, Dr. Mercer practiced medicine in Williamsburg whenever he was not occupied elsewhere. He served on the Williamsburg city council and school commission, and in 1844, he served on the Board of Visitors at the College of William and Mary. Dr. Mercer sat on the board of directors for Eastern Lunatic Asylum from 1847-1855 and 1857-1860, and served as its president in 1858-1859. He was also a vestryman at Bruton Parish Church. John Cyrus Mercer died on March 26, 1884, and was laid to rest in his wife's ancestral graveyard behind the Benjamin Waller house.

The oldest son of John and Mary Catherine Mercer, Thomas Hugh Mercer, was born in Williamsburg about 1843. He attended the College of William and Mary

from 1859 to 1861. On April 28, 1861, he enlisted as a private in Company C (Williamsburg Junior Guard), 32nd Virginia Infantry, and was present on the July and August rosters. He was discharged on October 21, 1861, when he received an appointment to be a cadet at Virginia Military Academy. He transferred to the 1st Regiment, Virginia Infantry in January 1862, and was later wounded in the Battle of Williamsburg.

Thomas Mercer was in a hospital in Lynchburg during June and early July and was present at a camp near Richmond for the remainder of July and August. After that, he was at a camp near Culpeper Court House until September 26, 1862, when he was marked absent, detached by order of General Lee and was assigned to ordnance duty. He was listed as a lieutenant in the Madison Light Artillery in September 1864, and he was paroled at Appomattox in April 1865.

Thomas Hugh Mercer died from pneumonia on September 7, 1865, at age twenty-two years and was buried in the Waller graveyard. An entry in the Richard M. Bucktrout Ledger and Day Book charged Dr. John C. Mercer, "made cherry wood raistop, lined and trimmed coffin and case for same," in September 1865.

One other son, Corbin Waller Mercer, born on April 2, 1845, was old enough to fight for the cause. He served as a private in Company D, Mosby's Regiment, Virginia Cavalry. He was captured in Fauquier County, Virginia in May 1864, and ultimately was sent to Fort Delaware. He took the oath of allegiance there and was released on June 14, 1865.

After the war, he became a well known business man in Richmond, Virginia, and in November 1886, he married Frances Burwell Nelson from Yorktown, and they had two sons. Corbin Mercer was a member of R. E. Camp, Confederate Veterans and was present for many reunions. He died on November 20, 1910, and he and his wife and one son were buried at Grace Episcopal Church in Yorktown.

Captain Theophilus Perry – Co. F – 28th Texas Cavalry

Theophilus was born in North Carolina on February 3, 1933. He was one of three sons born to Levin K. Perry and his wife Martha Davis Perry.

The family would move to the Marshall, Texas, area in the mid-1840s. Theophilus and one brother would stay in Louisburg, N. C., to finish their schooling and then Theophilus went on to attend the University of North Carolina. He graduated in 1854 and opened a law office in Marshall, Texas, in 1856.

On 9 February 1860 he married Harriet E. Person of Louisburg, N. Carolina. Shortly thereafter they bought 8 acres of land in Marshall, they owned 8 Negroes, and set up housekeeping.

Martha (Sugar Lumpy) was born in early 1861.

Theophilus enlisted on May 10, 1862 in Company F for 3 years or the war. He was elected 2nd Lieutenant.

Theophilus, Jr. (Theo) was born on December 24, 1862.

In February, 1863, he wrote Harriet that, *“I send Sugar Lumpy a great sheet of paper filled with pictures of animals. . . . My heart is with you, Sugar Lumpy & in the cradle of the Baby. I desire to go home above all things.”*

He is promoted to Captain on July 5, 1863. On July 17 from Trenton, LA., he wrote, *“There is a good deal of sickness here. Some chills and fever. We have all been debilitated by the swamps.”*

Records show a furlough for 40 days dated August 10, 1863. His daughter, Martha, died on August 12th before Theophilus reached home.

In a January 8, 1864, letter home he noted, *“Beef is very poor and no pork or bacon . . . Bad diet is the cause of many deaths in the army.”*

Theophilus was killed in action during the battle of Pleasant Hill, Louisiana, on April 9, 1864. He was buried on the battlefield. In late 1865 Harriet returned to Louisburg, N. Carolina. She had lost her husband, her daughter, and sometime before the 1870 census Theo Jr. died. She remarried in 1872 and passed away in 1885 at the age of 49.

(Compiled Service Records Confederate, Brewer Museum, UDC, Richmond, VA, Microcopy 323, Roll 145; *Widows by the Thousands*, Johansson, Fayetteville, 2000, p. xv-xxi, quotes by date.)



In Defense of American History

By

Thomas G. Campbell
James City County, Virginia

There is no outcry to destroy Civil War monuments of the Union Army in the North, but only in the South will monuments, flags, and symbols of the Confederates be destroyed. Both the North and the South are heavily dotted with huge chunks of granite as a memorial to those who died in a bloody civil war. All of these monuments represent supreme sacrifices during a most pivotal time in our nation's young history.

About 155,000 Virginia men served in the Confederate forces during the war, while another 32,000 Virginians served in Union forces. Many young men in Virginia did not hesitate to join the new Confederate army, leaving many colleges virtually empty. Confederate soldiers had an average age of twenty-six, and more than half of them were the head of their households. Their fathers, great grandfathers, and/or great, great grandfathers could have fought in the Mexican War, the War of 1812 and in the American Revolution. Southerners would have dishonored their family name had they not joined the military and protected their homeland. Some Confederate soldiers supported slavery, and some did not—just as some Union soldiers were abolitionists and many were not. Meanwhile, young women worked at home in the fields, and factories.

Everyone and everything they loved was close by within their 'Virginia' which was to them a sovereign place. All that many Southerners knew and felt was that someone from someplace was coming to destroy their lives and homes. Many localities saw the war take away everyone and everything they loved. When all was lost, all that was left was their honor as they stood to fight for their homeland. The people were honorable and their sacrifices would never be rewarded.

After the war, the state governments in the North and the South erected monuments; but in the South, monuments rose more slowly. These monuments were

sponsored by women who did not want their husbands, sons, fathers and brothers to be forgotten. They died on the battlefield and were buried in mass unmarked graves. The families did not get to bury their loved ones nor say their final good-byes. They had no graves on which to place tombstones or flowers. The monuments represent broken-hearted people who were grieving, and they wanted their loved ones to be remembered. To remember the dead, and remember them well, was the hallmark of the Victorian society. Therefore, families and primarily women sponsored many fundraisers, such as bake sales etc, and they were wildly successful in their efforts. It may have been one of the first widespread women's movements which in itself validates the reason to keep them.

It is easy for those who have not studied the war extensively to say it was just about slavery. However, it is far more complicated than that. It was about the economy of cotton and tobacco and slavery was an integral part of that agriculture. True, had there not been slavery, there may not have been a war; and had good farming machinery been available, the need for slavery would have been reduced.

This indeed was a primitive time. The entire country, both the North and South, participated wholly in the slave economy yet the South gets 100% of the blame. Had it not been for the cotton and tobacco exports after the Revolutionary War, America could have well been a third world country. Cotton was the cash cow and it was labor intensive. America was producing most of the world's cotton. Cotton was the only commodity ever given a name by Wall Street: King Cotton. Cotton was the single largest export and NYC was the financial capital of the vital commerce.

Continued next page

In Defense of American History *Continued from Page 6*

Northern slave ships brought the slaves to our shores with great profits for shipping companies in Rhode Island and other New England states and northeastern investors. Connecticut insurance companies insured the plantations, the shipping companies and the banking and investment houses in New York City.

The greatest asset was the four million enslaved African Americans with a value then of 3.5 billion dollars and producing annually 4.5 million bales of cotton. There just simply were not enough people living in the country at this time to keep up with the demand for labor-intensive cotton. In the South, 25% of the population owned slaves—leaving 75% who did not. However, 100% of the households were affected by the war. This is the story we should be telling and not erasing. There is plenty of blame and shame to go around, but there is also much pride and grit too. Together, through the good and despite the bad, people in the North and South, both slave and free, along with immigrants and Native Americans, created the best nation on Earth. There is room for all to be proud together for all that our ancestors created for us.

Monuments do not endorse nor promote racism. Monuments do not attack or kill. They stand silent and graceful. One example is “Silent Sam” a statue at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. This statue was erected in 1913 as a monument

This article was written and edited by Thomas G. Campbell and it was inspired by Kerry Dougherty of Virginia and Cynthia Loveless Harriman, the Executive Direction of the Texas Civil War Museum, Fort Worth, Texas.

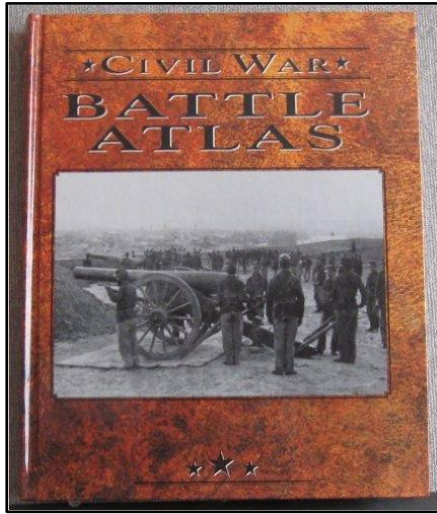


to the 321 alumni of the University who served in the Confederate Army during the Civil War and it is known by students as “Silent Sam”. Although the soldier holds a rifle, it is silent because he wears no cartridge box for ammunition. The university continued operation during the Civil War, thanks to the reliance on wounded veterans and men who were exempt from military service.

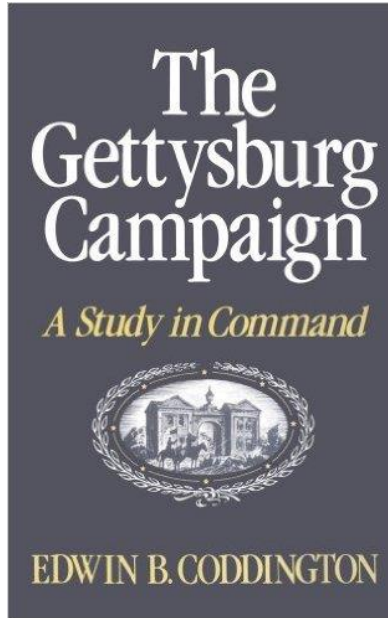
Monuments are a reminder for us to stop and reflect. They are beautiful public art, designed and crafted by artisans. If the monuments are torn down, or vandalized, then we lose much more than just a chunk of granite, we lose history and the lessons of history. Now, unfortunately, “Silent Sam” has already been vandalized by the “Black Lives Matter” movement which painted the word “murderer” on the monument.

Even the College of William and Mary saw fit to remove the emblem of the Confederate flag from its mace...so what exactly did that accomplish? They also removed a plaque from the wall in the Wren Building listing the names of all students and faculty who departed the College in 1860-1861 to serve in the Confederacy. Why not learn from the history of the past and not try to ‘sanitize’ history but to learn from it and live to do better? Let’s defend American history and strive to preserve it.

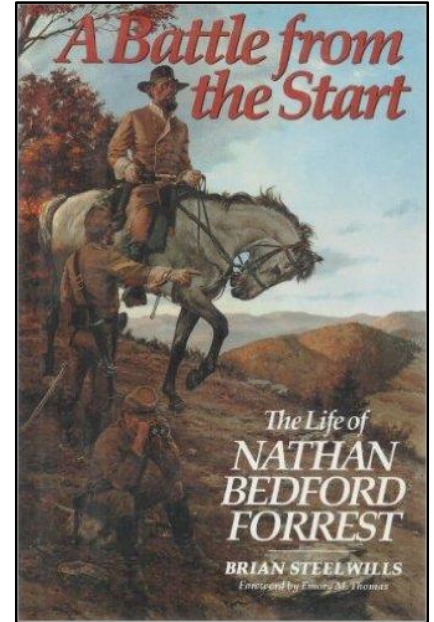
October Book Raffle



"Civil War Battle Atlas", By the Editors of Time-Life Books



"The Gettysburg Campaign, A Study in Command", by Edwin B. Coddington



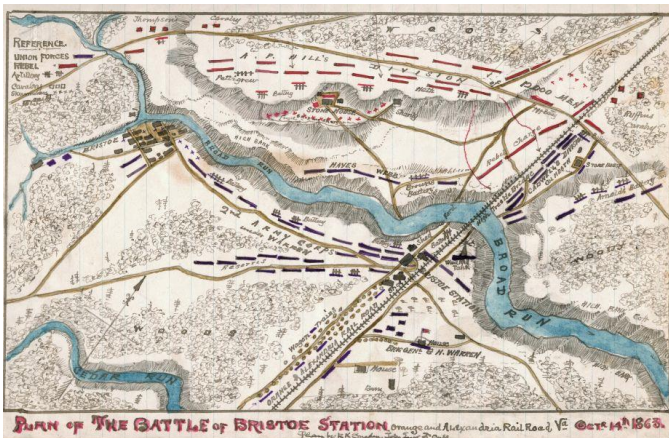
"A Battle from the Start, the Life of Nathan Bedford Forrest", by Brian Steel Wills

October Trivia Question:

Who were the Immortal Six Hundred?



Williamsburg Civil War Round Table



<http://www.wcwr.org>

On October 25th, 2016 – Rob Orrison will present:

"Lee's Last Offensive - The Bristoe Station Campaign"

2016 James City Cavalry

Christmas Supper

December 16th (Friday)

Colonial Heritage Country Club

In our regular meeting room

Time: 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

MENU

House Salad with 2 dressings

Poached Atlantic Salmon with tomato basil relish

Mixed crop top carrots in ginger and lime sage

Herb Roasted mashed potatoes

Rolls with butter

Sponge cake with raspberry drizzle

Coffee, Iced Tea, Water

COST

\$20 per person PREPAID reservations required by October 26.

We must have 50 confirmed reservations by the October 26 date to keep the price at \$20.00 per person.

Seating is limited to 60 people on a first come, first reserved basis.

Reservation: Mail with check to Ken Parsons, 217 Sherwood Forest, Williamsburg, VA 23188

Names:	_____	\$20.00
	_____	\$20.00
	Total:	\$

Need to be 90% booked by
the October 26 meeting.