January, 2012
Volume 2, Issue 1

SON'S OF CONFEDERATE VETERAN'S

Lt. JOHN T. BULLOCK CAMP Camp # 2205

COMMANDER: JOEY DICKERSON ----EMAIL--- Johntbullockscvcamp@GMAIL.COM
LT. COMMANDER: CHRIS POWELL
ADJUTANT: GEORGE KEARNEY

NC Division Winter Meeting ---Jan.28

Tues. Feb. 7 Regular meeting at Bobs

Tues. March 6 Regular meeting Oakwood Cemetery

Tues. April 3 Regular meeting on the Hunley.

Individual Highlights:

From the Commander:

Happy New Year to you all and hope you had good holidays. First I would like to thank those of you that attended the January meeting last week. Frank Keller put on a great story on the Confederate Signal Corps and touched on the Confederate Secret Service. We had two potential new recruits at the meeting. Frank brought us in an application from one of his friends, and we had Mr. Richard Smith in attendance at the meeting. Richard saw our article in the newspaper and stopped by for the evening. He is a former member in the Oxford Camp, and is interested in transferring his membership. We will have some great programs coming up in the next few months, including Mr. Charles Purser who will be speaking to us about the Oakwood Cemetery projects going on in Raleigh. Mr. Jack Marlar will be giving his great program on the Hunley in April. George & I will be attending the NC Division meeting Sat. Jan. 28. Anyone wishing to go with us, just let me Know. We should be back in town around 5 in the evening.

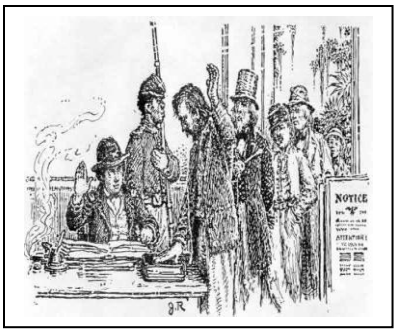
Tar Heels pitch in

From the North Carolina Civil War Sesquicentennial website.

"Tar Heel," evidence indicates, was a derogatory nickname applied to North Carolina soldiers by others in the Army of Northern Virginia. It was a natural, given that the boys from the piney woods oftentimes were harvesters of tar, pitch, and turpentine. It stuck and what at first was resented became a badge of pride. Over the course of 1861-1865, over 125,000 North Carolinians—more than from any other Southern state—fought for the Confederacy. Forty-seven generals, among them Robert F. Hoke, Bryan Grimes, D. H. Hill, and J. J. Pettigrew, were Tar Heels. With one-ninth of the Confederate population, North Carolina supplied one-sixth of the soldiers. The state led in the total number of troops lost, over forty thousand, 19,673 as a result of battle and another 20,602 due to injury or disease. Tar Heels accounted for one-quarter of Confederate deaths. There was irony in the sacrifice. Unlike others in the region, few Tar Heels had a vested interest in preserving slavery. Reluctant to enter, North Carolina quickly mobilized for the fight. Training camps, typically alongside railroad lines, dotted the landscape. Units such as the Burke Rifles, Edgecombe Guards, and Uwharrie Grays took the field. Yet, alone among Confederate states, North Carolina was home to a sizable peace movement. Divided allegiances were common and desertion rates ran high. Two Union regiments of African American soldiers, most of them emancipated slaves, were assembled in the northeast part of the state late in the war. The resources extended beyond personnel. Taxes and bonds supported the effort financially. Cottage industries such as gunsmiths and sword factories contracted with the state. The entire output of North Carolina's thirty-nine cotton and nine woolen mills was dedicated to clothing the troops. Zebulon B. Vance, governor from 1862 to 1865 and a veteran of the Twenty-Sixth Regiment, devised a plan to obtain supplies from Great Britain via the Bahamas. Blockade runners imported rifles, shoes, uniforms, and food up the Cape Fear River, the "lifeline of the Confederacy." Veterans of the five-year conflict took pride in their accomplishments and Tar Heels engaged their counterparts in other states, particularly Virginia, in debates over the war's legacy. "First at Bethel, Farthest to the Front at Gettysburg and at Chickamauga, and Last at Appomattox" was touted and emblazoned on the Confederate Memorial at the Capitol in Raleigh. Almost a century and a half later the war sparks interest, controversy, and enthusiasm.

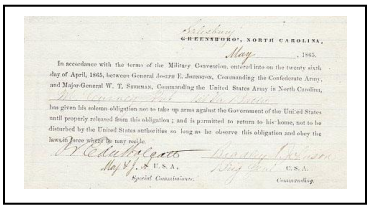
Mustering out of the Confederate army

Essay from the North Carolina Highway Historical Marker Program



Today we hear "parole" in the context of criminal justice: Convicted criminals may be paroled, or let out of prison on condition of their good behavior. Military paroles are similar. A captured soldier might be paroled, or set free, on his promise not to take up arms again. When the Confederate armies surrendered in the spring of 1865, all Confederate soldiers instantly became, in essence, prisoners of the U.S. Army. They were paroled, set free to go home, after they signed an agreement not to take up arms against the U.S. government.

After nearly a week of negotiations, Joseph Johnston surrendered his army to William T. Sherman on April 26, 1865, at Bennett Place. Several days later, Confederates of the Army of the Tennessee, detachments from the Army of Northern Virginia on duty in North Carolina, and other units such as artisans and naval personnel posted in the state were offered their paroles by Union authorities. At 8:00 on the morning of May 1, Brig. Gen. William Hartsuff, inspector-general of the Union Army of Georgia, opened his paroling office in Greensboro's Britton House Hotel. The first Confederate to receive a parole was Rear Adm. and Brig. Gen. Raphael Semmes, who had recently been given an army rank as his sailors were transferred to the infantry in April. By the afternoon, so many Confederates had received paroles that Hartsuff was running out of forms. He commissioned a local printer and Confederate veteran, James Albright, to print 15,000 more forms. Albright and his brother completed the work, receiving $125 for their services. By the end of May 2, paroles had been issued to over 32,000 men. Johnston's surrender affected the nearly 90,000 Confederates posted east of the Mississippi with the exception of those who surrendered with the Army of Northern Virginia. According to Johnston's final morning report, 16,000 men were present for duty with the remnants of the Army of Tennessee. In the days prior to the surrender, several thousand men had simply left for home once they determined the war had ended. Having received their paroles, the Confederate troops performed their final mustering out ceremonies. The majority of the army did so at Greensboro, where they stacked their arms and equipment at the Guilford County Court House. Other detachments, mainly the North Carolina Junior Reserves and elements of the Army of Northern Virginia on detached service, mustered out at or near Bush Hill. Joseph Johnston's final speech to his troops asked them to "discharge the obligations of good and peaceful citizens at your homes as well as you have performed the duties of thorough soldiers in the field." Portions of the Confederate Treasury were evidently handed out among the troops. According to Maj. G. W. F. Harper of the 58th North Carolina, "At Greensboro, the regiment was paid in Mexican silver dollars –one dollar and fourteen cents to each officer and enlisted man present." Having turned in their arms, received their paroles and final pay, the former Confederates returned home. For many of the members of the Army of Tennessee, getting home meant long, arduous journeys to Texas, Louisiana, and Arkansas. Texan Samuel Foster wrote, "After turning in our guns and getting our paroles, we fell relieved. No more picket duty, no more guard duty, no more fighting, no more war. It is all over, and we are going home. Home after an absence of four years from our families and our friends."



Parole signed by the officers and men in Johnston's army

Greensboro Salisbury, North Carolina,

May _____, 1865.

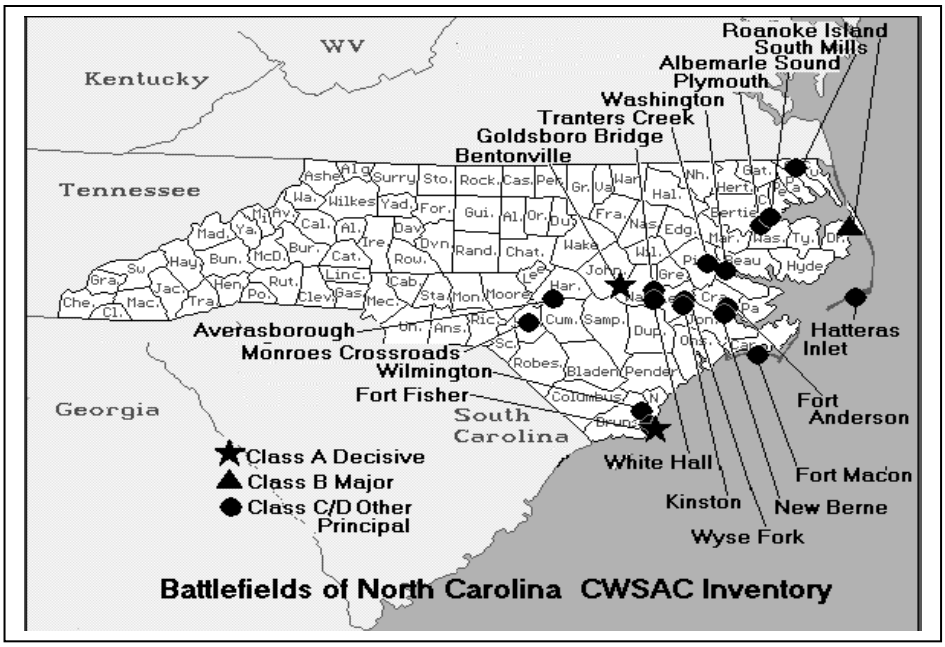
In accordance with the terms of the Military Convention, entered into the twenty-sixth day of April, 1865, between General Joseph E. Johnston, commanding the Confederate army, and Major-General W. T. Sherman, commanding the United States Army in North Carolina, [soldier's name]_____ has given his solemn obligation not to take up arms against the Government of the United States until properly released from this obligation, and is permitted to return to his home, not to be disturbed by the United States authorities so long as he observes this obligation and obeys the laws in force where he may reside.

[Signed by Special Commissioner, U.S. Army, and the soldier's commanding officer, Confederate Army]

On April 17 Johnston and Sherman met at the Bennett farm. Negotiations between the two men lasted several days, but on April 26, the Generals agreed on the terms of Johnson's surrender. As part of this agreement, the Union would not take any prisoners, but the men in Johnson's army would sign paroles, agreeing to not take up arms in support of the Confederacy. As long as each soldier abided by the terms outlined in this document, he would be free to return to his home.

North Carolina as a Civil War battlefield: May 1861-April 1862

Written by North Carolina Historic Sites.



In the war's first few months, North Carolina garnered little attention from the Union military. North Carolina was largely forgotten by the Confederates as well, and most of the troops raised in the Old North State were organized into regiments and sent elsewhere in the Confederacy. Aside from small garrisons at a handful of coastal fortifications there was not much of a military presence in the state. President Lincoln ordered a blockade of all southern ports in April. The Confederate response of blockade running into and out of the state's ports began to attract the attention of the powers in the North, with the Union setting out to eliminate the lucrative trade. To that end, forces under General Benjamin Butler and Commodore Silas Stringham converged at Hatteras Inlet in late August 1861 to attempt the closure of that passageway to the sea. Acting in conjunction, the Union army and navy successfully captured Forts Clark and Hatteras, and effectively closed the inlet to blockade running on August 28-29. The operation at Hatteras was viewed as an important victory at a time when the Union was desperately in need of a military success. In order to completely control the waters of northeastern North Carolina, the Union organized the Burnside Expedition. Again, a joint army-navy operation, the Burnside Expedition lasted from late January through late April 1862 and resulted in the occupation of much of eastern North Carolina. Led by General Ambrose Burnside and Flag Officer Louis Goldsborough, the expedition's first target was Roanoke Island. Capturing the island would ensure Union control of both the Albemarle and Pamlico Sounds. This would give the Union military an effective foothold in the eastern part of the state from which to base future operations. Roanoke Island fell to Union forces on February 8. The US Navy then turned its attention toward destroying North Carolina's small, fledgling navy, nicknamed the Mosquito Fleet. The Mosquito Fleet was destroyed at the Battle of Elizabeth City on February 10, and the town of Winton was burned on February 19. Burnside's next target was the state's former capital of New Bern. By March 12 the Union forces were in position to strike the Confederates defending the town. Union gunboats began shelling the riverbank on March 13, in preparation for landing troops. After a brief defense, the Confederates retreated upriver to Kinston, and by the end of the day on March 14, Burnside controlled New Bern. Some of North Carolina's best known Civil War personalities participated in the Battle of New Bern including Confederate officers Lawrence O'B. Branch, Robert F. Hoke, and Zebulon B. Vance. From New Bern, Union troops followed the Atlantic and North Carolina Railroad southeast, capturing Havelock, Carolina City, and Morehead City. By March 24, Union forces had occupied the port town of Beaufort and began planning their assault on Fort Macon, a masonry fortification on Bogue Banks that guarded the Beaufort Inlet. Union troops were ferried to Bogue Banks from March 29 to April 10. Once on the island, they erected gun emplacements and prepared to lay siege to Fort Macon. Colonel Moses White commanded the fort. He was hampered by old, smoothbore artillery pieces that lacked the range and accuracy of the Union guns and a garrison of only 300 men in the fort that were fit for duty. On April 25 the Union guns opened fire on the fort from land and sea. The older masonry fortification was no match for the Union's rifled artillery, and soon it became apparent that the fort's walls and powder magazines could be breached under heavy fire. Colonel White was forced to surrender Fort Macon. By late April 1862, the Union thoroughly controlled the coast of North Carolina from the Virginia border to the White Oak River. Occupation forces remained in coastal North Carolina, at such locations as Roanoke Island, Plymouth, New Bern, and Beaufort. Beaufort became a coaling station for the North Atlantic Blockading Squadron, thereby making it less difficult for the Union to conduct interior raids and refuel the blockading force and supply troops. New Bern became the military and political center for the Union in North Carolina. Roanoke Island and New Bern also became home to two large freedman's colonies, as thousands of slaves flocked to these locations in order to escape bondage and enjoy the protection of the Union forces. However, the capture of Fort Macon and the end of the Burnside Expedition marked the last major military action in the state for over two years, as the Union turned its attention to other theaters of the war, such as Virginia, South Carolina, and the Mississippi River.

Kittrell's Springs - Health Resort

(From the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources)

Kittrell's springs, 34 miles north of Raleigh in Vance County, was the site of North Carolina's first summer resort-a resort that became a makeshift Confederate hospital during the Civil War. All that remains of the site is a cemetery, the final resting place of 54 Confederate soldiers buried between 1864 and 1865. The springs, about a quarter of a mile west of Kittrell, were discovered in the 1840s. The mineral water quickly developed a reputation for therapeutic healing powers and soon cabins and tents had grown up in the vicinity. "Some who drank it found their health improved," said Oscar Blacknall, son of spring's co-owner, Charles C. Blacknall. "It grew gradually into a rural summer retreat." Charles Blacknall, along with his brother Dr. George W. Blacknall and cousin Thomas H. Blacknall, purchased Kittrell's Springs and the surrounding land in 1858. The cabins were demolished and replaced with a three-story hotel that included well-ventilated rooms, a dining hall, a spacious ballroom, and long building-length porches on every floor. Several adjacent buildings were erected that featured a bowling alley, billiard tables, and a barroom. Kittrell Springs Hotel opened in 1860. Unlike the Glass House, the Blacknalls's resort catered exclusively to a wealthy southern clientele. The Glass House was a haven for northerners looking for mild weather and good hunting during the colder months. Most of Kittrell Springs Hotel's business derived from affluent neighbors in nearby counties making healthful pilgrimages. Often rooms would be crowded with four to eight guests at a time. It is believed that the hotel housed 500 guests at a time in 1860. With the onset of the war in 1861, Charles Blacknall returned to Kittrell to organize troops and prepare for what he viewed as an "unholy war, in which we have been forced by our unnatural enemies of the North." Blacknall trained his company, the Dixie Guards, who later became the Granville Rifles, in Kittrell's springs. After enlisting, Blacknall was appointed captain of the Granville Rifles, which then became Company G of the 23rd Regiment of North Carolina troops. George Blacknall remained at home and managed the resort, which continued to be a profitable business until 1864. However, as the war moved closer to North Carolina with the Petersburg campaign in southern Virginia, Confederate casualties continued to shift towards the rear. Given that Kittrell's springs were on the Raleigh and Gaston Railroad line, the Confederate government pressured the Kittrell Springs Hotel into becoming a hospital. The conversion of the resort to General Hospital Number One was first announced in the Raleigh Daily Confederate on June 18, 1864: "This popular place of summer resort is now open for the reception of our sick and wounded soldiers-as we have turned it over to the government for their benefit." The hospital began admitting patients in June 1864. By the third week 223 soldiers had been admitted. Reverend Matthias M. Marshall, an Episcopal priest from the nearby St. James Episcopal Church, worked as the hospital chaplain and saw over religious services and the deaths of patients in the hospital. Only 17 percent of patients at the hospital suffered from war wounds. The rest suffered from various fevers, diseases and illnesses. Estimates are that about 70 soldiers died there. From the known causes of death of the 54 buried nearby, almost half died of typhoid fever and pneumonia. Only seven percent of the buried died by gunshot wounds. Charles Blacknall died after being wounded and captured at the Battle of Winchester in September 1864 and having his leg amputated. As the war ended, the chief surgeon of the hospital, Holt F. Butt surrendered with Joseph Johnston to Maj. Gen. William Sherman in 1865. Thomas Blacknall eventually reopened the hotel in 1872 (it had been a female academy in the intervening years). However, after several years, the spa was closed again and Blacknall left North Carolina. The hotel burned in 1885. Only the Confederate cemetery still stands at Kittrell's springs. It is owned and maintained by the Vance County Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy. The members annually hold memorial services honoring the 54 soldiers buried there, four of who are simply listed as "unknown."

Kittrell Springs was located ½ mile from where US #1 goes through the town today.

Fifty-four Confederate soldiers, who died at a nearby wartime hospital, are buried in a cemetery in Kittrell. The city's location at a railroad junction made it a good spot for a 300-bed facility, created in mid-1864.

Soldiers Bio—Benjamin Franklin Stainback

Obit from newspaper:

"Epsom, N.C. Feb 20th, 1917
This community suffered a severe loss by the death of B.F. Stainback which sad event occurred at his home at 9 AM Feb 15th, 1917. The news which told of his death was news which carried regret and sorrow into the home of every man and woman who knew him. He was sick only ten days but from the first his physician and family feared his sickness was of a character from which he would never recover. The deceased was born Jan 18th, 1831 in half a mile where he died. He received what educational training he had from the public schools of that day which had little to offer to the ambitious boy or girl. However, he studied what books he could secure and gathered a rich store of information from observation, and no better citizen, no bravier soldier, no more obliging friend and neighbor; no more loyal and faithful member of the church of his choice was he. He was married to Miss Virginia Edwards, a saintly soul, in February of 1855. Side by side, hand in hand they began life together. Success crowned their efforts in a material way until a pretty home had succeeded the rude little cottage in which they began life together, and ten bright happy children prattled around their knee. When the war came in the 60's he was one of the first to go and for four long years he took the chances of war, and came out of many of the hottest battles of the fearful war without one scratch. After the war ended he came back to his state to help build it up. The deceased was a man of noble impulses, by the bedside of the sick and dying he always had a place, to the relief of the poor, the needy and the distressed he always went, and in his seat at the church he was always found unless prevented by sickness or some other unavoidable circumstances and took great interest in all of the business which made for the advancement of the Master's cause. His influences for good were a great factor in the community; his faith in God never waned but was loyal and faithful to the very last. It is men like B.F. Stainback who make life worth living, and when the light of such a life goes out there is darkness. He was a man who did his part in making life the better. Would that there were more like him. He is survived by one daughter, Mrs. S.W. Duke, of Epsom; seven sons, W.T. Stainback of Atlanta; J.N. Stainback of North Side; J.O. Stainback of Nashville; E.E. Stainback of Greenville; A.R, P.J., and J.P. Stainback of Epsom; forty five grand children; ten great grand children. All of his children were at his bedside when he died except Mr. W.T. Stainback of Atlanta. The funeral was conducted from New Bethel Baptist Church Friday afternoon at 2:30 by Rev. John Mitchiner. The choice songs of teh deceased were sung, the floral offering was bountiful. The following grandsons were active pall bearers: Wm Stainback, Ransom Duke, Theo. Stainback, Jack Stainback, Adkin Stainback, Thos. Stainback, Ashley Stainback, and Roger Duke. Interment was in New Bethel Baptist church cemetary beside his wife."

B.F. Stainback is buried in the cemetery at New Bethel Baptist Church in Vance County, N.C.

A UNC student asks to sign up

--------- Letter from Edward H. Armstrong to Thomas G. Armstrong, April 20, 1861, in the Julien Dwight Martin Papers, Southern Historical Collection, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Dear Pa-

Today again I went to the office, but no letter was there to cheer my spirits, by telling me to come home and hasten to the war. I was anxiously expecting one, and the disappointment went quite hard. The Orange Guards left Hillsboro this morning, and I am told that there were few dry eyes in the crowd congregated to see them depart. There was parting with wives and children fathers and brothers and with some no doubt a parting for the last time. There was a flag raising here today. The ladies of the place made and put up the Flag. The citizens raised the pole in which I had the pleasure of assisting. Two young ladies made speeches and were followed by the following noted gentlemen, S. F. Phillips, Capt. Ashe, Gov. Swain and Sidney Smith, together with quite a number of Students. Gov. Swain in alluding to the war said that the south was invincible by any force that our enemies can send against us. He thought that further bloodshed could be avoided, by every man in the South shouldering his musket. Lincoln would then see our strength and would know that it would be useless to attempt to coerce us. Such being the case I beg you to let me be one to proceed to Federal Point, and frighten Lincoln out of his wits, if possible and if the Gov.'s prediction should prove untrue and war should actually be necessary, I should be happy to bear a part, humble though it be, in defense of my country. The flag raised to day contained nine stars, the last two in honor of Virginia and N. C. This is probably the first flag raised, on which N Carolina has been numbered with the seceding states. God grant that she may soon take her place among her southern sisters in reality. News from Maryland states that, the citizens of Baltimore yesterday attacked the Seventh regiment of N. Y. which was proceeding to Washington in answer to Lincoln's call. Reports say that about 14 were killed. Thank the lord that Maryland has yet some patriots left within her borders, who will oppose aggression to the death, although she is presided over by the traitorous Hicks. I learn even while writing that Lincoln has taken Gen. Scott prisoner because he was going to side with the south, and had thrown up his commission, and has him now in Prison. This is fine treatment to give that old veteran who has fought and bled in defense of his country. There was also a skirmish yesterday at Harpers Ferry. Major Lilly of Virginia who lives near there is here now on his way to take charge of his company. Two Thousand South Carolinians are now on their way to Norfolk to aid the Virginians in taking fort Monroe. Can I stay here and pretend to study, when I am continually hearing news from the war and when my country needs? Apr 21st since writing this letter I have heard that fortress Monroe is taken, that Gov. Ellis has called out thirty thousand troops. There is a company forming here to go to Washington City, composed of students. As my state needs my services I shall not volunteer. Please write to Capt. Cowan immediately and see if he will accept me. I am compelled to go somewhere. Another of my classmates Lyon of Edgecombe leaves tomorrow morning. Several will leave during the week.

Silent Sam

Erected in 1913 as a monument to the 321 alumni of the University who died in the Civil War and all students who joined the Confederate Army, this statue is known by students as Silent Sam. The university continued operation during the Civil War, thanks to President Swain's reliance on wounded veterans and men who were exempt from military service. Although the soldier holds a rifle, it is silent because he wears no cartridge box for ammunition.

Confederate Heroes Weekend – Happy Birthday Robert E. Lee & Stonewall Jackson!

Friday, January 13, 2012

January is often referred to as "Generals Month" as no less than four famous Confederate Generals claimed January as their birth month: James Longstreet (Jan. 8, 1821), Robert E. Lee (Jan. 19, 1807), Thomas Jonathan Jackson (Jan. 21, 1824), and George Pickett (Jan. 28, 1825). Two of these men, Lee and Jackson, are particularly noteworthy.

Without question, Robert E. Lee and "Stonewall" Jackson were two of the greatest military leaders of all time. Even more, the Lee and Jackson tandem is regarded by many military historians as having formed perhaps the greatest battlefield duo in the history of warfare. If Jackson had survived the battle of Chancellorsville, it is very possible that the South would have prevailed at Gettysburg and perhaps would even have won the War Between The States.

As those who are familiar with history know, General Grant and his wife held personal slaves before and during the War Between The States, and even Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation did not free them. They were not freed until the Thirteenth Amendment was passed after the conclusion of the war. Grant's excuse for not freeing his slaves was that "good help is so hard to come by these days."

In addition, both Jackson and Lee emphatically supported the abolition of slavery. In fact, Lee called slavery "a moral and political evil." He also said "the best men in the South" opposed it and welcomed its demise. Jackson said he wished to see "the shackles struck from every slave."

However, Lee knew that what Lincoln was about to do was both immoral and unconstitutional. As a man of honor and integrity, the only thing Lee could do was that which his father had done: fight for freedom and independence. And that is exactly what he did.

Instead of allowing a politically correct culture to sully the memory of Robert E. Lee and Thomas J. Jackson, all Americans should hold them in a place of highest honor and respect. Anything less is a disservice to history and a disgrace to the principles of truth and integrity…

[Exerpted from *Praise For Lee And Jackson* by Pastor Chuck Baldwin]