



TRAVELLER

Award Winning Publication of the General Robert E. Lee
Camp, #1640

Sons of Confederate Veterans, Germantown, TN

Duty, Honor, Integrity, Chivalry

DEO VINDICE!

May, 2017



CAMP MEETING

May 8, 2017

Speaker: Tarry Beasley

**Topic: "Why I am a member of the Sons of
Confederate Veterans"**

**7:00 p.m. at the at the Germantown
Regional History and Genealogy Center**

Don't miss our next meeting!

Powell Benton Reynolds

Company D, 5th Kentucky Infantry and Company K, 50th Virginia Infantry

By Dale Whitfield, Historian, 47th Regiment NC Troops
Camp 166, Wake Forest



Powell Benton Reynolds 1841-1914

Powell Benton Reynolds served in the Confederacy during the War Between the States. He enlisted in Company D, 5th Kentucky Infantry and later company K, 50th VA Infantry. The 50th was organized under Captain Jefferson Thompson Lawson at Patrick Courthouse on June 22, 1861. They served along with the

51st Virginia Infantry. In 1863, the 50th fought at Chancellorsville and Gettysburg. The 50th fought in the Wilderness, Spotsylvania Courthouse, Lynchburg, Maryland Campaign, Richmond, and Petersburg; but only a handful reached Appomattox. Powell was captured in 1864, imprisoned at Point Lookout Maryland, and paroled April 9, 1865. He served with two of his brothers, and his father was a captain.

After the war ended, Powell Benton started his distinguished career in education. He was a student at Richmond College from 1865-1870, president of Shelton College in St. Albans, West Virginia from 1872-1884, and pastor of Union Baptist Church in Waynesboro West Virginia. He served as president of Buckner College in Arkansas from 1884- 1885. In 1885 he went to West

Virginia University as professor of English Literature, was chair of the meta-physics department from 1889-1893, was acting president from 1893 to 1895 (refused to be president), professor of philosophy 1895-1897, professor of meta- physics and political science from 1897-1901, and chaplain/professor of economics and sociology beginning in 1901. He wrote many letters home giving accounts of battles which were made into a book (about 1970) in the West Virginia University library.

Powell Benton Reynolds was a prolific writer who wrote hundreds of letters home telling of his war experiences. The letter below to his Mother Roxanna Shelor detailing his struggles immediately after Gettysburg is reflective of the condition of our brave Southern men during the war.

Camp near Orange Court House, Virginia on August 7th 1863 (after battle of Gettysburg):

Dear Mother,

I received yours of the 26th of July yesterday morning, it having been about a week on the road. I also received one from you while we were at Hagerstown in Maryland, dated the 18th of June. So first and last, I suppose I have gotten all the letters you have written. It seems that you have all the writing to do, for I get no letters from any of

the rest, nor can I hear of their writing any. I suppose I shall have to excuse them up to this time, as they have all been sick, but I give them fair warning that if they do not get to writing pretty shortly now, I shall get after them. What there can be to prevent Pap, Elam, Hortense or Columbia from writing me a letter almost every week, I cannot imagine. Probably they consider that I have been somewhat slow about writing my- self and therefore have no right to complain. It is true I have not written since I wrote the one of the 10th of June of which you spoke, but you must consider the circum- stances under which I have been placed.

I suppose that the first thing you wish to hear about is the state of my health. I have had about as hard a time of it as I ever had in my life, but have managed to keep up so far. I stood it tolerably for the first two or three weeks after starting upon the march. But from the time we crossed the Potomac going to Maryland I could feel a perceptible difference every day until it seemed almost impossible for me to get along at all. I kept along until the day before the fight at Gettysburg, when I was so broken down that I had to get a seat in an ambulance for the first time since I have been in the army. Be- fore going into the first I left my knapsack and all my clothes in the ambulance, for I was too weak that I could not carry them. I have not seen them since; consequently all the clothes I have in the world are on my back. I kept up with the regiment while it was supporting our batteries, but when it started upon the charge I found that I could not keep up with it. I caught up with the company shortly after the charge was over, a little after dark, and was with it through all the fighting the next day. I was not with Dozier when he was wounded nor did not see him afterwards. When we started to fall back from that place, I was compelled to throw away my gun in order to keep up. Since that time I have been able to march part of the time and a part of the time have had to be hauled. We have been resting four or five days now and I feel a little better than I have. I have fallen off until I can span my arms anywhere. I weighed 177 lbs when I left Dublin, but suppose I would weigh 135 now. But do not let this render you uneasy, for I think if I can get some rest I will recruit up again.

I would like to be able to give you all a full account of our Pennsylvania Campaign, but it would require too much time and room for this place. I must content my- self with a brief sketch now and defer giving the details until I get home or get more leisure.

You have heard before this time of the part we took in the Battle of Winchester. We moved directly forward by way of Charlestown, to the Potomac, which we crossed at Shepherdstown, some ten miles above Harper's Ferry. We stayed several days near Harpsburg in Maryland lying in line of battle three or four days and nights. We could plainly see the "Stars & Stripes" floating over the

enemy's works in Maryland Heights some ten miles distance. We went across Maryland by way of Hagerstown, and entered Pennsylvania at Middleburg. We took the road for Harrisburg, passing through Greencastle, Chambersburg, Shippensburg and numerous other smaller towns. We proceeded as far as Carlisle, supposing all the while that we were going to attack Harrisburg, where we learned that the militia were assembling. But we about faced at Carlisle, and shortly took the road for Gettysburg, crossing the Blue Ridge. We met up with the enemy at the town of Gettysburg, and fought the greatest battle of the war. The particulars of which you have heard before now. I will just remark here that it is given up by good judges that such commanding has never taken place before in the world.

We retired from before the enemy's works on the night of the third of July, and spent the fourth lying in an open field exposed to the rain, about two miles from the town. During the night of the fourth we again commenced falling back, and continued our retreat through rain and mud until we arrived at Hagerstown. We there took a position and fortified it strongly to keep the enemy in check until the Potomac got fordable. We re- crossed the river ten miles above Shepherdstown; at Williamsport Md. on the morning of the 12th of July. We had it to wade, it taking us up to the armpits. We came back to Winchester by the way of Martins- burg. We came on to Front Royal aiming, as I suppose, to recross the Blue Ridge at Manassas Gap, the way we went into the valley, but we found the Yankees there. So we went some 25 miles further up the Shenandoah and crossed near Luray. We then came by way of Madison to this place.

We have been here four or five days, expecting to move every minute. We may stay here several days yet and we may leave in half an hour. I have no idea where we will go. That is wholly dependent upon the movements of the enemy. We are faring some better here than we have been. We have a much better chance to cook our rations and have been getting a little fruit to eat with our meat and beans. We have been getting some corn meal and bacon, which goes much better than fresh lean beef, sour at that if it has been cooked any length of time. we have been able to wash up our clothes too, and consequently we feel and look much better. I wore my shirt without having it washed from the 15th of June until the 3rd of August. It could not be helped We are all pretty ragged and a great many of us are barefooted. I have shoes now, but was entirely barefooted three days since we came back to Virginia. One day I had to march. So and being sick and tender footed both at once, I suffered more that day than I ever suffered in one day in my life

The soldiers are all in bad spirits and are deserting in gangs. If matters look as dark in the country as they do in the army there is dark times indeed. Our Pennsylvania campaign has done more to dispirit and

demoralize this army than anything that has occurred since the war. I knew it could only serve to discourage our soldiers and unite the enemy before it was made. But I am really sorry that so many are deserting.

If there is not a stop put to it, it will ruin both the army and country. I learn that the mountains up in our country are full of runaways. It is too disgraceful! Some are too ready to give up. It is a gloomy time, but there has been darker times, and light yet came. I do not doubt our ultimate success, and will hang on to the best.

I was really sorry to hear that you are were having so hard a time with sickness, and am really glad to hear that you all have gotten through safely. I am glad to hear that you all have a pretty fair crop, for what you do not produce you will have to do without. You fairly made my mouth water speaking of your vegetables in yours of the 18th of June. I am afraid though that I shall not be there to help eat them. Tell my little brothers that I am glad to hear they are industrious and I hope they will behave well. Nearly all I think about of late is getting back home and having a good peaceable time studying and working with them. Tell Pap that I have been keeping 50 dollars for him and Grandpa a long time but have had no chance to send it. Tell Grandpa that I hope to get to talk over these war matters with him in peace one of these days yet. Give my respects to the girls and tell them to write to me. Clum and Hortense and Columbia must write. I wrote to Pyrrbus the other day, and sent my respects to Oliver. Uncle Henry is well. I would like to know if Dozier has gotten home yet.

Your affectionate son...

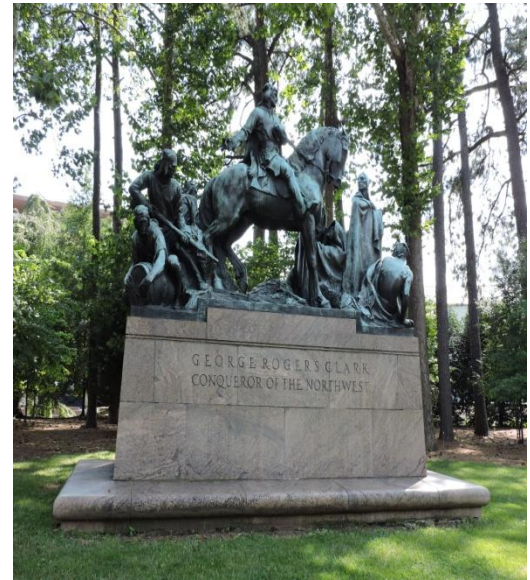
P. Benton Reynolds

Mr. Reynolds passed away December 29, 1914, and is buried in Oak Grove Cemetery in Morgan- town, West Virginia.



Commanders Corner

Revolutionary War Statues



Many Americans are disappointed in the recent events from Louisville to New Orleans with the efforts to remove historical monuments.

There has been less publicity regarding the efforts to remove Revolutionary War statues. One such statue which has been targeted for removal is that of General George Rogers Clark in Charlottesville, Virginia. Clark was born near Charlottesville, Virginia. Clark led Virginia troops against British forces and their Native American allies during the war for Independence. Kentucky was part of the Virginia frontier during the Revolutionary War. The Virginia frontier was the site of numerous incursions by British, Loyalist and Native American forces. Settlements were attacked and atrocities were inflicted upon the men, women and children who were captured.

After these attacks, George Rogers Clark led Virginia troops in 1780 and 1782 against the Shawnee in what later became the state of Ohio. He brought the war to the British and their Native American allies in the Northwest Territories of that era. General Clark lived his last years in his home at Locust Grove in Louisville and is buried in the Cave Hill Cemetery in Louisville.

There are efforts in Charlottesville, Virginia to remove the equestrian statue of General George Rogers Clark. The statue of Clark is centered between images of Virginia soldiers and Native Americans. The efforts for the removal of historical statues are not limited to the War Between the States.

Bradford Waters - Commander



Join the

Military Order of the Stars and Bars

A society of male descendants of the
military and governmental leadership of the
Confederate States of America.

**Lt. Dabney M. Scales Chapter No. 141
Military Order of the Stars and Bars
Memphis, Tennessee**

For more information on the MOSB
and the Memphis Chapter, contact:

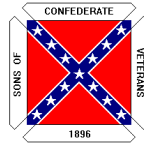
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SCVMemphis2017



Sons of Confederate Veterans

122nd Annual Reunion

Lee Millar
Chairman

Alan Doyle
Commander

Alan Doyle
Communications

www.SCVMemphis2017.org
email: scvmem2017@yahoo.com

May 12, 2017

Committees

1. Registration _____
2. Communications _____
3. Website / Facebook _____
4. Hospitality Room _____
5. Program & Ancestor Program _____
6. Advertisements _____ everyone _____
7. Souvenir Badge (medal) _____
8. Liquor project _____
9. Debutantes _____
10. Vendors, SCV Stores & Displays _____
11. Color Guard & reenactors _____
12. Scrapbooks display & competition _____
13. Newsletter display & competition _____
14. Silent Auction _____
15. Opening Ceremony & Music _____
16. Sergeant at Arms & Security _____
17. SCV IHQ coord _____
18. Publicity _____
19. Hotel _____
20. Legal Dept/ Contracts _____
21. Luncheons _____
22. Concession Stands _____
23. Hall/Table decorations _____
24. Flags (& giant CS flag) _____
25. Memorial Srvc (Friday) _____
26. Guest Speakers _____
27. Tours _____
28. Transportation _____
29. Other _____

www.SCVMemphis2017.org
N. B. Forrest Camp 215, P.O. Box 11141, Memphis, TN. 38111
www.nbForrestCamp215.org

CITIZENS TO SAVE OUR PARKS

AND THE

SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

Help Save Our Parks



Fight City Hall ?

We ARE !!!

The Forrest Camp 215 and the CTSOP have filed suit against the Memphis City Council for their illegal attempt to change the names of our three Confederate parks. We have been joined by all area camps & many UDC members.

These parks, Forrest Park, Confederate Park, and Jefferson Davis Park, are our history, our Confederate heritage, and a lasting tribute to our Confederate ancestors. They must not be destroyed or taken away by mis-guided politicians.

Help us to save our historic parks: Forrest Park, Confederate Park, and Jefferson Davis Park.

Can you, or your group donate \$100, \$500 or \$1000 to the defense ?

I wish to join CTSOP. Please sign me up as a member. No membership fee.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Contribute through PayPal at : www.citizenstosaveourparks.org

Please donate to our cause: Amount \$ _____ check number _____

Parks Defense Fund

PO Box 241875, Memphis, TN 38124

SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

Help Save General Forrest



The Memphis City Council has passed a resolution to remove the Forrest Equestrian Statue from Forrest Park and to dig up the graves of General Forrest and his wife MaryAnn from beneath the statue.

The SCV and the Forrest family descendants must raise money to fight the city in this second attack on General Forrest. We need your help.

Help us to save the graves and monument of General Forrest

Can you, or your camp or Division donate \$100, \$500 or \$1000 to the defense ?

Please sign me up as a supporter. No membership fee.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Contribute through PayPal at our ally at : www.citizenstosaveourparks.org

Please donate to our cause: Amount \$ _____ check number _____

Forrest Park Defense Fund

PO Box 241875, Memphis, TN 38124

COLLECTOR'S

FORREST COMMEMORATIVE COIN

Solid bronze

**\$ 10 each — All proceeds go to
Parks Defense Fund**

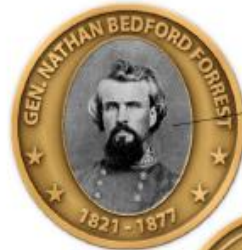
Contact: Harry Adams, Forrest Camp 215

harryadamscsa@gmail.com

\$10 each, plus \$1 each for shipping. Send your check to

Save the Parks

PO Box 241875, Memphis, TN 38124



Traveller is the monthly newsletter of:

The General Robert E. Lee Camp #1640
Sons of Confederate Veterans
and

The Mary Custis Lee Chapter,
Order of the Confederate Rose
P.O. Box 171251
Memphis, Tennessee 38187

Steve M. McIntyre, Editor

**Next Camp Meeting ** May 8, 2017
Germantown Regional History and Genealogy Center, 7779 Old Poplar Pike, Germantown, TN**