



THE CIVIL WAR ROUND-TABLE

P. O. BOX 5028, CLEVELAND, OHIO 44101

JANUARY, 1968

Vol. 11 No. 4

90th Meeting

DATE: TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, 1968

SPEAKER: DR. WILLIAM MAHONEY

SUBJECT: TURNER ASHBY: KNIGHT OF THE
CONFEDERACY

PLACE: HERMIT CLUB, DODGE COURT

PRELIMINARIES: 6 PM DINNER 7 PM

Jan 9TH

DR. WILLIAM MAHONEY

Dr. Mahoney is a local graduate. Bill graduated from undergraduate school at Western Reserve where he was an outstanding lineman for the football team. Bill continued to have "Red Cat" fever as he went on to Reserve's medical school. As a matter of recorded fact our own Bill Schlesinger had Bill for a student. Upon graduation from medical school Bill went on to Wisconsin where he did his post-graduate work and his residency.

Before going to the far East as Flight Surgeon for the Marine air arm, Bill joined the Iron Brigade Roundtable of Milwaukee. After his tour of duty with the leathernecks he came back to Ohio to set up his practice as a general practitioner in Olmsted Falls. Bill was one of the founding fathers of the Western Reserve Civil War Roundtable and is now serving as their President. He has been our guest at several meetings. Now it will be a pleasure to have him as a speaker. I can speak very highly of the quality of Bill's work.

Bill has selected for his subject Turner Ashby. This Confederate cavalry commander was only 42 years old when he was killed in a rear-guard action near Harrisonburg. In his brief career he covered himself with much heroism and had his share of grief. Only a week after the 7th Virginia cavalry was formed with Turner second in command and his brother Richard a company commander, Richard was mortally wounded. There are some who say that after this episode in Ashby's life he was a different person. The complete story was reported in our last newsletter devoted to Confederate Cavalry.

It will be a pleasure to hear the details of this gallant Confederate Cavalry commander.

A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR TO US ALL!

THE CLEVELAND BULLETIN BOARD

CIVIL WAR HISTORY QUARTERLY

This is the supreme effort. Now is the time to subscribe or renew our subscriptions to the CIVIL WAR HISTORY QUARTERLY. For the benefit of our new members this is a publication from the Univ of Iowa that is fantastic reading. Our own Les Swift and Ned Downer have had articles featured in the quarterly. Under special arrangement for all Civil War Roundtables the cost is \$4.00 per year. An application blank is enclosed soliciting your dues and subscription. Please do it

YOUR 1968 DUES ARE DUE BY FEBRUARY 1st. . . PLEASE DO NOT MAKE US COM
AFTER YOU. . . ALSO SUBSCRIPTION MONEY IS DUE BY FEB. 1st.

DINNER RESERVATIONS

Our meetings will be again held on the second Tuesday of each month October through May at the Hermit Club. Please call our Secretary, Guy Di Carlo Jr., 771-7900 if you plan to attend. You can call up to and including the meeting date. If you can make an appearance but do not call, please come anyway.

STONEWALL JACKSON MEMORIAL, INC.

On January 19, 1967, the 160th birthday of General Robert E. Lee, the Stonewall Jackson Memorial, Inc. purchased the home at 607 Oronoco Street in Alexandria, Virginia, where Lee spent nine of his first eighteen years.

This home had been in great danger. The owners, who had been asking an exorbitant price for the property without avail, decided to build seven townhouses on it--which would completely spoil the grounds--and announced that they would turn this historic house into an apartment building if the townhouses did not bring the amount of money desired.

Since we had gained some reputation for saving shrines, having saved six in the past fourteen years, the people of Alexandria, who had exhausted every means available to them to save the property, turned to us. After much study, we decided that we had only one choice. This house had to be saved. Although it did not suit us to purchase the property at this time, we felt obligated to do so.

We must raise \$100,000 to untangle our finances and furnish the house. We are mindful, and are most appreciative, of past generosity, and our only reason for soliciting again is that we are in desperate need of financial assistance due entirely to our purchase of Lee's Boyhood Home.

X If you have any questions, we will be happy to answer them, and we will be most grateful for any assistance you can give us. Your check should be made payable to Stonewall Jackson Memorial, Inc. and mailed to us at 532 Park Street, Charlottesville, Virginia 22901. All gifts are tax deductible.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Gentlemen, this is a most worthwhile endeavor undertaken by the Memorial. It deserves your financial assistance. Even a dollar would be appreciated. At our next meeting we will pass the hat for the Roundtable to fill. Bring a few extra dollars.

CIVIL WAR GRAB BAG
AND BOOK SALE

Gentlemen I will have a grab bag of Civil War information available at the next meeting. Feel free to step and take whatever you fancy. Our book sale last month was a huge success and will be repeated in the near future.

THE COURIER
of
THE CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE OF CLEVELAND, OHIO
FOUNDED FEBRUARY 19, 1957

PRESIDENT FRANK A. MORAN
VICE PRESIDENT. DONALD A. HECKAMAN
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EDITOR, NEWSLETTER. . GUY DI CARLO JR. . BOX 5028, CLEVELAND, OHIO

THE HONORARY SOCIETY OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA

Editor's Note: This newsletter will be devoted to The Honorary Society of the Confederate States of America. Organized on August 7, 1964, the Society is a fine organization worthy of our consideration. Therefore, sit back and relax and enjoy some of the articles from their newsletter. See the enclosed membership leaflet for further details on the Society.

"It is wrong to say that the Civil War divided this country. The war came because the country was already divided; and actually, in a strange way, the Civil War unites us--unites us by the sharing of a great and unique experience. It has given to all of us, North and South together, a moving and an incomprehensible memory. It remains always upon our conscience, just below the surface. It touches everything we do, it helps condition every emotional attitude we take. And it has led us as a people a great distance along the road to that maturity of wisdom which is above all other things necessary for a democracy. And so we keep on with our search. We may get no final answers fit to be written down in books, but we do see, always before us, the great ranks of the nameless men and women who marched out of mystery and into mystery, out of life and into death, so many years ago. They are worth looking at; and, as we look, I suggest that we listen closely. For these heroes of ours, who lived so long ago, and who struggled so greatly against something greater than themselves, were part of an undying procession, men and women who marched bravely on the undiscovered road to tomorrow; and as they marched, they marched to the sound of trumpets."

-----Bruce Catton

We the people of the Confederate States, each State acting in its sovereign and independent character, in order to form a permanent federal government, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, and secure the blessings of liberty, to ourselves and our posterity - invoking the favor and guidance of Almighty God - do ordain and establish this Constitution for the Confederate States of America.

Preamble to the Confederate States Constitution
1862

GOD SAVE THE SOUTH
by Ernest Halphin

God save the South, God save the South,
Her alters and firesides, God save the South!
Now that the war is nigh, Now that we arm to die,
Chanting our battle cry, Freedom or Death.
Chanting our battle cry, Freedom or Death.

God made the right, stronger than might,
Millions would trample us down in their pride.
Lay thou their legions low, Roll back the ruthless foe,
Let the proud spoiler know God's on our side.
Let the proud spoiler know God's on our side.

Hark honor's call, summoning all,
Summoning all of us, unto the Strife.
Sons of the South awake! Strike 'till the brand shall break,
Strike for dear honor's sake, Freedom and Life.
Strike for dear honor's sake, Freedom and Life.

As far as can be ascertained from here, the above was the words to the National Anthem of the Confederacy. The music was by Charles W.A. Ellerbrock. Because of its lowly origins and homely phrases, DIXIE was never completely accepted by the officials of the Confederacy, who regarded it as inappropriate as a national anthem. GOD SAVE THE SOUTH is a little known, but stirring song and is rather difficult to find.

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THE INAUGURATION

Inauguration Day was a gala affair with thundering cannon, reverberant speeches, and parading companies of soldiers. It was unlike the Second Inaugural which was held on a bleak, drizzly day in a war-time city. On Saturday evening, 16th February, Mr. Davis, the President-elect, arrived at Montgomery and was introduced to the cheering throngs by Mr. William L. Yancey, with the sentence--"THE MAN AND THE HOUR HAVE MET!" On Monday, the ceremony took place.

"The procession formed on Montgomery Street, where Gen. Davis took his seat in a magnificent carriage of Col. Tennant Lomax, drawn by six beautiful greys. On the same seat in the carriage sat Vice-President Stephens, and opposite them were Capt. George Jones, of Ala., and Rev. Basil Manley, of this city. Then followed successively in carriages, the Congressional, State, and City Committees. The citizens on foot and the military escort consisted, of "four Regiments under Capt. Semmes

"As the procession moved up Market Street, amid the roar of cannon the inspiring strains of martial music, and the cheers of the multitude, the scene was grand beyond description. . .

"The vast crowd had soon filled the doors, windows and portico of the Capitol, and spread over the ground in front, when the inauguration ceremony began as arranged on the front steps. . .

"The ceremony was opened with an impressive prayer from the venerable Rev. Dr. Manly. The Hon. Howell Cobb, President of the Congress administered the oath of office, and the President delivered his Inaugural Address, in a calm and forcible manner--the immense concourse now and then manifesting their approbation by vociferous applause, as he would strike the keynotes of Southern independence."¹

¹Peter A. Brannon, THE ORGANIZATION OF THE CONFEDERATE POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT AT MONTGOMERY, pp. 36-37.

* * * * *

"If I had a thousand lives to live, I would give them all rather than betray a Friend or my Country." Sam Davis - 1863

DIRECTORY OF OFFICIALS 1861-1865
CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA

PRESIDENT: Jefferson Davis (provisional from 18 February 1861)
Jefferson Davis (elected from 22 February 1862)

V.PRES: Alexander H. Stephens (provisional from 18 February 1861)
Alexander H. Stephens (elected from 22 February 1862)

SECRETARY OF STATE: Robert Toombs (21 February 1861)
Robert M.T. Hunter (25 July 1861)
William M. Browne (ad interim from 17 February 1862)
Judah P. Benjamin (18 March 1862)

ATTORNEY GENERAL: Judah P. Benjamin (25 February 1861)
Thomas Bragg (21 November 1861)
Thomas H. Watts (18 March 1862)
Wade Keyes (ad interim from 17 December 1863)
George Davis (2 January 1864)

SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY: Christopher G. Memminger (21 February 1861)
George A. Trenholm (18 July 1864)

SECRETARY OF THE NAVY: Stephen R. Mallory (4 March 1861)

POSTMASTER GENERAL: Henry T. Ellet (25 February 1861)
John G. Reagan (6 March 1861)

SECRETARY OF WAR: Leroy P. Walker (21 February 1861)
Judah P. Benjamin (acting 17 September 1861)
Judah P. Benjamin (21 November 1861)
Brig. Gen. George W. Randolph (18 March 1862)
(Benjamin continued to act for the first five days of Randolph's term.)
Maj. Gen. Gustavus W. Smith (temporary from 17 November 1862)
James A. Seddon (21 November 1862)
Maj. Gen. John C. Breckinridge (6 February 1865)

When Davis selected his Cabinet, he assumed that every state except his own Mississippi should be represented by a seat. His reasoning was sound enough--a body so chosen would presumably unite public opinion but the result was that some men were named to posts for which they were not fitted because posts they could fill had to go to men from other states. For example, Georgia's Robert Toombs, a rough, blunt character, became Secretary of State. He was knowledgeable in finance and should have had the Treasury portfolio. But South Carolina had to have something, and the only available individual from that state who Davis was willing to appoint was Christopher G. Memminger, a Charleston lawyer who was supposed to understand monetary problems. So the stern and humorless Memminger, an honest but uninspired plodder, went in as Secretary of the Treasury.

The Secretary of War was Leroy Pope Walker, a tall, angular, tobacco-chewing Alabama lawyer. Walker was a poor administrator who could not even keep up with his correspondence. "That slow coach," the acid diarist Mrs. Chesnut called him, and she added that if a Napoleon showed up in the South the secretary would refuse him a commission. Walker soon found an occasion to resign. Heading the Navy Department was Florida's Stephen R. Mallory, rotund and ruddy, who as a senator in the old Union had specialized in naval affairs. He turned out to be an exceptionally competent administrator, as did the unpretentious John H.

Reagan of Texas, who was Postmaster General. Judah P. Benjamin of Louisiana, the ablest individual in the group, was named to the comparatively unimportant position of Attorney General.

It was a Cabinet of shifting personnel. Of the original appointees only Mallory and Reagan served throughout the war. There were four Secretaries of State, two Secretaries of the Treasury, six Secretaries of War and five Attorneys General. Benjamin showed up in two additional posts after starting out as Attorney General--Sect of War and State--and he held the latter office longer than any other incumbent. "There was no circle, official or otherwise, that missed his soft, purring presence," said one critic. On the whole it was not a strong Cabinet; the level of ability reached at best only competency. Mallory and Reagan were good directors of their departments, as were Virginians George W. Randolph and James A. Seddon, two of the war secretaries; but not one of them showed much imagination or independence.

Benjamin possibly possessed some of the elements of greatness. But either because he did not own strong convictions or because he felt it was futile to try to influence Davis, he did not seek to impose his will outside his department. He ran whichever office he held well, but his really fine mind never counted as a force in determining policy. Benjamin and the other members of the first Cabinet embodied the social system of the cotton South. Except for Toombs and Walker, who could point to lineages of some prestige, it was a collection of men who had come up out of ordinary and in some cases obscure beginnings.

* * * * *

FINAL PAROLE

We, the undersigned, prisoners of war belonging to the Army of Northern Virginia, having been this day surrendered by General R.E. Lee, commanding said army, to Lieutenant-General Grant, commanding the armies of the United States, do hereby give our solemn parole of honor that we will not hereafter serve the armies of the Confederate States, or in any military capacity whatever, against the United States of America, or render aid to the enemies of the latter, until properly exchanged in such manner as shall be mutually approved by the relative authorities:

R.E. Lee, General

* * * * *

After four years of arduous service, marked by unsurpassed courage and fortitude, the Army of Northern Virginia has been compelled to yield to overwhelming numbers and resources. I need not tell the survivors of so many hardfought battles, who have remained steadfast to the last, that I have consented to this result from no distrust of them, but, feeling that valor and devotion could accomplish nothing that could compensate for the loss that would have attended the continuation of the contest, I have determined to avoid the useless sacrifice of those whose past services have endeared them to their countrymen.

By the terms of the agreement, officers and men can return to their homes, and remain there until exchanged. You will take with you the satisfaction the proceeds from the consciousness of duty faithfully performed; and I earnestly pray that a merciful God will extend to you His blessing and protection.

With an increasing admiration of your constancy and devotion to your country, and a grateful remembrance of your kind and generous consideration of myself, I bid you an affectionate farewell.

R.E. Lee
HEADQUARTERS, Army of Northern Virginia
April 10, 1865

INAUGURAL ADDRESS

Of

President Jefferson Davis

Gentlemen of the Congress of the Confederate States of America, Friends,
and Fellow-Citizens:

Called to the difficult and responsible station of Chief Executive of the Provisional Government which you have instituted, I approach the discharge of the duties assigned to me with an humble distrust of my abilities, but with a sustaining confidence in the wisdom of those who are to guide and to aid me in the administration of public affairs, and an abiding faith in the virtue and patriotism of the people.

Looking forward to the speedy establishment of a permanent government to take the place of this, and which by its greater moral and physical power will be better able to combat with the many difficulties which arise from the conflicting interests of separate nations, I enter upon the duties of the office to which I have been chosen with the thought that the beginning of our career as a Confederacy may not be obstructed by hostile opposition to our enjoyment of the separate existence and independence which we have asserted, and, with the blessing of Providence, intend to maintain. Our present condition, achieved in a manner unprecedented in the history of nations, illustrates the American idea that governments rest upon the consent of the governed., and that it is the right of the people to alter or abolish governments whenever they become destructive of the ends for which they were established.

The declared purpose of the compact of Union from which we have with drawn was "to establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity;" and when, in the judgment of the sovereign States now composing this Confederacy, it had been perverted from the purposes for which it was ordained, and had ceased to answer the ends for which it was established, a peaceful appeal to the ballot-box declared that so far as they were concerned the Government created by that compact should cease to exist. In this they merely asserted a right which the Declaration of Independence of 1776 had defined to be inalienable, of the time and occasion for its exercise they, as sovereigns, were the final judges, each for itself. The impartial and enlightened verdict of mankind will vindicate the rectitude of our conduct, and he who knows the hearts of men, will judge the sincerity with which we labored to preserve the Government of our fathers in its spirit. The right solemnly proclaimed at the birth of the States, and which has been affirmed and reaffirmed in the bills of rights of States subsequently admitted into the Union of 1789, undeniably recognize in the people the power to resume the authority delegated for the purposes of government. Thus the sovereign States here represented, proceeded to form this Confederacy, and it is by abuse of language that their act has been denominated a revolution. They formed a new alliance, but within each State its government has remained, the rights of person and property have not been disturbed. The agent through whom they communicated with foreign nations is changed, but this does not necessarily interrupt their international relations.

Sustained by the consciousness that the transition from the former Union to the present Confederacy has not proceeded from a disregard on our part of just obligations, or any failure to perform every constitutional duty, proved by no interest or passion to invade the rights of others, anxious to cultivate peace and commerce with all nations, if we may not hope to avoid war, we may at least expect that posterity will acquit us of having needlessly engaged in it. Doubly justified by the absence of wrong on our part, and by wanton aggression on the part of others, there can be no cause to doubt that the courage and patriotism of the people of the Confederate States will be found equal to any mea-

asures of defense which honor and security may require.

An agricultural people, whose chief interest is the export of a commodity required in every manufacturing country, our true policy is peace, and the freest trade which our necessities will permit. It is alike our interest, and that of all those to whom we would sell and from whom we would buy, that there should be the fewest practicable restrictions upon the interchange of commodities. There can be but little rivalry between ours and any manufacturing or navigating community, such as the Northeastern States of the American Union. It must follow, therefore, that a mutual interest would invite good will and kind offices. If however, passion or the lust of dominion should cloud the judgment or inflame the ambition of those States, we must prepare to meet the emergency and to maintain, by the final arbitrament of the sword, the position which we have assumed among the nations of the earth. We have entered upon the career of independence, and it must be inflexibly pursued. Through many years of controversy with our late associates, the Northern States, we have vainly endeavored to secure tranquility, and to obtain respect for the rights to which we were entitled. As anecessity, not a choice, we have resorted to the remedy of separation; and henceforth our energies must be directed to the conduct of our own affairs, and the perpetuity of the Confederacy which we have formed. If a just perception of mutual interest shall permit us peaceably to pursue our separate political career, my most earnest desire will have been fulfilled. But, if this be denied to us, and the integrity of our territory and jurisdiction be assailed, it will but remain for us, with firm resolve, to appeal to arms and invoke the blessings of Providence on a just cause.

As a consequence of our new condition and with a view to meet anticipated wants, it will be necessary to provide for the speedy and efficient organization of branches of the executive department, having special charge of foreign intercourse, finance, military affairs, and the postal service.

For purposes of defense, the Confederate States may, under ordinary circumstances, rely mainly upon their militia, but it is deemed advisable, in the present condition of affairs, that there should be a well-instructed and disciplined army, more numerous than would usually be required on a peace establishment. I also suggest that for the protection of our harbors and commerce on the high seas a navy adapted to those objects will be required. These necessities have doubtless engaged the attention of Congress.

With a Constitution differing only from that of our fathers in so far as it is explanatory of their well-known intent, freed from the sectional conflicts which have interfered with the pursuit of the general welfare, it is not unreasonable to expect that States from which we have recently parted may seek to unite their fortunes with ours under the Government which we have instituted. For this your Constitution makes adequate provision; but beyond this, if I mistake not the judgment and will of the people, a reunion with the States from which we have separated is neither practicable nor desirable. To increase the power, develop the resources, and promote the happiness of a confederacy, it is requisite that there should be so much of homogeneity that the welfare of every portion should be the aim of the whole. Where this does not exist, antagonisms are engendered which must and should result in separation.

Actuated solely by the desire to preserve our own rights and promote our own welfare, the separation of the Confederate States has been marked by no aggression upon others and followed by no domestic convulsion. Our industrial pursuits have received no check. The cultivation of our fields has progressed as heretofore, and even should we be involved in war there would be no considerable diminution in the production of the staples which have constituted our exports and in which the

commercial world has an interest scarcely less than our own. This common interest of the producer and consumer can only be interrupted by an exterior force which should obstruct its transmission to foreign markets--a course of conduct which would be as unjust toward us as it would be detrimental to manufacturing and commercial interests abroad. Should reason guide the action of the Government from which we have separated, a policy so detrimental to the civilized world, the Northern States included, could not be dictated by even the strongest desire to inflict injury upon us; but otherwise a terrible responsibility will rest upon it, and the suffering of millions will bear testimony to the folly and wickedness of our aggressors. In the meantime there will remain to us, besides the ordinary means before suggested, the well-known resources for retaliation upon the commerce of an enemy.

Experience in public stations, of subordinate grade to this which your kindness has conferred, has taught me that care and toil and disappointment are the price of official elevation. You will see many errors to forgive, many deficiencies to tolerate, but you shall not find in me either a want of zeal or fidelity to the cause that is to me highest in hope and of most enduring affection. Your generosity has bestowed upon me an undeserved distinction, one which I neither sought nor desired. Upon the continuance of that sentiment and upon your wisdom and patriotism I rely to direct and support me in the performance of the duty required at my hands.

We have changed the constituent parts, but not the system of our Government. The Constitution formed by our fathers is that of these Confederate States, in their exposition of it, and in the judicial construction it has received, we have a light which reveals its true meaning.

Thus instructed as to the just interpretation of the instrument, and ever remembering that all offices are but trusts held for the people, and that delegated powers are to be strictly construed, I will hope, by due diligence in the performance of my duties, though I may disappoint your expectations, yet to retain, when retiring, something of the good will and confidence which welcome my entrance into office.

It is joyous, in the midst of perilous times, to look around upon a people united in heart, where one purpose of high resolve animates and actuates the whole--where liberty and equality. Obstacles may retard, they can not long prevent the progress of a movement sanctified by its justice, and sustained by a virtuous people. Reverently let us invoke the God of our fathers to guide and protect us in our efforts to perpetuate the principles which, by His blessing, they were able to vindicate, establish and transmit to their posterity, and with a continuance of His favor, ever gratefully acknowledged, we may hopefully look forward to success, to peace, and to prosperity.

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PRESIDENT DAVIS'S MESSAGE TO CONGRESS

29th April, 1861

Gentlemen of the Congress. . .

The declaration of war made against this Confederacy by Abraham Lincoln, the President of the United States, in his proclamation issued on the 15th day of the present month, rendered it necessary, in my judgment, that you should convene at the earliest practicable moment to devise the measures necessary for the defense of the country. The occasion is indeed an extraordinary one. It justifies me in a brief review of the relations heretofore existing between us and the States which now unite in warfare against us and in a succinct statement of the events which have resulted in this warfare, to the end that mankind may pass intelligent and impartial judgment on its motives and objects. During the war waged against Great Britain by her colonies on this continent a common danger impelled them to a close alliance and to the formation of a Confederation, by the terms of which the colonies, styling

themselves States, entered "severally into a firm league of friendship with each other for their common defense, the security of their liberties, and their mutual and general welfare, binding themselves to assist each other against all force offered to or attacks made upon them, or any of them, on account of religion, sovereignty, trade, or any other pretense whatever." In order to guard against any misconstruction of their compact, the several States made explicit declaration in a distinct article--that "each State retains its sovereignty, freedom, and independence, and every power, jurisdiction, and right which is not by this Confederation expressly delegated to the United States in Congress assembled."

Under this contract of alliance, the war of the Revolution was successfully waged, and resulted in the treaty of peace with Great Britain in 1783, by the terms of which the several States were each by name recognized to be independent. The Articles of Confederation contained a clause whereby all alterations were prohibited unless confirmed by the Legislatures of every State after being agreed to by the Congress; and in obedience to this provision, under the resolution of Congress of the 21st of February, 1787, the several States appointed delegates who attended a convention "for the sole and express purpose of revising the Articles of Confederation and reporting to Congress and the several Legislatures such alterations and provisions therein as shall, when agreed to in Congress and confirmed by the States, render the Federal Constitution adequate to the exigencies of Government and the preservation of the Union." It was by the delegates chosen by the several States under the resolution just quoted that the Constitution of the United States was framed in 1787, and submitted to the several States for ratification, as shown by the seventh article, which is in the words: "The ratification of the conventions of nine States shall be sufficient for the establishment of this Constitution between the States so ratifying the same." ...The Constitution of 1787, having, however, omitted the clause already recited from the Articles of Confederation, which provided in explicit terms that each state retained its sovereignty and independence, some alarm was felt in the States, when invited to ratify the Constitution, lest this omission should be construed into an abandonment of their cherished principle, and they refused to be satisfied until amendments were added to the Constitution placing beyond any pretense of doubt the reservation by the States of all their sovereign rights and powers not expressly delegated to the United States by the Constitution.

Strange, indeed, must it appear to the impartial observer, but it is none the less true that all these carefully worded clauses proved unavailing to prevent the rise and growth in the Northern States of a political school which has persistently claimed that the government thus formed was not a compact between States, but was in effect a national government, set up above and over the States. An organization created by the States to secure the blessings of liberty and independence against foreign aggression, has been gradually perverted into a machine for their control in their domestic affairs. The creature has been exalted above its creators; the principals have been made subordinate to the agent appointed by themselves. The people of the Southern States, whose almost exclusive occupation was agriculture, early perceived a tendency in the Northern States to render the common government subservient to their own purposes by imposing burdens on commerce as a protection to their manufacturing and shipping interests. ...By degrees, as the Northern States gained preponderance in the National Congress, self-interest taught their people to yield ready assent to any plausible advocacy of their right as a majority to govern the minority without control. They learned to listen with impatience to the suggestion of any constitutional impediment to the exercise of their will, and so utterly have the principles of the Constitution been corrupted in the Northern mind that, in the inaugural address delivered by Presi-

dent Lincoln in March last, he asserts as an axiom, which he plainly deems to be undeniable, that the theory of the Constitution requires that in all cases the majority shall govern; ...This is the lamentable and fundamental error on which rests the policy that has culminated in his declaration of war against these Confederate States. In addition to the long-continued and deep-seated resentment felt by the Southern States at the persistent abuse of the powers they had delegated to the Congress, for the purpose of enriching the manufacturing and shipping classes of the North at the expense of the South, there has existed for nearly half a century another subject of discord, involving interests of such transcendent magnitude as at all times to create the apprehension in the minds of many devoted lovers of the Union that its permanence was impossible. When the several States delegated certain powers to the United States Congress, a large portion of the laboring population consisted of African slaves imported into the colonies by the mother country. In twelve out of the thirteen States negro slavery existed, and the right of property in slaves was protected by law. This property was recognized in the Constitution, and provision was made against its loss by the escape of the slave. The increase in the number of slaves by further importation from Africa was also secured by a clause forbidding Congress to prohibit the slave trade anterior to a certain date, and in no clause can there be found any delegation of power to the Congress authorizing it in any manner to legislate to the prejudice, detriment, or discouragement of the owners of that species of property, or excluding it from the protection of the Government.

The climate and soil of the Northern States soon proved unpropitious to the continuance of slave labor, whilst the converse was the case at the South. Under the unrestricted free intercourse between the two sections, the Northern States consulted their own interests by selling their slaves to the South and prohibiting slavery within their limits. The South were willing purchasers of property suitable to their wants, and paid the price of the acquisition without harboring a suspicion that their quiet possession was to be disturbed by those who were inhibited not only by want of constitutional authority but by good faith as vendors, from disquieting a title emanating from themselves.

As soon, however, as the Northern States that prohibited African slavery within their limits had reached a number sufficient to give their representation a controlling voice in the Congress, a persistent and organized system of hostile measures against the rights of the owners of slaves in the Southern States was inaugurated and gradually extended. A continuous series of measures was devised and prosecuted for the purpose of rendering insecure the tenure of property in slaves.... Emboldened by success, the theatre of agitation and aggression against the clearly expressed constitutional rights of the Southern States was transferred to the Congress; Senators and Representatives were sent to the common councils of the nation, whose chief title to this distinction consisted in the display of a spirit of ultra-fanaticism, and whose business was not "to promote the general welfare or insure domestic tranquillity," but to awaken the bitterest hatred against the citizens of sister States, by violent denunciation of their institutions; the transaction of public affairs was impeded by repeated efforts to usurp powers not delegated by the Constitution, for the purpose of impairing the security of property in slaves, and reducing those States which held slaves to a condition of inferiority. Finally a great party was organized for the purpose of obtaining the administration of the Government, with the avowed object of using its power for the total exclusion of the slave States from all participation in the benefits of the public domain acquired by all the States in common, whether by conquest or purchase; of surrounding them entirely by States in which slavery should be prohibited; of those rendering the property in slaves so insecure as to be comparatively worthless, and thereby annihilating in effect property worth thousands of millions of dollars. This party, thus organ-

ized, succeeded in the month of November last in the election of its candidate for the Presidency of the United States.

In the meantime, the African slaves had augmented in number from about 600,000, at the date of the adoption of the constitutional compact, to upward of 4,000,000. In moral and social condition they had been elevated from brutal savages into docile, intelligent, civilized agricultural laborers, and supplied not only with bodily comforts but with careful religious instruction. Under the supervision of a superior race their labor had been so directed as not only to allow a gradual and marked amelioration of their own condition, but to convert hundreds of thousands of square miles of the wilderness into cultivated lands covered with a prosperous people; towns and cities had sprung into existence, and had rapidly increased in wealth and population under the social system of the South; the white population of the Southern slaveholding States had augmented from about 1,250,000 at the date of the adoption of the Constitution to more than 8,500,000, in 1860; and the productions in the South of cotton, rice, sugar, and tobacco, for the full development and continuance of which the labor of African slaves was and is indispensable, had swollen to an amount which formed nearly three-fourths of the exports of the whole United States and had become of absolutely necessary to the wants of civilized man. With interests of such overwhelming magnitude imperiled, the people of the Southern States were driven by the conduct of the North to the adoption of some course of action to avert the danger with which they were openly menaced. With this view the Legislatures of the several States invited the people to select delegates to conventions to be held for the purpose of determining for themselves what measures were best adapted to meet so alarming a crisis in their history. Here it may be proper to observe that from a period as early as 1798 there had existed in all of the States of the Union a party almost uninterruptedly in the majority based upon the creed that each State was, in the last resort, the sole judge as well of its wrongs as of the mode and measure of redress. . .

. . . In the exercise of a right so ancient, so well-established, and so necessary for self-preservation, the people of the Confederate States, in their conventions, determined that the wrongs which they had suffered and the evils with which they were menaced required that they should revoke the delegation of powers to the Federal Government which they had ratified in their several conventions. They consequently passed ordinances resuming all their rights as sovereign and independent States and dissolved their connection with the other States of the Union.

Having done this, they proceeded to form a new compact amongst themselves by new articles of confederation, which have been also ratified by the conventions of the several States with an approach to unanimity far exceeding that of the convetions which adopted the Constitution of 1787. They have organized their new Government in all its departments; the functions of the executive, legislative, and judicial magistrates are performed in accordance with the will of the people, as displayed not merely in a cheerful acquiescence, but in the enthusiastic support of the Government thus established by themselves; and but for the interference of the Government of the United States in this legitimate exercise of the right of a people to self-government, peace, happiness, and prosperity would now smile on our land.....

Jefferson Davis

* * * * *

"Sympathizing with you in the troubles that are pressing so heavil upon our beloved country, and entirely agreeing with you in your notion of allegiance. I have been unable to make up my mind to raise my hand against my native State, my relations, my children and my home. I have therefore resigned my Commission in the Army and never desire again to draw my sword save in defense of my state."

Robert E. Lee, 1861



The Great Seal of the Confederate States of America

THE HONORARY SOCIETY OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA

539 Beverly Boulevard • UPPER DARBY, PA.
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Membership Leaflet

The Honorary Society of the Confederate States of America is an organization composed of dedicated students of the War Between the States, and exists for the purpose of distributing, to its members, information which would otherwise be virtually inaccessible. Eligibility for membership calls for a sincere desire, only, to study various phases of this period of our American History, with a special emphasis placed on the Southern aspect.

The Society publishes the *Newsletter* ten times a year. Meetings are not held because most of the members are out-of-state residents, and some are "out-of-country" residents. The library contains over three hundred fifty publications, some books, but mostly booklets, pamphlets, *et cetera*, which are available to the members (free) for a period of one month. Some of these, which are in duplicate, are available for purchase.

Publications other than the *Newsletter* are also put out, the first of which is *Southern Papers*, a collection of the texts of documents pertinent to the secession movement of 1860 and 1861. Further information on this subject can be obtained by inquiry.

The membership fee is three dollars (\$3.00) a year, which is payable before the 15th of February of each year. For those who wish to join after the 30th of June, the fee is half this amount—one dollar and fifty cents (\$1.50).

If you are interested in joining the Society, detach the blank, below, and mail it to the "executive director" with the membership fee.

----- CUT HERE -----

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____ City _____

State & _____ Date of Birth _____
Country _____

To what other Confederate organizations do you belong? _____

Specific interests _____

Can you make any contributions in writing for the Newsletter? _____

John Ashton Cooke: "
The Wedding of the Gray

— " —
"A Dictionary of Battles"
By David Eggenberger.
Norman, N. C. 1967.

McDonald: The History of the
Lancet Brigade - History
with History of the CSA 7-VA
Cov. Regt.

The Ashton Brothers were
killed in the Jackson Com-
pany in Winchester, Va.

Bill Kalls

H: 1-

Rosemar Club
Sec.

"Stables Co."
in the Getty's Bay

Camp 1000

By John Monty