



Rebel Underground

Sons of Confederate Veterans
Major John C. Hutto Camp # 443
Jasper, Alabama

Published Monthly

June 2014



**Major John C. Hutto Camp signs
three new members - John McGraw,
James & Jerry Akins**

Grave Marker Dedication

June Meeting Notice
Sunday, 15 June 2014
3:00 PM

Past Ala. Div. Commander

Leonard Wilson

Grave Marker Dedication



The Old Cold Harbor Tavern, also known as Burnett's Inn. (Library of Congress)

Cold Harbor was neither cold nor accessible by boat—the name is a confluence of Old High German and local branding.

The area of Cold Harbor, Virginia, gets its name from the two Cold Harbor taverns (Old and New), which both stood near the contested crossroads in 1864. In 5th century Germany, the words “heer” and “bergen” meant “army” and “shelter,” respectively. This concept eventually arrived in Middle English as “herber,” meaning a way station or an inn. Today, “harbor” more commonly refers to a seaport or dock, but the term’s more archaic root as a “shelter” can still be found in “harboring a fugitive” or “harboring a grudge,” among others.

The reasoning behind the use of the word “Cold” is less clear, as Cold Harbor is hot and humid landscape for much of the year. Many believe that the adjective was used to describe the Old Cold Harbor Tavern’s amenities, or lack thereof, for it is said that

owner Isaac Burnett only served cold meals, or perhaps no meals at all. Union officers became confused by the Old/New distinction during the battle, and many mistakenly referred to the area as Cool Arbor.

JUNE 1

Union General Ulysses S. Grant issues orders to attack Cold Harbor. If the Union frontal assault broke through the Confederate defenses, it would place the Union army between Lee and Richmond. After a hot and dusty night march, Major General Horatio Wright's VI Corps arrived and relieved Sheridan's cavalry, but Grant had to delay the attack Major General William Smith's XVIII Corps, Army of the James, marching in the wrong direction under out-of-date orders, had to retrace its route and arrived late in the afternoon. The Union attack finally began at 5 p.m. Finding a fifty yard gap between Hoke's and Kershaw's divisions, Wright's veterans

poured through, capturing part of the Confederate lines. A southern counterattack however, sealed off the break and ended the day's fighting. Confederate infantry strengthened their lines that night and waited for the battle to begin next morning.

JUNE 2

Disappointed by the failed attack Grant planned another advance for 5 a.m. on June 2. He ordered Major General Winfield Hancock's II Corps to march to the left of the VI Corps. Exhausted by a brutal night march over narrow, dusty roads, the II Corps did not arrive until 6:30 a.m. Grant postponed the attack until 5 p.m. Later that day, he approved a postponement until 4:30 a.m. of June 3 because of the spent condition of Hancock's men. The Union delays gave Lee precious hours, time he used to strengthen his defenses.

The Confederates had built simple trenches by daybreak of June 2. Under Lee's personal supervision, these works were expanded and strengthened throughout the day. By nightfall the Confederates occupied an interlocking series of trenches with overlapping fields of fire. Reinforcements under Major General John Breckinridge and Lieutenant General Ambrose Hill arrived and fortified the Confederate right.

JUNE 3

At 4:30 on the morning of June 3 almost 50,000 Federal troops in the II, VI and XVIII Corps launched a massive assault.

The Confederate position, now well entrenched, proved too strong for the Union troops. In less than an hour, thousands of Federal soldiers lay dead and dying between the lines. Pinned down by a tremendous volume of Confederate infantry and artillery fire, Grant's men could neither advance nor retreat. With cups, plates, and bayonets, they dug makeshift trenches. Later, when darkness fell, these trenches were joined and improved.

JUNE 4-12

The great attack at Cold Harbor was over. Hundreds of wounded Federal soldiers remained on the battlefield for four days as Grant and Lee negotiated a cease-fire. Few survived the ordeal.

From June 4 to June 12 both armies fortified their positions and settled into siege warfare. The days were filled with minor attacks, artillery duels and sniping. With the Union defeat at Cold Harbor, Grant changed his overall strategy and abandoned further direct moves against Richmond. On the night of June 12 Union forces withdrew and marched south towards the James River. During the two week period along the Totopotomoy and at Cold Harbor, the Federal army lost 12,000 killed, wounded, missing and captured while the Confederates suffered almost 4,000 casualties.

**Edward Porter Alexander CSA
Brigadier General
May 26, 1835 - April 28, 1910**



Edward
Porter
Alexander
(Library of
Congress)

Edward
Porter
Alexander
was one of
only three
Confederate
officers to
rise to the

rank of general in the artillery branch. Respected by some of the Confederacy's most important commanders, Alexander would participate in nearly every major campaign in the eastern theater, contributing substantially to the army's greatest successes.

Born in Washington, Georgia to Leopold and Sarah Gilbert Alexander, the future artillerist entered West Point during Robert E. Lee's tenure as the academy's superintendent. Alexander graduated third of thirty-eight cadets in the class of 1857 and immediately accepted a commission as an engineer, a coveted position at that time. His early assignments included teaching at West Point, weapons experiments, and, most notably, devising a flag signal system for the U.S. Army—a system that would

later be used by both Union and Confederate forces in the coming war.

In 1861, upon learning of his home state's secession, Alexander resigned from the Federal army and accepted a commission as Captain of Confederate engineers. While organizing and training the new Confederate signal service, Alexander was ordered to report to General P.G.T. Beauregard and would serve as a signal officer in the First Battle of Manassas.

That fall, Alexander was transferred to the Army of Northern Virginia, the army with which he would be associated for the remainder of the war. He served as acting artillery chief under General Joseph E. Johnston and, in 1862, as chief of ordinance under Gen. Lee. Alexander would gain a solid reputation for his skill, bravery, and his keen eye for intelligence through the Peninsula Campaign and the Seven Days' battles that followed.

During the battle of Gaines' Mill in June of 1862, Alexander ascended in a hot air balloon, providing Lee with vital information on General McClellan's troop positions. Alexander would continue as chief of ordinance during the Second Battle of Manassas and the Battle of Antietam.

In November of 1862, Alexander was promoted to colonel and in December was given command of his own artillery battalion in General James Longstreet's First Corps. At the Battle of Fredericksburg Alexander was responsible for placing the

Confederate Artillery on Marye's Heights.

When asked by his superiors for an assessment of his dispositions, Alexander surmised that "a chicken could not live on that field when we open on it." Alexander's belief proved to be accurate. In what is considered by most to have been the most lop-sided Confederate victory of the entire War, Alexander's guns were instrumental in blunting the Yankee assault.

By the summer of 1863, Alexander's reputation in the Army of Northern Virginia was unquestioned and it is likely for this reason that the young colonel played such a pivotal role in the Battle of Gettysburg. Commanding the reserve artillery for Longstreet's corps, Alexander's guns lent support to Confederate assaults on July 2.

On July 3, Alexander was assigned to command the Confederate artillery barrage that cleared the way for Pickett's Charge. General Longstreet, whose doubts about the success of the charge would become legendary, placed upon Alexander the additional responsibility of telling Major General George Pickett when to commence the attack. When Federal fire had slackened, Alexander reluctantly sent word to Pickett to begin the charge.

Alexander served with distinction for the duration of the war, ultimately becoming First Corps chief of Artillery. In February of 1864 he was promoted to brigadier general and in June saw action during the Battle of Cold Harbor. During the siege of

Petersburg, General Alexander suspected that the Yankees were tunneling underneath the Confederate lines, a suspicion that would later be confirmed.

After the war, Alexander served briefly as a professor of engineering before moving on to other business ventures, including one in the railroad industry. Like many veterans, he wrote about his wartime experience. His memoir is considered one of the best analyses of the Army of Northern Virginia. Edward Porter Alexander died in Savannah, Georgia in 1910.

Reuben Franklin Sumner



Photo from AL Dept Archives Civil War website, provided courtesy of Mike Mears. Go there to see names of identified men in photo: We believe Reuben F Sumner is in the 1st Row, seated 4th from left, with dark

hair & mustache, holding umbrella.

Rueben Franklin Sumner, post office, Gayoso, Alabama, was born Nov. 20, 1845, at Ball Ground in Cherokee County, Georgia. He entered service as a private on March 28, 1862, West from Walker County to Shelby Alabama in Company E (Capt. Hugh Lollar) 28 Alabama Infantry continued until captured at Missionary Ridge, Chattanooga, TN and carried to Rock Island Prison and held till March 12, 1865. Was carried to Richmond, VA. Paroled. Discharged.

After the war, he married Rita Courington, daughter of James M. Courington, CSA. Their children: Jim, Lafayette, Charlie, Sam, Callie, Frank, Yerby. After the war he became Justice of the Peace. For many years he was Church Clerk at Providence Baptist Church. He was elected to the Board of Revenue for 4 years, on the Democratic ticket. He defeated Howell Gray on Republican ticket. He performed the marriage of John Rece Courington and Sara Tilda Waid at the residence of James H. Waid. He was bailiff at the Court House.

Reuben Franklin Sumner was a member of the original Hutto Camp, and wrote this letter to the Camp before his death.

"To the comrades of Camp Hutto of Walker County Alabama:

I wish to submit a short sketch of my Solder life during the Civil war Between the States.

First I volunteered to do Service in the Confederate Army in March 1862, at the age of 16 years. Went to Shelby Springs in Shelby County Ala. From there to Corinth Miss. just after the famous Battle of Shiloh, was in a skirmish fight near Corinth, Next was at Mumfordsville, Ky. where we captured 4500 yanks.

Next fight I was in was at Murfreesboro, Tenn. 30th and 31st of Dec. 1862 where I was wounded and sent to hospital at Atlanta, Ga. I reported to my Co. for duty in April, 1863. Next fight I participated in was Chickmouga, Ga. on Sept. 19th and 20th 63.

After the Army had moved to Missionary Ridge the Companies in our Regiment (28th Ala.) taken a vote to ascertain what Soldier exercised the Coolest bravery in the battle at Chickmouga, and our Co. voted the honors to me. Next fight was at Missionary ridge where I shot my last shot at the yanks, I was taken prisoner there an carried to Rock Island Ill. where I Staid until the 25th of Feb. 1865.

Arrived at home 28th March 1865. Was gone from home just 3 years and 3 days. Signed R. F. Sumner Co. C, 28th Ala. Vol."

Reuben Sumner Hid His Gun



Velma Sumner Battle of Lawrenceburg, TN told me this a couple of years before she passed away.

Velma remembered her grandpa telling that when he and a comrade saw that they were fixing to be taken prisoners by Union soldiers on Missionary Ridge, they hid their guns in a ditch and covered them with leaves, etc. to keep the Yanks from getting them.

Velma said that after the War, her grandpa, Reuben F Sumner, always went to the Veterans' Reunions. One year the reunion was in Chattanooga...so he and some buddies went back to Missionary Ridge to

look for his gun...unsuccessfully, since the area had changed over the years.

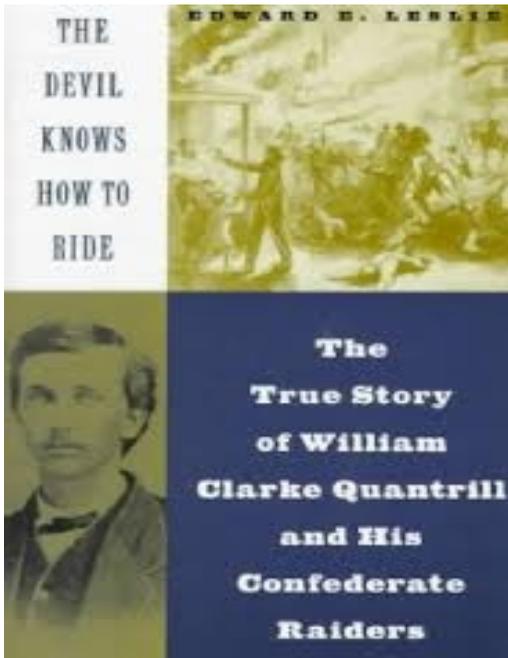
R.F. Sumner's great-granddaughter, Sheila



Confederate Cemetery - Higginsville, Mo.

A famous Confederate Cemetery sits on land that was once the Confederate Home for veterans of the War for Southern Independence. It's now a Missouri State Park.

There are around 800 soldiers, wives and their children buried in this cemetery. The most famous person buried here is William Clarke Quantrill, who is known as the man that burned Lawrence Kansas. As always, there is more to his story.



Quantrill died June 6, 1865 in Kentucky where he was wounded during a Union ambush. He was only 27 years old when he was buried in Kentucky. In 1887, his mother had his body dug up and moved to his family home town of Dover, Ohio. During this move, some of his bones were stolen and ended up in a private collection in Kansas.

William Clarke Quantrill's third final resting place was the cemetery in Higginsville. On Oct. 24, 1992, his stolen bones were buried here with full Confederate honors by the Missouri Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans. He now has a grave marker in Louisville, Ky., Dover, Ohio and Higginsville.

The Sons of Confederate Veterans is boosting its efforts to fly the rebel flag over the cemetery at the Confederate Memorial Historic Site in Higginsville by reaching out to state lawmakers from the area.

Darrell Maples, the group's state commander, said he and a few other members met with three state representatives at the cemetery this weekend to tell them about the organization and explain why they want the flag to fly over the graves of deceased Confederate soldiers.

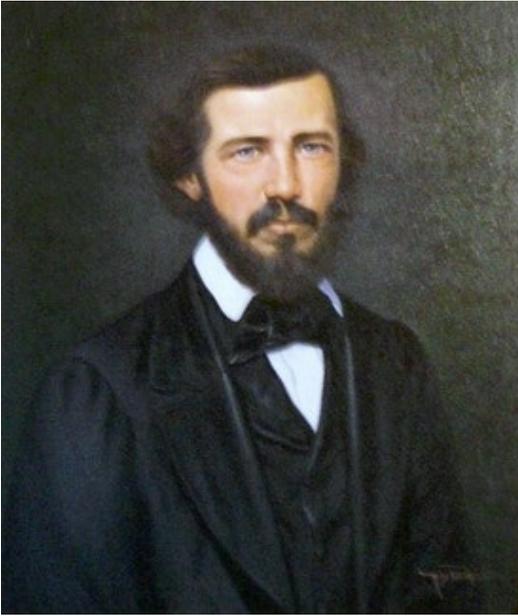
"They are Confederate veterans," Maples said of those buried in the cemetery. "They are representatives of all 13 Confederate states. They fought under that flag, and we think it should be put back up in honor of that."

In January 2003, Democratic Gov. Bob Holden's administration ordered the rebel flag to come down from the Higginsville site after Missouri Democrat Dick Gephardt, while seeking the Democratic presidential nomination, said the battle flag should not be flown anywhere.

Two years later Republican Gov. Matt Blunt ordered the flag to fly on Confederate Memorial Day on June 7 and said he would support a review of whether the flag should fly regularly. There has been little discussion of the issue since then.

A spokesman for Democratic Gov. Jay Nixon said Nixon sees no reason to depart from current practice.

Moncure Daniel Conway - Southern Abolitionist from Virginia



Moncure Daniel Conway was born on March 17, 1832, in Virginia, the son of county magistrate Walker Conway, whose relatives included the families of former United States presidents James Madison and George Washington. His mother, Margaret Stone Daniel, was the granddaughter of Thomas Stone, Maryland signatory of the Declaration of Independence. An uncle, Judge Eustace Conway, served as an important states' rights advocate in the Virginia General Assembly. His great uncle, Peter Vivian Daniel, was an associate justice of the Supreme Court of the United States.

In 1851, Conway entered the Methodist ministry as a circuit rider preacher in Maryland. Beginning about 1852, Conway began to move toward Unitarianism and abolition. His father and his uncle Eustace Conway, threatened to have him drummed out of town. His transition away from southern culture also coincided with his discovery of the writings of Ralph Waldo Emerson, and the pacifist teachings of the Quakers. His new politics led him in 1853 to what was then the national hotbed of reform, eastern Massachusetts, including Boston, Concord, and Cambridge. There he cultivated an important relationship with Emerson and, in 1854, earned a BD from Harvard Divinity School.

In 1855 Conway was ordained a minister of the prestigious First Unitarian Church in Washington, D.C. There he delivered sermons so fervently anti-slavery that he was dismissed in 1856. Later the same year he became minister of the First Unitarian Church of Cincinnati, Ohio, and in 1858 wed Ellen Davis Dana.

Conway gradually abandoned Unitarianism for free thought. When he told his congregation in 1859 that he no longer believed in miracles or Christ's divinity, a third of its members promptly left. Conway's new "Free Church" survived, however, burnishing his reputation as a noteworthy young intellectual. He traveled the North lecturing on free thinking and abolition and in 1860 founded the Dial, a short-lived literary and journalistic monthly that reflected Conway's own brand of

apostasy. He also cultivated friendships with literati and reformers, including the writer Henry David Thoreau, the abolitionist Wendell Philips, the radical Unitarian minister Theodore Parker, Massachusetts's anti-slavery senator Charles Sumner, New York Tribune editor Horace Greeley, and Julia Ward Howe, future author of "The Battle Hymn of the Republic."

The following year Conway delivered the seventh in the Smithsonian Abolition Lecture series aimed at pressuring the administration of U.S. president Abraham Lincoln to adopt the emancipation of slaves as the war's objective. Conway's lecture even helped win him, along with moderate Unitarian minister William Henry Channing, a meeting with Lincoln. In *The Golden Hour* (1862), another book-length plea for emancipation, Conway often addressing Lincoln directly, and argued that abolition would cripple the Confederate war effort and hasten peace.

Late in July 1862, Conway helped thirty-one of his father's slaves escape to Yellow Springs, Ohio where he set up a Negro colony that became known as the Conway Colony. Apparently Conway was a segregationist, and didn't want the Negroes living next to him.

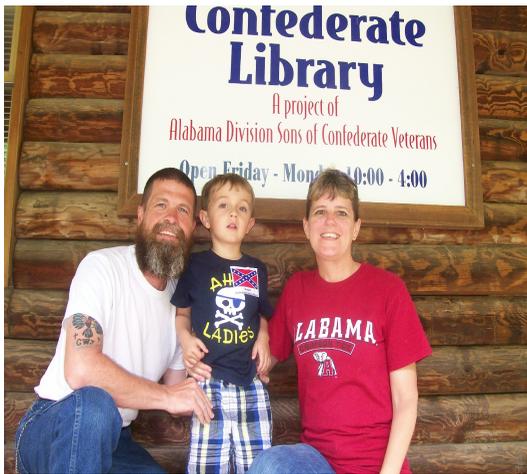
Conway's father effectively disowned him for his radical views. While his two younger brothers fought for the South, his mother and sister were less sympathetic with the Confederacy and spent most of the war in Easton, Pennsylvania, where Conway's

brother-in-law taught at Lafayette College. Conway himself moved from Cincinnati to Concord, Massachusetts, in September 1862, and was hired as co-editor of the new anti-slavery weekly, *Commonwealth*. (The other editor was Franklin Sanborn, a New Hampshire-born journalist and reformer who had been a member of the "Secret Six," a committee that helped to fund John Brown's raid on Harpers Ferry in 1859.)

Membership Dues

Membership dues are due on AUGUST 1st and after the three month grace period ending October 31, 2014, there will be a \$2.50 reinstatement fee along with the \$10 Division Dues. Also, there will be a \$5.00 reinstatement fee along with the \$30 National Dues.

Delinquent and past due membership dues create several problems and extra work on Camp, Division & National Adjutants. Please help us keep the delinquent dues to a minimum by renewing before Oct. 31, 2014.



Mike Rhoden and family from SCV Lloyd Tilghman Camp 1495, Paducah Kentucky



Rifle Brigade at Captain Benjamin Long's House Dedication 18 May 2104



Alabama Division Reunion 2014 Kicks Off



Rifle Company swearing in ceremony



Alabama Secedes

HUTTO CAMP OFFICERS

Commander	James Blackston
1 st Lt. Cmd.	John Tubbs
2nd Lt. Cmd.	Brandon Prescott
Adjutant	Trent Harris
Chaplain	Barry Cook
Editor	James Blackston

Ask any member of the Hutto Camp to learn more about the Sons of Confederate Veterans

Website:

www.huttocamp.com

Email: fair@huttocamp.com



Captain B. M. Long & Officers prepare for Battle

The *Rebel Underground*, is the official monthly publication of the Major John C. Hutto Camp #443. All readers are invited to submit articles. Articles published are not necessarily the views or opinions of the Executive Board or the Editor.

The *Rebel Underground* is dedicated to bringing our readers the very best in coverage of important news concerning Confederate History and Southern Heritage. It has been that way for many years. We are not ashamed of our Confederate History and Southern Heritage. We dare to defend our rights.