

# The Gray Line News



High Bridge



**High Bridge Camp # 1581**

**Sons of Confederate Veterans**

***"DEDICATED TO THE PRESERVATION OF OUR SOUTHERN HERITAGE"***

**April 10, 2020**

Dear Compatriots,

I hope all of you are doing well with everything that is going on right now. I missed being able to see everyone at the cancelled March meeting. Hopefully we will be able to have our April 23rd meeting. I guess we will just have to see how things go.

April, being Confederate History month, was going to be a very busy month. Unfortunately, with this shutdown, pretty much all events we had planned on attending were either cancelled or have been rescheduled. We can still find ways, however, to honor our ancestors this month. Flying a flag, visiting Confederate memorials, cemeteries or battlefields, all can be done while maintaining a safe distance from the public or not even getting out of your vehicle at all.

I am sure most, if not all, of you have heard of the debate going on over the removal of the Confederate Memorial on High Street in Farmville. It has stood there, honoring our Confederate Veterans, since 1900 and it would be a great loss to all if it were to be removed. We will be following this matter closely and doing everything in our power to prevent this from happening.

All of you stay safe until all these troubling times get quickly behind us. Until then, take care, and I look forward to seeing all of you soon. Respectfully Yours,

Don Reynolds, Commander

## **When God Created Virginia:**

a bit of humor in troubled times

When God Created Virginia God was missing for six days. Eventually, Michael, the archangel, found him, resting on the seventh day.

He inquired, "Where have you been?"

God smiled deeply and proudly pointed downwards through the clouds, "Look, Michael. Look what I've made."

Archangel Michael looked puzzled, and said, "What is it?"

"It's a planet," replied God, and I've put life on it.

I'm going to call it Earth and it's going to be a place to test Balance."

"Balance?" inquired Michael, "I'm still confused."

God explained, pointing to different parts of Earth.

"For example, northern Europe will be a place of great opportunity and wealth, while southern Europe is going to be poor.

Over here I've placed a continent of white people, and over there is a continent of black people. Balance in all things."

God continued pointing to different countries.

"This one will be extremely hot, while this one will be very cold and covered in ice."

The Archangel , impressed by God's work, then pointed to a land area and said,

"What's that one?"

"That's Virginia , the most glorious place on earth. There are beautiful mountains, rivers and streams, lakes, forests, hills, and plains. The people there are beautiful, intelligent, and humorous, and they are going to travel the world.

They will be extremely sociable, hardworking, high achieving, carriers of peace, and producers of good things!"

Michael gasped in wonder and admiration, but then asked, "But what about balance, God? You said there would be balance."

God smiled, "Right next to Virginia is Washington , D.C....

Wait till you see the idiots I put there!"

### **Letter to the Editor of a Wake Village Texas Newspaper History**

I was wondering if anyone involved in this frenzy to do away with all Confederate memorials has set a date for how far back to get all the reminders of slavery off of the earth? The Confederacy was 150 years ago. I hear people fussing about George Washington and Thomas Jefferson. They both owned slaves about 250 years ago so that means that nothing they did was worth anything. People have complained about the way Christopher Columbus treated the natives when he arrived, so we have to do away with anything that honors him. Now we have gone back 500 years.

Following this logic we would have to ban all bibles. The Apostle Paul once sent a runaway slave back to his master. If Paul condoned slavery, there goes three-fourths of the New Testament. Now we have gone back 2000 years. The entire Old Testament is based on the Abrahamic Covenant. Abraham not only owned slaves, but he had

a child with one of the household slave women. Now we have gone back some 5000 years.

Now that we have gone back to ancient times, let's not forget about the pyramids of Egypt. That was the ultimate use of slave labor. What about the Roman Coliseum? It is the site where slaves were made to kill each other for the entertainment of the elites in the society. Should the Coliseum and the Pyramids be destroyed? After getting rid of all of these reminders of slavery will anyone's life be any better? We cannot put our 21st Century culture on the people of the past. We need to change our attitudes and actions towards each other instead of concentrating on some pieces of stone and street signs.

Deborah Miller

Wake Village, Texas

### **Abraham Lincoln Ordered The Largest MASS HANGING IN US HISTORY**

People think that Abe Lincoln was such a benevolent President. He was actually a bit of a tyrant. He attacked the Confederate States of America, who succeeded from the Union due to tax and tariffs. (If you think it was over slavery, you need to find a real American history book written before 1960.)



This picture is of 39 Santee Sioux Indian men that were ordered to be executed by Abraham Lincoln for treaty violations (IE: hunting off of their assigned reservation).

Yes, the “Great Emancipator” as the history books so fondly referred to him as.

Authorities in Minnesota asked President Lincoln to order the immediate execution of all 303 Indian males found guilty. Lincoln was concerned with how this would play with the Europeans, whom he was afraid were about to enter the war on the side of the South. He offered the following compromise to the politicians of Minnesota: They would pare the list of those to be hung down to 39. In return, Lincoln promised to kill or remove every Indian from the state and provide Minnesota with 2 million dollars in federal funds.

So, on December 26, 1862, the “Great Emancipator” ordered the largest mass execution in American History, where the guilt of those to be executed was entirely in doubt. Regardless of how Lincoln defenders seek to play this, it was nothing more than murder to obtain the land of the Santee Sioux and to appease his political cronies in Minnesota.

You have no idea the things that are hidden from you with the textbooks assigned to you as a child by your government. Stay mindful people, be aware....in the age of information being ignorant is indeed a choice.

You are currently seeing the wholesale attempt to REWRITE yet another chapter in American History where the Confederate Battle Flag is concerned. Now there is talk of digging up graves and moving bodies that ‘offend’ people. This is nothing more than desecration of the dead.

Have a disagreement with history, and not wanting to remember the War Between the States, is one thing. But to erase a significant event in national history is another. And sets a dangerous precedent. What will fall victim next to Political Correctness?

## **Slavery and The Civil War: What Your History Teacher Didn't Tell You**

When the War began, the U.S. House of Representatives overwhelmingly passed a resolution, with which Lincoln agreed, declaring the purpose of the conflict. Not only did this document not even mention “slavery” as a cause, it asserted that slavery would be preserved should the North win and the Union be reunited. In light of such events, it is patently absurd to assume the North invaded the South to free the slaves. The South was agrarian and the North industrial. With such contrasting economies, the South was already at a disadvantage. To further exacerbate the situation, Southerners sold their goods to Europe in a free market, but were forced to purchase Northern manufactured goods in a protected market, losing millions in the process. The South was being treated as an agricultural colony, forced to pay tariffs amounting to 75% of the money necessary to operate the entire federal government, but getting little to nothing in return. The financial extortion of the South and the perceived annihilation of the Northern economy without the South was the primary cause of the War. If the North were not able effectively to tax the immense Southern exports of cotton, tobacco, and rice, they would lose three quarters of their economy. The South had little choice but to secede to survive and the North had little choice but to keep them in the Union or go broke. There can be little doubt that Northern greed was primarily responsible for the War. Northern politicians consistently attempted to increase federal taxes on material bought by the South. The states which later were to become the Confederacy bought many goods from England and France because they were cheaper. Then the U.S. government passed a tariff on European imports, and the South suffered more. Though the Constitution provided that taxes be levied uniformly

throughout the states, this provision was ignored. It was the objective of Lincoln and the Republicans to raise the tariff yet again. His election assured that would be accomplished and indeed it was. The Morrill Tariff, the highest in history, more than doubled the import tax, which was enough to bankrupt many Southerners. It became law in March of 1861. Ft. Sumter was fired upon in April of 1861. More than any other cause, the threat of this tax had been the final catalyst for secession.

Confederate General Robert E. Lee, whom Winston Churchill called “the most noble American who ever lived,” and Franklin D. Roosevelt called “one of the greatest American Christians,” and of whom Dwight D. Eisenhower said, “A nation of men of Lee’s caliber would be unconquerable in both soul and spirit” was against both secession and slavery. Seven years before the War, he wrote to his wife, “**Slavery as an institution is a moral and political evil in any country.**” After the War, in which he had fought so brilliantly and valiantly, he said, “So far as engaging in a war to perpetuate slavery, I am rejoiced that slavery is abolished. I would have cheerfully lost all that I have to have this attained.”

*Bowers, Garry. Slavery and The Civil War: What Your History Teacher Didn't Tell You*

High Bridge Camp #1581  
A. M. Evans, Newsletter Editor



Camp members clean Sailors Creek Road  
L to R: Whit Morris, Bob Harris, Kenny Barnard, David Easter, Don Reynolds, Don Williams, Mark Fathbruckner, Chris Burks

### Next Meeting

April 23, 2020 ???

### Future Meetings

May 28, 2020

June 25, 2020

July 23, 2020

August 27, 2020

September 24, 2020

### Camp Events

May 25, 2020

Memorial Day ????????

8:00 Westview Cemetery

11:00 Confederate Cem.

Heart of Virginia Festival, Amelia Day Festival and Crew Homecoming Festival have been cancelled due to the pandemic