

# SOUTHERN CONSTELLATION



June, 2013

## Message from the Commander

Commander James Siske

The Vidalia Onion Sale has gone great this year. I still have a few bags left and need to find a good home for them. If anyone can still sell a few, give me a call at 674-2145. All of you in the camp have done a great job in selling them and we should have a record year thanks to all of your efforts.

Our speaker this month will be James Mills and the subject will be "The Confederate D Guard and Southern Steele". I hope to see all of you there.

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## Summerfield Memorial Day Service

A Memorial Day service was held in Summerfield on Monday, May 27<sup>th</sup>, at the Summerfield Community Center (5404 Centerfield Road, Summerfield NC 27358). John Plybon inquired if the organizers of the service would be interested in having a military salute performed by Confederate reenactors, which was very well received. Seven reenactors participated in the salute, four of which were members of the Col. John Sloan Camp.

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The Northern papers give the names of ten Yankee ships recently destroyed by the Confederate steamers Alabama and Florida. The N Y Herald says the whole number of vessels destroyed is 114—a loss of \$12,000,000.

- The Greensborough Patriot,  
June 11, 1863

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(Continued...)

## Summerfield Memorial Day Service (continued)

Following the firing of the three volleys, the program continued inside the community center where each branch of the service was recognized, a brief speech was provided by Guilford County Sheriff B. J. Barnes and refreshments were served.

A very nice military memorial is located adjacent to the community center, with numerous pavers in memory of veterans. One paver recognized veterans from the War of Southern Independence, Jonas & Jeremiah Highfill, that served with the home guard.



Reenactors that participated in the salute included, Bob Etzler and Sam Scott (13<sup>th</sup> NC Troops, Co. B), Don Hartman and Oscar Lopez (21<sup>st</sup> NC Troops), Charlie Long (27<sup>th</sup> NC Troops, Co. B), Jeff Frank (28<sup>th</sup> NC Troops) and Don Saunders.

## Summerfield Founder's Day

The Col. John Sloan Camp had a table in the history tent for the Summerfield Founder's Day event, held on Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup>. John Plybon, Bill Jones and Jeff Frank represented our camp, while our compatriots, Don Saunders and John Pugh, manned an adjacent table representing the Sons of the American Revolution. The event was well attended and the weather cooperated with only a brief rain shower interrupting the activities.

## The Chaplain's Corner

Chaplain David A. Long, III

### "The Shield of Faith"

In his book, "Soldiers, Blue And Gray" James I. Robertson wrote about the important role of religion in both the Southern and Northern armies. The war for many had similarities to a personal crusade for Jesus Christ. By joining the army, the Biblical principles learned at home were put into action in war. Robertson comments:

"Faith in God became the single greatest institution in the maintenance of morale in the armies. To the devout soldier, religion, was the connecting link between camp life and home. As he prayed and sang hymns of praise, his thoughts could not help but wander to his home church wherein he felt a mother, a father, a wife, or a child might be united with him in asking for his speedy return." Furthermore, many soldiers, South and North, agreed with a Louisiana sergeant Edwin Jay, who did not believe "a bullet can go through a prayer" because faith was a much better shield than steel armor"

Robert Lewis Dabney, who served as a Chaplain and Chief of Staff to "Stonewall" Jackson was once in a "Firefight". He quickly jumped off his horse and got behind a tree. "Were you afraid, Major? I thought that you being a Presbyterian that you believed in "Predestination"! "What makes you think", replied Dabney, "that God didn't "predestine" this tree to be here". Stonewall Jackson had said that one was as safe in the thick of battle as if he were at home in his own bed.

God will not conform to our every desire. When we come to Him in faith, we are to believe that we shall receive. But we must also ask according to His will. Consequently we must pray more often, "Lord, help my will to be conformed to your will. Help me not to desire anything that will not please you."

"The Lord is with me; he is my helper. I will look in triumph on my enemies."

Psalms 118: 7

# The Greensborough Patriot

June 4, 1863

## Vicksburg.

At the latest accounts, Vicksburg was holding out. The news which we receive from that locality is distressingly meagre—the suspense creating with some unpleasant forebodings. But we are inclined to the belief that all will yet be well.

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We have received No. 2 of the *Army and Navy Messenger*, published in Petersburg, Va., which is intended as a medium for conveying religious and moral reading to our soldiers. The *Messenger* makes a handsome appearance, the typography being under the supervision of C. S. McDaniel, one of the proprietors of the Richmond *Enquirer* book and job printing office.

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THE YANKEES AT MURFREESBORO, N.C. — We have seen a letter from Murfreesboro giving an account of the late Yankee raid of “five gunboats and several thousand men” to that place. The first intimation of their approach was the whizzing of a shell over town—the first sound of the kind most of the people there had ever heard. There being no troops near, no resistance was made. They first sacked the Post Office, from which however nearly everything of value had been removed; then the Government stores, 20,000 lbs. of bacon and 60,000 rounds of ammunition. They impressed the few teams left in town to haul these to their boats, and so anxious were they to get off that they made their men pull some of the loaded wagons to the river. They forced open stores and all unoccupied houses, taking only brandy and tobacco, and only a portion of these. They force open the Methodist Female College and carried off the blankets and some other bedding. They performed some acts of outrageous vandalism, such as pillaging Mr. Capehart’s jewelry shop and destroying the rest; destroying the whole of Dr. Hutchings’ medicines, clothes, &c.; robbing a negro of \$15; and *stealing a setting goose from her nest!* This is hardly credible, but is an actual fact. Mr Wilson was shamefully beaten by a man supposed to be intoxicated. They were generally very civil, which was doubtless owing to the fact stated by the commander, that “he had a set of most roguish men, but he would not allow the worst of them to come to the town.” Only one negro (an old woman) went off with them.

[Fayetteville Observer.

FROM MISSOURI.—The Natchez Courier has cheerful intelligence, direct from Missouri. It says: In addition to the taking of McNeil by Quantrell the Confederate partizan we also learn that Pilot Knob has been taken by the Missouri Confederates, and that our troops are having affairs pretty much their own way in that state. A Confederate officer, who has been out as a scout in Missouri during this spring also informs us that the Union families have all left that State for other settlements, either Oregon or in the East. The State is now in hands of the Confederates, with the exception of points garrisoned by Lincoln soldiers, and St. Louis.

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GENERAL LEE. —It is too generally known, to raise any question of prudence in speaking of it, that Gen. Lee has put his army in motion. His designs are known only to himself and those with whom it was his duty to confer. A few days will disclose them to the public, who are willing to wait patiently, in full confidence that the result will vindicate the wisdom of what he undertakes. A forward movement on his part has been for some time anticipated by the enemy, and is regarded with very perceptible uneasiness. Whether he is about to justify their apprehension, by crossing the Rappahannock, we have no better means of determining than our readers. Should he do so, events of great consequence must speedily follow. —*Rich. Whig.*

June 11, 1863

ANECDOTE OF JACKSON.—In the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, lately held in Columbia, one of the members, Col. Preston, of Virginia, in speaking on the death of Jackson, related the following:

Will the Assembly pardon me, Mr. Moderator, for narrating an anecdote which is characteristic of him. At the battle of Manassas the victory was decided in our favor by the cooperation of the armies of Johnston and Beauregard. Johnston’s army leaving their camps, leaving their foe in front of them, suddenly crossed the mountains, and by his forced marches, first gained for Jackson’s troops the name of foot cavalry. Jackson, that night, ordered out his usual pickets, but the officer of the guard came to him and told him that the soldiers were all asleep completely exhausted—and asked whether he should arouse them.”No,” replied the General, “let our men sleep I will watch the camp,” and silently he rode round that sleeping host, he the only sentinel, until the day broke in the east.

## Calendar of Events

### 359<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting (Col. John Sloan Camp #1290)

Tuesday, June 18<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 PM  
 Capt. Bill's Seafood  
 6108 West Market St.  
 Greensboro, NC 27409  
 (336) 852-5162

Speaker: James Mills will present a program on, "The Confederate D Guard and Southern Steele".

### 150<sup>th</sup> Gettysburg Reenactment (Blue Gray Alliance Event)

June 28<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> (For details, refer to: <http://www.bluegraygettysburg.com/>)  
 1845 Pumping Station Road  
 Gettysburg, PA 17325

### 150<sup>th</sup> Gettysburg Anniversary National Civil War Battle Reenactment (Gettysburg Anniversary Committee Event)

July 4<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> (For details, refer to: <http://www.gettysburgreenactment.com/>)  
 1085 Table Rock Road  
 Gettysburg, PA 17325

### 360<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting (Col. John Sloan Camp #1290)

Tuesday, July 16<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 PM  
 Capt. Bill's Seafood  
 6108 West Market St.  
 Greensboro, NC 27409  
 (336) 852-5162

Speaker: Danny Bolick

## Charge to The Sons of Confederate Veterans

"To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we submit the vindication of the Cause for which we fought; to your strength 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 principals he loved and 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, Louisiana, 1906

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### Camp Staff

James Siske - Commander  
 Josh Myers - Lt. Commander  
 Sam Scott - 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Commander  
 Thad Tucker - Treasurer  
 Mike Myers - Adjutant  
 David Long - Chaplain  
 John Pugh - Color Sergeant  
 Rahlo Fowler - Chief of Staff  
 Jeff Frank - Newsletter

### Mailing Address

Colonel John Sloan Camp #1290  
 P.O. Box 4895  
 Greensboro, NC 27404

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