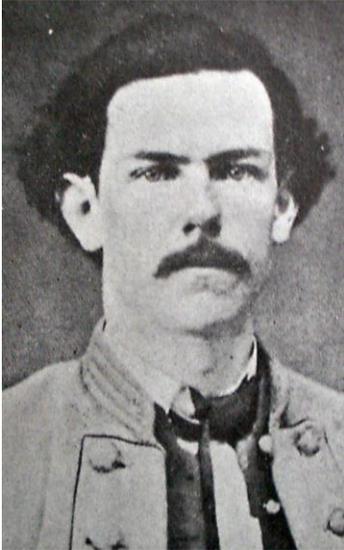


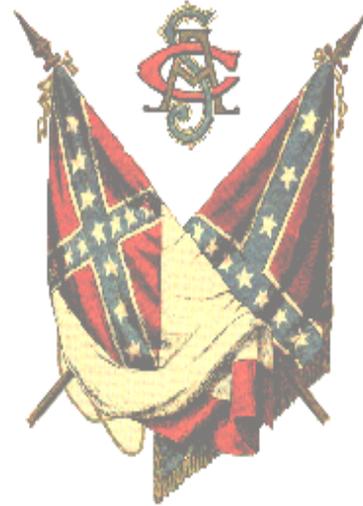
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**NEWSLETTER OF STATE OF DADE CAMP NO. 707**



**THE  
SILVER  
GRAY**



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**Tornado damage in Trenton.**

## **A Company Of Young Confederate Ladies**

An incident of April, 1864, was the appearance in Chattanooga of a group of young girls who had been arrested in Rhea County by Captain Thomas Walker and Lieutenant W. B. Gothard of the Sixth Mounted Federal Infantry. The officers and men who made the arrest were Hamilton County Federal soldiers.

The young women were marched from their homes to Smith's Cross Roads, now Dayton, and thence to Bell's Landing where they were put on a cattle boat, "The Chicken Thief," for transportation to Chattanooga. When they arrived they were marched up Market Street to the office of the Provost Marshall which was located on Market and Sixth Streets. They were accused of having organized a company of Home Guards.

Colonel S. B. Moe, who was adjutant to General J. B. Steedman, then Commander of the Post of Chattanooga, placed the matter before that officer. General Steedman heard the charges against the young women and acquitted them at once. He directed the officers who had made the arrest to see that they reached their homes safely.

The young women were all members of prominent Rhea and Hamilton County families. The group included:

Miss Mary Elizabeth McDonald, Captain  
Miss Jennie Hoyal, First Lieutenant  
Miss Jane Locke, Second Lieutenant  
Miss Rhoda Tennessee Thomison, Third Lieutenant  
Misses Virginia Hoyal  
Kate Hoyal  
Anna Gillespie  
Martha Early  
Sidney McDonald  
Louisa McDonald  
Ann Payne  
Caroline McDonald  
Barbara Frances Allen  
Margaret Keith  
Sarah Mitchell  
Rachel Howell  
Mary A. Crawford  
Mary Keith  
Mollie McDonald

They were from fourteen to twenty years of age and had organized themselves into a uniformed and mounted troop. Each member supplied her own horse. Their object, however, was not military service, but the relief and assistance of widows and orphans of Confederate soldiers and the families of men who were in the Confederate service. The organization was

the forerunner of the Confederate Memorial Association and the Daughters of the Confederacy.

General Steedman in discharging them from court complimented them on the work they had done and said that such associations of women were a necessity for both armies and that he would encourage similar groups for the aid of wives and children of the soldiers in the Federal as well as the Confederate army.

After General Steedman had discharged them the young women were entertained at supper at the Crutchfield House (now the Read House) by the Federal officers. Thus their journey to Chattanooga, which had begun so ingloriously in the villages along the Tennessee river ended very pleasantly for the girls themselves and for the officers who for many months had been deprived of feminine society. The girls spent the night in the homes of the few Chattanooga ladies who were left in the little town and returned next day to their own homes with a story to tell in after years to their children and their children's children.

The list was compiled through the interest and research of the late Colonel W. M. Nixon and Mrs. Mary Allen Benson, niece of Major Valentine C. Allen.

The members of the company will be more familiar to later generations, however, by their married names. Colonel Nixon and Mrs. Benson also compiled this list.

Mary Elizabeth McDonald married Dr. Thomas H. Roddy  
Louisa McDonald married Robert Kyle  
Mollie McDonald married James Jewell  
Caroline McDonald did not marry  
Jane Locke did not marry  
Ann Payne married Charles M. Todd  
Rhoda Tennessee Thomison married James H. Ford  
Virginia Hoyal did not marry  
Kate Hoyal married John E. Pyott  
Anna Gillespie married H. E. Crawford  
Martha Early married James Kelly  
Barbara Frances Allen married Isaac Cross Arrants  
Margaret Keith did not marry  
Sarah Mitchell married Jacob Myers  
Rachell Howell married Thomas Whaley  
Mary A. Crawford did not marry  
Mary Keith married James Whaley

Source: *History of Hamilton County*

# Mint Juleps of Venerable and Mellow Bourbon

Bernhard Thuersam, Director  
Cape Fear Historical Institute

It is said that author John Davis first mentioned the mint julep in 1803 and its origins in the South are in the eighteenth century. Senator Henry Clay of Kentucky introduced this unique beverage to Washington City's Round Robin Bar in the Willard Hotel.

## Mint Juleps of Venerable and Mellow Bourbon:

"Aunt Lina," said Mama, "you know the ladies didn't drink in your day."

"Drink?" said Aunt Lina, who had been born and brought up before the war (Civil War, of course) and even before the Victorian era, "I should say they did drink. Why, every evening at the Springs the gentlemen used to sent a tray of mint juleps up to the ladies in their rooms before supper."

As a matter of fact, Aunt Lina was drinking a mint julep at that instant in her room at home. It was in the early afternoon, but there was no need for hurry. Her dinners (they were not lunches) rarely started before three o'clock in the afternoon - to give the diners time to let breakfast settle - and it would be two-thirty anyway before the turkey would be done properly. Violet, the colored cook, would see to that, and after she had finished her julep Aunt Lina would go in the kitchen and give the meal the finishing touches.

The gentlemen were having mint juleps in the parlor. These juleps had the confident simplicity of great works of art. Violet had picked a dozen handfuls of the mint from the mint bed between the woodhouse and the backhouse while the dew was still on it and kept it in the icebox. She had cracked the ice and got out the big silver goblets rimmed with the Greek key design. But nobody but Aunt Lina had made the juleps. She had put a lump of loaf sugar in the bottom of each goblet, dissolved it in a mite of spring water, pressed the mint with the back of a silver spoon against the goblet until it had yielded up its flavor, and then filled the goblet with cracked ice.

The next step was to pour from a bottle of venerable and mellow bourbon until the amber liquor reached a hair's breadth of the top, then garnish with sprigs of mint until one was reminded of Coleridge's words - "and ice mast-high came floating be as green as emerald." The result was a drink which was smooth and sharp, sweet and biting, cold to the fingers and hot to the stomach, delicate but authoritative, and "annihilating all that's made to a green thought in a green shade."

"Gentlemen," said Uncle John to Papa and me, "that is reverend stuff."

*(Southern Accent, From Uncle Remus to Oak Ridge, William T. Polk, William Morrow and Company, 1953, pp. 125-126)*

# Northern Newspapers, Censorship and Mercenaries

Phillip Knightly

The First Casualty, The War Correspondent as Hero, Propagandist, and Myth Maker, Harcourt, Brace, Jovanovich, 1975, pp. 26-29.

“The North...was witnessing the first attempt at saturation coverage. As a mass of correspondents jostled for positions, the very strength of their numbers began to militate against good reporting. Comradship and compassion vanished in the race for exclusive news. One correspondent begged a wounded officer not to die before he had finished interviewing him and, as an inducement, promised him that his last words would appear in “the widely-circulated and highly influential journal I represent.” Accuracy became a minor consideration. Casualties were grossly underestimated; generals listed as killed lived on to die of old age; battles were reported on days when there was no action at all; at times the whole Southern army was reported to be marching on Washington; Atlanta was reported captured a week before the battle for the town took place. It was a small step from ignoring accuracy to faking whole reports...

(After Manassas], the first clash of the war...indications of Northern superiority had sent the Northern war correspondents hurrying to Washington to write accounts of a great victory. Although the Associated Press managed to get news of this momentous defeat to the telegraph office, to be sent to New York, it went no farther. The general-in-chief of the Northern forces, Winfield Scott, had stopped its transmission, and so the results of the first major act of censorship in the war was chaos, with all the New York newspapers carrying stories of a glorious victory that was, in fact, a scandalous defeat.

The Secretary of War, Edwin M. Stanton, began to dicker with casualty figures. He altered an account of Grant’s failure at Petersburg, reducing the losses to about a third of their actual number. His department withheld the news of the surrender of Harper’s Ferry for twenty-four hours and changed “10,000 Union troops surrendered” first to “6,000” and in later dispatches to “4,000.” The actual figure was 11,200. Stanton took to censoring newspapers that had broken censorship rules, arresting editors, threatening proprietors with court-martial, and banning correspondents from the front, and he actually issued orders for Henry Wing of the New York Tribune to be shot for refusing to hand over a dispatch he had written for his newspaper.

What other stories did correspondents miss...or refrain from writing? One of the cruel facts of the war was that the North, although it considered itself to be fighting for the survival of democracy, could not raise enough volunteers willing to risk their lives for this cause. The South claimed that Northern men of military age were so unwilling to join the army that the majority of the Union troops were foreigners....taking the official figures, one soldier in three was foreign, most of them being German or Irish. Some eastern States had to introduce a bounty system to fill their regiments, a practice that led to men being shanghaied into service, when conscription was introduced in 1863. Many posed the question the North was reluctant to ask: if the cause of the Union was such a noble one, why was there such violent opposition to the idea of fighting for it?”

## Chaplain's Corner



When June 6th comes around again, we need to remember what happened on this day in 1944. This was to become known as "The Longest Day" and its 24 hours would save the World as we know it today. There were men in all branches of our military service that were involved in this as well as British, Canadians, French and all of the Allied Forces. This invasion of Nazi Europe was known as Operation Overlord. Men took heroic actions in Normandy that literally saved the day. Some never got the chance to do what was expected of them, being killed in the landings on the beaches or losing their lives in the battles in the immediate countryside. Never the less, their names are etched in stone above their earthly remains to provide evidence of their contributions.

There are some who simply disappeared, their bodies and souls having vanished in the haze and hell of the battle on June 6th and they must be credited in absentia.

They are all responsible for the success for the success of Operation Overlord. Their efforts and sacrifices are why the world as we know it today exists. Let us remember to thank the veterans who may still be alive for the sacrifices they went through to save us.

1 Chronicles 28:20 Be strong and of good courage, and do it; do not fear nor be dismayed, for the Lord God--my God-- will be with you. He will not leave you nor forsake you.

Prayer List: Let us remember Sonny Ballew who had open heart surgery and is now home recovering. We need to continue in our thoughts and prayers for him to have a fast recovery.

May God Bless,

James Fletcher  
Chaplain, SCV Camp #707 & 1st. Brigade  
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## UPCOMING EVENTS

- June 4 Tennessee Confederate Memorial Day will be observed at the White Oak Cemetery at 10:00 a.m. on June 4, 2011. State of Dade camp members are invited. There are several veterans from Georgia regiments buried in this cemetery..
- June 8-12 SCVMC 14<sup>th</sup> Annual event in Paducah Kentucky.
- June 21 Camp Meeting: The June 2011 meeting of the State of Dade Camp 707, Sons of Confederate Veterans will be held at 7:00 P.M. on Tuesday, June 21, 2011 at Randy's Restaurant in Trenton. We will meet to eat at 6:00 P.M. – there will be no retreat!



**STATE OF DADE CAMP No. 707**  
**Sons of Confederate Veterans**  
**Larry D. Wheeler (Adjutant)**  
**639 Canyon Park Dr.**  
**Trenton, Georgia 30752-2640**

**HONORING OUR CONFEDERATE HERITAGE**

