



15th Regimental Report



1 5 T H R E G I M E N T S O U T H C A R O L I N A V O L U N T E E R S

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The 20th Day of December, in the Year of Our Lord, 1860

Inscribed among the calends of the world - memorable in time to come -- the 20th day of December, in the year of our Lord 1860, has become an epoch in the history of the human race. A great Confederated Republic, overwrought with arrogant and tyrannous oppressions, has fallen from its high estate amongst the nations of the earth. Conservative liberty has been vindicated. Mobocratic license has been stricken down. Order has conquered, yet liberty has survived. Right has raised his banner aloft, and bidden defiance to Might. The problem of self-government under the check- balance of slavery, has secured itself from threatened destruction.

South Carolina has resumed her entire sovereign powers, and, unshackled, has become one of the nations of the earth.

On yesterday, the 20th of December, 1860, just before one o'clock, p.m., the Ordinance of secession was presented by the Committee on "the Ordinance," to the Convention of the people of South Carolina. Precisely at seven minutes after one o'clock, the vote was taken upon the Ordinance -- each man's name being called in order. As name by name fell upon the ear of the silent assembly, the brief sound was echoed back, without one solitary exception in that whole grave body -- Aye!

At 1:15 o'clock, p.m. - the last name was called, the Ordinance of Secession was announced to have been passed, and the last fetter had fallen from the limbs of a brave, but too long oppressed people.

The Convention sat with closed doors. But upon the announcement outside,

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December 11th Speaker

Fielding Freed

**Historic Columbia Foundation
Director of Historic House Museums**

Send all camp correspondence to:

**15th Regiment SC Vols
345 Cape Jasmine Way
Lexington, SC 29073**

**Winner of the S. A. Cunningham Newsletter Award
Camps with over 50 members**

- 2007 SCV National Convention - Mobile, Alabama**
- 2006 SCV National Convention - New Orleans, Louisiana**
- 2004 SCV National Convention - Dalton, Georgia**
- 2003 SCV National Convention - Asheville, North Carolina**
- 2002 SCV National Convention - Memphis, Tennessee**

Winner of the Ambrose Gonzales Newsletter Award

- Second Place Electronic Distribution 2009 S.C. SCV Convention - Anderson**
- First Place-Electronic Distribution 2008 S.C. SCV Convention - Lexington**
- First Place-Electronic Distribution 2007 S.C. SCV Convention - Mount Pleasant**
- First Place-Electronic Distribution 2006 S.C. SCV Convention - Beaufort**
- First Place-Electronic Distribution 2005 S.C. SCV Convention - Florence**
- First Place 2004 S. C. SCV State Convention - Greenville**
- Second Place 2003 S. C. SCV State Convention - Mount Pleasant**
- First Place 2002 S. C. SCV State Convention - Aiken**

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Member - at- Large

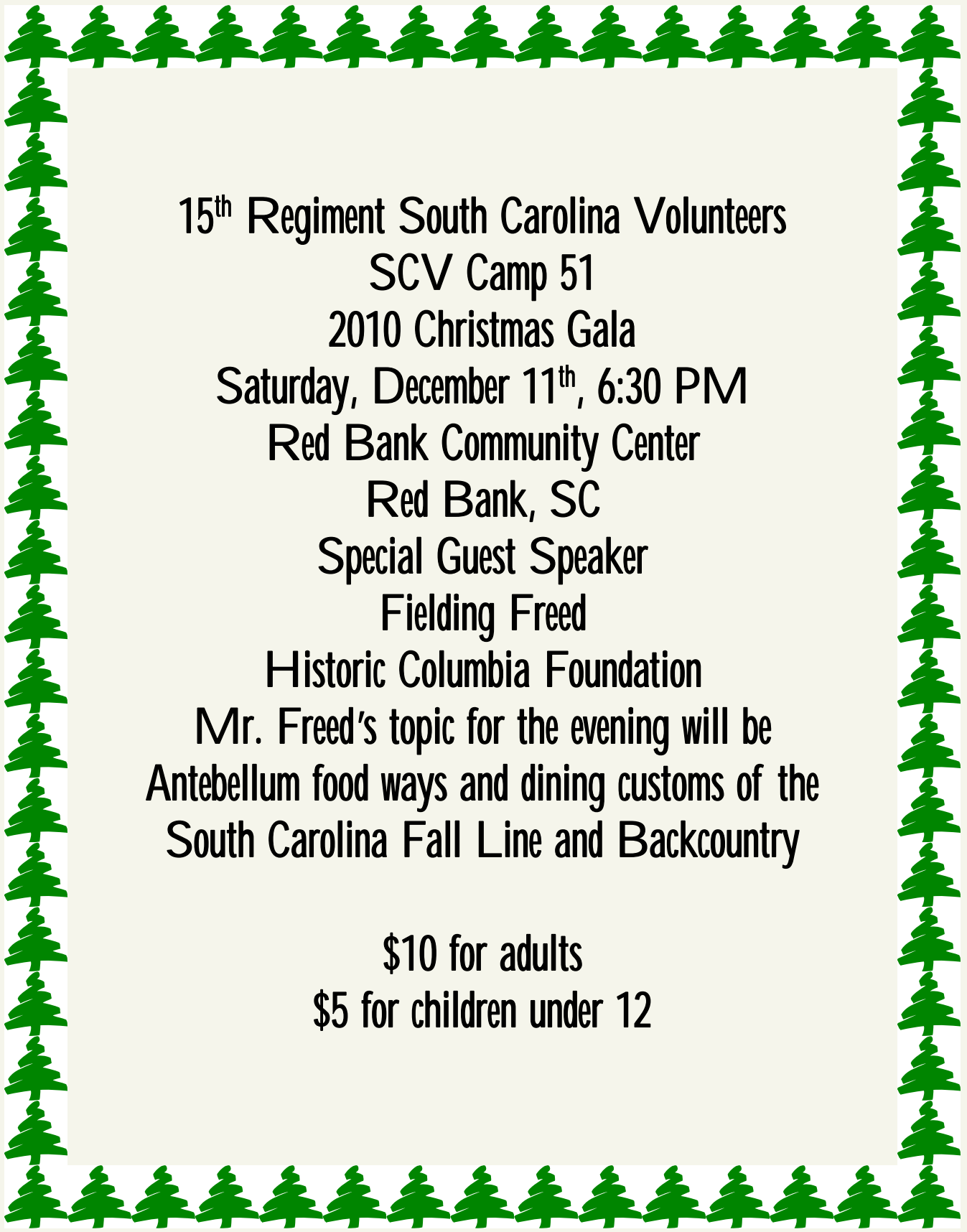
Bobby Frye

Color Sergeant

Francis A. Smith



**Ask about how you can become a
South Carolina
Guardian**



15th Regiment South Carolina Volunteers
SCV Camp 51
2010 Christmas Gala
Saturday, December 11th, 6:30 PM
Red Bank Community Center
Red Bank, SC
Special Guest Speaker
Fielding Freed
Historic Columbia Foundation
Mr. Freed's topic for the evening will be
Antebellum food ways and dining customs of the
South Carolina Fall Line and Backcountry

\$10 for adults
\$5 for children under 12



The Columbia Area Chapters of the
United Daughters of the Confederacy
Cordially invite you to

A Memorial Service to Honor the
Signers of the Ordinance of Secession

December 5, 2010

3:00pm

South Carolina State Archives and History Auditorium
8301 Parklane Road
Columbia, South Carolina

Special Music by Mr. Stan Clardy
Featured speaker Mr. Joe Long of the South Carolina Relic Room
and Military Museum

There will be a Roll Call of Districts and
The Signers of the Ordinance of Secession

Reception Immediately Following
With
The Ordinance of Secession on exhibit

Sunday attire or period dress requested

Commander's Comments

Commander's Comments December 2010

Compatriots,

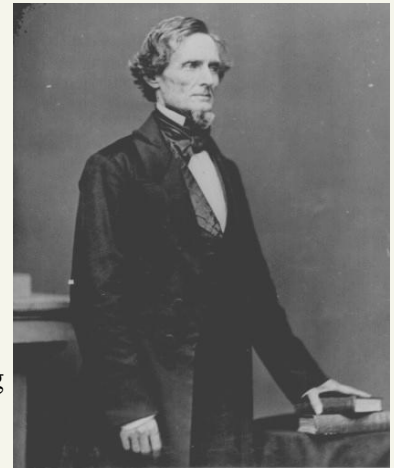
I trust this finds you all well. Our last meeting was not on our regular day, but we still had a good turn out. Our speaker was Joe Long of the Relic Room. As always Joe's presentation was first rate!

We had our camp elections at our last meeting also. Bobby Epting will be our new Commander and I'm sure will do a good job. Ray Craig has said that he would stay on as Adjutant if no one would take it. Ray has been one of the best Adjutants that Camp 51 has had, but after two and one half years understandably needs a break. The job is not a hard one, as Ray and our previous Adjutant have streamlined the whole affair. I want to thank my staff for all their help during my stay as Commander. They are Lt. Commander Berley Crosby, Adjutant Ray Craig, Chaplain Larry Black, Judge Advocate E.M. Clark, Newsletter Editor / Webmaster Steve Wolfe, Member at Large Bobby Frye and Color Sergeant Al Smith. Thank you all for your help!

We also had our highway cleanup. I would like to thank Bobby Epting, Marion Gantt, Al Smith, Ed Smith, Willie Smith, Ray Craig, Steve and Andrea Wolfe and Melanie Frye for giving their Saturday morning for this effort.

Our next meeting will be our Christmas Gala. This will be on Dec. 11 at 6:30 at the Red Bank Community Center. The deadline for letting us know is Dec 1, but you can call myself at 356-5554 or Ray Craig at 808-9520 and just pay at the door. There is a page in this newsletter about it. I hope to see you all there.

Allen Frye
Commander



Chaplain's Corner

December 2010



Victorian Christmas Tree, 1848

Christmas Day was not uniformly observed in the Confederate armies during the war, nor was it celebrated consistently by all soldiers even in winter camps. Although the German tradition of decorating a Christmas tree had been introduced into Virginia as early as 1842, there were no Christmas cards printed in America until 1875. Gifts, of course, were not expected between soldiers.

Nevertheless there is evidence that many Confederate soldiers remembered Christmas Day, sometimes with services by their chaplains but most often by writing letters to their families. At best there was great diversity in observing Christmas as dictated by the duties soldiers had to perform every day and the resources they had at hand.

Perhaps the most elaborate Christmas celebration occurred at Moss Neck, eleven miles downriver from Fredericksburg, Virginia in 1862. Lt. Gen. T.J. Jackson's Corps headquarters was

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A few words from the President of the Louisa McCord Chapter

Good Day to all,

In a few short weeks, the year 2010 will be over and we will begin a new year of 2011. We will also begin the journey remembrance and commemoration of South Carolina becoming an independent nation from the union known as the United States as declared on December 20, 1860. I hope that all of you will be able to participate in one of the many events that will be going on for the entire year of 2011.

On December 11th, I will formally introduce and instate Cynthia Lampley as the new Louisa McCord Chapter President for the year 2011. I am honored to be able to have such a dedicated and knowledgeable young lady to head our OCR Chapter. Cynthia came in as a new member with all initiative and enthusiasm for new ideas, honor and participation for the Chapter. I know she will be truly a valuable asset and make us all proud in all our endeavors. It has been a pleasure in my position as president for the chapter and I have enjoyed all of our events and projects; now I will have the pleasure of assisting Cindy.

Our Christmas Gala will be held on December 11th and I hope that all of you can be there. Camp 51 has arranged for a fabulous speaker in John Sherrer from Historic Columbia; delicious foods; door prizes, a bake sale, decorations, craft sale items and a few other goodies on behalf of the OCR and Harriet Frye. We will also have a 'special guest' who will visit before he begins his gift journey for Christmas. The special friendship and bond we all have as an extended family is truly a blessing, and it is such a joy and honor to be able to share it with each other; especially in honor of our 150th year of commemoration of South Carolina becoming an independent nation.

Some of us will be attending the Christmas event at the Lexington County Museum on Sunday, December 12th from 2PM to 4PM. I hope many can come and enjoy this festivity as well and see all the buildings as they will be open for viewing.

It has been a pleasure and honor, and I know you will all welcome Cindy and support her and assist her as you have done with me for my years as Louisa McCord President.

My best to all of you for a wonderful holiday season full of friendship and love!

Yours in history....

Andrea

CIVIL WAR CHRISTMAS

Ever wonder how Christmas was spent by the Civil War soldiers or their families at home?

Dec 27th 1864

Camp 4th Del Vol 3 Brg 2 Dev 3 Corps

Dear wife I will send you a few lines stating how we are I have bin down with the diarier for about a week it has bin the most sevear that I hav ever ha but I feel better to day & I hav washed all of my cloaths & I borrowed some cloathes while mine are drying I cant write you mutch this time but if I keep wel I will try and write you a interesting leter some of those days we hav got houses built up wonce more but Christmas was a very dul day hear we have not had it yet but the war news is good we have had a despatch from G Shairman he has done more than we could of asked of him I hope this will find you all wel Samey is not very wel he had a cold we hav bin very mutch exposed but I dont want to write about You can sea the reason why I hav not wrote I send my love to all from you ever true and loving Husband

Levi McCormick

Louisa McCord



Chapter # 13

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good by

send on your box

Jim sais we will have some soope



Excerpts from several letters I found online in reference to Christmas. The source websites are listed at the end.

On December 24, 1861, Captain Robert Goldthwaite Carter of the 22nd Mass. Vol. Inf. 4th U.S. Cavalry wrote:

"Christmas Eve, and I am on duty as officer of the day, but I am not on duty to-morrow. As much as I desire to see you all, I would not leave my company alone... ..I give my company a Christmas dinner to-morrow, consisting of turkey, oysters, pies, apples, etc.; no liquors."

* * * * *

On December 25, 1864, J. C. Williams, 14th Vermont Infantry

"This is Christmas, and my mind wanders back to that home made lonesome by my absence, while far away from the peace and quietude of civil life to undergo the hardships of camp, and may be the battlefield. I think of the many lives that are endangered, and hope that the time will soon come when peace, with its innumerable blessings, shall once more restore our country to happiness and prosperity."

* * * * *

John H. Brinton, a Major and Surgeon U.S.V. wrote:

"[1861] During the days preceding Christmas, I received some boxes from home, full of nice comfortable things, and the letter which came to me at that time, you may be sure, made me feel homesick. On Christmas night, I left for St. Louis as my teeth were troubling me, and greatly in need of the services of a dentist. I was fortunate in finding a good one, and in a day or two the necessary repairs were made."

* * * * *

From the Diary of An Enlisted Man, by Lawrence VanAlstyne
2nd Lieutenant, 90th United States Colored Infantry
December 24, 1863

"As to-morrow is Christmas we went out and made such purchases of good things as our purses would allow, and these we turned over to George and Henry, for safe keeping and for cooking on the morrow."

* * * * *

From the diary of Private Robert A. Moore, a Confederate soldier.

Tuesday, Dec 24th, 1861, camp near Swan's.

"This is Christmas Eve but seems but little like it to me"

Wednesday, Dec. 25th, 1861, camp near Swan's.

"This is Christmas & and very dull Christmas it has been to me. Had an egg-nog to-night but did not enjoy it much as we had no ladies to share it with us."

* * * * *

From the diary of Robert Watson of Key West, Florida.

December 25, 1862 in Tampa, FL as an orderly sergeant of Co. K, 7th Florida Regt.

"Christmas day and I was in bed all day from chills and fever. I ate nothing and as there is no liquor

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in the place of course I drank nothing."

December 25, 1863 at Dalton, Georgia after action at Chickamauga

"Christmas day and a very dull one but I find a tolerable good dinner. I had one drink of whiskey in the morning. There was some serenading last night but I took no part in it for I did not feel merry as my thoughts were of home..."

December 25, 1864 at Charleston, S.C. following his transfer to the Navy

"Christmas day. Turned out at 6 AM, very cold. We were ordered to hold ourselves in readiness to leave at moments warning... ..This ends Christmas day. The poorest I ever spent."

* * * * *

In a letter to his sister Anna Simpson, Tally Simpson wrote:

Dec. 25th

My dear sister,

"This is Christmas Day. The sun shines feeble through a thin cloud, the air is mild and pleasant, a gentle breeze is making music through the leaves of the lofty pines that stand near our bivouac. All is quiet and still and that very stillness recalls some sad and painful thoughts. The day, one year ago, how many thousand families, gay and joyous, celebrating Merry Christmas, drinking health to absent members of their family and sending upon the wings of love and affection long, deep, and sincere wishes for their safe return to the loving ones at home, but today are clad in the deepest mourning in memory to some lost and loved member of their circle..."

"When will this war end? Will another Christmas roll around and find us all wintering in camp? Oh! That peace may soon be restored to our young but dearly beloved country and that we may all meet again in happiness."

* * * * *

From the Civil War diary of General Josiah Gorgas - 1864:

"December 26th A despondent Christmas has just passed, yet people contrived to eat hearty and good Christmas dinners. The soldier unfortunately have not even meat, and have had none for several days. The Commissary General has singlely failed in his duties; while there is plenty of food in Georgia there is none here. There is no sufficient excuse for this. The food must be brought here, and the means to so provided and organized.."



The next two letters, used with permission, come from a book, "**Surry County Soldiers in the Civil War**" by Hester Bartlett Jackson.

*Camp near Dinwiddie Court House
December 26, 1864*

Dear Martha,

Your letter came to hand a few days since and I am now seated to answer. I have but little news times is very dull out here yesterday was the most quiet day we have had for some time. The soldiers all look sad and lonely. We have nothing spiritual or refreshing in camp. Have not see one case of intoxication during our Christmas holiday. All is calm on the lines in front of Petersburg and Richmond, except some little picket firing on Saturday night. I have a splendid cain and am living quite comfortable at present. Rations are rather scanty.

I have not heard from your Pa since he went to hospital at Staunton. I saw him on the cars, he had measles, but was getting on fine, he told me he would write to me as soon as I wrote to him. I have

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wrote but have not had time to get an answer.

Mat - I hope you are having a good time today taking Christmas. I am passing it off writing my friends. We had drill this morning. What has become of Fannie? I have not heard from her in some time. You must offer my highest regards to all the girls. I hope I will get off home before the winter breaks. I want to come home very bad this Christmas. Tell "Tee" if I get to come home he and I will start up some Christmas--if it is only to go out and hunt rabbits and know there is a heap of squirrels and other wild game up there. Robert you must be a smart boy while your Papa is gone. How is my little namesake getting on? Is he most as large as you "Tee"? Polly, your brother Calvin is in my company well and harty, except he sometimes complaining with reumatism in his legs. He seems to be pretty well satisfied for a soldier. I hope you are well. I must close as I have nothing worth notice on hand. My love and best wishes to all the children. Remember me kindly to all who make an inquiry if there be any. May heavens best blessings be always with you all.

Yours affectionatly,

Jasper

Letter from Jasper Cockerham to His Niece



*(Co A 28 Reg NC)
Camp of the 28th Regiment MVS
Wilmington, New Hanover County
December 18 AD 1861*

Dear Mother,

I received a letter from you on the 14th which pleased me very much to know that you were all well and doing well. I received a letter from Cousin Martin Whitaker on the the 6th of December stating that you had been down to see Grandmother. In your letter you had had some wood and pine hauled. Jesse Stanley will let you have his oxen to haul with. I do not want my oxen to be worked at all. I got \$33.00. That is what I drew and I sent \$30.00 home by Thomas Anthony. Sarah, I want my oxen to be well wintered. Do not let any person have any salt. I will want it before you get any more. I can send you plenty of paper if you cannot get it there. Mother, I found you some tobacco to chew. Smith Dobson is at home if you want to send me anything you can send it by him. We have any amount of sweet potatoes here. I have some that I brought from home to eat at Christmas. Also some sweet cakes Mrs. Gilliam sent me. John Cave has a discharge and has come home. Sarah, Uncle Silas and Mrs. Harbour. Write whether you have heard from Sian and Calvin and Nancy and Mark or not. Write to Calvin and Nancy by all means. Give Miss Susan Adeline and Sarah Stanley my best respect. Oliver, when I write home, I also write to you and family. Sarah, if William wants any money he must have it when he needs it. William I would like to see you very much. I will home sometime in the spring if I live. Mary, you spoke about some persons not agreeing very well. It has not suprised me at all. Say but little about it.*

Artha Bray

**Martin Whitaker is the son of Silas Whitaker. Artha Bray's mother, Mary Whitaker Bray, is the sister of Silas.*

Letter from Artha Bray, Jr. To his widowed mother Mary Whitaker Bray.



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On the home front, the homes were mostly decorated with different kinds of pines, holly, ivy and mistletoe. While there were many families who spent lonely Christmases during the war, they still had a Christmas Tree which was the centerpiece for the home. Most trees were small and sat on a table. The decorations were mostly home made, such as strings of dried fruit, popcorn, pine cones. Colored paper, silver foil, as well as spun glass were popular choices for making decorations. Santa brought gifts to the children. Those gifts were home made, such as carved toys, cakes or fruits.

Christmas carols were sung both at home and in the camps. Can you imagine how homesick the soldiers would become singing these songs. Some of the most popular ones were "Silent Night," "Away in the Manger," "Oh Come All Ye Faithful," "Deck the Halls," and others.



SILENT NIGHT

Silent night Holy night
 All is calm all is bright
 'Round yon virgin Mother and Child
 Holy infant so tender and mild
 Sleep in heavenly peace
 Sleep in heavenly peace

Silent night, holy night,
 Shepherds quake at the sight.
 Glories stream from heaven afar,
 Heav'nly hosts sing Alleluia;
 Christ the Savior is born;
 Christ the Savior is born.

Silent night, holy night,
 Son of God, love's pure light.
 Radiant beams from Thy holy face,
 With the dawn of redeeming grace,
 Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth;
 Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.



http://www.bitsofblueandgray.com/december_2002.htm

Yours in history

Andrea M. Evans-Wolfe

President, Louisa McCord Chapter OCR & South Carolina Society OCR

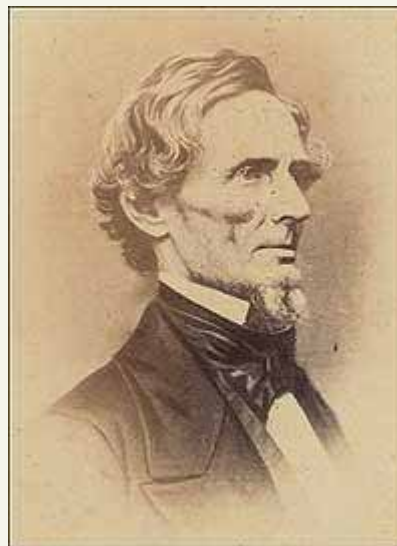
Excerpted from : http://www.colonialwilliamsburgmeetings.com/visit/christmas/hist_reverend.cfm

Christmas Trees, the Confederacy, and Colonial Williamsburg

by Harold B. Gill Jr.



Captured here in the prime of his ministry, Minnigerode pastored at churches in Williamsburg, Norfolk, Prince George County, and Richmond.



Jefferson Davis depended on Minnigerode for spiritual counsel.

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Minnigerode stayed at St. Paul's for thirty-three years, years that embraced the War between the States, Reconstruction, and the rise of the New South.

IN 1860, England's visiting Prince of Wales attended a Minnigerode sermon. On Thanksgiving, a year later, Minnigerode conducted a solemn service for a congregation of Confederate walking wounded. Later he would say graveside rites at the city's Hollywood Cemetery for J. E. B. Stuart, commander of the rebel cavalry, and presided at the reinterment of President James Monroe in the same place, a graveyard that would be Minnigerode's place of eternal rest, as well as of his parishioner, President Jefferson Davis.

Richmond became the capital of the Confederate States of America on May 20, 1861, when the provisional Congress of the Confederacy moved from Montgomery, Alabama. St. Paul's stood, as it stands today, four blocks from the White House of the Confederacy, and across the street from the grounds of the new nation's capitol, a building states' rights advocates and presidents Thomas Jefferson and James Madison had helped design for Virginia's legislature.

When Davis arrived, he was feted with a Spotswood Hotel reception, where he and Minnigerode met. Minnigerode wrote:

Our acquaintance thus began, soon grew into friendly intercourse that became closer and closer, till an intimacy sprung up which ripened into companionship in joy and sorrow, and bound us together in the terms of mutual trust and friendship.

At the urging of Davis's wife, Varina, Minnigerode discussed church membership with Davis shortly after the inauguration. Minnigerode wrote:

He spoke very earnestly and most humbly of needing the cleansing blood of Jesus and the power of the Holy Spirit; but in the consciousness of his insufficiency felt some doubt whether he had the right to come...All that was natural and right; but soon it settled this question with a man so resolute in doing what he thought his duty. I baptized him hypothetically, for he was not certain if he had ever been baptized. When the day of confirmation came it was quite in keeping with this resolute character, that when the Bishop called the candidates to the chancel he was the first to rise.

Minnigerode maintained a close relationship with Davis, and his support of the Southern cause earned

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him such titles as Father Confessor of the Secession, Father Confessor of the Confederacy, and the Rebel Pastor. He wrote:

The secession of the Southern States was in defense of their constitutional rights, which were threatened by the aggressive and unconstitutional policy of the Government. That Government was a union of the separate Colonies as sovereign States, which delegated certain powers to the Central Government as the central agent of the sovereign States. The debate about their mutual relation was long, and the two views of the centralized union and a union of sovereign States existed from the beginning. But there would have been no United States at all if the State's rights had not been established by the Constitution.

His services were past standing-room-only popular. So many government officials attended that St. Paul's came to be called the Cathedral of the Confederacy. Diarist Mary Boykin Chestnut wrote that on a Sunday in March 1864 fourteen generals sat in Minnigerode's pews. Nevertheless, he attempted to walk a line between church and state. He said:

God forbid that I should speak as a mere man and not as the minister of Christ, that I should introduce politics where Religion alone should raise her voice, discuss measures and men where only principles can be laid down. It is as God's messenger that I speak and preach his gospel in faith, which is the alone principle that can steady our course and raise our hearts in hope. We preach to men under the circumstances in which we find them placed in God's providence.

Minnigerode often paid pastoral visits to the Davis household. But the parson wrote: "I never meddled with his policy or measures of his government; still less did I ever use his confidence for any personal purposes. Mr. Davis was not the man for that."

Minnigerode's oldest son, sixteen-year-old Charlie, entered the Confederate army without his father's consent and served on General Fitzhugh Lee's staff. Another son, James Gibbon Minnigerode, was a midshipman in the Confederate navy and participated in the Battle of Mobile Bay. After the war, he became an Episcopal minister, serving as rector of Calvary Protestant Episcopal Church in Louisville, Kentucky.

On January 1, 1865, when the future of the Confederacy was much in doubt, Minnigerode preached a stirring sermon at St. Paul's entitled, "He that believeth shall not make haste." He said to the congregation:

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Reverses have followed us in many parts of our country, and the year opens with dark and threatening clouds, which have cast their shadow over every brow. What we need is *a stout heart* and a *firm, settled mind*: and oh! May we AS A NATION remember, "he that believeth shall not make haste...." I do pray and hope that God will have mercy upon us, and give us better minds and stout hearts and unflinching faith, that shall not make haste, that shall win the prize. But if we fall, let us fall with our faces upward, our hearts turned to God, our hands in the work, our wounds in the breast, with blessing—not curses—upon our lips; and all is not lost! We have retained our honor, we have done our duty to the last....

One Sunday a few months later, a messenger came in during the service and handed Davis a telegram from General Robert E. Lee at Petersburg. It said General Ulysses Grant had broken the Confederate lines and suggested the government abandon Richmond. Davis left the service and others followed. Minnigerode asked the rest to remain. After the city fell, he disputed with Union officials his right to lead St. Paul's congregation in prayer for the fleeing Davis.

Captured, Davis was imprisoned for treason—a charge eventually dropped—at Fort Monroe, Virginia, in solitary confinement. After petitioning President Andrew Johnson and Secretary of War Edwin Stanton, Minnigerode was the first civilian permitted to visit, allowed two calls a month, pledging his word of honor as a gentleman and Christian minister that in all the visits I am permitted to make to Mr. Jefferson Davis at Fortress Monroe, Va., I will confine myself to ministerial and pastoral duties, exclusive of every other object; that I will in no way be a medium of communication between the said Davis and the outer world; that I will observe the strictest silence as to the interviews, and will avoid all modes of publication, not only as to what passes between us but as to the fact of the visits themselves.

When Davis was bailed at federal court in Richmond, Minnigerode was at his side. After court, when they met at the Spotswood, Davis said, "Mr. Minnigerode, you who have been with me in my sufferings, and comforted and strengthened me with your prayers, is it not right that we now once more should kneel down together and return thanks?"

IN 1868, LEE, now president of Washington College in Lexington, Virginia—today's Washington and Lee University—asked Minnigerode to conduct the baccalaureate service. He continued as rector of St. Paul's, where, on July 14, 1868, he united in marriage Frank Goodwin and Letitia Moore Rutherford, who would be the parents of William Archer Rutherford Goodwin, later rector of Bruton Parish and co-founder, with John D. Rockefeller Jr., of Colonial Williamsburg. Young Goodwin was present when Minnigerode gave the invocation at the unveiling of the Lee statue on Richmond's Monument Avenue in 1890.

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Minnigerode was appointed a William and Mary visitor. He retired from St. Paul's in 1889 and moved to Alexandria to become chaplain of Virginia Theological Seminary, which Goodwin entered in 1890.

Minnigerode died October 13, 1894. Granddaughter Marietta Minnigerode Andrews was an artist and author. Grandson Meade Minnigerode Jr. co-wrote the lyrics of the "Whiffinpoof Song" in 1909. Goodwin introduced to Colonial Williamsburg the custom of Grand Illumination in 1935.

Historian Harold B. Gill Jr. is the journal's consulting editor. He contributed to the Summer 2005 issue "The Exchange, Revisited."



Directions to the Red Bank Community Center

**Take I-20 to the SC-6 (Pelion) exit
Go over the bridge towards Red Bank
At the Red Bank Baptist Church, turn left onto
Community Drive
At the stop sign behind the church turn left
And follow the road for about 1/2 mile and the
Community Center will be on your right.**

South Carolina Society
Military Order of the Stars and Bars
2011 Lee-Jackson Dinner
South Carolina State Archives
8301 Parklane Road
Columbia, South Carolina

Saturday, January 22nd, 2011
5 - 9 PM



Hosted by the Columbia Chapter, South Carolina Society
Military Order of the Stars and Bars

Pre-Dinner presentation by the South Carolina Department of Archives and History. Historical items relating to the South Carolina's involvement with the beginning of the War Between the States presented by Dr. W. Eric Emerson, South Carolina, Archives and History Director



Dinner and Program will be held in the Wachovia Room of the South Carolina State Archives

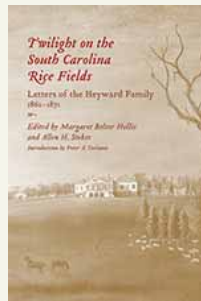
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Keynote Speaker:
Dr. Allen Stokes
Director University of South Carolina's Caroliniana Library

Co-Editor of
Twilight on the South Carolina Rice Fields
Letters of the Heyward Family, 1862–1871



A firsthand account of the Civil War and Reconstruction in the Old South rice kingdom from one of South Carolina's founding families.

The Civil War and Reconstruction eras decimated the rice-planting enterprise of the South, and no family experienced the effects of this economic upheaval quite as dramatically as the Heywards of South Carolina, a family synonymous with the wealth of the old rice kingdom in the Palmetto State. *Twilight on the South Carolina Rice Fields* collects the revealing wartime and postbellum letters and documents of Edward Barnwell "Barney" Heyward (1826–1871), a native of Beaufort District and

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grandson of Nathaniel Heyward, one of the most successful rice planters and largest slaveholders in the South. Barney Heyward was also the father of South Carolina governor Duncan Clinch Heyward, author of *Seed from Madagascar*, the definitive account of the rice kingdom's final stand a generation later.

Edited by Margaret Belser Hollis and Allen H. Stokes, the Heyward family correspondence from this transformational period reveals the challenges faced by a once-successful industry and a once-opulent society in the throes of monumental change. During the war Barney Heyward served as a lieutenant in the engineering division of the Confederate army but devoted much of his time to managing affairs at his plantations near Columbia and Beaufort. His letters chronicle the challenges of preserving his lands and maintaining control over the enslaved labor force essential to his livelihood and his family's fortune. The wartime letters also provide a penetrating view of the Confederate defense of coastal South Carolina against the Union forces who occupied Beaufort District. In the aftermath of the conflict, Heyward worked with only limited success to revive planting operations. In addition to what these documents reveal about rice cultivation during tumultuous times, they also convey the drama, affections, and turmoil of life in the Heyward family, from Barney's increasingly difficult relations with his father, Charles Heyward, to his heartfelt devotion to his wife, the former Catherine "Tat" Maria Clinch, and their children.

<http://www.sc.edu/uscpres/books/2010/3894.html>

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2011 SC MOS&B Lee-Jackson Dinner
Reservation Form
Saturday, January 22nd

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Number in party: _____

Dinners: _____ x \$35 = _____

Dinner preference: Chicken Marsala _____ Grilled Beef Tenderloin _____

Chicken Marsala

Marinated Grilled Chicken Breast topped with Fresh
Crimini Mushrooms & Marsala

Grilled Beef Tenderloin

Beef Tenderloin grilled to medium rare & served with a
Gorgonzola Cheese and rich Butter sauce

Italian Salad

Fresh Greens topped with Tomatoes, Cucumbers, Olives, Pepperoncini Peppers,

Parmesan Cheese, Croutons and our Homemade Italian Dressing

Roasted Potatoes

Tossed in Olive Oil, Garlic & Herbs and topped with Parmesan Cheese

Fresh Green Beans

Marinated with Butter & Dill

A s s o r t e d D i n n e r R o l l s

Served with butter

C h o c o l a t e C a k e w i t h F r e s h S t r a w b e r r i e s

Decadent Chocolate Cake topped with Milk Chocolate Icing, Fresh Strawberries & White Chocolate Drizzle

Sweet & Unsweet Tea

Served with Lemon Wedges

** Cash Bar will be available **

Mail your reservation form to:
2011 SC MOS&B Lee-Jackson Dinner
130 Upper Loop Way
Columbia, SC 29212

***** Reservations are required for this event *****

(Continued from page 1)

and upon the MERCURY bulletin board, that South Carolina was no longer a member of the Federal Union, loud shouts of joy rent the air. The enthusiasm was unsurpassed. Old men went shouting down the streets. Cannon were fired, and bright triumph was depicted on every countenance.

But before the Great Seal of the State was affixed to the Ordinance of Secession, and the names of the Delegates to the Convention were signed, it was proposed that this ceremony should be postponed until 7 o'clock that evening; when the Convention should reassemble and move in procession from the St. Andrew's Hall, where they then sat, to the great Secession Hall; and that there, before the assembled citizens of the State, the Great Seal of the State should be set, and each signature made. The proposition was favorably received.

At 6 1/2 o'clock p.m., the Convention reassembled at St. Andrew's Hall. At 6 3/4 o'clock p.m., they formed in procession and moved forward in silence to Secession Hall.

The building was filled to overflowing, and they were received by some three thousand people in the Hall.

The Convention was called to order. The scene was one profoundly grand and impressive. There were a people assembled through their highest representatives -- men most of them upon whose heads the snows of sixty winters had been shed -- patriarchs in age -- the dignitaries of the land -- the High Priests of the Church of Christ -- reverend statesmen -- and the wise judges of the law. In the midst of deep silence, an old man, with bowed form, and hair as white as snow, the Rev. Dr. BACHMAN, advanced forward, with upraised hands, in prayer to Almighty God, for His blessing and favor in this great act of his people, about to be consummated. The who assembly at once rose to its feet, and with hats off, listened to the touching and eloquent appeal to the All Wise Dispenser of events. At the close of the prayer the President advanced with the consecrated parchment upon which was inscribed the decision of the State, with the Great Seal attached. Slowly and solemnly it was read unto the last word -- "dissolved" -- when men could contain themselves no longer, and a shout that shook the very building, reverberating, long-continued, rose to Heaven, and ceased only with the loss of breath. In proud, grave silence, the Convention itself waited the end with beating hearts.

The President then requested the Delegates (by previous decision) to step forward as they were called in the alphabetical order of the Districts which they represented, and sign the Ordinance. Two hours were occupied in this solemn ceremony - the crowd waiting patiently the end. As the delegation from St. Phillip's and St. Michael's came forward, again, the hall was filled with applause. And as the Hon. R.B. RHETT advanced to the parchment, the shouts became deafening, long-continued, until he had seated himself, signed and retired. It was a proud and worthy tribute, gracefully paid, and appreciated. The same special compliment was paid to our Ex-Governor GIST, who recommended in his message to the extra session, the immediate secession of South Carolina from the Union.

At the close of the signatures the President, advancing to the front of the platform, announced that the Seal of the State had been set, the signatures of the Convention put to the Ordinance, and he thereby proclaimed the State of South Carolina a separate, independent nationality.

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To describe the enthusiasm with which this announcement was greeted, is beyond the power of the pen. The high, burning, bursting heart alone can realize it. A mighty voice of great thoughts and great emotions spoke from the mighty throat of one people as a unit.

The State of South Carolina has recorded herself before the universe. In reverence before God, fearless of man, unawed by power, unterrified by clamor, she has cut the Gordian knot of colonial dependence upon the North - cast her fortune upon her right, and her own right arm, and stands ready to uphold alike her independence and her dignity before the world. Prescribing to none, she will be dictated to by none willing for peace, she is ready for war. Deprecating blood, she is willing to shed it. Valuing her liberties, she will maintain them. Neither swerved by frowns of foes, nor swayed by timorous solicitations of friends, she will pursue her direct path, and establish for herself and for her posterity, her rights, her liberties and her institutions. Though friends may fail her in her need, though the cannon of her enemies may belch destruction among her people, South Carolina, unawed, unconquerable, will still hold aloft her flag, "ANIMIS OPIBUSQUE PARATI." ["READY IN SPIRIT AND DEEDS"]

Our Harbor Defences -- Fort Sumter

For Sumter is built upon an artificial island, at the entrance of our harbor. The foundation being of stone, it must be of the strongest nature. That portion of the fort above the water-line is of brick and concrete of the most solid character. Its plan is a truncated pentagon, with one side parallel to the adjoining shore, thus presenting an angle to the channel. Of the truncated angles the eastern, western and northern are simply formed into *Pan-coupeês* [a piece of wall that forms a cutoff corner of a building], whilst the other two are formed into two small faces, making an angle of about fifteen degrees with the sides of the pentagon. At each intersection of the small faces is a sally-port. The height of the parapet above the waterline is sixty feet. On the eastern and western sides are the barracks for the privates, mess hall, kitchen, &c. On the southern side are the officers quarters, which are finished in very handsome style.

It is mounted with the heaviest guns of the United States service, arranged in three tiers, the two lower being Casemates and the upper Barbette guns. The Casemate guns are those which are fired from an embrasure in the Scarp Walls, and are protected from the enemy's *shells* by an arched bomb-proof covering overhead; the Barbette, those which fire over the parapet, which exposes the cannoniers to the fire of the enemy, although, in this instance, the height of the ramparts is so great that there is comparatively no danger from the shot of an enemy's fleet. The armament consists of 140 pieces, placed in the following order: The heaviest guns, such as the 32 and 63 pounders, on the first tier; 24 and 32 pounders on the second tier; Columbiads (8 and 10 inch) and heavy sea coast mortars on the top of the ramparts.

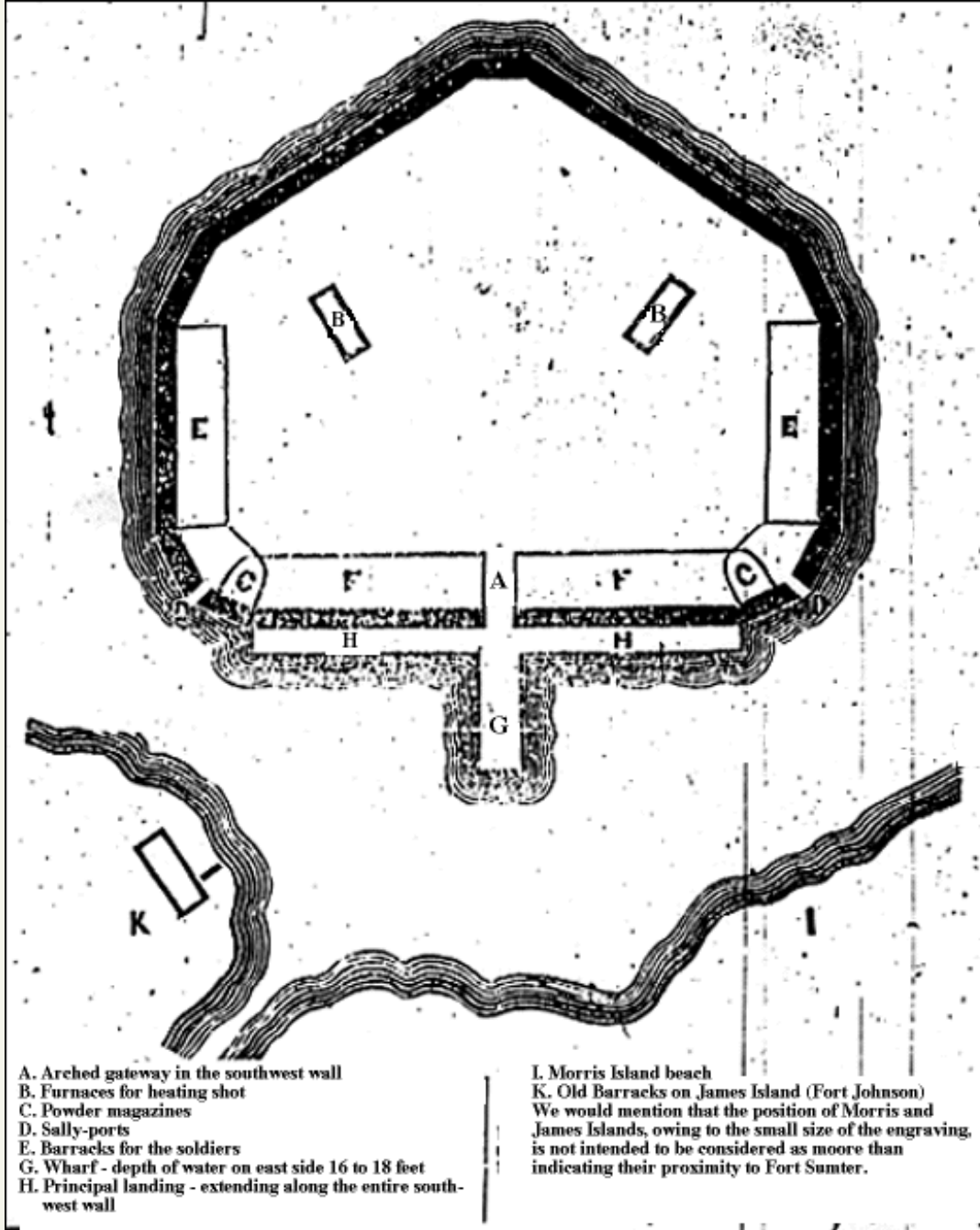
The heaviest pieces are turned toward the harbor, the lighter toward the land, side; which side is further protected by musketry, for which loop-holes are cut in the Scarp Wall. The number of each kind of gun *is about* thirty 64-pounders; the same number of 32-pounders; forty 24-pounders; ten of each calibre of Columbiad; ten 13-inch and ten 10-inch mortars, capable of throwing about four

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thousand (4000) pounds of shot and four thousand three hundred (4300) pound of shall at each discharge.

On the terra-parade plain are situated two furnaces for heating shot. The magazines are situated on the inner sides of the sally ports, and contain, pat present, 40,000 lbs. of powder, and aproportionate quantity of shot and shell. The landing to the Fort is on the southern, or land side, and is formed by a wharf projecting towards the shore, and also extending the length of that face.



inner sides of the sally ports, and contain, pat present, 40,000 lbs. of powder, and aproportionate quantity of shot and shell. The landing to the Fort is on the southern, or land side, and is formed by a wharf projecting towards the shore, and also extending the length of that face.

This Fort would be nearly impregnable if finished and properly manned. It is at present so far completed that with a little temporary work, it could be made so strong as to defy any attack by a fleet of large vessels. Its weakest point is on the south side, of which the masonry is not

only weaker that than [sic] of the other sides, but it is not protected by any flank fire, which would sweep the wharf. Once landed, an entrance may, at the present state of the construction, be easily

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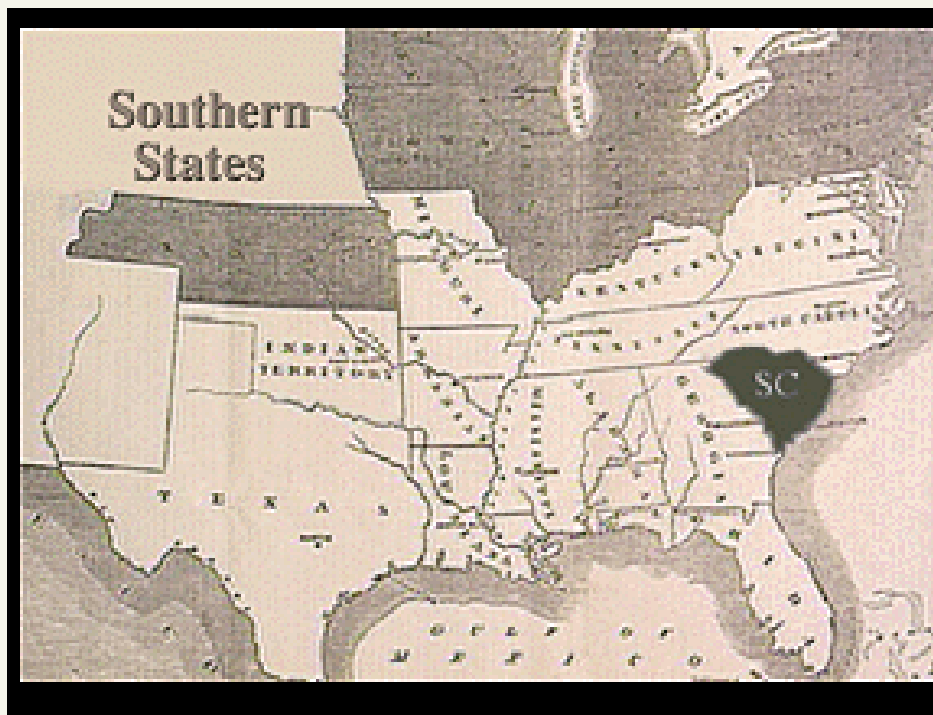
made, for the blinds of the lower embrasures, though six inches in thickness, may yet be easily blown away, and even if this was impossible, scaling ladders can reach those of the second tier which are not protected in this manner.

This concludes the brief sketch of a fort, which is a most perfect specimen of civil and military engineering. The whole work has been conducted in a manner that reflects the highest credit upon the engineers, and is worthy to occupy the prominent position that it holds. In conclusion, we take occasion to allude to one point of especial beauty - the construction of the arches - of which there are nearly every variety - the "Full Centre," the "Segment," the "Groined," the "Askew," and the "Rampant" - and to add that the walls at their base are 12 feet thick, and at the top 8 1/2 feet thick.

Fort Johnson

The position of this old fort, which is of the utmost importance as a connecting point in the defense of the Harbor, has been considered by the highest military authority, as the key to all the defensive works in the Harbor. Against the attack of forces by land, or a boat attack by the Stono River, it must be considered an essential element of defense. So soon, then, as the State of South Carolina assumes the control of the Harbor fortifications, no time should be lost before a permanent fortification is commenced here, if time does not admit of a substantial work being built, a field-work of earth and timber to mount sixty guns, could be created in a very short time, which would offer a respectable defense against any probable land-attack, and furnish at the same time a heavy battery against shipping.

<http://www.tulane.edu/~sumter/Dilemmas/Mer21Dec.html>



(Continued from page 6)

located there in an outbuilding on the 1600-acre Corbin Plantation.

On Christmas Day General Jackson wrote to his wife, Anna: "I do earnestly pray for peace. Oh! that our country was such a Christian, God fearing people as it should be! Then might we speedily look for peace." Jackson missed his wife and baby daughter immensely as most soldiers missed their families during that long winter.

The Corbin family, however, had fared better than most during the first year and a half of the war. They had been robbed of much of their furniture by Federal troops, but they still had the means to furnish a wonderful Christmas dinner not just for General Jackson, but also for Generals Robert E. Lee and J.E.B. Stuart, as well as ten other officers. The lavish table contained three turkeys, oysters, a ham, fresh biscuits, vegetables and pickles and a large bottle of wine. Even the large mold of butter bore the imprint of a rooster. General Stuart asked Jackson if that depicted his coat-of-arms, much to Jackson's embarrassment. General Lee pretended shock at the commodious accommodations and asked if Jackson and his men were just playing soldiers. Jackson was red with confusion since he had planned none of the dinner, and his embarrassment caused even General Lee to laugh boisterously.

On Christmas night the Corbins gave a party at their house, but General Jackson did not attend. Perhaps he had had enough teasing for one day. He did retire to his office, which contained a writing table and a cot by the fireplace, to catch up on his battle reports for General Lee-- who was next door! Meanwhile in the surrounding woods, the 36,600 men of Jackson's Second Corps cut down trees for winter huts. One member of the Corbin family wrote that in less than six weeks great forests were literally mowed down.

Two years later and much farther south, Private Reding R. Bowdoin, Company E, 53rd Alabama Cavalry, Wheeler's Cavalry Corps, wrote to his wife two days after Christmas from Springfield, Georgia, near Savannah:

Dear Ann my ever true and loving wife and sweete and dear little children again I have seated myself with dew reference [due reverence?] love and respect to drop you afew lines in ancer [answer] to you very kinde letter...whitch reach me a Christmas day just at nite I was more than glad to hear from you once more yes I was over joyed I cannot tell you how I felt when I open hit and saw it was from one so near and dear to me from hoom...

I can not comply with your wishes at this time that is to come home but that I can come be fore long and when I come I will try and bring you a horse if I can get one you said you had no corn I am sory to here that and hope you have got corn before now and if you have not I want you to let me know...if you cant get it other wise I will come home and get it for you furlough or no furlough

I have got my shirt drawers and socks but have not herd of dennison as yet but hope he will be in soon for I neede the close [clothes] very bad. The yanks got about 600,000 bails of cotton in savannah. It is reported in camps this morning that Jef Davis is dead may be that will

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have some affect to wards peas [peace].

You must tell the children to be good children learn their Books love one another love and obey Mother and forget not pa for he offens thinks of you. My dear wife pray fervently for your husband for I feele that I need your prays and the prays of the church to bear me up in this time of need write soon and may God even be with you and bless and save you all is the pray of one that loves and adores you ever remain your true and loving husband. R.R. Bowdoin

From these two brief accounts, it would seem that the best Christmas present a soldier could get, whether a General or a private, was a letter from home. Food and clothing were important, but connection to family was the balm of the soul. I pray that this Christmas you and your families will connect with one another to celebrate the birth of the Prince of Peace. I also ask that you will pray for our service members who continue to walk in harm's way; and maybe, if you have the time, you can send a deployed soldier a letter of appreciation from home.

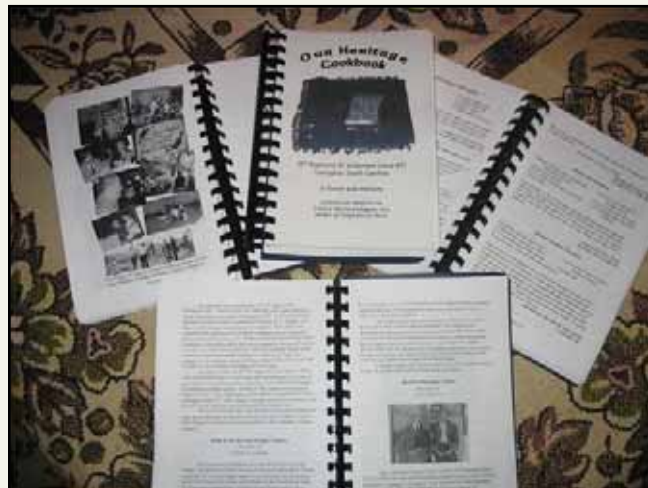
1. James I. Robertson Jr., *Stonewall Jackson: The Man, The Soldier, The Legend* (New York: MacMillan Publishing Co., 1997), 668.
2. *Ibid.*, 669. As also depicted in the movie, *Gods and Generals*.
3. *Ibid.*

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Continuing Our Heritage Volume II

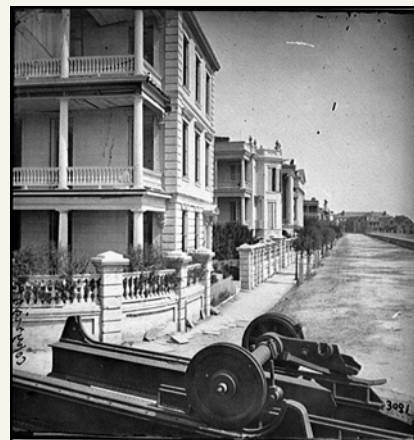
Is currently accepting recipes. This is our main 2010 fundraiser.
See Andrea at the next meeting or email your recipes in Word format to:
OCR@15thregtscvols.org.

Volume I-Our Heritage-is still available by request only.
\$15 each plus \$3 S&H
(Save the shipping and handling by picking them up at the Camp meeting)



Calendar of Upcoming Events

December	5th	UDC Memorial Service
December	11th	Camp Christmas Gala
January	22nd	MOS&B Lee-Jackson Dinner
January	27th	Camp Meeting



Date	2010Speakers & Topic
May 27th	Nita Keisler - UDC UDC Military Service Awards
June 24th	J.R. Fennell – Lexington Museum Gen. Paul Quattlebaum and Elijah Hall, Rifle Makers
July 29th	Eric Emerson – SCDAH Wartime letters of William Porcher DuBose
August 26th	Allen Stokes – USC Twilight on the South Carolina Rice Fields Letters of the Heyward Family, 1862–1871
September 30th	Wade Hampton Dorsey The Confederate Historian
October 28th	Dr. John Brinsfield Volunteers Camp and Field Book
November 17th	Joe Long Confederate Relic Room
December 11th	Fielding Freed – Historic Columbia Foundation Antebellum food ways and dining customs of the South Carolina Fall Line and Backcountry



GOD
And My Country

*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
Saturday December 11th,
6:30 PM
Red Bank Community Center
Directions inside this newsletter

“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

«AddressBlock»

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