

15th Regiment South Carolina Volunteers



15th Regimental Report  
Camp #51 Lexington County, S.C.  
Sons of Confederate Veterans



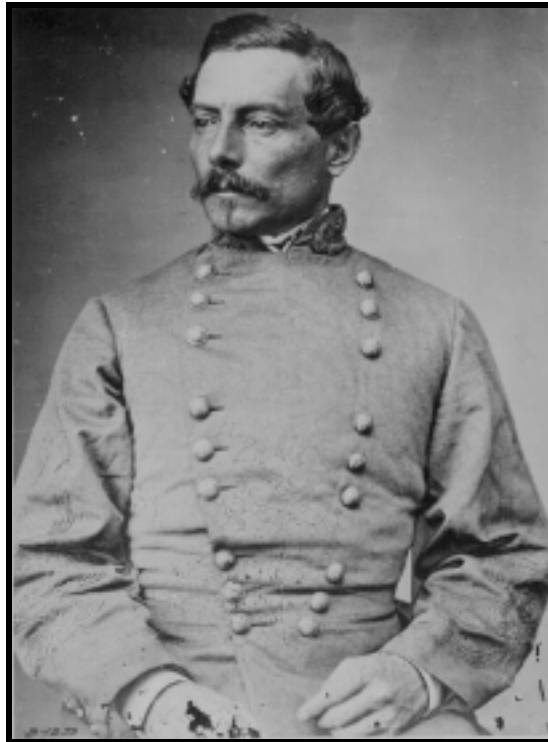
Volume X, Issue IV

WWW.ROOTSWEB.COM/~SCCN15

April 2002

**Inside this issue:**

<i>Commander's Comments</i>	2
<i>2nd Fort Cemetery Cleanup Day</i>	6
<i>SCV member heads the Museum of the Confederacy</i>	7
<i>Alexander Haskell 1861 letter</i>	10
<i>Camp Announcements</i>	11
<i>Who are our ancestors?</i>	12
<i>Slavery investigation</i>	13
<i>Ancestor Highlight - Recaps</i>	14
<i>A Soldiers Recollections Chapter IV</i>	30
<i>Calendar of Events</i>	33
<i>Re-enactors Schedule</i>	34



Brigadier-General Beauregard

**FORT SUMTER, S.C., April 12, 1861--3.20 a. m.**

SIR: By authority of Brigadier-General Beauregard, commanding the Provisional Forces of the Confederate States, we have the honor to notify you that he will open the fire of his batteries on Fort Sumter in one hour from this time.

We have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servants,

JAMES CHESNUT, JR.,  
Aide-de-Camp.

STEPHEN D. LEE,  
Captain, C. S. Army, Aide-de-Camp

*Send all camp correspondence to:*

**15th Regiment SC  
Vols  
P.O. Box 84381  
Lexington, SC  
29073**

## Commander's Comments

### Commander's Comments

April 2002

Dear Compatriots:

We had another good turnout for our cemetery cleanup on March 23, 2002. My heartfelt thanks to all of you who attended and contributed your time and efforts in this undertaking. It is a great feeling of satisfaction to look back at the condition of the Fort Cemetery before we began work, and to see it today. If you know of more cemeteries in the Lexington County area with Confederate graves that need to be restored, please bring it to our attention at the next meeting. If you have experience as a brick mason, your advice is needed for restoration efforts at the Geiger Cemetery in the Sandy Run community.



In the coming month we have four important events. The first is the South Carolina Division Convention on April 20 at Aiken. Please make plans to attend. These conventions are always enjoyable and informative. The next event is the reburial of Captain William Farley in Laurens on April 27. An event of this magnitude is rare. When was the last burial of one of General J. E. B. Stuart's scouts? May 4 is our state-wide celebration of Confederate Memorial Day in Columbia. This event begins with a solemn memorial service at Elmwood Cemetery, followed by a parade to the State House and a program there. The fourth event is the actual Confederate Memorial Day. The 15<sup>th</sup> Regiment South Carolina Volunteers is planning its annual all day celebration of Confederate Memorial Day at the Lexington County Courthouse on May 10, 2002, an official State holiday. We will be standing honor guard at the Confederate monument in two-hour shifts of two people each. This is a solemn and formal occasion. You are requested to dress in Confederate uniform, period costume, or coat and tie.

Another event to be thinking about is the upcoming militaria show in June. Our camp will be provided with a free table to recruit members at this event. I will be able to provide some Confederate memorabilia for the table. We will need volunteers to man the table and pass out recruiting information. You all know how much some of us enjoy collecting Confederate memorabilia. This may be your opportunity to see what it is all about.

Recruiting is one area we should really focus our efforts. Bring friends, family and neighbors with you to our next meeting. If anyone is interested in serving on the recruitment committee, please let me know.

Compatriot Steve Wolfe has come up with a couple of good ideas recently. The first is a ladies night cookout scheduled for August 29. Our speaker for this meeting is Rick Hatcher the National Park Service historian at Fort Sumter. His topic will be the Battle of Wilson's Creek. Steve also has come up with an idea for the camp to publish our ancestor stories in book form. These stories have been written by our camp and published in our newsletter. Some of us will need to get busy and write more stories.

Thanks for your help and support. I hope to see you at one of these events.

Next Meeting April 25, 2002  
Guest Speaker Mike Kelly  
“Documenting Your Confederate Ancestors”

Michael G. Kelly, a native of Columbia, is a lifelong West Columbia resident. Mike is a graduate of Brookland-Cayce High School and Midlands Technical College. He is the information systems manager for Central Electric Power Cooperative, Inc. He has been a member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans since 1988 and the Military Order of the Stars and Bars since 1990. Mike is the State Genealogist for the M. O. S. B. Mike’s hobbies include collecting edged weapons, artillery projectiles, medals, United Confederate Veterans memorabilia, antique spectacles, and photographs. He also enjoys fencing and has won several championships.

Mike’s South Carolina roots go back to the colonial period on both parents’ sides. His ancestors have proudly served their country in the Revolutionary War, War of 1812, War Between the States, World War I, and the Cold War. Mike’s interest in genealogy has led him to develop his own useful technique for documenting his ancestors’ Confederate service. This documentation technique will be the topic of his presentation.

again for your support,  
**Wayne D. Roberts**  
Commander

## **2nd Fort Cemetery Cleanup Day**

**March 23rd, 2002**

What does it take to be a guardian in the South Carolina Sons of Confederate Veterans? Just ask E. M. Clark of our camp. This type work is a passion with compatriot Clark. He will be the first to tell you that all of our men in the war should be treated as heroes.

We went into this morning planning to level the stone of a compatriot and ancestor, plus that of about five other of his family members. We left this day having found another confirmed Confederate soldier and many other graves which had lost their markers over the years. Now a five grave cemetery has turned into one which contains fifteen or sixteen graves, including a whole row of suspected children’s graves. It was a pure honor to be cleaning the cemetery of the Fort family and we are far from done. You will have more opportunities to help here. Once the cemetery has been restored, Wayne Roberts has applied for the honor of being its Guardian. At the end of his first two year Guardian time, he will be made a full Guardian in the South Carolina Sons of Confederate Veterans.



Early Saturday morning found Eddie and Steve in Edmund getting a truck load of sand. Compatriot Kruger pictured here is bringing another load to one of the graves.

Col. Fort's grave had what appeared to be a hole either made by a tree or an animal. We tried to fill it by packing sand into it, but we ended up enlarging the hole which went all the way to the Col. Fort's tomb. The hole then was successfully packed full.



All of the headstones had to be stabilized and leveled. Solid steel pry bars were the tool of the day.

Checking to see if we have the headstone now level.



Wayne is packing another hole with sand. This is in the row of suspected children. At Wayne's feet are lilies coming up. Each grave had some type of flowering plant associated with it showing that this final resting place was once loved and cared for.



Notice the headstone in the foreground. It's leaning dangerously to one side. This is how we found most of the stones.

The last stone leveled was the memorial stone to the members of the family buried in Pelion.



## BATTLE FLAG ; MUSEUM'S DIRECTOR HAS UNFURLED A DEBATE

Publication: Richmond Times-Dispatch

Byline: Janet Caggiano; Contact Janet Caggiano at (804) 649-6157

Date: 03-13-2002

Edition: City

Section: Features



The photograph above is of Colonel Barton Campbell swearing in the first Wm. Latne Camp Officers during their Charter celebration at the Hanover Tavern, Hanover, Va.

Compatriot Barton is a member of the Virginia SCV, former Commander of the JEB Stuart Camp, and the member who sponsored me (Steve Wolfe) in the SCV.

Photo by Steve Wolfe

Less than two weeks after taking the helm at the Museum of the Confederacy, J.A. Barton Campbell reduced the staff by nearly 20 percent. But it's his latest move that seems to be causing the most unrest.

Late last week, at Campbell's suggestion, the museum unfurled a Confederate battle flag outside its front doors. Some fear it is a sign that the nonprofit institution is about to take a very pro- Southern approach to Civil War history.

"This just smacks of what we did not want," said one former employee who asked not to be identified. She left when her position was eliminated. "It's a blatant symbol . . . and racially charged."

Campbell erected the Army of Northern Virginia battle flag, he said, to teach others about its past.

"I'm hoping it will be an education piece - to help others understand why it was designed, how it was used and what it represents," he said.

Members of the museum's Board of Trustees support Campbell's decision.

"I understand that people have their sensitivities," said Martika Parson, the only African- American on the 22-member board. "But this is a museum. We are educational. That's one of our main focuses. If we don't preserve history for the future, we are doomed to repeat it."

Since Robin E. Reed's quiet departure last November, rumors have been circulating that he was forced out because of his desire for telling a more inclusive story of the war. During his tenure, the museum tackled such topics as slavery and the roles of women.

Because of a confidentiality agreement, Reed won't comment on his resignation. But he did offer his rationale for not flying a Confederate battle flag outside the museum during his nine years as director.

"I don't think it is an effective way to educate people about battle flags," Reed said. "These are relics and icons from the killing fields themselves . . . they never really flew on public buildings."

Now that one is, some worry that officials will transform the museum into a shrine to the Confederacy.

"Robin Reed made this the Museum of \*the Confederacy," said another employee who left just before the layoffs. "Now I'm afraid it's going to become the Museum for\*the Confederacy. That's something I don't want to be part of."

\* \* \*

While some speculate about the museum's future, Campbell says it will continue to offer an accurate historical interpretation of the war. The Tennessee native was named Reed's successor on Feb. 19.

"We are going to be a professional proponent of Confederate history," Campbell said. "We are not going to slant anything. We want to reach out across the country and be inclusive. We want to spread the word that . . . we are the folks telling the Confederate side of the story. That's what we are after all, the Museum of the Confederacy."

Civil War experts say the addition of the flag will certainly attract attention. It replaced one of two U.S. flags and flies alongside six others at the entrance.

"This seems to signal a shift to the right," said William C. Davis, director of programs at the Virginia Center for Civil War Studies at Virginia Tech. "I have no problem with the right or the left. I just think it ought to stay out of history. The result there is almost always a distortion of the past. There is a huge difference between preserving and celebrating."

Museum officials insist they understand that distinction.

"This is the place where all Confederate stories are told," said J.E.B. Stuart IV, president of the museum's Board of Trustees. "Someone might try to draw a conclusion [from the battle flag], but there isn't any. We are not waving this down the street. This is part of history."

\* \* \*

A former senior manager at Reynolds Metals Co., Campbell has been a member of the Museum of the Confederacy since the 1960s. He had served on the Board of Trustees since last September, stepping down when he was named director.

During his first few days on the job, Campbell began replacing the term "Civil War" with "War Between the States."

"I like that term," Campbell said. "To me, it's more accurate. Some of my scholarly friends might disagree with me, but I think it's more descriptive of what transpired."

Fred D. Taylor, president of the Heritage Preservation Association of Virginia, agrees.

"I think the change is good," Taylor said. "I think the Museum of the Confederacy has gotten away from telling the true Southern story. I think sometimes they even depict the Confederacy in a bad light."

A member of the museum for years, Taylor stopped visiting after a conversation with then director Reed a few years ago.

"He told me that this was the Museum of \*the Confederacy, not for\*the Confederacy," Taylor recalled. "That's when I cut my ties."

Attracting new visitors has been a battle at the museum. Attendance dropped from 78,786 in 1992-93 to 61,626 in 1999-2000. Add to that financial concerns, and layoffs were almost a certainty.

During last month's restructuring, the number of full-time positions dropped from 27 to 22. Eight employees left and some part-timers became full time.

"It was a fiscally oriented move," Stuart said. "We've been over budget for a while. It got to the point where we needed to do something. We probably should have done this a while ago."

Without the restructuring, the museum would have been about \$300,000 over budget this fiscal year, Stuart said. The layoffs won't correct the problem entirely, he said, but they will help. The museum also plans to wipe out its summer camp program and consolidate its publications.

"I feel like the bad guy in a way," Campbell said. "But I try to tell people that you have to remember not to shoot the messenger. The message would be the same no matter who came in."

## Alexander Haskell writing home during April 1861

Headquarters 1st Regt S.C. vol.  
Light House Hills, 17th April 1861

Dear father and mother,

You have long before this been made happy by hearing the Fort Sumter has been taken, not only without the loss of any of your sons, but not even one of Carolina's. A glorious day it was, and marked so deeply by the protecting hand of divine Providence that it calls to mind the miraculous victories of the chosen people. The fire and cannonading was tremendous and conducted by a skill which, although exhibited by volunteers, has excited the wonder and admiration of our veteran Commander and of our gallant foes. They did prove themselves men at the last, and gallant ones. Fort Sumter is a terrible wreck. Amid all the rejoicing, it was rather a bitter day for the 1st Regiment, who after toiling day and night in the trenches under our gallant and skillful Colonel, were pushed aside and neglected in the whole affair. Ten hours before the fight begun, Simons, a pompous coward who shielded himself and staff under the Hospital Flag, came over and with an amount of injustice which he only could execute superseded Gregg in command and sent him off to the end of the Island. The whole Island was thrown into confusion by a host of upstarts who came over at the same time to snatch away what honour was to be reaped, while the organization of the 17 Regt. alone, fed and transported and supported the whole Island. We have done the whole work and had Colonel Gregg chosen he could have made them feel their insolent assumption, but he worked manfully and has helped them out of their troubles even at the expense of his own Regiment. Such however is military style, merit is not always appreciated at the right time and place.

But it will be long before "Hospital Tom" and the holiday officers will be forgotten. The artillerists who fought the battle are gallant fellows and deserve all the credit that can be given. It is rather a bitter pill to swallow to when we think of having been cut out of the whole affair which we have been waiting three months to share. We were sure once of a fight from the soldiers, but the dastardly wretches disappointed friend and foe alike by not striking one blow for their Flag and burning Fort. The soldiers on our side gave a cheer to Anderson at every shot towards the last, and a groan for the cowards in the Fleet. It was as gallant an affair as the world ever witnessed, and when the officers in the Fort were told of it afterwards, it affected them almost to tears. The prospects all are now, though I won't triumph, on my side of the argument, war and a long and bloody one. I feel as if I was going to be made a soldier whether I would or no. I hope I will get home though one of these days. though the prospect at present is small. I have but little idea of being able to leave at the end of the six months. I am here now, in the field in tents and messing with the colonel's { } I would be very glad if you could send me something to contribute my portion to the Mess.

I hear that a cavalry company is going from Abbeville to Florida. I wish very much I could get up a good cavalry company to take up on the 12th of July or before and go on with the war as an officer instead of private. I wish now very much that Willy had the place that McGowan offered him or that it were possible for him to get it. Do tell me if anything can be done in my old country in the way of organizing a troop to go into the war.

Give kindest love to all,  
Your affec Son  
AC Haskell

## Camp Announcements

**May 20th 6:30 pm**

Meeting of the Maxcy Gregg Chapter MOS&B. We will once again meet at the Chestnut Hill Plantation Clubhouse for dinner and hear a presentation from Mr. Mike Wadsworth. Price of the dinner will be \$6. You are encouraged to invite the ladies to our bi-monthly meetings. Bring a friend and let's see the membership grow.



**Confederate Memorial Day**  
**May 10th**

**Confederate Memorial, Lexington County**  
**Courthouse.**

On Friday May 10th we will once again stand beside the Confederate Monument at the Lexington County Courthouse. Camp members are encouraged to participate. This function is limited to camp members only and proper attire is required.

**April 27th 10AM:**

**Re-interment of Captain William  
Downs Farley**

**Laurens, South Carolina**

**Last Call for**  
**Membership Dues**

Any member who has not paid their 2002 membership dues is now delinquent and a ten dollar late fee is in effect. Those who are still in rears as of March 31st will be removed from the active roster.

If you still owe your dues, please send your dues to Eddie Killian at the address on the front of your newsletter.

Membership cards are passed out at the monthly meetings.

## 2002 SCV State Convention

Aiken, South Carolina

April 20th

Make your plans now to attend the state SCV Convention. If you wish to be a delegate, please see Eddie Killian or Wayne Roberts to sign up.

## Who Are Our Ancestors?

At one time our camp had a list of ancestors. Over time it has gone away. Now is the time to rebuild it. Listed below are the names which y'all supplied to the SCV Membership Directory for 2001. If you are not listed and/or have more ancestors to acknowledge, you are strongly encouraged to send the information to the Camp Historian. Currently the Newsletter Editor fills both positions, so either see me at the next meeting, mail your information to me c/o the newsletter address, or email it to me at [SC\\_15th\\_Regiment@hotmail.com](mailto:SC_15th_Regiment@hotmail.com).

Larry Bryan Black, Sr	Jasper Ruben Black	Pvt. 20 <sup>th</sup> SC Regt. Co. K
Michael E. Brooks	Charles C. Brooks	Pvt. 17 <sup>th</sup> Regt. Ga. Vol. Inf.
Danny Caulder	Malcolm Caulder	Pvt. 27 <sup>th</sup> SC Regt. Co. F
Herbert O Chambers III	William B. Chambers	Pvt. 6 <sup>th</sup> Bn. Ga. Inf. Co. E
Everett M. Clark, Jr	Henry S. Richard	Co. F Palmetto Sharpshooters
	John Jason Clark	Pvt. 4 <sup>th</sup> Clinch's Ga. Cav. Co. A/K
	David Johnson	Pvt. Meyer's Co.
	Samuel Senn	Pvt. Co. K 20 <sup>th</sup> SC Inf.
	Henry Clamp	Pvt. Co. E 14 <sup>th</sup> SC Inf
Scott E. Davis	David J. Hendricks	Pvt. 24 <sup>th</sup> Regt. SC Vol. Co G
George Herman Dieter	George Whitehead Lamar	Capt. 61 <sup>st</sup> Ga. Vol.
Zachariah Jordan Drake, Jr.	Zachariah Jordan Drake	Capt. 3 <sup>rd</sup> Regt. SC State Troops Co. D
John Martin Eubanks	Robert S. Eubanks	Pvt. 43 <sup>rd</sup> Ga. Inf. Co. C
	William Park Newman	Pvt. Roswell Ga. St. Cav.
Kenneth B. Ferguson	Thomas Joseph Minte	Pvt. 34 <sup>th</sup> NC Inf. Co. I
	Thomas C. Ferguson	Pvt. 3 <sup>rd</sup> 1 <sup>st</sup> SC Res. Co. A
	Moses Lister	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sgt. 3 <sup>rd</sup> 1 <sup>st</sup> SC Res. Co. G.
	Aaron Treadway	Pvt. 5 <sup>th</sup> NC St. Res. Co. B
	David F. Treadway	Pvt. 64 <sup>th</sup> NC Inf. Co. C
Gerald Rhame Griffin, Jr.	Stephen H. Griffin	Pvt. 4 <sup>th</sup> Cav. Rutledge's
William F. Harrell	Benjamin T. Harrell	Pvt. 17 <sup>th</sup> NC Inf. Co. E
	Luke Harrell, Jr.	Pvt. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Rufin Rifles
	Andrew Jackson Potter	Sgt. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Rufin Rifles
	William Rufin Cox	Brig. Gen. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Rufin Rifles
Randy Holmes	Benjamin Barnhill	Pvt. Co. F. SC Vol.
Charles B. Hood	Nathaniel E. Hood	Pvt. 1 <sup>st</sup> SC Inf. Co. B
Richard J. Hood	Nathaniel Edward Hood	Pvt. 1 <sup>st</sup> SC Inf. Co. B
Phillip Boozer Hutto	Cornelius P. Boozer	Pvt. 3 <sup>rd</sup> SC Regt. Co C
Lewis Miles Johnson, Jr.	James Randall Johnson	Pvt. 8 <sup>th</sup> Regt. Fl. Inf. Co. B
Chester Allen Kay	Enoch Henry Kay	Pvt. 1 <sup>st</sup> State Troops Co. A
Sidney C. Keisler	David Keisler	Pvt. 2 <sup>nd</sup> SC State Troops Co. A
Robert Edward Killian, Jr.	Henry Van Killian	Pvt. 24 <sup>th</sup> SC Regt
	Henry Jefares	Pvt.
	Edward Taylor	Maj. Gen. SC Res.
Herbert Shealy Long, Jr.	Richard Gregory	Lt. 7 <sup>th</sup> Regt. SC Inf. Co. H
Bradford E. McFarland	John Andrew Bradford	Pvt. 21 <sup>st</sup> AL Regt. Co A
Jason Bayne Neely	Richard Neely	Pvt. 12 <sup>th</sup> SC Regt. Co C/F

Larry Lynn Pearce	John C. Cowden	Pvt. 36 <sup>th</sup> TN Inf. Co E
Wayne D. Roberts	John E. Roberts	Pvt. Co. I, 1 <sup>st</sup> North Carolina Cavalry
John Allen Shealy	Abram Christopher Irvin	Co. F, 34 <sup>th</sup> North Carolina Infantry
Richard Wayne Shealy	Isaiah Shealy	Pvt. 20 <sup>th</sup> SC Inf. Co K
Larry Cephus Shumpert	Emanuel Zeddo Swygert	1 <sup>st</sup> Lt. 15 <sup>th</sup> SC Inf. Co. K
Edwin O. Smith	Jacob Anderson Shumpert	13 <sup>th</sup> SC Vol. Co. K
John T. Smith	Martin Luther Hallman	Pvt. 20 <sup>th</sup> Regt. SC Inf. Co. K
Walter C. Smith III	George C. Smith	Sgt. 12 <sup>th</sup> GA Regt. Co. C
	William W. Drew	1 <sup>st</sup> Lt.
	Henry F. Smith	Pvt. 35 <sup>th</sup> NC Inf. Co. I
	John Marshall Drew	Pvt. 1 <sup>st</sup> NC Heavy Art. Co. B
	John Henry Campbell	Cpl. 7 <sup>th</sup> SC Bn. Co. A
	Hickson Hyatt	Pvt. 7 <sup>th</sup> SC Bn. Co. A
Willie L. Smith	David Malachi Williams	Pvt. 20 <sup>th</sup> Regt. SC Vol. Co. F
Dale Wayne Stoudemire	Elias Stoudemire	Pvt. 2 <sup>nd</sup> SC State Troops Co. F
Frederick Jacob Taylor	Philip Isaiah Rawl	Pvt. 20 <sup>th</sup> SC Inf. Co. K
Dennis E. Todd	Hilliard Todd	Pvt. 1 <sup>st</sup> SC Art. Co. K
	Dennis Todd	Pvt. 10 <sup>th</sup> SC Inf. Co. G
	Daniel Suggs	Pvt. Manigault's SC Art. Co. B
	James Henard Faulk	Pvt. 7 <sup>th</sup> SC Cav. Co. F
Eros Wayne Wilson	Thomas Jefferson Anderson	Cpl. 10 <sup>th</sup> SC Inf. Co. G
	Dionysious A. Wilson	2 <sup>nd</sup> Lt. 2 <sup>nd</sup> SC Rifles Co. A
	John Bowman Patterson	Pvt. 14 <sup>th</sup> Regt. SC Inf. Co. I
	Robert Henry Wilson	Pvt. 5 <sup>th</sup> SC Res. Co. G
	Thomas Alexander Moore	Pvt. 19 <sup>th</sup> Regt. SC Inf. Co. G
	Joan Wesley Bowen	Pvt. 19 <sup>th</sup> Regt. SC Inf. Co. G
Steven L. Wolfe	Alexander Hamilton Wolfe	1 <sup>st</sup> Sgt. 7 <sup>th</sup> SC Cav. Co. D
	Wade Hampton Wolfe	Cpl. 7 <sup>th</sup> SC Cav. Co. D
	John Frederick Wolfe	Pvt. 7 <sup>th</sup> SC Cav. Co. D
	Jacob G. Wolfe	Pvt. 7 <sup>th</sup> . SC Cav. Co. B
	James D. Wolfe	1 <sup>st</sup> Lt. 7 <sup>th</sup> SC Cav. Co. B
	John C. Geiger	Signer of the Ordinance of Secession

## Team to go to Sudan to study slavery claims

A U.S.-led team will visit Sudan next month to investigate abductions and slavery, the State Department said Monday. Officials said Sudan had agreed to cooperate, although it denies that slavery is a problem. The situation involves the abductions of civilians in tribal raids and is aggravated by a civil war in which rebels have been fighting for greater autonomy for mostly Christian or animist south. The north is predominantly Islamic Arab. The conflict, began in 1983, has killed 2 million people.

USA TODAY  
Tuesday March 26, 2002

## Ancestor Highlight

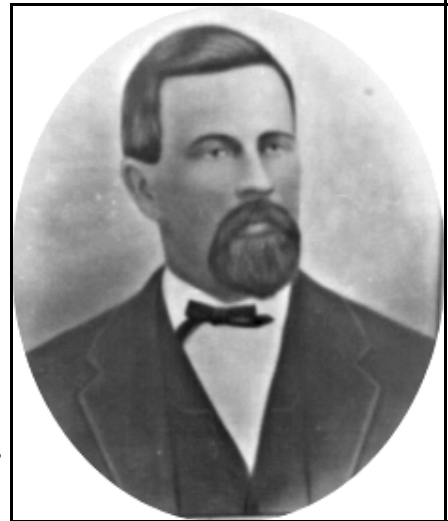
The following is a collection of articles which we as a camp have written over the last few months

### Alexander Hamilton Wolfe Great Grandfather of Steve Wolfe

Taylorsville Va  
Sept 4th 1864

Dear Nis

I have as long as one with patience could for an answer to my last letter to you; but no answer comes, Can it be that you are so lost in the pleasures of home Since the Commencement of your vacation; as to foreget to answer a letter from a brother in the army or is it this; that you have greater pleasures to take up your time with than letter writing. I hope neither may be your case, for that I can assure you that nothing on earth can give greater pleasure than to receive a letter from either Mother or Sisters at home, nor can any thing give me more pleasure than that which I derive from answering those fond messages. but I can assure you, if this is not answered, That hereafter I will not be the first to write after the correspondance is dropped by you, I have not received a line from home now for near four weeks. can it be that all have come to the conclusion that I can always write and never get tired of waiting an answer. I fear it is a great mistake for I like to read letters for kindred at home as most men and consequently will have to wait for an answer. I expect you think my language used above is rather rough and plain but you must recollect that the life that I now lead is rather rough & plain itself and consequently plain terms & words must be used. Last night I returned from a five days Scout on the Rapahanoc River; ever thing is perfectly quite in that quarter, no yankees to beheard of beyond that point or rather between the above named river and the Potomac River It was my first visit to Fredericksburg and I can assure you that I have never seen such destruction of property as that at the far famed "old town" Scarcely was there a dwelling in the town that escaped the iron hail of the enemy It is hardly possible for one to imagine the extent of destruction of property in that town. I noticed that the tallest steeple was pierced through by not less than fifteen different shells all of large size, well can all say "gallant little Fredericksburg" for nobly did She bid defiance to her enemies. The people suffered considerable in that quarter but they seem as unconquerable as ever. always willing to Share with the hungry Soldier as he passes on his way to duty, I found a plenty of apples & peaches on my road there and back; a great many of the citizens are turning their crop of apples into brandy; for sale; in order to be able buy up corn to feed themselves. as the army in the Spring destroyed all grain crops in that country. The place where our Company is stationed is considered very healthy with plenty of good water to drink and vegetables to eat, though we eat the latter only by paying large prices for them. Daybefore yesterday our Government issued flour rations to us which has been the first for lo these many days; though I expect in a Short time we will be able to get regular rations of it, if not I can not say that we know for what, or to what use our Government can be puting the wheat to; that she has on hand.



1st Sgt Alexander Hamilton Wolfe  
Co D, 7th South Carolina Cavalry

We are looking for Hampie to arrive at camp by evry train that rolls in; and I hope that when he does get here that he will bring something good with him. I will now try to give you a Short description of the place at which we are at camp ie Taylorsville; which consists of three dwellings and one church; is on the Fredericksburg R Road near the Middle Anna river, we are in camp about three quarters of a mile east of the village in some log huts built last winter by North Carolina troops. The huts look more like a village than the village itself, there are between three and four hundred of these log huts all in perfect order, The one that I am in is really comfortable no rain can reach you and it has a good fire place to it; which adds much to its comfort as the nights are growing cooler and cooler. each night. That it is really pleasant to be siting by the fire in our log cabin. Our horses are getting more grain than they have been getting for some time and mending but slow as they were quite poor before they commence raising the feed of Horses

The health of our company is very good My health is what I might term good. Dave Wise was sent to one of the Hospi-

tals in Richmond on account of itch which was very bad on him. When you might let me know all of the news as to who is to be married and every thing in general This leaves both of us in good health,

Your Brother

A. H. Wolfe

P.S.

I wrote to mother a few days ago and to Bet Several days before that Ask mother to send out to Pecks and find out; if he has finished my boots, he was to fix them and was to have them ready by the middle of Summer. When I left home last March Willie Geiger promised to carry my boots out to Pecks for him to work on them. If they are finished ask Ma to settle with him for me, Let me know about them when you write

Nis is his sister Narcissa

Hampie is his brother Wade Hampton Wolfe who was wounded at Riddles Shop on June 24, 1864 and is now returning to his unit.

## **James Carson Elliott**

Submitted by Compatriot Wayne D. Roberts

**The Marble Ration  
From:**

### **The Southern Soldier Boy, A Thousand Shots for the Confederacy**

**by  
James Carson Elliott**

My great-great grandmother's younger brother served in Company F, 56<sup>th</sup> North Carolina Infantry. He was detailed to guard Yankee prisoners to Andersonville Prison. He contracted measles from these prisoners and was furloughed home. He told his family that what he thought about most while in service, and what he wanted most, was a large picnic lunch. The family obediently complied with his wishes. But, apparently, his weakened condition did not agree with the feast. He died a few days later. Private James Carson Elliott of Company F wrote his memoirs of the company after the war. The following is an excerpt from that book.

When our Company F, Fifty-sixth Regiment, had been in the Camp of Instruction a few weeks, a young, enthusiastic recruit came in. He showed all the marks of a good soldier, even to very fine opinion of himself. He was eager to take a stand in the front rank from the start; and he as speedily supplied with the regulation equipment. Then he called on some of the boys at a game of marbles, who interrogated him about his outfit, and inquired if he had got his marbles. He: "Do I get marbles?" They: "Of course every soldier is allowed a set of marbles." He: "And where do I get my marbles?" "You will find your marbles at the Colonel's tent, but when you go after them you must salute the Colonel." He: "Salute how?" "This

way Catch your hat with this hand, raise the other hand, fingers extended, and strike out this way." After practicing him for awhile, they told him that would do-he had it right. Then he bolted for the Colonel's tent with all the assurance with which he would accost a township constable. The Colonel was a 'West Pointer and as dignified and austere as the Czar of all the Russias. After the saluting the Colonel, he said, "Colonel, I have just come in and drawn my outfit and have called in to get my marbles." The Colonel: "The h-ll you say! Report to your quarters at once or I'll have you put in the guard-house." When he came back, he looked like a bucket of cold water had been thrown on his patriotic enthusiasm. They inquired, "Did you get your marbles?" He: "No!" "What did the Colonel say?" "He cussed me and threatened to put me in the guard-house."

The reader can imagine what a laugh they had at the breaking in of a real good soldier, who proved faithful to the end. But afterwards, whenever he got on a "high hoss," some one would ask him what the Colonel said when he went after his marbles.

## Franklin Jacob Geiger

Cousin of Steve Wolfe

Date & place of birth:-Dec. 20, 1835; Lexington Co. S. C.

Date & place of death:-Nov. 30, 1910; Calhoun Co. S. C., near Bethel church.

Names of parents and items of interest relating to them:- John Conrad Geiger, born Aug. 24, 1801-,died Mar. 10, 1870. Elleanor Barbara Baker, born Jan. 1809; died May 28, 1881. John Conrad Geiger was a member of the S. C. legislature. He was a member of the Secession Convention, and a Signer of the Ordinance of Secession.

Where educated. Dates of graduation and degrees.--Shirley Institute, Winnsboro, S. C.; Sandy Run Academy; S. C. Medical college, 1858.

Nature of business and profession--Practical medicine in upper Orangeburg County and lower Lexington County. Was also interested in farming.

Progress and leading incidents in professional career:-Practiced medicine in Mississippi before the War between the States.

Military record:-Assistant Surgeon. Confederate States Army, Ft. Sumter and defenses around Charleston.



Public offices held:-School trustee for a number of years. Political views and efforts:-Very pronounced on question of States Rights; Democrat; active in redeeming the state from Radical misrule.

Societies:-Mason. W. M. Oliver 133.

Church associations:-Lutheran, Sandy Run Lutheran Church; Elder.

Date & place of marriage:-Mar. 8th, 1860, Charleston, S. C. Maiden name of wife, daughter of :-Anna Elizabeth, daughter of Godfrey Herman Geiger and Elizabeth Lorick.

Items of interest relating to her and her family --Her father, Godfrey Herman Geiger, was a farmer of Lexington County, S. C. Her mother was a daughter of Michael Lorick of Lexington County, S. C. She was born June 23, 1843; died July 20, 1905.

Genealogical record:-Grandfather William Geiger: Grandmother, Margaret Kersh; Great grandfather, John Geiger; great grandmother, Ann Murff. Great, great grandfather, Herman Geiger, an emigrant from

Switzerland, settled in Lexington County S. C. about 1737 on the Congaree river.

Any other information that may assist in making this a complete record:-Franklin J. Geiger was very active in the Hampton Campaign. He was one of the "Red Shirt Boys."

Copied from record of Franklin Jacob Geiger (by L. M. Cain). The death of Dr. Franklin J. Geiger,-on , November 30th, 1910, at his home near St. Matthews, S. C., deserves to be noted in a worthy manner on account of his high character-the type of man whose life in its simple faith and unswerving adherence to the highest and purest motives could well be emulated by the rising generation.

Dr. Geiger was born Dec. 20, 1835, his age at his death being 74 years, 11 months and 10 days. He was a prominent and faithful member of Sandy Run Lutheran church, and for many years one of its trusted and trustworthy officers.

Dr. Geiger was a man of strong personal character, holding with uncompromising firmness to what he conceived to be right, and just as firmly opposing the wrong. He was a successful physician, a patriotic and honorable citizen, a true friend and neighbor, and above all, a faithful Christian. He will be greatly missed because of his intrinsic worth, as well as because of the severance of ties which bound him firmly while living to friends, relatives, community and church.

## **John Conrad Geiger**

Cousin of Steve Wolfe

Died at Sandy Run, Lexington Co. S. C. March 10, 1870, of disease of the heart, John C. Geiger, aged 68 years, 6 months and 10 days. The summons was sudden, but he was prepared to obey. The previous Sunday we worshipped together at the Sandy Run Church; Tuesday after we knelt together around the family altar; on Thursday after we were called to bury him.

He was on his way to Columbia that very Thursday morning when the messenger of death met him a couple of miles from his residence. Struck down in his buggy, and received into a neighbor's residence, he died almost immediately. Mourned by his faithful companion for forty one years (41); wept by six children, and ten grandchildren; lamented by his neighbors, friends and fellow citizens, whom he for several years represented in the Legislature of his native State, S. C., a member of the last Convention, and signer of the Ordinance of Secession; for years a professed follower of Jesus, and at one time an elder of the Church of Sandy Run. The Church, the community, the family and the poor sorrow now without great cause; but, blessed by God, in hope.

It was a touching sight on the day of the funeral to see his former servants, among whom two aged native Africans, crowd around the bier, to look once more, with eyes swimming in tears on the face of the beloved master. Said one of them to us: "Master was a good man. I grew up with him, we were children and men together. He was a kind, a just, a Christian man, he has gone happy."

In these times men like the departed cannot well be spared, but the Lord knoweth. "The righteous are taken away from trouble."

From The Geiger of South Carolina  
compiled by Percy L. Geiger

Note: John Conrad Geiger rests in the Sandy Run Lutheran Church Cemetery.

## Private Hilliard Todd

Ancestor of Dennis Todd

Co. B, Manigault's Battalion of Artillery (18th Battalion)  
And

*Co. K, 1st SC Artillery*

In 1861, at the outbreak of the War of Northern Aggression, five of the six sons enlisted in the Confederate Armed Forces. The sixth son, did not enlist, but stayed at home with his mother. John, Lemuel, Dennis and James Melvin Todd enlisted in Company G, 10th South Carolina Infantry. All four died in the war. **Hilliard** first enlisted in Company B, Manigault's Battalion of Artillery (18th Battalion) on 14 April 1862, at the age of 18 for the duration of the war. He was discharged on 23 September 1862, the same year. Per family history, he was wounded in the leg (left?). The Horry Herald Newspaper stated on 13 February 1902, in Hilliard's obituary that he was a Confederate Veteran who was wounded several times but survived. He did re-enlist in Confederate service on 18 July 1864, in Company K, 1st South Carolina Artillery. He was stationed at Fort Johnson in the Charleston Harbor until Charleston fell to Northern Troops. Then the 1st South Carolina retreated to North Carolina as infantry. Hilliard was paroled in April of 1865, at Goldsboro, North Carolina. He married Nancy Lee in 1868. Nancy, received a Confederate pension for Hilliard's service from 1909 until her death in 1930. After the war, Hilliard was a farmer and logger until he died on 27 January 1902. He is buried in the Pond Field Graveyard in what is now known as the Shell area of Horry County. He had the only tombstone in the graveyard, but one can tell that there are other graves there. It is believed that his father and mother, James and Siamelay, and one of Hilliard's children, Oliver, who died young of pneumonia, are also buried there. The graveyard was nothing but woods, the grave is now under Guardian care. Nancy was buried in Bethlehem Church Cemetery. Hilliard and Nancy had nine children in all. And he had 100 acres of land that he received from his father's estate.



## PRIVATE JOHN E. ROBERTS

Submitted by Wayne Roberts

### MY SCV ANCESTOR: PRIVATE JOHN E. ROBERTS

Co. H, 49<sup>th</sup> North Carolina Infantry

Co. B, McRae's Cavalry Battalion

Co. I, 1<sup>st</sup> North Carolina Cavalry

Submitted by Great-Grandson Wayne D. Roberts

I first became interested in Confederate history as a young boy listening to my father tell bedtime stories about his grandfather, John E. Roberts, and his adventures in the Army of Northern Virginia. In my youth Confederate history was frequently in the news. The last surviving Confederate veteran died in the 1950s as America was preparing to celebrate the Civil War Centennial.

I absorbed Dad's stories like a dry sponge. I was fascinated that I had an ancestor who had taken part in these great events that were chronicled in the newspapers, books, movies, and on television. I pumped Dad for all that he knew about his grandfather. Then I talked to Dad's older sister, my Aunt Laura. Aunt Laura was 12 years older than Dad and she had a mind like a computer for genealogical and historical information. When I was older I tracked down older relatives who remembered Great Grandpa before his death in 1909.

John E. Roberts was born near Shelby in Cleveland County, North Carolina in 1841, the year the county was formed. He was a deeply religious man of the Southern Baptist faith. When the War broke out in 1861 he was torn as to what to do. He considered whether it was against God's will to kill another person in warfare. His brother Thomas volunteered in Co. H, 34<sup>th</sup> North Carolina Infantry on October 16, 1861 at the age of 18. John finally announced as spring approached, that "Patriotism wan out." He volunteered to serve in the Kings Mountain Tigers, Co. G, 49<sup>th</sup> North Carolina Infantry. The colonel of the regiment was Stephen D. Ramseur who became a Major General before his death at Cedar Creek, Virginia in 1864. John E. Roberts and the 49<sup>th</sup> North Carolina saw intense action during the Seven Days campaign near Richmond. A fellow Cleveland County resident sought John out with news that his brother Tom was wounded at Frazier's Farm. John found his brother lying wounded in the abdomen on the field. He provided him water and comfort, placed a white handkerchief on a stick to alert the medical staff and left to return to his unit. Together with the 26<sup>th</sup> North Carolina, the 49<sup>th</sup> charged into the 100 Union guns at Malvern Hill, reaching within the flames of the blasts at 30 feet distance before the attack faltered.

John became despondent over his brother's severe wound and the horrors of combat. Perhaps he made the wrong decision. He wondered if God were punishing him for fighting. He wrote a plaintive letter to his mother asking that the family sell property to pay for a substitute to take his place. He asked if his father had gone to Richmond to bring Tom home for recuperation. He did not know that his brother had died the day before.

The thing he disliked the most about army life was marching. On the march northward, culminating in the Battle of Sharpsburg, it was hot, dry and dusty. Stragglers were so bad that General Robert E. Lee gave the Provost Guard orders to shoot stragglers. John felt so weary he could hardly keep moving. When they reached the Potomac River, he was ready to stop. He could not swim and he felt he could not take another step. He decided to fall out of formation by the roadside saying, "If the Provost Guard wanted to shoot, it will be a relief." At that moment General Lee rode up and said to the men of the 49<sup>th</sup>, "May I have the honor of crossing the river with you?" John leaped to his feet with a cheer and plunged into the river. From then onward to Sharpsburg he said, "My feet felt so light they didn't touch the ground." At Sharpsburg he participated in another horrific charge, the "Counterattack in the West Woods."

His despondency and self-reflection continued that fall, and in December 1862 he provided a substitute and went home. He spent a few months thinking and praying when his substitute reached the age of 18 and was conscripted. John would have to provide another substitute or return to service. He decided that his real problem was marching and that he would join the cavalry. He left home on his horse saying, "If I'm going to fight, I'll ride to the fight." He served in Company B, McRae's Battalion of North Carolina Cavalry. He spent the fall and winter of 1863 and 1864 patrolling the mountains of western North Carolina rounding up deserters and conscripts and protecting the citizens from bandits and Yankee raids from Tennessee. On June 1, 1864 McRae's Battalion was disbanded and the troopers were transferred to other North Carolina cavalry units. John found himself transferred, along with others from Co. B, to the famous 1<sup>st</sup> North Carolina Cavalry in Major General W. H. F. (Rooney) Lee's division of Major General Wade Hampton's Cavalry Corps of the Army of Northern Virginia. He was assigned to Co. I.

John E. Roberts spent the remainder of the War with Co. I, 1<sup>st</sup> North Carolina Cavalry, fighting in several famous cavalry engagements. The winter of 1864-1865 was particularly bitter. To keep warm at night, he taught his horse to lie down while he curled up to the horse under the same blanket. They both benefited from the combined heat given off. As the spring of 1865 began, things looked bleak for the Confederates besieged at Richmond and Petersburg. The 1<sup>st</sup> North Carolina Cavalry was operating on the Confederate right flank south of Petersburg. In an effort to end the siege, the Union army moved against the Confederate right flank. Major Phillip Sheridan's cavalry was moving from Dinwiddie Courthouse toward Five Forks on March 31, 1865 when Brigadier General Rufus Barringer's brigade of North Carolina cavalry drove them back to Dinwiddie Courthouse. The North Carolinians then moved back to Five Forks taking a position on the right flank during the Battle of Five Forks on April 1. The 1<sup>st</sup> North Carolina covered the retreating infantry at Five Forks after the battle was lost and continued covering the withdrawal of the Confederate Army and Government from Richmond and Petersburg.

As part of the efforts to hold off the Union army on the retreat from Richmond and Petersburg, the 1<sup>st</sup> North Carolina and Barringer's Brigade met Major General George A. Custer's Cavalry at the Battle of Namozine Church on April 3, 1865. They initially drove Custer back until overwhelmed by Sheridan's reinforcements. The order was given to retreat. John had a great horse when brought into Confederate service. However, the horse was now worn out. Retreating at full gallop they encounter a big gully. Before the War, the horse could jump a gully twice that wide. On that day the horse failed to make the jump and broke its leg. John put the horse out of its misery and took the tack and carbine and set them out of the gully. Climbing out, he picked up the tack and carbine and turned to run when he heard the cock of a gun. Throwing his equipment down, he raised his hands saying, "Don't shoot Yankee." The Confederate military service of John E. Roberts was over. He was taken prisoner to City Point, Virginia, leaving there on April 13 for Point Lookout prison camp. He took the oath of allegiance on June 19, 1865 and was released from Point Lookout. He traveled back to Shelby with an older man from his community, Private Adam Spake of Co. D. 55<sup>th</sup> North Carolina Infantry. As they shared their journey home they had no idea that 43 years later the younger man's son would marry the older man's granddaughter. They would be my grandparents who married in 1913.

After the War, John became a farmer and married in 1868. He became the father of 10 children, nine of them surviving to adulthood. He and his family were very active in Elizabeth Baptist Church in Shelby. On July 4, 1880, a day of no special significance in the South at that time, he took part in a multiple farm threshing. There he was severely kicked by a mule. He was brought home in a wagon near death. Ten days later his fourth son was born. He was named after his father who was not expected to survive. Although an invalid, John continued to live until 1909. He continued to be a very religious man until the end. It is a testament to his faith that several of his grandchildren and great-grandchildren have served as ministers. Though gone from this earth for 92 years, his influence continues to be felt. The newspaper wedding announcement for my grandparents' wedding in 1913 had this to say about the groom, "He is the son of the late John E. Roberts, who was a high toned Christian gentleman and a brave Confederate soldier."

## J. E. Quattlebaum

### Some of My Experiences in the Confederate War By J. E. Quattlebaum

I first joined Company C of the 3<sup>rd</sup> South Carolina regiment, R. C. Maffett Captain. We went to Columbia in March 1861; from there we went to the Lightwood Knot Springs, on the Charlotte railroad, seven miles from Columbia. Sometime after that I transferred to Company G of the 13<sup>th</sup> regiment, Wm. Lester, Captain.

We left Frog Level, now Prosperity, on the 26<sup>th</sup> of August 1861, and went through Columbia to the Lightwood Knot Springs, where we remained in camp of instruction for some time; then we were sent to Charleston, from there we were sent by boat to North Edisto Island. We remained in the island a short time, we were then put on a boat again and sent back up towards Charleston, and landed in a swamp knee-deep in mud and water; but we pulled through it and marched out to Green Pond station, on the Charleston and Savannah railroad.

We stayed on the coast during that winter, guarding railroad bridges and other important points. In April 1862, we got orders to move. We were taken to Charleston where we boarded a train and came past Columbia and on to Richmond, Va., by the way of the Charlotte railroad. We got to Richmond in due time; from there they sent us by rail up near Fredericksburg to Massponicks Hills; we remained there some time watching McClelland's movements; finally McClelland moved off towards Richmond; of course we moved off, too, and kept between him and Richmond. That put us between Richmond and the Chickahominy River, while McClelland and his army were on the northeast side of the river. We lay there some time waiting for him to cross over and attack us, but he just wouldn't come; so we were formed in line and marched up the Chickahominy river and crossed over the Meadow bridge. We were then on the extreme right of McClelland's army. There were some balls and shells that came among us that evening; but the next morning the Seven Days Battle in front of Richmond commenced in earnest.

We drove the enemy back under the cover of their gunboats, where the great battle of Malvern Hill was fought. It's no use for me to tell you that the Yankees got the better of us there. We fell back to Lavel Hill church, seven miles from Richmond; stayed there about two weeks; the army then commenced the march on what is called the first invasion into Maryland. I was left sick at Lavel Hill church. By that means I missed the Second Battle of Manassas and the battle of Sharpesburg, in Maryland. Except these, I was at the front all the time; and was in every battle my regiment was in, and was home only eleven days out of the four years. I was in many close places and had some mighty close calls, and was never wounded, or at least I never had the skin broken. I was struck by two partly spent balls – one on my wrist and one on my side – and a ball glanced or tipped my right temple and cut the band off my hat – which may be the cause of my losing the sight of my right eye, which has been failing for a long time, and now I can see scarcely out of it.

My idea in writing this little sketch is that I want to give you a copy of the oath that I had to take when I was released from prison for you to publish; it may be interesting to some of your readers, and I thought it best to explain myself a little first.

When our lines were broke at Petersburg we fell back to the south side of the railroad, and my brigade, with others, was formed in line to cover the retreat; and there I was taken prisoner, together with many others, and taken down to Petersburg, from there to City Point, and put on a boat and sent to Harts Island, New York harbor. I was captured on the second day of April 1865. Gen. Lee surrendered on the 9<sup>th</sup>; Lincoln was shot by John Wilkes Booth on the night of the 14<sup>th</sup> and died the next day. I remained in prison from the 7<sup>th</sup> of April until the 16<sup>th</sup>. We were then formed in ranks and took the oath; then we were sent back to New York by boat. We stayed there eight days; they then put us on a large boat and sent us to Hilton Head; there they put us on a smaller boat and ran us up to Charleston. The boat hardly touched the wharf till I leaped out and said; "Thank God, I am on my native soil again." I felt like doing like Columbus – getting down and kissing the very ground. They coupled up some old box-cars and ran us up to Orangeburg C. H., and from there I walked home. I got home on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of July, 1865.

But here is that oath:

"I, J. E. Quattlebaum, Private 13<sup>th</sup> S. C. Regt. of the District of Newberry, state of South Carolina, do solemnly swear

that I will support, protect and defend the constitution and government of the United States against all enemies, whether domestic or foreign; that I will bear true faith, allegiance, and loyalty to the same, any ordinance, resolution or laws of any state convention or legislature to the contrary notwithstanding; and, further, that I will faithfully perform all of the duties which may be required of me by the laws of the United States; and I take this oath freely and voluntarily, without any mental reservation or evasion whatever.

“J. E. Quattlebaum.

“Subscribed and sworn to before me 16<sup>th</sup> day of June.

A Walker, Capt. And Prov. Marshal.

“The above named has fair complexion, light hair and blue eyes, and is 5 feet 10 ½ inches high.

O. C., G. P. N. O.

“Quartermasters Office, New York,  
June 20, 1865.

“Transportation furnished to Hilton Head, S. C.”

It would seem from reading the above oath that I took it freely; but I didn't – it was a bitter pill for me to take it, after fighting four long years for what I believe to be right; but it is all right now. I love my county and my state and the union, and will cheerfully abide by the laws.

J. E. Quattlebaum,

Company G, 13<sup>th</sup> Regiment, S. C. V.,  
McGowan's Brigade, Wilcox's Division,  
Jackson's Corps., R. E. Lee's Army.

## **Captain George Whitehead Lamar**

### Great Grandfather of Compatriot George Dieter

Captain George Whitehead Lamar, postmaster at Savannah, Ga. Is a member of that historical and brilliant family of Lamars that are among the most prominent in Georgia, that have been distinguished for valor in war, for statesmanship in peace, and for genius in both, and who have made themselves illustrious in every department of the government. His father, George Washington Lamar Sr. was born in Richmond County, Ga. And for one term served as senator from the Augusta district. He married Miss Sarah W. Harlow, a native of Burke County, Ga. and daughter of Dr. Southworth Harlow, who was born in Massachusetts. Of the five children still living, born to these parents, our subject is the second, the others being Gazaway B., William T., Frank and Florida. Captain George W. Lamar was born near Augusta, Ga. September 14, 1839. He graduated from The Georgia Military Institute in 1857, and in 1858 entered The Bank of Commerce in Savannah, as a clerk, and held that position until the breaking out of the war in 1861, when he enlisted with the Phoenix Riflemen of Savannah, and was elected Lieutenant. Subsequently he was transferred to the Sixty-First Georgia Volunteers as Adjutant and went with General Lawton's Brigade to Virginia. He was wounded in the left arm by a rifle ball at the battle of Cold Harbor, near Richmond, Va. and was also wounded at Fredericksburg, just behind the ear by a spent ball. He was promoted to Captaincy and ordered to Savannah, and for a short time was stationed at Thunderbolt. Then he was placed on General Taliaferro's staff and ordered to Charleston, S. C., served with him at Battery Wagner and on James Island, was finally stationed at Fort Sumter as Commissary and Quartermaster for seven months until the evacuation of the fort, when he joined Fizer's Brigade of the army of North Carolina with which he remained until the close of the war. On his return to Savannah he embarked in the Cotton Commission busi-

ness, but relinquished it to accept a position as bookkeeper in the office of the Central Railroad and Banking Company. In 1870 he opened business as a security broker and real estate dealer, which he conducted until 1886 at which he was appointed Postmaster of Savannah.

His marriage took place in December 1860, to Miss Pamela Wragg, daughter of John A. (Dr.) and Caroline (McDowell) Wragg, of Savannah, Ga. and the fruit of this union has been seven children, viz. Sallie, Caro, George W. (deceased), John W. (deceased), Robert Lee, Pamela, and Nellie.

## Pastor Abram Christopher Irvin

Great-Grand Uncle of Wayne Roberts

*Here is an ancestor biography on my great-great uncle, Abram Christopher Irvin of Co. F, 34th North Carolina Infantry in Gen. A. P. Hill's Light Division under Lt. Gen. Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson's 2nd Corps in the Army of Northern Virginia. As you can see, he became a well-known Baptist preacher after the War and was one of the founders of Gardner-Webb University. I found this bio on the web site of Double Springs Baptist Church where he was once pastor. The bio even mentions his activities in the UCV.*

Elder Abram Christopher the Zion Community of Cleveland son of Ancil J. Irvin (1815-1895) 1895). His grandfather, James Irvin War soldier, one of the early settlers what is today the Irvin-Hamrick School).

Elder Irvin was converted in 1861, at the age of 18, he enlisted in Confederate Army. He was Mill, Va., on June 27, 1862, returned to fight in the battles of Chancellorsville and Gettysburg. He was captured on or about July 3, 1863 at the Battle of Gettysburg and was taken to Fort Delaware where he was held prisoner for three months. He was then transferred to Point Lookout Prison in Maryland. He spent 16 months there until his parole on February 18, 1865. He was exchanged three days later in Virginia.

When the war ended two months later, he returned to his farm in Cleveland County, North Carolina and prepared to serve the Lord as fervently as he has served his country. In 1871 he began to preach. He was ordained as a minister on July 4, 1875, at Zion Baptist Church. The presbytery consisted of Elders G.W. Rollins, Wade Hill, Thomas Dixon, J.M. Bridges, Robert Poston, M. Pannell, G.M. Webb, and A.A. McSwain all of whom were pastors or members of Double Springs at some time.



Irvin was born February 4, 1843, in County, North Carolina. He was the son of Ancil J. Irvin (1815-1895) and Elizabeth Beam Irvin (1817-1895). His grandfather, James Irvin (1763-1845) was a Revolutionary War soldier, one of the early settlers of this area, having built in 1785, what is today the Irvin-Hamrick House (located near Crest Middle School).

Irvin was converted in early age and on September 17, 1861, at the age of 18, he enlisted in Company F, 34th regiment of the Confederate Army. He was wounded at the battle of Chancellorsville and Gettysburg. He was captured on or about July 3, 1863 at the Battle of Gettysburg and was taken to Fort Delaware where he was held prisoner for three months. He was then transferred to Point Lookout Prison in Maryland. He spent 16 months there until his parole on February 18, 1865. He was exchanged three days later in Virginia.

months later, he returned to his farm in Cleveland County, North Carolina and prepared to serve the

Although like many pastors of his time, he had only a limited education, but his call to preach the Gospel was strong and he became a popular minister, serving 26 different churches in Cleveland and surrounding counties during his 50+ years in the ministry. Besides Double Springs, Irvin also pastored Beaver Dam, Boiling Springs, Lattimore (their first pastor), Elizabeth, Double Shoals, and Zion, where he was pastor of his home church for fifty years.

Elder Irvin preached the introductory sermon of the Kings Mountain Association in 1878, 1884, and 1897. He served as moderator of the association from 1902-1912, and it was during this time that Boiling Springs High School (now Gardner-Webb University) was established.

Elder Irvin was elected pastor of Double Springs at the conference of September 13, 1890. On November 7, 1891, the church called Irvin for two Sundays a month instead of one. He apparently served as pastor until March 1893.

He was perhaps one of the most genuinely loved ministers in the county. A handsome man and a meticulous dresser, it was once said by one of his contemporaries - "no one can possibly be as good as Abe Irvin looks." In his half century as a Baptist preacher, he never received over \$250.00 a year from any one church. Some only paid him \$40.00 a year, but in his own words he said - "I was amply provided for and richly rewarded in knowing that I had done the Master's will."

Elder Irvin was first married to Harriet Weathers (1843-1872) and had two children, Ollie and Hessie. His second marriage was to Mariah Jane Cornwell (1839-1915) and their children were James William, John Yancey, Guilford Pinkey and May.

As an older man he, along with fellow Confederate veteran George Wright of Lattimore, North Carolina, attended one of the final joint Confederate and Union soldier reunions in Richmond, Virginia, riding the train from Lattimore to Richmond.

Elder Irvin died on January 8, 1926 and was buried at Zion Baptist Church.

## **John Lawton Fennell**

Great-Great Grandfather of Bing Chambers

John Lawton Fennell, my g-g-grandfather, was born August 22, 1825 in Beaufort District, S.C. His parents were drowned in the Savannah River when he was a child, and he was raised by his uncle, George L. Fennell. His first cousin, George L., Jr., became more a brother than a cousin. George went on to serve in Co D of the 36th Ga Infantry and lived beside John in Oconee County until his death in 1880.

John lived in the Wilson Creek section of Edgefield District in 1860, actually the township of Ninety-Six, with his wife, Mary Frances (Powers) Fennell and three children. On April 14, 1861, John traveled to Greenwood in Abbeville District and volunteered in Co. F 2nd SC Infantry, Kershaw's Brigade, McLaw's Division, Army of Northern Virginia, along with his two brothers-in-law, John Wesley Powers and William T. Powers They reenlisted one year later when enlistments expired.

John was engaged in all the battles seen by the 2nd SC during the Seven Days Battles. He remained behind with Kershaw's Brigade at Richmond as the brigade acted as protection for the capitol while the army fought 2nd Manassas. Once reunited with the ANV after this great victory, he was engaged at Sharpsburg and Fredericksburg in September and December of 1862. John saw action at Chancellorsville in May of 1863.

In the summer of 1863 John was in the hospital sick for a long while and missed Gettysburg. He was home on sick furlough while Chickamauga was fought. While home John lost his brothers-in-law, my uncles, John W. Powers at Chickamauga, September 20, 1863 during the attack on Snodgrass Hill and, 60 days later, William T. Powers at the Battle of Knoxville in November 1863. To add to the difficulty, his father-in-law, Thomas Powers, died in October 1863. John, despite these horrific losses in the span of just 60 days, returned to the army in December 1863.

When the Overland Campaign opened, John was wounded at The Wilderness on May 6, 1864. It is unclear how severely and whether or not he was engaged at Spotsylvania and Cold Harbor. He was with the brigade during the Petersburg Campaign and Fisher's Creek. He surrendered at Greensboro, NC. John went home to Ninety-Six but moved soon thereafter to Richland, S.C. in Pickens (eventually Oconee) District, SC. He farmed there and raised 8 children until his death in 1897. He is buried at Rocky Creek Methodist Churchyard near Richland, SC.

## **SGT. JOHN WHITE FLEMMING**

Great-Great Grandfather of Michael G. Kelly

### **SERVICE OF SGT. JOHN WHITE FLEMMING**

**OF THE**  
**9<sup>TH</sup> AND 25<sup>TH</sup> REGIMENTS, SOUTH CAROLINA INFANTRY, CSA**  
Submitted by his Great, Great Grandson, Michael G. Kelly

For the people living around the farming community of New Zion, South Carolina, the spring of 1861 must have been a time of great excitement. War was looming over the state and a call to arms was sounding at the county seat of Manning. To Eliza Jane Flemming's three younger sons, **Samuel Witherspoon Flemming**, age 15, **William David Flemming**, age 17, and **Henry Frierson Flemming**, age 22, the prospect of going to war must have seemed like a great adventure. But her two older sons, **Eli Alexander Flemming**, age 25 and **John White Flemming**, age 28, may have realized that the coming war could well shatter all their lives.

#### **ENLISTMENT, FIRST MANASSAS CAMPAIGN, AND OPERATIONS IN VIRGINIA**

In June, 1861 the two oldest Flemming brothers, John and Eli, left home for Manning where they enlisted into Capt. John Shaw Whitworth's company - the Clarendon Blues, Company C, 9<sup>th</sup> Regiment South Carolina Infantry. Three weeks later Henry joined them. The brothers spent the next three weeks in a camp of instruction near Charleston, SC. Apparently, Henry left the company for unknown reasons shortly after joining.

As it became clear that a fight was brewing in Virginia, John and Eli moved with their company by

rail to Wilmington, NC and then on to Richmond, VA, arriving there on July 20<sup>th</sup>. The next day a battle raged at Manassas Junction while the brothers were stuck with their regiment in Richmond.

Fate spared the brothers from potential death in battle but this war saw death come most often in camp. On August 29, 1861, just three months after enlisting, Eli Alexander Flemming died of typhoid fever at Germantown, VA.

For the rest of the fall of '61, the Ninth performed picket duty in Virginia, occasionally trading shots with the enemy. John entered the hospital on November 25<sup>th</sup> with diarrhea, a disease potentially as deadly as the typhoid fever that killed his brother Eli. But diarrhea was not to kill this Flemming. On December 11<sup>th</sup> John was discharged due to asthma. It was not until December 16<sup>th</sup> that he was able to leave the hospital. He drew his final pay the following Friday, December 20<sup>th</sup> and headed home.

John spent the next four months and three weeks at home. He used some of this time to help his mother prepare a claim for Eli's back pay. In January 1862, William and Henry enlisted into Company I (the Clarendon Guards) of the Eutaw Battalion.



#### **ASSAULT ON JAMES ISLAND / SECESSIONVILLE**

In the spring of 1862 Federal forces were advancing up the coast from Port Royal towards Charleston. On May 11<sup>th</sup> John joined his brothers, William and Henry, in Company I as a private. It must have been hard for sixteen-year-old Samuel to remain at home.

By mid-May 1862 Brig. Gen. S. R. Gist could see that the Yankees were positioning to attack James Island, which was a back-door approach to Charleston. Federals landed in force on James Island on June 2<sup>nd</sup> and entrenched at Grimballs Landing. The following day the Eutaw Battalion took artillery fire in heavy rain while supporting Col. Ellison Capers' engagement to check a Federal advance on Sol Legare Island. For the next ten days elements of the Eutaw Battalion exchange fire with Federal skirmishers and cavalry probing Confederate defenses. On the 15<sup>th</sup> the battalion returned from picket duty and "spent a quiet day in camp".

The early morning of June 16, 1862 saw the opening of the Battle of Secessionville, SC. The Eutaw Battalion formed across the marsh from the Tower Battery (the earthworks that would later be known as Fort Lamar). Shortly after they took position, they were put under small arms and artillery fire. After a

brisk firefight of about a half hour, the enemy was driven off. The Eutaw Battalion had played its part in defeating another Federal assault on Charleston's defenses.

During the month of June, the Flemming brothers performed picket duty on James Island. Federal troops began leaving the island on July 1<sup>st</sup> and were gone by July 7<sup>th</sup>. Although the Yankees had been repulsed, everyone knew that Charleston was still their target and that the fight for it was not over. For the rest of July through November, John, William and Henry remained with the battalion on James Island. During this time the battalion was re-designated the Twenty-fifth Regiment South Carolina Infantry and John received a promotion from private to fifth sergeant.

#### **EXPEDITION TO GOLDSBORO, NC**

Railroads running from Savannah to Wilmington allowed a small number of Confederate troops to defend a large area of coastline. On December 14, 1862 Union forces attacked Kinston and Goldsboro, NC. The next morning at 2:00 a.m., the Twenty-fifth Regiment left Charleston for Wilmington, NC and arrived there seven hours later. They were ordered to Kinston to repel the enemy but returned to Wilmington without engagement. On the 31<sup>st</sup> the regiment returned to Charleston to defend against an impending attack there.

On January 9, 1863 the regiment again left Charleston for Wilmington where they remained in camp awaiting the movements of the enemy at Newburn, NC. While John and William were in North Carolina, Henry was back in Charleston, sick in hospital. On January 22, 1863, Henry Frierson Flemming died of disease. Now, two of Eliza Jane Flemming's sons had died while in service to their state. Two weeks later the regiment "struck tents and marched to Wilmington whence they were conveyed by rail to Charleston, SC."

#### **ASSAULTS ON FT. SUMTER AND MORRIS ISLAND**

The spring of 1863 brought the US Navy back to the waters around Charleston. On April 7<sup>th</sup> Federal ironclads attacked Fort Sumter and were turned back. They returned to James Island on May 31<sup>st</sup> when 200 Federal troops landed there but were driven back to Battery Island by Confederate forces including the Twenty-fifth Regiment.

John was promoted to fourth sergeant on June 16<sup>th</sup>. That day Lt. Col. Simonton reported "A two-gun battery at Campbell's house on Folly Island shelled Secessionville at 4 o'clock. [One of them] burst in the camp of the Twenty-fifth Regiment, near the first bridge. Both were good shots at the observatory. Do keep this out of the papers. Distance, about 3 ¾ miles." The Federals were sizing up the Confederate defenses.

Federal forces unmasked their works on Little Folly Island on July 9<sup>th</sup> and four ironclad monitors appeared off the bar. Confederates rushed reinforcements to James Island. The next day the Twenty-fifth Regiment was engaged on James Island where Federals launched a feint to cover their assault on Battery Wagner. The regiment lost 8 men killed, wounded and taken prisoner.

At dawn on July 16<sup>th</sup>, six companies of the Twenty-fifth Regiment cut across the marsh and deployed on the road leading from Secessionville to Legare's house. Skirmishers encountered pickets from the 54<sup>th</sup> Massachusetts and a brisk fire was kept up for a few minutes, then the enemy's line gave way and retreated in confusion. Confederate skirmishers pressed the retreating line and moved forward until they reached the road leading across the lower causeway. The expedition re-crossed the marsh and returned through open fields to Secessionville. In the action they captured 14 Negro soldiers and killed and wounded 30 or 40. The Twenty-fifth lost 1 killed and 6 wounded.

#### **SECOND ASSAULT ON MORRIS ISLAND**

On July 18, 1863 the Federals made their second assault on Battery Wagner. News of the assault and subsequent siege of the fort must have been all Samuel could stand. On July 22<sup>nd</sup> Samuel enlisted into

Company I and joined his two remaining brothers, John and William. He was one week away from his 18<sup>th</sup> birthday.

The Confederate submarine *H. L. Hunley* sank at the wharf at Ft. Johnson on August 29, 1863 with the loss of five Confederate sailors. Two days later the Twenty-fifth Regiment embarked at Ft. Johnson to relieve the garrison at Battery Gregg on Morris Island. The gangplank of their steamer was thrown over the sunken *Hunley*, and the regiment walked past five coffins piled on the wharf as they boarded their transport.

At 4:30 a.m. on September 5<sup>th</sup>, all three brothers, John, William and Samuel, were in Battery Wagner when it came under heavy bombardment. Battery Wagner's commander, Col. Lawrence M. Keitt reported that "The bombardment of the Ironsides terminated at 7.45; combined with the land fire was rapid and fatal in its effects, falling heavily upon the Twenty-fifth South Carolina Volunteers."

The end was near for the Confederate occupation of Morris Island. John wrote to his brother-in-law "We were in Bombproof but it was penetrated through two places Sunday [6th] evening before Sun down." Batteries Wagner and Gregg had now been held under a continued and furious cannonade by land and sea for fifty-seven days. Gen. Ripley wrote "The 25<sup>th</sup> South Carolina (Eutaw) Regiment, which had been terribly reduced by casualties and sickness, during the day and night preceding, to an effective total of about 365 men, manned the left and center of the battery, keeping only a guard of each company on its position of the lines, the remainder in the bomb-proof."

The time had come to leave Wagner. About 9:00 p.m. the garrison loaded onto a transport - all but the rear guard commanded by Captain T. A. Huguenin. The guard numbered 35 men including Sergeant John Flemming and nine other men of the Twenty-fifth. John wrote "Our company was left to guard the garrison and cover the streets until the Regt. moved off from the point." At 11:00 p.m. the rear guard withdrew leaving Morris Island to the Yankees. Capt. T. A. Huguenin completed his report by saying "I am happy to state that the rear guard behaved with perfect coolness. They were marched from Battery Wagner, in perfect order..."

For the rest of September 1863 until February 1864, the regiment remained around Charleston occasionally sending detachments to relieve the men stationed at Ft. Sumter. William was absent sick from November 25, 1863 until February 25<sup>th</sup>, 1864. In early February 1864 John received a well-earned furlough.

### **BERMUDA HUNDRED CAMPAIGN**

In the spring of 1864 a major fight was brewing in Virginia. In late April John, William and Samuel moved to Richmond with the Twenty-fifth Regiment, now part of Hagood's Brigade. On May 4<sup>th</sup> General U. S. Grant opened his Overland Campaign. The following day Maj. Gen. Benjamin Butler's army disembarked from transports at Bermuda Hundred, VA with orders to destroy the Richmond & Petersburg Railroad and then advance on either Richmond or Petersburg. At this time there are fewer than 2,000 Confederates defending Petersburg. The rush was on to block the Federal's two-pronged assault against the nations capitol and most important railroad hub.

On May 5, 1864 Hagood's Brigade was ordered to Petersburg. The brigade engaged Federal forces at Port Walthall Junction on May 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> and fought at Swift Creek on the 9<sup>th</sup>. The Twenty-fifth Regiment moved with Hoke's division to Drewry's Bluff. On the 12<sup>th</sup> Butler struck their positions at Drewry's Bluff and skirmishing continued through the 15<sup>th</sup>. On the 16<sup>th</sup> at dawn, Confederates opened an attack on Butler's right flank. After severe fighting, Butler withdrew again to his Bermuda Hundred Line. This battle stopped Butler's offensive against Richmond.

The next day, May 17<sup>th</sup>, Hagood's Brigade pursued Butler back to Bermuda Hundred and skirmished with them at Clag's Farm on the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>. On the 20<sup>th</sup> Hagood's Brigade was involved in "severe skirmishing" near Bermuda Hundred. Samuel was wounded on May 23<sup>rd</sup> and was sent to hospital in Richmond where he remained until November.

### **RICHMOND AND PETERSBURG CAMPAIGN**

Hagood's Brigade left Bermuda Hundred on May 31, 1864 to reinforce Lee at Cold Harbor. There the brigade lost 16 killed, 103 wounded and 9 missing during the three-day battle. On May 12<sup>th</sup> Federal forces quietly pulled out of Cold Harbor and began moving on Petersburg.

In June the brigade saw action at Ridley's Shop and Petersburg. On August 21, 1864 Confederate forces tried to regain control of the Weldon Railroad. Hagood's Brigade was ordered to attack "skirmishers" that turned out to be the well-entrenched main body. The brigade charged the works, the Twenty-fifth reaching them first, and were then surrounded. The brigade managed to retreat but casualties were about two-thirds the force engaged - probably 120 killed, 125 wounded, and 203 captured. The captured included Sergeant John Flemming.

John was shot in the face and neck during this ill-fated attack. He received treatment at several Union hospitals and was then committed to Old Capitol Prison in Washington, DC. He remained there for fifty days then, on December 16<sup>th</sup>, was moved to Elmira Prison at Elmira, NY. While John was a prisoner of war the Twenty-fifth Regiment moved to Wilmington to defend Fort Fisher. On January 15, 1865 Fort Fisher fell and Samuel and William were captured. On January 30<sup>th</sup> the brothers joined John at Elmira.

John was paroled and exchanged on March 2, 1865 after seventy-six days of imprisonment. Richmond and Petersburg were evacuated on April 2<sup>nd</sup> and General Lee surrendered on April 9<sup>th</sup>. But the war wasn't over for Samuel and William. On April 26, 1865 Samuel Witherspoon Flemming died of pneumonia while still held captive at Elmira. He was buried at Woodlawn Cemetery, Elmira, NY. William had to wait until July 11<sup>th</sup> to receive his parole from prison.

The war took its toll on the Flemming family. Of the five brothers who entered service, only William and John survived the war. William died of cancer on May 8, 1875 and was buried at Midway Presbyterian Church near New Zion, SC. He never married. John married and fathered eleven children. He died November 17, 1902 at the age of 70. He was also buried at Midway.

At least four of John White Flemming's descendents are currently Sons of Confederate Veterans members: William Earl DuBose, Jr. of New Zion, SC; John Allison DuBose of Savannah, GA; Rembert Jervey Kennedy of Sumter, SC; and Michael G. Kelly of West Columbia, SC.

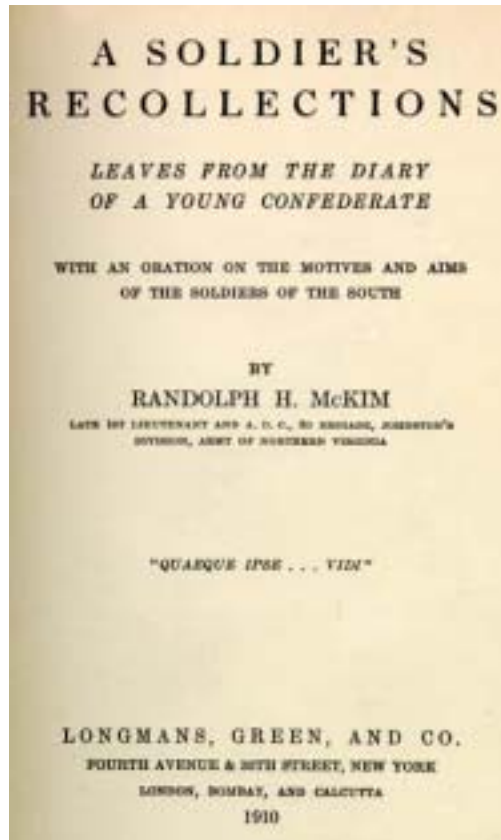
For more information on the Flemming brothers and the Twenty-fifth Regiment South Carolina Infantry, including a list of sources used to write this article, see:

[http://home.sc.rr.com/blindhog/milrecords/mil\\_cw.pdf](http://home.sc.rr.com/blindhog/milrecords/mil_cw.pdf)

<http://home.sc.rr.com/blindhog/milrecords/battles.pdf>

**A SOLDIER'S RECOLLECTIONS:  
LEAVES FROM THE DIARY OF A YOUNG CONFEDERATE,  
WITH AN ORATION ON THE MOTIVES AND AIMS  
OF THE SOLDIERS OF THE SOUTH:  
McKim, Randolph Harrison, 1842-1920**

© This work is the property of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. It may be used freely by individuals for research, teaching and personal use as long as this statement of availability is included in the text.



## CHAPTER IV

### OUR FIRST BATTLE

AS we disembarked from the cars on that Sunday morning, July 21st, 1861, the distant booming of cannon fell upon our ears, and we realized that now we were indeed on the fiery edge of battle. We had orders to cast off our knapsacks that we might march unimpeded to the field. Leaving them in a pile by the roadside under a small guard, we were soon marching at the double quick for Manassas. Our pulses beat more quickly than our feet, as we passed on, the sounds of battle waxing nearer and nearer every moment. It was a severe test of endurance, for the field was six miles away, and the heat of that July day was very exhausting. The weather had been very dry, and the dust rose in clouds around us, as we double-quickened on--so thick was it that I distinctly remember I could not see my file-leader.

We were by and by near enough to hear the rattle of the musketry, and soon we began to meet the wounded coming off the field in streams, some limping along, some, on stretchers borne by their comrades.

Stern work was evidently right ahead of us, and it did not steady our nerves for our first battle to be told, as the wounded told us, especially those whose wounds were slight, that it was going very badly with our men at the front. At length the dreadful six-mile double-quick march was over, and the firing line was right in front of us. Some few--very few--had dropped out exhausted. All of us were nearly spent with the heat and the dust and the killing pace; and a brief halt was made to get breath, moisten our lips from the canteens, and prepare for the charge. I remember how poor "Sell" Brogden, panting and exhausted, turned to me and asked for a drink of water from my canteen. I had scarcely a swallow left, but he was so much worse off than I, and his appeal was so piteous, that I gave him the last drop.

We had arrived on the field in the nick of time, at the very crisis, when victory or defeat was trembling in the balance. The Federal general, McDowell, had turned General Beauregard's flank, and only Gen. Joe Johnston's timely arrival on that flank of the Confederate position had saved him from disaster. Jackson at the head of his Virginia troops was "standing like a Stonewall"--those were the words of General Bee as he sought to rally his retreating South Carolinians. But the Confederate line was wavering, and the result of the day hung in grave doubt, when Elzey's brigade arrived on the field and deployed for attack. Of this brigade, the leading regiment (the one first on the field) was the First Maryland under Colonel Steuart, and it was the blow struck by this fine body of men, 600 strong, that turned the balance of battle in favor of the Southern Army. Looking back now, I think the moral effect of the great cloud of dust which rose as we double-quickened to the field, and which was easily seen by the Federals, was worth quite as much as our 600 muskets in action. For it gave the enemy the impression that it was at least a brigade instead of a regiment that was being launched against them at the moment of our charge. This was intensified by the shout, "*Go in, Baltimore,*" which rose above the din of battle as we swept forward. It so happened that the same Massachusetts regiment which was so roughly handled by the people in the streets of Baltimore on the 19th of April was in our front on the 21st of July, and prisoners afterwards told us that when we charged the Massachusetts men said, "Here come those d-d Baltimore men! It's time for us to git up and git!" Then, after the day was won, and General Elzey, our brigade commander, was saluted as the Blücher of the day, we men of the First Maryland were proud to say that our regiment was the head of the spear that Elzey drove into the vitals of the enemy that eventful day.

I remember that after the first rush, when a brief pause came, some of us dashed down to a tiny little brook for a mouthful of water--only to find the water tinged with blood. Nevertheless not a few stooped and lapped it up where it was clearest.

The first man I saw fall in the battle was Gen. Kirby Smith, who was riding by the side of our column before we deployed for the charge. He fell in the most spectacular way--the reins falling from his grasp, he reeled in the saddle, threw out his arms and fell to the ground, seriously but not fatally wounded.

The New York Zouaves, in their red breeches, were deployed as skirmishers in our front, and did us some damage before we formed our line. One of the amusing incidents that occurred (and the Confederate soldier was always eager to see some fun in the serious work of war) was when Geo. Lemmon in his excitement fired his musket too close to Nick Watkins' head and shot a hole in his cap--fortunately not in his head--and Nick turned and said in the coolest way, "George Lemmon, I wish you'd look where you're shooting--I'm not a Yankee."

How well I remember our eager expectancy that night. We had seen the rout, and had followed the fleeing Federals some distance along the road back towards Washington. It was full of the evidences of the panic into which the Union Army had been thrown. I need not describe a scene so often described before. But with all the evidences of the demoralization of our enemy, we were confident they could be pursued and Washington taken, if the Confederate Army pressed on. This we confidently expected, and were bit-

terly disappointed when the next day, and the next, came and went without any serious advance.

As I lay down to sleep on the battle field that night, I had much to think of. The weariness of the day and the peril of the battle were lost sight of in the awful scenes of death and suffering to which we had been introduced that day for the first time. I had seen the reality of the battle field, its carnage, its desolation, its awful pictures of the wounded, the dying, and the dead.

Somehow I was especially moved by the sight of the battery horses on the Henry Hill, so frightfully torn by shot and shell. The sufferings of the poor brutes, not in their own battle or by their own fault, but for man's sake, appealed to me in a peculiar way.

Mingled with my devout thankfulness for my own safety was my sorrow as news came in of friend after friend, and some relatives too, who had fallen.

It was reported all over Virginia that I had been among the killed. One of my cousins, Col. Randolph Harrison, when he saw me, exclaimed, "Why, I thought you were dead." These unfounded reports were often the occasion of much needless distress to the relatives of the men in the field.

The following letter referred to the battle:

FAIRFAX, CO. H, July 30, 1861.

MY DEAR MOTHER:

I have written twice since the battle to tell you I was safe; still I will embrace this opportunity, as I know you will be glad to hear from me whenever you can. We have been here some time, ever since the fight in fact. How grateful I feel that none of our close friends in the Maryland regiment were killed, or even wounded in the fight. Yet we have to mourn the loss of two very near to us in ties of blood, and others dear by friendship. Cousin Peyton Harrison--dear sweet fellow--I saw him only a week before his death,--and Cousin Carter Harrison who fell in the battle of Thursday while bravely bringing up his men to battle.

My dear mother, I am so grateful to God for sparing me in safety through the dangers of the day for your sake and the sake of the dear girls and Telly and papa as well. I thought of you all on the field of battle, and prayed God to spare me, or, if not, to comfort you, for I know that it would be a severe blow to you to lose me in this way so soon. Still, confident in the justice of our cause, and looking to the great God of truth and justice to be our salvation, I was ready to yield up myself, if necessary, on the altar of my country. Our regiment behaved beautifully on the field; they *would* pick blackberries, though, notwithstanding the indignation of the officers. We were in that brigade which came up so opportunely just as the fortune of the day seemed to be going against us. We fired several times on the Yankees and drove them before us, though our numbers were far inferior to theirs. It was truly the hand of Providence which gave us the victory on that day, and our Congress very appropriately gave thanks to Him and appointed last Sunday as a day of thanksgiving. The panic which spread among the Northern Army was almost unaccountable; they were beaten back with half their numbers, but there was no need of such a flight as they made to Alexandria, leaving behind them all their baggage trains, ammunition, etc. We only had fifteen to twenty thousand men engaged, because we had so many points to defend, and did not know where they were going to attack us. In the same way, I suppose, they had only about 35,000. The people in this neighborhood said that when they saw the army pass here they thought we would never return again, but that the Southern army would be certainly crushed. How different the result! When they passed here on the way up, they destroyed all the private property, broke into the houses and pillaged everything; but when they returned they *hadn't time* for anything of that sort. They were perfectly demoralized; thousands had no arms at all. I have a

splendid overcoat gotten from a number they left behind. Cousin Wirt Harrison was wounded in the foot. Holmes and Tucker Conrad were killed side by side.



## Chapter V

### Next Month

## Calendar of Upcoming Events

April	20th	SCV State Convention— Aiken, S.C.
April	27th	Farley Re-interment Laurens, S.C.
April	25th	Camp Meeting
May	4th	Memorial Day - Columbia Elmwood Cemetery & State Capitol
May	10th	Memorial Day - Lexington



**15TH REGIMENT SOUTH CAROLINA  
VOLUNTEERS**

Newsletter Editor  
15th Regiment South Carolina Volunteers  
130 Upper Loop Way  
Columbia, South Carolina 29212  
Email: SC\_15th\_Regiment@hotmail.com

**Next Camp Meeting**  
**April 25th, 7 PM**  
Lexington County Council Chambers  
6th Floor

**“To you , Sons of Confederate Veterans, we will submit 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 he loved and 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.”**

*Stephen D. Lee*

The 15th Regimental Report is a monthly publication of the Lexington, South Carolina Sons of Confederate Veterans Camp 51.

## *Re-enactors 2002 Event Schedule*

January 11-13	Hagood’s March, Ravanel S.C.(O)
February 22-24	Battle of Aiken (BAE)
March 9-10	Skirmish of Gables Hotel Florence, S.C. (BAE)
April 5-7	Battle of Averasboro Averasboro, S.C. (BAE)
April 26-28	Battle for Selma Selma, AL (MAX Effort)
May 3	Confederate Memorial Day Rivers Bridge State Park (O)
May 4	Confederate Memorial Day Columbia (BAE)
<b>(BAE)</b>	<b><i>Battalion Affiliated Event</i></b>
<b>(O)</b>	<b><i>Other</i></b>
<b>(I)</b>	<b><i>Information Only</i></b>

