

# IN THE TRENCHES

DECEMBER 2020

## FROM THE COMMANDER

*Edward Campbell*

I have discussed this with other members of the Camp and I feel that it is best if we cancel the December 8 meeting and Christmas Party. I am very upset about having to cancel but with the rise in Covid cases, I feel that many people would choose not to come anyway. I do hope that you all have a wonderful Christmas and that you do celebrate the season with your loved ones. Our next meeting will now be January 5 at which time I am planning a video on Robert E. Lee and Stonewall Jackson to prepare us for the Lee-Jackson dinner on the 16th. I am still planning both of these events and feel that they will take place. Plans for Lee-Jackson are not definite but we do have our friend Brandon Beck committed to be our speaker. I am planning the event on the 16th of January, a Saturday evening, place to be determined by the end of this week. Please keep that date open and plan to attend with your wives or significant others. As always, this is a Banquet and I am asking everyone to dress accordingly in Traditional Church attire. We will sell tickets also and I plan to have everything finalized by the January 5 meeting.

During this Christmas season it is so important to remember what this season is all about. This is by far my favorite time of year as we celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Despite all of the commercialism, it is important for each of us to remember the true meaning of the Holiday season. We as Christians cannot even let the Coronavirus keep us from celebrating this most Holy time of year.

I haven't heard of any news regarding Heritage violations but we must all stay diligent because the enemy will not give up. The same people who are trying to steal our election are the people who are trying to destroy our Heritage. I am praying every day for the President and the current situation and I urge you all to do the same. The integrity of our future elections is at stake and it is also important that we contact our elected officials and let them know how we feel about all of this. You do not have to contact just our elected representatives but those from other nearby states can be a valuable asset to us as well. For example, at least two current Senators representing other states are Mississippi natives. Senator Marsha Blackburn of Tennessee is a native of Laurel and a graduate of Mississippi State. Senator John Kennedy of Louisiana is a native of Amite County.

I wish to thank our own Thomas Dabney for presenting the program to the Clinton Camp on November 19th. I am friends with the Commander, Ray Williamson and he is always looking for good speakers. We need to reach out to and support our fellow Camps as much as we can and even attend their meetings when we can. The Clinton Camp meets the 3rd Thursday of each month at Picanta's Mexican Restaurant on Highway 80. members of our Camp are always welcome.

I wish each and everyone of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I regret that we are not having our Christmas party but feel that it is the right deci-



*John Clifford Pemberton  
Lt. General, CSA.*

## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- **December Meeting Cancelled**
- *Next Meeting—Tuesday  
January 8, 2021*
- *Lee-Jackson Dinner—  
Saturday, January 16,  
2021—Location TBA*



sion at this time.

God Bless each of you and God Bless the South,

Edward Campbell  
Commander

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## THE WAR IN THE PACIFIC

*John Marquardt, The Abbeville Institute*

The dramatic events leading up to the secession of the Southern States, the tragedy of the War Between the States and the ensuing final act of the South's Reconstruction period were, for the most part, staged east of the Mississippi River, as well as in the waters surrounding the East Coast. A lesser part of the drama was played out in the vast Trans-Mississippi area, while the scenes that took place on America's West Coast and in the Pacific drew scant reviews in their day and are now little more than footnotes in American history. That is not to say, however, that the developments that took place on the east side of the Continental Divide did not have just as telling an effect on those in the newer States of California and Oregon, as well as the Territory of Washington.

In the mid-Nineteenth Century, parts of California were decidedly pro-Southern and even a pro-slavery. Most of this sentiment developed two years before California attained statehood in 1850 when thousands of Southerners, many with slaves, flocked to the gold fields in the Sacramento area. Within a few years there were as many as a thousand black slaves in the new State. In the 1850s, Southerners also held a large portion of California's elected and appointed offices throughout the State, men who reflected the political thinking and policies of their home States. When the bonds of the Federal Union were finally broken by the Southern States, their counterparts in the West also urged secession from the United States. While hundreds returned to the East to enlist in the Confederate military when war came, many more remained in California to work and even to fight for the Southern cause.

In the far north, there was little actual support for the Confederacy in the area furthest from the main theater of the War, Washington Territory. Furthermore, slave ownership there had been banned, first by the Northwest Ordinance of 1787 and then reconfirmed in the Territorial Organic Act of 1848. There were, however, many Southern sympathizers in the Territory and a number of these also went east to join the Confederate military. In 1904 and 1905, chapters of the

Sons of Confederate and the United Daughters of the Confederacy were established in what was by that time Washington State.

The State of Oregon which had been admitted to the Union only two years before the start of the War was a far different story. While almost all of the Federal troops in Washington Territory had been kept there to guard against a possible British invasion from Canada, most of those in Oregon were recalled east. However, they soon had to be replaced with local militia units to counter a wave of Confederate sentiment. Such activity was mainly carried out by an anti-Union group, the Knights of the Golden Circle, that formed some armed partisan units, one of which planned to seize Fort Vancouver on the Columbia River, while another actually occupied the city of Jacksonville and raised Confederate flags there.

There were also groups of Confederate partisan cavalry which carried out a number of raids in California, mostly in the area between Los Angeles and San Francisco. Two of the most active units were those which operated in Santa Clara and Santa Cruz Counties just south of San Francisco. One of these was under the command of Captain Rufus Ingram who had reportedly served with Captain William Quantrill's Partisan Rangers in Missouri and who had been sent to California under commission to form a similar unit. The other group was headed by a former Kentuckian from Frankfort County, Thomas Poole, who had had been made the acting sheriff of California's Montgomery County in 1857. The primary targets of these irregular units were the gold shipments bound for the Federal treasury which they wanted to capture and send to the Confederacy. In the summer of 1864, Captain Ingram and Poole with a combined force of about fifty raiders were attacked by Federal troops when they tried to raid a shipment from the New Almaden Mines near San Jose. Ingram managed to escape and return to Missouri where he continued to fight as a partisan. Poole, however, was tried for treason and hanged a year later.

Civilian secessionist activity continued to be a danger to the Union throughout the War, and became so widespread in the Los Angeles area that the Federal government constructed a large military facility there in which a number of arrested pro-Confederates were held, mostly without the right of habeas corpus. Others in the San Francisco area were similarly confined at the recently completed fort on Alcatraz Island . . . the first time that facility had ever been used as a prison. While the pro-Confederates were never able to take the State out of the Union, their post-war political opposition remained powerful enough to deny the State's ratification of two of the three Reconstruction Amendments, the Fourteenth and Fifteenth, which granted citizenship and voting rights to former slaves. These two Amendments from 1868 and 1870 were actually

not officially ratified by California until 1959 and 1962. Furthermore, the largest number of Confederate monuments and place names outside the South were in California.

The Federal authorities were also fearful of naval attacks on the West Coast by Confederate sea raiders such as the "CSS Alabama" and "CSS Shenandoah" or, in the event of intervention by England and France, by the warships of those nation's Pacific fleets. The Union's only naval force on the West Coast at the start of the War were the six steam-powered warships of the Pacific Squadron commanded by Commodore John B. Montgomery and based at Mare Island north of San Francisco. His flagship was the three-year old, twenty-seven gun sloop-of-war "USS Lancaster" with a crew of three hundred sixty-seven men. Two other ships were the newer six-gun sloop-of-war "USS Wyoming" and the smaller, five-gun sloop-of-war "USS Narragansett ." The remaining three vessels were the thirteen-year old "USS Saranac," an eleven-gun side-wheel sloop-of-war; the "USS St. Mary's," a seventeen-year old, twenty-two gun sloop-of-war, and the oldest ship, the "USS Cyane," a twenty-gun sloop that was built in 1837.

In October of 1863, seven ships of the Russian Far East Fleet commanded by Rear Admiral Andrei Popov sailed into San Francisco Bay to assist the Pacific Squadron. Admiral Popov had orders that in the event of hostile action taken by England or France against either Russia or the United States, his ships were to act as commerce raiders against British and French merchant vessels. The admiral was also ordered to place his ships under Union command in the event of actual war and to defend San Francisco against attacks by Confederate raiders. The same year, the first ironclad warship was dispatched to the Pacific, the "USS Camanche," one of the eight Passaic-Class monitors. The vessel's dismantled components had been loaded aboard the sailing ship "Aquila" in 1863 and shipped around South America to San Francisco. After the "Aquila" docked that November, a violent storm hit the area which sank the ship and the still-disassembled monitor. Other reports stated that during the storm the "Aquila" had collided with or was rammed by another ship that some said may have been manned by Confederate agents. The "Camanche" was salvaged a year later but was not commissioned until a month after the end of the War.

Even though the Confederate raider "CSS Shenandoah" roamed the Indian and Pacific Oceans from June 1864 until September 1865 under Commander James Waddell of North Carolina and sank or captured thirty-eight Union merchant and whaling ships, she was never sighted by any U. S. warship. The same held true in 1863 for the only other Confederate warship to sail in those waters, the "CSS Alabama" commanded by Captain Raphael Semmes of Maryland. Semmes took his ship around South Africa and into the Indian Ocean

in August of 1863 and after sinking only one ship there, he headed for the South Pacific. Semmes had learned from a British captain that the "USS Wyoming" under Commander David McDougal was waiting in the Sunda Strait in the Dutch East Indies to block his entry into the Java Sea and the Pacific, but felt that the "Alabama" was more than a match for the Union warship. The two ships did pass in the strait, coming within twenty-five miles of each other. After sinking only a half dozen ships in the Pacific and badly in need of repairs, Semmes headed the "Alabama" back to the Atlantic in the spring of 1864, only to meet his ship's end on June 19 in its fatal battle with the "USS Kearsarge" off the coast of France.

Prior to its close encounter with the "Alabama," the "Wyoming" had been captained by fifty-year old Commander John Kirkwood Mitchell of Virginia. When war broke out, Mitchell and a few fellow Southerners attempted to sail the vessel to Panama where it would take on a full crew and be commissioned as a Confederate warship . . . which would have posed a serious threat to Union shipping all along the West Coast. The plot, however, was discovered and Mitchell was stripped of his rank and dismissed from the Navy. He immediately left California and headed east to offer his services to the Confederacy.

Mitchell was made a commander in the Confederate Navy and sent to New Orleans to take charge of the Lower Mississippi River Squadron which contained the ironclads "CSS Louisiana," "CSS Mississippi" and "CSS Manassas." In April of 1862, he was in overall command of the small Confederate naval force that opposed the forty-three ship Union fleet led by Admiral David G. Farragut during the Battle of New Orleans. Mitchell was later promoted to captain and placed in charge of the Navy's Bureau of Orders and Detail and in May of 1864, he was made commander of the James River Squadron. He held that post until February of the following year when he was succeeded by Rear Admiral Raphael Semmes of "Alabama" fame. Mitchell was promoted to commodore just prior to the end of the War and after his death on December 5, 1889, his collection of over five hundred official documents, letters and other papers from 1862 to 1865 was donated to the Virginia Historical Society Library.

Two other ships of the Pacific Squadron were also involved in efforts to capture vessels for the Confederacy. In the spring of 1863, a group of Confederate sympathizers seized the sloop "J. M. Chapman" while it was docked in San Francisco and planned to arm it for use as a Confederate privateer. The old sloop "USS Cyane" chased and boarded the fleeing ship as it was leaving the harbor. The second incident took place the following November when the Squadron's

flagship "USS Lancaster" sailed to the Bay of Panama in pursuit of the passenger steamer "Salvadore" which had been taken over by a group of Confederates posing as passengers. Their plan was to turn the ship into a Confederate raider to capture gold shipments from California. When the steamer was sighted, a boarding party from the "Lancaster" rowed to the ship and retook control. Only one ship from the Squadron, however, was ever actually engaged in battle during the War, but that fight had nothing to do with the War itself.

After his unsuccessful search for the "Alabama," Commander McDougal sailed the "Wyoming" to Japan and arrived in Yokohama on May 10, 1863, to take on supplies and undergo repairs. While there, word was received by the American minister to Japan, Robert Pruyn, that on June 25th an American merchant ship, the "Pembroke," had been fired on in the Shimonoseki Strait, the waterway between Japan's main island of Honshu and its southern island of Kyushu. It was further reported that the French mail ship "Kien Chan" had also been attacked in the same area in early July, as well as a Dutch warship, the "Medusa," on July 11. Pruyn immediately ordered McDougal to sail the "Wyoming" to the strait, and he arrived there on the evening July 15.

When the "Wyoming" entered the waterway the following morning, it was fired on by several shore batteries, including some armed with heavy Dahlgren naval cannons that had been presented to Japan by the United States. In addition, McDougal's ship was attacked by three armed Japanese steamships that were also American-made, the four-gun steamer "Koshin," formerly named the "Lancefield", the ten-gun brig "Kasei," formerly the "Lanrick," and the six-gun bark "Daniel Webster" which, for some reason, had retained its original name. After an hour long battle, the "Wyoming" had sunk the "Koshin" and the "Kasei," driven off the bark and silenced all the cannons ashore. Aboard the "Wyoming," five seaman had been killed and seven wounded and the ship itself had been hit over twenty times, suffering severe damage to its rigging and smokestack.

The cause of the battle was the growing dispute between Emperor Komei in Kyoto who had assumed Japan's Chrysanthemum throne in 1846 and the Tokugawa shogunate in Edo (now Tokyo) that had actually ruled the country since 1600. When Commodore Matthew Perry opened up Japan in 1853 after the country's two and half centuries of virtual isolation, it was the shogunate, not the emperor, with whom Perry negotiated. It was also the shogun in Edo who signed the treaties with foreign governments, allowed foreign consulates to be established in Japan and who, in 1860, sent a Japanese delegation to the United States to meet with President Buchanan and members of Congress. The emperor, however, not only

resented his total exclusion from all of these momentous events, but decreed that the growing foreign influence should be ended and what he termed the "barbarians" driven out of the country. While the shogunate ignored the emperor's demands, he was supported by the daimyos (lords) in western Japan which led to the attacks on foreigners in 1863 and ultimately Japan's Boshin War of 1868 that overthrew the shogunate and brought Emperor Komei's son Mutsuhito, known as Emperor Meiji, to full power in 1869. Both the United States and Great Britain sided with the emperor's forces during the Boshin War, while France supported the shogunate.

Regarding the "Wyoming's" 1863 battle in the Shimonoseki Strait, it would be seventy-five years before there was another engagement between American and Japanese naval forces. In China on December 12, 1937, three bombers and nine fighter planes of the Japanese Imperial Navy attacked and sank the American gunboat "USS Panay" in the Yangtze River near Nanking. One member of the ship's crew was killed and over forty wounded in the incident, with no loss of Japanese personnel or aircraft. While Japan claimed their pilots had mistaken the "Panay" for a Chinese vessel, apologized for the attack and paid two million dollars in restitution, the affair escalated the already poor relations that had been developing between the two nations since the 1920s, conditions that finally resulted in another and far more fateful December attack on American Navy ships just four years later.

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## WHY THEY FOUGHT

"...who die {d} grandly, gloriously, nobly; dyeing the soil of old mother earth, and enriching the same with their crimson life's blood, while doing what? Only trying to protect their homes and families, their property, their constitution and their laws, that had been guaranteed to them as a heritage forever by their forefathers. They died for the faith that each state was a separate sovereign government, as laid down by the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of our fathers." - *The words of CSA Soldier Sam Watkins*

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## THE NATIONAL CONFEDERATE MUSEUM AT ELM SPRINGS

The truth about the South's struggle to form a new nation is under attack as never before. The National Battlefield Parks

have be taken over by the “it’s all about slavery” provocateurs. Museums have changed their collections and interpretations to present what they call the cultural history of the War for Southern Independence. In reality this new perspective is nothing more than South bashing. The forces of political correctness have gone into high gear. They attempt to ban any and all things Confederate through their ideological fascism.

There needs to be at least one place where the people of the South and others can go to learn an accurate account of why so



many struggled so long in their attempt to reassert government by the consent of the governed in America!

The General Executive Council of the Sons of Confederate Veterans made the commitment in October of 2008 to start the process to erect a new building that will have two purposes. One of the uses of this new building will be to give us office space and return Elm Springs to its original grandeur. However the main function is to house The Confederate Museum. We are planning a museum that will tell the truth about what motivated the Southern people to struggle for many years to form a new nation. At the SCV Reunion in July of 2009 the GEC set up a building fund for this purpose. One of the goals is to provide an accurate portrayal of the common Confederate soldier, something that is currently absent in most museums and in the media.

You are invited to make your stand for the future by contributing to this fund.

Send checks to:  
 Sons of Confederate Veterans  
 c/o TCM Building Fund  
 P.O. Box 59  
 Columbia, TN 38402

Or you can call 1-800-MY-DIXIE to pay by credit card.  
[www.theconfederatemuseum.com](http://www.theconfederatemuseum.com)

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*Beauvoir - Post-war home of Jefferson Davis.  
 Biloxi, Mississippi*

## BEAUVIOR

During the most recent hurricane, the fence at Beauvoir received a substantial amount of damage. Please consider donating so that repairs can be made. You can sponsor a section of fence repair for \$300 in honor of your ancestor or ancestors. Please mail donations to  
 Beauvoir Fence Project  
 2244 Beach Blvd  
 Biloxi, MS 39531

Beauvoir, the historic post-war home of President Jefferson Davis, is owned and operated by the Mississippi Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans. There are several ways that you can participate in the continued preservation of this beloved landmark located in Biloxi, Mississippi.

### ***Friends of Beauvoir***

For as little as \$25 annually, you can become a member of the Friends of Beauvoir. Membership includes tour admission and a 10% discount at the Beauvoir gift shop.

### ***Bricks for Beauvoir***

Honor your Confederate ancestors while supporting Beauvoir. Each brick that you purchase will be engraved with your ancestors rank, name, unit, and company. The memorial bricks will be laid creating a sidewalk from the UDC Arch to the Tomb of the Unknown Confederate soldier.

*For more information on these opportunities, please visit [www.visitbeauvoir.org](http://www.visitbeauvoir.org) or contact Beauvoir directly at (228) 388-4400*

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## SOLDIERS REST

The city of Vicksburg served as a major hospital center in the early years of the Civil War. A section in the Cedar Hill Cemetery was set aside to provide a fitting burial place for Confederate soldiers who died of sickness or wounds. Known as "Soldiers' Rest," the plot in Cedar Hill Cemetery is the final resting place for an estimated 5,000 Confederate soldiers.



*"Old Douglas"  
Near Soldiers Rest in Cedar Hill  
Cemetery  
Vicksburg, Mississippi*

A local undertaker, Mr. J.Q. Arnold, was hired by the Confederate government to bury Southern soldiers, and carried out those duties throughout the siege of Vicksburg. Mr. Arnold meticulously maintained records of the soldiers he buried, assigning each one a grave number. Regrettably, his list and map of the cemetery disappeared after the siege, although a portion of his list was re-discovered in the early 1960s, giving the name, rank, company, unit, and date of death for 1,600 soldiers. Approximately 3,500 names are unknown. The document is now part of the archival records at the Old Courthouse Museum in Vicksburg, MS.

Due to the disappearance of Mr. Arnold's records, only a few private headstones marked the plot until 1893. On April 26 of that year, the ladies of the Confederate Memorial Association dedicated a beautiful stone monument featuring the standing figure of a Confederate Soldier. It was not until the early 1980s, following the discovery of the partial list, that the headstones were erected through the combined effort of the United Daughters of the Confederacy and the Veterans' Administration. The stones were arranged with military precision and placed in state groupings. In 1998, an additional 72 headstones were erected by the Sons of Confederate Veterans to honor soldiers whose identities were established on a second list which surfaced in the collection of the Old Courthouse Museum.

Soldiers Rest also contains memorial markers for those who died at Cooper's Wells in Hinds County, and an effort is being made to honor the lives lost on the CSS Arkansas. Unfortunately, stones could not be placed at the actual resting places for the soldiers in both of these groups, so a decision was made to honor their memory by placing memorials for them in Soldier's Rest.

Discoveries continue to be made about the history of Soldier's Rest. As recently as August 2018, a new list of more than 150 previously unknown soldier and widow burials was discovered and is in the process of being added to the records. Ms. Anna Fuller, in cooperation with several other volunteers, researches and maintains the information about those Confederate heroes who are interred there.

The information that has been collected can be viewed online at [soldiersrestvicksburg.com](http://soldiersrestvicksburg.com) and on Facebook by searching for "*Soldiers Rest Confederate Cemetery Vicksburg MS.*" Soldiers Rest is located inside Cedar Hill Cemetery, 326 Lovers Lane, Vicksburg, MS.

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## CONFEDERATE BIRTHDAYS

Albert Pike—December 29, 1809

John Singleton Mosby—December 6, 1833

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## CAMP BIRTHDAYS

Eddy Cresap—December 8



**THE SOUTHERN CAUSE***Joel T. Bailey*

*In 1861 the South rebeled against Northern laws  
And the call went out for the Southern cause*

*From the small farms to the plantations grand  
They came to defend their Southern homeland*

*From the youngest recruit to the oldest man  
They took an oath and made their stand*

*The long gray line stood like winter wheat  
Charging ahead with no thought of retreat*

*Through the fields of dust and roads of mud  
They fought the battles and shed their blood*

*Many of them would fall never to rise agin  
They gave their all in their efforts to win*

*The goal they sought was never achieved  
But they fought and died for what they believed*

*Altho they lost they held their heads high  
And the memory of the cause will never die*



JOHN C. PEMBERTON  
CAMP 1354

216 Miller Street  
Vicksburg, MS 39180

<http://www.scv-camp-1354.com>

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FIND US ON FACEBOOK AT  
[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/  
GROUPS/SCVCAMP1354](https://www.facebook.com/groups/SCVCAMP1354)

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*DEFENDING HISTORY SINCE 1896*  
WWW.SCV.ORG

The Sons of Confederate Veterans (SCV) is a hereditary organization for male descendants of Confederate veterans. It was formed in 1896 as the direct heir of the United Confederate Veterans and serves to preserve the history and legacy of the Confederate soldier. There are ongoing programs at the local, state and national levels in the form of preservation work, marking Confederate soldiers' graves, historical re-enactments, scholarly publications, and regular meetings to discuss the military and political history of the War Between the States and the colorful and heroic men who fought it.

Membership is open to all male descendants of any veteran who served honorably in the Confederate armed forces, and can be obtained through direct or collateral family lines which must be documented genealogically.

For more information, please visit [www.scv.org](http://www.scv.org)

Edward Campbell

*Commander*

Larry Holman

*Adjutant / Membership*

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## UPCOMING MEETINGS

### DECEMBER MEETING CANCELLED

**Tuesday January 5, 2021**

**Saturday January 16, 2021—Lee –Jackson Dinner**  
**Location TBA**

If you are interested in presenting, please contact Commander Edward Campbell : [ewccrystalsprings@yahoo.com](mailto:ewccrystalsprings@yahoo.com)

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*To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we 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.*

*From the stirring speech delivered by Lt. Gen. Stephen Dill Lee, Commander General of the United Confederate Veterans at the New Orleans, Louisiana UCV Convention of 1906.*