



Captain A. T. Harlee's Dispatch



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Captain Andrew T. Harlee

[From Sellers' History of Marion County]

Captain Andrew T. Harlee, when quite a youth, went with a number of young men from the State to Kansas Territory, in 1855; he remained there for a year, fighting under Atchison, Stringfellow and other pro-slavery leaders, against old John Brown (Osawatomie), afterwards hung at Harper's Ferry, Jim Lane and others of the Abolition party—hence he was no stranger to the whistling of bullets from Sharp's rifles (Beecher's Bible), when the civil war began. After the failure of Kansas to be made a slave State, he returned to his native State, but soon after got an appointment, through his patron, Thomas A. Hendricks, in the Interior Department, in Washington, and held this position until South Carolina seceded, when he resigned and returned to Charleston, where he was appointed Assistant Quartermaster on the staff of Governor Pickens, with the rank of Captain; discharged the duties of this office until the fall of Fort Sumter, when he resigned to raise Company I, of the Eighth Regiment, South Carolina. He went with that Company to Virginia, and fought through the first battle of Manassas with a rifle. After that battle, Lieutenant R. H. Rogers having resigned, he was promoted to fill the vacancy, and on the reorganization of the company he was elected Captain, and served as such till the surrender. He was several times wounded—twice severely; first at the capture of Harper's Ferry, on Maryland Heights, through both thighs, and then at Gettysburg, in the right thigh again. After the surrender he went to Florida, remained there for three years, and then returned to his home, where he has resided ever since; he is a farmer and a bachelor; he has held many places of public trust—was a Trial Justice from 1876 to 1886, was a delegate to the National Democratic Convention in 1884; is commander of Camp Harlee of Confederate Veterans at Dillon, S. C.

(This is one of several articles to be printed in the newsletter concerning Andrew Harlee. He is our namesake, he is worthy of our honor—so honor him, we will.)

The Confederate Memorial at Marion

We must continue to bear in mind that all of Dillon County, part of Marlboro and Florence Counties were part of the Marion District during the War Between the States. At the present time, this is to be considered as the Confederate monument for our Dillon ancestors. It is hoped that in the future, there will be

a monument erected in Dillon that could honor those who served their country during that period and also served this immediate community. The women of Marion organized the Ladies' Memorial Association of Marion in 1899. Their goal was to erect a monument to the Confederate soldiers from that district. Mrs. J. D. McLucas, president of the association, has been credited with the initial desire to erect a monument. The Marion Chapter of the U.D.C. shared that goal and appointed a committee, known as the Ladies' Monument Association, to cooperate with the Memorial Association in merging funds for the monument. Through their untiring efforts, these women, with material help from the citizens of Marion, met their goal. The citizens of the county subscribed an initial sum of \$1,172. The U.D.C. held various fundraising entertainments over four years to raise the rest of the needed \$2,300. A joint committee of veterans and members of the Monument Association selected the design. The monument, "for the erection of which wives, mothers, daughters have struggled was unveiled and presented to the view of thousands" on October 21, 1903. That day, the buildings of Marion, as well as the speakers' stand, were decorated with Confederate flags and bunting. Tree trunks along the major roads were entwined with the same colors. A grand parade led by the Darlington Guards and the Calhoun Rifles marched through Marion's streets to the public square. One carriage carried the officials of the day, another carried the four little girls who were to unveil the monument, and others bore the members of the Monument Association and the United Daughters of the Confederacy, pupils and teachers of the public school, and the Confederate veterans. A crowd of two thousand watched as members of the parade made their way to the speakers' stand in the public square. Marion lawyer and Judge John D. McLucas, formerly a lieutenant in the McQueen Guards, Company k, 8th S.C. Volunteer Regiment, called the meeting to order. Reverend William Carr Power, a veteran chaplain, led the ceremony in prayer. Justice Charles Albert Woods presented Ellison Capers, the senior officer in attendance, who rose to prolonged applause. Capers said, "We have assembled at the call of the patriotic women of Marion to greet still another monument to the Confederate soldiers: to commemorate their valor, and to renew at this sacred shrine our devotion to their great sacrifice in our behalf." He spoke of the moral value in building monuments to the Confederate soldier and of lessons learned from the monument, saying, "the virtue lies in the struggle, not in the prize" and "no sacrifice is too great, not even life itself, to offer on the altar of duty." Following Capers' remarks, Andrew T. Harlee introduced Bennettsville lawyer Joshua Hilary Hudson, who was formerly lieutenant colonel of the 26th S.C.

Volunteer Regiment. Hudson's address "elicited much applause and his humorous references caused the multitude to roar with laughter." Then four young girls, a daughter and three granddaughters of veterans, unveiled the monument. Two hundred veterans gathered after the ceremony for a meal around a circular table, which had been set up in the public square. The twelve-foot granite pedestal supports a bronze figure, which was cast by the American Bronze Foundry Company of Chicago. The life-sized figure is that of a Confederate "infantryman, uniformed and wearing blanket and knapsack, and holding his gun in a way which threatens anyone who approaches as an enemy." The twenty-foot monument was originally located in the center of the intersection of Godbold Street and Main Street and was moved to its present location about 1952. [Copied]

A Part of History in February

February 1, 1861—At Austin, the Texas secession convention votes 166 to 7 in favor of secession.

February 27, 1861—President Jefferson Davis names three Confederate commissioners to Washington to attempt negotiations with the Federals.

February 6, 1863—The Federal government refuses a French offer of mediation between North and South.

February 17, 1864—Off Charleston, S.C., the Confederate submarine *H. L. Hunley* becomes the first submarine in history to sink an enemy ship in combat.

February 11, 1883—Alexander H. Stephens, former Vice President of the Confederate States of America died at Atlanta Ga.

Is This What We Have to Look Forward To?

One of the things discussed at our business meeting last month was putting the SCV logo along side of other civic organizations signs on the 'civic tree' upon entering Dillon's city limits. It was noted that other towns such as Bennettsville, Georgetown and proof with pictures, Mt. Pleasant, allows the SCV logo on theirs. It seems that the Clinton Hatcher, #21 Camp in Loudoun, Va., had the same idea. However, the Mayor and Town Council of Leesburg Va. had other ideas. According to a news source, the Loudoun County chapter of the Sons of Confederate Veterans had received a permit from the Virginia Department of Transportation to add its logo alongside Rotary International's wheel, the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary's anchors and the Lions International's, but Leesburg officials balked. The Town Attorney Barbara Beach remarked, "The Confederate flag is steeped in history in this state and has many positive historical issues about it." But she added: "Do you allow a symbol that's hurtful to people to be posted?" Then she answered her own question with a solid, "NO". That was only the beginning of this worn out soap opera that seems to surround any type of Southern symbol in our modern era. The Loudoun News reported that the Leesburg mayor and Town Council had a secret poll among themselves concerning the civic signs. This poll was conducted in apparent violation of the state's Freedom of Information Act. The Leesburg mayor and Town Council were in agreement that it would be better to have all civic groups signs removed rather than allow one with

a Confederate flag logo to be placed at the entrance of their town. All of the other signs were removed in order to avoid being sued by the Sons of Confederate Veterans. These Leesburg officials may not be out of hot water just yet. Many people of the community are talking of bringing legal action against Leesburg's mayor and council because of its apparent illegal act. The opinions sent to the local paper by its citizens are very much against the town leaders decision and the manner in which they acted.

Confederate Memorial Service

The Andrew T. Harlee Camp will hold its annual Memorial Service at the Harlee Cemetery on Saturday, April 29, 2006 at 3:00 P. M. Make plans now to attend this service and talk it up around the community. This is more than an activity of the Camp. This is one of the reasons we exist. Why would any descendant of a Confederate veteran not want to participate in this memorial service?

February Meeting

This month's meeting will be Thursday, February 16th. The speaker this month will be Ron Wilson. Who is Ron Wilson? First, he is a member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans. He is a member of the South Carolina School Board and he is a past Commander in Chief of the SCV. Compatriot Charlie Floria will be in charge of the meal to be served at 6:30 and the meeting will begin around 7:00. Make every effort to attend and bring a friend, you will be glad you came—and so will your friend.

THE COLUMNS

The time is quickly approaching for the Columns event. The dates of March 11th and 12th are the dates the Camp will offer a pork barbeque and chicken lunch. This is a lot of work and the Camp hopes to benefit financially from this fundraiser. The Camp needs money in order to operate and do some of the things that would honor our Confederate ancestors. The Harlee Camp needs your help to make this happen. This is a lot of work for just a handful of people. Please come out and give a helping hand. You will find out that this is a way to get to know your fellow Compatriots better and form a tighter bond with them. Even though it is work, it is also a lot of fun, you will benefit from the experience. Give it a try.

How Much are You Willing to Pay?

How much are you willing to pay for a new car?
How much are you willing to pay for a new house?
How much are you willing to pay for a new suit?
How much are you willing to pay for a vacation?
How much are you willing to pay for a tank of gas?
How much are you willing to pay for a boat?
How much are you willing to pay for that new shotgun?

How much are you willing to pay for a night on the town?
How much are you willing to pay for that special rod and reel?
How much are you willing to pay for the latest cell phone?
How much are you willing to pay to see the latest movie?
How much are you willing to pay to see the 'charge' to the Sons of Confederate Veterans fulfilled?
How much are you willing to pay to see Camp 2010 of the SCV grow and prosper?
How much are you willing to pay to make YOUR Confederate ancestor proud of you?
The last three 'how much are you willing to pay', questions won't cost any money—but are you willing to pay?

What Do You Think?

A concealed weapons class is being offered to the Andrew T. Harlee Camp. The instructor has made a special offer to hold the class for \$50 per applicant. It is understood that his regular fee is \$75 and he will be willing to offer this special price if we can guarantee him at least ten people to take the class. This will be offered to you as a member, your wife, your neighbor, your friend—no enemies, please. Think about this and come to the meeting prepared to share your thoughts. We want to know what you think.

Want a Real Look at Discrimination?

After the War Between the States, the Southern people were treated much differently than those of the north. (Still are!) In an article printed June 13, 1866 in the Marion Star: "The Senate has passed the West Point Appropriation Bill. It contains a provision prohibiting the appointment of any cadet who served in the army or navy of the Confederacy."

Printed in the July 18, 1866 edition: "Gen. McLaws, Late of the Confederate army, recently elected Clerk of the Superior Court of Richmond County, Georgia has received an order from Gen. Tillson, commanding in the State, forbidding him to hold or exercise any civil or political office."

Cotton during the War

Should a fast steamer loaded with cotton make it past Lincoln's blockade, it stood a chance of providing a good profit, providing the cargo made it to England. It was possible to buy cotton in the South for three cents a pound and sell it in England from forty cents to a dollar per pound. The profit on 1,000 bales of cotton would be about \$250,000. It is likely that 540,000 bales of cotton was carried to England. The same amount of cotton, or more, was illegally smuggled into the North.

Quote

Lady Nancy Astor, a Native Virginian, made headlines while in her eighties. Her crack on American sectionalism was: "I'd rather be a rattlesnake than a Yankee."

General Lee's Coffin

General Robert E. Lee died October 12, 1870; just two days after a flood had swept the hill country. The Lexington undertaker, C. M. Koones, was embarrassed to report that he had no coffins, since the three he had lately imported from Richmond had been swept away from his river wharf. Two young men—Charles H. Chittum and Henry Wallace—volunteered to search for a coffin for the Lee funeral. They sought for hours before discovering one, which had been swept over a dam and had lodged on an island some two miles downstream. Thus was provided the coffin in which the Confederacy's greatest figure was buried. The casket was too short for Lee and he was buried without his shoes. (Lee was a small man; his shoe size was four and a half.)

The Chaplain's Corner

Dear Fellow Men of Heritage: I believe we are living at the end of the church age and that Jesus Christ will return in our lifetime. I am not alone in this belief. I try to live everyday with this thought in mind. I want to be ready when Christ returns. I encourage you to consider Christ's teaching found in the Holy Bible. It is not a time of fear and despair; instead it is a time of joy and anticipation. We must keep on with our lives, but live in a way that is pleasing to our Heavenly Father. In 2 Timothy 2:1-4, "But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: For men will be lover of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God." Timothy continues in 3: 12-15, "Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution. But evil men and imposters will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived. But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them, and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus." As we enter into this new year, I encourage you to rededicate yourselves to Camp 2010, to your families and church and to this community. The fellowship we share every 3rd Thursday is most rewarding. God's Grace unto you, I am

Donald R. Hayes
Chaplain, Camp 2010

Deo Vindice