

Lt. John T. Bullock Camp #2205



Volume 2, Issue 6

June 2012

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# June Meeting

#### **NOTICE**

THE JUNE 2 RECRUITING EVENT AT THE BUTNER CHICKEN PICKING HAS BEEN CANCELED

When: June 5, 2012 at 6:30pm Where: Bob's Barbecue, Creedmoor NC

On Tuesday, June 5, the public is invited to hear 2010-2011 North Carolina Historian of the Year Michael C. Hardy discuss the Tar Heel state and the War. Hardy has written extensively on the role of North Carolina and the War. His books include histories of the 37th North Carolina Troops, the 58th North Carolina Troops, the veterans' movement after the war, North Carolina soldiers' efforts to remember Gettysburg, and a concise history of the North Carolina and the War. He has also

written numerous articles and maintains the blog North Carolina in the Civil War. Not only will Hardy be talking about some local events, but also on the War and North Carolina as a whole. This event is being sponsored by the Lt. John T. Bullock Camp, Sons of Confederate Veterans. Everyone is welcome. The meeting will take place at 6:30 pm at Bob's Barbeque in Creedmoor.



#### **Confederate Dates in History**

*Jun.* **03**, **1808** Birthday of Confederate President Jefferson Davis.

#### 1862

**June 1** Gen. Robert E. Lee assumes command, replacing the wounded Johnston.

June 7 Union Gen. Butler hangs Citizen William B.
Mumford for tearing down Union flag over New Orleans Mint.

**June 25** Seven Days' Battles begin with fighting at Oak Grove.

June 26 Battle at Beaver Dam Creek (Mechanicsville).

**June 27** Confederate Victory at Gaines' Mill / First Cold Harbor.

**June 27-28** Inconclusive Battle at Garnett's Farm.

June 29 Inconclusive Battle at Savage's Station.

**June 30** Inconclusive Battle at White Oak Swamp & Glendale.

#### 1863

**June 1** Battle of Cold Harbor, VA begins

**June 3** General Robert E Lee marches north towards. Pennsylvania (a journey which leads to Gettysburg).

June 9 Inconclusive Battle at of Brandy Station.

**June 13-15** Confederate Victory at Winchester Second.

**June 20** Vicksburg Campaign. The Confederate city comes under intense shelling from Federal batteries.

**June 24** Gens. Longstreet and Hill's corps cross the

**June 30** Inconclusive Battle at Hanover.

#### 1864

**June 10** Gen. N.B. Forrest leads his cavalry to a brilliant victory at Brice's Crossroads.

June 15 Nine month siege of Petersburg begins.

**June 15-18** Confederate Victory at Assault on Petersburg.

June 17-18 Confederate Victory at Lynchburg.

June 25 Confederate Victory at Staunton River.

June 29 Confederate Victory at Ream's Station.



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# Confederate Shipwreck CSS Georgia

From the Associated Press SAVANNAH, GA.

Before government engineers can deepen one of the nation's busiest seaports to accommodate future trade, they first need to remove a \$14 million obstacle from the past – a Confederate warship rotting on the Savannah River bottom for nearly 150 years. Confederate troops scuttled the ironclad CSS Georgia to prevent its capture by Gen. William T. Sherman when his Union troops took Savannah in December 1864. It's been on the river bottom ever since.

Now, the Civil War shipwreck sits in the way of a government agency's \$653 million plan to deepen the waterway that links the nation's fourth-busiest container port to the Atlantic Ocean. The ship's remains are considered so historically significant that dredging the river is prohibited

within 50 feet of the wreckage. So the Army Corps of Engineers plans to raise and preserve what's left of the CSS Georgia.

The agency's final report on the project last month estimated the cost to taxpayers at \$14 million. The work could start next year on what's sure to be a painstaking effort. And leaving the shipwreck in place is not an option: Officials say the harbor must

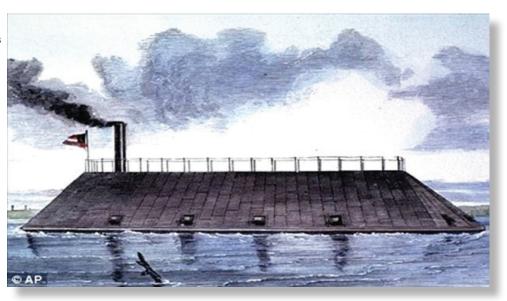
be deepened to accommodate supersize cargo ships coming through an expanded Panama Canal in 2014 – ships that will bring valuable revenue to the state and would otherwise go to other ports.

Underwater surveys show two large chunks of the ship's iron-armored siding have survived, the largest being 68 feet long and 24 feet tall. Raising them intact will be a priority. Researchers also spotted three cannons on the riverbed, an

intact propeller and other pieces of the warship's steam engines. And there's smaller debris scattered across the site that could yield unexpected treasures, requiring careful sifting beneath 40 feet of water.

"We don't really have an idea of what's in the debris field," said Julie Morgan, a government archaeologist with the Army Corps. "There could be some personal items. People left the ship in a big hurry. Who's to say what was on board when the Georgia went down." Also likely to slow the job: finding and gently removing cannonballs and other explosive projectiles that, according to Army Corps experts, could still potentially detonate. That's a massive effort for a warship that went down in Civil War history as an ironclad flop.

The Civil War ushered in the era of armored warships. In Savannah, a Ladies Gunboat Association raised \$115,000 to build such a ship to protect the city. The 120-footlong CSS Georgia had armor forged from railroad iron, but its



engines proved too weak to propel the ship's 1,200-ton frame against river currents. The ship was anchored on the riverside at Fort Jackson as a floating gun battery. Ultimately the Georgia was scuttled by its own crew without having ever fired a shot in combat. "I would say it was an utter failure," said Ken Johnston, executive director of the National Civil War Naval Museum in Columbus, Ga., who says the shipwreck nonetheless has great



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### ...CSS Georgia Continued

historical value. "It has very clearly become a symbol for why things went wrong for the Confederate naval effort."

As a homespun war machine assembled by workers who likely had never built a ship before, the CSS Georgia represents the South's lack of an industrial base, Johnston said. The North, by contrast, was teeming with both factories and laborers skilled at shipbuilding. They churned out a superior naval fleet that enabled the Union to successfully cut off waterways used to supply Confederate forces.

Despite its functional failures, the shipwreck's historical significance was cemented in 1987 when it won a place on the National Register of Historic Places, the official listing of treasured sites and buildings from America's past. That gave the Georgia a measure of protection – dredging near the shipwreck was prohibited. Still, a great deal of damage had already been done. The last detailed survey of the ship in 2003 found it in pieces and its hull apparently disintegrated. Erosion had taken a large toll, and telltale marks showed dredging machinery had already chewed into the wreckage. Salvaging the remains will likely move slowly. Divers will need to divide the site into a grid to search for artifacts and record the locations of what they find. The large sections or armored siding will likely need to be cradled gently by a web of metal beams to raise them to the surface intact, said Gordon Watts, an underwater archaeologist who helped lead the 2003 survey of the shipwreck.

The Army Corps' report also notes special care will be needed find and dispose of any cannonballs and other explosive projectiles remaining on the riverbed. "If there is black powder that's 150 years old, and if it is dry, then the stability of it has deteriorated," Watts said. "You'd want to be as careful as humanly possible in recovering the stuff." Once the remains of the Georgia are removed from the river and preserved by experts, the Army Corps will have to decide who gets the spoils. Morgan said ultimately the plan is to put the warship's artifacts on public display. But which museum or agency will get custody of them has yet to be determined. Right now the Confederate shipwreck legally belongs to the U.S. Navy. More than 150 years after the Civil War began; the CSS Georgia is still officially classified as a captured enemy vessel.

#### **Hollywood Cemetery**

The monument to 18,000 confederate dead in Hollywood Cemetery, Richmond, is a granite pyramid forty five feet square and ninety feet high, erected by the ladies of the Hollywood Memorial Association. The pyramid was completed in 1869. The pyramid was built in an area of the cemetery where graves contains the remains of enlisted men of the Confederate Army who died at Gettysburg. The pyramid was erected from granite stones pulled from the nearby James River. It was built by labor from the nearby State Penitentiary. In the cornerstone are entombed various Confederate artifacts including a Confederate flag, a button from Stonewall Jackson's coat, and a lock of Jefferson Davis' hair.



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# **Soldier's Bio**Richard Austin Bullock

Richard Austin Bullock passed away on April 16, 1927, at his plantation home, "Montpelier," near Williamsboro, Vance County, N.C. He was born on September 20, .1841, and was the ninth child of John Bullock and Susan M. Cobb. His ancestors, originally of Tidewater Virginia, had been living, at the time of his birth, for a generation or so on the south side of the Virginia-North Carolina line, and, in the late Colonial, Revolutionary, and post-Revolutionary times, they were prominently associated with the affairs of the latter State. Richard A. Bullock was educated at Chapel Hill, graduating from the University of North Carolina in the class of 1860. His tastes were literary, and he was an excellent Greek scholar. Had the ante-bellum days continued, he would probably have made a name for himself among the brilliant quota of statesmen that the South gave to the nation. But the war came as a deathblow to the old regime.

Promptly answering the call to arms, Richard Bullock joined Company B, 12th North Carolina Infantry, in the spring of 1861. From that moment until Appomattox he was present with his company at most of the great battles fought by the heroic Army of Northern Virginia. He was in the seven days' battle around Richmond, Sharpsburg, Fred—ericksburg, Gettysburg, the Wilderness, Early's desperate attempt to capture Washington, the agonizing efforts to hold the trenches at Petersburg, and, last of all, the sad retreat to Appomattox, where the banner he had served so faithfully for four long years was furled forever. During these years of bloody struggle, he recounted the events he had witnessed in a weekly letter to his mother. Unfortunately this cor-respondence was destroyed when, some twenty years later, he lost his home by fire. Had the letters been saved, they would have been an interesting record.

Mr. Bullock's exactness led to his being attached to the Commissary Department, where the shortage of food supplies made it necessary to have a reliable and painstaking man measure out the rations. From this position, he saw much of the heroic courage that distinguished the Confederate soldier, not only in the glory of battle, but also on the long, weary marches, amid the cold and hunger of winter quarters, and lastly, and most terrible of all, in the poorly-equipped hos-pitals. He never forgot the bitter cold that the soldiers en¬dured in and around Fredericksburg, nor did he forget the horrors which he witnessed at an improvised hospital at Gettysburg. This hospital was located in a barn. The wounded

were brought in and laid on straw until the barn was filled, and then they were placed on the bare ground of the barnyard. There they waited until overworked surgeons, who had neither anesthetics nor antiseptics, and were, more¬over, short of bandages, were able to do what they could for their gaping wounds. In view of what modern surgery has taught us, one wonders how any of the Confederate wounded escaped tetanus. No one who listened to the simple and un¬varnished accounts which Mr. Bullock gave of those agoniz¬ing hours could fail to realize what the Confederate soldier un¬flinchingly endured. Also, one appreciated something of the indomitable spirit of these same soldiers when one heard Mr. Bullock tell of Early's gallant attempt to surprise Washing¬ton, July, 1864, when, under a torrid sun, with men and horses falling by the wayside from heat prostrations, the heroic little army still pressed on.

During those times of trig, Mr. Bullock did what he could to help the sick and wounded, for it was his nature to help the helpless. This recalls a rather unusual incident which brings out also his high sense of honor. The Army of Northern Virginia was passing through Frederick City, Md., just before the battle of Sharpsburg. There was a sick soldier in Com¬pany B, 12th North Carolina Infantry, for whom the doctor had prescribed wine. Mr. Bullock got from a merchant the required quantity, but when he offered Confederate money, all that he had, the merchant refused to take it, saying: "I don't want that paper. Just wait until you come back by here. Maybe you'll have some gold or silver, and you can pay me then." But the Confederate army did not march back by Frederick. Instead, it recrossed the Potomac after Sharpsburg. In the Gettysburg campaign, Mr. Bullock hoped to pass through Frederick, so as to be able to pay the merchant, but his line of march did not lie that way. At the time of Early's attack on Washington, he was again dis-appointed in not getting to Frederick. After the war, he would have sent the money to the merchant by mail, but he had lost the address. It was not until 1916 that he again visited Frederick; and then, though several hours were lost in the search, and every street was explored, and every one he encountered was questioned, he was unable to locate the store or find a trace of the merchant. At last an old inhabitant was found who said he remembered the store, but it had been closed for years, and the storekeeper had moved away—gone he did not know where. The townspeople who heard the story of an old Confederate soldier trying to pay a debt that had been





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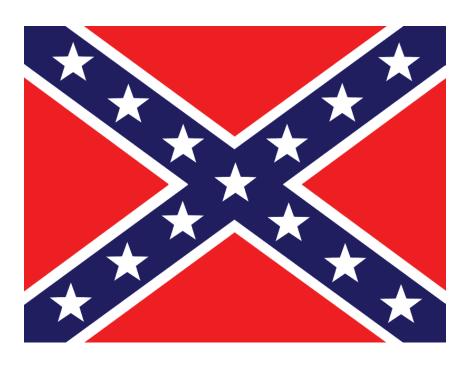
### ...Soldier's Bio

incurred during the war were greatly amused. Mr. Bullock's feelings, however, were those of bitter disappoint¬ment that the old debt could not be settled, for, as he said: "I promised to pay him the next time I returned, and I cannot bear for him to think that a Confederate soldier failed to keep his word." After Appomattox, like others who wore the gray, Mr. Bullock returned to his ruined plantation. The negroes had been freed, Sherman had carried away the stock, and without labor, without mules, and without means, the overgrown fields had to be placed under cultivation. Like others, he faced the horrors of Reconstruction and went to work to build up for himself a home amid the ruins.

On May 29, 1867, he married his cousin, Miss Isabella Burns Bullock, daughter of Mr. John Henry Bullock and Mary Hope Burns, of Warren County, N. C. In her he found a helpmate indeed, and the beauty of their home life was an inspiration to all who knew them; and their children will al¬ways cherish with love and reverence the memory of their saintly parents and the perfect home atmosphere in which they were reared. Mrs. Bullock died in the spring of 1926, a few

weeks before the sixtieth anniversary of their wedding.

After the war, Mr. Bullock planted cotton and tobacco on his plantation of "Montpelier," taught public school for a term or two, was magistrate for a number of years. And was the first Register of Deeds of Vance County, N. C., then a new county just cut off from the old county of Gran¬ville. The latter years of his long life were spent quietly on his plantation, doing the daily tasks with patience and dig-nity, making existence easier and brighter for others, and set-ting, in his quiet, retiring way, an example that all would do well to follow. Old and young loved him and trusted him. Children were drawn to him at once, for his gentleness was irresistible. He was a devoted member of the old Presby¬terian Church of Nutbush, Vance County; but his religion was broader than any sect. He knew his Bible almost by heart, and he lived up to its teachings. No one who heard his beautiful prayers could ever forget them, and not only his prayers, but also his life was like a benediction. He was one of the last of his generation and was typical in every way of the best of the Old South. He was a scholar, a gentleman, a Confederate soldier, and a Christian.







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## THE CONQUERED BANNER

BY FATHER ABRAM J. RYAN, THE POET PRIEST OF THE SOUTH.



Furl that banner, for it is weary, Round its staff 'tis drooping dreary; Furl it, fold it, it is best: For there's not a man to wave it. And there's not a sword to save it, And there's not one left to lave it, in the blood which heroes gave It, And Its foes now scorn and brave it— Furl it, hide it, let it rest. Take the banner down—'tis tattered. Broken is its staff and shattered, And the valient hosts are scattered Over whom it floated high. Oh! 'tis hard for us to fold it, Hard to think there's none to hold it, Hard that those who once unrolled it, Now must unfurl it with a sigh. Furl that banner, furl it sadly— Once ten thousand hailed it gladly,

And ten thousand wildly, madly, Swore it should forever wave, Swore that foeman's sword could never Hearth like theirs entwined dissever, Till that flag would float forever O'er their freedom or their grave. Furl it, for the hands that grasped it, And the hearts that fondly clasped it., Cold and dead are lying low: And the banner, it is trailing, While around it sounds the wailing Of its people in their woe. For, though conquered, they adore it, Love the cold, dead hands that bore it, Weep for those who fell before it, Pardon those who trailed and tore it, And oh! wildly they deplore it, Now to furl and fold it so. Furl that banner! true 'tis gory, Yet 'tis wreathed around with glory, And 'twill live in song and story, Though its folds are In the dust; For its fame on brightest pages, P enned by poets and by sages, Shall go sounding down the ages, Furl Its folds though now we must, Furl that banner, softly, slowly, Treat it gently—it is holy— For it droops above the dead;