



The Palmetto Vindicator

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PALMETTO BATTALION, INC.
WWW.PALMETTOBATTALION.ORG

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Field Orders~ Tom Grazioli, Colonel

I have two pieces of Battalion business to discuss. Some things will require discussion and a vote at the staff meeting on Saturday, January 10th at the SC Relic Room in Columbia at 10:00 am. Some of the discussion may lead to a vote at the membership meeting at Rivers Bridge on Saturday, January 31st. Remember that the staff meeting will need to have unit reps present because we will determine the Battalion Schedule there. The membership meeting is for all dues paid Battalion members.

A group has approached me and is planning to put on an event to be called The Battle For Columbia. The event will be on May 1st & 2nd of 2004. That's the weekend of the Wilderness event and it's also the Confederate Memorial Day observation in Columbia. The group is adamant that the event will take place and that the date is firm.

The group wants the Palmetto Battalion to be a co-sponsor or co-host of the event. Reason being is that we have all the elements required to manage the reenactor side of an event. We have a command structure. We have an established membership of South Carolinians. We'll design the battle scenario. We have contacts with other reenacting organizations outside the state. This last may be the most important; we know how a reenactment should be done from our perspective. In other words, how many porta-johns, how much fire wood, how are the camps laid out, does it look good, does it make sense, is it correct, etc.

The man who is the push behind this is Jeff O'Cain. Some of you may know him as the new commander of the Wade Hampton SCV camp in Columbia. A non-profit foundation will be created to put on the event. The foundation will be a 503-c organization made up of other 503-c organizations of which may be several SCV camps, the Palmetto Battalion, the Civil War Round Table, and other groups interested in preserving and presenting history. Jeff tells me that he spoke to Randy Burbage about patterning the foundation after the Confederate Heritage Trust in Charleston. If you're not familiar with them, they're the group that puts on Secessionville. He told me the event would not be an SCV event.

Remuneration is a word I had to look up. But the Palmetto Battalion will be remunerated for our work in bringing the event to fruition. That means we'll be compensated for our services. See the paragraph above for examples of our services. I'm in favor of such compensation. I think of the good efforts we support and the idea of doing more of the same appeals to me. Nothing would please me more than to contact the Relic Room and tell them that we have the money to pay for the

completion of the cost to restore the Sixth's battle flag. What would please me more would be to acquire another piece of South Carolina history that could be displayed for all to see instead of hearing that the item was sold to a private collection on EBay. We can't do that without money and right now we don't take in much more than we spend on ourselves.

Another thing to think about: if a battle event takes place in Columbia, the heart of South Carolina, the Palmetto Battalion should be part of it. It's the center of our state. I think that if we didn't sign on, many of our people would go anyway.

Before we would consider this idea, I wanted to see the event site. We should all be able to agree that a good event site is very important. The site is on 250 acres of private property about 10 miles south of Columbia and a mile from interstate 26 off exit 125. From the driveway, the traffic of the interstate was not evident. From the camp area it couldn't be heard. There is a large field just inside the gate that would be used for parking. A fence separates that area from another large field where the sutlers would go. This second field is large enough to allow a row of modern vendors along the fence, then have the sutlers below, then possible the civilian campers along a tree line below the sutlers. The property continues to slope through that tree line to a creek that might be 40 or 50 yards farther down.

Directly across the creek through another 30 odd yards of trees is a smaller field where the Federal camp will be. It's not far away, but far enough through the trees to be exclusive. The Confederate camp is likely to be on the same side of the creek as the Federals, but to the right of the driveway. The edge of the Rebel camp is about 100 yards away from the edge of the civilian camp. There are trees between the two so they are not so evident from one to the other. The battlefield is adjacent to the Confederate camp but separated by 40 yards of tree line. The tree line would make for an excellent place for campaigners – close to the camp and battle field yet well apart from the sutler row. The battlefield is rectangular and maybe a quarter mile long by 200 yards wide. A dense patch of forest is along one full side. There are open areas around the opposing side. The corner of the Federal camp meets the corner of the battlefield. Earthworks are being designed to be used in the scenario.

Everything slopes towards the creek to one degree or another. If it rains, the water will drain off well from all the areas to be used. The event will be planned as though it will rain and gravel will be brought in to better establish the road ways. A second back road will allow reenactors to move in and out without negotiating the main roadway that passes through registra-

(Continued on page 7)Field Orders

From the Desk of the Lt. Colonel ~ Rusty Weatherford

Greetings Palmetto Battalion,
I hope that you have and your family had a very Merry Christmas. The New Year is here! Hard to believe that 2003 only had eight months in it! Well, it seemed that way. But, thankfully, we have an extra day in 2004! Hallelujah!

We have much work to do as we prepare for the 2004 campaign. River's Bridge will be our first opportunity as a Battalion to begin our drill preparations for Franklin in October. I am requesting that Battalion Chaplains Short and Lewis petition the Almighty for favorable weather so that there would be no impediment to participation. Having both of these fine gentlemen in conference with the Supreme Commander-in-Chief well covers our beloved state from foothills to coast! I anticipate that all shall be well.

Many thanks to Rick Davis and his many, assistant co-laborers that have worked so hard in preparation for River's Bridge this year. The hosts have invested a great deal of time and effort to make this a memorable event for us. Your presence there will serve as a hearty "Thank you!" and reward for their generous investment. I hope to see you all there.

As we embark upon our journey together, I want you to consider the following quotes taken from *Far, Far From Home* (pages 20 and 41) by Everson & Simpson, Jr.

"Our regiment is very well drilled, and in my opinion

the companies are the best drilled of any companies from our state or from any other state."

"Prisoners tell us that the Yankees fear the South Carolinians more than the devil himself."

Corporal Tally Simpson, 3rd S.C. Volunteers (Kershaw's Brigade)

I believe these comments should become our collective goal as a Battalion in 2004. I hope that we might tirelessly work as with one heartbeat and mind to become this dreadful and powerful force. We are proudly descended from this venerable, fearful, dauntless stock. Let us make the most of every opportunity to properly honor them. We have quite a year awaiting us. Are you ready?

Note: As I finish this writing tonight, our military forces in Iraq have successfully captured the elusive Saddam Hussein. Their work, however, is yet to be finished. Please continue to remember them prayerfully each day. May peace, happiness and homecoming soon be their well-deserved reward?

Y'all take care! May we all experience a peaceful and prosperous 2004!

God speed,

M. "Rusty" Weatherford

Lt. Colonel

The 20th SC Asks to Rejoin the Battalion

Tom Grazioli,
Colonel

The 20th SC has approached me to rejoin the Palmetto Battalion. Many of you know them from years ago when they were a member unit of the Battalion. Mark DeLoach is currently their captain. I spoke to them a year ago about this. At Boone Hall they formally asked me to begin the process to consider their request. I'm not going to go into the reasons why they left in the first place. I will speak about why I think they could be part of the Battalion again.

They're a strong unit with good membership. I've seen them at several events with a dozen or more rifles on the field. They'll do Federal when asked. Secessionville I'm sure of, at Brattonsville some of their men fell in with us. They specifically told me that their intent is not to stir up consternation within the Battalion. They've agreed to abide by our rules and bylaws. Their intent is to portray South Carolinians when they

go to events. And it's good to go to an event and have a large force of men wearing the palmetto badge.

I've said before that I want to grow the Battalion. I'm not going to invite just anyone to join us because they want to play. Watching this group over the past year has demonstrated that they have a good presentation. With their presentation, assurances, and willingness to be a part of us, I support them in this effort.

Discuss it at the unit level. At Rivers Bridge we'll have a vote of the membership to have them joined to the Battalion with a probationary status for a period of one year. If they prove themselves during that time, they may petition the Battalion to become a regular unit.

The Apple Crate ~ Sgt. Major Rick Davis

Hey fellers...I hope this finds all of you in both good health & spirits!!

It seems like there is never enough time. Not enough time to do this or that. But oddly, I don't feel like I get anything accomplished, and here it is at the end of another year.

This has been a long year in many ways. We've all had our ups and downs. Since the last edition of "The Vindicator" we've had call to add more of our brothers to our ever-growing prayer list. Robbie Loadholt has had successful back surgery. Jack Ungaro is also on the mend and I'm sure that there have been some others as well.

Sadly we lost another member of the Battalion, just a couple weeks ago, Bill Vickery from Charleston.

Fellers, let's not let the holiday season pass, even though Thanksgiving has come and gone, without us savoring the times we get to spend together on the weekends. Celebrate each weekend that we have the opportunity to spend together as a Battalion, company barriers all put aside. I think that is something that I'll take away with me when I step down as Sgt Major. It has allowed me the privilege to get to know the companies and to get to know the people in the companies. For several years many of you were faces, with names, but I didn't know the person.

I have been blessed many times over since getting to know so many of you on a much more personal level. I thank God for that opportunity, and I thank you for being there and being a "pard." Sometimes maybe we all get caught up in viewing a blessing as being something tangible, a touchy-feely kind of thing. Good friendship, good comrades aren't something money can buy, they're a blessing, pure & simple.

Also, let's not forget the real true "troops" among us that have been called away to serve our country in distant lands over the course of the last couple years. Some of you have kids that are overseas even as we speak. May God be with each and every one of them and with you as you await their return.

OK, Rivers Bridge. Hmm. There's been a lot of activity taking place at the event site. The property owner, Mr. Landis Heirs, is a veritable prince among men! He has allowed us so much latitude over there to, well, for lack of a better term, to just let our hair down and play hard. As hard as we want to play!!!

Last year was almost like a first year event. Some lessons were "lernt," but we had fun!!! And if you had fun last year, you ought to really enjoy this one. The hopes, plans and dare I say dreams are that it will get better with each passing year. The thoughts are the same this year as last; that is to lean heavy toward the campaign camp although, as always, there is plenty of space available for the garrison style camp. BUT, the ones that stayed around the works last year had a great experience and I'm sure they will be in their same spot this year, and we'd love to have each and everyone that can to join us.

We promise to keep you very busy over the weekend...there are so many excellent opportunities that are presented to us. Hopefully there will be some brand new experiences there for many of you this year.

I wish each and every one of you and yours an extremely Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!

May God continue to bless each one of you.
Respectfully, I remain,

Rick

Sgt. Major Wm. R. Davis

Adjutant's Call ~ Lt. David Chinnis

With the new year upon us, I'd like to make certain that everyone has the Adjutant's **new** mailing address:

Adjutant
203 Hollytree Circle
Ladson, SC 29456

All correspondence should be sent to this new address.

While on the subject of address changes, if your Vindicator is currently being forwarded please make certain to send me your change of address so that you won't miss a single copy of this fine publication.

You'll likely note the new schedule on the last page of this edition. This "Schedule" does not contain events that were approved as "Information Only". The events listed on this schedule are the only events that apply for voting status. The "Calendar" will contain ALL events, including those not approved for voting status.

While on the subject of events, I'd like to plug three events that are "Information Only" but may well appeal to some of our Battalion membership. The first is the **PLHA Living History** at Ft. Moultrie on April 14 - 18, 2004. Regulations for this event can be found on the web at:

<http://home.sprynet.com/~bbih/plha/plha.html> or you can contact me directly at the above address. This event is being held in conjunction with the Hunley Funeral Committee and the National Park Service.

The next event is **RECON III - Into the Wilderness**, which is being held near Brandy Station, Virginia from April 30 - May 2, 2004. Event information can be found at: www.cwlhi.org. I have the honor of leading a Company of the 7th Maine at this event and would be happy to have anyone who is interested, for my company of "Southern" Maine men.

The final event I'd like to plug, is **The Battle of Pickett's Mill** which is being held at Pickett's Mill State Historic Site near Dallas, Georgia on May 28 - 30, 2004. John Cleveland has asked me to invite to all Battalion members who are willing to meet the Park and event guidelines to be a part of a Confederate Company captained by our own Cory Pharr of the 10th SC. The event regulations can be found at: www.westernindependentgrays.org/PMILL2004/index.htm.

I urge everyone interested to register early for any or all of the above events as participation for each is limited. If you need more info please contact me.

David

Improving Your Impression ~ The Campaigners' Corner

Cold-weather Campaign Tips:

As "Old Man Winter" takes hold, the following are some simple tips, well within the reach of any reenactor, to help ensure comfort and safety at wintertime events. First, remember, your head and neck are prime avenues for heat loss -- there are just too many blood vessels very close to the surface of your skin in this region of your body. Ever hear the old adage, "if your feet are cold, put on a hat?" It's true! If you've ever seen thermal imagery of a healthy adult, the heat that rises from our head and neck makes a standing person look like a lit candle.

Blessedly for our Civil War forefathers, campaigning was minimized in winter, as the armies usually settled into winter quarters where they prepared the best structures they could provide themselves to shelter from the cold and wet. Occasionally, they had to leave the relative comfort of their huts to engage in combat. The fight at Fredericksburg in the bitterly cold winter of 1862 and the late war siege of Petersburg are notable examples. So what's the best way to retain precious body heat when taking to the field in winter? One of the best and most efficient ways is through the wear of quality headgear and woolen scarves. Remember that "human candle" description? A good hat and scarf can act to "snuff the candle" and keep you warm. Vests or waistcoats are underrepresented in our hobby and don't just provide a few more pockets, they also help retain core body warmth. An investment in authentic woolen underdrawers really pays big dividends at 3 a.m. on a cold night too. A greatcoat is a great comfort for obvious reasons.

Bedtime is often the most miserably cold time. Particularly on retiring at night, make sure you put on dry socks, change into your extra dry shirt, and consider use of a knit cap or balaclava. Mittens or gloves are a good idea too since our hands, like our feet, are also sources of heat loss due to their relatively high amount of surface area. A scarf can be wrapped around your head and ears and worn as a balaclava substitute. "Camp hats" while quite snappy to wear around the fire, just don't seem to stay on your

head once you go horizontal. Probably most importantly, it is essential to repeat you must stay as dry as possible. People have and do succumb to hypothermia in even non-freezing weather wearing wet clothing. You'll be at an advantage if you're wearing pure wool, or even woolen jean cloth items since they still retain a degree of heat insulating ability when damp, but you should never go to bed in wet clothing. It's simply a recipe for disaster in cold weather. Better to strip off wet trousers, an shirt and sleep "au-natural" in dry bedding than to try to sleep in wet things.

Your body needs more calories in cold weather just to maintain a safe and comfortable core temperature. Carbohydrates are converted to body-warming calories the quickest.

Remember to drink water, even though most people don't feel thirst as intensely in cold weather as they do when its warm -- your body does need the water though, and dehydration is just as dangerous in cold weather as it is in hot weather! A relatively simple way to know if you're drinking enough water is the color of your urine. The lighter the color, the better hydrated you are. This doesn't hold true though if you're drinking alcohol. While it seems to have a warming effect, alcohol actually makes it harder for your body to stay warm because it contributes to dehydration, as your kidneys and liver need extra water to flush it out of your system. Avoid more than a nip or two at bedtime and you'll sleep warmer.

Next, the way you prepare your bed can make a great deal of difference. Old campaigners know that what's under you is just important as what's covering you. Put another way, a mountain of blankets on top doesn't help much, unless you have a vapor barrier between you and the earth, and some sort of insulating material. One way to get it done is to put down your gum blanket or ground cloth, then put down your blanket or quilt, add your shelter half if you have one, and then lie down on one side of this "pallet", pulling the other half over you. In this way, you can sleep quite snugly even in the coldest weather --if your bedding is

dry. You can make your bed softer and warmer by raking up leaves, Spanish moss or pine straw and making your bed over a nice layer of this natural material which is abundant in winter -- and the cold weather takes care of the red bugs which tend to make their homes in this material during warm weather! "Spooning" works too, although it's a bit, shall we say, uncomfortable for some modern folks. If you're beyond that and can spoon with a messmate or two, you'll have extra blankets and another poncho to cover everything. You'll stay warm on the coldest South Carolina night. Make sure you don't make your bed too close to the fire. Its going to die down before long anyway, and there'll be less risk of you or your bedding going up like Columbia in the wake of the evil Sherman!

Finally, listen to your body. If you become so uncomfortable you become concerned about your ability to cope, you should tell someone who can help you get warm, or evacuate you from the event site -- even if means awakening snoring comrades! By the same token, keep an eye on your messmates. For example, if an ordinarily boisterous chum becomes unusually quiet and reserved, he just may be too cold for his safety. While not 100%, a simple test that works pretty well to help evaluate whether someone is in bad shape from the cold is to place an ungloved palm on the skin of the suspected cold victim's chest or back, between the shoulder blades. If he doesn't feel warm to your touch, its time to get him someplace warm fast! "Old Man Winter" doesn't suffer fools lightly, and he really hates being mocked by the man who boasts, "its not too cold for me!" when the boaster is unprepared for the cold. You can enjoy cold weather events if you take the simple preparations we've recommended, and you'll find you don't need ent heaters, sleeping bags or other such modern contraptions to do it safely and comfortably.

"Jubal"

A Virginian in South Carolina?

W. T. Glassell, Virginia, late Lieutenant, U. S. Navy.

Certainly we can say that a Virginian serving in South Carolina during the war was unusual, considering that many Palmettos did the reverse. The first arrest of the Virginian, Lt. William Thornton Glassell, up North led to fame and notoriety down South, especially in Charleston harbor, got him again in a Northern prison, not to mention placing a significant artifact in the Confederate Relic Room collection. Glassell was discovered as a signer of a Fort Warren, Boston harbor, POW signature album, and a Google search lead to much of the following information. Fort Warren 1861-1862 signature albums and their signers are one of my "side" interests in the War.

Glassell, born 1831, was, "A victim of misplaced confidence. I was arrested on my return from the East Indies on board the U. S. S. 'Hartford,' Dec. 4th 1861." in Philadelphia because he, "refused to take this oath [to the US], on the ground that it was inconsistent with one I had already taken to support the Constitution of the United States. I should think that even the President would acknowledge that it was my *right*, if not my duty, to act the part of a belligerent." In 1861-1862, Confederate officers, political prisoners, blockade-runners and others were sent to Fort Warren in Boston harbor where, wrote Glassell, "...the company is good. We converse together in good Rebel style, read papers, and play games, chess, backgammon, and cards; so the time passes rapidly away. We are now sanguinely hoping soon to be exchanged."

Glassell was exchanged, commissioned in the Confederate States Navy and assigned to service in the Charleston Navy as deck officer of the ironclad, **Chicora**. He recalled, "It was my part, on the memorable morning [of January 31, 1863], to aim and fire one [of ten] effective shell in the **Keystone State** while running down to attack us...killing twenty-one men and severely wounding fifteen." The action was an attempt to break the blockade by the **Chicora** and the **Palmetto State**. It was a victory by which the Confederate government declared a lifting of the blockade.

On the afternoon of April 7, 1863, the Federal navy launched an attack on Fort Sumter with nine ironclads, one of them the **Keokuk**, a twin turreted monitor piloted by ex-slave Robert Smalls of **Planter** fame. In the action, Confederates around the harbor fired 2229 shots from 76 guns resulting in damage to five of the monitors. The **Keokuk** took ninety hits and sank to her stack the following morning. The crew escaped.

The morning of April 13th, Glassell visited the **Keokuk**, "...with a view to observing the effect of your [Brig. Gen. Roswell Ripley's] batteries upon her iron turrets, I succeeded in procuring the trophies, which it affords me much pleasure to forward to you, viz, two United States flags, two pennants, and three signal flags." Ripley passed two "abolition ensigns [US national flags]" to Brig. Gen. Thomas Jordan, Chief of Staff, Dept. of South Carolina, Georgia and Florida. General Beauregard reported to General S. Cooper, Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va., that "The flags and trophies sent

herewith were taken from the wreck of the **Keokuk**..." Apparently, one of the pennants remained in South Carolina, possibly being passed up the line to Gov. Pickens. From 1896 forward, the founding ladies of the Wade Hampton Chapter, UDC, made an intense effort to have many things brought to Columbia. Though records do not reveal the donor, the **Keokuk** pennant was one early result of that effort. Earliest records list the pennant present for duty as of 1904. In fact, the pennant could have been in State hands since the war. We must belatedly thank Lt. Glassell for his donation to the Confederate Relic Room!

Lt. Glassell had one final mission remaining in his Charleston Navy adventure: commander of the submersible torpedo boat, the **David**. Manufactured in Charleston with private funding, the **David** was painted a light blue/gray and, powered by steam, could run at 5-6 knots. Glassell recalled in the Southern Historical Papers, November 1877, "The admiral's ship, **New Ironsides**, the most powerful vessel in the world, lay in the midst of the fleet, her starboard side presented to my view. I determined to pay her the highest compliment...My [four double barrel shot] guns were loaded with buckshot. I knew that if the officer of the deck could be disabled to begin with it would cause them some confusion and increase our chance for escape; so I determined that if the occasion offered I would commence by firing the first shot...When within one hundred yards of her a sentinel hailed us, Boat ahoy! Boat ahoy! Repeating the hail several times very rapidly. We were coming toward them with all speed, and I made no answer, but cocked both barrels of my gun. The officer of the deck made his appearance and loudly demanded: 'What boat is that?' Being about forty yards of the ship, with plenty of headway to carry us on, I thought it about time the fight should commence and fired my gun. The officer of the deck fell back mortally wounded {poor fellow!}..."

Delivering the torpedo into the side of **New Ironsides**, the **David's** fires were put out by the rush of water from the explosion. All four crew believed the **David** was going down. Two of four men went overboard and were captured, Glassell being one. Two others, one who could not swim, succeeded in restarting the **David's** fires and took her back to Charleston. Glassell was imprisoned, this time for a year at Fort Lafayette and Fort Warren. Released, he returned to Charleston until it was abandoned, then served on the James River until Richmond burned.

In 1865, Glassell with money sent from a relative in California, bought surplus US government mules from the War Department and retailed them in Virginia. To buy the mules, he had to go to Washington. When the authorities found out that he was the man who torpedoed the **New Ironsides**, he had to give up the business and leave town quickly.

In the fall of 1865, Glassell was in Orange, Virginia, recovering from TB at the home of his sister, Susan Patton,

(Continued on page 8)

Improving Your Impression – Winter Quarters

SOUTHERN ILLUSTRATED NEWS, January 31, 1863

“Written for the Illustrated News. Outlines from the Outpost: Being The Recollections, Reveries and Dreams of Tristan Joyeuse, Gent.

A log chimney is a good thing to have on the outpost.

Mine is the supreme result of excellent design, and heroic perseverance in the face of difficulty. My assistant, a sympathizing friend, and an African of ebon hue, concentrated our genius upon it—and it smoked.

It smoked! Terrible charge against a chimney—as tho' you said of your wife, "She scolds!" With this important difference, however, that a smoking chimney is far easier to manage, than a scolding wife, I fancy—having only tried the former, as you know. To cause the obdurate smoke to ascend instead of descending—that was now the question; and a reconnoissance in force revealed the origin of the enemy's persistent inroads on my peace and comfort. The logs, toward the tent, and just above the beam, leaned too much backward, as they gradually ascended; and in a resolute moment, I tore down the wall of wood and clay, and recommenced above, that is, from the beam.

Soon the noble structure rose, gracefully notched, and picturesquely fitted with the rough ends sticking out, in all their native beauty. Mud was then applied by the hands of the useful body guard, above mentioned—a barrel was then perched upon the summit—and the admiring loungers who had given numerous directions, as the work proceeded, pronounced the structure perfect.

I had left the edifice in my African's hand to finish, while I went out to dine. At dinner, and throughout the afternoon I was ill at ease. In vain did lovely woman, the "soldier's friend," exert all her powers, and exhaust her charms. I was far too anxious—a cruel solicitude tormented me. Like a man, in face of an impending woe, I could not laugh or even talk. "Did my chimney smoke?"—that was the recurring thought, the thorn in the side of my festive enjoyment. Anxiety so great could not be long endured—and I tore myself away—made haste to return—and entered my tent.

An excellent fire was burning—and not a particle of smoke was discernible! [sic] Nostrils rendered supernaturally acute by deep anxiety could not perceive a trace of it!

I went out to the rear of my tent and reconnoitred. The spectacle was satisfactory—soothing. There was the noble structure durably built of well notched logs, plastered with mud; and on its summit, rising gracefully, an empty flour barrel.

Satisfied, relieved of all anxiety—victor over logs, and mud and smoke, your friend returned with a tranquil heart to the department of the interior. He lit his pipe; he gazed around—monarch of a smokeless kingdom, and content.

Would you like to know what his eyes fell upon—the familiar objects which greeted his vision? I think so, if my feelings are the gauge of your own. I know that I should like to hear how you were surrounded at this moment, whether warmly housed in some den like mine, or sitting with your back against a tree, by the bivouac fire.

The world is anxious to know the habits, modes of life, and "ways" of celebrated warriors, or statesmen, or writers—but I prefer to be told all about my friends. Do you? At least I will think so; and here is what the eyes of your friend perceived by the ruddy forelight of the winter evening.

You may call it, if you choose, the Inventory of goods and effects of Tristan Joyeuse, Gent.

1 Table and Desk, the latter containing Macaulay's History of England, Vol. V; Recreations of Christopher North; Army Regulations; Consuelo, by George Sand; Bragelonne, by the great Dumas; The Monk's Revenge; and several official papers. A Bible and Prayer Book too, which Joyeuse still retains the habit, he is glad to say, of reading, night and morning. Flanking the literary contents - a bag of tobacco; a laurel pipe of curious design, the gift of Bumpo; an old ink bottle; a pistol, cartridges and sabre; the latter with a rusty scabbard.

2 Wooden chairs.

1 Mess chest, only half as convenient as the old cannon ammunition box, long used for a like purpose—with compartments, formerly for "spherical case," now serving to hold coffee, sugar, and much more.

4 Blankets, neatly folded, on a bed of straw, kept in its place by a log—one blanket having been brought to me lately from the North, and delivered in a Yankee camp, free of expense, the owner not even staying to take his receipt.

1 India rubber "Poncho," excellent for rainy days on horseback, also furnished gratis, on the same occasion, the agent of delivery having been suddenly called away. My Poncho, this is, fitting perfectly; but, doubtless, by mistake—marked with another's name.

1 Valise, black leather, formerly used on summer journeys to the mountains, now for a wardrobe. It lies at the head of my bed, and is always open by reason of excessive cramming; containing as it does at present, the stowed away spoils of Christmas in the shape of variegated shirts, cravats, ribbed socks, and all my most valuable effects.

1 Saddle, bridle and accoutrements, on a rack, at foot of bed, in the corner.

2 Overcoats, which have been through the wars, and will cheerfully be exchanged for one which has not.

1 Pile of wood, by fire, and 1000 other things "too tedious to mention," but convenient.

Such are the material surroundings of your old friend Joyeuse, at this place of halt in his pilgrimage..."

(Special Thanks to Vicki Betts for posting this on the Authentic Campaigner Site, Editor)



South Carolina's secession and the subsequent confrontation with Federal authorities over Fort Sumter led many entrepreneurs to solicit the state for arms contracts. The letter below is among the small collection of Governor Pickens papers available at the South Carolina Archives. The letter from a Kentucky inventor would have been forwarded to the Ordnance Bureau and a note on the reverse of the letter states "The board can form no opinion of this invention without seeing the weapon tried." The surviving records do not indicate any demonstration of the weapons usefulness was ever made.

North View Feb. 11th 1861
His Excellency Gov. Pickens

Dr Sir. Being desirous that your State shall be prepared for the present crisis I write to make the following inquiries. Is your State supplied with fire arms, or does she wish to purchase? If so, I will trouble you with a description of a recently invented Kentucky repeating rifle which for simplicity, utility, & efficiency excels all the inventions in fire arms. It does not revolve, but is loaded at the muzzle, one charge above the other, with an exact charger, a patch around the ball which prevents any danger from ignition behind the ball_ each charge has its tube, & over these tubes there is a grooved box in which the lock slides backwards & forwards.

The lock is held stationary by a ketch spring over each of these tubes. You discharge first the front load, then by raising the ketch spring the lock is drawn back, & again held stationary over the tube until you discharge the second load, & so in relation to all the loads six in number. It shoots with great force & accuracy, & can be fired the six times in 15 or 20 seconds & after you fire out the six loads it can be loaded & fired with the same facility you could fire any single shooting rifle. This rifle with a sabre bayonet would be a most effective war instrument especially for Cavalry. The same principle is applicable to cannon, & for flying artillery would be very effective & deadly. This rifle in the hands of a picked Corps of five thousand riflemen would be equivalent to an army of twenty thousand armed with the common musket. There is a vast difference in the amt of supplies necessary for the one when compared with the other.

I trouble you with this communication for the purpose of inquiring whether or not I can effect a sale of from two to ten thousand of these rifles upon the condition it shall be approved by yourself & your State authorities.

Your reply at your earliest convenience will oblige very respectfully your obt. servant.

B. R. Young

(Continued from page 1) Field Orders

tion along the edge of the sutlers and camps and ultimately to the battlefield. Both roads can be chained to prevent vehicles from passing into camp when they shouldn't be there.

I've seen a few event sites over the past 16 years and this one looks good now and has potential for the future. I'm satisfied with the site and the plans I've heard about how it might be laid out. I'm also satisfied with the way they are willing to work with us to host an event that will be as good for reenactors as it should be for the spectators.

The next question in your mind should be, "What about Confederate Memorial Day and the ceremonies that we participate in?" The event is not designed to cancel those ceremonies. To the contrary, Mr. O'Cain hopes that one will supplement the other. Arrangements are being discussed on how to transport people from the event site to Elmwood Cemetery and the state house. We've done events before where we've left camp and returned at a reasonable time. At Cheraw we march a few miles out and then back. At Olustee, we used to get bused about 10 miles into town for a parade. That can be accommodated and would be worked into the schedule.

Whether we attend and support this event will be determined at the staff meeting. Speak to your unit rep and let him know what you think about doing this event. You should be doing that for all the events anyway. I'll give you guidance because you made me the Colonel. And as I've said before, I'll reflect the intentions of the Battalion as best as I can. I'll give you my opinion because I'm a member of the Battalion and I care what we do and where we go.

That dovetails nicely with the next point, one that I haven't discussed with the Columbia event people. Several of you have

related to me your disillusionment with the Confederate Memorial Day ceremonies in Columbia. More have shown their feelings by their absence. Bluntly, you have told me that the ceremony at the state house has veered from what you expect it be – a ceremony to honor the soldiers that fought for South Carolina during that time in our nation's history. Everyone that I have spoken to has told me that they like the ceremony at the cemetery because of what it is – a solemn observance to remember the men of our state. I made it a point to ask a number of people the same questions and received the same answers. Politics are probably appropriate at the state house, but politics don't have any place at a Confederate Memorial Day ceremony regardless of where it takes place.

It has been suggested that the Battalion participate at the Elmwood Cemetery ceremony and forego the state house ceremony. Enough of our members have agreed in kind to make this a matter for our discussion. I urge you to do that amongst yourselves now. We will have some talk about this at the staff meeting. Then we will talk some more about it at the membership meeting at Rivers Bridge. Then we will determine by a vote of the membership about how we will celebrate the honor of South Carolina's heroes.

At Your Service

Tom

“Saved from Patriotic Destruction” The Flag of the

Joe Long, Historian
South Carolina Relic Room

Research about the War is almost infallibly rewarding, though very often in some wholly unpredictable direction. Thus it proved on a recent Relic Room research visit to the South Carolina Historical Society in Charleston.

The purpose of the day’s visit was to go through the papers of B.H. Teague, a Confederate veteran and a postwar relic hound whose extensive collection formed an important early contribution to the Relic Room. Registrar Sarah Wooton and I hoped to find paperwork that shed light on a number of these items, and the trip was indeed fruitful in that way.

Additionally, however, I stumbled across a wonderful document related to another artifact in our collection. On the “Red Wall” of battle flags at the Relic Room, one that always draws visitors’ interest is the 24th Regiment’s. A Charleston Depot issue flag, it’s one of the most heavily damaged ones on display, and Glenn Dedmond’s “The Flags of Civil War South Carolina” refers to it as “damaged over the years by field use and souvenir seekers”.

However, according to a letter to B.H. Teague, there’s more to that story. Here’s what was written by a man who should know (transcribed laboriously by Sarah):

Columbia, South Carolina

11 June 1889

My Dear Sir,

I have not forgotten my promise to give you a piece of the battle flag of the 24th S.C. Vols. and accordingly send you a piece I have just cut from my dear old relic of the good true men who fought under its folds.

The flag is much mutilated, and at the seam tender in holes. The men thinking that the flag must go with the cause, and anxious to keep it, commenced to cut out the stars and would have soon destroyed the identity of the flag but Col. B.B. Smith, then in command of the consolidated 16th and 24th S.C. Vols., saved it from patriotic destruction and after the war sent it to us, as I had the honor, with Genl. C.H. Stevens (who fell at Atlanta in 1864) to organize the 24th SCV and command it [] Genl Johnstons [] Hood’s campaigns.

Our battle flag was presented to us by Genl. Beauregard on the 20th April 1863 and he presented flags to each regiment and battery on James Island, at a [] held on the date named, so had to the honor to make the response for the troops. The two brigades reviewed on the occasion were [cliegmeace????] and Gist’s.

The battle flag of the 24th bears ball and shell marks in every square foot, having been carried through the tempest of fire at Chickamauga, under Bragg, through Johnston’s Georgia campaign, and with Hood to the end. At [] it was planted in the works, where the 24th captured the colors of the 97th. This Vols, since returned to the [] by me. – I had the honor to be three times wounded under our battle flag, and in the single battle of Chickamauga four men lost their lives while bearing it aloft. Mr. Alfred Holmes of your city was Adjutant of the 24th and fought gallantly under its stars, having succeeded Liet. C. J. Palmer, our Adj. who was killed within five feet of it a Chickamauga.

You are the only person to whom I have given nigh thread of our dear old flag, but your remarkable collection of interesting relics of the Confederacy entitles you, my dear sir, to this expression of my kindest regards.

Yours respectfully,

Your friend,

E. Capers

24th So. Ca. Vols.

& Brig. Genl.

P.A.C.S.

In case you’re wondering: yes, we DO have the scrap of flag which was sent by Ellison Capers to Teague. And an 1889 newspaper clipping in Teague’s scrapbook refreshed our “institutional memory” on our acquisition of the flag itself:

Mr. Clinkscales, of Anderson, in the name of Gen Ellison Capers, of the survivors of the 24th S.C. Volunteers, presented to the State the battle flag of the 24th torn by Minieballs and shells, with the stars missing from its Southern cross, whence they had been taken as mementoes at the close of the war by the men who fought under it. Four hundred men had fallen under this old flag.

Sometime after the State’s acquisition of this flag it was entrusted to the Relic Room, where its preservation is now our responsibility. It’s this sort of discovery that lends a certain immediacy to the study of history and keeps us aware of the men behind the events. And makes us grateful for the failure of the attempt at “Patriotic Destruction!”

(Continued from page 5) A Virginian in South Carolina

wife of the late George S. Patton, Virginia cavalry officer who was killed at the battle of Winchester. Glassell wrote, reflecting on his role in the war, “It [the war] had been in progress nearly six months when I came home from sea. I had taken no part in it, when on my arrival in Philadelphia, only because I could not truthfully swear that I felt no human sympathy for my own family and for the friends of my childhood, and that I was willing to shed their blood and desolate their homes, and because I would not take an oath that would have been a lie, I was denounced as a traitor, thrown into prison for eight months, and then exchanged as a prisoner of war. I may have been a fool. I supposed or believed that the people of the South would never be conquered. I hardly hoped to live through the war. Though I had no intention of throwing my life away, I was willing to sacrifice it, if necessary, for the interests of a cause I believed to be just.”

Glassell lived his final days in California, founding the city of Orange and naming it after his home, Orange, Virginia. He died in 1879.

Upcoming Events

Hunley Crew Funeral

Randy Burbage Chairman, Hunley Funeral Committee

Plans for the funeral for the last crew of the H.L. Hunley submarine are progressing smoothly. The website for the Hunley Funeral Committee is www.hunleyfuneral.org. This site contains information on all funeral arrangements, requirements, registration, transportation, and events during the week along with applications for tickets.

The web site will be updated the first of the year and some additional events will be listed. The Rebelaires will be performing in Concert at the Charleston Rifle Club on Saturday evening. Ticket price will only be \$10 per person. There will be a cash bar. Also there will be a Civil War Band competition at the Ft. Moultrie National Monument on Sullivan's Island. So if you are not attending the Grand Ball, there will be plenty of other events for you to attend.

Also on the web site will be a map of the locations of all events during the week with a link to DASH, Charleston's public transportation system. You will find that most events are located on the peninsula and are within easy walking distance or on DASH. Most events are free. Please note that there is a memorial service every evening to accommodate all those from out of town.

We have received thousands of registration applications and are delighted that reenactors will be attending and participating from all over the United States and Europe. If you have not sent in your registration, please do so as soon as possible. While we have not yet set a cut off date, one will be announced via the web site.

Shuttle buses will be taking the reenactors from the cemetery parking lot to the staging area beginning at 7:00am. There will be armbands available there as well as additional registration and programs for you. This will be a huge procession, so please bear with us on the staging and understand that we will be on a strict timetable. We will greatly appreciate your cooperation and patience. Port-O-Lets will be available at the staging area as well as at the cemetery. Also there will be a special area for reenactors to get water at the cemetery during the break before the funeral begins. All this will be clearly posted.

We are trying to have water stations along the procession route but it would be a good idea for you to have water in your canteens or bottled water in your haversack. For those of you who have participated in prior funerals, the procession route will be the same. And there will be a half hour memorial service at the Confederate Monument beginning at 9:30am. The procession will hopefully step off at 10:30am.

We do need participants for the evening artillery salutes during the week. If anyone is interested, please contact Kay Long at crsladyk@comcast.net. For those participants there will be camping available at Patriots Point.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact anyone on the Funeral Committee. The contacts are listed on the web site. We are always available to assist you in any way possible and thank you for your support and participation. This will be a memorable occasion.

New Site for Battle of Aiken

Daniel Fodera, 14th SC Vol

The Battle of Aiken event will be held at a new site this year. The B.E. Bee Camp purchased an 87-acre site off I-20 exit 18. Much planning and work has already gone into the site. Aiken promises to be a good event this year. After the tragedy and devastation of the tornado last year I'm certainly looking forward to the fun we usually have at Aiken. As usual, this event will have a huge school day. I hope many of you can come out Friday to support it.

Folks have been working hard to make this happen in the short time since we closed on the property. I hope you'll come with a critical eye, as we'll be looking for suggestions on how to improve the site and make this one of the best events in the Palmetto State. This event always has and always will raise and contribute significant amounts to historic preservation.

The site is only three miles from I-20, but because of the terrain elevation, I could not hear traffic noise from the campsite. The vegetation is generally pine and scrub on sandy soil. There is plenty of dead wood. Several new roads have been cut, and we have cleared campsites, a battlefield and sutler areas. The cleared battlefield has been planted with winter rye and we're expecting (hoping?) for it to be established by the time of the event.

We've got a good layout for the camps. There are excellent areas for both campaigners and heavy campers. The heavy campsites are cut along the new road for easy loading and unloading. Vehicles going out of the planned location for reenactor parking can leave without disturbing people in camps.

We've addressed the safety and communications concerns that were brought up last year. There will be on-site emergency medical services.

Of historical interest, the new reenactment site was formerly part of the Croft plantation. Col. Edward Croft, born in Greenville in 1835, son of Dr. T. Croft and Eliza W., daughter of Col. C.W. D'Oyley of Charleston. Graduated from the SC military academy at Charleston in 1856 then became planter in Edgefield county (now Aiken). In the summer of 1861 he raised a company and was elected captain, the company becoming part of the 14th SC Volunteers. He saw service in Port Royal, the Peninsula campaign, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville and Maryland. Colonel Croft was severely wounded at Gettysburg, short in the chest and through the hand. He was captured while in the hospital in Winchester, VA but later exchanged and returned home to recover. He returned to the ANV to command the 14th and would take part in the battles around Richmond and Petersburg, being wounded again, but not leaving the field. He surrendered at Appomattox. His brother, Lieut. Randall Croft, of the 1st Regt, Confederate Arty died while in service at Fort Sumter on 1862 and his younger brothers both served in the last year of the war. (From Confederate Military History, pp524-526)

(Continued on page 10)

The Palmetto Vindicator

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(Continued from page 9) Upcoming Events

The site was bought for reenacting and has great, great potential for the future and for activities beyond the annual battle. Battalion drill, live fire, field fortifications, winter quarters, the possibilities are there. We'll just have to make it happen. I look forward to seeing you there.



Palmetto Battalion Schedule

Battalion Affiliated Events are in **BOLD**.

Jan 30-Feb 1	Rivers Bridge - Ehrhardt, SC - Affiliated
Feb 20-22	Battle Of Aiken - Aiken, SC - Affiliated
Mar 5-7	The Columns - Florence, SC - Affiliated
Mar 26-28	Battle For Anderson - Anderson, SC - Other
Apr 2-4	Battle Of Cheraw - Cheraw, SC - Affiliated
Apr 17	Hunley Funeral - Charleston, SC - Other
Apr 23 - 25	Battle Of Selma - Selma, AL - Other
Apr 30-May 2	Battle For Columbia - Columbia, SC - Affiliated
May 1	Confederate Memorial Day - Columbia, SC
May 8	Confederate Memorial Day - Charleston, SC - Other
May 14-16	Battle Of Resaca - Resaca, GA - Other
Jun 18-20	Battle Of Lynchburg - Appomatox, VA - Other
Jul Or Aug	Camp Of Instruction - Location TBD - Sponsored
Sept 10-12	Tunnell Hill - Dalton, GA - Affiliated
Sept 18	Palmetto Battalion Elections - Sesquicentennial SP Columbia, SC (Saturday, 10:00 am)
Oct 1-3	Battle Of Franklin - Spring Hill, TN - Affiliated
Oct 22-24	Brattonsville - Brattonsville, SC - Affiliated
Nov 12-14	Secessionville - Charleston, SC - Affiliated

If your event is not listed or is listed incorrectly, please notify:
vindicator@palmettobattalion.org