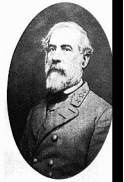




# Reveille



**Sons of Confederate Veterans**

Jefferson Davis Camp No. 635

\* Volume XC \* War Memorial Building, Jackson, MS 39201 \* September 2011 \* Number 9\*



## September Meeting Women in the Life of Stonewall Jackson

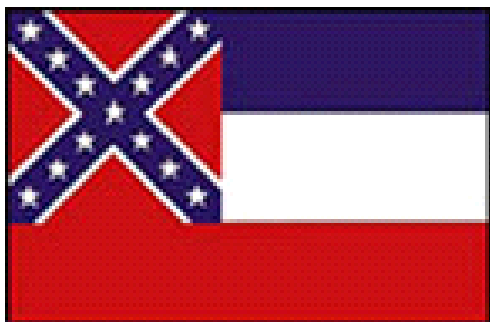
This month's program will be a presentation by Dr. Wes Busbee, Professor of History and Chair of the Division of Humanities at Belhaven University. His topic will be "Women in the Life of Stonewall Jackson."

Everyone come and bring guests, especially new recruits!

**When:** September 27, 2011. 5:00 pm.

**Where:** Municipal Art Gallery, State St., Jackson.

*See you there!*



*And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet.*

*For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places.*

*All these are the beginning of sorrows.*

*Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake.*

*And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another.*

*And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many.*

*And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold.*

*But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.*

*Matthew 24:6-13  
(KJV)*

## August Meeting Report

### Presentation by Vicksburg Nat'l Military Park Historian

The August program was a presentation by Will Wilson, Historian at the Vicksburg National Military Park. He gave an overview of Grant's Campaign to take Vicksburg in 1863 and talked specifically about some of the important sites within the park.

Compatriot Dan Duggan was unable to attend to give his "This Day in the WBTS" as he is still recovering from his recent bone break. Please keep Dan in your prayers.. Hopefully he'll be back up and around soon.

Wayne Anderson provided the music.

### Dues Call

Adjutant Ron Stowers has mailed the dues notices for the next year's dues. Full memberships are \$55 and associate (non-voting) memberships are \$15. Please remit the appropriate amount to Ron by the end of September so that he can forward the required amounts to IHQ and the Mississippi Division before their deadlines. Make checks payable to

*(Continued on page 4)*

## Rebel Ramblings

by Robert Murphree

No doubt I left my compatriots on pins and needles promising to write more about Longstreet's grumbles, but, alas, you will have to wait a bit more, for this month I want to write about the Confederate navy, specifically the Confederate Naval Academy.

Given what he had to work with, Secretary of the Navy Stephen Mallory worked wonders, really. Starting with nothing he established powder mills, engine, boiler and machine shops, five naval ordnance works, and even a rope walk for the production of the miles of rope and cable needed for warships. Although he energetically went about ordering warships from foreign shipyards, he was not content with this, and established some eighteen shipyards in the Confederacy. He was a real innovator too, experimenting with new designs such as ironclads, and torpedoes, the naval mines that were so effective.

As if he didn't have enough to do, Mallory was determined to establish a naval academy to train young naval officers. Initially the Confederacy placed its young midshipmen on ships and at batteries to give them practical experience, but it quickly became apparent this "on the job" training neglected formal education. So in 1862 he ordered the Patrick Henry, the flagship of the James River squadron, to be converted to a floating naval academy. The school ship was not ready until mid 1863, when some 52 midshipmen reported for training at the new academy. These students were young, between 14 and 18, and most had already seen active service. In addition to the normal academic subjects of the time, emphasis was put on gunnery and seamanship.

From time to time the midshipmen were detailed to active duty, sometimes engaging in the most desperate of combat. Several accompanied the daring assault by small boats that captured the federal gunboat Underwriter at New Bern in February, 1864. The 200 Confederates rowed up to the 325 ton gunboat in the dead of night and overwhelmed the federal crew, capturing the boat. Unfortunately the engine fires were not lighted and the boat had to be burned.

Interestingly enough, the rations the Confederate navy got were much better than what the Confederacy gave its soldiers. Better clothing too. One instructor at the naval academy was riding a train from Richmond to Charleston when a ragged soldier returning to Lee's army sat down beside him. Eyeing his well dressed companion, the soldier questioned him at length about what the officer did. Thinking it over, the tattered soldier finally said "I'll tell you what it is, if things don't soon look better, I'll be dogged if I don't try to navy it a little while too."

*(Continued on page 3)*

Send address corrections to:  
**Wayne B. Anderson, Mailing Coordinator**  
**Jefferson Davis Camp #635, SCV**  
**1737 Bridgers Drive**  
**Raymond, MS 39154**

Visit the camp web site at: <http://www.scvcamp635.org>  
**A new web design program has been obtained that will run on newer computers so the web site has recently been updated for the first time in about a year.**



## Calendar

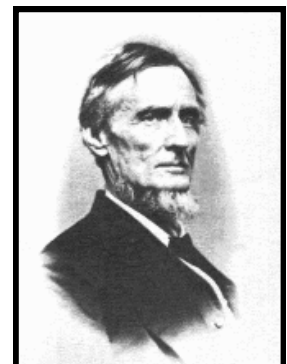
**September 27, 2011**  
 Regular meeting of  
 Camp 635 at the  
 Municipal Art Gallery

**October 25, 2011**  
 Regular meeting of  
 Camp 635 at the  
 Municipal Art Gallery

**November 15, 2011**  
 Regular meeting of  
 Camp 635 at the  
 Municipal Art Gallery

**December 19, 2011**  
 Regular meeting of  
 Camp 635 at the  
 Municipal Art Gallery

**January 24, 2012**  
 Regular meeting of  
 Camp 635 at the  
 Municipal Art Gallery



# Chaplain's Dispatch

Dear Friends and Compatriots:

During his lifetime (1840-1908) Ira D. Sankey wrote the music for many familiar Christian hymns. When he was at the height of his ministry, he was traveling on a steamer on the Delaware River. Some passengers had seen his picture in the newspaper and knew he was associated with the great evangelist, Dwight L. Moody. When they asked him to sing one of his own compositions, Sankey said he preferred a hymn by William Bradbury, "Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us." One of the stanzas begins, "We are Thine, do Thou befriend us; be the guardian of our way."

When he finished, a man stepped out and inquired, "Were you in the army, Mr. Sankey?"

"Yes, I joined up in 1860."

"Did you ever do guard duty at night in Maryland, about 1862?"

"Yes, I did."

"Well, I was in the Confederate Army," said the stranger. "I saw you one night at Sharpsburg. I had you in my gun sight as you stood there in the light of the full moon. Just as I was about to pull the trigger, you began to sing. It was the same song you sang tonight," the man told an astonished Sankey. "I couldn't shoot you."

Life is filled with near misses. We know only a fraction of the many situations in which God preserves us from severe physical and emotional injury.\*

\**Men of Integrity Devotional Bible*, (Carol Stream, IL.: Tyndale House Publishers, 2002)

Sincerely,  
Hubert W. Miazza  
Chaplain

*(Continued from page 2)*

Perhaps the finest hour of the Confederate Naval Academy arrived in the final hours of the Confederacy. In April, 1865, in the confusion and uproar surrounding the evacuation of Richmond, the midshipmen were chosen to be the guard of the gold and silver of the Confederate and Virginia treasuries. This duty was filled with adventure and challenges, but that tale will have to wait for another column.

## 10 (More) Surprising Facts about Blacks in the Confederacy

11. Free black musicians, cooks, soldiers and teamsters earned the same pay as white Confederate privates. This was not the case in the Union army where blacks did not receive equal pay.

12. At the Confederate Buffalo Forge in Rockbridge County, Virginia, skilled black workers earned on average three times the wages of white Confederate soldiers and more than most Confederate army officers (\$350-\$600 a year).

13. Dr. Lewis Steiner, Chief Inspector of the United States Sanitary Commission while observing General Stonewall Jackson's occupation of Frederick, Maryland, in 1862 noted: "Over 3,000 Negroes must be included in the number of Confederate troops. These were clad in all kinds of uniforms, not only in cast-off or captured United States uniforms, but in coats with Southern buttons, State buttons, etc. These were shabby, but not shabbier or seedier than those worn by white men in the rebel ranks. Most of the Negroes had arms, rifles, muskets, sabers, bowie-knives, dirks, etc...and were manifestly an integral portion of the Southern Confederate Army."

14. Black and white militiamen returned heavy fire on Union troops at the Battle of Griswoldsville, near Macon, Georgia. Approximately 600 boys and elderly men were killed in the skirmish.

15. In 1864, President Jefferson Davis approved a plan that proposed the emancipation of slaves in return for the official recognition of the Confederacy by Britain and France. France showed interest but Britain refused.

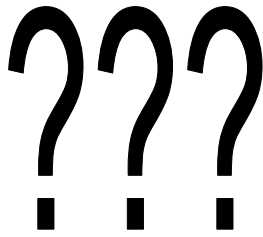
16. The Jackson Battalion included two companies of black soldiers. They saw combat at Petersburg under Colonel Shipp. "My men acted with utmost promptness and goodwill. Allow me to state sir that they behaved in an extraordinary acceptable manner."

17. Recently the National Park Service, with the aid of a new discovery, recognized that blacks were asked to help defend the city of Petersburg, Virginia, and were offered freedom if they did so.

18. Confederate General John B. Gordon, Army of Northern Virginia, reported that all of his troops were in favor of colored troops and that their adoption would "greatly encourage the army."

19. General Lee was anxious to receive regiments of black soldiers. The Richmond Sentinel reported on March 24th, 1864, "None will deny that our servants are more worthy of respect than the motley hordes which come against us. Bad faith to black Confederates must be avoided as an indelible dishonor."

20. In March 1865, Judah P. Benjamin, Confederate Secretary of State, promised freedom for black s who served from the state of Virginia. Authority for this was finally received from the state of Virginia and on April 1, 1865, \$100 bounties were offered to black soldiers.



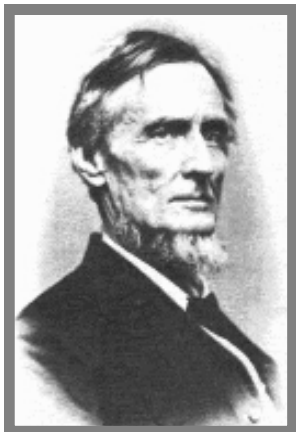
**Trivia Question:**

This month's question asks:

What was the most commonly used medication during the war?

August's question asked: What was the Southern "home" remedy used by soldiers in the field for treating diarrhea and malaria?

The answer: A tea made from the bark of slippery elm, sweet gum or dogwood.



# Commander's Column

Compatriots,

Is the glass half-full or half-empty? I would propose the answer has more to do with your attitude than your sight. Our nation is embarking upon horizons that we in the South have not seen in a long time. These same horizons were observed by our forefathers one hundred and fifty years ago. The times we live in today are going to make us stronger or render us ill equipped to cope with the campaign we are starting into. We cannot and must not fail to recognize the reality before us. We must not let the times we live in draw us apart; we should use these times to bring us closer together in terms of our loyalty to God, family, our Southern heritage, and each other. Let's all go out of our way to help a brother, especially when he's on the firing line next to you.

Deo Vindice,

Mike Rodgers

Forward the Colors

### Welcome New Member

At the August meeting, the camp welcomed a new member, **George Riley Roberts**, who joins on the service of his Great-Great-Grandfather Phillip Roberts, Private, Company H, 6th Mississippi Infantry.

Welcome!

*(Continued from page 1)*

Jefferson Davis Camp 635, SCV and mail to:

**Ron Stowers, Adjutant**  
**Jefferson Davis Camp 635, SCV**  
**PO Box 16945**  
**Jackson, MS 39236**

Please consider adding a little extra for one of the Confederate Heritage programs listed on the dues notice. Thank you.

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