



SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS, TEXAS DIVISION

THE JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP NEWS

www.reaganscvcamp.org

VOLUME 17, ISSUE 5

MAY 2025

1ST LT CMDR'S DISPATCH



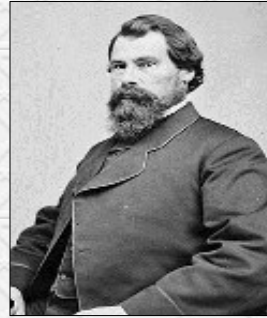
First: A Palestine business has generously welcomed us to use their meeting room as a place to hold the Reagan Camp meetings for several years. However, this business has relocated, and the room is no longer available.

Until we find a suitable replacement, the First Congregational Methodist Church in Elkhart has offered the use of their Fellowship Hall for our monthly meetings. The street address is 510 N. US 287, Elkhart. On Google Maps search "First Congregational Methodist Church" and you will be directed to the correct location. For some reason if you search "Congregational Methodist" it will direct you to First Methodist which is downtown Elkhart, not on 287. In the month of May in the US we celebrate Memorial Day for all US military members who gave their lives in the performance of their duties in wartime. In this

DISPATCH I would like to highlight two Confederate soldiers who gave their lives when the Confederates attacked Galveston on January 1st, 1863 and rooted out the Yankee invaders: LT Sidney Sherman and Private James Self. LT Sherman was the son of Republic of Texas Colonel Sidney Sherman who served at San Jacinto and was appointed Commandant of Galveston by the Confederate State of Texas with the rank of General.

Private Self was in the 7th Texas Cavalry and enlisted in Palestine. I am only aware of one Confederate soldier buried in Anderson County who lost his life in Battle during the War Between the States and that is Private James Self, buried just north of Elkhart in the Douthit Cemetery. I cannot imagine the difficulty the family had in bringing his body home for burial in early January in Anderson County.

This Memorial Day I honor LT Sidney Sherman, son of a Republic of Texas hero and Private James Self, one of Anderson County's own!



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

CAMP MEETINGS

4th Tuesday of Each Month

06:30 PM at the First

Congregational Methodist Church of Elkhart.

With a meal served at each meeting.
Guests are welcome!
Bring the family.

www.reaganscvcamp.org


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Photo added by Patti Zapalac

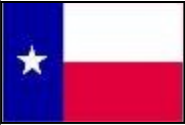
Sidney Augustus Sherman

BIRTH 1842
Frankfort, Franklin County, Kentucky, USA

DEATH 1 Jan 1863 (aged 20-21)
Galveston County, Texas, USA

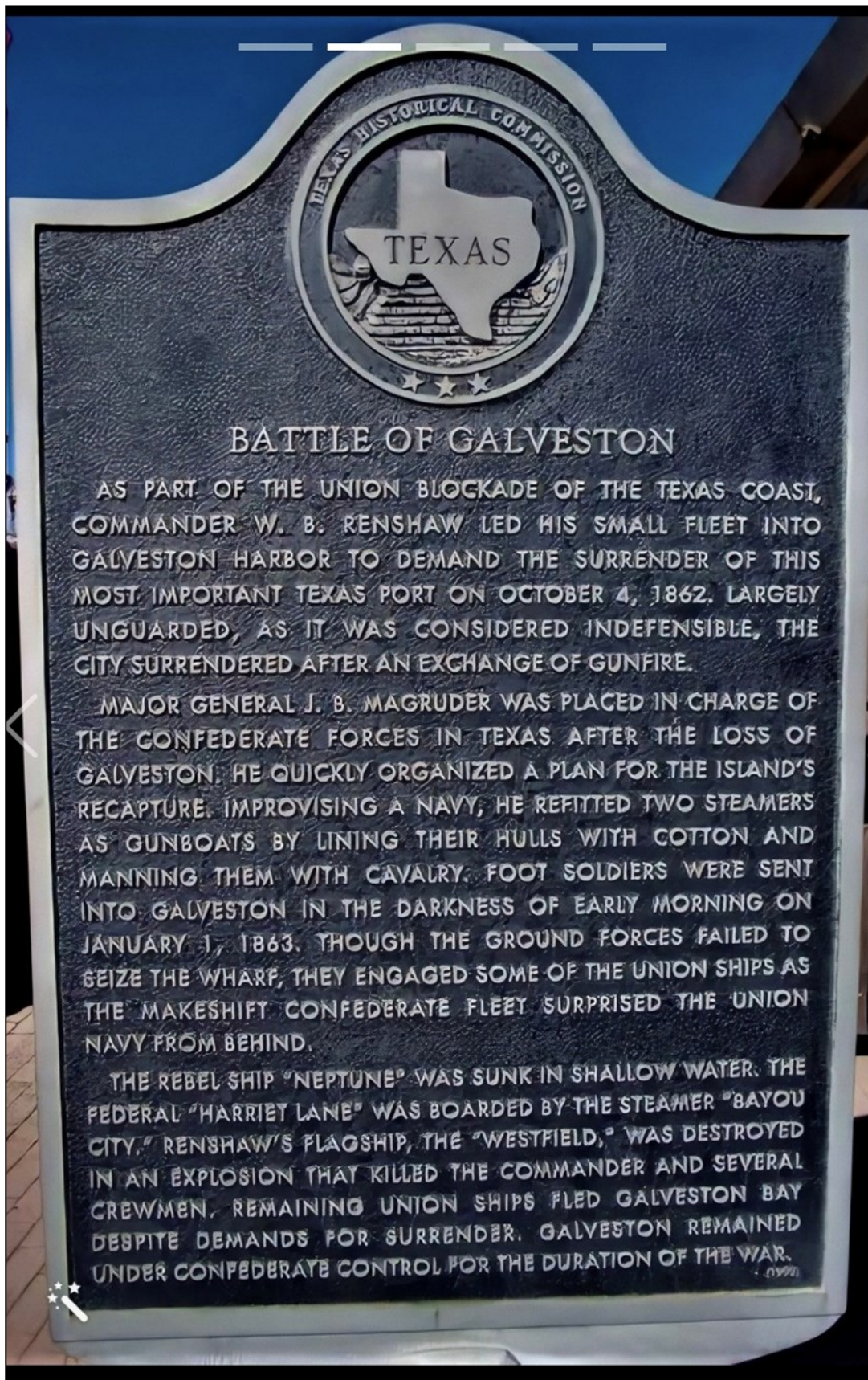
BURIAL Old Catholic Cemetery
Galveston, Galveston County, Texas, USA





1ST LT. COMMANDER'S DISPATCH

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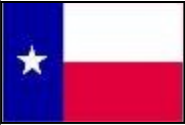


BATTLE OF GALVESTON

AS PART OF THE UNION BLOCKADE OF THE TEXAS COAST, COMMANDER W. B. RENSHAW LED HIS SMALL FLEET INTO GALVESTON HARBOR TO DEMAND THE SURRENDER OF THIS MOST IMPORTANT TEXAS PORT ON OCTOBER 4, 1862. LARGELY UNGUARDED, AS IT WAS CONSIDERED INDEFENSIBLE, THE CITY SURRENDERED AFTER AN EXCHANGE OF GUNFIRE.

MAJOR GENERAL J. B. MAGRUDER WAS PLACED IN CHARGE OF THE CONFEDERATE FORCES IN TEXAS AFTER THE LOSS OF GALVESTON. HE QUICKLY ORGANIZED A PLAN FOR THE ISLAND'S RECAPTURE. IMPROVISING A NAVY, HE REFITTED TWO STEAMERS AS GUNBOATS BY LINING THEIR HULLS WITH COTTON AND MANNING THEM WITH CAVALRY. FOOT SOLDIERS WERE SENT INTO GALVESTON IN THE DARKNESS OF EARLY MORNING ON JANUARY 1, 1863. THOUGH THE GROUND FORCES FAILED TO SEIZE THE WHARF, THEY ENGAGED SOME OF THE UNION SHIPS AS THE MAKESHIFT CONFEDERATE FLEET SURPRISED THE UNION NAVY FROM BEHIND.

THE REBEL SHIP "NEPTUNE" WAS SUNK IN SHALLOW WATER. THE FEDERAL "HARRIET LANE" WAS BOARDED BY THE STEAMER "BAYOU CITY." RENSHAW'S FLAGSHIP, THE "WESTFIELD," WAS DESTROYED IN AN EXPLOSION THAT KILLED THE COMMANDER AND SEVERAL CREWMEN. REMAINING UNION SHIPS FLED GALVESTON BAY DESPITE DEMANDS FOR SURRENDER. GALVESTON REMAINED UNDER CONFEDERATE CONTROL FOR THE DURATION OF THE WAR.



1ST LT. COMMANDER'S DISPATCH

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HARPER'S WEEKLY.

JANUARY 31, 1863.]



Harriet Lane

Rebel Gun Boat

Oran

Woodell being blown up

Mary Donnan

ATTACK OF THE REBELS UPON OUR GUN-BOAT FLOTILLA AT GALVESTON, TEXAS, JANUARY 1, 1863.—SKETCHED BY OUR SPECIAL ARTIST.—[SEE PAGE 79.]

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.**



Stonewall Jackson died at Guinea Station on May 10, 1863 after being wounded during the Chancellorsville Campaign. The building where he died still stands and can be seen in the picture above. He was buried in Lexington, Virginia.

Picture taken by Dwight Franklin October 2024.

Prayer List

- Compatriot Forrest Bradberry
- Compatriot Gary Gibson & his wife, Lynn
- Past Reagan Camp Historian Gary Williams
- Former Camp Commander Rudy Ray
- United Daughters of the Confederacy
- The Sovereign State of Texas

Officers for 2025

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. Meetings will be held at the First Congregational Church of Elkhart.

June 24, 2025 - June Meeting

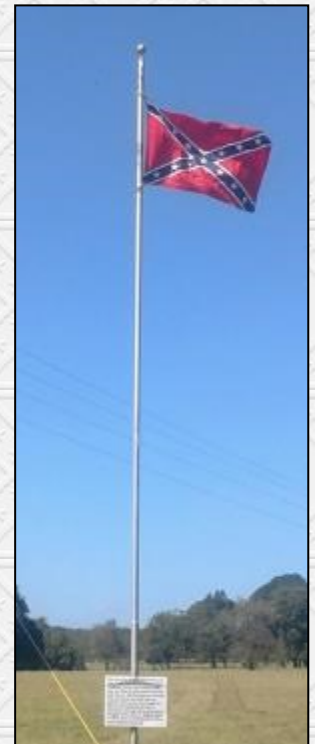
July 22, 2025 - July Meeting

August 26, 2025 - August Meeting

Sept 28, 2025 - September 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



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 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-

"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-



MAY MEETING PICTURES



12th Texas Cavalry Parson's Texas Cavalry

Presentation by Charles "Marc" Robinson
whose GGG grandfather, D. P. Bennett and his
brother, D. C. Bennett, were privates in Co. B,
"Freestone County Rangers," 12th Texas Cavalry.



We had 9 in attendance at our May meeting. We started the night off with a delicious meal. Richard Thornton brought a chicken casserole and his wife's home made fried pies (peach and pear), David Franklin brought chic-fil-a chicken nuggets, Taylor Carter brought his family's corn casserole, and Dwight Franklin brought fresh stewed squash and soft fried new potatoes and onions. Everything was very good. We appreciate everyone who brought a dish for the meal.

Following the meal, Marc Robinson presented "Part One" of a very detailed historical program on "The 12th Texas Cavalry: Parson's Cavalry". It was very interesting. You can see the notes from his presentation on the following pages.

Since the Commercial Bank of Texas has moved to a new location, we will not be able to meet in their old building. We were told that it had been sold. As of this time, the new location does not have an extra room where we will be able to meet. David Franklin said that the camp was welcome to have their monthly meetings at his church, the First Congregational Methodist Church of Elkhart, as long as needed. The address is 510 N, Hwy 297. It is located just a little south of the Elkhart High School and across the road.

Our next meeting will be held on June 24th at 6:30. Marc will have part 2 of his program at that time. All are welcome to attend.



MAY HISTORICAL PROGRAM

12TH TEXAS CAVALRY

BY MARC ROBINSON



12th Texas Cavalry Parson's Texas Cavalry

Presentation by Charles "Marc" Robinson
whose GGG grandfather, D. P. Bennett and his
brother, D. C. Bennett, were privates in Co. B,
"Freestone County Rangers," 12th Texas Cavalry.

We had a very informative historical program at our May meeting as Marc Robinson presented the camp a powerpoint presentation on the "12 Texas Cavalry, Parson's Texas Cavalry".

Marc has a vast knowledge of the 12th Texas Cavalry due to his years of studying it to learn more of his great-great-great grandfather, D.P. Bennett and his brother, D.C. Bennett. They were both privates in Company B, "Freestone County Rangers", 12th Texas Cavalry.

We appreciate him allowing us to have his notes so that we could have the information for the newsletter.

This program was a deep look into the 12th Texas Cavalry. Marc showed a picture of the 12th Texas Cavalry's original Battle Flag that is located at the Hill College History Complex in Hillsboro, Texas. (You can see it in the picture below.) He also brought a flag that he had made by flag maker Preston Furlow.

12th Texas Cavalry Battle Flag (Restored)
Located at Hill College History Complex, Hillsboro, TX



You can see the flag that Preston Furlow made in the picture to the right.

Preston did a fantastic job on duplicating the flag from the original. Marc said that he was very happy with the results.

Much more has been written by historians about events during the War for Southern Independence that happened east of the Mississippi River than those events that happened west of this great river. The men who fought west of the Mississippi in the Confederate army of



the Trans-Mississippi felt this theater of war merited more attention by historians. The vast area of the Trans-Mississippi Department consisted of Texas, Arkansas, Missouri, most of Louisiana, the Indian Territory-Oklahoma, and parts of present day New Mexico and Arizona.

Quote from a letter by Col. W. H. Parsons to a Confederate Reunion in 1878: "*The Texas Regiments of Virginia may have for a time succeeded in keeping the Federal armies out of Richmond, but the army of the Trans-Mississippi...did keep formidable Federal armies out of Texas, and never permitted hostile foot to march over her soil.*"

Col. Parson's Texans scouted along the Mississippi River and its tributaries from mid-1862 until the end of the war. Their efforts kept the Confederate leaders advised of the enemy movements. These Texans spent little time in camp as their duty kept them constantly on the move year-round. Even during the winter when the infantry retired to camps, Parsons's Cavalry remained in the field.

Dr. Anne J. Bailey wrote, "*Yet his troops took part in almost fifty battles (although most were too small to rate a name) and they were responsible for watching Federal operations from Memphis to Vicksburg.*"

- Continued on next page -



MAY HISTORICAL PROGRAM

12TH TEXAS CAVALRY

BY MARC ROBINSON



For three years the men provided outposts and scouts for the army headquartered first in Little Rock and later at Shreveport."

The Texans followed their officers out of personal devotion to them rather than because they were designated military commanders. The 12th and the 19th Texas Cavalry regiments displayed an unusual devotion to Col. Parsons and it was also reciprocated. Parsons' brigade consisted of three cavalry regiments, a battalion (later a regiment), and a battery. It consisted of the 12th Texas, 19th Texas Cavalry's Morgan's Regiment, and Pratt's 10th Texas Field Artillery.

Parson's 12th Texas was composed of men, mostly young and single, who volunteered in 1861 and were anxious to fight.

The 19th and 21st Texas Cavalry units consisted of many older men, often with families at home, who joined after the conscription law in 1862.

Morgan's command was a hodgepodge of companies under him in name only due to being from various parts of the state and displaying a stronger loyalty to company versus regiment.

Pratt's 10th Texas Field Artillery was initially composed of 72 men who joined in Jefferson, Texas. Attached to Col. Parsons's brigade in the fall of 1862, it seldom operated directly under Parsons. 171 names appear in records.

The 12th Texas Cavalry included eight companies from North Central Texas and two from the region near Austin. It was organized in Ellis County in July 1861 where Col. Parsons opened a camp of instruction in early July.

The 12th was the backbone of Parsons's brigade. It was comprised of lawyers, doctors, bankers, merchants, college graduates, and sons of prominent families enlisted along with farmers and stock raisers. Few men paid attention to rank.

The men joined the brigade for many reasons, but they all held one common belief—the desire to protect Texas from invasion and occupation. According to historians reading much of the correspondence that is still in existence, the men placed high importance to defending their homes and families. In addition, they believed that the principles they hoped to preserve were valid and honorable.

Texas troops were aggressive fighters and preferred to take the offensive. In most every skirmish from Missouri to Louisiana, they struck first. They loved to charge and gained a reputation along the Mississippi River for wild charges and fearless and violent fighting. A member of Parsons' Brigade in 1862 noted the Federals were, *"afraid even to send out scouts, for fear that we will bush-whack them...[They] have a wholesome dread of the Texans."* A Union private noted, *"fighting Texans is like walking into a den of wildcats."*

- Continued on the next page -



MAY HISTORICAL PROGRAM

12TH TEXAS CAVALRY

BY MARC ROBINSON



William Henry Parsons

- ☞ William Henry Parsons was a newspaper editor from Waco and began recruiting men shortly after the outbreak of war in April 1861 and was elected colonel.
- ☞ Served under Gen. Zachary Taylor in the Mexican War.
- ☞ State Supreme Court Judge, Officer of the Texas Senate.



Parson's Regiment First Organized

According to Dr. Anne J. Bailey: Parsons's regiment organized for state service on September 11, 1861, at Rockett's Spring, about seven miles northeast of Waxahachie. Originally known as the Fourth Texas Dragoons, it became the Twelfth Texas Cavalry Regiment when mustered into the Confederate Army on October 28, 1861 with about 1160 men at Camp Hebert, near Hempstead, Texas.

The pictures below show the 12th Texas Cavalry Regiment

12 Texas Cavalry Regiment
Field and Staff Officers

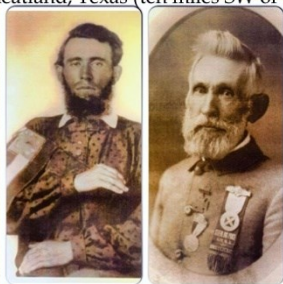
- | | |
|--|---|
| ☞ Colonel
William Henry Parsons | ☞ Quartermaster & Commissary
T. G. A. Willis, Henry L. Rankin |
| ☞ Lt. Colonel
John W. Mullen
Andrew Bell Burleson | ☞ Commissary
F. H. Ayres |
| ☞ Majors
Emory W. Rogers
Locklin J. Farrar | ☞ Surgeons
John D. Hogan, Thomas M. Matthews, W. H. B. Goodwin |
| ☞ Quartermaster
R. A. Terrell and J. R. Grover | ☞ Assistant Surgeons
Thomas E. Lorange and A. J. Embree |
| ☞ Adjutants
William G. Vardell
Andrew Bell Burleson
William M. Davies | ☞ Detail Surgeon
William Bethell |
| | ☞ Chaplains
W. F. Compton
J. Fred Cox
Elisha Terry |

The companies that made up the
Twelfth Texas were:

- Company A, the Hill County Volunteers, recruited in Hill County;
- Company B, the Freestone County Rangers or Freestone Boys, from Freestone County;
- Company C, the Johnson County Slashers, from Johnson County;
- Company D, the Bastrop Cavalry Company, from Bastrop County;
- Company E, the Ellis Grays, from Ellis County;
- Company F, the Ellis Rangers, made up of the companies of the Texas Mounted Guards from Ellis County and the Texas Mounted Rangers from Parker County;
- Company G, the Kaufman Guards, from Kaufman County;
- Company H, the Ellis Blues, from Ellis County;
- Company I, the Williamson Bowies, from Williamson County;
- Company K, the Eutaw Blues, from Limestone County.

Pictured below are some of the men who served in the 12th Texas Cavalry

Samuel Uhl, Co. F (Ellis Rangers), 12th
Texas Cavalry
Wheatland, Texas (ten miles SW of Dallas)



Jefferson Wise Nelson, and his wife Mary
Jane Caroline Killion Nelson

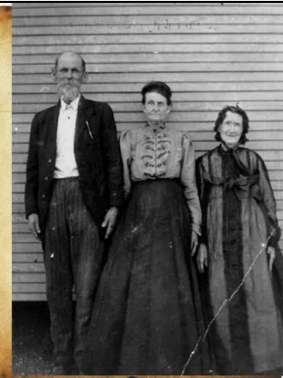
Jeff Nelson - Co. E
(Ellis Grays), 12th
Texas Cavalry
Jeff was a resident of
Navarro County from
about 1855 to his death in
1911 at Rice, Texas. He
was also a Navarro
County Constable and JP
for over ten years.



Robert Levi Brooks -
1842-1919, Co. D
(Bastrop Cavalry
Co.), 12th Texas
Cavalry and wife,
Catherine Ann
Houston Brooks.
(Brother of John
Dunn Brooks)



John Dunn Brooks,
1846-1921, Co. D
(Bastrop Cavalry
Co.), 12th Texas
Cavalry (Bastrop
County Cavalry)
with Wife, Nancy
Jane Mantooth
Brooks and Mother,
Eliza Bates Brooks
Green about 1910 -
Photo probably
taken in Mitchell
County, Texas.





MAY HISTORICAL PROGRAM

12TH TEXAS CAVALRY

BY MARC ROBINSON



Col. Parsons, was a cavalry veteran from the War with Mexico and he drilled his own regiment, the 12th Texas Cavalry (originally the Fourth Texas Cavalry or Dragoons) extensively during the hot summer of 1861, teaching them how to fight together effectively and proficiently mounted or dismounted.

Historian Dr. Anne J. Bailey stated that, *"whether mounted or dismounted, the Texans fought with reckless abandon."* She also stated, *"Col. Parsons required his troops to excel in drill, but he seldom enforced military regulations except in extreme cases."*

Col. Parsons understood very well how to lead Texans and got the very most out of them. Parsons's 12th Texas, presented by far the most disciplined force in the brigade, and it was upon the reputation of this regiment that the troops of the brigade gained fame. A mutual confidence evolved between the colonel, officers, and enlisted men and became the secret of the regiment's success. Parsons rigorously drilled the recruits and they still cheered whenever they saw him.

At Camp Hebert near Hempstead, the desire for action and the inactivity was beginning to tell on the 12th Texas Cavalry. Therefore, Col. Parsons came up with ways to occupy the men and improve their skill at warfare at the same time. Challenging other regiments to drill contests with a prize of a horse and a saddle worth \$1000.00. These contest had contestants jump 4 foot rails and 5 foot ditches for house and cavalrymen. The training proved invaluable as they became a very effective fighting force as they engaged in war and because of this, the 12th remained mounted throughout the war.

The 12th's effectiveness working well together during the war can be contributed to the great extent to Col. Parsons. L.T. Wheeler wrote in 1903, *"As a horseman I can say he had no superior in the Confederate army; proud, well equipped, he looked a very knight of chivalry; brave and commanding voice, which could be heard above the din of battle, his white plume could always be seen in the front of the battle; with true military genius he was always quick to take advantage of the enemy's mistake; resolute and self-confident, and confident of the valor of his men, he often turned what seemed to be defeat into victory."* It was also said that no commander west of the Mississippi could deliver more fiery, colorful, and enthusiastic speeches from the saddle.

The 12th first deployed to guard the Texas coast below Houston anticipating an invasion from Galveston. The 12th camped on Sims Bayou between Houston and Galveston as they sent out regular patrols to watch the coast for any sign of the enemy. They called this camp on Sims Bayou, 'Camp Parsons's'. These patrols also gave them a very good advantage of having intimate knowledge of the terrain in case of an invasion. Wetlands and concentration of men caused much sickness at Sims Bayou as December 1861 arrived (Typhoid and pneumonia) killing about four dozen soldiers.

The 12th Texas Cavalry left Camp Parsons and headed back to Hempstead beginning on March 1, 1862. They were preparing for a march to Missouri. Col. Parsons gave his men some leave time before their departure, but conflicting and changing orders from the Trans-Mississippi Dept. caused his men to be scattered over three states and Indian Territory trying to find their unit to consolidate. Continued on next pg.



MAY HISTORICAL PROGRAM

12TH TEXAS CAVALRY

BY MARC ROBINSON

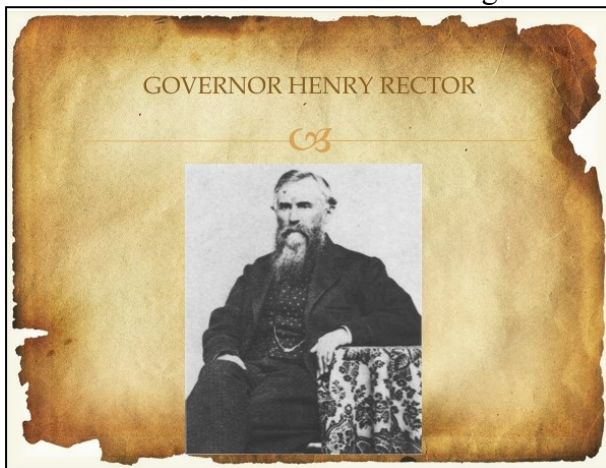


Spring of 1862 - Confederate Army in Arkansas desperately needed reinforcing to prevent the Federal advance toward Little Rock. Part of the regiment spent three weeks on the Mississippi River, but finally Col. Parsons sent word to his men via towns folk for them to consolidate in Little Rock.

Within a few weeks after crossing the Red River into Arkansas, the 12th Texas Cavalry would play a pivotal role in defending Arkansas. The successful efforts gained the 12th the reputation that kept their regiment mounted when the Confederate higher command dismounted all others. Lt. Col Giddings of the 21st Texas Cavalry sought out Col. Parsons to save his regiment's horses and Col. N.M. Burford of the 19th and Lt. Col. C.L. Morgan quickly figured out the advantages of joining the brigade Parsons commanded.

The Texas Troops would arrive just in time to prevent the fall of Little Rock. Col. Parsons's own regiment, the 12th Texas Cavalry, played an extremely important role in defending Arkansas and preventing any Federal move toward Texas.

After the Battle of Elkhorn Tavern/Pea Ridge in March 1862, Gen. Van Dorn's men, mostly from Arkansas and Missouri, were ordered to Mississippi to increase numbers in the Army of Tennessee. This left Arkansas with a very nominal force to defend it. After Elkhorn Tavern/Pea Ridge, Union General Samuel Curtis marched his army to Batesville, Arkansas and was sending scouting parties within a few miles from Little Rock. Governor Henry M. Rector decided to move the state's archives to Hot Springs. He also let it be known that he thought the Confederacy had sold his state down the river. The governor moving caused Union Gen. Curtis to feel that crossing the Arkansas River and taking Little Rock would be very easy.



The 12th Texas had initially been ordered to rendezvous at Fort Smith on their way to reinforce Gen. Van Dorn in north Arkansas. As Gen. Van Dorn moved eastward, the 12th's orders changed to Pine Bluff where they would be transported down the Arkansas River then up the Mississippi River to Memphis. The two companies of the 12th Texas first arriving in Memphis (Freestone Boys and Ellis Rangers) heard for the first time that Union Gen. Curtis threatened Little Rock. Gen. Beauregard changed Col. Parsons' orders from his men joining them in Corinth to heading immediately to Little Rock.

While visiting Gen. Beauregard in Corinth, Col Parsons stayed there only long enough to get permission for his

Troops to continue as cavalry and to obtain funds to pay his regiment. Those companies not already boarded transports in Pine Bluff toward Memphis headed on to Little Rock to arrive there by Mid-May 1862. When they arrived there was not a Confederate flag flying on the Capital, but the impetuous Texans immediately took charge and remedied that. Texan Lt. George Ingram wrote, *"These Arkansawyers were just about to give up before we got here, and there are many union men in this place."*

As the number of Texans increased, the morale of Arkansas improved considerably. Word was the Union Gen. Samuel Curtis, commanding the large federal force near Batesville in Northern Arkansas, was planning to march his army directly into Little Rock to ease the federal supply problems. - Cont. on next pg



MAY HISTORICAL PROGRAM
12TH TEXAS CAVALRY
BY MARC ROBINSON

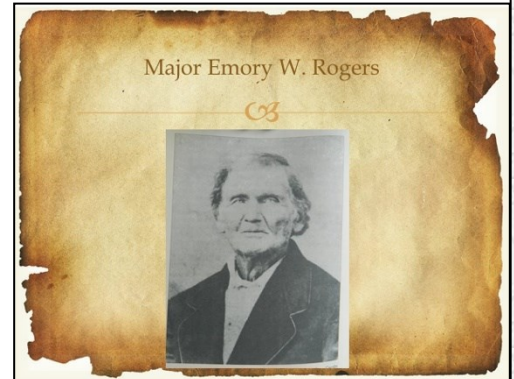


One of Parsons' Rangers in Little Rock wrote, *"Most every farm was seen smoking with burning cotton. More that 50,000,000 dollars worth has been burned along the Arkansas and Mississippi rivers during the last month."*

The owners were burning their own cotton to prevent it from falling into enemy hands. The price of cotton soared from 10 cents a pound in 1860 to \$1.89 a pound in 1963-1864.

The 12th Texas did not have much time in Little Rock before they received orders to march north and ascertain the strength and disposition of the enemy. Over 400 troops of the 12th Texas, under Major Emory W. Rogers, left on May 17th toward the Federal forces in Batesville while Col. Parsons was en route from Memphis to Little Rock. (side note: Rogers was the first settler to arrive In Waxahachie, Texas and donated land to build the Ellis County Courthouse)

The first battle involving the 12th Texas Cavalry took place near Searcy, Arkansas at Whitney's Lane as they fought a union foraging party, supported by infantry and cavalry, 300 strong. According to historian, Anne Bailey, the union foraging party's orders were to *"empty cellars and clear the fields of all foodstuff."* Major Rogers and his advanced scouts first sighted the federals. With only a small detachment of about 100 men from his camp, Rogers sent for reinforcements. While waiting for reinforcements, Major Rogers was informed that the enemy was gathering their full wagons of food to move out toward the Federal detachment at Searcy landing. As he was thinking over the situation, about 60 Arkansans joined him. (They were Hick's Independent Arkansas Cavalry which consisted of men mostly from the Searcy area and Hooker's Independent Arkansas Cavalry). This brought the Confederate force to 160. Time was short, but Major Rogers carefully planned the attack, diving his force into three units. The Confederate attack completely surprised the Federals. The Texans charged yelling like Indians and spurring their horses. The Confederates executed Rogers plan to the letter.



Since Rogers men were armed with double-barrel shotguns, he ordered a flank attack on the left of the lane while he led an attack up the main road. Lt. N. Brown McDonald of Ellis County led his men bravely into the lane. He yelled, "here they are boys, follow me!" While firing his revolver as he charged, he was killed instantly by a volley of enemy fire.

McDonald was the first man these Texans had seen killed in combat. They were shocked, then enraged, and immediately struck the Federal force, made up mostly of Germans. "Shooting and cutting like demons-the powder from their pistols burning the faces of their foes." The fighting became man against man after the initial charge. The battle of Whitney's Lane was not a major one and not much of a skirmish lasting about 45 minutes.

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MAY HISTORICAL PROGRAM

12TH TEXAS CAVALRY

BY MARC ROBINSON

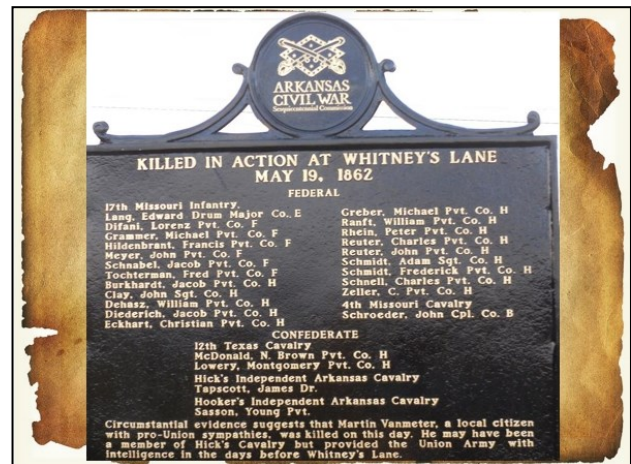


Of most importance was not the size of the battle, but the hope it gave to Arkansans. According to Dr. Anne Bailey, Major Rogers was then a hero, and his Texans had accomplished “one of the most daring and brilliant feats of the war,” and the people had renewed confidence in the Confederacy.

The San Antonio Herald printed, “*The campaign in Arkansas will be looked to with much interest by the people of Texas, as it is generally understood that the Federals now in that State are trying to work their way through to Texas to ‘wipe us out.’*”

Battle of Whitney's Lane Searcy, Arkansas

- ✧ Major Rogers reported one killed, one missing, one slightly wounded.
- ✧ Capt. Chrisman reported two Arkansas troops killed.
- ✧ C.S.A., 3 killed, 1 missing, 1 wounded.
- ✧ The Federal division commander, Peter Osterhaus reported losing fifteen killed, thirty-two wounded, and two missing.
- ✧ Federal Captain John Kaegi of Co. H, 17th Missouri Volunteers reported ten dead and fourteen wounded.
- ✧ Federal, 35 dead, 2 missing, 46 wounded.



White County Arkansas Courthouse

Built in 1871 is said to be the oldest functional courthouse in Arkansas and has an elaborate clock tower that resembles the Liberty Bell and dates back to 1855.

CSA monument was erected in 1917. It was funded by a public fund-raising campaign.



Henry Orr, one of four brothers serving in the 12th wrote his sister Molley the following: “*It does me good to know that we will be placed between the enemy and Texas.*”

Throughout June 1862, the Confederates were in constant contact with Federal pickets. One Texan bragged, “*The enemy could not stand the Ranger's war-whoop.*”

Henry Orr said in his journal, “*The Yankees are as afraid as death of the Texans and curse us for everything they can think of, for ‘bushwacking’ them.*”

Gil McKay of Taylor's 17th Texas Cavalry regiment described a charge from a distance of about 400 yards upon a group of Federals, “*our men commenced yelling,*

and for five minutes there was one of the most unearthly screams that I ever heard—it was fearful.” “*The Feds skedaddled.*” “*When the enemy first saw us, they thought we were Arkansawyers and intended to fight them to the last, but when we raised the yell, their commander told them that ‘they were the d..m Texans, to look out for themselves.’*”

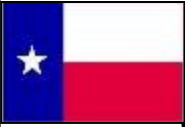
A union private wrote, “*fighting the Texans is like walking into a den of wildcats.*”

The Texas regiments under Col. Parsons harassed and annoyed Curtis' army with hit-and-run raids. McKay stated, “*Our (Texas Rangers, as they call us) cavalry is a terror to them.*”

Marc will complete his program at the June meeting. He said credits are due to the book “**Between the Enemy and Texas**” by Anne J. Bailey. You can find this book at the following website.

[https://books.google.com/books/about/Between_the_Enemy_and_Texas.html?](https://books.google.com/books/about/Between_the_Enemy_and_Texas.html?id=klAkZkwsTwIC&printsec=frontcover&source=kp_read_button&hl=en&newbks=1&newbks_redir=0&gboemv=1#v=onepage&q&f=false)

[id=klAkZkwsTwIC&printsec=frontcover&source=kp_read_button&hl=en&newbks=1&newbks_redir=0&gboemv=1#v=onepage&q&f=false](https://books.google.com/books/about/Between_the_Enemy_and_Texas.html?id=klAkZkwsTwIC&printsec=frontcover&source=kp_read_button&hl=en&newbks=1&newbks_redir=0&gboemv=1#v=onepage&q&f=false)



MAY CONFEDERATE VICTORY

[HTTPS://WWW.BATTLEFIELDS.ORG/LEARN/CIVIL-WAR/BATTLES/CHANCELLORSVILLE](https://www.battlefields.org/learn/civil-war/battles/chancellorsville)



Spotsylvania County, VA
Apr 30 - May 6, 1863

Despite the heavy casualties sustained there, the Battle of Chancellorsville is considered Gen. Robert E. Lee's greatest military victory. It was the last battle for Confederate Lt.

Gen. Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson, who was mortally wounded by friendly fire.

How it ended

Confederate victory. General Robert E. Lee's audacious decision to take on Maj. Gen. Joseph Hooker's Army of the Potomac, though he had less than half the number of men, resulted in an improbable win for the South. Hooker's timidity in battle led to poor choices and a huge disappointment for the North.

In context

Major General Ambrose E. Burnside lasted only a single campaign as the head of the Army of the Potomac. His abject failure at Fredericksburg in December 1862, followed by further fumbling on January's "Mud March," convinced President Abraham Lincoln to make another change in army commanders. He appointed 48-year-old Massachusetts native Joseph Hooker to take charge.

Hooker's energetic make-over polished the Union army into tip-top condition, and he declared them "the finest army on the planet." With complete confidence, Hooker orchestrated a "perfect" plan to confront Lee and drive him from his camp at Fredericksburg. Though outmanned, Lee did not retreat. He met Hooker's challenge head on, engaging him in one of the bloodiest battles of the Civil War. Brilliant tactics by Lee and "Stonewall" Jackson thwarted Hooker's ambitions and resulted in a victory for the South. Buoyed by the outcome, Lee later launched an offensive into Pennsylvania, where the opposing armies met on the battlefield in Gettysburg in July 1863.

Before the battle

Seizing the initiative, Hooker develops a plan to trap Lee's army around Fredericksburg between two pincers of his force. The cavalry will ride toward Richmond and sever Lee's communication with the Confederate capital. The infantry will cross the Rappahannock River, get behind the Confederate defenses, and sweep east against Lee's left flank. "My plans are perfect," Hooker boasts, "and when I start to carry them out, may God have mercy on General Lee, for I will have none." Part of Hooker's confidence may be due to the fact that Lee's valuable officer, Lt. Gen. James Longstreet, is away on a resupply mission, leaving Lee with only 60,000 troops to confront Hooker's 130,000 men.

- Continued on the next page -



MAY CONFEDERATE VICTORY



[HTTPS://WWW.BATTLEFIELDS.ORG/LEARN/CIVIL-WAR/BATTLES/CHANCELLORSVILLE](https://www.battlefields.org/learn/civil-war/battles/chancellorsville)

Hooker starts his campaign on April 27 and marches his men toward the Rappahannock. Maj. Gen. John Sedgwick's Sixth Corp erects pontoon bridges below Fredericksburg. By April 29, the Federals are on Lee's side of the river.

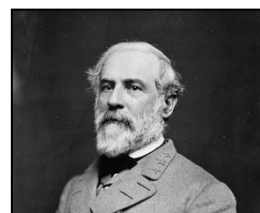


Union
Joseph Hooker

Forces Engaged
154,734

Union
97,382

Confed
57,352



Confederate
Robert E. Lee

April 30. With his Fifth, Ninth and Twelfth Corps. Hooker approaches the intersection of Orange Turnpike and the Orange Plank Road, which is dominated by the Chancellorsville tavern and is located in the Wilderness — a tangled, brush-choked thicket that covers the area.

May 1. Lee hurriedly gathers his army. The general hopes to stall Hooker in the Wilderness, where the Union advantage in manpower will be negated. Lee divides his smaller army and pushes his main body west along the Orange Turnpike and the Orange Plank Road toward Hooker, leaving Maj. Gen. Jubal Early's division to watch Sedgwick at Fredericksburg.

The two forces meet near the Zoan Church, three miles east of Chancellorsville, late that morning. On the turnpike, the Union Fifth Corps encounters Confederate Maj. Gen. Lafayette McLaws's division and is pushed back after three hours of fighting. Elements of the Twelfth Corps are likewise stopped by Lt. Gen. Richard Anderson's division on the Plank Road to the south. Then, inexplicably, Hooker orders his corps commanders to fall back to Chancellorsville, believing it better to have Lee to attack him there. Lee will oblige him. That evening, Lee and Jackson conceive a battle plan for the next day.

May 2. Jackson takes nearly 30,000 men off on a march that clandestinely crosses the front of the enemy army and swings around behind it. Jackson's objective is the right flank of the Union line that rests "in the air" along the Orange Turnpike near Wilderness Tavern. That leaves Lee with only about 15,000 men to hold off Hooker's army around the Chancellorsville crossroads. He skillfully manages the formidable task by feigning attacks with a thin line of skirmishers.

At about 5:00 p.m. Jackson, having completed his circuit around the enemy, unleashes his men in a violent attack on Hooker's right and rear. His men burst out of the thickets screaming the "Rebel Yell." They shatter the Federal Eleventh Corps and push the Northern army back more than two miles. Yet three hours later, the army suffers a nadir as low as the afternoon's zenith, when Jackson falls, mortally wounded by the fire of his own men. Maj. Gen. J.E.B. Stuart is now in temporary command. Both sides settle in for an anxious night, with pickets occasionally exchanging musket fire in the dark.

- Continued on the next page -



MAY CONFEDERATE VICTORY



[HTTPS://WWW.BATTLEFIELDS.ORG/LEARN/CIVIL-WAR/BATTLES/CHANCELLORSVILLE](https://www.battlefields.org/learn/civil-war/battles/chancellorsville)

May 3. The long marches and daring tactics of the last two days give way to a slugging match in the impenetrable woods on three sides of Chancellorsville intersection. The fighting is intense and the casualties mount on both sides. Hooker abandons key ground in a further display of timidity. Confederate artillery roars from Hazel Grove, and Southern infantry doggedly pushes ahead. When a Confederate artillery round smashes into a pillar against which Hooker leans, the Federal leader is knocked unconscious for a half hour. His return to semi-sentience disappoints the veteran corps commanders who had hoped that without him they would be free to employ their army's considerable untapped might.

By mid-morning, Southern infantry smashes through the final resistance and unites in the Chancellorsville clearing. Their boisterous, well-earned, celebration does not last long. Word comes from the direction of Fredericksburg that the Northern rearguard threatens the army's rear.

Sedgwick has crossed the Rappahannock and broken through Early's battle line on Marye's Heights. Pressing west to join Hooker, he meets resistance by more Confederates from McLaws's division at Salem Church on the Plank Road, sent there by Lee who has divided his army a third time.

May 4. McLaws and Early counterattack Sedgwick and push him back across the river, halting the Union threat from the east.

May 5. Hooker holds a council of war with his corps commanders, who want to continue the fight. But the general has had enough and initiates the army's retreat.

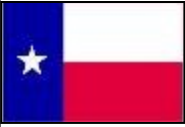
May 6. Hooker's army re-crosses the Rappahannock to its north bank.

ESTIMATED CASUALTIES

Union	Confederate
30,764	13,460
17,304	1,724 killed
1,694 killed	9,233 wounded
9,672 wounded	2,503 missing & captured
5,938 missing & captured	

Many of Hooker's men grow despondent after their commander's decision to stop the fight on May 5. One soldier of the 141st Pennsylvania wonders, "...must we lose this battle? Have these brave comrades who have fought so bravely and died at their post died in vain?" Southerners, too, are baffled. Confederate cartographer Jedediah Hochkiss, who was taking measurements in the area for a map of the campaign, records in his journal on May 12, 1863, that he "had no idea the enemy were so well fortified and wonder they left their works so soon."

The Army of the Potomac trudges back across their pontoons on May 5 and by May 6 at 9:00 a.m., the last Federals reach the left bank of the Rappahannock. Union engineers pull the pontoon bridges from the river, ending the North's campaign against Lee and the Army of Northern Virginia.



CHANCELLORSVILLE CAMPAIGN PICTURES

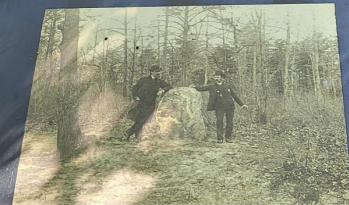
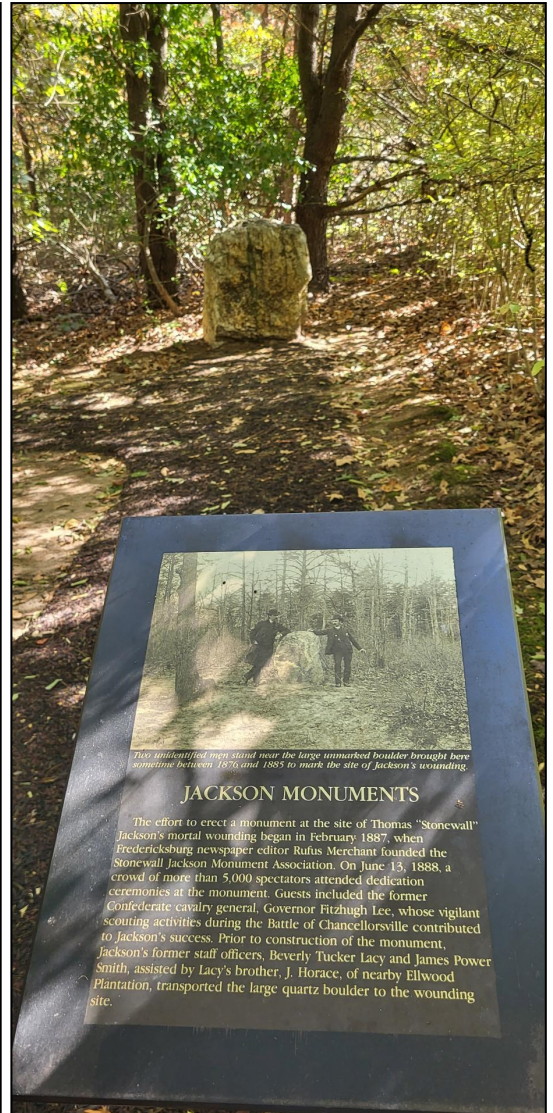
PICTURES ON THIS PAGE WERE TAKEN BY DWIGHT FRANKLIN OCTOBER 2024



Two unidentified men stand near the large unmarked boulder brought here sometime between 1876 and 1885 to mark the site of Jackson's wounding.

JACKSON MONUMENTS

The effort to erect a monument at the site of Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson's mortal wounding began in February 1887, when Fredericksburg newspaper editor Rufus Merchant founded the Stonewall Jackson Monument Association. On June 13, 1888, a crowd of more than 5,000 spectators attended dedication ceremonies at the monument. Guests included the former Confederate cavalry general, Governor Fitzhugh Lee, whose vigilant scouting activities during the Battle of Chancellorsville contributed to Jackson's success. Prior to construction of the monument, Jackson's former staff officers, Beverly Tucker Lacy and James Power Smith, assisted by Lacy's brother, J. Horace, of nearby Ellwood Plantation, transported the large quartz boulder to the wounding site.



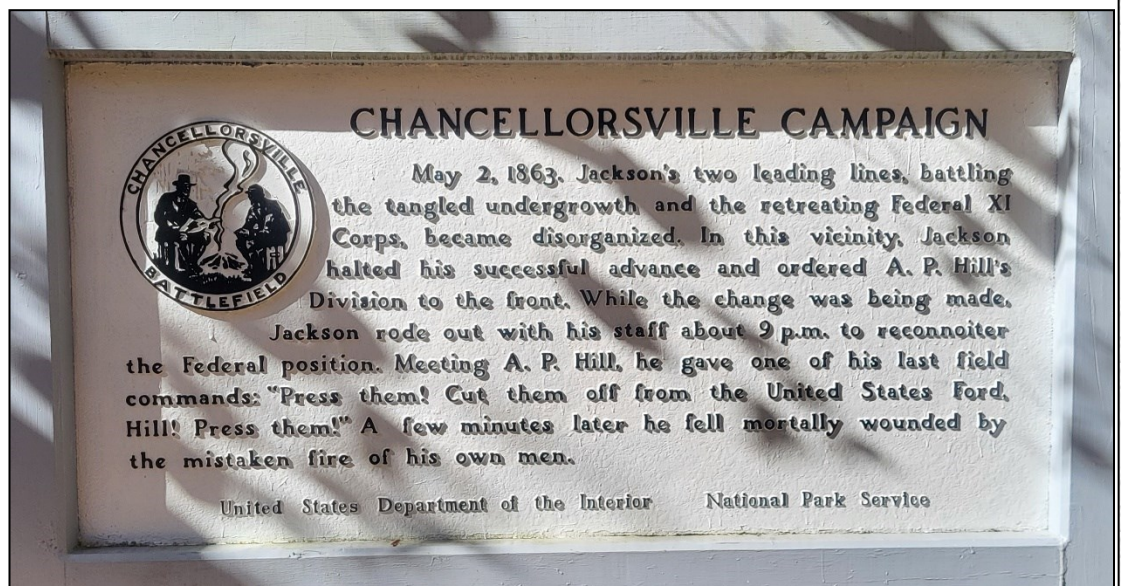
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Pictures on this page were taken just a few yards behind the Chancellorsville Visitors Center. The monument marks the site of General Stonewall Jackson's mortal wounding.

If you have never been there, this is a great trip to make. There is a lot of interesting history in this area.



CHANCELLORSVILLE CAMPAIGN

May 2, 1863. Jackson's two leading lines, battling the tangled undergrowth and the retreating Federal XI Corps, became disorganized. In this vicinity, Jackson halted his successful advance and ordered A. P. Hill's Division to the front. While the change was being made, Jackson rode out with his staff about 9 p.m. to reconnoiter the Federal position. Meeting A. P. Hill, he gave one of his last field commands: "Press them! Cut them off from the United States Ford, Hill! Press them!" A few minutes later he fell mortally wounded by the mistaken fire of his own men.

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service



CHANCELLORSVILLE CAMPAIGN PICTURES

PICTURES ON THIS PAGE WERE TAKEN BY DWIGHT FRANKLIN OCTOBER 2024



Memorializing Jackson's Death

*Of his soldiers he was the idol;
of his country he was the hope;
of war he was the master.*

Senator and veteran John Warwick Daniel

When General "Stonewall" Jackson died eight days after being wounded in these woods, shock waves rippled through the South. "Deeper grief never followed the death of mortal man," wrote one artilleryman. Few felt Jackson's loss more keenly than Robert E. Lee, who confessed, "I know not how to replace him."

After the war local residents commemorated Jackson's wounding in stone. In 1879, they placed a boulder about 60 yards from the site of the general's wounding. That rock still stands amid the bushes to your left-front. In 1888, 5,000 people attended the dedication of the more formal monument in front of you.



Civil War veterans pose in front of the Jackson Monument.



Leaders Matter

Chancellorsville

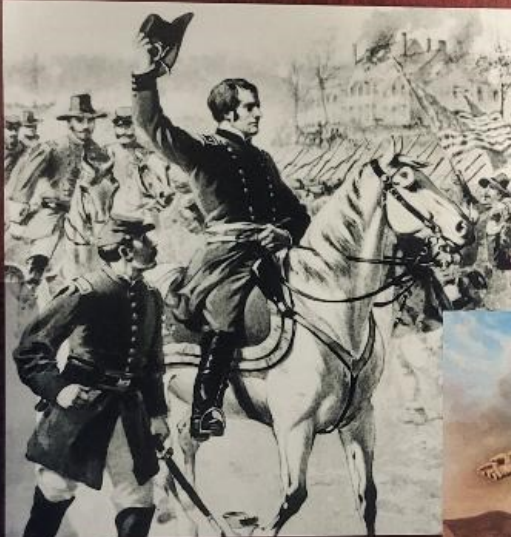
Few places demonstrate the importance of leadership more than the battlefields around Fredericksburg, especially Chancellorsville.

Lee and Jackson

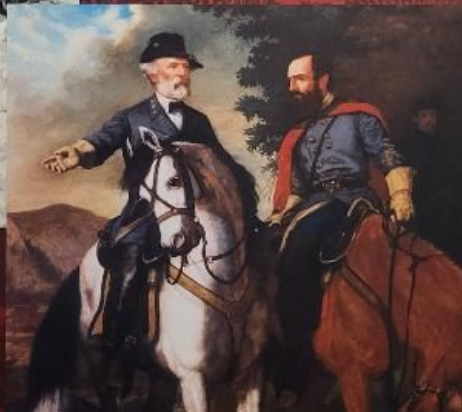
Robert E. Lee was the more modern manager, "Stonewall" Jackson the intuitive. But each possessed imagination and the courage to take risks. Most importantly, Lee had total faith in Jackson, and Jackson repaid Lee's trust with a determination to deliver success no matter the cost or effort. Jackson's death following Chancellorsville ended one of the greatest military collaborations in history.

Hooker

Joseph Hooker was a man of brash declarations and political intrigue. He inspired little of the fierce loyalty that Lee enjoyed, though his care for the army in winter quarters raised hopes among the men. At lower rank, Hooker had been almost recklessly aggressive. But once on the field at Chancellorsville, his aggressive instincts vanished. He yielded the initiative to Lee, who in turn inflicted on him a humiliating defeat.



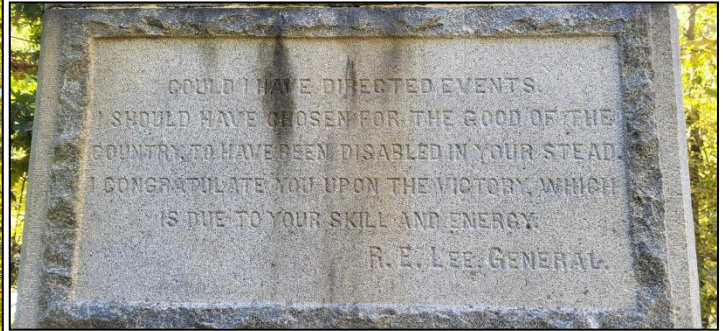
General Joseph Hooker commanded the Union army at the Battle of Chancellorsville.



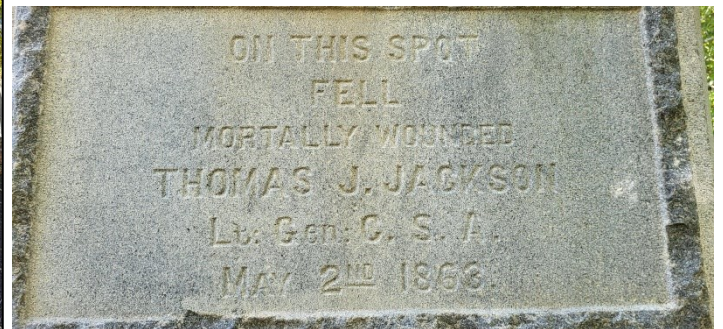


CHANCELLORSVILLE CAMPAIGN PICTURES

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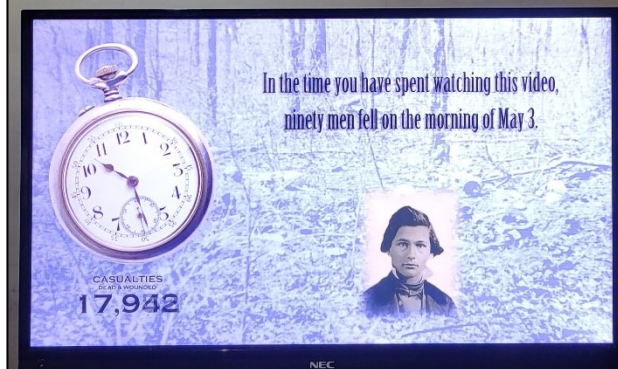
Above is a close-up of the inscription on the marker on the left.
Below: Inscription on marker where Jackson was wounded.

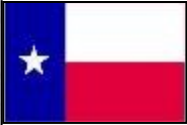


Death in the Woods

The morning after Jackson's flank attack, Lee launched massive assaults against the Union lines around Chancellorsville—a climactic, bloody attempt to destroy Hooker's army.

The fighting in the woods around Chancellorsville on May 3, 1863 may represent the bloodiest five hours of the Civil War. Eighteen thousand men fell—on average one man killed or wounded every second. For most soldiers, the frightening combat in these forests defined the Battle of Chancellorsville.



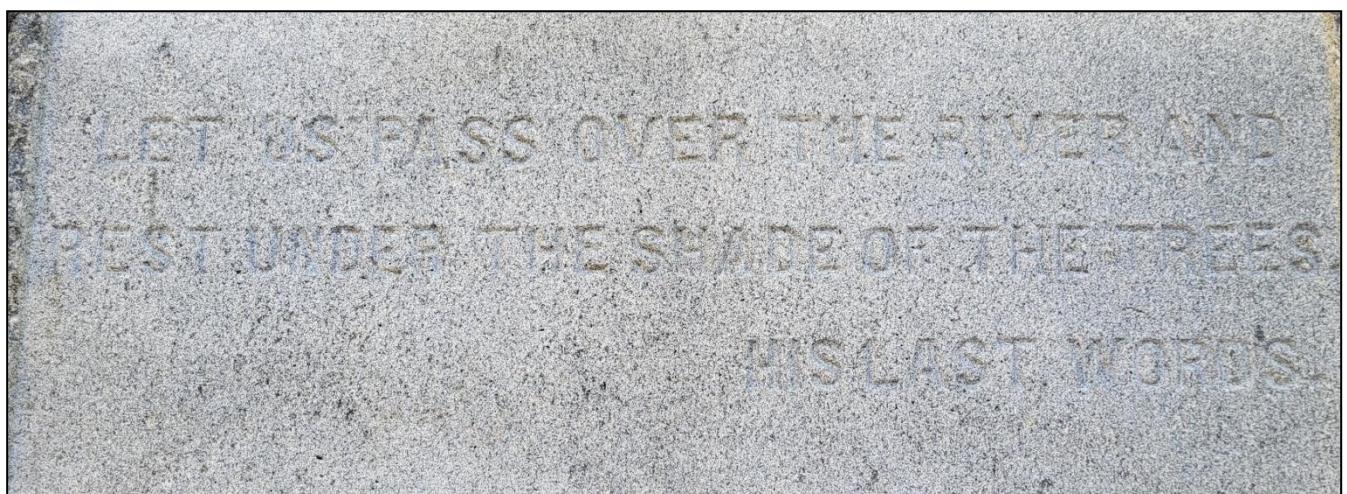
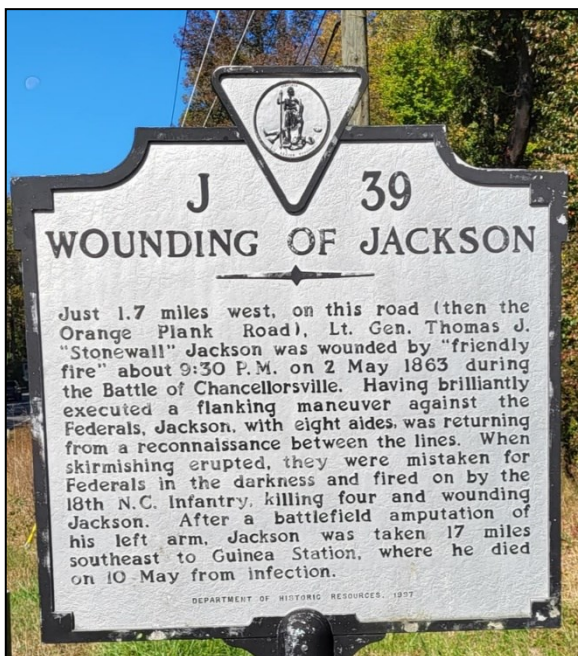


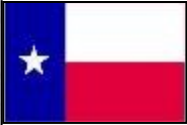
CHANCELLORSVILLE CAMPAIGN PICTURES

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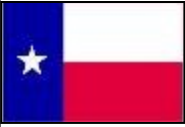
Chancellorsville Battlefield Visitor's Center





GUINEA STATION
LOCATION WHERE STONEWALL JACKSON DIED
PICTURES TAKEN BY DWIGHT FRANKLIN OCTOBER 2024





GUINEA STATION INFOMARKERS

LOCATION WHERE STONEWALL JACKSON DIED

PICTURES TAKEN BY DWIGHT FRANKLIN OCTOBER 2024




GUINEA STATION

★ ★ ★

Grant Maneuvers South


LEE VS. GRANT - THE 1864 CAMPAIGN




The 114th Pennsylvania Volunteers. A Zouave regiment, this unit sported baggy red trousers, blue vests and turbans.

Gen. Winfield Hancock's Union Second Corps left Spotsylvania Court House after sunset on May 20, 1864. It trudged south along dark roads, headed toward Milford Station on the Richmond, Fredericksburg, and Potomac Railroad. Grant had ordered Hancock to Milford in the hope of luring the Confederate army out of its Spotsylvania trenches to a place where he could attack it and have the advantage.

Hancock reached Guinea Station about dawn, May 21. Pickets of the 9th Virginia Cavalry fired at the Union column, then disappeared to spread the alarm. Hancock continued south. As soon as his troops left Guinea Station, the Confederates began tearing up the Downer's Bridge, less than a mile behind you. A spirited attack by the 114th Pennsylvania Volunteers saved the bridge for the Union, however, enabling Warren's Fifth Corps to cross the river there later in the afternoon.




Fairfield (left) was a sturdy brick plantation house when Grant dropped by on May 21, 1864. A fire later gutted the building, and in 1911 it was torn down.



Grant established his headquarters at the Mottley House (above) on May 21. He later wandered over to Fairfield and spoke with Mrs. Chandler about "Stonewall" Jackson's death there one year earlier.

The Battle of Chancellorsville
Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park
U.S. Department of the Interior

A Staggering Blow




Mourners at Jackson's grave in Lexington, Virginia.


We had confidence in him that knew no bounds... his loss was irreparable.

Wills Lee, Richmond Howitzers

News of Stonewall Jackson's death stunned the South. "A greater sense of loss and deeper grief never followed the death of mortal man," recorded one of Jackson's men. Union soldiers felt both joy and lament. "I rejoice at Stonewall Jackson's death as a gain to our cause," wrote Union Gen. Gouverneur Warren, "yet in my soldier's heart I cannot but see him the best soldier of all this war, and grieve his untimely end."

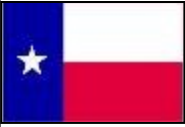


Left: The last photo of Stonewall Jackson, taken two weeks before his death. Mrs. Jackson felt the image made her husband look too stern.



Above: Jackson's wife Mary Anna and her daughter Julia Jackson. Mary Anna never remarried, wore mourning clothes the remainder of her life, and became the most revered Civil War widow in the South.

Jackson's death fell heaviest on Gen. Robert E. Lee. He had come to rely on Jackson to carry out his plans, and Jackson had seldom failed him. "Such an executive officer the sun never shone on," Lee once said of his subordinate. "I have but to show him my design, and I know that if it can be done it will be done." With Stonewall gone, Lee would never again achieve the success he had gained at Chancellorsville.



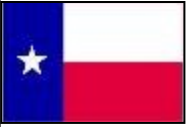
INSIDE THE BUILDING WHERE STONEWALL JACKSON DIED PICTURES TAKEN BY DWIGHT FRANKLIN OCTOBER 2024



Above: The Waiting Room. During Jackson's illness, staff officers used this room to relax, write letters, and chat. Doctors attending to Jackson consulted here. "All that human skill could devise was done to stay the hand of death," one affirmed, but it was not enough. By May 10, Jackson's physicians gave up all hope of his recovery. Summoning his wife, they informed her that the general had but a few short hours to live.

Below: Info marker showing how things looked when General Stonewall Jackson died on May 10th. The actual home of the family was the red brick building behind the white "front office" building where Stonewall died.



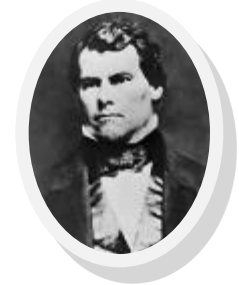


JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP

MAY IN THE LIFE OF JOHN H. REAGAN



May 29, 1839 John H. Reagan arrived in Texas at age 20.



May 2, 1849 John H. Reagan wrote letter to Rusk Pioneer complaining of misapportionment of State Representatives.

May 17, 1849 John H. Reagan announced candidacy for State Senate; only defeat of career.

May 13, 1857 John H. Reagan nominated for Congress by Eastern District Dem. Convention in Tyler.



May 2, 1859 John H. Reagan nominated for 2nd term as US Representative at Henderson Co. Convention

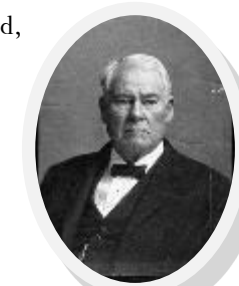
May 13, 1861 John H. Reagan issued proclamation to assume control of Southern mail delivery for CSA.



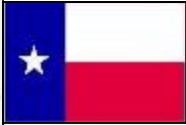
May 10, 1865 John H. Reagan captured with Jefferson Davis and imprisoned in Ft. Warren, Boston Harbor.

May 31, 1866 John H. Reagan married Mollie Ford Taylor.

May 19, 1876 John H. Reagan delivered speech in US Congress to deter abandonment of Navy Yard, Pensacola, Fla.



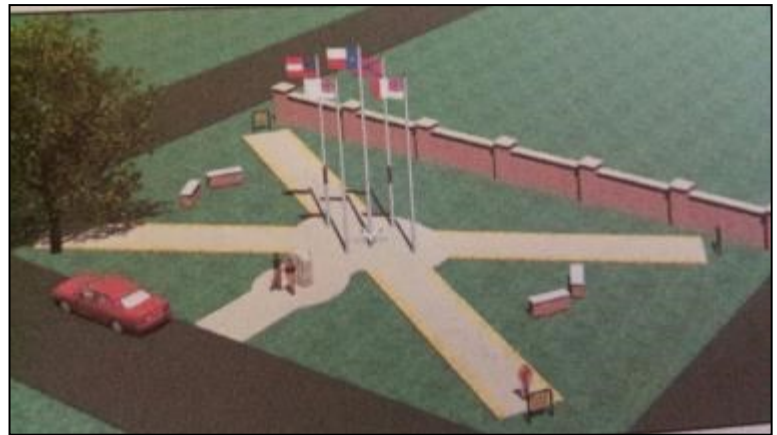
May 8, 1878 John H. Reagan delivered speech in US Congress on his Interstate Commerce Bill.



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
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

JOHN H. REAGAN SCV CAMP #2156 PALESTINE TEXAS	PVT WM. H. FOSTER CO. H 1ST TEX INF DIED AS POW OCT 63
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
L. E. SHERIDAN PVT. CO I 1ST REGT TEXAS INFANTRY	PVT WM. N SHERIDAN CO C 6 BATTALION TEXAS CALVARY	STEPHEN O. RAINEY CAPTAIN 1ST BATT. TEX CAV

PVT. R. M. LUMMUS 53 GEORGIA INF. COMPANY B C.S.A	PVT ALLEN G TURNER CO A 7TH BATTALION MISS INF. CSA
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

MAY 2025



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 undated— [children] should also be taught to know that after having been reared & educated by their parents, they should not expect them to further provide for them.	2 May 2, 1865— To Markie: I trust in time to be able to procure a humble home somewhere.	3 undated—If habits of self control & self denial have been acquired during education the great object has been accomplished.
4 May 4, 1851— Be strictly honorable in every act, & be not ashamed to do right. Acknowledge right to be your aim & strive to reach it.	5 undated— to Custis Hold yourself above every mean action	6 undated— Diligence & integrity in any useful pursuit of life will be sure to secure prosperity.	7 undated— In answer to the prayers of God's people. I trust He will soon give us peace. I haven't seen my wife for nearly a year—my home in nearly two years.	8 undated to Custis Daily exercise of all your energies, acquiring knowledge, & knowing to do your duty, will bring you a delight surpassing all that idleness & selfishness can give	9 undated— The choice of a profession is not of so much consequence as the manner in which it is pursued.	10 May 10, 1863—To Gen Jackson: Tell him to make haste & get well & come back to me as soon as he can. He has lost his left arm, but I have lost my right arm.
11 Undated—to son No one will attend to your business as well as you will yourself.	12 undated to wife Study human nature, more by experience than by precept, learn to guard himself & his actions & not to be deceived by the low, the cunning, & the envious.	13 undated to Mrs. Fitzhugh In truth the wilderness of Texas is more agreeable to me than its cities.	14 undated— We must never relax in our efforts to save our people or save our Country.	15 May 15, 1864 to General Hill: When a man makes a mistake, I call him to my tent, talk to him, & use the authority of my position to make him do the right thing the next time.	16 May 16, 1864 to Gen. Hill: These men are not an army... I have to make the best of what I have.	17 May 17, 1867—The greater difficulties in our lives the harder must we strive for success.
18 May 18, 1857—to wife: If they [daughters] can lead the life of pure & earnest Christians they will realize the only true happiness in this world.	19 undated to Custis The necessity I daily have for money has I fear made me parsimonious.	20 May 20, 1863 to Jeff Davis: I wish to take advantage of every circumstance to inspire & encourage, & induce the officers & men to believe that their labours are appreciated.	21 May 21, 1863 to Gen. Hood: There never were such men in any army before. They will go anywhere and do anything.	22 undated— I know the difficulty of farmers. Their success & in a measure their pleasure, depend upon their daily attention to their affairs.	23 May 23, 1863 to wife: I hope the doctor's prescriptions under the blessing of Heaven relieve your painful affliction for I can do nothing but offer my feeble prayers to God for your relief.	24 undated to wife: Kiss my daughters for me, & you must all remember me in your prayers
25 May 25, 1863 to Agnes: Good-bye my precious child. Kiss your mother for me & take good care of her.	26 May 26, 1863 to Robert: I wish I could be of some advantage to you, but I can only give you my love & prayers, & commit you to God who never forgets those who serve Him.	27 undated—To Custis: so long as I meet with such return from my children, & see them strive to respond to my wishes I can meet with calmness all else the world may have for me.	28 May 28, 1870 I am unwilling that my family should become a tax to the College, all its funds should be devoted to the purposes of education.	29 May 29, 1866 Above all things, learn at once to worship your Creator & to do His will as revealed in His Holy Book.	30 May 30, 1858 to Rooney: I hope you will always be distinguished for your avoidance of the "universal balm", whiskey & every immorality.	31 May 31, 1863 to wife: I pray that our merciful Father in Heaven may protect and direct us! In that case, I fear no odds & no numbers.



TEXAS CIVIL WAR HISTORY IN MAY

From the Texas State Historical Association— <https://texasdaybyday.com/#feedCarousel>



May 3. The long marches and daring tactics of the last two days give way to a slugging match in the impenetrable woods on three sides of Chancellorsville intersection. The fighting is intense and the casualties mount on both sides. Hooker abandons key ground in a further display of timidity. Confederate artillery roars from Hazel Grove, and Southern infantry doggedly pushes ahead. When a Confederate artillery round smashes into a pillar against which Hooker leans, the Federal leader is knocked unconscious for a half hour. His return to semi-sentience disappoints the veteran corps commanders who had hoped that without him they would be free to employ their army's considerable untapped might.

By mid-morning, Southern infantry smashes through the final resistance and unites in the Chancellorsville clearing. Their boisterous, well-earned, celebration does not last long. Word comes from the direction of Fredericksburg that the Northern rearguard threatens the army's rear.

Sedgwick has crossed the Rappahannock and broken through Early's battle line on Marye's Heights. Pressing west to join Hooker, he meets resistance by more Confederates from McLaws's division at Salem Church on the Plank Road, sent there by Lee who has divided his army a third time.

May 4. McLaws and Early counterattack Sedgwick and push him back across the river, halting the Union threat from the east.

May 5. Hooker holds a council of war with his corps commanders, who want to continue the fight. But the general has had enough and initiates the army's retreat.

May 6. Hooker's army re-crosses the Rappahannock to its north bank.

AFTERMATH

Union	Estimated Casualties	Confederate
17,304	30,764	13,460
1,694 Killed		1,724 Killed
9,672 Wounded		9,233 Wounded
5,938 Captured & Missing		2,503 Captured & Missing

Many of Hooker's men grow despondent after their commander's decision to stop the fight on May 5. One soldier of the 141st Pennsylvania wonders, "...must we lose this battle? Have these brave comrades who have fought so bravely and died at their post died in vain?" Southerners, too, are baffled. Confederate cartographer Jedediah Hochkiss, who was taking measurements in the area for a map of the campaign, records in his journal on May 12, 1863, that he "had no idea the enemy were so well fortified and wonder they left their works so soon."

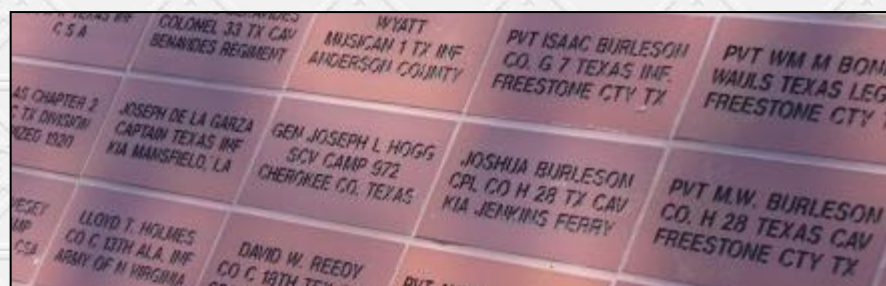
The Army of the Potomac trudges back across their pontoons on May 5 and by May 6 at 9:00 a.m., the last Federals reach the left bank of the Rappahannock. Union engineers pull the pontoon bridges from the river, ending the North's campaign against Lee and the Army of Northern Virginia.



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 Commander Ed Heitman, E-mail: edheitman@gmail.com; Phone: (903-504-6674) or Dan Dyer at E-mail: danieldyer497@yahoo.com; 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.

Held at **First Congregational**
Methodist Church of Elkhart

510 N. US 287, Elkhart, Tx
75839