

The Gray Line News



High Bridge



High Bridge Camp # 1581

Sons of Confederate Veterans

"DEDICATED TO THE PRESERVATION OF OUR SOUTHERN HERITAGE"

March 10, 2020

Dear Compatriots,

I hope everyone is doing well. We have a busy couple of months ahead of us starting with the roadside cleanup on March 28th at Marshals crossroads at 8:00 am. April is Confederate History month and a couple of events that I would like to mention are the State Convention in South Boston and the Wreath-Laying ceremony in Appomattox. The Convention will be held April 3rd through April 5th and the Wreath ceremony will be on April 5th. I encourage anyone who can, to please try to participate. Both events are very enjoyable and rewarding. Some of us are planning on going to the Convention on Saturday, 4/4, and then the Wreath ceremony on Sunday, 4/5. If you are interested in joining the group for either event, please contact Chris or myself.

This past Saturday, March 7th, we helped clean up the Hillsman family cemetery beside the Hillsman House. We got a lot done and the Hillsman ancestors were very appreciative. Thanks to all who helped.

I look forward to seeing you all at the next meeting scheduled for March 26th. We will welcome guest speaker, Barry Isenhour. The topic will be "12 Things Every Southerner Should Know". It should be very interesting. Until then, take care and be safe.

Respectfully Yours,

Don Reynolds, Commander



Commander Don Reynolds presents a Friends of the SCV to Deserae Bowlin, President of the Farmville Chapter of the United Daughters of the confederacy

After the Civil War, Robert E. Lee led the charge for Reconciliation

By R. David Cox May 27, 2017

All the statues of Robert E. Lee in Confederate uniform fail to convey one critical point: He was more than that. After Appomattox, Lee turned from being a leader in war to a leader of peace. As I found in examining his religious convictions, he became — largely because of his faith — the South's preeminent exponent of reconciliation. That, I believe, is why he needs to be remembered, but in a different way. Just before surrendering, Lee began seeking peace. Some aides proposed fighting an ISIS-style guerrilla war. Lee had none of it.

“The Confederacy has failed,” he told them. “As Christian men, ... we must consider only the effect which our actions will have upon the country at large.”

If his men could return home “quietly and quickly” they could “plant crops & begin to repair the rages of the war. That is what I must now try to bring about.”

Realistically, yet faithfully, he looked to the future.

Like many, Lee had believed the Confederacy could win only if God so willed. It lost. He connected the dots.

“God has thought fit to afflict us most deeply & his chastening hand is not yet stayed,” Lee, an active Episcopalian, wrote in May 1865, to a priest in Petersburg. “We have only to submit to his gracious will & pray for his healing mercy.”

That meant seeking genuine peace, “that the afflictions & interests of the country may be united and not a forced & hollow truce formed, to be broken at the first convenient opportunity. To this end all good men should labour.”

He discouraged anyone going into exile as some contemplated — and as he was invited to do. “It would be better for them and their country if they remained at their homes and shared the fate of their respective States.”

What, then, for him?

Publishers sought his memoirs, predicting profits of a best-seller. Businesses coveted his name, promising great reward. Major educational institutions craved the leadership of one who had been an innovative West Point superintendent.

But a devastated little school in remote Lexington, Virginia, captured his imagination. Asked to be its president, Lee sought the advice of a priest in Albemarle County. When he proposed more viable institutions, Lee argued that “this door and not another was opened to him by Providence” and wanted reassurance that he could do the job such that

his remaining years would be “a comfort and a blessing to his suffering country.”

At that moment, the cleric recalled, Lee’s “whole countenance glowed with animation.”

Robert E. Lee came to Washington College, to bind the wounds of war and prepare for the future by guiding the young into practical, principled ways.

Genuine peace demanded prosperity, so Lee developed a curriculum aimed at attaining it: business, journalism, law, mining, engineering. To traditional classical studies he added English, modern history, and sciences. By 1868, his little college had become the second-largest academic institution in the South. Reconciliation involved racial justice. Though Lee shared the prevailing white presumption of their own superiority, and could say so in ways that make us cringe, his faith also held that each person was a child of God, whose rights warranted protection. In Lexington, his influence helped dissipate one lynch mob aimed at a black man, and another directed at a white.

Reunion meant putting the war in the past. When officials at Gettysburg asked his help in placing monuments on the battlefield, he declined, advising “not to keep open the sores of war, but to follow the example of those nations who endeavored to obliterate the marks of civil strife and to commit to oblivion the feelings it engendered.”

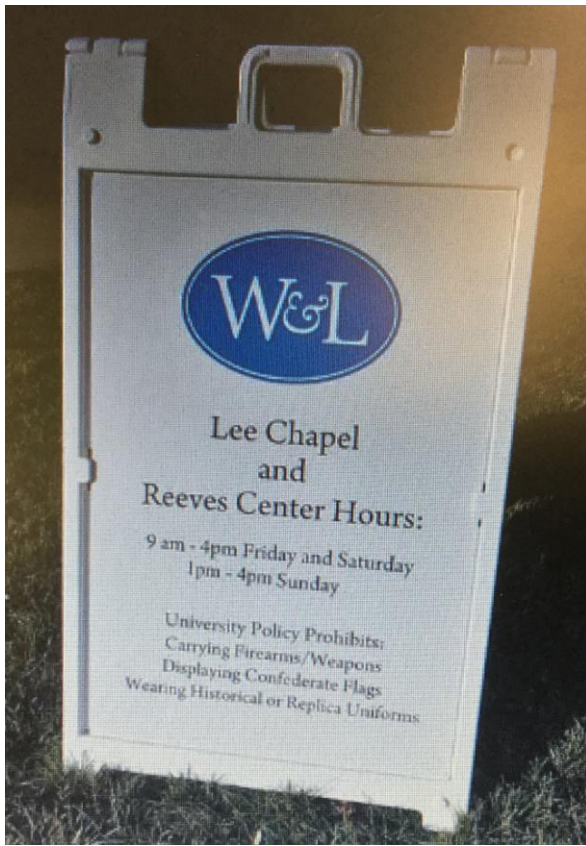
On that basis, together with his innate humility, one wonders if he would want any monuments to him whatsoever.

Statues of General Lee on Traveller can’t convey this part of his story, a story which challenges his stereotype. One who strove to move beyond a cause he deemed lost makes a poor poster child for the Lost Cause. Nor can I imagine that he who declined to run for Virginia’s governorship lest he arouse passions would approve of candidates wrapping themselves in Confederate flags. For white supremacist protesters to invoke his name violates Lee’s most fundamental

convictions. And those who look on Lee only as military personage — favorably or not — would do well to recognize the telling paradox of Lee, one of the very few generals defeated in a bitter civil war who then became the paramount advocate of peace.

R. David Cox, an Episcopal priest who was rector of R. E. Lee Memorial Church from 1987-2000, now teaches history at Southern Virginia University and is author of "The Religious Life of Robert E. Lee."

And This Is What Lee Got For His Efforts



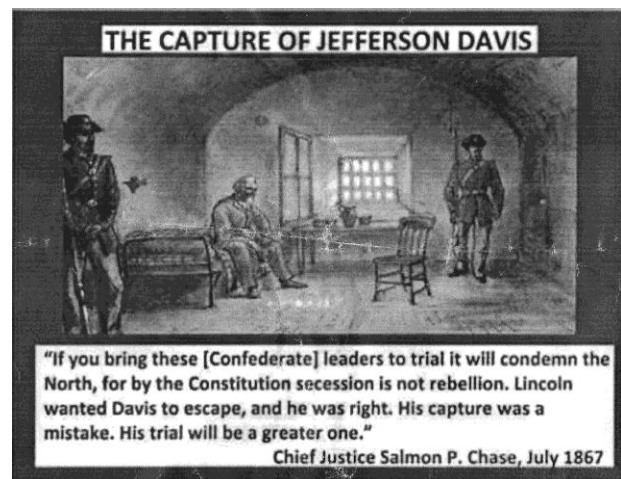
Disrespected by the University he saved from oblivion

WHAT TREASON

Ever Wonder why no Confederate leader was tried for treason?

Because it was the Union that was actually guilty of Constitutional Treason.
So said the Supreme court in 1867.

The Chief Justice gave the Davis team another interesting argument for dropping the treason charge. Chase asked if a person could be prosecuted for treason against the US if he were not a US citizen. Clearly, no. Then Chase asked if there was a reference to the concept of a US citizen in the Constitution. Again, there was not. A person could only be a citizen of his state. Therefore, by proving that the US had no citizens, Davis couldn't be tried for treason against the US.



Southern states didn't rise in rebellion

Editor, Times-Dispatch:

A Correspondent of the Day accused Dr. Walter Williams of mythmaking concerning black Confederates. I would like to point out some myths in this correspondent's letter. The Southern states did not "rise in rebellion against the United States" in order to expand slavery. Quite to the contrary, in their attempts to peacefully secede from the union of states by the same method all states had originally acceded to it — through their respective sovereign conventions — the

Southern states willfully gave up any opportunity of expanding slavery into the territories. In the process, they effectively removed slavery from the United States altogether. One would think the abolitionist North would have happily said “goodbye and good riddance” to them, but it did not. Why not?

With the Southern states out of the union, the North would lose its major source of cotton for its mills, its major source of markets for its manufactures, its major source of income from the tariff, and its control of the mouth of the Mississippi River. The Northern economy would collapse. So President Lincoln drove the Southern states back into the union at the point of the bayonet. The South was simply defending itself from invasion, conquest and coerced political allegiance — just as the 13 slave holding Colonies had done when they seceded from the British Empire in 1776. No one can argue that slavery is not a coercive labor system, but many faithful slaves (some bearing arms) accompanied their masters to war, rescued them from their wounds, and got them safely back home.

*H. V. Traywick Jr.
Richmond*

Next Meeting

March 26, 2020

Barry Isenhour. *12 Things Every
Southern Should
Know*

Future Meetings

April 23, 2020

May 28, 2020

June 25, 2020

July 23, 2020

August 27, 2020

September 24, 2020

Camp Events

March 28, 2020

Saylor's Creek
Cleanup 8:00 AM

April 4, 2020

SCV National convention
in South Boston.

April 5, 2020

UDC Appomattox grave
yard service Starts at 2PM

May 2, 2020

Heart of Virginia

May 9, 2020

Amelia day festival

May 25, 2020

Memorial Day
8:00 Westview Cemetery
11:00 Confederate Cem.

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A. M. Evans, Newsletter Editor