

# Sons of Confederate Veterans

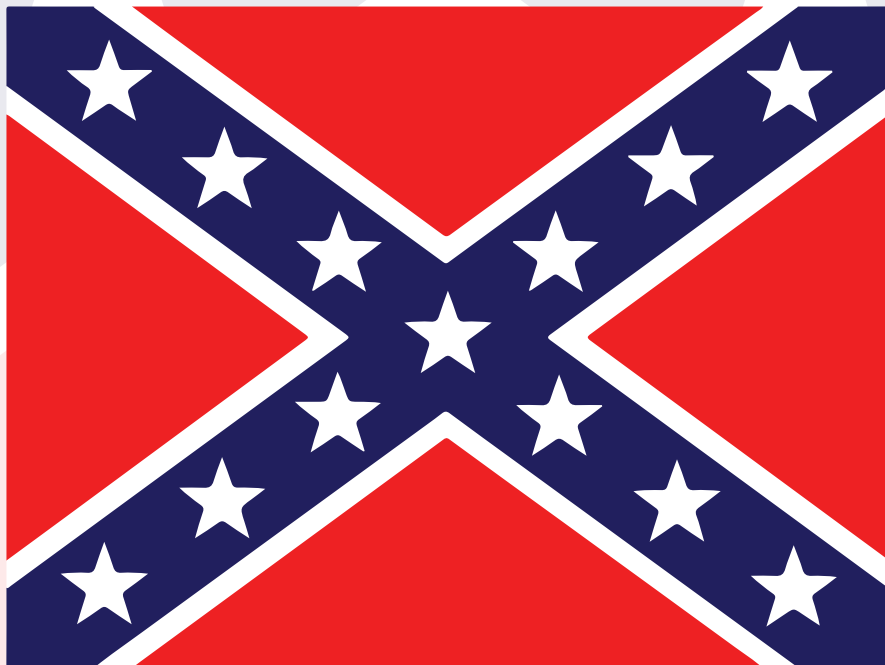
Lt. John T. Bullock  
Camp No. 2205

January  
2013



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# Camp News

**Commander**  
Joseph Dickerson

**Lt. Commander**  
Chris Powell

**Adjutant**  
George Kearney

**Historian**  
Frank Keller

Well, it is now 2013. We at Camp #2205 hope that everybody had a wonderful Christmas and a happy New Year. Let's pray for a prosperous year ahead for everyone.

As you already know, last month our camp had a family day to celebrate the holidays and mingle with each other. It was a great time and everybody enjoyed a good ol' Carolina Barbecue dinner at Bob's Barbecue in Creedmoor. It was pleasant to sit down and just enjoy good food and great company.

This month we are going to have our meeting a week later than usual because our normal meeting time fell on New Years Day. The month's meeting will take place on January 8, 2013 at 6:00PM. We will have our meeting at our usual location, Bob's Barbecue in Creedmoor.

The speaker for the month of January will be David Reavis. Mr. Reavis will be discussing his latest book, *UPON THESE STEPS: BROTHERS IN NC 23RD REGIMENT*. David retired from North Carolina State Government as a Treasury Professional after 36 years of service. Upon his retirement in 2011, Governor Beverly Perdue bestowed upon him "The Order of the Long Leaf Pine," which is among the most prestigious awards presented by the Governor of North Carolina. He has been doing genealogy research on the Reavis Family for over 35 years, maintaining the [ReavisHistory.Com](http://ReavisHistory.Com) website. He grew up in the Reavis Homeplace located in Vance County, NC, built by Samuel Reavis in 1789. He has always appreciated the heritage represented by

the generations of Reavises who have lived there, especially during the Civil War. In writing his first historical novel, he was inspired by the resilience of the human spirit demonstrated by his ancestors who endured and survived one of the most horrific periods of America's history.

The book, *UPON THESE STEPS: BROTHERS IN NC 23RD REGIMENT*, Two brothers are faced with whether or not to join the Confederate Army. One decides to voluntarily enlist, while the other joins only after being drafted. The brothers' episodes reflect the chronicles of the "Granville Rifles," a Company within the NC 23rd Regiment. From the Battle of Bull Run to Sherman's occupation of Raleigh, the plight of each boy gives the reader an insider's glimpse of the war.

Left behind on the family farm are their parents and siblings. Relive what a Southern family had to endure during the war years. All major events seem to originate on the home's unique circular rock steps. Soldiers leave for and return from war, slaves are freed, Yankees pay a visit, and suitors come a calling.

The epic story of this Southern family is a unique blending of historical fiction with a storyline that reflects the resilience of the human spirit. The book is the result of over 35 years of genealogy research of the author. All characters are based on actual people living during the Civil War, with many events being based on eyewitness accounts as recorded by the soldiers in letters written home.

# THEODORE O'HARA

From Confederate Veteran, Vol. VIII, No. 5 Nashville, Tenn., May, 1900.

## Unknown

Current Literature for September, 1898, contains the following very interesting points concerning the life of Theodore O'Hara, author of "Bivouac of the Dead:"

Theodore O'Hara, one of the few poets whose title to immortality rests on a single poem, but on that account is none the less secure, was born in Danville, Ky., February 11, 1820. The family subsequently lived in Frankfort. Theodore was a very precocious child, and with him study was a passion. He studied at Bardstown, in Kentucky, and there became noted as an accomplished scholar. He afterwards studied law with John C. Breckinridge as a fellow-student. In 1845 he held a position in the Treasury Department at Washington, but soon afterwards joined the United States army, with the rank of captain. He served with distinction through the Mexican war, and rose to the rank of major. He afterwards practiced law in Washington until 1851, when he joined other Kentuckians in assisting Lopez, who was trying to liberate Cuba. He was at one time editor in chief of the Mobile Register, and at another editor of the Louisville Times.

At the breaking out of the civil war he cast his fortunes with the South, and was placed in command of the Twelfth Alabama Regiment.

Later he served on the staff of Gen. Albert Sidney Johnston, and was with him at Shiloh and caught the great chief in his arms when the bullet had done its deadly work. He was afterwards chief of staff to his lifelong friend, Gen. John C. Breckinridge. He died on a plantation in Alabama in 1867, and was buried at Columbus, Ga. In 1874 his remains, together with those of Gens. Greenup and Madison, and several distinguished officers of the Mexican war, were reinterred in the State cemetery at Frankfort, Ky.

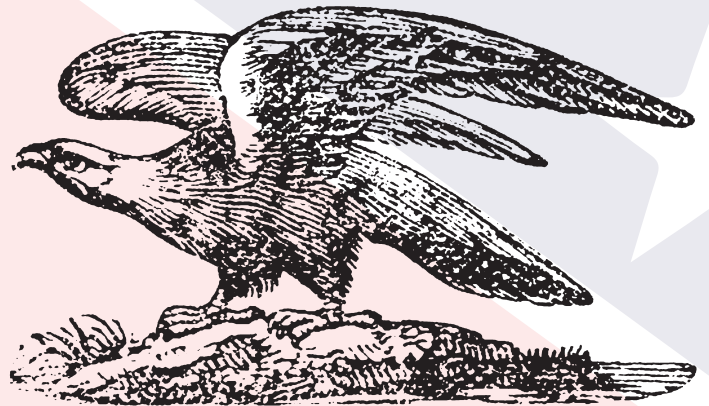
## THE BIVOUAC OF THE DEAD.

The muffled drum's sad roll has beat  
The soldier's last tattoo;  
No more on life's parade shall meet  
The brave and daring few.  
On Fame's eternal camping ground  
Their silent tents are spread,  
And Glory guards with solemn round  
The bivouac of the dead.  
No rumor of the foe's advance  
Now swells upon the wind;  
No troubled thought at midnight haunts  
Of loved ones left behind;  
No vision of the morrow's strife  
The warrior's dream alarms;  
No braying horn nor screaming fife  
At dawn shall call to arms.  
Their shivered swords are red with rust,  
Their plumed heads are bowed;  
Their haughty banner, trailed in dust,  
Is now their martial shroud;

# THEODORE O'HARA

And plenteous funeral tears have washed  
The red stains from each brow.  
And their proud forms in battle gashed  
Are free from anguish now.  
The neighing steed, the flashing blade,  
The trumpet's stirring blast,  
The charge, the dreadful cannonade.  
The din and shout are past;  
No war's wild note, nor glory's peal,  
Shall thrill with fierce delight  
Those breasts that nevermore shall feel  
The rapture of the fight.  
Like the dread Northern hurricane  
That sweeps his broad plateau,  
Flushed with the triumph yet to gain,  
Came down the serried foe.  
Our Heroes felt the shock, and leapt  
To meet them on the plain;  
And long the pitying sky hath wept  
Above our gallant slain.  
Sons of our consecrated ground,  
Ye must not slumber there,  
Where stranger steps and tongues resound  
Along the heedless air.  
Your own proud land's heroic soil  
Shall be your fitter grave,  
She claims from war his richest spoil---  
The ashes of her brave.  
So 'neath their parent turf they rest,  
Far from the gory field.  
Borne to a Spartan mother's, breast  
On many a bloody shield.  
The sunshine of their native sky  
Smiles sadly on them here,

And kindred hearts and eyes watch by  
The heroes' sepulcher.  
Rest on, embalmed and sainted dead!  
Dear as the blood you gave,  
No impious footsteps here shall tread  
The herbage of your grave;  
Nor shall your glory be forgot  
While Fame her record keeps,  
Or Honor points the hallowed spot  
Where Valor proudly sleeps.  
Yon marble minstrel's voiceful stone  
In deathless song shall tell,  
When many a vanished age hath flown,  
The story how ye fell;  
Nor wreck nor change, nor winter's blight,  
Nor time's remorseless doom  
Shall dim one ray of holy light  
That gilds your glorious tomb



# VIVID HISTORY OF OUR BATTLE FLAG

From Confederate Veteran, Vol. VIII, No. 6 Nashville, Tenn.,  
June, 1900.

Gen. W. L. Cabell, now of Dallas, Texas

When the Confederate army, commanded by Gen. Beauregard, at Manassas and the Federal army confronted each other it was seen that the Confederate flag (stars and bars) and the stars and stripes at a distance looked so much alike that it was hard to distinguish one from the other. Gen. Beauregard, thinking that serious mistakes might be made in recognizing our troops, after the battle of July 18 at Blackburn Ford ordered that a small red badge should be worn on the left shoulder by our troops, and, as I was chief quartermaster, ordered me to purchase a large amount of red flannel and to distribute a supply to each regiment. I did so, and a number of regiments placed badges on their left shoulder.

During the battle of Bull Run it was discovered that a great number of Federal soldiers were wearing a similar red badge. I saw these badges on a number of prisoners we captured that day.

Gens. Johnston and Beauregard met at Fairfax C. M. in the latter part of August or early September, and determined to have a battle flag for every regiment or detached command that could easily be recognized and easily carried. I was telegraphed to go to them at once at Fairfax C. H. Both Gen. Beauregard and Gen. Johnston were in Beauregard's office discussing the kind

of flag that should be adopted. Gen. Johnston's design was in the shape of an ellipse, red flag with a blue St. Andrew's cross, white stars on the cross to represent the different Southern States. No white border of any kind was attached to this cross. Gen. Beauregard's design was a rectangle, red with blue St. Andrew's cross and white stars similar to Gen. Johnston's. Both were thoroughly examined by all of us. After we had fully discussed the two styles taking into consideration the cost of material and the care of making the same, it was decided that the elliptical flag would be harder to make, that it would take more cloth, and that it could not be seen as plain at a distance as the rectangular flag drawn and suggested by Gen. Beauregard, so the latter was adopted. Gen. Johnston yielded promptly to the reasons given by Gen. Beauregard and myself. No one was present but us three. No one knew about this flag but us until an order was issued adopting the "Beauregard flag," as it was called. He directed me, as chief quartermaster, to have the flags made as soon as it could be done.

I immediately issued an address to the good ladies of the South to give me their red and blue silk dresses and to send them to Capt. Collin McRae Selph, quartermaster at Richmond, Va. where he was assisted by two elegant young ladies-the two Misses Carey, of Baltimore--- Mrs. Gen. Henningsen, of Savannah, and Mrs. Judge Hopkins, of Alabama. The Misses Carey made battle flags for Gens. Beauregard, Van



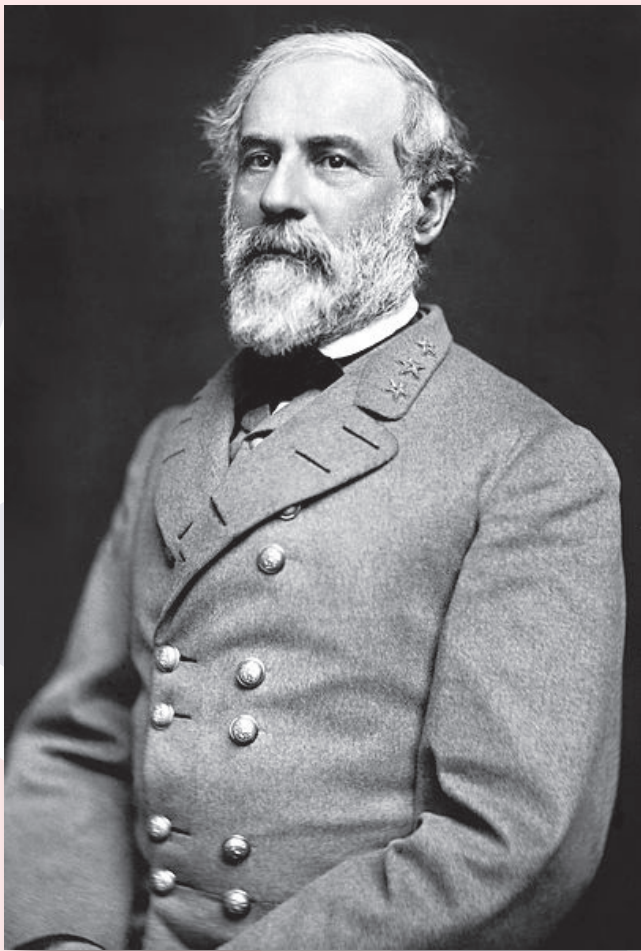
# VIVID HISTORY OF OUR BATTLE FLAG

Dorn, and (I think) J. E. Johnston. They made Gen. Beauregard's headquarters flag out of their own silk dresses. It is in Memorial Hall, New Orleans, with a statement of its history by Gen. Beauregard. Gen. Van Dorn's flag was made of heavier material, but was very pretty. Capt. Selph had a number of these flags made and sent to me at Manassas, and they were distributed by order of Gen. Beauregard. One flag I had made for the Washington Artillery, and they- have it yet. My wife, who was in Richmond, made a beautiful flag out of her own silk dress and sent it to a cousin of hers who commanded an Arkansas regiment. This flag was lost at Elk Horn, but was recaptured by a Missouri Division under Gen. Henry Little. It being impossible to get

silk enough to make the great number of flags needed, I had a number made out of blue and red cotton cloth. I then issued a circular letter to the quartermasters of every regiment and brigade in the army to make the flags, and to use any blue and red cloth suitable that they could get. Gens. Beauregard and Johnston being good draftsmen, drew their own designs.

The statements going the rounds that this battle flag was first designed by a Federal prisoner is false. There is no truth in it. No living soul except Gens. Beauregard and Johnston and myself knew anything about this flag until the order was issued direct to me to have them made as soon as it could be done.





## General Robert Edward Lee

Born: January 19, 1807  
Stratford Hall, Virginia

Died: October 12, 1870  
Lexington, Virginia

## Lieutenant General Thomas Jonathan “Stonewall” Jackson

Born: January 21, 1824  
Clarksburg, Virginia

Died: May 10, 1863  
Guinea Station, Virginia

