



The Palmetto Vindicator

The Newsletter of the Palmetto Battalion, Inc.

Volume XV, Issue 5

September 2002

Improving Your Impression

Contributed by Bruce Blackmon, 23rd SCVI

Recently, a lovely lady by the name of Marty Rogers presented me with a previously unpublished poem written by a South Carolina soldier killed early in the war. Mrs. Rogers is the great-great granddaughter of Louis T. Wigfall, a prominent SC fire-eater. He took the first unconditional surrender of Sumter from Major Anderson and later became a Confederate Senator for Texas. Mrs. Rogers found Wigfall's personal effects and memorabilia in her mother's attic some years ago. Among them was a poem obtained by Wigfall's younger brother, a Texas Cavalry Trooper, while visiting some SC relations camped at Chesterfield Station, Virginia in late 1862. The poem was circulating the SC camp at the time and he obtained one of the copies. Wigfall's notes scribbled on the margin read, "The last request of a South Carolina volunteer, killed at the Battle of Drainsville, 20th December 1862 and found on his person (supposed) to be from the description, a native of Cheraw, SC"

The battle of Drainsville actually took place on Dec. 19th and 20th, 1861. The name and regiment of the poem writer is unknown. My best guess is that he may have belonged to the 6th S.C. The 6th was from the upstate and they lost 19 killed in that battle. The writer talks about his mountain home. As you know, Cheraw has a few rolling hills, but no mountains. He also talks about the Carolina shore, which Cheraw doesn't have either. It may just be poetic license taken by the writer. He does mention Peace's Stream and the college on the hill, which may be an allusion to Heavenly peace, or it could be an earthly location. At any rate, this is a beautiful poem and one that I felt is appropriate for us as we contemplate our upcoming events.

A Soldier's Last Request

From the private collection of Mrs. Marty Rogers, Stony Point, NC

Oh carry me back to my own Carolina shore
If in the battlefield I fall, take me home once more
For I would silently beneath the bright blue sky
With the green sod upon my youthful breast there let me lie.
Oh boys carry me back when this bloody strife is o'er
And a mother dear with a peaceful tear will bless you evermore.

I know you will not forget a brother's last request
And if there be a comrade spared, he will take me home to rest
And tell the loved ones there, the mourning household band
to meet me on the blissful shore of a brighter land.
Oh boys carry me back, carry me back if I die
Carry me back no more to roam, there only would I lie.

I had a dream last night so full of bliss
A mother's hand was on my brow, I felt a sister's kiss.
I gazed on Peace's stream, the old moss covered mill,
The lover's rest beneath the trees, the college on the hill.
Oh boys carry me there in sight of our mountain blue
In my native town - 'tis all I ask of you

I saw, too in my dream, a maiden young and fair.

Kind, gentle, loving girl was she with shining golden hair.
She was sitting by my side and whispered words of love,
Though she may never be my bride, still may we meet above.
Oh boys carry me back, there only would I sleep,
With the maiden fair with the golden hair over this soldier's
grave to weep.

This is a noble state and generous hearts are here
To whisper kind and cheering words to the strange volunteer.
But if on Virginia's shore I fall to rise no more
Carry me back; Carry me back to my loved Carolina Shore
Oh boys, carry me back - I ask no marble tomb
But lay me down on this sacred ground of my own dear
mountain home.

There is a lovely spot in the quiet churchyard shade
Beneath a large and spreading oak where I so oft have strayed.
There the deep tones of the organ fall so sweetly on the ear
In the stillness of the Sabbath morn from the old church near.
Oh boys lay me there when my earthly course is run,
That a mother dear may shed a tear 'o'er the grave of her
only son.

Field Orders

Greetings And Salutations:

Hopefully everyone who is interested in going to Sharpsburg and/or Perryville is at this time registered, because the deadline, as I write this, was August 31. Maybe the date will be extended after that date has come and gone; sometimes that is the case and sometimes it's not. Both events are saying that there will be no walk-on registration, though. At Sharpsburg, we are Palmetto Battalion, Ridge's Brigade, Stepp's Division. See the maps on the website for more detail of where we will be camped.

The Camp of Instruction at Rose Hill went pretty well. I had hoped for a little stronger turnout, but that's about par for the course for this year. Those who were there worked hard and learned a lot on Saturday and then had a shorter day on Sunday. I wish to express my sincere thanks to Phil Bailey for his generosity and behind the scenes efforts that were essential for the event's success.

Elections will take place at Sesquicentennial Park in Columbia again this year. We will have a cookout in addition to the business portion, so come and enjoy some fun and fellowship. Lt. Chinnis has been expending a great deal of effort to insure that everyone who is eligible to vote gets on the list. When Election Day comes, do not ask me to make exceptions to the eligible names on David's list. There have been copies sent out several times and various

communications with a great variance in response from the unit representatives. If David says "yes" or "no" regarding any member's voting eligibility, he has my full backing. If any exceptions are to be made, he will make them.

Brattonsville is again on the fall schedule for Oct 25-27. We had a good event last year with the exception of Neill's injury. We did have a lot more field than we had soldiers, however. It would be good to have a better turnout this year. The event has a great deal of potential.

Please drive carefully on the way to Sharpsburg and Perryville and y'all take care, my comrades.

Yr Obdt Srvt,
A.J.Clamp
Col, Palmetto Bn



You are invited to drop-in

Palmetto Battalion Appreciation Day

Honoring the re-opening of the

South Carolina Confederate Relic Room & Museum

Saturday, September 21, 2002
10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Columbia Mills Building,
301 Gervais Street,
Columbia, SC

John M. Bigham
Curator of Education
SC Confederate Relic Room

803-737-8097
jbigham@crr.state.sc.us
"Confederate Relic Room since 1895"

From the Desk of the Lieut. Colonel

Greetings All,
In early August the Palmetto Battalion ran a Camp of Instruction, and once again it was a valuable learning experience for those who attended. Many people contributed to the weekend, but special thanks should be given to Alan Clamp for the hours and hours he spent preparing the syllabus and finding instructors for the various classes, and special thanks also to Phil Bailey for the time he spent working with the park service when it was apparent that we would be subject to the fire ban, and for graciously letting us camp on his family property. And just to prove that the Battalion can find a use for every talent, no matter how small, I got to run the bush hog over the campsite. I think that is a reenacting first for me!

One of the highlights of the weekend for me was the wonderful lunch that the PSRS prepared on Saturday, and the hand-cranked ice cream that they served over the course of a very hot afternoon. Thank you ladies!

Unfortunately the heat did take its toll, so that on Sunday we only had about two dozen people show up for the morning parade and divine services, and by the time afternoon rolled around it was down to myself and Colonel Clamp. One of the cancelled topics for that afternoon was a discussion of guards and guard mounts, and Alan had asked me to share a few anecdotes from the book I was reading at that time. Never one to give up easily however, I want to take this chance to share some of those stories with you now.

To me, it always comes back to the individual soldiers. It's fine to read about battles, and generals, and politicians, and we need to know that to understand the war, but it was the individual soldiers who were the backbone of both armies, and I never get tired of reading their stories. The book I was reading at the time of the Camp of Instruction was the memoirs of Charles B. Haydon. It is titled 'For Country Cause & Leader', and is edited by Stephen W. Sears (the same person who wrote 'Landscape Turned Red: The Battle of Antietam') Haydon had graduated from the University of

Michigan and was in practice as a lawyer at the time of his enlistment. He joined the 2nd Michigan as a 3rd Sgt. and rose to Lt. Col. before his death in 1864 from wounds he had received earlier. What makes the book so much fun to read are Haydon's descriptions of many details of camp life, and his delightfully wicked sense of humor. I highly recommend it, and perhaps after I share a few of his stories, you will be tempted to find a copy for yourself.

One thing that he mentions time and time again is the seemingly endless amount of fatigue duty that was required of all soldiers. Typically this was digging trenches and building earthworks, and it went on all of the time. Another duty was keeping the camps policed. Here is a comment on that: 'I have been Sergt. of the Police this P.M. and I hate it like the duce. This ordering men about to rake up straw & chips, file stones, pick up scraps of meat & bread, cut down apple trees & drag them off, level down stumps &c while the rest are lying in their tents is a miserable business.'

Another onerous duty was the guard mount. Here is a story from early in the war about the jumpy nature of the sentinels. 'I was roused out 4 times last night, three times by the firing of sentinels. One of them shot at a dog. Two shot nearly at the same time at an unlucky wight [creature] who was belated & was trying to creep into camp without going to the guardhouse. The dog was killed but the man escaped. The third time one sentinel fired at nobody knows what & called lustily for the corporal's guard. Two others immediately fired for fear the corporal would not come quick enough.'

To see the impact that guard duty had on a company (impact on both numbers and morale), consider the following quote: 'A sentinel was decoyed off his post last night by a washerwoman & both bring up in the guardhouse this m'g. There are from Co. I 20 men per day on guard & special police duty. Including the sick and lazy this takes near half the Co.'

And a bit later we get another picture of the tedium of guard mount. 'On guard. Guard duty is very dull business, nothing to do but watch our own men & keep them from going outside the lines. 40 men at a time with loaded guns & fixed bayonets walk constantly with solemn &

measured step around us, while 80 other men lie lazily on the ground, fully armed and accoutered to take their turn in six hours in the solemn procession. 3 Corples., 3 Sergts., 2 Lieuts. & 1 Capt. oversee this monotonous parade. All this with much more is repeated every day with great precision & regularity. 129 men succeed in guarding from surprise a camp around which are encamped on all sides other Regts. three or four deep & to which the enemies pickets dare not come nearer than 15 miles.'

Sounds like fun, doesn't it! But after a bit he writes, 'The sentinels have ceased firing nights & do very little save go to sleep as quick as the officer is out of sight. The officers do little but seize on the unlucky ones whom they catch asleep & send them to the guardhouse after which they are compelled to roll stones up hill for a week.'

I can't find the last quote I wanted to share with you, but the gist of it is that the chaplain complained that he never had a congregation for Sunday services. He then hit upon the idea of preaching to all those men in the guard house, since they were a captive audience, and even asked the Col. If he couldn't arrest the entire regiment on Sundays so that he would have someone to whom he could preach! At least we don't have that problem in the Palmetto Battalion.

Is there a point to these stories beyond the fact that they are entertaining? Certainly. These are the sorts of things that make camp come alive, both for us and for the spectators. Incidents like these let us see those historical soldiers as fellow human beings. So the next time you are reading, and come across something that strikes your fancy, think about how you can integrate it into an upcoming event. You'll help everyone have a better time!

Yr Obdt Srvt,
Bruce Hoover
Lt. Col, Palmetto Bn

The Apple Crate

Fellers,
Things are on the verge of picking up again. We just finished the COI at Rose Hill /Phil Bailey's (thanks again Phil & to your family). Now on to Sharpsburg !

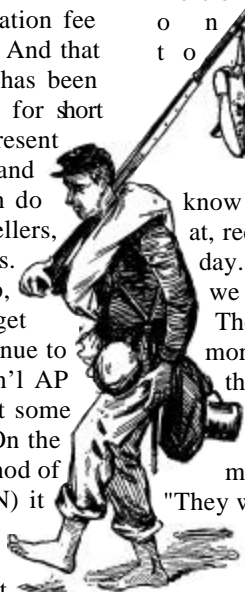
Fellers, if you're going & haven't sent your ration fee into Neill, you need to do so now (me included). And that brings me to a very short & important point. It has been proven that man can live without certain things for short periods of time: food, good leadership from the present Sgt Maj, nice, neatly trimmed beards, mustaches and hair, even a bath. But one thing none of us can do without is water. Lot's of water and more water. Fellers, we have to take care of each other and ourselves. Keep a good eye on your pards. If they need help, let's get to them as quickly as possible. Let's all get down plenty of water before we step off and continue to take water all day as we follow the steps of Gen'l AP Hills boys across the countryside. True, they lost some men, but we don't want to lose not the first one. On the local news (excuse me while I use our current method of keeping up with current events. Let's call it CNN) it was reported maybe a month ago that in the great commonwealth of Maryland some 20 odd civilians had died from the heat so far this year. That's a lot of people. None of us want to be considered a damnable foreigner dying behind enemy lines from the heat. Some of you remember how hot it was at 1st Manassas last August. Several of "us" went down with the heat on Friday. I did because I didn't take in enough water.

I have taken a vow, not to let that happen to me again. But I am smart enough to know when it is coming on and

I'm not so stupid that I get that "I'm not going to wimp out " thing working through my head. When I know that I've reached the end, I'm at the end. Having said that, if one or more of our pards notice you, and it's obvious that you're not on top of your game; they are going to say something to you. So you might as well tell the truth.

Someone will pull you out before we have to helicopter you out of the place, me included. You fellers know me. I don't go down on much, but believe me; sooner or later I'm smart enough to know that I've lost the fight. It's best to stop where you're at, recover the best that you can, and live to fight another day. Looking forward to seeing you all, our brothers, as we prepare to take the struggle across the Potomac.

There probably aren't many quotes and such that bring more pride & pleasure to me than the one attributed to the citizen in Fredrick, Maryland. This one has always gotten my blood up. It's a comment from a lady who was observing a column of Confederates marching down one of their streets in Sept 1862, "They were the dirtiest men I ever saw, a most ragged, lean and hungry set of wolves. Yet there was a dash about them that the northern men lacked."



Respectfully yours,

Rick

Sgt Maj. Wm R (Rick) Davis
Palmetto Battalion

Campfire Cooking

Corn as we know was a staple of the Confederate soldier's diet. Here are a couple of recipe's.

Parched corn. Ever have Corn Nuts®? (no really, that's the name of a snack food, really!) That's what parched corn is. Start with dried corn. If you can't get any from the farm, try your local Mexican/Latino food market. Just pour a layer into the fry pan after cooking bacon. Cook until its puffed and browned. Hint: cover the fry pan with your plate or it will pop out... if you've left too much grease in the pan, the splatter of hot grease on your skin don't feel so good.

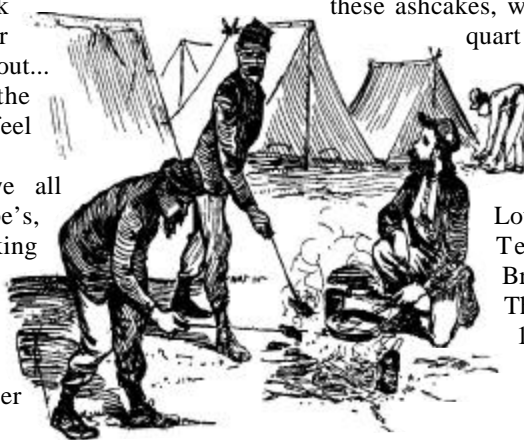
Corn bread of course. While we all probably have our own family recipe's, here's a period account of a woman cooking it for soldiers. Try it.

"...She devoted herself the more earnestly to accustomed tasks. She kneaded corn meal dough, adding salt, in a poplar tray. When it was of proper

consistency she made round, flat "pones," almost an inch and a half in the middle. These were deposited in the midst of the fire on the hot hearthstones, and covered with red-hot hickory ashes. The bread was thus roasted. When extracted, piping hot, it was the famous negro "ash-cake," to be eaten with butter and milk. Each of us ate one of

these ashcakes, weighing half a pound, and drank a quart of milk. Broiled spareribs, biscuits, and coffee made the breakfast perfect in a soldier's eyes." From "Fagots From The Camp Fire." (Wartime reminiscences of) "The Newspaper Man."

Louis. J. Dupre (Company B, 7th Texas Regiment, Granberry's Brigade?), Washington, D. C.: Emily Thornton Charles & Co., Publishers. 1881. Found at <http://docsouth.unc.edu>



“Battles of the Lowcountry” Announcement



Battalion Membership,

It is regrettable that we, the members of the 11th South Carolina Volunteer Infantry, must notify the Battalion membership that the "Battles of the Lowcountry" (Honey Hill) Re-enactment will not come about this year. The Battalion affiliated event was scheduled for October 18-20, 2002 in Ridgeland, South Carolina.

It was a mutual agreement between the 11th South Carolina and our co-sponsor the Jasper County Chamber of Commerce to cancel the re-enactment due to monetary difficulties. With the lack of finances it would have required cutting back many of the re-enactor events, thus taking away from the overall event.

On our schedule we were planning on holding a Highway Marker dedication Saturday, October 19th and are moving ahead with that. We welcome any and all of the Battalion membership to that dedication on October 19th at 2 p.m., Pocotaligo, South Carolina. The marker is to recognize the brave South Carolinians and Southerners that were protecting our Great State during the Battle of Pocotaligo.

Last, we the members of the 11th South Carolina would like to thank each and every member of the Palmetto Battalion for supporting our two previous "Battle of Honey Hill" re-enactments and making them a success.

THANK YOU!

The 11th South Carolina

From the Archives

South Carolina Department of Archives
Patrick McCawley, Reference Archivist
Patrick@scdah.sc.state.us

South Carolina Dept. of Archives and History
8301 Parklane Road
Columbia, SC 29233

Last issue, I provided excerpts from Major James L. Coker's address to the Sixth Regiment Survivors Association in 1887. This issue I would like to continue this theme with his closing remarks on the Maryland campaign of 1862.

“The night of the 17th we rested on the battle field; the next day was passed in line of battle waiting a renewal of the attack. But Gen. McClellan's army was in such condition of disorganization; he could not venture another trial of strength until expected reinforcements could reach him. Lee, with his 33,000 Confederates had repulsed and badly crippled the well-equipped force of 87,000 Federals. Standing in defiant attitude all day on the 18th September, at night he began to move his wounded and trains across the Potomac at Sheperdstown and on the morning of the 19th recrossed with his army, the enemy following, but keeping at a respectful distance. Some of their troops who later in the day ventured to cross in pursuit, were acted upon with great fierceness by a portion of A. P. Hill's division, and were quickly routed and driven with slaughter into the river.

We were once more on the soil of the grand old "Mother of States"- then as now dear to our hearts. We stood again where every one sympathized with us, and how refreshing this was after recent experiences at Frederick City, at Boonsboro and around Sharpsburg (Hagerstown was different). In Virginia, with the generous ministry to our physical wants, we received what was more prized, the plaudits of kindred souls. Matronly women, remembering their own absent soldier boys, bestowed upon us their

benediction with swimming eyes and quivering lips. The smiles of Virginia's lovely maidens were not too precious to be given, with words of encouragement to the ragged and worn Confederates. Even the little children saluted us and cheered our tattered flags. Our hard campaign was over; our season of rest was begun.

It is a matter of regret to me that I cannot give the details of casualties in the Regiment during the Maryland Campaign, but from the loss in Company E, which I know, I may fairly compute the loss sustained by the regiment. In that company, the loss in killed and wounded (there were no prisoners) was one third of the whole number who crossed into Maryland. Estimating upon this basis the Regiment must have lost fifty men.

It is said that Gen. Lee, when asked after the war, what battle was best fought by the confederate army under his command, always replied 'Sharpsburg'. There were times during our army experience when, as at Seven Pines, we were most proud to be called "Sixth Regiment Men." At other times, as at Lookout Valley, we gloried in the deeds of the whole Brigade; at other times we took pride in saying we belonged to Longstreets Corps. After the Maryland campaign I feel that to be worthy to be called a good soldier of Gen. Lee's army, was honor enough for any man.”

Patrick McCawley
SC Department of Archives and History

Battle Summaries

Affairs In Mississippi, Tennessee, and Kentucky.

From Confederate Military History, Part XV

(In 1862, as) great military events were occurring in Virginia, General Bragg's army was at Tupelo; Van Dorn and Price were operating in Mississippi; Kirby Smith was in east Tennessee, and the cavalry of Wheeler, Forrest and Morgan were advancing into Tennessee and Kentucky.

After Shiloh, all events began to point to a general Confederate triumph, and when the summer ended the Confederate armies were marching into Kentucky under Bragg and Smith, and into Maryland under Lee. Cheered by success the Confederate people indulged the hope that recognition of their independence would soon be their reward for all their sacrifices.

Bragg moved his army, early in July, to Chattanooga, and joining Smith, projected an advance into middle Tennessee and Kentucky. With the divisions of Cleburne and Churchill, Smith routed the Federals at Richmond, Ky., and reinforced by Heth moved into Lexington. Bragg, with Polk and Hardee, marched out of Chattanooga with 30,000 men, and entering Kentucky September 5th, the date of Lee's advance into Maryland, captured a garrison of 4,000 men at Munfordsville on September 17th, the date of the battle of Sharpsburg. After this successful achievement he occupied

Frankfort, the capital of Kentucky.

The Federal General Buell followed these Confederate armies, gathering reinforcements as he went, and forced the battle of Perryville, October 8th, which was well fought on both sides, but the disparity of numbers was greatly against Bragg, his effective strength being reported at 16,000 and the Federal force in active battle at about 24,000. Bragg, in his retreat, perfected his junction with Kirby Smith at Harrodsburg, as he originally intended, and awaited there a Federal attack, which Buell did not choose to make. Bragg soon gave up Kentucky and concentrated his forces at Murfreesboro in Tennessee. General Wheeler, who was the active leader of the cavalry in this campaign, says that the "two months of battles and marches by the armies of Bragg and Smith cost the Federals a loss in killed, wounded and prisoners of 26,530. We captured 35 cannon, 16,000 stand of arms, millions of rounds of ammunition, 1,700 mules, 300 wagons loaded with military stores and 2,000 horses. We recovered Cumberland Gap and redeemed middle Tennessee and north Alabama."

Perryville

National Park Service

<http://www2.cr.nps.gov/abpp/battles/tvii.htm>

Other Names: None

Location: Boyle County

Campaign: Confederate Heartland Offensive (1862)

Date(s): October 8, 1862

Principal Commanders: Maj. Gen. Don Carlos Buell [US]; Gen. Braxton Bragg [CS]

Forces Engaged: Army of the Ohio [US]; Army of the Mississippi [CS]

Estimated Casualties: 7,407 total (US 4,211; CS 3,196)

Description: Confederate Gen. Braxton Bragg's autumn 1862 invasion of Kentucky had reached the outskirts of Louisville and Cincinnati, but he was forced to retreat and regroup. On October 7, the Federal army of Maj. Gen. Don Carlos Buell, numbering nearly 55,000, converged on the small crossroads town of Perryville, Kentucky, in three columns. Union forces first skirmished with Rebel cavalry on the Springfield Pike before the fighting became more general, on Peters Hill, as the gray clad infantry arrived. The next day, at dawn, fighting began again around Peters Hill as a Union division advanced up the pike, halting just before the Confederate line. The fighting then stopped for a time. After noon, a Confederate division struck the Union left flank and forced it to fall back. When more Confederate divisions joined the fray, the Union line made a stubborn stand, counterattacked, but finally fell back with some troops



routed. Buell did not know of the happenings on the field, or he would have sent forward some reserves. Even so, the Union troops on the left flank, reinforced by two brigades, stabilized their line, and the Rebel attack sputtered to a halt. Later, a Rebel brigade assaulted the Union division on the Springfield Pike but was repulsed and fell back into Perryville. The Yankees pursued, and skirmishing occurred in the streets in the evening before dark. Union reinforcements were threatening the Rebel left flank by now. Bragg, short of men and supplies, withdrew during the night, and, after pausing at Harrodsburg, continued the Confederate retrograde by way of Cumberland Gap into East Tennessee. The Confederate offensive was over, and the Union controlled Kentucky.

Result: Union strategic victory

School of the Soldier

127. The manual of arms will be taught to four men, placed, at first, in one rank; elbow to elbow, and afterwards in two ranks.

128. Each command will be executed in one *time* (or pause), but this time will be divided into motions, the better to make known the mechanism.

129. The rate (or swiftness) of each motion, in the manual of arms, with the exceptions herein indicated, is fixed at the ninetieth part of a minute; but, in order not to fatigue the attention, the instructor will, at first, look more particularly to the execution of the motions, without requiring a nice observance of the cadence, to which he will bring the recruits progressively, and after they shall have become a little familiarized with the handling of the piece.

130. As the motions relative to the cartridge, to the rammer and to the fixing and unfixing of the bayonet, cannot be executed at the rate prescribed, nor even with a uniform swiftness, they will not be subjected to that cadence. The instructor will, however labor to cause these motions to be executed with promptness, and above all, with regularity.

131. The last syllable of the command will decide the brisk execution of the first motion of each time (or pause). The commands *two*, *three*, and *four*, will decide the brisk execution of the other motions. As soon as the recruits shall well comprehend the positions of the several motions of a time, they will be taught to execute the time without resting on its different motions; the mechanism of the time will nevertheless be observed, as well to give a perfect use of the piece, as to avoid the sinking of, or slurring over either of the motions.

132. The manual of arms will be taught in the following progression: The instructor will command:

Support- ARMS.

One time and three motions.

133. (*First motion.*) Bring the piece, with the right hand, perpendicularly to the front and between the eyes, the barrel to the rear; seize the piece with the left hand at the lower hand, raise this hand as high as the chin, and seize the piece at the same time with the right hand four inches below the cock.

134. (*Second motion.*) Turn the piece with the right hand, the barrel to the front; carry the piece to the left shoulder, and pass the fore-arm extended on the breast between the right hand and the cock; support the cock against the left fore-arm, the left hand resting on the

right breast.

135. (*Third motion.*) Drop the right hand by the side.

136. When the instructor may wish to give repose in this position, he will command

REST.

137. At this command, the recruits will bring up smartly the right hand to the handle of the piece (small of the stock), when they will not be required to preserve silence, or steadiness of position.

138. When the instructor may wish the recruits to pass from this position to that of silence and steadiness, he will command:

1. Attention. 2. SQUAD.

139. At the second word, the recruits will resume the position of the third motion of support arms

Shoulder- ARMS.

One time and three motions.

140. (*First motion.*) Grasp the piece with the right hand under and against the left fore-arm; seize it with the left hand at the lower band, the thumb extended; detach the piece slightly from the shoulder, the left fore-arm along the stock.

141. (*Second motion.*) Carry the piece vertically to the right shoulder with both hands, the rammer to the front, change the position of the right hand so as to embrace the guard with the thumb and fore-finger, slip the left hand to the height of the shoulder, the fingers extended and joined, the right arm nearly straight.

142. (*Third motion.*) Drop the right hand quickly by the side.

Present- ARMS.

One time and two motions.

143. (*First motion.*) With the right hand bring the piece erect before the centre of the body, the rammer to the front; at the same time seize the piece with the left hand half-way between the guide sight and lower band, the thumb extended along the barrel and against the stock, the fore-arm horizontal and resting against the body, the hand as high as the elbow.

144. (*Second motion.*) Grasp the small of the stock with the right hand below and against the guard.

Shoulder- ARMS.

One time and two motions.

145. (*First motion.*) Bring the piece to the right shoulder, at the same time change the position of the right hand so as to embrace the guard with the thumb and fore-finger, slip up the left hand to the height of the shoulder, the fingers extended and joined, the right arm

nearly straight.

146. (*Second motion.*) Drop the left hand quickly by the side.

Order- ARMS.

One time and two motions.

147. (*First motion.*) Seize the piece briskly with the left hand near the upper band, and detach it slightly from the shoulder with the right hand; loosen the grasp of the right hand, lower the piece with the left, re seize the piece with the right hand above the lower band, the little finger in rear of the barrel, the butt about four inches from the ground, the right hand supported against the hip, drop the left hand by the side.

148. (*Second motion.*) Let the piece slip through the right hand to the ground by opening slightly the fingers, and take the position about to be described.

Position of order arms.

149. The hand low, the barrel between the thumb and fore-finger extended along the stock; the other fingers extended and joined; the muzzle about two inches from the right shoulder; the rammer in front; the toe (or beak) of the butt, against, and in a line with, the toe of the right foot, the barrel perpendicular.

150. When the instructor may wish to give repose in this position, he will command:

REST.

151. At this command, the recruits will not be required to preserve silence or steadiness.

152. When the instructor may wish the recruits to pass from this position to that of silence and steadiness, he will command:

1. Attention. 2. SQUAD.

153. At the second word, the recruits will resume the position of order arms.

Shoulder- ARMS.

One time and two motions.

154. (*First motion.*) Raise the piece vertically with the right hand to the height of the right breast, and opposite the shoulder, the elbow close to the body; seize the piece with the left hand below the right, and drop quickly the right hand to grasp the piece at the swell of the stock, the thumb and fore-finger embracing the guard; press the piece against the shoulder with the left hand, the right arm nearly straight.

155. (*Second motion.*) Drop the left hand quickly by the side.

Official Reports

South Carolina Troops Skirmish in Kentucky

This was the only reference I could find to South Carolina Troops during the Kentucky campaign, while other units of the Fourth Brigade appear to have fought in the Battle of Perryville, I couldn't confirm whether the 19th was engaged. Colonel Lythgoe, who wrote this report was killed the next year leading a charge at Murfreesboro. Maj. General Withers, referring to his death in the official report, noted "He dies well who dies nobly."

OR Series I, Volume 16 part II, Page 988
Report of Col. A. J. Lythgoe, Nineteenth South Carolina Infantry, of operations September 16—17.
SEPTEMBER 18, 1862.

The Nineteenth Regiment South Carolina Volunteers left the camp near Cave City at 4 a.m. on the morning of the 16th instant, moved with the Fourth Brigade, to which it is attached, to a short distance of the fort at Woodsonville, where the general commanding the brigade assigned it to a position on an eminence on the right of the road. In passing to it the regiment was for a short time exposed to the fire of grape and shell. One man, a private in Company I, had his haversack strap cut by a grapeshot. The regiment was placed in the position to which it was assigned, when one company was

thrown out as skirmishers. This company soon became engaged with the pickets of the enemy at long range. Two companies of the Twenty-eighth Alabama Regiment were sent out by Colonel Frazer to join the company of this regiment. The three companies then drove the pickets of the enemy into their trenches, when the firing ceased and the regiment was ordered to move still farther to the right into a body of woods, where it remained until the morning of the 17th instant, when it was moved with the brigade to the camp in the vicinity of Munfordville.

Very respectfully,
A.J. LYTHGOE,
Colonel, Comdg. Nineteenth South Carolina Volunteers.

General Wheeler Commends his Troops on the Kentucky Campaign

Perryville reports OR Series I, Volume 16 part II, Page 976
GENERAL ORDERS, HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY,
No. 3. Cumberland Gap, Tenn., October 23, 1862.

Soldiers of the Cavalry Corps, Army of the Mississippi:
The autumn campaign in Kentucky is over. Your arduous duties as the advance and rear guard of a vast army are for the present finished. Your gallantry in action, your cheerful endurance of suffering from hunger, fatigue, and exposure render you worthy of all commendation. For nearly two months you have scarcely for a moment been without the range of the enemy's musketry. In more than twenty pitched fights, many of which lasted throughout the day, you have successfully combated largely superior numbers of the enemy's troops of all arms. Hovering continually near their lines, you have engaged in no less than one hundred skirmishes, and upon the memorable field of Perryville, alone and unsupported, you engaged and held in check during the

entire action at least two infantry divisions of the opposing army. By your gallant charges on that day you completely dispersed and routed a vastly superior force of the enemy's cavalry, driving them in confusion under their artillery and infantry supports, capturing in hand-to-hand conflicts many prisoners horses, arms, &c. Your continual contact with the enemy has taught you to repose without fear under his guns, to fight him wherever found, and to quietly make your bivouac by the light of his campfires. In this continual series of combats and brilliant charges many gallant officers and brave men have fallen. We mourn their loss; we commend their Valor. Let us emulate their soldierly virtues.

JOS. WHEELER,
Chief of Cavalry.

Resources

Tired of sutler row? Check out the list of authentic vendors on the resources page at www.authentic-campaigner.com. Something you can only find in the Vindicator however is the Palmetto Battalion Special from Ben Tart. This is approved for the Sharpsburg march and the perfect jacket for upcoming 1863 to 1865 events. You won't find a more authentic jacket at this price! Richmond Depot II pattern, in your choice of two fabrics, #3F "Smoke" or #1F "Charcoal," both fabrics are wool jean on a natural cotton warp. The

jacket is lined in cotton fabric with two interior pockets, and nine hand worked buttonholes. It is machine top-stitched.

The price is \$125 + \$5 shipping. You can get an order form at his web site www.bentart.com or write out your order, including your modern coat size, height, weight, and a daytime phone number. Send to: T, B&B, PO Box 28, Spring Hope, NC 27882. Be sure to ask for the Palmetto Battalion Special (item #PBS).

Guest Article - Major Genral Jeff Stepp

(Editor's Note: The writer will be commanding our division at Sharpsburg, and has graciously requested to address the troops. See the July issue for some first hand accounts of the 6th SC and the men they defeated in the cornfield)

Ladies & Gentlemen of The Palmetto Battalion:

It has been brought to my attention that there may be a number of you who will prove disappointed that our division will not be portraying the gallant troops of Gen. A.P Hill's command in the Sunday scenario at the upcoming Sharpsburg event.

Let me preface my remarks by saying that I understand any disappointment, because I know all too well of the brave and critical role that Gregg's South Carolina brigade played in that gallant and historic repulse of Gen. Burnside's on the Confederate right at Sharpsburg. I have agreed, however, to have our division portray the historical division of Gen. David R. Jones (Jenkins SC brigade, Toombs Ga. Brigade, Drayton's Ga. & SC brigade, Hunton's Va. brigade, Kemper's Va. brigade,) for that particular scenario.

This decision came about in the following manner. Over a year ago, and before I had been offered a division command for the event, members of the Liberty Rifles began organizing, researching and developing impressions for representing Brig. Gen. Thomas F. Drayton's mixed SC and Ga. brigade which they hoped to portray at the upcoming 140th anniversary reenactment of Sharpsburg. After my appointment to the command of one of the three CS divisions for that event, and the aforementioned units were assigned to my division, I learned of their superlative and unique efforts. Those efforts impressed me and I determined to support them to the extent that I could. If you have not visited the website they have created in preparation of their efforts, I would urge you to do so (<http://draytons.tripod.com/>) as I, for one, feel it should serve as a model for how reenactor organizations should share research and develop impressions in order to apply historical accuracy at both large and small events.

I think that what also appealed to me directly about their efforts was the fact that they wished to portray troops that had not enjoyed the bright light of fame. Drayton's boys pretty much sacrificed themselves at Fox's Gap. At Sharpsburg, their thin ranks delayed Burnside's on the lightly held Confederate right giving Hill just enough time to march his division up from Harper's Ferry and save the day. Had they not done so,

Burnside, could have already seized the village of Sharpsburg and the ridge upon which ran Lee' only line of retreat well before Hill came up and changed Confederate fortunes for the day. None were more conspicuous in Jones' delaying action than the South Carolinians of Jenkins' Brigade (1st SC Vols., 2nd, 5th, 6th SC, 4th SC Btn. & the Palmetto Sharpshooters). That flinty brigade continually harassed Burnside's right flank as it advanced. It engaged in one of the most game flank attacks that occurred during the battle. Yet their role has largely been overshadowed by the more celebrated actions of their brave brothers in Gregg's Brigade with A.P Hill.

Their story and the lack of attention these men have received should haunt us. The situation is aggravated by the fact that the same historical scenarios get replayed over and over at these large anniversary events. I am, personally, tired of supporting that approach and believe that there are other actions, battles and commands that we should try to bring to the light. Your brigade has been assigned the role of Jenkins Brigade for the Sunday afternoon scenario.

By representing Jones' Division we will be the first Confederate division on the field for this scenario and we have a significant historical role to portray before any other Confederate troops get engaged. The troops in King's and Clark's divisions will be kept out of sight and inactive until we have cleared their front. Besides, this is the last scenario of the event prior to our departure, which allows us more liberty to play out our role, if you follow my meaning.

I have been told that there could also be an impression among some that it would be perceived that we were somehow accepting a lesser role in the scenario and that our reenactor comrades in other commands do not have as legitimate a claim on representing Hill's troops. I do not believe that admiration of the Confederate soldier can be restricted to those descended from him. We must allow fair consideration to be given to others who share, albeit not as closely, our burning pride for those who are so dear to us. I have enjoyed a long association with my comrades in South Carolina and despite, at times, the meddling of some of our Virginia comrades, I have always strived hard to give North and South Carolina their due. I know who you are, and more importantly you know who you are, and in whose footsteps you follow. No one can ever take that from us.

I remain yours in the Cause,

J.H. Stepp, Maj.Gen., Cmd'g 2nd Division



The Palmetto Vindicator

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2002 Battalion Events Calendar

Sep 12-13	Palmetto Bn Sharpsburg March
Sep 13-15	140 th Sharpsburg (BA Max Effort)
Sep 29	Battalion Elections, Columbia
Oct 4-6	Perryville, KY (BA MAX Effort)
Oct 11-12	Ghost Walk, Charleston -Info
Oct 18-20	Battle for the Lowcountry* (BA) <i>Battle for the Lowcountry</i> <i>CANCELLED</i>
Oct 25-27	Brattonsville York (BA)
Nov 2-3	Saluda LH
Nov 23-24	Secessionville (BA)

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The Palmetto Vindicator

“ATTENTION - Battalion”

from the Adjutant's Pen

Comrades,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the unit reps for their help in getting the membership dues and address information to me. I think we have an excellent start on the new Palmetto Battalion year.

Elections will be upon us before we know it. Please check with your unit reps and make certain that your event attendance is correct and that it has been turned in to me. The By-Laws require that members attend two Battalion or Affiliated events and at least one other event on the Battalion calendar to be eligible to vote. With the large number of issues we'll have to address at the elections this year, I **will not** be accepting attendance additions and corrections on the day of elections. If you plan on voting make certain that the details will allow that to happen before September 29, 2002!

I'd also like to remind all members that would prefer to receive The Vindicator On-Line instead of US mail, please send an email to vindicator@palmettobattalion.org with the word "Subscribe" in the subject line along with your name and mailing address in the body of the email. We have received very few electronic subscriptions and we'd like to see many more to allow the Battalion to utilize our funds for preservation and less production. Remember, you'll have access to The Vindicator On-Line at least one week earlier than the "snail-mail" version. Please subscribe electronically if you can!

The images used in The Vindicator this past year have come primarily from one of four volumes of "Battles and Leaders of the Civil War". This set was originally published in 1883 by the editors of The Century Company and it contains many details from both sides of the conflict from the wars outset to it's end. It is now available from Castle at most larger bookstores. I recently saw all four volumes at an affordable price of about \$13.00 each. Well worth the investment!

This issue also contains several images from John Billings famous "Hardtack & Coffee." Another very valuable resource for a snapshot of a soldier's life in the Union Army. It's published by the University of Nebraska Press.

Finally, I'd like to take these few lines to thank all of the Battalion membership for their assistance and patience with me this past year. I was extremely apprehensive of accepting this position from Alan but, I have enjoyed serving the Colonel and the Battalion. Thanks for the opportunity!

I hope to see you all at Sharpsburg and Perryville!

Your Obedient Servant,

David

Lt. David Chinnis
Adjutant, Palmetto Battalion