



Captain A. T. Harlee's Dispatch

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Captain Andrew T. Harlee

[From Dickert's History of Kershaw's Brigade]

Captain Andrew Harlee, of Company I, Eighth South Carolina Regiment, when a boy went with a number of the best young men of the State to Kansas Territory, in 1856, and saw his first service with the Missourians in the border troubles in that Territory, and took part in several severe engagements at Lawrence, Topeka, and Osawatimie Creek with the Abolition and Free States forces, under old John Brown and Colonel Jim Lane, the Southern or pro-slavery forces being under General David R. Atchison and Colonels Stringfellow and Marshall. After remaining in Kansas a year, he returned to his home and commenced the study of law at Marion Court House, but after a short time was appointed to a position in the Interior Department at Washington by the Hon. Thos. A. Hendrix, under whom he served as a clerk in a land office while in Kansas. This position in the Interior Department he held at a time of the secession of the State, and was the recipient of the first dispatch in Washington announcing the withdrawal of South Carolina from the Union, which was sent him by his uncle, General W. W. Harlee, then Lieut. Governor and member of the Secession Convention. He at once began preparations for his departure from Washington for Charleston, but was notified from Charleston to remain until Commissioners appointed by the Convention to proceed to Washington and endeavor to treat with the authorities should arrive, which he did and was appointed their secretary. The Commission consisted of Senator Robert W. Barnwell, General James H. Adams, and Honorable James L. Orr. After many fruitless efforts, they finally got an audience with President Buchanan, who refused to treat with them in any manner whatever, and Mr. Harlee was directed to proceed at once to Charleston, the bearer of dispatches for the Commissioners to the Convention still in session, and after delivering the same he reported to Governor Pickens for duty. The Governor appointed him Assistant Quartermaster, with the rank of Captain, and he discharged the duties of that office around Charleston until the fall of Fort Sumter. Anxious for service at the front, he resigned from the Quartermaster Department and enlisted as a private in Company I, Eighth South Carolina Regiment, and fought through the battles of Bull Run and Manassas with a musket. General Bonham, in command of the brigade, detailed him for scouting duty in and near Alexandria and Washington, and he had many thrilling and adventures and narrow escapes in the discharge of those duties. In October, 1861, Lieutenant R. H. Rogers, of his company resigned, and Private Harlee was elected Second

Lieutenant in his stead. At the reorganization of the regiment and companies, in April, 1862, he was elected Captain of his company, which he commanded to the surrender. He was several times severely wounded, and bears upon his person visible evidences of the battle-scarred veteran. He was regarded by all his comrades as a daring and intrepid officer. He lives upon his plantation, near Little Rock, where he was born and reared, is a bachelor, a professional farmer, and one of the leading citizens of his section of the State. (There are several things repeated in this article from the last one, but on the other hand, some of those things are made clearer in Dickert's History. We will share more about Andrew T. Harlee in the next newsletter. Captain Andrew T. Harlee is the namesake of this Camp. He was an honorable man and soldier. He is worthy of our honor—so honor him, we will.)

A Part of History in March

March 2, 1861—Texas was admitted to the Confederacy.
March 11, 1861—The Confederate Congress unanimously adopts the Constitution of the Confederate States of America.
March 24, 1864—Confederate cavalry under Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest captures Union City, Tenn.
March 22, 1864—After heavy snowfall in Richmond, Virginia, Confederate soldiers engage in a huge—snowball fight?

Things Grow Bigger in Texas

It seems that Texas is making another claim of being 'bigger' than everyone else. This time it is claiming to have the tallest Confederate soldier of the War. Henry Clay Thurston was 7 feet, 7 inches tall—from Mt. Vernon, Texas.

H.K. Edgerton Makes an Interesting Observation

The political powers in the city of Charlotte, N. C. have been in the anti-Southern mode for a while now. H. K. Edgerton was in Charlotte in January for the taping of a television program by a Southern Historian when the studio staff notified him that the City Council was holding a public hearing geared towards renaming Stonewall Street to Martin Luther King Jr. H. K. notes that the Council is headed up by its Northern born Mayor and Northern born Councilman James Mitchell. He

declares that it was just not enough for this council to remove the flag pole that held the flag which flew over the Confederate dead at Elmwood Cemetery, but now they have launched an all out attack on all things Southern. H. K. states that he does not think that King would be so receptive to what this "Northern led Reconstructionist Council" is doing in his name. H. K. seems to believe that this Northern led council is using the black folks of the Charlotte area to promote their own personal agenda of 'de-Southernizing' the City. Mr. Edgerton gives the impression that it would be impossible for this mob to accomplish their goals without using the African-American people as a front. He says, "To continue on the road of using Black folks to legitimize these efforts is synonymous to Carpetbag tactics after the War that depict all Southern Blacks as disloyal and traitors to their Southland, the divide continues. I heard the decry of the Black Minister whose Church is in the same Ward as Elmwood Cemetery; it was to leave the Confederate battle flag alone!" "As if perpetrating this dishonor on the Jackson and Morrison Family is not bad enough; to produce an atmosphere that lays the blame for these traitorous actions on the shoulders of all the Black folks in the City of Charlotte is appalling. I wonder just what the ancestors of the Black folk who sat in the pews on Sunday mornings for Bible School, as the Honorable General Stonewall Jackson taught them of their Lord and Master Jesus Christ. [Would think of changing Stonewall St.] It does not take a Rocket Scientist to understand that unwitting Southern black folk who just want to live and let live are being used again; and just as during Reconstruction, they will be left behind to pay for the hate orchestrated by the Poverty Pimps and their Carpet Bag Agents."

If You're Southern, You Don't Really Matter

E-mail was circulating last month about a fellow by the name of Jim Cramer who hosts this "Mad Money" program on CNBC. He is apparently a fan of General William Tecumseh Sherman (and not a fan of the South) who made a remark regarding Sherman's march across Georgia and the Carolina's. His remark was something to the effect that "Slash and burn never looked so good." He was certain that "Sherman gave the South its due." Understanding that idiots are scattered all over this country, this is not a very surprising opinion. It is also not surprising that Mr. Cramer understood, and commented that he might offend some Southerners by making these remarks, but he certainly didn't hold his tongue. This brings us to the very real understanding that *'we'* don't matter to these people. Southerners are just a like flies, mosquitoes (skeeters) and gnats—just a pest—and an aggravating nuisance that everyone just has to put up with. One really has to wonder could he, or anyone on public television make remarks similar to this about any other section of this country, or any distinct group or race of people and not be publicly attacked and humiliated? You know the answer! This is one reason we need to keep all the membership we have and begin a recruiting effort that sweeps the entire County. We need a multitude of fearless men with a strong voice of defense for the Southland and our Southern ancestors. This effort is not for the Dillon area alone, it is absolutely a necessity for the entire former

Confederacy. It is clear that no one else will take a stand for Southern heritage. At times, one wonders if the sons of the South have the courage to defend itself. "To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans. We submit the vindication of the Cause for which we fought; to your strength will be given the defense of the Confederate soldiers good name, the guardianship of his history, the emulation of his virtues, the perpetuation of those principles he loved and which made him glorious and which you also cherish. Remember it is your duty to see that the true history of the South is presented to future generations."—Enough said.

Quotes

"The patriot volunteer, fighting for country and his rights, makes the most reliable soldier on earth"—Stonewall Jackson

"Race prejudice seems stronger in those states that have abolished slavery than in those where it still exists, and nowhere is it more intolerant than in the states where slavery was never known."—Alexis DeTocqueville "Democracy in America"

Who Was the Real Monster?

Captain Henry Wirz was placed on trial for being the 'monster' of Andersonville Prison. His trial is well known for being a three-ring circus designed to have someone—anyone—pay a personal price with his life to satisfy the bloodthirsty politicians of the North. Anyone who has read the account of the trial of Henry Wirz knows of the terrible prejudice that controlled that kangaroo court. He was tried on thirteen accounts of extreme mistreatment of prisoners; none of these prisoners seemed to have a name! Should the truth had even entered that courtroom; all of the top Yankee hierarchy would have suffered great embarrassment. Captain Henry Wirz's attorney was Louis Schade, who, after the trial and the hanging of Capt. Wirz, made application for the body in behalf of the family in order to arrange for interment. The remains were delivered to Mr. Augustus Burgdor, undertaker, and by him Wirz's body was placed into a handsome mahogany coffin. This should have been the end of the story, with the exception of the burial. It was not. This is a letter sent February 26, 1869:

*To His Excellency Andrew Johnson
President of the United States*

Sir: When you gave the order to have the remains of Captain Wirz delivered to me it was your intention that I should get the whole body and not a part of it. The coffin, however, which was delivered to me at the Arsenal contains only the frame, the head, right hand and the spine being missing. If they had been retained for the benefit and in the interest of Science, I would certainly have no objection to it, nor would the relations of Captain Wirz in whose benefit I act. But the skull and some other parts of his body had been exhibited at the Old Capitol Prison by a discharged soldier for money. For that reason, and

no other I respectfully ask you to give an order that the missing parts of the remains of Captain Wirz, said to be at the Surgeon General's Office, may be delivered to me for interment along with the other parts on Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock.
I am, your obedient servant
Louis Schade

Mr. Schade claimed to never have a record where the Government ever returned the missing parts of Wirz's body. This true story will certainly prove that humans can become 'monsters'; but who was the monster?

Famous Last Words

Union General John Sedgwick spoke these words just moments before being shot dead by a Confederate sniper at Spotsylvania—"They couldn't hit an elephant at this distance."

Part of a Slave Narrative

"Den de war come and de Yankees come down thick as leaves. Dey burns de big house and de slave houses and ev'rything. Dey turns us loose. We ain't got no home nor nuthin' to eat, 'cause dey tells us we's free. —William Watkins, Texas

Aiken County Confederate Memorial

The Ladies' Monument Association of Aiken organized on May 20, 1892. It raised the necessary \$700 and unveiled this twenty-foot monument of polished Carolina granite on July 23, 1901, near the railroad station in full view of the traveling public. The monument remains in its original location, which is in the center of one of Aiken's beautiful parks. On dedication day, the crowd came from as far away as Augusta, Georgia, and filled the park. The inscription on this monument reads:

THEY GAVE THEIR ALL IN DEFENCE OF
HOME, HONOR, LIBERTY, AND THE
INDEPENDENCE OF THEIR NATIVE LAND.
THEY KEPT THE FAITH OF THEIR FATHERS
FOREVER HONORED
AND FOREVER MOURNED.

When it took those ladies nine years to raise the money in order to offer a monument to these brave souls, how can anyone declare today that their dedication should now be forgotten and that their hard work be destroyed in the name of political correctness? The inscription carved into this monument is a condensed version of our feeling toward our Confederate ancestors. It isn't necessary that others feel the same as we do, but it should be necessary that they allow us to honor OUR ancestors without condemnation. They expect everyone to allow them to honor theirs—at times, try to force everyone else to join them. We, as our forefathers did before us, only want to be left alone to do that which is right for us.

Naming of a Street

The city of Charlotte N. C. has, in recent times, been in a frenzy to give its city a new street name. Their first look was at renaming Stonewall Street, but received so much opposition; they had to look for another street to rename. They have now found what they declare to be the appropriate street to rename. Second Street is now the new Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. There are more than 700 cities in this country that have this honor. While supposing that no one has a particular problem with this, one has to wonder where the honors will stop for this slain civil rights leader. He certainly has impacted almost every branch of society in this country in one form or another, but this impact is not positive to all people. Just this past month, the country celebrated a day for Dr. King—parades, speeches, marches, schools taking a day out to honor him and employers giving employees a day off for this celebration. Yet, only a few days afterwards was Presidents Day, another federal holiday. This is a day for the people of our country to celebrate the Presidents of the United States—our local schools does not have Presidents Day on its calendar of events. The question must be asked; how can Martin Luther King, Jr. be given more importance to our children than the Presidents of these United States?

The Chaplains Corner

In last months newsletter a copy of the dedication to the Confederate Memorial in Marion was submitted. In the article Ellison Capers, the senior officer in attendance was quoted as saying, in part, "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." In Romans 8:37-39 we read, "Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." This year finds the first day of March as Ash Wednesday. It is the first day of holy season of Lent, which ushers in Christ's resurrection on Easter Sunday. It is a time of personal sacrifice in recognition that the Lord will bless and keep you, and may His light shine upon you as you live and serve Him on the altar of duty. In Christ Jesus name,

Donald R. Hayes

Chaplain

Deo Vindice