



SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS, TEXAS DIVISION

THE JOHN H. REAGAN CAMP NEWS

www.reaganscvcamp.org

VOLUME 17, ISSUE 9

SEPTEMBER 2025

SEPTEMBER DISPATCH

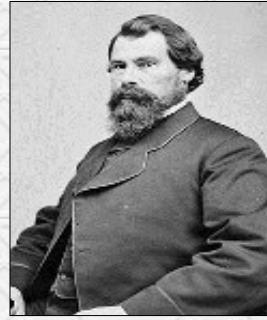


LT CDR David
Franklin

Jefferson Davis had aspirations to lead troops in battle when the South seceded but it was not to be. His wife Varina stated the saddest she had ever seen him was when he was informed he had been elected President of the Confederate States. He is regarded by many to be one of the best Secretaries of War this nation has produced. In his last published message to Southerners before his death he said:

"It is unwise and unworthy of us to allow our energies to falter and our efforts to become relaxed under reverses, however calamitous they may be ... it is for us to show by our bearing under reverses, how wretched has been the self-deception of those who have believed us less able to endure misfortune with fortitude than to encounter danger with courage. Let us, then, not despond, but ... relying on God, meet the foe with fresh defiance and with unconquered and unconquerable hearts."

In thinking of the horrendous murder of Charlie Kirk, I think President Davis's words are good to be remembered: "rely



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

on God, meet the
foe with fresh
defiance and with
unconquered and
unconquerable
hearts."



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


INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

1st Lt. Commander's Dispatch	1
Calendar of Events	2
September Meeting Pics	3
September Historical Program	4
September Confederate Victory 1st Battle of Lexington	5-9
Civil War Facts	10-12
10 Things You Should Know about John H. Reagan	13
Honoring your ancestor	14
September Robert E. Lee Calendar	15
September Texas Civil War History	16
Confederate Memorial Plaza Information	17
Contact Information & Charge to the SCV	18

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.**

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

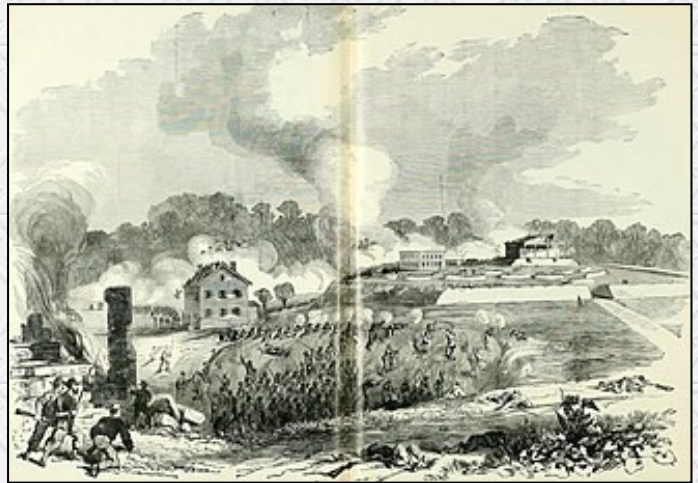
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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.

Oct 28, 2025 - October Meeting

November meeting cancelled due to the Thanksgiving Holidays.

December Meeting will be announced as soon as it is scheduled.



The First Battle of Lexington was a Confederate Victory that took place September 13 to 20, 1861.

Officers for 2025

Commander - Ed Heitman

1st Lt. - David Franklin


Adjutant/Treasurer - Richard Thornton

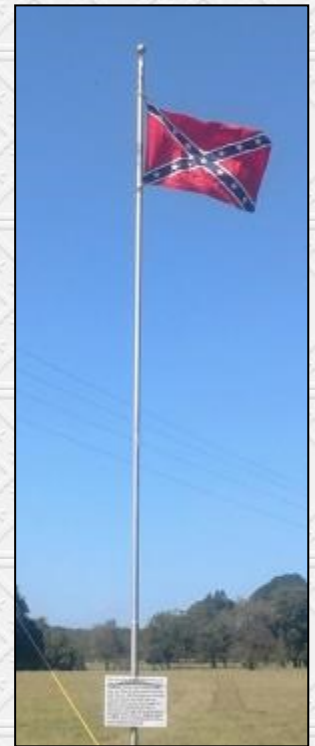
Sgt at Arms - Marc Robinson

Judge Advocate - Martin Lawrence

Chaplain - Dwight Franklin

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-



SEPTEMBER MEETING PICTURES



The September John H. Reagan meeting was held on September 23rd in the activity building of the First Congregational Church of Elkhart. We had six compatriots in attendance at the meeting.

David Franklin, Richard Thornton, and Dwight Franklin provided the meal for the meeting. We had Rotisserie chicken, soft tacos, pinto beans, soft fried new potatoes with onions, cornbread, rolls and sweet tea. We had angel food cake, home made pound cake with powder sugar frosting, and Blue Bell ice cream for dessert.

Following the meeting, Reagan Camp Adjutant Richard Thornton presented the historical program. You can see notes from his program on the following page.

Our next meeting will be held on October 28th in the same location. We hope to see you there.





SEPTEMBER HISTORICAL PROGRAM

WHO IS THIS OFFICER?



Richard started the night off by telling us about a man who fought for the Confederacy after being in the United States Military Academy. He didn't tell us the man's name until the end of his program, but he told us a lot of interesting things about him that caused us to wonder who he could be.

The Confederate officer that Richard told us about graduated 17th out of 46 from the United States Military Academy in 1854. He briefly served with the United States Army during the Seminole Wars, as well as in several outposts in the West, before resigning his commission with the outbreak of the Civil War in 1861.

He first entered the Confederate army as an aide-de-camp and captain for General P. G. T. Beauregard. When Beauregard began organizing companies of artillery he was given command of one, and promoted to major in the Confederate army. He commanded a battery of guns under General Joseph E. Johnston, served as chief of artillery for General Lafayette McLaws and later for General John Magruder. He served with distinction through the battles of Seven Pines, Savage's Station, the Seven Days, and Malvern Hill. He then transferred to command a battalion of artillery under General James Longstreet. He fought in the Second Battle of Bull Run as well as Antietam. At Antietam his guns played an important role during the fight for Dunker Church.

On November 6, 1862, He was promoted to brigadier general and assigned to command the artillery at Vicksburg under General John C. Pemberton. He performed well at the battle of Champion Hill and throughout the Vicksburg Campaign. When

Vicksburg fell, He was captured with many of its defenders. While awaiting parole, he was promoted to major general on August 3, 1862 and was placed in command of cavalry within the Department of Mississippi and West Tennessee. Once released in an exchange his command extended to Alabama and East Louisiana. .

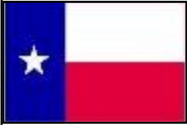
On June 23, 1864, he was appointed a lieutenant general, making him the youngest man to reach the rank in the Confederate Army. He took command of General John B. Hood's former corps within the Army of Tennessee. He commanded this corps through the Atlanta Campaign, including the battles of Jonesboro, Franklin, and Nashville. After the Atlanta Campaign much of his corps was left in ruins. At the end of the war he joined General Joseph E. Johnston for the Carolina Campaign and in April he and Johnston surrendered.

He was injured in combat at least twice during the Civil War: once in the shoulder during the Battle of Champion's Hill in 1863 and once in the foot during the Battle of Spring Hill in 1864. He was forced to leave duty for recovery after the 1864 wound but returned for the final campaign in North Carolina.

After the war, he became the first president of Mississippi State College. Who is this man? He is none other than Lt. General Stephen Dill Lee, the man who delivered these words:

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 General,
United Confederate Veterans,
New Orleans, Louisiana, April 25, 1906*



SEPTEMBER CONFEDERATE VICTORY FIRST BATTLE OF LEXINGTON



Not to be confused with Battles of Lexington and Concord or Second Battle of Lexington

The **siege of Lexington**, also known as the **first battle of Lexington** or the **battle of the Hemp Bales**, was a minor conflict of the American Civil War. The siege took place from September 13 to 20, 1861, between the Union Army and the pro-Confederate Missouri State Guard in Lexington, county seat of Lafayette County, Missouri. The victory won by the Missouri Guard bolstered the considerable Southern sentiment in the area, and briefly consolidated Missouri State Guard control of the Missouri River Valley in the western part of the state.

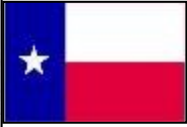
Prior to the American Civil War, Lexington was an agricultural town of over 4,000 residents that served as the county seat of Lafayette County and enjoyed a position of considerable local importance on the Missouri River in west-central Missouri. Hemp (used for rope production), tobacco, coal and cattle all contributed to the town's wealth, as did the river trade. Though Missouri remained in the Union during the war, many of Lexington's residents were slave owners, and several openly sympathized with the Southern cause. Lafayette County had a high ratio of slaves to free persons, with slaves comprising 32% of its population.

Following the Battle of Boonville in June 1861, Federal Brigadier General Nathaniel Lyon ordered the 5th Regiment of the United States Reserve Corps to occupy Lexington. This regiment was composed primarily of Germans from St. Louis, and it had participated in the Camp Jackson Affair. Arriving on the steamer *White Cloud* on July 9, the Northerners were commanded by Colonel Charles G. Stifel. Stifel's second in command was Lieutenant Colonel Robert White, who became a primary point of contact with the local civilians. Stifel selected the defunct Masonic College in Lexington as his headquarters, and the soldiers began entrenching and fortifying that position.

Stifel's scouts began securing or destroying boats that could be used to cross the river, and also confiscated about 200 kegs of gunpowder, 33 muskets, and two 6-pounder cannons from the area. The cannons were placed under the command of Charles M. Pirner. Several local pro-Union home guard companies were raised and placed under the command of Major Frederick W. Becker.

In mid-August the 90-day enlistments of Stifel's regiment were expiring, and they were ordered to return to St. Louis. White had been organizing a new regiment locally, but he suddenly left for several weeks during which time Major Becker had command of the post. Meanwhile, on the Southern side, self-styled Colonel Henry L. Routt of Clay County had collected around a thousand men for a regiment that he was raising. Routt had led the force that had seized the Liberty Arsenal in April.

Routt now arrested several prominent Union men, including former Missouri governor Austin A. King, then surrounded the Federal outpost at Lexington. He demanded Becker's surrender but this was refused. One night two of Becker's men, Charles and Gustave Pirner, tested some rounds they had fabricated for two mortars that had come into their possession. They lobbed three shells into Routt's encampment with one of the mortars, causing a panic but no real damage. Later, learning of the approach of Colonel Thomas A. Marshall's 1st Illinois cavalry, Routt withdrew from the area. White returned at the end of August and briefly assumed command of the post from Becker until the Illinois cavalry arrived a few days later. White resumed organization of the 14th Home Guard Regiment.



SEPTEMBER CONFEDERATE VICTORY FIRST BATTLE OF LEXINGTON



Following their victory at Wilson's Creek on August 10, the main body of the pro-Confederate Missouri State Guard under Major General Sterling Price marched toward the Missouri-Kansas border with around 7,000 men to repel incursions by Lane's pro-Union Kansas Brigade. On September 2, the Guard drove away Lane's Kansans in the Battle of Dry Wood Creek, sending them back beyond Fort Scott. Price then turned north along the border and toward Lexington, intending to break Federal control of the Missouri River and gather recruits from both sides of the river. Price collected recruits as he went along, including Routt and several hundred of his men then at the town of Index in Cass County.

Federal reinforcements arrived in Lexington on September 4: the 13th Missouri Infantry commanded by Colonel Everett Peabody and a battalion of the United States Reserve Corps under Major Robert T. Van Horn. To prevent rebel Governor Claiborne Fox Jackson from obtaining any funds from local banks, General John C. Fremont gave orders to impound their funds. On September 7, Marshall removed approximately \$1,000,000 from the Farmers' Bank in Lexington while Peabody was dispatched to Warrensburg to do the same there. On arriving in Warrensburg, Peabody's detachment found itself in Price's path and made a hasty retreat back to Lexington.

Finally, on September 10, Colonel James A. Mulligan arrived to take command with his 23rd Illinois Volunteer Infantry Regiment—known as the "Irish Brigade"—and a detachment of the 27th Missouri Mounted Infantry under Lieutenant Colonel Benjamin W. Grover. On September 11, the 13th Missouri Infantry and Van Horn's battalion returned to Lexington. Mulligan now commanded 3,500 men, and quickly commenced to construct extensive fortifications around the town's Masonic College where it soon developed a fatal shortage of drinking water. Trees were felled to make lines of fire, and earthworks were erected around the dormitory and classroom buildings. His superiors dispatched further reinforcements under Samuel D. Sturgis, with which Mulligan hoped to hold his enlarged position, but they were ambushed by pro-Confederate militia (alerted by a secessionist telegraph tapper) and compelled to retreat.

The Battle: Opening Round

Price and his army—now numbering around 15,000 men—arrived before Lexington on September 11, 1861. Skirmishing began the morning of September 12, when two Federal companies posted behind hemp shocks along a hill opposed Price's cavalry advance. Price pulled back several miles to Garrison creek to await his artillery and infantry. With their arrival in the afternoon, he resumed the advance along a more westerly course, eventually intercepting the Independence Road. Mulligan dispatched four companies of the 13th Missouri Infantry (USA) and the two companies of Van Horn's United States Reserve Battalion to oppose this movement. They battled Price's advance elements among the tombstones in Machpelah Cemetery south of town, hoping to buy time for the rest of Mulligan's men to complete their defensive preparations. Price's artillery deployed and together with his growing infantry contingent, dislodged the defenders and forced them back to their fortifications.

Pursuing the fleeing Federals, Price deployed Guibor and Bledsoe's batteries to shell the Federal fortifications at the college. Three Federal artillery pieces replied, destroying one of Guibor's caissons near the end of the exchange. The two-and-a-half hour artillery duel badly diminished the State Guard's ammunition, and much of Price's ordnance supply train had been left at Osceola. This development combined with the redoubtable nature of the Union fortifications to render any further assault impractical. The Federals remained trapped in their fortress, however, surrounded by an army nearly five times their size.



SEPTEMBER CONFEDERATE VICTORY FIRST BATTLE OF LEXINGTON



Having bottled up his enemy, Price decided to await his own ammunition wagons, other supplies and reinforcements before renewing the assault. "It is unnecessary to kill off the boys here," said he; "patience will give us what we want." Accordingly, he ordered his infantry to fall back to the county fairgrounds.

On September 18, Price had determined the time had come. The State Guard advanced under heavy Union artillery fire, pushing the enemy back into their inner works. Price's cannon responded to Mulligan's with nine hours of bombardment, utilizing heated shot in an attempt to set fire to the Masonic College and other Federal positions. Mulligan stationed a youth in the attic of the college's main building, who was able to remove all incoming rounds before they could set the building ablaze.

ANDERSON HOUSE



Once described by a local newspaper as "...the largest and best arranged dwelling house west of St. Louis," the Anderson House was a three-story, Greek Revival style house constructed by Oliver Anderson, a prominent Lexington manufacturer. Sometime around July 1861 the Anderson family was evicted from their home, which lay adjacent to Mulligan's fortifications, and a Union hospital was established there. At the start of the battle over a hundred sick or wounded Union soldiers occupied this structure, with their medical care entrusted to a surgeon named Dr. Cooley, while Father Butler, Chaplain of the 23rd Illinois, provided for their spiritual needs.

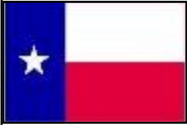
Because of its tactical significance—lying as only a few yards from State Guard positions — General Thomas Harris ordered soldiers from his 2nd Division (MSG) to capture the house on September 18. Shocked at what he considered a violation of the Laws of War, Mulligan ordered the structure to be retaken. Company B, 23rd Illinois, Company B, 13th Missouri, and volunteers from the 1st Illinois Cavalry charged from the Union lines and recaptured the house, suffering heavy casualties in the process. Harris's troops recaptured the hospital later that day, and it remained in State Guard hands thereafter.

During the Federal assault on the Anderson house, Union troops summarily executed three State Guard soldiers at the base of the grand staircase in the main hall. The Southerners claimed the men had already surrendered, and should have been treated as prisoners of war. The Federal troops, who had sustained numerous casualties in retaking the residence, considered the prisoners to have been in violation of the Laws of War for having attacked a hospital in the first place. The Anderson home was heavily damaged by cannon and rifle projectiles, with many of the holes still visible both inside and outside the house (which is now a museum) today.

The Anderson House and Lexington Battlefield was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1969.

PREPARING FOR THE FINAL ASSAULT

On September 19, the State Guard consolidated its positions, kept the Federals under heavy artillery fire, and prepared for their final attack. One problem faced by the defenders was a chronic lack of water; wells within the Union lines had gone dry, and State Guard sharpshooters were able to cover a nearby spring, picking off any man who tried to approach it. Surmising that a woman might succeed where his men had failed, Mulligan sent a female to the spring. Price's troops held their fire, and even permitted her to take a few canteens of water back to the beleaguered Federals.



SEPTEMBER CONFEDERATE VICTORY FIRST BATTLE OF LEXINGTON



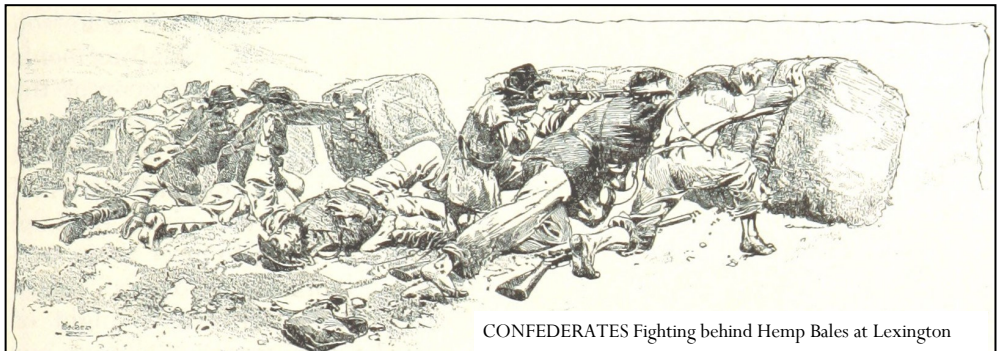
This tiny gesture, however, could not solve the increasing crisis of thirst among the Union garrison, which would contribute to their ultimate undoing.

General Price had established his headquarters in a bank building at 926 Main Street on September 18, 1861, located across the street from the Lafayette County Courthouse, directing State Guard operations from a room on the second floor. On the 20th a cannonball, probably fired from Captain Hiram Bledsoe's State Guard Battery, struck the courthouse only about one hundred yards from General Price's headquarters. According to accounts dating from 1920, the ball did not originally lodge in the column but fell out and was recovered by a collector. Decades after the battle, the then-elderly gentleman signed an affidavit with his story, then gave the cannonball to County Commissioners. They in turn had the ball screwed onto a two-foot iron rod embedded in the column for the purpose, where it remains visible to tourists today.

On the evening of September 19, soldiers of Brigadier General Thomas A. Harris's 2nd Division (State Guard) began using hemp bales seized from nearby warehouses to construct a moveable breastwork facing the Union entrenchment. These bales were soaked in river water overnight, to render them impervious to any heated rounds fired from the Federal guns. Harris's plan was for his troops to roll the bales up the hill the following day, using them for cover as they advanced close enough to the Union garrison for a final charge. The hemp bale line started in the vicinity of the Anderson house, extending north along the hillside for about 200 yards. In many places the hemp bales were stacked two high to provide additional protection.

Deployment of Hemp Bales

Early on the morning of September 20, Harris's men advanced behind his mobile breastworks. As the fighting progressed, State Guardsmen from other divisions joined Harris's men behind them, increasing the amount of fire directed toward the Union garrison. Although the defenders poured red-hot shot into the advancing



CONFEDERATES Fighting behind Hemp Bales at Lexington

By Robert Underwood Johnson and Clarence Clough Buel (Book authors). - This file is from the Mechanical Curator collection, a set of over 1 million images scanned from out-of-copyright books and released to Flickr Commons by the British Library. View image on Flickr View all images from bookView catalogue entry for book., Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=56317667>

bales, their soaking in the Missouri River the previous night had given the hemp the desired immunity to the Federal shells. By early afternoon, the rolling fortification had advanced close enough for the Southerners to take the Union works in a final rush. Mulligan requested surrender terms after noon, and at 2:00 p.m. his men vacated their trenches and stacked their arms.

Many years later, in his book *The Rise and Fall of the Confederate Government*, Southern president Jefferson Davis opined that "The expedient of the bales of hemp was a brilliant conception, not unlike that which made Tarik, the Saracen warrior, immortal, and gave his name to the northern pillar of Hercules."



SEPTEMBER CONFEDERATE VICTORY FIRST BATTLE OF LEXINGTON



AFTERMATH

Casualties at Lexington were relatively low because the battle was largely fought from protective positions. Price claimed a loss of only 25 men killed and 72 wounded in his official report. However, a study of his subordinates' after-action reports reveals a total of at least 30 killed and 120 wounded. This would not include any civilians or recruits who had not yet enrolled but who had joined the fighting. The Federals lost 39 killed and 120 wounded. The relatively light casualties may be attributed to Mulligan's excellent entrenchments and Harris's hemp-bale inspiration; nevertheless, the entire Union garrison was taken prisoner. Among the casualties at the first battle of Lexington was Grover, commanding the 27th Missouri



Lafayette Courthouse in Lexington, with cannonball lodged in its pillar

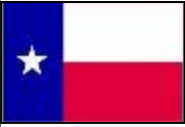
Mounted Infantry, who was wounded by a musket ball in the thigh. He succumbed to his wound October 31, 1861.

The surrendered Union soldiers were compelled to listen to a speech by the deposed pro-Confederate Missouri governor Claiborne F. Jackson, who upbraided them for entering his state without invitation and waging war upon its citizens. The Federals were then paroled by General Price, with the notable exception of Mulligan, who refused parole. Price was reportedly so impressed by the Federal commander's demeanor and conduct during and after the battle that he offered Mulligan his own horse and buggy, and ordered him safely escorted to Union lines. Mulligan was mortally wounded at the Second Battle of Kernstown near Winchester, Virginia on July 24, 1864, while Price would go on to command Confederate forces at numerous battles throughout the Western and Trans-Mississippi theaters.

Following the surrender at Lexington, Fremont and Price negotiated an exchange cartel. The Camp Jackson parolees were exchanged for a portion of Mulligan's command. This worked smoothly for the officers who were specifically named, but not for all of the Federal enlisted men. Some enlisted men were ordered back into Federal service without having been properly exchanged, then moved to different theaters. Several were captured at Shiloh, where they were recognized and executed for violating their parole.

This story was copied online from web address https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/First_Battle_of_Lexington





CIVIL WAR FACTS



CIVIL WAR FACTS: 1861-1865

The Union included the states of Maine, New York, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Kansas, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, California, Nevada, and Oregon. Abraham Lincoln was their President.

The Confederacy included the states of Texas, Arkansas, Louisiana, Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Florida, South Carolina, North Carolina and Virginia. Jefferson Davis was their President.

Maryland, Delaware, West Virginia, Kentucky and Missouri were called **Border States**.

In 1865, the Union won the war.

Homefront

FINANCE

On the homefront, the Union had \$234,000,000 in bank deposit and coined money or specie while the Confederacy had \$74,000,000 and the Border States had \$29,000,000.

POPULATIONS

The population of the Union was 18.5 million. In the Confederacy, the population was listed as 5.5 million free and 3.5 million enslaved. In the Border States there were 2.5 million free inhabitants and 500,000 enslaved people.

AGRICULTURE

With the exception of rice and tobacco, the Union had a clear agricultural advantage. Particularly horses: the Union had twice that of the Confederacy, 3.4 million to the CSA's 1.7.

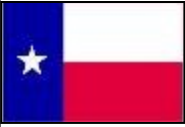
The Union led corn production with 400 million bushels compared to the 250 million bushels in the Confederacy and 150 million bushels in the Border States.

The Confederacy produced nearly all of the nation's rice which amounted to 225 million bushels.

The Confederacy led tobacco production with 225 million pounds compared to 110 million pounds produced in the Border States and 50 million pounds produced in the Union.

The Union led wheat production with 100 million bushels produced in comparison to 35 million bushels in the Confederacy and 20 million bushels in the Border States.

The Union was attributed with having 40 million heads of livestock compared to 35 million in the Confederacy and only 10 million in the Border States.



CIVIL WAR FACTS



INDUSTRY

The Union had 101,000 factories, while the Confederacy had 21,000 and the Border States had 9,000.

The Union had 1.1 million factory workers, while the Confederacy had 111,000 and the Border States had 70,000.

The Union had 20,000 miles of railroad compared to 9,000 in the Confederacy and 1,700 in the Border States.

Military

ENLISTMENT STRENGTH

Enlistment strength for the Union Army is 2,672,341 which can be broken down as:

- 2,489,836 white soldiers
- 178,975 African American soldiers
- 3,530 Native American troops

Enlistment strength for the Confederate Army ranges from 750,000 to 1,227,890. Soldier demographics for the Confederate Army are not available due to incomplete and destroyed enlistment records.

CIVILIAN OCCUPATIONS

Farmers comprised 48 percent of the civilian occupations in the Union. Others included mechanics, 24 percent; laborers, 16 percent; commercial, 5 percent; miscellaneous, 4 percent; and professional occupations, 3 percent.

Farmers comprised 69 percent of the civilian occupations in the Confederacy. Others included laborers, 9 percent; mechanics, 5.3 percent; commercial, 5 percent; professional occupations, 2.1 percent; and miscellaneous, 1.6 percent.

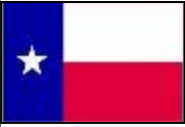
BLOODIEST BATTLES

The bloodiest battles of the Civil War were:

- Gettysburg: 51,116 casualties
- Seven Days: 36,463 casualties
- Chickamauga: 34,624 casualties
- Chancellorsville: 29,609 casualties
- Antietam: 22,726 casualties

Note: Antietam had the greatest number of casualties of any single-day battle. The other battles listed above all lasted more than one day.

Total Confederate casualties have been divided accordingly:



CIVIL WAR FACTS



TROOP STRENGTH

In July 1861, the two armies were nearly equal in strength with less than 200,000 soldiers on each side; however at the peak of troop strength in 1863, Union soldiers outnumbered Confederate soldiers by a ratio of 2 to 1. The size of Union forces in January 1863 totaled over 600,000. Two years later, that number had not changed dramatically for the Union Army but had dropped to about 200,000 for the Confederate Army.

CASUALTIES

The 642,427 total Union casualties have been divided accordingly:

- 110,100 killed in battle
- 224,580 diseases
- 275,174 wounded in action
- 30,192 prisoners of war

The 483,026 total Confederate casualties have been divided accordingly:

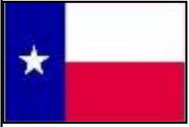
- 94,000 killed in battle
- 164,000 diseases
- 194,026 wounded in action
- 31,000 prisoners of war

PRISONERS

Of the 211,411 Union soldiers captured 16,668 were paroled on the field and 30,218 died in prison.

Of the 462,634 Confederate soldiers captured 247,769 were paroled on the field and 25,976 died in prison. The mortality rate for prisoners of war was 15.5 percent for Union soldiers and 12 percent for Confederate soldiers.

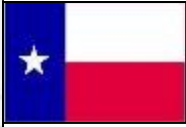




TEN THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT JOHN H. REAGAN



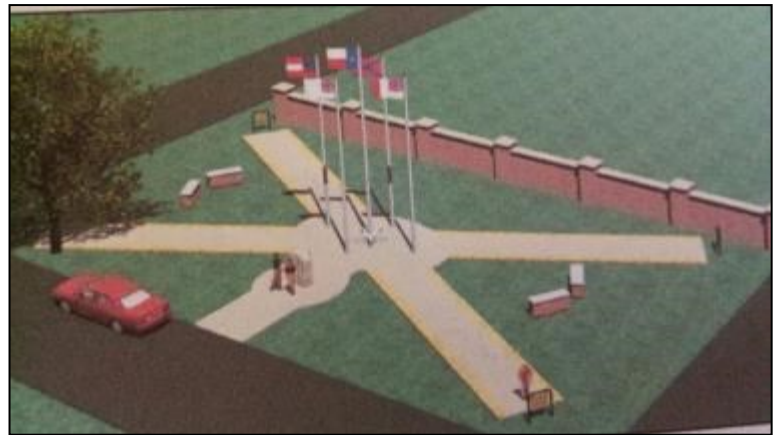
1. Born in Tennessee, he left in 1838 to come to Texas via Natchez, Mississippi.
2. He participated in the Cherokee War in 1839 and then worked as a surveyor.
3. After statehood, he was elected first county judge of Henderson County and in 1847 he became a member of Texas' second legislature.
4. He was reelected as Henderson County judge in 1856 and became a US Congressman from East Texas. In 1859 he won reelection but resigned his seat to become the Confederate Postmaster General in 1861.
5. At the end of the Civil War, Reagan was captured with other members of Jefferson Davis' cabinet near Abbeville, Georgia.
6. Held in solitary confinement in Boston for nearly six months, Reagan appealed to the people of Texas to recognize that they were back to being a part of the Union, but it didn't win him friends. He returned to Texas in December of 1865.
7. Reagan, who was proven right on how Texas would fare by opposing reunification, became known as "The Old Roman." He was given amnesty, and his citizenship was restored.
8. From 1875 to 1887 Reagan served in Congress before being elected to the U.S. Senate.
9. He became the first Railroad Commissioner of Texas when that body was formed in 1891.
10. Reagan ran unsuccessfully for governor in 1894 and remained chairman of the Railroad Commission until 1903 when he retired and returned to Palestine. He died there two years later of pneumonia.



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

SEPTEMBER 2025



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



TEXAS CIVIL WAR HISTORY IN SEPTEMBER

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



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

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

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

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

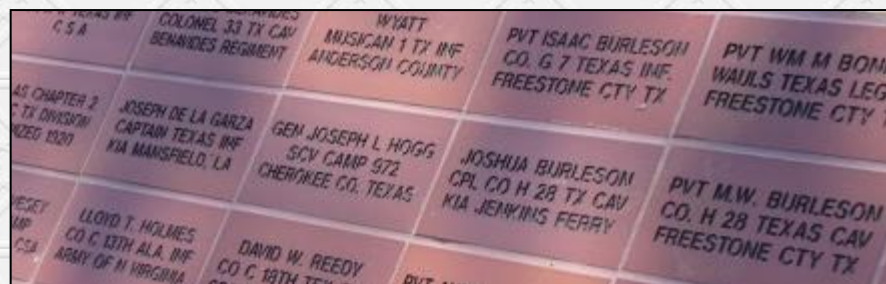
Sept 29—On this day in 1867, Francis McMullan, the leader of a group of Texans who moved to Brazil rather than remain under a Reconstruction government, died at Iguape, Brazil. McMullan was active in politics in Hill County before the Civil War and served as a delegate to the Texas Democratic convention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



CONFEDERATE VETERANS MEMORIAL PLAZA INFORMATION



The Confederate Veterans Memorial Plaza had the official opening and dedication on April 13, 2013. It is a beautiful Memorial to the Confederate Veterans. Although it is open for visitors, there is still room along the sidewalks for you to purchase a brick paver in the name of your confederate ancestor. This will ensure that your ancestor's service to the confederacy will not be forgotten, but will be remembered for years to come. If you would like to make a donation for a paver, please contact 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

Ed Heitman, Commander
E-mail: edheitman@gmail.com
Phone: (903-504-6674)

Richard Thornton, Adjutant/Treasurer
Palestine, Texas
E-mail: tx_tsar@hotmail.com
Phone: 903-731-1557

Dwight Franklin, Chaplain/Newsletter
Editor: dwrightfranklin1@yahoo.com

Please visit our website @

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