



SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS, TEXAS DIVISION

THE JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP NEWS  
[www.reaganscvcamp.org](http://www.reaganscvcamp.org)

VOLUME 13, ISSUE 7

JULY 2021

COMMANDER'S DISPATCH

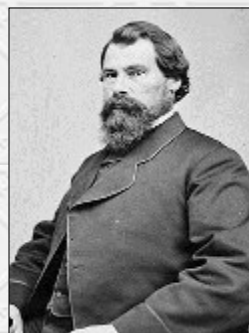


Our July meeting was a great success! We had a guest speaker, Bob Harris from Friendswood, TX. He gave an informative program on the rifles manufactured at Plentitude, Texas. For those of you who do not know, the town of Plentitude, no longer in existence, was located near Mound Prairie in Anderson County Texas. There was a private company there that had a contract to build rifles for Texas during the Civil War. The factory was a highly

successful operation. As time passed and the railroad came to Anderson County, the town and factory moved to Neches, TX. Today there is nothing left of Plentitude, Texas.

Any person having information about Plentitude, please contact me, as Mr. Harris is still seeking additional information about the town and Civil War rifle production in Anderson County.

Our meal was a feast of Bar-B-Q chicken, cucumbers and onions in vinegar, pan fried potatoes and onions, purple hull peas and pizza with a dessert of chocolate brownies, cookies and Blue



**John H. Reagan**

About 1863  
 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

Bell ice cream. Food was in abundance and enjoyed by all!

Richard Thornton  
 Commander



CAMP MEETINGS

3rd Tuesday of Each Month  
 06:30 PM

With a 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.

Guests are welcome!  
 Bring the family.

[www.reaganscvcamp.org](http://www.reaganscvcamp.org)

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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 Dan Dyer at [danielder497@yahoo.com](mailto:danielder497@yahoo.com)



**Prayer List**

- Compatriot Forrest Bradberry
- Compatriot J.B. Mason
- Past Reagan Camp Historian Gary Williams
- Rod Skelton (former Camp Chaplain)
- Former Camp Commander Rudy Ray
- United Daughters of the Confederacy
- The Sovereign State of Texas
- The United States of America

**Officers for 2021**

- Commander - Richard Thornton
- 1st Lt. - Calvin Nicholson
- Adjutant/Treasurer - Dan Dyer
- Sgt at Arms - Frank Moore
- Quartermaster - Andrew Petty
- Chaplains - David Franklin & Dwight Franklin

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

The Reagan Camp will have monthly meetings on the 3rd Tuesday of each month in the Commercial Bank of Texas meeting room

Tuesday August 17 - August Meeting

Tuesday September 21 - September Meeting

Tuesday October 19 - October Meeting

Tuesday November - November meeting

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](http://www.reaganscvcamp.org)



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.

“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 INFLECTED 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-

“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 Monthly Meeting

JULY 20, 2021



We had 12 in attendance at the July meeting at the Commercial Bank of Texas banquet room. The night started off with a delicious meal of barbequed chicken, fresh picked purple hull peas, fresh cucumbers with onions in vinegar, pan fried new potatoes and onions, cornbread, fresh picked tomatoes, pizza, Blue Bell ice cream and homemade cookies and brownies! After the meal, we were in for a treat! Bob Harris presented the Reagan Camp with a very interesting program on “The Plenitude Rifles”. This was especially interesting to our camp, because these rifles were manufactured just a few miles from Palestine. We really appreciate Bob for the wonderful program. It was great! Our next meeting will be on August 17th. We hope to see you there.





## “Texas Firearm Manufacturing During the Civil War & A Family Connection” by Bob Harris



The Reagan Camp was honored to have Mr. Bob Harris attend the July meeting. Not only did Bob attend, but he also presented the historical presentation for the month. Bob told us when he arrived that he had a presentation on a Confederate firearms manufacturer that was located just a few miles north of Palestine. We were all ears to hear about it! Not only did he give an excellent presentation, but he also brought a pistol that was manufactured at Plenitude (just a few miles north of Palestine). He passed it around so everyone could look at it and see how it was made.

What made this particular topic special for Bob and for everyone in attendance is that it was in a location that we are all familiar with! Everyone in attendance knew of the location, but we had no idea that it was once a place where Confederate firearms were manufactured! Bob knew about it because his Great Great Grandfather ( Daniel Seborn Harris) was sent there in 1863 to assist in resolving problems with manufacturing.

Bob is looking for anyone that may have additional information on firearms that were manufactured at the Billups and Hassel manufacturing plant in Plenitude, Texas in the 1860s. If you have any information that could



be used to add to what he has, please email him at [robertharris@hwellservices.com](mailto:robertharris@hwellservices.com)

We appreciate Bob for the interesting program. It was great!

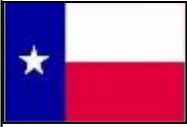
Bob Harris has allowed us to provide the information that was in his handout so those who were unable to be at the meeting can learn more about the Texas firearm manufacturing during the War of Northern Aggression.



**Texas Firearm Manufacturing  
During the Civil War  
&**

- A Family Connection -

R. W. "Bob" Harris



**“Texas Firearm Manufacturing During the Civil War  
& A Family Connection” by Bob Harris**

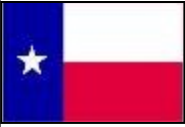


**Texas Firearm Manufacturing During the Civil War**

- At the beginning of the Civil War there was a scarcity of guns in Texas and the South. Texas Governor Edward Clark adopted a policy of keeping the remaining state-owned weapons within the confines of Texas.
- Only a trickle of guns was coming in from foreign contracts; weapons and Ammunition were in critically short supply.
- The State of Texas encouraged and subsidized the establishment of local arms and powder plants.
- Texas reported to the Confederate Congress on August 18, 1863, Texas had four gun factories making ~800 arms a month, 2 powder mills, and a percussion cap factory.

**Texas Firearm Manufacturing During the Civil War (cont.)**

Primary Locations	Arms	Manufacturer
Tyler	Rifles	Short and Biscoe *
Plenitude	Rifles & Locks	Billups and Hassell
Rusk	Rifles	Whitescarver and Campbell
Bastrop	Rifles	N. B. Tanner
Lancaster	Pistols	Tucker, Sherrard, and Co
Old Columbia & Anderson	Pistols	Dance Brothers and Park
Marshall and Waxahachie	Powder	William Rowen
Austin, Houston, and Fredericksburg	Percussion Caps	
Austin	Cartridges	Texas
Austin and Galveston	Cannons	Texas and Ebenezar Nichols



## “Texas Firearm Manufacturing During the Civil War & A Family Connection” by Bob Harris



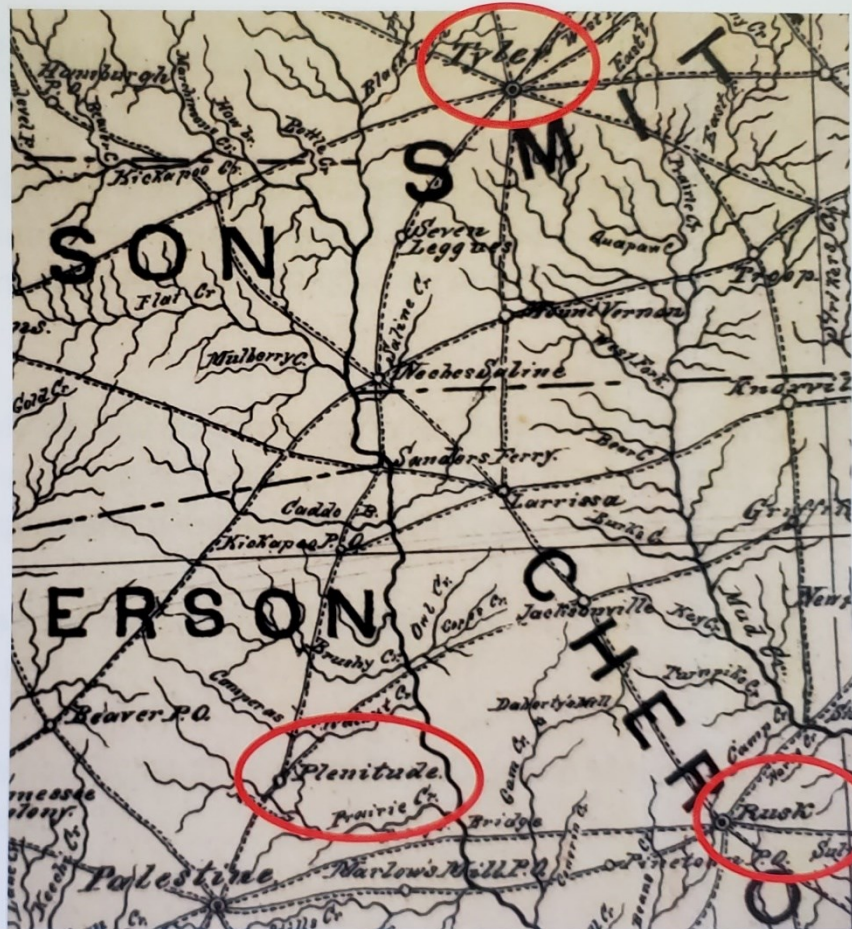
- The Little Rock armory was evacuated in September 1863. The arsenal machinery was moved to Tyler in October 1863. The Tyler gun plant was purchased by the CSA for \$100,000 at that time.
- Besides the State & CSA Contracts, various Gun manufacturers sold government pattern and other style guns out the back door to maintain some cash flow.
- Early contract prices were \$30 per rifle, complete, as the war went on and inflation rampant the price went up to \$60 per rifle.
- Backdoor price was what ever someone would pay.

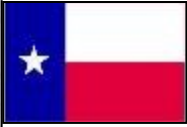
The picture below shows the locations of “The Rifle Triangle” of East Texas.

### The Rifle Triangle

- Plenitude
- Rusk
- Tyler

1865 Map





**“Texas Firearm Manufacturing During the Civil War  
& A Family Connection” by Bob Harris**



**Mound Prairie and Plenitude, Texas**

Plenitude was located in the Mound Prairie tract. Mound Prairie was named after local Indian burial mounds. It was a rural area of ~ 400 population. It was about 8 miles north of Palestine. Mound Prairie was settled by Anglo-Americans in the early 1830s.

Plenitude had probably the first complete machine shop in Texas, 1847, that was established in conjunction with an iron works, cotton gin and grist mill, and farm implement manufacturing business.

The community of Plenitude was granted a post office in 1850. The post office was closed in 1883.

Neither Mound Prairie nor Plenitude exist today. Only the Mound Prairie Cemetery exists.

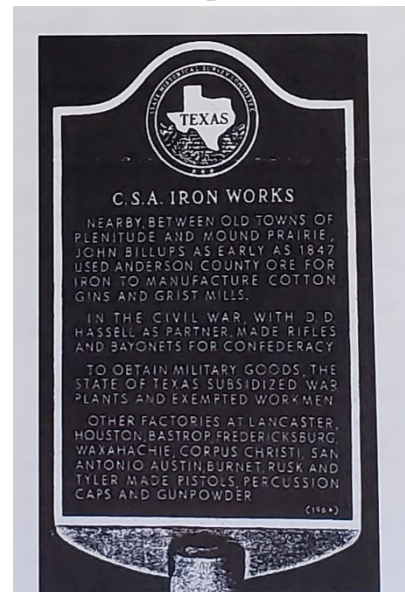
**Mound Prairie and Plenitude during the Civil War**

CSA Quartermaster Depot (Plenitude) was located on 640 acres and described as the finest Confederate depot in the South. It included a sawmill, flour and grist mills, cotton spinning building, blacksmith shop, foundry, harness shop, tin shop, shoe shop, large tanyard, small arms repair, 2 very large storage warehouses, and 14 dwellings.

Plenitude Munitions Factory - “Billups and Hassell” secured Texas Military Board contracts to produce “Mississippi” pattern rifles. John Billups had a well-equipped machine shop and iron works from 1847. Most of his workers were skilled workmen. He was running a 40-horsepower steam engine and another 15-horsepower steam engine from his boilers to operate the machining equipment.

Texas and Civil War records and contracts interchangeable use “Billings & Hassell” and Billups & Hassell” and “Billups & Hassel” and “Billups & Son” and “John Billups & Son”.

The Texas Military Board advanced \$5,000 to Billups & Hassell for specific gun manufacturing machinery.





**“Texas Firearm Manufacturing During the Civil War  
& A Family Connection” by Bob Harris**



**The First Plenitude Contract**

*Palatka May 26<sup>th</sup> 1862*

*Col. P. DeCordova  
Tex. Military Board,*

*Your favor of the 17<sup>th</sup>*

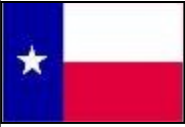
*The contract is as follows viz. The firm of Billups & Hassell agree to make a gun similar to the Mississippi Rifle, the barrel to be round and 32 inches long, to carry 1/2 oz balls, or "32 to the pounds," double sights, single trigger, whole stock, iron rammer, back action percussion locks, with plain but substantial mountings, the barrels to be confined in the stock by bands instead of loops, to be of uniform size so that the same bayonet may fit any gun, and to weight nine pounds all to be finished in the most complete and substantial manner & ready for use. on*

**The First Contract**

“The firm of Billups & Hassell agree to make a gun similar to the Mississippi Rifle. The barrel to be round and 32 inches long, to carry 1/2 oz balls, or “32 to the pounds” [.53 cal], double sights , single trigger, whole stock, iron rammer, back action percussion locks, with plain but substantial mountings. The barrels to be confined in the stock by bands instead of loops, to be of uniform size so that the same bayonet may fit any gun, and to weight nine pounds, all to be finished in the most complete and substantial manner & ready for use [bayonets, bullet molds, bullet pouch, & accouterments].”

*Alexander M. Watts letter to DeCordova, 26 May 1862. in Correspondence File of Bilups & Hassell, Texas Military Board. Box 2-10/279, Texas State Archives.*





## “Texas Firearm Manufacturing During the Civil War & A Family Connection” by Bob Harris

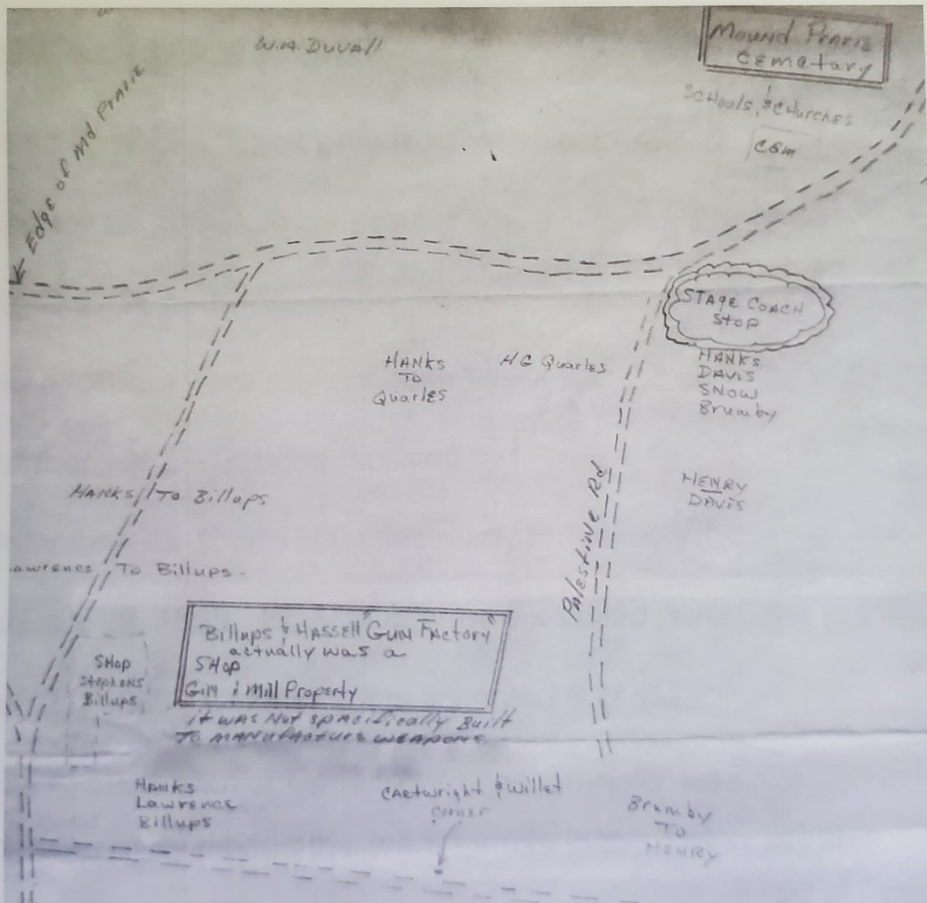


### The “Mississippi Rifle” [U. S. Model 1841]

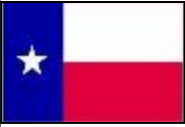


The “Mississippi rifle” was the first standard U.S. rifle to use a percussion lock system.

The nickname "Mississippi Rifle" began in the Mexican–American War 1846–1848 when future Confederate president Jefferson Davis was Colonel of the Mississippi Rifles, a volunteer regiment from the state of Mississippi and surprised the Mexican Army with the rifles’ capabilities at the siege of Monterrey & Battle of Buena Vista.



To Tyler



**“Texas Firearm Manufacturing During the Civil War  
& A Family Connection” by Bob Harris**



**Plenitude - Dates of Interest**

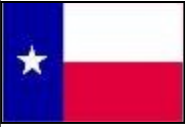
- March 2, 1861 - Texas joins the Confederate States
- January 11, 1862 - Texas Military Board established
- May 26, 1862 - Letter contract from Ordinance Officer to Texas Board
- July 1, 1862 - Texas formal contract for 700 .53 cal rifles at \$30 each.
- October 1862 - Gauges received.
- December 29, 1862 - 100 rifles ready for delivery
- January 28, 1863 - CSA transferred six skilled gunsmiths to Plenitude.
- May 21, 1863 - Colonel Watts accepted 400 rifles.
- June 6, 1863 - Major Cabell 217 rifles. Transfer was effected in Bonham, likely these rifles were for use in the Indian Territory.

**Plenitude during the Civil War**

- June 29, 1863 - 233 rifles sent to Frontier regiment troops who were fighting Comanches.
- August 1863 - First contract for 700 rifles was finished.
- September 1863 - 2nd contract for 500 .58 cal rifles at \$60 each starts.
- Unknown date - 3rd contract with the CSA for 500 .58 rifles.

**Over the Period of manufacture**

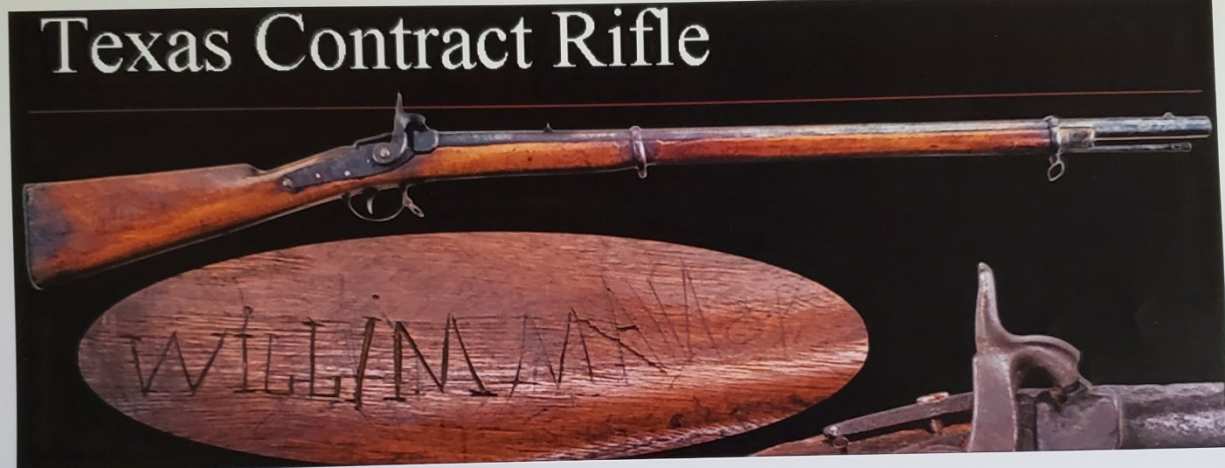
- Plenitude produces 1,100—1,200 rifles for the State of Texas
- An additional ~ 400 riddles for the Confederacy.
- And an unknown quantity of locks for Tyler.



“Texas Firearm Manufacturing During the Civil War  
& A Family Connection” by Bob Harris



The only known remaining Plenitude rifle



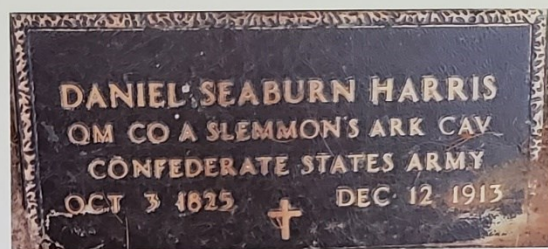
Carving on the stock identifies its owner as Private William Malloy of the Twenty-Ninth Texas Cavalry, which fought several unsuccessful battles in the Indian Territory soon after this rifle was issued in 1863.

*The George W. Wray Collection- Atlanta History Center*

### Family Connection to Plenitude

My GreatGreatGrandfather

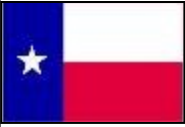
Daniel Seborn Harris



Educated at Transylvania Union — university established 1799 creating the first law and medical schools in the West, pursuant to Kentucky legislature's charter signed by Governor Thomas Jefferson.

At the beginning of the Civil War D. S. was a professor at a “college” at Des Arc, AR, located just west of Memphis.

According to my father, D. S. was sent to Plenitude in ~1863 to assist in resolving problems with rifle manufacturing. He brought his son, Robert Bruce, with him.



**“Texas Firearm Manufacturing During the Civil War  
& A Family Connection” by Bob Harris**



Below is a picture of the pistol that Bob Harris brought to the meeting for his historical program. He allowed everyone at the meeting to hold the pistol and to look it over closely.

This pistol ( and his Great Great Grandfather) are his links to Plenitude.

Link to Plenitude



BILLINGS & HASSELL  
PLENITUDE TEXAS





**“Texas Firearm Manufacturing During the Civil War  
& A Family Connection” by Bob Harris**



**What is it? & Was it made/modified at Plenitude?**

It appears to be a crude percussion conversion of a French Army 1822 flint lock pistol. It is common to see armory French 1822 T and 1822 T bis conversions.

The pistol is lacking of any normal French markings.

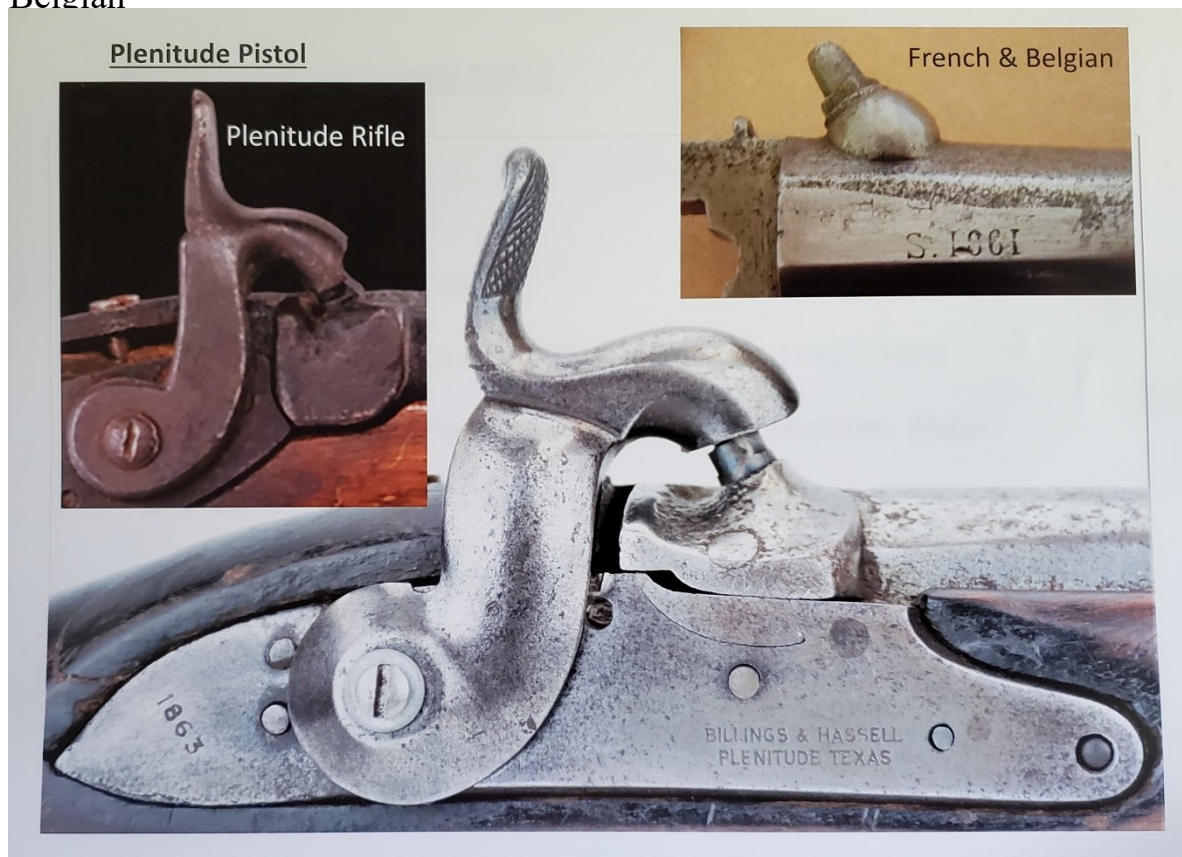
The most legible markings are “assembly” markings (chisel marks) on the back of the lock plate and bottom of the barrel.

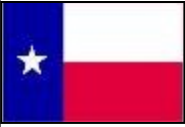
The percussion cap nipple bolster is very crude, unlike any European conversions I have reviewed.

Chris Hirsch, author of Texas Gun Trade, David Jackson, owner of Jackson Armory in Dallas, and Mike Clark agree the gun was a French Calvary pistol that has been converted from flint lock to percussion.

Chris Hirsch also said that the lettering on the gun was very old and consistent with the date on the gun.

\* Pictures on the previous page show the comparison of the Plenitude and French & Belgian\*





**“Texas Firearm Manufacturing During the Civil War  
& A Family Connection” by Bob Harris**



**Where has the Plenitude Pistol been since 1863?**

?

Dr. Patrick J. Wagner, Shiner

Loaned to the Harris County Heritage Museum 1986 - 1988.

Loaned to the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum, Waco.

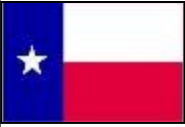
Leo Bradshaw, Waco - ~2000 collectable gun dealer.

Chuck Lummus, Cleburne - 2014 collector of Texas guns & artifacts.

Robert Harris - 2017.

**Biography**

- The Texas Gun Trade, 1780 - 1899, Chris Hirsch, 2008
- Texas Civil War Artifacts, Richard Mather Ahlstrom, 2008
- Texas In The Confederacy, Bill Winsor, 1978
- Texas Gun Lore, Carroll C. Holloway, 1951
- Texas State Historical Association—TSHAonline.com
- Contract Rifles of the Texas State Military Board - Howard Michael Madaus
- Tyler Texas CSA Ordnance Works - William A. Albaugh III
- Confederate Arms, William Albaugh III & Edward Simmions
- Information handed down by my father - Claude L. Harris
- Letter from Walter Billups, son of John Billups, February 8, 1947
- Palestine Public Library
- Museum of East Texas Culture

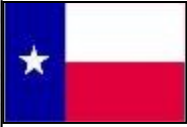


“Texas Firearm Manufacturing During the Civil War  
& A Family Connection” by Bob Harris



**Plenitude/Tyler CSA - Dates of Interest**

- ▶ March 2, 1861 - Texas joins the Confederate States
- January 11, 1862 - Texas Military Board established
- May 26, 1862 - Letter contract from Ordnance Officer to Texas Board
- July 1, 1862 - Texas formal contract for 700 .53 cal rifles at \$30 each
- October 1862 - Gauges received
- Tyler - Short & Briscoe - Nov 5, 1862 - Texas formal contract for 5000 rifles
- December 29, 1862 - 100 rifles ready for delivery
- January 28, 1863 - CSA transferred six skilled gunsmiths to Plenitude
- May 21, 1863 - Colonel Watts accepted 400 rifles
- June 6, 1863 - Major Cabell 217 rifles. Transfer was effected in Bonham, likely these rifles were for use in the Indian Territory.
- September 18 63 - 2nd contract for 500 .58 cal rifles at \$60 each starts
- Tyler - October 1, 1863 - CSA takes ownership - only 1 Tyler rifle made at this point.
- Unknown date - 3rd contract with the CSA for 500 .58 cal rifles.



**“Texas Firearm Manufacturing During the Civil War  
& A Family Connection” by Bob Harris**



**Plenitude - Dates of Interest**

March 2, 1861 - Texas joins the Confederate States

January 11, 1862 - Texas Military Board established

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July 1, 1862 - Texas formal contract for 700 .53 cal rifles at \$30 each

October 1862 - Gauges received

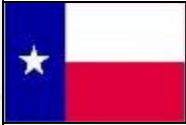
December 29, 1862 - 100 rifles ready for delivery

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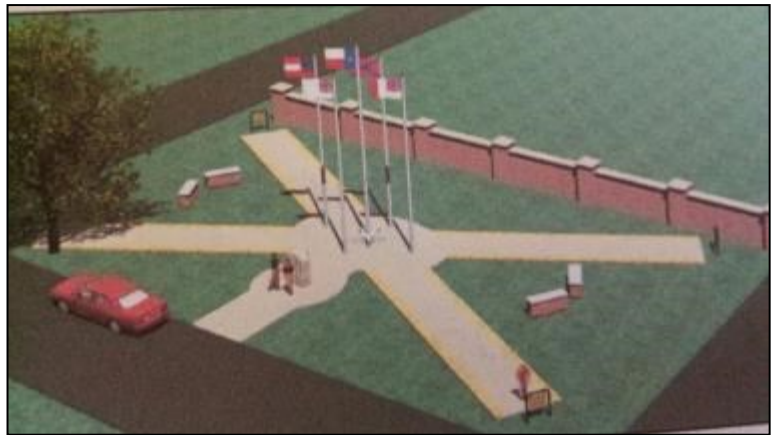




## A GREAT WAY TO ENSURE THAT YOUR ANCESTOR'S SERVICE AND HONOR IS NOT FORGOTTEN



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 BTTN 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.

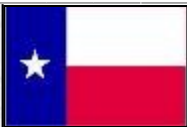


## ROBERT E. LEE CALENDAR



JULY 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 July, 1855 - to wife  Any one can insist, but the wise alone know how to desist.	2 July - to Fitzhugh You know the interest I take in your prosperity & advancement, which cannot be assured without earnest attention to your business on your part.	3 July—to wounded Union soldier at Gettysburg.  My son, I hope you will soon be well.
4 July, 1863— on Gettysburg -  It is all my fault, I thought my men were invincible	5 July 1864— to Mildred I want to see you all very much. I think of you, long for you, pray for you. It is all I can do. Think sometimes of your devoted father.	6 undated - to Jeff Davis  I have no complaints to make of any one but myself	7 July, 1863 - to wife I have heard with great grief Fitzhugh has been captured. We must bear this additional affliction with fortitude & resignation.	8 July, 1849 - to wife It is so difficult to regulate your conduct. Man's nature is so selfish, so weak, every feeling & every passion urging him to folly, excess & sin.	9 undated -  Practice self- denial and self control, as well as the strictest economy in all financial matters.	10 undated - to Rooney Let us all so live that we may be united in that world where there is no more separation, & where sorrow & pain never come.
11 undated - Above all, [the teacher] must be uniform, consistent, firm & kind in his conduct & teach more by acts than by ends.	12 July, 1863 - to wife We must expect to endure every injury our enemies can inflict upon us. Their conduct is not dictated by kindness or love. But I do not think we should follow their example.	13 July, 1863 - to Jeff Davis No one is more aware than myself of my inability for the duties of my position. I cannot even accomplish what I myself desire.	14 July, 1863 - to Jeff Davis The general remedy for the want of success in a military commander is his removal. This is natural, & in many instances, proper.	15 July 1863 - to wife We must implore the forgiveness of God for our sins, & the continuance of His blessings. There is nothing by His almighty power that can sustain us.	16 undated - to Carter My pay seems to decrease as my children increase.	17 July, 1867 - If it is true as taught by history, that greatness rests upon virtue, it is equally true that religion is the fountain & support of virtue.
18 July, 1862 - to Jeff Davis The whole division takes tone from its commander	19 undated - The teacher should be the example to the pupil.	20 undated - Should the pupils be trained in obedience, reverence & truthfulness, & be convinced they are noble the main object will have been attained.	21 July, 1861 - to wife All my thoughts & strength are given to the cause to which my life, be it long or short, will be devoted.	22 undated - [The teacher] should aim at the highest attainable proficiency & not at pleasing mediocrity.	23 undated - [The teacher] must study the character & disposition of his pupils & adapt his course of discipline to their peculiarities.	24 undated - We have no printed rules. We have buy one rule here [Washington College] & it is that every student must be a gentleman.
25 July, 1869 - to wife May God bless us all & preserve us for the time when we too, must part, the one from the other, which is now close at hand.	26 July, 1863 - to wife How I long & pray that God may pardon my many & long standing sins & once more gather around me you & my children before I go hence & be no more seen.	27 July, 1863 - to Mildred May God bless you my daughter, strew your path with happiness, & finally gather you & all of us to His mansions of bliss in heaven, is my daily & hourly prayer!	28 July, 1862 - to Mildred I cannot see what you are proud of & advise you against all such feelings for you know what is said in that good book about a proud spirit.	29 July, 1863 - You must endeavor to enjoy the pleasure of doing good. That is all that makes life valuable.	30 undated - I do not care for display.	31 undated - Its duties [teaching] require love & comprehensive preparation, it should be regarded as among the most honourable & important professions.



## TEXAS CIVIL WAR HISTORY IN JULY

From the Texas State Historical Association

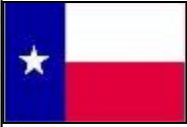


July 2, 1863 On this day in 1863, Hood's Texas Brigade became a major participant in the battle of Gettysburg. The brigade had been organized in 1861 in Richmond, Virginia. It was composed of the First, Fourth and Fifth Texas Infantry regiments, the only Texas troops to fight in the Eastern Theater. Col. John Bell Hood had been commander of the Fourth. On July 2, 1863, the brigade led the assault at Devils Den and Little Round Top, the crucial action of the second day of the battle. A soldier of the First Texas called the assault on Devil's Den "one of the wildest, fiercest struggles of the war." After routing the Union forces at the Devil's Den, however, the brigade was unable to capture Little Round Top. A thirty-five-foot monument to the men of Hood's Texas Brigade stands on the south drive of the Capitol in Austin.

July 22, 1861 On this day in 1861, Confederate General Barnard Elliott Bee Jr. died from wounds received at the first battle of Manassas ( or Bull Run ). Bee's family had been very active in the government of the Republic of Texas. His father, Barnard Bee Sr., moved the family from South Carolina to Texas in 1836. The elder Bee's offices included secretary of state in the administrations of David G. Burnet and Lirabeau B. Lamar and secretary of war under Sam Houston. Hamilton P. Bee, brother to Barnard Jr., served as secretary for the commission that established the boundary between the Republic of Texas and the united States. Hamilton later fought in the Mexican War and served in the Texas legislature before achieving the rank of Confederate brigadier general during the Civil War. Barnard Bee Jr., a West point graduate and Mexican War veteran, was appointed brigadier general in the Confederate Army and assigned to command a brigade in Gen. P. G. T. Beauregard's Army of Virginia at Manassas Junction. It was there on July 21, 1861, where his soldiers suffered the brunt of the federal attack on the Confederate left wing. In an effort to encourage his men, Bee cried, "Rally behind the Virginians! There stands Jackson like a stonewall!" Bee's colleague Thomas Jonathan Jackson was forever known as "Stonewall."

July 24, 1861 On this day, Lt. Col. John Robert Baylor led 300 men of the Confederate Second Texas Mounted Rifles in an assault on Union forces under Maj. Isaac Lynde at Fort Fillmore, Arizona. Baylor was under orders to occupy a chain of forts protecting the overland route between Fort Clark and Fort Bliss. He entered the nearby town of Mesilla that night. The next morning Lynde ordered an artillery attack on Mesilla, but after three of his men were killed and six wounded, he withdrew. Learning that Baylor had requested artillery from Ft Bliss, Lynde abandoned the fort the night of July 26. The next day, Baylor gave chase. The Confederates rode into Lynde's camp in the early afternoon, and Lynde surrendered his force of 492 men. Baylor proclaimed Arizona Territory, C.S.A., and named himself governor. He remained there until the spring of 1862. The victory at Mesilla was one of the Civil War's early and surprising Confederate successes.

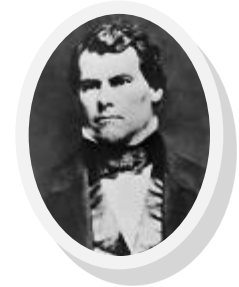
July 30, 1867 On this day, James Webb Throckmorton, first governor of Texas after the Civil War, was removed from office for being an "impediment to Reconstruction" on the grounds that the state of Texas did not support the Fourteenth Amendment, he refused to support it himself. He declined to increase protection for former slaves and to advocate Radical Republican policies. This "Tennessean by birth [and] Texan by Adoption" was a physician and politician who had a long and distinguished record of service to the state, the united States, and the Confederacy. He died at McKinney on April 21, 1894.



**JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP #2156**  
**JULY IN THE LIFE OF JOHN H. REAGAN**



July 1, 1852--- Circular printed about the need for railroad in Texas; to the people of Texas from John H. Reagan, Wm. Alexander & A.E. McClure, all of Anderson County.



July 4, 1849--Democratic .Convention held in Palestine; John H. Reagan running for State Senate.



July 23, 1878-- John H. Reagan refused Democratic nomination for Texas Governorship in order to continue work on Interstate Commerce Bill in US Congress.

Other important Dates



July 6, 1911-- Dedication of John H. Reagan Monument sculpted by P. Coppini.

July 6 1967-- Marker placed by Anderson County Historical Commission and the John Reagan Chapter UDC at base of Reagan Monument in Palestine's Reagan Park.

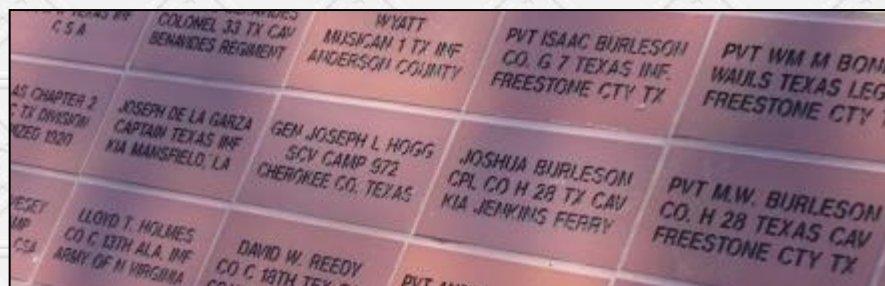




## CONFEDERATE VETERANS MEMORIAL PLAZA INFORMATION



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: [danielyer497@yahoo.com](mailto:danielyer497@yahoo.com) or Phone: (903) 391-2224



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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Please visit our website @  
[www.reaganscvcamp.org](http://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: 3rd Tuesday Each  
Month - 06:30 PM  
Snacks 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.