



# Patriots Periodical

Upshur County Patriots, Camp #2109  
Sons of Confederate Veterans  
Gilmer, Texas

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## COMMANDER'S CORNER

by Eddie "Spook" Pricer



This month's Commander's Corner deals with the definition of strength and its importance to the Sons of Confederate Veterans. Before I start, though, I want to thank those that are utilizing our Web Site and researching and submitting articles for the Patriots Periodical Newsletter. It is great to have the Associate Editor telling you that we may have to carry some articles or portions of articles over into upcoming issues in an effort to keep our newsletter a reasonable and enjoyable size. Thanks to everyone and keep the articles coming.

### Strength

Merriam Webster's Collegiate Dictionary describes strength as (1) the quality or state of being strong, (2) the capacity for exertion or endurance, (3) the power to resist force, or (4) a legal, logical or moral force.

What does strength have to do with the Sons of Confederate Veterans? You only have to look around the world today at current events and the evidence is before your eyes in stark reality. Some examples are readily identifiable while some need a bit more inspection and others careful examination. Nonetheless, these illustrations of strength are there and we should use them to our advantage.

Let us take each section of the definition and review how strength can and will impact the Sons of Confederate Veterans. How do we quantify the quality or state of being strong? Numbers, physical numbers! Look at the various protests that you observe. You see one, two, a handful of people with signs and you're lucky to read about it in a small paper. Rarely does it make the local news much less the national media. However, recent

protests occurring in the Midwest with hundreds upon hundreds of protesters received all sorts of media coverage. A numerical advantage depicts strength, whether real or imagined. Watch the elected and appointed national figures. When do they take action? They react when the public cries out in large numbers or when they think that outcry will be forthcoming. Unfortunately, in today's modern era it is all too often numbers that matter, not substance.

The capacity for exertion or endurance can also be expressed through numbers as well as other avenues. If you examine a 5 gallon bucket and a 10,000 gallon tank filled with water, which one will benefit your garden the most? If you match a four person track relay team against a single runner in a 15,000 meter race, which will win and how soon will they be able to race again? Being physically fit is key, but when you increase the number, you increase the ability for exertion and endurance. Exertion means, bring to bear. In other words in the case of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, identifying an issue or task, formulating a plan, and successfully implementing that plan in a manner that will have a lasting effect. Endurance means quite succinctly, staying power. Will we be persistent and withstand the rigors of ignorance of the true history and attacks on our heritage?

The power to resist force is just that. What power do we possess to resist the politically correct police or the harshness of reconstruction policies that still exist today? Take the application of imminent domain when properly used for the benefit of the citizenry, such as the building of a highway, it is still difficult on those who are subject to the process and its deprivations. When misused, whether by intent or by error, its effects are devastating. One's only hope to resist such force is through strength in numbers, strength in position, strength in wealth,

or strength in skill.

The last measure of strength resides in our ability to provide a legal, logical, and/or moral force to respond to those who postulate to this day the notion of Northern superiority and that the War of Northern Aggression was fought solely to rid the nation of slavery. One need only read Abraham Lincoln's own words in the Emancipation Proclamation to realize the folly of the above posit. This strength, arising from a legal, logical, and/or moral force, is attained often from the writings of the participants of this period and our ability to locate, memorize, and utilize those facts.

We must aggressively study the history, leaving no stone unturned. We must pinpoint our weaknesses. We must place those most suited in positions to respond when confronted with distortions and lies. Those that speak well, must speak, those that write well, must write, those that research well, must research. Above all we must be proactive as well as reactive and present a unified, cohesive, and knowledgeable perusal of the facts.

If we plan our teachings and our responses following the definition of strength, we will prevail in ensuring that the True History of the South is known.

## UPSHURPATRIOTS.ORG

This month the following changes have been made to our web site: <http://www.upshurpatriots.org>

- I've added some new Biographies to our Camp Roster, but I would eventually like to add a bio for each member's ancestor hero so send yours in now!
- I've updated a few pictures of headstones on our Guardians Page, if yours doesn't have a flag in it then I'd like to replace it.

- I added pictures from the Southern Cross Marker Dedication and Memorial Service on September 6, 2014.

If you have any suggestions, recommendations or comments you can send me an email to: [Joe.Reynolds@upshurpatriots.org](mailto:Joe.Reynolds@upshurpatriots.org) and I promise to give it my full consideration.

### *Our Charge...*

**"To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we submit the vindication of the Cause for which we fought; to your strength will be given the defense of the Confederate soldier's good name, the guardianship of his history, the emulation of his virtues, the perpetuation of those principles he loved and which made him glorious and which you also cherish. Remember, it is your duty to see that the true history of the South is presented to future generations!"**

## SCOTTSVILLE CEMETERY

*By David Palmer*

I wrote a short article for the September edition that briefly told of one of my ancestors and of the significant architecture in the Scottsville Cemetery. On August 26<sup>th</sup>, George Linton, Phil Davis, Eddie Pricer and I visited the cemetery late that afternoon.

It was an overcast day with a light breeze when we entered the quiet and well-kept cemetery. Upon entering the drive, we were met with a large obelisk monument dedicated to the approximately 30 Confederate Heroes whose final resting place is in the Scottsville Cemetery. While there, we placed a

Southern Cross of Honor on the grave of Francis Marion Scott.

I have many ancestors in this cemetery, several of which served the Confederation States of America in various army units. One, Dr. W.F. Baldwin, was a surgeon in Company A, Texas 14<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment. As I came into the Sons of Confederate Veterans under this hero, Francis Marion Scott, I chose to honor him first with the Southern Cross of Honor.

After a few minutes of reflection and a salute, we looked at the impressively stunning monuments while surrounded by a host of Confederate Flags waving in the gentle breeze. It was an inspiring moment that was enjoyed by all.

Upon leaving the cemetery, the group headed a few miles west to the City of Marshall, Texas. There we attended the monthly meeting of the W.W. Heartsill Camp # 2042 commanded by Frank Crisp. The presentation that night was on the Colfax Courthouse Massacre and was given by Commander Tommy Holmes of the General Horace Randal Camp # 1533 from Carthage, Texas.

We had a great time and look forward to many more such outings. It's amazing how much history is out there and available for the price of a few gallons of gasoline and a few minutes of time.

century. While the battle is fictional, Fort Crawford was a real fort constructed by H.C. Crawford in 1839 to protect new settlers coming to Texas. The battle is based on what could have happened if Union's Red River Campaign had been successful and moved through East Texas.

This annual 3-day event is in its sixth year and takes place every October near Hallsville in Northeast Texas. Around 600 reenactors from across the country participated in the 2013 event.

Friday's "School Day" offers special exhibits and demonstrations for kids. Saturday and Sunday both center around the main battles. Other events vary by year; check out our schedule and more at:

<http://battleoffortcrawford.com/>

### **Lone Star Color Guard and OCR**

#### **Appreciation Party**

#### **Johnsons Creek, Lake of the Pines**

**October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2014:**

Party will start at 10 am till---? The meat is taken care of, so we need to bring a side dish. We will need, Tea, bread, chips, vegetable dish, salad, and desserts.

### **Grave Dedication for**

#### **Lt. Rowan Cornelius Curtright**

#### **Floyd Hill Cemetery, Cass County, TX**

**October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2014**

**Muster 11:00**

**Lunch to follow**

Driving directions to Floyd Hill Cemetery: From Linden, TX at the junction of Hwy 155 and 8, take

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## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **Battle of Fort Crawford – Civil War Weekend**

**Hallsville, Texas**

**October 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>, 2014:**

The Battle of Fort Crawford Civil War Reenactment and Gum Springs Heritage Festival are dedicated to the education of the American people about life in these United States in the middle of the 19th

Hwy 8 North approximately 8.7 miles to the Red Hill community. There you will turn left (West) onto FM 995 and go 2.6 miles to County Road 2345. State Hwy sign on left side of 995 indicates Floyd Hill Cemetery. CR 2345 is a dirt road, proceed on this road 2.6 miles and cemetery will be on the left.

From Douglassville, TX at the intersection of Hwy 77 and 8, take 8 south 4.8 miles to the Red Hill community, there you will turn right (West) onto FM 995 and go 2.6 miles to CR 2345.

From Atlanta, TX turn off Hwy 59 onto Hwy 77 West and go 1/4 mile and turn left onto FM 995 (O'Farrell Hwy at the entrance to Indian Hills Country Club) and go approximately 11 miles to Red Hill community. In Red Hill at the intersection of FM 995 and Hwy 8 proceed straight on 995 to CR 2345.

GPS coordinates Lat 33.14504 Lng -94.43994

### **Yamboree Parade**

**Gilmer, TX.**

**October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2014**

**Muster 8:30am-9:00am**

Muster somewhere around Gilmer National Bank on Hwy 271 north. Parade starts at 10am.

### **Grave Memorial**

**Old Coffeerville Cemetery on Hwy 155.**

### **Muster 10:00am and service starts 11:00am October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2014**

Grave Memorial at Old Coffeerville Cemetery on Hwy 155. Relative of Ottor Hass.

Directions: From Gilmer take Hwy 155 north toward Ore City. Cemetery on left before you reach intersection Hwy 259. Very small cemetery by the Hwy.

## **NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday, October 7, 7 p.m. refreshments at 6:30  
Walking S Steakhouse  
Hwy 852, Gilmer, Texas

### **Submission Policy for Articles and Letters to the Editor**

The Patriot's Periodical is published monthly as a service to our members and those that love history and learning the True History of the South. The Patriot's Periodical newsletter is governed by an editorial board. The Editorial Board consists of the Editor, Associate Editor, and Camp Commander.

Articles, photographs, or any other media content printed in the Patriot's Periodical may not be reproduced, reprinted, or published in whole or in part without the consent of either the Editor, Associate Editor, or Camp Commander. All submissions must have the author's name, address, and phone number. Absolutely, no anonymous submissions will be considered for printing.

Articles pertaining to historical or current events that are fact based such as the reporting of member activities, dedications, etc., may be printed without

a byline. These articles may be submitted via e-mail.

Opinion / Editorial (Op-Ed) articles will publish the submitters name and town. The opinions stated in Op-Ed articles and printed in the Patriot's Periodical are those of the individual writer and not necessarily the opinion of the non-profit Upshur County Patriots Camp # 2109, Camp Officers, or the Editorial Board. These articles may be submitted via e-mail, however if approved for publication a signed copy must be submitted. These may be hand delivered, mailed, or scanned and e-mailed as an attachment.

The Editorial Board reserves the right to refuse to print any submission for any reason that it deems may not represent the best interests of the Sons of Confederate Veterans or the Upshur County Patriots Camp # 2109. Under no circumstances will any opinion based submission be printed no matter how well written or germane the topic, if it contains personal attacks.

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“Nothing fills me with deeper sadness than to see a Southern man apologizing for the defense we made of our inheritance. Our cause was so just, so sacred, that had I known all that has come to pass, had I known what was to be inflicted upon me, all that my country was to suffer, all that our posterity was to endure, I would do it all over again.”

*President Jefferson Davis, C.S.A.*

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### September Meeting Awards

At the September meeting of the Upshur County Patriots awards were presented to two members. George Linton was promoted to full guardian status on three Confederate Heroes, Private Blanton L. Denton Co. C, 22<sup>nd</sup> Texas Infantry, Private James C. Denton Co. A, 1<sup>st</sup> Texas Mounted Rifles, and Private Jeremiah A. Denton Co. A, 1<sup>st</sup> Texas

Mounted Rifles and was presented with certificates to acknowledge his efforts to protect and honor the final resting place of these soldiers. Tommy Orms was awarded the Silver Cross for exemplary service to the Texas Division.




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### Program on Sam Davis and Sam Davis Youth Camp

At the September meeting of the Upshur County Patriots one of our youngest members, Joseph Moss, presented a program on the Confederate Spy, Sam Davis. Joseph provided detail on his exploits up to and including his execution by Northern Forces. Of particular interest was information on the numerous attempts by his captures to procure

the names of his superiors and his contacts. Knowing he was faced with certain death, Sam Davis refused to divulge those names and was ultimately executed. His steadfast courage earned him the respect of many Union Troops who paid him and his remains a high degree of honor and tribute.

Joseph also discussed his recent trip to the Sam Davis Youth Camp and discussed the various activities he participated in with other young people. He pointed out the professional and nurturing attitude of the Camp Staff. Joseph was quite impressed with the historical studies and how much new information he learned while at the Sam Davis Youth Camp. He again thanked the members of the Patriot Rose Chapter #45 and the Upshur County Patriots for sponsoring his trip to camp.



## The Continental Congress

Sep 2014

Delegates, appointed by the “*Several Colonies and Provinces*”, met in Philadelphia at Carpenter’s Hall. What was their first order of business?

Monday “*The Congress proceeded to the choice of a President... [and] Secretary. The gentlemen from the several Colonies produced their respective*

*credentials, which were read and approved”*  
[Journals of Congress](#), September 5, 1774

Tuesday “*Resolved, That in determining questions in this Congress, each Colony or Province shall have one Vote... Resolved, That no person shall speak more than twice on the same point... Resolved, That the Revd. Mr. Duché be desired to open the Congress tomorrow morning with prayers...*” [Journals of Congress](#), September 6, 1774

Wednesday “*Agreeable to the resolve of yesterday, the meeting was opened with prayers by the Revd. Mr. Duché.*” [Journals of Congress](#), September 7, 1774

*“O Lord our Heavenly Father, high and mighty King of kings, and Lord of lords... look down in mercy, we beseech Thee, on these our American States, who have fled to Thee from the rod of the oppressor and thrown themselves on Thy gracious protection, desiring to be henceforth dependent only on Thee...*

*Be Thou present, O God of wisdom, and direct the councils of this honorable assembly; enable them to settle things on the best and surest foundation. That the scene of blood may be speedily closed; that order, harmony and peace may be effectually restored, and truth and justice, religion and piety, prevail and flourish among the people... Amen.”* [Rev. Jacob Duché](#), First Prayer of Continental Congress, Sep 7, 1774

James Still, [JamesStill@RetraceOurSteps.com](mailto:JamesStill@RetraceOurSteps.com)

*“Voted, That the Thanks of the Congress be given to Mr. Duché... for performing divine Service, and for the excellent prayer, which he composed and delivered on the occasion.”*

[Journals of Congress](#), September 7, 1774  
-- *"I must confess I never heard a better Prayer... for America, for the Congress, for the Province of Massachusetts Bay, and especially the town of Boston. It has had an excellent effect upon everybody here."* **John Adams**, Letter to Abigail Adams, September 16, 1774

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### **United Daughters of the Confederacy Gertrude Curtright Chapter # 1034**

Members of the Upshur County Patriots Camp # 2109 and the Emma Sansom Chapter # 2701 from Upshur County attended the Re-Chartering Ceremony of the Gertrude Curtright Chapter # 1034 on Saturday August 16, 2014. The ceremony was held at the First Baptist Church in Atlanta, Texas.

Also in attendance were members of the Captain James P. Douglas Camp of Tyler, the Red Diamond Camp of Texarkana, and the General John Gregg Camp and Walter P. Lane Camp, both of Longview. The Red Diamond Camp provided the Color Guard.

President of the Texas Division of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, Betty Petruska, made the presentation of the Charter, Certificates, and the installation of Officers. Special comments were made by Sons of Confederate Veterans Division Commander Johnnie Holley.

Nancy Allday, the great granddaughter of Gertrude Curtright, made the keynote presentation detailing the life of Gertrude Curtright and her efforts to preserve Dixie and the True History of the South.

Refreshments were served after the completion of the re-chartering ceremony. We met and made new friends, visited with old friends and had pleasant afternoon supporting the united Daughters of the Confederacy.

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### **A FEW REMARKS ON HEROISM**

*by Clifton Palmer McLendon*

The more I think about it, every Confederate -- no matter how obscure -- was a hero.

Here we were. Our country had been invaded by a mighty nation. We were outnumbered. The enemy was better-fed, better-equipped, better-paid, and largely better-trained. While we fought with decorum, they made war as bloody a business as possible both on our soldiers and our civilians. They made such a business out of atrocities that I am surprised that they didn't roast us and eat us.

Against these overwhelming odds, our men -- young and old -- rose to the challenge. We did everything we could to tell the enemy "Go home and leave us alone." We endured poor food, very little food, and often no food at all. We drank whatever water was available, with predictable results. We endured sickness. We took our pay, when there was pay to be had, in largely worthless paper. We often fought barefooted and in rags. We endured all these hardships and more, and we soldiered on.

In the end, the enemy had their way with us -- but it cost them 300,000 dead, thousands of wounded and maimed, and several billion dollars in the days when a dollar was worth more than the paper it was printed upon.

It has been said of some leaders "If he called for volunteers to charge the gates of Hell armed with wet mops, I would follow him." Given the lopsided odds we faced, we *did* charge the gates of Hell armed with wet mops, and we threw Pandemonium into pandemonium. Although we never managed to tie a knot in Satan's tail, we gave it such a twisting that he screamed loud and long.

Consider the story of David and Goliath with a different ending. David slings the stone and catches Goliath in the eye. Goliath casts his spear and skewers David, then hacks him in two with his sword. David lies dead, and Goliath goes staggering

back to the Philistine camp screaming, with blood gushing forth from his useless eye-socket.

I say David is no less a hero with that ending than he is with the actual ending as recorded in the seventeenth chapter of First Samuel. The moment he faced Goliath, with everyone else hanging back, he cemented his claim to the title.

Even so, our ancestors' brave stand made them heroes.

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## *Our Honored Ancestors*

**William Thomas Linton  
Private  
Company I, 15th Alabama Infantry  
(Quitman Guards)**



William Thomas Linton, the seventh child and third son of William "Buck" and Clarissa Seagers Linton was born on January 31, 1836 in Pike County, Alabama.

On July 3, 1861 in Troy, Alabama, William T. Linton answered the call to defend his country. He enlisted as a Private in Company "I", 15th Alabama Infantry (Quitman Guards). William T. and his younger brother George Washington Linton, enlisted at the same time and were in the same unit. His older brother Aaron Ellis Linton enlisted as a Private in Company "C" 60th Alabama Infantry.

William T. was engaged in the Battle of Winchester, May 25, 1862. He was severely wounded at Cross Keys, Virginia, June 9, 1862 and was shot in the left knee with a Minnie ball and two buck shots in the left hip. At Chickamauga, he was wounded in the left shoulder. He was absent, wounded and was assigned to hospital duty at Stanton, Virginia by orders of General Lee. After he was released from hospital duty, he was engaged in the Battle of Suffolk, May 3, 1863 and Gettysburg July 2, 1863 at Little Round Top with the 15th.

William T. was captured by the hands of the enemy at Knoxville, Tennessee, November 25, 1863 in which he was sent to three Union Prison Camps, Louisville, Kentucky, Champ Chase, Columbus Ohio and Rock Island, Illinois. He was released on Oath of Allegiance June 18, 1865 and he was described as having a fresh complexion, dark brown hair, blue eyes and his height was 5'11" and age 28 years old.

All three brothers survived the war, with all being wounded.

After the war, William T. went back to Pike County, Alabama and married my Great Grandmother, Mary R. Dukes July 10, 1866 and about 1872 they came to Rusk County, Texas. They reared nine children including my Grandfather, George Washington "Jack" Linton, who was the youngest son.

I remember hearing my dad talk about his grandpa William T. and how he didn't like Yankees and how he wouldn't take paper money. It had to be either gold or silver. He didn't trust banks, so he carried his money with him in a fruit jar and he would bury it, but would tell someone that he could trust where the jar of money was. The reason behind this is William T. was widowed and he would go and stay awhile with each of his children. If he happened to die, the money that he took with him would be enough to bury him. Dad also would tell how his Grandpa, while in the war, would crack the dead horse bones and eat the inside to survive.

William Thomas Linton died January 11, 1920 in the home of his son and my Grandfather, George Washington "Jack" Linton. He is buried in Martin Cemetery, Rusk County, Texas.

Besides being shot, captured, poor rations, foul drinking water and sickness, William T. endured all and gave all for what he believed in.

On October 8, 2011 Private William Thomas Linton was honored with a Southern Cross Ceremony at Martin Cemetery, Rusk County, Texas.

I am richly blessed and honored to be the Great Grandson of William Thomas Linton.

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“Captain, my religious belief teaches me to feel as safe in battle as in bed. God has fixed the time for my death. I do not concern myself about that, but to be always ready, no matter when it may overtake me. That is the way all men should live, and then all would be equally brave.”

*Thomas Jonathan “Stonewall” Jackson*

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## CALIFORNIA STATE SENATOR STEVE KNIGHT

*By Mack McLendon*

California State Senator Steve Knight voted AGAINST the recent Confederate Battle Flag ban.

I tried to thank him by e-mail, but his e-mail page only accepts e-mails from people in his district.

Here is his postal address, and his telephone numbers.

Let's thank him!

State Senator Steve Knight  
State Capitol, Room 5082  
Sacramento, California 95814  
Phone: (916) 651-4021  
Fax: (916) 651-4921

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## THE GUARDIAN

*By Phil Davis*

For this month's Guardian article, I want to give you a little information about some of the things we did recently. Commander Pricer, George Linton, David Palmer and I went to Scottsville Cemetery to install a Southern Cross of Honor on David's ancestor's grave. This was Francis Marion Scott whom David has taken Guardianship for.

It was very moving, as Scottsville Cemetery is an old but well kept and beautiful place of rest. As you enter the gate there is a tall monument with a Confederate Soldier atop it. All thru the cemetery are beautiful monuments and headstones. I believe there are thirty some odd Confederates buried there.

To our surprise there were 1<sup>st</sup> National flags flying on them. We don't know who placed them, but God Bless them. There is a beautiful Chapel where funerals can be held. I believe David said that his Grandmother's funeral was held there. It was a very inspiring outing for the four of us. (There is more on Scottsville Cemetery in this newsletter)

After we left Scottsville Cemetery we ventured into Marshall for the W .W. Heartsill Camp meeting. They meet at Juicy's Hamburgers so we all had a very nice meal. Compatriot Tommy Holmes from the Carthage Camp delivered the program. It was on the reconstruction period after the war and the Colfax Courthouse Massacre. It was a very interesting program with many details.

Since I was not the program I used about ten minutes talking about the Guardian Program. (I guess most of you suspected that). If I have a point in all of this, I guess it would be that there are several cemeteries in and around Marshall with many, many Confederate Heroes buried in them. There are only two Guardian applications from the Marshall area. Compatriots we need to do a better job in taking care of our Heroes resting places. What better or easier way to fulfill the "Charge" than this?

I believe with all my being in the Guardian Program and I hope that in some way I can convince you of its importance in fulfilling the Charge. As always I leave you with this question-

**Are you a Guardian?**

**If not, why not?**

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## UNIT SPOTLIGHT

### 9<sup>TH</sup> TEXAS INFANTRY

*By Tim Bell*

(continued from last edition)

#### Mufreesboro

Vaughan's Brigade, Col. A.J. Vaughan

12th, 13th, 29th, 47th, 154th Tennessee Infantry Regiments; Allin's Sharpshooters; Scott's Tennessee Battery; 9th Texas Infantry.

On December 31, 1862, Bragg's Army of Tennessee surprised Major General William S. Rosecrans Army of the Cumberland in his camps near Murfreesboro, Tennessee. In hard fighting, Bragg's men drove the Union army several miles before finally being halted. The 9th Texas, fighting in Vaughan's Brigade of Cheatham's Tennessee Division (the 9th Texas was the only non-Tennessee regiment in the division), participated in the attack which drove the Union army from the field. Lt. Col. Dillard and eight other members of the regiment were named to the Confederate Roll of Honor for their conduct in the battle. The price was heavy: of the 323 officers and men the 9th Texas took into battle, 18 were listed as killed, 102 wounded (including Col. Young), and 2 captured or missing. The 9th Texas would never again have more than 200 men able for duty in any battle, after their severe blood-letting at Mufreesboro.

Regarding their participation in the battle, Quartermaster Thomas H. Skidmore wrote "Gen.

Cheatham rode up to Col. Dillard and ordered him with the regiment to take a battery which was being planted on a hill not far distant. Col. D. expostulated and said there was not a cartridge in his reg't., to which Gen. C. responded with his characteristic oath and style that it made no difference as the reg't. would take it with Barlow knives if the order was given and to charge with fixed bayonets. The order to charge was given and the battery brought in."

Lt. Col. Miles Dillard wrote the Clarksville Standard about the 9th's participation in the battle: "The boys of the old Ninth Texas can never be too highly appreciated for their cool and undaunted bravery on the bloody battlefield of Mufreesboro, for never did soldiers acquit themselves with more honor than they did on that day."

Praise came from high-ranking officers outside the regiment, as well. General Cheatham spoke very highly of Col. Young and the men of the 9th Texas. He noted in his official report, "The 9th Texas Regiment, under the command of that gallant officer, Col. W.H. Young, who did not hear the order [to withdraw] became detached and was farther to the left. It remained in the woods and continued to fight the enemy, and at last charged them on their flank and drove them from the woods on their entire right, losing very heavily."

Col. Young was shot in the shoulder and had two horses shot from under him during the battle. At the critical juncture of the battle, it appears he was on foot and leading his men in the charge. At some point, Lt. Col. Dillard took command.

Fighting almost alone and surrounded, the 9th became separated from the other regiments in the army. Finding his little regiment penned down by artillery fire, and having lost 100 of his men in a matter of minutes, Young unsheathed his sword and brandished the regimental colors, and called for an attack, driving the blue-clad attackers from their positions.

Solomon Dobson of the 9th Texas, writing years after the battle, stated that the regiment was in some peril, as after the successful charge, "we were saved by a Mississippi regiment coming up in our rear."

Stated Colonel Vaughan in his official report of the battle, "Colonel Young seized the colors of his regiment in one of its' most gallant charges and led it through." Writing years after the war, Lt. Col. Dillard stated that following the charge, "General Cheatham was eulogizing the boys, and someone remarked, 'General, you must think you have some troops.' He replied, if I had 50,000 such men, I could whip the whole Federal army."

The battle of December 31st was a success for the Army of Tennessee, however, Bragg was repulsed on January 2, 1863, when he ordered a suicidal charge by Breckinridge's Division against the Union right. The attack failed, and Bragg ordered a retreat. Vaughan's Brigade, including the 9th Texas, suffered the second-highest number of casualties of any brigade in the army at Mufreesboro, next to J. Patton Anderson's brigade.

The army retreated back to Shelbyville, Tennessee, and here Bragg's battered but unbeaten army went into camp. On January 21, 1863, the 9th Texas was placed in Ector's Texas Brigade, which at that time contained the 10th, 14th, and 32d Texas Cavalry Regiments, dismounted. The 9th Texas would remain in this organization for the remainder of the war.

The 9th stayed in or around Shelbyville, until May, 1863, when ordered to proceed by rail to Jackson, Mississippi, where Gen. Joseph E. Johnston was trying to build a force to end the siege of Vicksburg. Following the surrender of Vicksburg on July 4, 1863, Johnston's small command fell back to Morton, Mississippi. The 9th Texas participated in Sherman's investment of Jackson, and fought there in a small engagement on July 16, 1863.

*(Continued next Month)*