



SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS, TEXAS DIVISION

THE JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP NEWS

www.reaganscvcamp.org

VOLUME 16, ISSUE 9

SEPTEMBER 2024

COMMANDER HEITMAN'S DISPATCH



Fellow Gentlemen of the South,

First, let me attend to some Camp business. We will continue our viewing of the very informative documentary *Lincoln's Quest for Empire*.

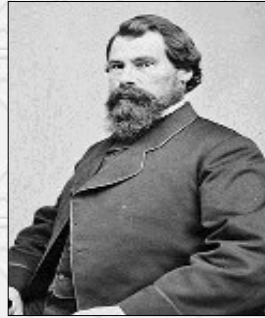
We watched the first 40 minutes of this educational video during our September meeting .. and by a motion of proclamation, Mac insisted we watch more of this fine video in lieu of his previously planned historical presentation to be given at the October meeting.

This is a superb documentary on many of the facts of The War that have been quashed for over a century.

My discussion topic for this month's *Notes*

concerns the The Wizard of the Saddle .. The Untutored Genius .. That Devil Forrest .. the 'now' very well-known General Nathan Bedford Forrest. The Ken Burns 'Civil War' documentary, using the soft-drawl of Shelby Foote, exposed Nathan Bedford to many viewers previously unfamiliar with the General, most of whom resided outside the South and whom had never heard of the General before 1991. I personally recall that 45 years ago General Forrest was not well-known amongst the collegiate campus crowds, a fact I especially noted while on a college exchange to La Verne, California. Yes, the subject of ol' Nathan B. came up during a discussion that, indeed, a coastal Californian is most certainly considered a yankee by this Texican .. circa 1979.

☺



John H. Reagan

Oct 8, 1818 – March 6, 1905
 Post Master General of the Confederate States of America
 Secretary of the Treasury CSA
 U. S. Senator from Texas
 U. S. Rep. from Texas
 District Judge
 Texas State Representative
 First Chairman - Railroad Commission of Texas
 A Founder and President of the Texas State Historical Association

General Forrest has justifiably become much more commonly known amongst Americans today, though not always based upon the facts of his life. Bedford's is a story of a great warrior's Redemption, which is less-commonly known, due to careless omission or by the designs of the fashionable historians of our current day. For more on that .. read-on.

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CAMP MEETINGS

4th Tuesday of Each Month
 06:30 PM
 With a meal served at each meeting.

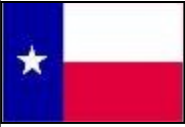
Guests are welcome!
 Bring the family.

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COMMANDER'S DISPATCH

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Forrest was not a 'formally' educated man, at least in the context of today's definition of 'educated' and of course not by the 'educated' standards of the mid-19th Century .. which by and large far exceeds our learned equivalency standards today. But, Forrest was by no means illiterate, but rather employed a much more 'efficient' English language .. excluding the clutter of unnecessary letters such as an unpronounced silent "a" or "gh" - *hedquarters*, *fite* [fight], or the Southern spelling of *rickity-shay* [ricochet]. His language carpentry skills excel within many of the best General Forrest quotes [*"Be ther furst with the most men"*] is often quoted but not a statement written by Forrest – rather an answer to a question he encountered often after The War]. I suppose we can blame the Normans [the French – Norman Conquest of 1066] for littering English with 'unnecessary' never-to-be-pronounced lettering – the French Language is certainly chocked full of the same. But .. of course I digress into another topic of interest.

Forrest wrote as he fought [*fout*] .. exercising his talents 'by ear' alone. Or, to quote the General directly .. *"he fought by ear in battle"*.

Twenty-Five men attained the rank of General or Lieutenant General in the Confederate



The Flag of
Forrest's Cavalry

Army, twenty-two of which attended West Point, but only Forrest began his Confederate career as a lowly 41-year-old Private. The other two non-West Point generals were Richard Taylor and Wade Hampton – which is further evidence that 4 years of military schooling can sometimes amount to little benefit on the battlefield. Forrest had general disdain for the 'formally educated officer' whom often sought counsel in a manual of military doctrine for guidance instead of employing instinct. *"Fifteen minutes of bulge is worth a week of tactics .."*, a Forrest quote that translates as 'obtaining the initiative and holding it' – getting a bulge. Take the initiative and deliver the first blow.

"Never stand to meet a charge, always meet an attack by attacking."

On the matter of the written word, Forrest stated .. *"I never look at a pen .. without thinking of a snake."*

*"Whenever I met one of them fellers that fit by note, I generally whipped h*ll out of him before he got his tune pitched."*

- Continued on the next page -



COMMANDER'S DISPATCH

PAGE 3



Forrest fought to win, not to demonstrate proficiency in military theory. He only employed tactics that produced successful results in combat. His employ of 'mounted rifleman', who did their hard-fighting on foot defined the true dragoon of The War .. versus other Cavalry units that still burnished a saber or cutlass and fought from the saddle.

Forrest's command, although always mounted and called cavalry, could fight as infantry and do it quite well. At Chickamauga, General Daniel Harvey Hill [remember him as the Algebra professor], fresh from Virginia where he said he had never seen a dead cavalryman, asked someone on the Confederate right, who the Confederate infantry were who were fighting tenaciously on the flank. *"Them ain't infantry, General,"* was the answer, *"them is Bedford Forrest's cavalry!"* Harvey Hill was impressed.

As a rule, infantry would hold a customary contempt for cavalry, but this was not the case with Forrest's troops.

Forrest hated above all things the kind of pig-headed frontal attacks that professional generals order when they can think of no other alternative. Forrest always protested with 'violent enthusiasm' when ordered to engage in a wasteful frontal attack against a well-entrenched enemy .. such as ordered by his superior at the time, General Stephen D. Lee, at the Battle of Tupelo.

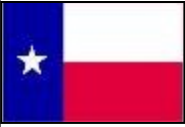
When asked to relinquish a number of his mules to General Hood's command, Forrest refused, as herein described by a witness to the event, Major John Watson Morton, Forrest's artillery commander:



The atmosphere was *blue* for a while. Stripped of General Forrest's ornamental language, he said to Major Landis: *"Go back to your quarters and don't you come here again or send anybody here about mules. The order will not be obeyed; and, moreover, if Major Ewing bothers me any further about this matter, I'll come down to his office, tie his long legs into a double bowknot around his neck, and choke him to death with his own shins. It's a fool order anyway. General Hood had better send his inspectors to overhaul your wagons, rid them of all surplus baggage, tents, adjutant desks, and everything that can be spared. Reduce the number of his wagons instead of reducing*

the strength of his teams. Besides, I know what is before me; and if he knew the road from here to Pulaski, this order would be countermanded."

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COMMANDER'S DISPATCH

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"I whipped the enemy and captured every mule, wagon and ambulance in my command; I have not made a requisition on the government for anything of the kind for two years ..."

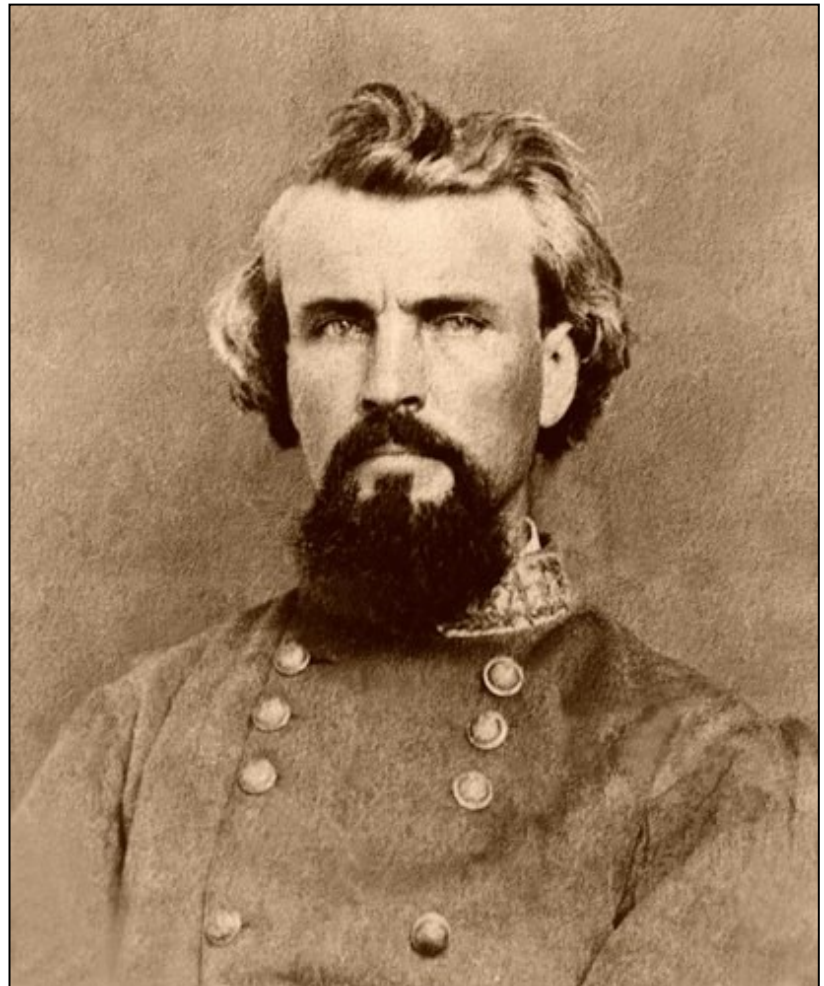
On a very warm July 5th- 1875, Forrest was invited to address the Independent Order of Pole-Bearers Association in Memphis. This organization had been formed to promote the economic and civil rights of Negroes. General Forrest concluded his speech with the following:

"... I did not come here to make you a long speech, although invited to do so by you I came to meet you as friends, and welcome you to the white people. I want you to come nearer to us. When I can serve you I will do so. We have but one flag, one country: let us stand together. We may differ in color, but not in sentiment. Many things have been said about me which are wrong, and which white and black people here, who stood by me through the war, can contradict. Go to work, be industrious, live honestly and act truly, and when oppressed I'll come to your relief. I thank you, ladies and gentlemen, for this opportunity you have afforded me to be with you, and to assure you that I am with you in heart and in hand."

Hope to see you at our October Meeting - the 22nd of October [4th Tuesday].

Not the last Tuesday .. since there Are 5 Tuesdays this October.

Ed Heitman – *Commander*



The John H. Reagan Camp is requesting donations from those who would be willing to contribute financially to help keep the Confederate Heroes Memorial Plaza landscape manicured. **If you would be willing to donate, please contact Richard Thornton at 903-731-1557 or email tx_tsar@hotmail.com.**



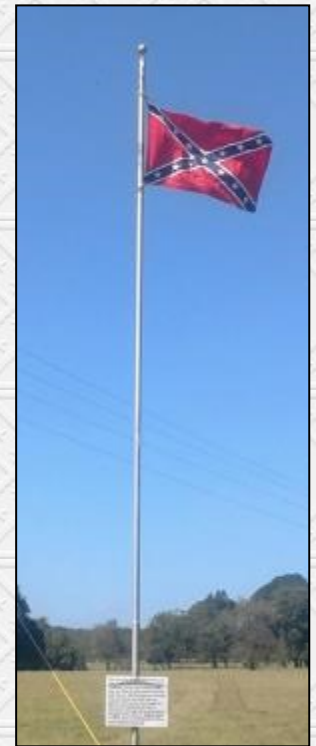
The Battle of Sharpsburg (Antietam), fought on September 17, 1862, was the first battle where American war dead were photographed. Here a man looks at a fresh grave of a Union soldier as a dead Confederate soldier lays near the grave. (photo from history.com)

Prayer List

- Compatriot Forrest Bradberry
- Compatriot Gary Gibson & his wife, Lynn
- Compatriot J.B. Mason
- Compatriot Doug Smith (complications from several hip surgeries)
- Past Reagan Camp Historian Gary Williams
- Former Camp Commander Rudy Ray
- United Daughters of the Confederacy
- The Sovereign State of Texas

Officers for 2024

- Commander - Ed Heitman
- 1st Lt. - David Franklin
- Adjutant/Treasurer - Richard Thornton
- Sgt at Arms - Marc Robinson
- Judge Advocate - Martin Lawrence
- Chaplain - Dwight Franklin



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The Reagan Camp will have monthly meetings on the 4th Tuesday of each month in the Commercial Bank of Texas meeting room

Sept 24, 2024 - Camp Meeting 6:30 pm

October 22, 2024 - Camp Meeting 6:30 pm

November meeting not scheduled yet

Date for December meeting will be announced at a later date.

This flag flies in honor and memory of over 1,000 Confederate veterans from Anderson County who marched off to war, one third of whom never returned, and the over 500 Confederate veterans from all across the South who are buried in this county. They fought for liberty and independence from a tyrannical and oppressive government.

Provided by the John H. Reagan Camp #2156, Sons of Confederate Veterans. www.reaganscvcamp.org

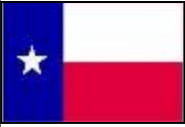
“NOTHING FILLS ME WITH DEEPER SADNESS THAN TO SEE A SOUTHERN MAN APOLOGIZING FOR THE DEFENSE WE MADE OF OUR INHERITANCE. OUR CAUSE WAS SO JUST, SO SACRED, THAT HAD I KNOWN ALL THAT HAS COME TO PASS, HAD I KNOWN WHAT WAS TO BE INFLICTED UPON ME, ALL THAT MY COUNTRY WAS TO SUFFER, ALL THAT OUR POSTERITY WAS TO ENDURE, I WOULD DO IT ALL OVER AGAIN.”

-PRESIDENT JEFFERSON DAVIS-

Above: Reagan Camp’s battle flag and sign displayed proudly at intersection of FM 315 and Anderson Cty Rd 448, ten miles north of Palestine.

“DUTY IS THE MOST SUBLIME WORD IN OUR LANGUAGE. DO YOUR DUTY IN ALL THINGS. YOU CANNOT DO MORE. YOU SHOULD NEVER WISH TO DO LESS.”

-GENERAL ROBERT E. LEE-



JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP SEPTEMBER MEETING PICTURES

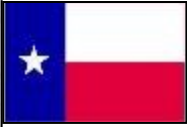


The September meeting was held on September the 24th. We had ten compatriots at this month's meeting. We always have plenty of food, and this month was no exception. Richard Thornton's wife made some homemade chicken lasagna that was delicious! Marc Robinson brought pizza, and Dwight Franklin brought pinto beans with ham and cornbread. Richard's wife made a chocolate cake for dessert.

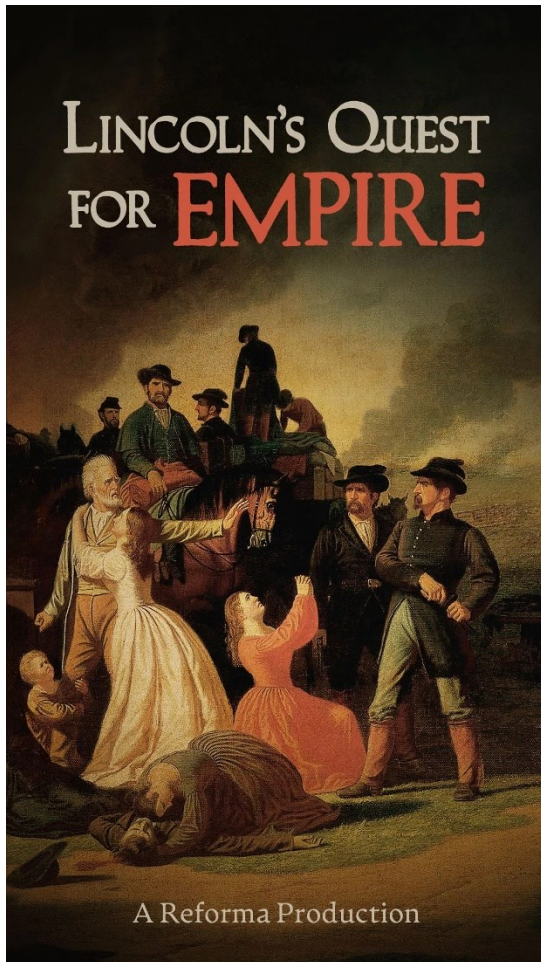
We usually wait until after we are through eating before having our historical program, but this month's program was different. Commander Ed Heitman provided us with "Lincoln's Quest for Empire". (It is a documentary on things that led up to the war between the states.) Since the documentary is 2 hours long, Ed started it early so we could

watch it while we ate. This is a very good documentary. It tells a lot of information that you will not hear from those who are trying to hide the true history of our nation. (We watched 45 minutes of the program and will continue watching it at the next meeting). You can read more about the program on the next page. Our next meeting will be at 6:30pm on October 22nd. Hope to see you there.





SEPTEMBER HISTORICAL PROGRAM LINCOLN'S QUEST FOR EMPIRE



Commander Ed Heitman presented the historical program this month with part one of a documentary titled "Lincoln's Quest for Empire".

(the program can be found at <https://lincolnsquestforempire.com/>)

This is a very, very interesting program. It tells of a lot of changes from the beginning of the United States up until the start of the war of Northern Aggression. It goes into detail explaining changes in religion, the heavy taxation that was imposed on the southern states, the way the northern states were allowed to keep slaves while the southern states were not, and how slavery was never an issue until many, many months after the war had started. (9-22-1862)

We only watched the first 45 minutes of the 2 hour program. We usually wait until we finish eating to have the historical program, but this documentary was shown while we ate in order to allow us to be able to watch more of it.

The following is the description of the documentary from their website:

"Discover the shocking truths buried within America's untold history in this groundbreaking documentary. Featuring stunning visuals and expert analysis, "Lincoln's Quest for Empire" explores Christianity's pivotal role in American history, the fate of the Puritan faith in the North, and the rise of Northern heretical movements. Delve into the unexpected causes of the Civil War, the concealed story of antebellum slavery, and the Emancipation Proclamation's ulterior motives. Uncover the true face of Abraham Lincoln, a man revered as a national saint but led over a million Americans to their deaths. Prepare for an eye-opening journey that will change how you see America's past and present."

This is a very informative program. If you want to learn more about things that led up to the war between the states, this is one that you want to watch.

We would like to thank Ed for the program, and we are looking forward to seeing more of it at next month's meeting. It will be at 6:30pm on October 22nd.



THE BATTLE OF SHARPSBURG (ANTIETAM)

SEPTEMBER 17, 1862



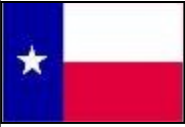
The Battle of Sharpsburg, also called the Battle of Antietam, occurred on September 17, 1862, at Antietam Creek near Sharpsburg, Maryland. It pitted Confederate General Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia against Union General George McClellan's Army of the Potomac and was the culmination of Lee's attempt to invade the north. The battle's outcome would be vital to shaping America's future, and it remains the deadliest one-day battle in all of American military history. The Battle of Antietam began at dawn on September 17 as the fog lifted. Longstreet's and Hill's units formed the Confederate right and center flanks to the west of Antietam Creek, while Jackson's and Brigadier General John G. Walker's units formed the Confederate left flank.

All of Lee's troops were worn-out and hungry, and many were sick. They watched and waited as McClellan's army assembled along the creek's east side. Union forces outnumbered Confederates by two to one, although McClellan thought Lee's forces were much larger.



Collection of Bob Zeller

Several dead Confederate artillery men lie outside Dunker Church after the Battle of Antietam. The church was the location of some of the bloodiest fighting during the battle.



THE BATTLE OF SHARPSBURG (ANTIETAM)

SEPTEMBER 17, 1862



Troops from both sides faced-off across a 30-acre cornfield owned by David Miller. Union troops fired first at the Confederate's left flank and the carnage began. Confederate troops ferociously fought off offensive after offensive to prevent being overrun, turning the cornfield into a massive killing field. Just eight hours in, there were over 15,000 casualties.

BLOODY LANE

Near the center of the battlefield, another site of slaughter was a farm lane known as the "Sunken Road," where Hill's division of approximately 2,600 men had piled fence rails along the road's embankment to fortify their position against Union Major General William H. French's 5,500 approaching troops.

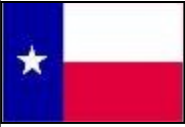
When French's troops arrived, fighting ensued at close range. Three hours later, Union troops had pushed the Confederates back and over 5,000 men were either dead or injured. The fighting was so gory Sunken Road earned a new name: Bloody Lane.

For more than three hours, fewer than 500 Confederate soldiers held Lower Bridge against multiple assaults by Union General Ambrose Burnside's Ninth Corps. After Burnside's troops finally took the bridge and had the Confederate right flank in sight, Confederate reinforcements arrived and pushed them back.



Photo from history.com

A ditch, called 'Bloody Lane,' with bodies of dead Confederate soldiers awaiting burial after the Battle of Antietam, photographed by Alexander Gardner, September 19, 1862.



THE BATTLE OF SHARPSBURG (ANTIETAM) SEPTEMBER 17, 1862



BATTLE OF SHARPSBURG ENDS

As night fell, thousands of bodies littered the sprawling Antietam battlefield and both sides regrouped and claimed their dead and wounded. Just twelve hours of intense and often close-range fighting with muskets and cannons had resulted in around 23,000 casualties, including an estimated 3,650 dead.

The next day, as Lee began the painstaking job of moving his ravaged troops back to Virginia, McClellan, surprisingly, did nothing. Despite having the advantage, he allowed Lee to retreat without resistance. From his point of view, he'd accomplished his mission of forcing Lee's troops from Maryland and preventing a Confederate win on Union soil.

President Lincoln, however, wasn't pleased. He thought McClellan missed a great opportunity to kick the Army of Northern Virginia while they were down and potentially end the war. After the war-weary general repeatedly refused Lincoln's orders to pursue Lee's retreating troops, Lincoln removed McClellan from command on November 5, 1862.

Military historians consider the Battle of Antietam (Sharpsburg) a stalemate. Even so, the Union claimed victory. And keeping Confederates in their southern box enabled President Lincoln to finally release his Emancipation Proclamation on September 22, 1862.

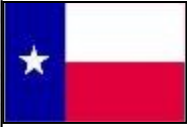
Ironically, Lincoln's proclamation didn't free slaves in Maryland—one of a handful of slave states that had remained in the Union—since it only applied to slaves in rebel states. Still, it endorsed the idea that the war wasn't just about states' rights but also stopping slavery.

The Union's claim of victory at Antietam and Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation are thought to be why Republicans held the House in the 1862 mid-term elections. They also ended any hope of France and Great Britain acknowledging the Confederacy and coming to their aid. This further isolated the Confederacy and made it harder for them to re-supply their troops and citizens.

There has never been a bloodier day in American military history than September 17, 1862. Not only did the Battle of Antietam change the course of the Civil War, it also brought to light the horror of war in a way never seen before, thanks to photographer Alexander Gardner's dramatic battlefield photographs.

Perhaps the reality of the battle was best described by Union soldier Charles Goddard in a letter of his mother: "If the horrors of war cannot be seen on this battlefield, they can't be seen any where."

This article and photos are courtesy of history.com



CONFEDERATE VICTORY IN SEPTEMBER

SECOND BATTLE OF SABINE PASS (FROM HISTORY.COM)



On the afternoon of September 8, 1863, U.S. Navy Lieutenant Frederick Crocker ("Acting Captain") was in command of the advance squadron composed of four gunboats. Crocker was a veteran officer of considerable recent experience in Union river-gunboat actions and blockade duty. His ship was the *USS Clifton*, a steam-powered side-wheeler. Besides *Clifton*, Crocker's advance squadron included *Granite City*, *Sachem*, and *Arizona*, all former merchant ships. Less than three miles southeast downriver, well out of range of the Confederate fort's cannons, were anchored seven U.S. Navy transports carrying most of the U.S. Army soldiers of the landing force. The *U.S.S. Suffolk*, hosting invasion force commander U.S. Army Major General Franklin and his staff, headed the seven-vessel squadron. Outside the principal Gulf shore sand bar, an additional two miles (3.2 km) downstream of this squadron, lay at anchor the remaining ships of the 22-vessel invasion fleet. The cited contemporary U.S. Army map shows the nominal positions of the bombardment fleet of four, the seven ships of the transport squadron, and the relative position farther out in the Gulf of the remaining vessels. The official reports of the battle generally reflect the map's information. The total number of Union infantry assault troops in the landing force is given as 5,000 infantrymen, which included 500 listed as aboard the *Granite City*, those aboard the six troop transports in the seven-ship squadron headed by *Suffolk*, plus an artillery company somewhere among them. The first wave of 500 men aboard *Granite City* which steamed as close behind *Clifton* as possible but out of range of the fort's guns, were to land in the open space adjacent to and downstream of the fort. This was a flat, often muddy area already cleared of brush by the Confederate garrison as a clear field of fire for the canister and grape of the fort's artillery. The U.S. Army's invasion plan, therefore, absolutely required that the Confederate guns be silenced before any troops were debarked. This engagement was to be the largest amphibious assault on enemy territory in the history of the U.S. military up to that date.

Leon Smith, who was at Beaumont, Texas, immediately ordered all Confederate troops in Beaumont, some eighty men, aboard the steamer *Roebuck* and sent them down the river to reinforce Fort Griffin. Smith and a Captain Good rode to the fort on horseback, reaching the fort some three hours before the steamer, arriving just as the Union gunboats *USS Clifton* and *Sachem* came within range, and assisted in the defense of the fort.

Dowling's well practiced Irish-Texan artillerymen, whose chosen and officially approved unit name was "Jefferson Davis Guards", had placed range-stakes in the two narrow and shallow (5-to-7 feet or 1.5-to-2.1 m) river channels. These were the "Texas channel" near the southwest shore and the "Louisiana channel" against the Louisiana shore. The white-painted stakes were for determining accurate range of the fort's guns: six old smooth-bore cannon. Each "Davis Guards" gun crew during gunnery practice thereby worked to predetermine the approximate charge (amount of gunpowder) needed for each type projectile available for their specific gun (ball, canister, or grapeshot); and which specific guns, charges, and loads had the best potential to hit each range-stake.

Crocker's squadron had no local river pilots, but only general knowledge of the river's channels, and no assurance of locations of the constantly varying depths especially of large oyster-shell "reefs" or "banks" between the river's two channels. Regarding this battle no mention is found in official U.S. Navy reports of whether Union sailors were making observations and taking depth soundings from the gunboats' now dangerous top decks, while the Confederate cannon shots pounded and shook their ships. The few maps to which they had access were old and outdated or could not account for recent changes in river-bottom conditions. astounding success as their aim was deadly accurate.

On Captain Crocker's signal the *Sachem*, followed by *Arizona*, advanced up the right channel (Louisiana side) as fast as they dared, firing their port-side guns at the fort. *Clifton* approached in the lead, ascending the Texas channel at full speed. *Granite City* hovered out of range behind *Clifton*, having orders not to risk debarking the 500 assault troops until the fort surrendered or its guns were silenced.



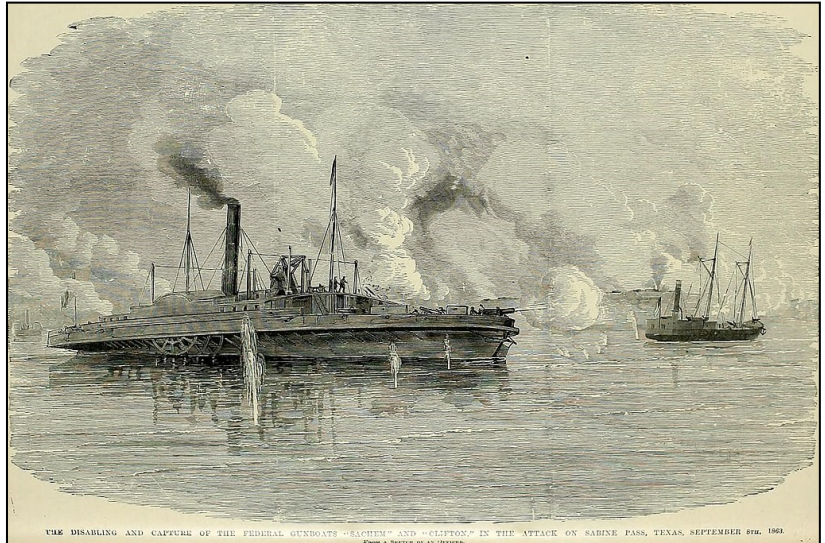
CONFEDERATE VICTORY

SEPTEMBER



Granite City hovered out of range behind *Clifton*, having orders not to risk debarking the 500 assault troops until the fort surrendered or its guns were silenced. As *Sachem* entered among the range-stakes, the Confederates opened fire. Then *Clifton* came into range, followed by *Arizona*. Despite their old smoothbore cannon, one of which had just become inoperable, after only a few rounds it was obvious the Confederate artillerymen's months of training and target practice was an astounding success as their aim was deadly accurate.

The Confederates captured *Clifton* and *Sachem* with a total of 13 heavy cannon, including at least two new potent Parrott rifles, which were handed over to Leon Smith's Texas Marine Department. The Union casualties amounted to two dozen killed and badly wounded, about 37 missing, and 315 Navy men captured. The combined Union Army and Navy invasion force withdrew and returned to New Orleans. The Confederates had no casualties.



THE DISABLING AND CAPTURE OF THE FEDERAL GUNBOATS "SACHEM" AND "CLIFTON" IN THE ATTACK ON SABINE PASS, TEXAS, SEPTEMBER 8th, 1863.

AFTERMATH

In recognition of the victory, the Confederate Congress passed a resolution of special thanks to the officers and men of the Davis Guard. In addition, Houston residents raised funds to provide medals to the Guard; the Davis Guards Medals were made from silver Mexican pesos by smoothing off the coins, then hand-stamping and hand-engraving on one side, the battle name and date and on the other side the initials "D G" and a cross pattee. The medals were hung on green ribbons, and presented to the members of the Davis Guard. The official Confederate silver medals were presented in a public ceremony a year later.

The Battle of Sabine Pass was of moderate tactical or strategic significance to the Civil War. It was successful in ensuring that the anticipated overland Union invasion of Texas was delayed indefinitely. A Confederate supply line from Mexico to Texas had existed out of the Port of Bagdad, since the outbreak of the war but was held by the increasingly isolated Mexican Republicans. By the time Imperial French and Mexican forces captured Bagdad in 1864, a supply line to anywhere in the Confederacy east of the Mississippi was no longer feasible on account of the Union victory at Vicksburg in July 1863. The Confederacy was therefore forced to continue its reliance on blockade running to import valuable materials and resources.



Pictured on the left and right are pictures of a Davis Guards Medal.

The **Davis Guards Medal** was a military award presented by the citizens of Houston to each of the participants a few weeks after the battle of Sabine Pass (September 8, 1863). Father Quesart, in charge of the Catholic Church in Houston during the American Civil War, started the project by popular subscription. These hand-engraved medals are the only medals known to be presented to Confederate soldiers during the Civil War.

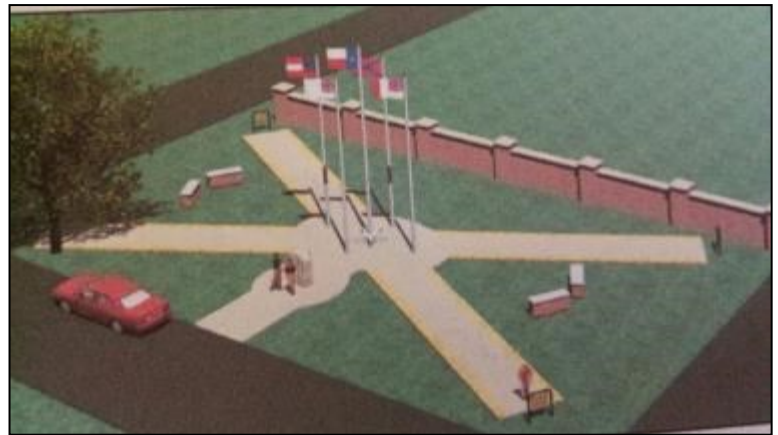




A GREAT WAY TO ENSURE THAT YOUR ANCESTOR'S SERVICE AND HONOR IS NOT FORGOTTEN



Many Americans have forgotten that freedom isn't free at all. There have been hundreds of thousands of Americans who have willingly given their life for their country so that we could continue to have the rights of free men. But there is a group of people in our country who have decided that they have the right to take away the rights of others, especially if those others do not agree with their agenda. These people have no respect for the true history of anything that goes against what they want. Although they cannot change true history, they are changing the history books and in so doing are changing what people are taught about the history of our country. These people don't care if they are dishonoring our Confederate ancestors. They care nothing about our ancestor's service. Do you care about preserving your ancestor's service? If so, you can do so by having his service noted in the Confederate Veteran's Memorial Plaza with a paver that will include his name and service information on it for only \$50. It will last for years and years to come and will let countless people see his name and information. It is a wonderful way to give him the recognition that he deserves.



WILLIAM C FRANKLIN CO D 12 BTNN ARK SHARP SHOOTERS	JOHN DANIEL LILES PVT DIED 4 25 1865 POW	WILLIAM J. CHAFFIN CO H 5 TEX CAV CSA 1829 - 1908	JOHN H. REAGAN SCV CAMP #2156 PALESTINE TEXAS	PVT WM. H. FOSTER CO. H 1ST TEX INF DIED AS POW OCT 63
JASPER N. CARNES CO B 8 REGIMENT TEXAS INFANTRY	RICHARD A. HODGES CO K 22 TX INF CSA 1833 - 1905	ANDREW J BEAUCHAMP CO F 13 TEX INF 12-9-1834 9-1-1894	GEORGE KNOX GIBSON PVT. CO. B 12TH TEXAS CAVLRY, CSA	WILLIAM H. CRIST COMPANY I 7 TX CAV C.S.A.
JACOB L. SHERIDAN CAPT CO I 1ST REGT TEXAS INFANTRY	JOHN H. SHERIDAN PVT. CO I 1ST REGT TEXAS INFANTRY	COL. A.T. RAINEY CO. H 1 TEX. INF. HOOD'S TEX. BRIG	PVT. R. M. LUMMUS 53 GEORGIA INF. COMPANY B C.S.A	PVT ALLEN G TURNER CO A 7TH BATTALION MISS INF. CSA
L. E. SHERIDAN PVT. CO I 1ST REGT TEXAS INFANTRY	PVT WM. N SHERIDAN CO C 6 BATTALION TEXAS CALVARY	STEPHEN D. RAINEY CAPTAIN 1ST BATT. TEX CAV	SGT. AMOS G. HANKS CO F. 1ST TEX INF HOODS BRIGADE CSA	WILLIAM H. DYER PVT CO K MISS INF C.S.A.

Above are some pictures of some of the pavers in the plaza. If you would like to purchase a paver for your ancestor, you can pick what you want to have inscribed on it. These pictures will give you some ideas to what you might want on your paver.

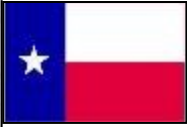


ROBERT E. LEE CALENDAR



SEPTEMBER 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Sept 1, 1856 to wife. We are all in the hands of a kind God, who will do for us what is best, & more than we deserve & we have only to endeavor to deserve more & to do our duty to him.</p>	<p>Sept 2, 1864 to Jeff Davis. Our ranks are constantly diminishing by battle & disease, & few recruits are received.</p>	<p>Sept 3, 1861 to Custis. Know that wherever you may be placed you will do your duty. That is all the pleasure, all the comfort, all the glory we can enjoy in this world.</p>	<p>Sept 4, 1865 to A.M. Keiley. It should be the object of all to avoid controversy.</p>	<p>Sept 5, 1857 to Agnes. It is persuasion and not force...cultivate the powers of pleasing.</p>	<p>Sept 6 undated to A.M. Keiley. Encouraging our citizens to engage in the duties of life with all their heart & mind our country will not only be restored but will be advanced in science, virtue, & religion.</p>	<p>Sept 7, 1865 to Capt. Tatnall. I believe it to be the duty of every one to unite in the restoration of the country & the reestablishment of peace & harmony.</p>
<p>Sept 8 undated to J. Gordon. The thorough education of all classes of the people is the most efficacious means, in my opinion, of promoting prosperity.</p>	<p>Sept 9, 1861 to his wife. Everybody is slandered, even the good.</p>	<p>Sept 10, 1863 to Mildred. You have only always to do what is right. It will become easier by practice.</p>	<p>Sept 11 undated I shall, however, endeavor to do my duty and fight to the last.</p>	<p>Sept 12 undated to wife. Feeling lonesome, as the saying is, and out of sorts, I got on a horse & took a ride.</p>	<p>Sept 13 Undated to Capt. Tatnall. I have since the cessation of hostilities advised all with whom come within the terms of the President's proclamation to take the oath of allegiance.</p>	<p>Sept 14, 1869 to Col. Duncan. As individuals prosper, communities will become rich.</p>
<p>Sept 15 undated Study human nature, more by experience than by precept.</p>	<p>Sept 16, 1853 to his wife. Young men must not expect to escape contact with evil, but must learn not to be contaminated by it.</p>	<p>Sept 17, 1861 to wife. I had taken every precaution to insure success, & counted on it; but the Ruler of the Universe willed otherwise.</p>	<p>Sept 18, 1864 to wife. It is from no desire of exposure or hazard that I live in a tent, but from necessity. I must be where I can speedily attend to the duties of my position.</p>	<p>Sept 19 undated To Markie Action in this World goes farther than Sentiment.</p>	<p>Sept 20 undated To wife. I have been offered rooms in the houses of our citizens, but I could not turn the dwellings of my kind hosts into a barrack.</p>	<p>Sept 21 undated to Capt Maury I look forward to better days, & trust that time & experience, the great teachers of men, under the guidance of an ever merciful God, save</p>
<p>Sept 22 undate to Capt Maury. The thought of abandoning the country is abhorrent to my feelings & I prefer to struggle for its restoration & share its fate, rather than give up all as lost.</p>	<p>Sept 23 undated to Mildred. The more you know, the more you find there is to know in this grand & beautiful world.</p>	<p>Sept 24 undated The more you learn the more you are conscious of your ignorance</p>	<p>Sept 25 undated to Mildred. You will find all the days of your life that there is much to learn & much to do...learn all you can.</p>	<p>Sept 26, 1861 to wife. It is raining. The men are exposed on the mountain without tents. Today my tent came up & I am in it. Yet I fear I shall not sleep for thinking of the men.</p>	<p>Sept 27 undated to Mildred. The struggle which you describe you experience between doing what you ought & what you desire is common to all.</p>	<p>Sept 28 undated As long as virtue was dominant in the republic, so long was the happiness of the people secure.</p>
<p>Sept 29, 1862 to Mary. If God spares me to the end of the war, I trust to be with you all at least, for the few remnant years of life.</p>	<p>Sept 30 My Beautiful Daughters:.... May good angels guard you & bright visions cheer you.</p>					



JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP
TEXAS CIVIL WAR HISTORY IN SEPTEMBER
From the Texas State Historical Association



Sept 1—On this day in 1863, Maj. Santos Benavides, the highest-ranking Mexican American to serve in the Confederacy, led seventy-nine men of the predominantly Tejano Thirty-third Texas Cavalry across the Rio Grande in pursuit of the bandit Octaviano Zapata. Union agents had recruited Zapata, a former associate of Juan N. Cortina, to lead raids into Texas and thus force Confederate troops to remain in the Rio Grande valley rather than participate in military campaigns in the east. Zapata was also associated with Edmund J. Davis, who was conducting Northern-sponsored military activities in the vicinity of Brownsville and Matamoros. For these reasons, and because his men often flew the American flag during their raids, Zapata's band was often referred to as the "First Regiment of Union Troops." Benavides caught up with Zapata on September 2 near Mier, Tamaulipas. After a brief exchange of gunfire, the Zapatistas dispersed, leaving ten men dead, including Zapata. Benavides later defended Laredo against Davis's First Texas Cavalry, and arranged for the safe passage of Texas cotton to Matamoros during the Union occupation of Brownsville. He died at his Laredo home in 1891.

Sept 7—On this day in 1866, federal soldiers under Bvt. Maj. George W. Smith reportedly set fire to and looted several stores in Brenham. The incident grew out of a controversy involving newspaper editor D. L. McGary's frequent attacks on the local Freedmen's Bureau in the Brenham *Banner*. McGary was arrested by federal authorities; after his release, on September 7, three soldiers were shot during an altercation at a dance. Other soldiers returned to the scene, arrested two citizens, and set a fire that burned part of the town. Smith maintained the innocence of his men and refused to turn them over to local officials. The episode helped Brenham gain a reputation for the "unreconstructed" Southern mentality of its white residents. After lengthy hearings by both federal and state officials, the issue of the soldiers' guilt remained unresolved. Smith was transferred to Seguin, where he was later convicted of theft of Freedmen's Bureau funds. Though his conviction was overturned on appeal, he resigned his commission in 1869, the same year that a convention of Democratic editors met in Brenham and denounced, among other things, the idea of black suffrage. Smith died in 1890.

Sept 9—On this day in 1861, the Eighth Texas Cavalry, a group of volunteers popularly known as Terry's Texas Rangers, was mustered into Confederate service in Houston. The regiment had been assembled by Benjamin Franklin Terry in August. Terry was elected colonel, Thomas S. Lubbock lieutenant colonel, and Thomas Harrison major; by the fall of 1862, Terry and Lubbock were dead, and Harrison became regimental commander, serving in that post until the end of the Civil War. The Terry Rangers distinguished themselves in a number of battles, including those at Shiloh (1862) and Chickamauga (1863); in the Atlanta campaign (1864); and as raiders in Kentucky and Tennessee under Lt. Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest. They were also part of the force under Gen. Joseph E. Johnston that attempted in vain to slow Maj. Gen. William T. Sherman's "march to the sea" during the final months of the war. Rather than surrender with the rest of Johnston's army in April 1865, 158 of the reported 248 survivors of the regiment slipped through Union lines to join other Confederates yet in the field. With the total collapse of the Southern cause, however, the Terry Rangers drifted home as individuals and in small groups, having never officially surrendered. With the exception of Hood's Texas Brigade, the Eighth Texas Cavalry was probably the best-known Texas unit to serve in the Civil War.

Sept 19—On this day in 1863, the two-day battle of Chickamauga began, ending in one of the last great field victories for the Confederacy. The first day's action, fought in densely wooded terrain, became a classic "soldier's battle" in which generalship counted for little and the outcome was decided by fierce small-unit encounters. Texas units in the Georgia battle included Hood's Texas Brigade, Ector's Brigade, Deshler's Brigade, and Terry's Texas Rangers. As Hood's Brigade went into battle they called to a regiment of exhausted Tennesseans, "Rise up, Tennesseans, and see the Texans go in!" When they in turn came staggering back from the woods after being repulsed by Union cavalry, a Tennessean was waiting to yell, "Rise up, Tennesseans, and see the Texans come out!" Among the Texas casualties in the battle were Gen. James Deshler, who was killed, and John Bell Hood, who lost a leg.

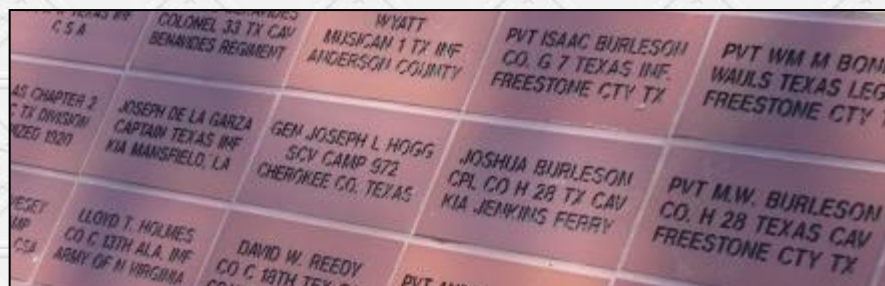
Sept 29—On this day in 1867, Francis McMullan, the leader of a group of Texans who moved to Brazil rather than remain under a Reconstruction government, died at Iguape, Brazil. McMullan was active in politics in Hill County before the Civil War and served as a delegate to the Texas Democratic convention in Galveston in 1860. After serving the Confederacy in Mexico during the Civil War, he joined William Bowen in a plan to take advantage of liberal Brazilian immigration terms and move a colony of 154 from north central Texas to South America. McMullan and Bowen left for Brazil in late 1865 to locate lands and decided on fifty square leagues on the headwaters of the São Lourenço River south of São Paulo. McMullan returned to Texas in June 1866. After a series of delays and misadventures, he guided the emigrants to colony lands before becoming terminally ill with tuberculosis. His colony is credited with introducing the moldboard plow and modern agriculture to Brazil. In addition, colony members established a Baptist church there and made major contributions to Brazil's educational system.



CONFEDERATE VETERANS MEMORIAL PLAZA INFORMATION



The Confederate Veterans Memorial Plaza had the official opening and dedication on April 13, 2013. It is a beautiful Memorial to the Confederate Veterans. Although it is open for visitors, there is still room along the sidewalks for you to purchase a brick paver in the name of your confederate ancestor. This will ensure that your ancestor's service to the confederacy will not be forgotten, but will be remembered for years to come. If you would like to make a donation for a paver, please contact Dan Dyer at E-mail: danielder497@yahoo.com or Phone: (903) 391-2224 or Richard Thornton, Adjutant/Treasurer at E-mail: tx_tsar@hotmail.com



Would you like to honor you ancestor? There is still room in the plaza for you to have a paver with your ancestor's name and military information. You can also acquire a paver in the name of your SCV Camp.



JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP #2156

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www.reaganscvcamp.org

The citizen-soldiers who fought for the Confederacy personified the best qualities of America. The preservation of liberty and freedom was the motivating factor in the South's decision to fight the *Second American Revolution*. The tenacity with which Confederate soldiers fought underscored their belief in the rights guaranteed by the Constitution. These attributes are the underpinning of our democratic society and represent the foundation on which this nation was built.

Today, the **Sons of Confederate Veterans** is preserving the history and legacy of these heroes, so future generations can understand the motives that animated the Southern Cause.

The SCV is the direct heir of the United Confederate Veterans, and the oldest hereditary organization for male descendants of Confederate soldiers. Organized at Richmond, Virginia in 1896, the SCV continues to serve as a historical, patriotic, and non-political organization dedicated to ensuring that a true history of the 1861-1865 period is preserved.

Membership in the **Sons of Confederate Veterans** is open to all male descendants of any veteran who served honorably in the Confederate armed forces. Membership can be obtained through either **lineal or collateral** family lines and kinship to a veteran must be **documented genealogically**. The minimum age for full membership is 12, but there is no minimum for Cadet membership. **Friends of the SCV** memberships are available as well to those who are committed to upholding our charge, but do not have the Confederate ancestry.

THE CHARGE TO THE SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

"To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we will commit the vindication of the cause for which we fought. To your strength will be given the defense of the Confederate soldier's good name, the guardianship of his history, the emulation of his virtues, the perpetuation of those principles which he loved and which you love also, and those ideals which made him glorious and which you also cherish."

Lt. General Stephen Dill Lee, Commander-in-Chief

United Confederate Veterans

New Orleans, Louisiana, April 25, 1906.



Camp meetings: 4th Tuesday Each
Month - 06:30 PM
Meal served at each meeting.

Commercial Bank of Texas on the
corner of N. Mallard & E. Lacy Street

The Bank is located just south of the
Anderson County Courthouse
Annex.