

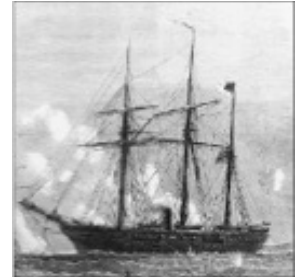


The Admiral's Log

Sons of Confederate Veterans

1211 Government St., Mobile, AL 36604

Raphael Semmes Camp 11



Dear Compatriots and Friends of Camp 11,

Greetings and salutations from Camp 11. We hope this edition of the Admiral's Log finds all of you doing well. We certainly hope all of you have had a blessed, joyous, and safe Christmas Holiday. On behalf of Camp 11 we wish all of you the very best in the coming year. Let your New Year's resolution be that you will 'stand fast' in the perpetuation of our honorable Confederate heritage.

Our Camp 11 Christmas party at the Dew Drop Inn was time of wonderful fellowship. We cannot say enough good things about Powell and the Dew Drop staff for their delicious food and down-home hospitality.

One of our door prizes was a Butler chamber pot, second edition. The second edition has a heads-up penny attached to the inside of the pot. Now there is a third edition making the rounds on social media. It contains a photograph of New Orleans Mayor Mitch Landrieu. Looks like that scalawag has earned his place in the bottom of a chamber pot! And well deserved, I must add.

On January 17, 2016 Camp 11 will host its annual Lee-Jackson salute at Confederate Rest in Magnolia Cemetery. The service will start at 2pm. You and your friends and family are cordially invited to attend this event. Our next camp meeting will be on January 25, 2016 at the Dew Drop Inn. We hope to see you there.

On December 12 our camp was represented at Leakesville, Mississippi for the dedication of a local Confederate Memorial monument. It is worth noting that four and a half years ago we did the same thing at Chatom, Alabama. Therefore Camp 11 was represented at a monument dedication at the beginning and the end of the Sesquicentennial of the War Between the States. I can think of better of a way than this to remember the Sesquicentennial.

I must also add that Matilda was there for the event as well. Last year at this same event I embarrassed myself by rolling rounds for Matilda without the help of the indomitable Stephen Ellison. This time around Stephen rolled the rounds and Matilda made a good accounting for herself. This just goes to show you that Camp 11 needs the talents of all of you and we certainly appreciate all of the fine contributions from our membership.

As 2015 winds down we can be proud of the accomplishments of Camp 11 over the past year. Our memorial services have been numerous and memorable. The hard work at Ft. McDermott came to fruition in April with the festivities for the dedication of the park. Our camp members who reenact have participated in several events. Camp 11 stood tall and firm against the spineless politicians who succumbed to the Cultural Marxists in the flag and monument fight. We have accomplished much but there is always more to do. Well done, gentlemen.

Once again, as this article is concluded, I implore you to continue with your prayer efforts. God knows our needs and only He can answer those needs through an active prayer life. I think it can

also be said that Christmas is a season of thanksgiving as well. Let us be thankful for the greatest gift of Christmas, the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. God bless the South!

Best regards,

Terry W. "Beetle" Bailey
Editor, The Admiral's Log

This Month in the WBTS

December 1865: North Carolina, Georgia, and Oregon approve the Thirteenth Amendment, although Mississippi rejects it. Oregon's decision on December 11 enables Secretary of State Seward to declare a week later that the Thirteenth Amendment is now in effect since it had been approved by 27 states.

WBTS Usage

Bully: an expression of strong encouragement and affirmation.

Bully soup: a hot cereal that was made from cornmeal and crushed hardtack that had been boiled, usually in mixture of water, ginger, and wine.[Yum, yum!]

Camp fever: a reference to typhoid fever, which was usually contracted from contaminated water.

Camp canard: gossip.

[Source: The Encyclopedia of Civil War Usage by Webb Garrison]

WBTS Trivia

[Source: The Amazing Civil War by Webb Garrison]

"Proportionally, cowardly officers ranging from lieutenant to general were more numerous than enlisted men. Yet the total of officers and men who fled rather than fight are astonishingly small. One estimate places the number of Union foot soldiers at 2.67 million. An additional 106,000 men are believed to have fought with the navy. Because Confederate records were lost or destroyed, estimates of the South's total enlistment vary from 600,000 to 1.4 million. If the conservative figure of 750,000 is accepted, more than 3.6 million men took part in the Civil War.

Since no more than 3,000 to 4,000 men and officers were branded as cowards at some point during the war, the battlefield conduct of 999 out of every 1,000 fighting men ranged from acceptable to heroic."

"Newburyport [Massachusetts] native Caleb Huse remained in the U.S. Army barely a year after his graduation from West Point. In February 1861, while teaching at the University of Alabama, he was ordered to return to uniform. He did so but donned gray instead of blue and resumed his martial career as a captain in Confederate service. Because of his background in science, administration, and ordnance, he was appointed European purchasing agent for the Confederate army. Huse was responsible for muskets, rifles, pistols, and shipments of medicine and other scarce commodities being sent to the Confederacy. It has been said of him that "his success as a purchasing agent made the Civil War last for four years instead of two.'"

"Consul S. C. Hawley, stationed at Nassau, probably saw as many blockade-runners come and go as any other U.S. official. Upon his arrival at his post, he recorded that he thought blockade-running was "an unprofitable business." Once he began to keeping records, however, he changed his mind. A single unidentified blockade-runner, whose initial expenses were \$115,000, brought in a full load of cotton. From this one voyage, Hawley calculated the owners of the vessel recovered all expenses and made a net profit of \$119,000."

"Top officials of the Confederacy were determined to have a fully rounded military force, so they organized a marine corps. Its entire personnel, officers and enlisted men, numbered just 539."

“As U.S. Secretary of war from 1853 to 1857, Jefferson Davis increased the number of fighting men by nearly 50 percent—from 10,745 when he took office to 15,752 when he left.”

A Confederate Birthday

Major General Arnold Elzey was born in Maryland on December 18, 1816. He was an 1837 graduate of West Point. Elzey served in the 2nd and 3rd Seminole Wars as well as the Mexican War. During the Mexican war he was promoted and cited for bravery. At secession Elzey commanded the Augusta Arsenal which he surrendered to the CSA. General Elzey was one of the few officers to receive a battlefield promotion to general by President Davis. He served with the ANV through the Battle of Gaines Mill where he was badly wounded. Upon recovery Elzey served as Chief of Artillery for the AoT, but missed the disastrous Franklin-Nashville Campaign. With the destruction of Hood's army he was given command of the Augusta, Georgia militia and was paroled in May of 1865. After the war General Elzey retired to his farm in Maryland. He died on February 21, 1871 in Baltimore. General Elzey is at rest in Baltimore's Green Mount Cemetery. The General Arnold Elzey Camp #1940, SCV is named in his honor.

A Confederate Soldier's Christmas

The following excerpt is from a letter published by the Memphis Daily Appeal on January 7, 1862. It was written by Pvt. Thomas E. Caffey, [Co. D, Hamer Rifles, 18th Mississippi Infantry Regiment] while encamped at Leesburg, Virginia. This was his unit's first Christmas away from home during the war. "It is Christmas time and coming but once a year none care for expenses. The Yankees are the last persons thought of---cock-fighting and egg-nog, and egg-nog and cock-fighting interspersed with songs and egg-nog and storytelling are the prime order of things just now, and despite all the parson says, and notwithstanding the 'starchiness' of full blown officials, rye and 'egg-fruit' are decidedly in the ascendant, and more than that has no baneful effect, since it simply lends to revive old associations and strengthen those bonds of brotherhood which has indissolubly linked us forever to the fortunes of our country."

Some Food for Thought

Macon Telegraph Commentary on Davidson's Raid

In December, 1864 Gen. John Davidson led a Federal cavalry raid across east Louisiana and south Mississippi. Tangipahoa, Louisiana, located near Camp Moore, was one of the first communities to feel the wrath of the Yankee invader. The following commentary is from a Georgia newspaper.

"The behavior of the vandals at Tangipahoa shows what is to be expected by the unfortunate country people now being and yet to be visited. The families were robbed of all their provisions and money, and much of their clothing, table ware, etc. Women and children's clothing and bedding were not spared. One lady had the sheets brutally torn from beneath herself and young infant...Mobile was the marching cry of all, and some had[as of yore under Sherman] 'Mobile or Hell.'"

Macon Telegraph {Georgia} December 17, 1864

Source: The Great Sweet Potato Raid by D. Christopher Watts, page 51.

Davidson's Stragglers

The following comments are from Lt. Henry Calvert, 11th New York Cavalry. Calvert was commenting on the straggling that occurred on Davidson's south Mississippi raid in December, 1864.

"Then the General, in true Davidsonian style asked him, 'who told you that you were going back? 'Open that swag, sir!' And when this was done, several articles of women's clothing were seen, and two pairs of little shoes and little socks. The loss to the women and children who had

owned these things was irreparable, the gain to him was nothing, for in all probability he would have thrown them away somewhere on the road, and there was no possibility of undoing the damage he had done. In every army there are men who exercise a mania for straggling. Riding along in twos and threes on the skirts of the army, they visit houses that are off the road and, being armed, commit depredations unworthy of true soldiers.....When, however, the dogs of war are let loose, unlawful things are possible, even in the best regulated army."

Source: The Great Sweet Potato Raid by D. Christopher Watt, page 116 & 117.

"A conviction of right and duty impelled us to enter the service of the Confederate States as soldiers. Our comrades who gave up their lives did so in obedience to love of country and its constitutional foundation. The Confederate States were not, and are not responsible, morally, legally or politically, for any drop of blood spilled in the late war between the States."

THE SOUTH JUSTIFIED

Honorable Peter Turney

Address delivered before the Frank Cheatham Bivouac #1

Association of Confederate Soldiers-TN Division

Saturday, August 18, 1888

"The motive of those who have protested against the extension of slavery has always been concern for the welfare of the white man, not an unnatural sympathy with the negro." William H. Seward

"The rebels have exhibited a most wonderful energy and skill in carrying on their struggle. No people on the face of the earth ever made so hard a fight with such limited means . . . They have displayed a combination of dash and endurance never before equaled in history. All candid men . . . are free to admit that the final triumph of our national armies will be due only to superiority in numbers." –Henry J. Raymond, staunch Republican editor of the New York *Times*

Visit Camp 11 on the World Wide Web.

<http://scvsemmes.org/index.html>

<https://www.facebook.com/admiralsemmes11?ref=hl>

There were no Camp 11 minutes for December due to the Christmas party. Camp minutes are available upon request. Thank you.

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. Remember, it is your duty to see that the true history of the South is presented to future generations.

**Lt. General Stephen Dill Lee
Commander-General
United Confederate Veterans
New Orleans, 25 April 1906**