

# Captain A. T. Harllee's



## Dispatch

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### Tragedy of the Civil War

[Transcribed]

A clipping from an old scrapbook gives the following dramatic picture of one of the saddest tragedies of the Great War from the Charleston Mercury.

The Yankees from time to time threw a shell into the city and nobody seems to mind it. But misfortune willed that a shell should throw the entire community into mourning.

Miss Anna Pickens, the daughter of our former governor, never consented to leave the city. Despite the representations of General Beauregard, she remained, braving shells and "Greek" fire, tending the wounded, and cheering all with her presence. Among the wounded officers under her ministering care was Mr. Andrew de Rochelle, a descendant of one of the noblest Huguenot families of this city. This young man was full of the liveliest gratitude for his fair nurse. Gratitude gave birth to a more tender sentiment, his suit was listened to, Governor Pickens gave his consent, and the marriage was fixed for yesterday, the 23<sup>rd</sup> of April.

Lieutenant De Rochelle was on duty at Fort Sumter in the morning and it was determined that the ceremony should take place at the residence of General Donham, in the evening at 7 o'clock. At the moment when the Episcopal clergyman was asking the bride if she was ready a shell fell upon the roof of the building, penetrating to the room where the company was assembled, burst and wounded nine persons, and among them was Miss Anna Pickens. The scene that followed cannot be described. Order was at last re-established and the wounded were removed, all except the bride, who lay motionless upon the carpet. Her betrothed kneeling and bending over her, was weeping bitterly and trying to staunch the blood that flowed from a terrible wound under her left breast. A surgeon came and declared that Miss Pickens had not longer than two hours to live. We shall not paint the general despair.

When the girl recovered her consciousness, she asked to know her fate, and when they hesitated to tell her she said: "Andrew, I beg of you to tell me the truth. If I must die, I can die worthy of you." The young soldier's tears were his answer, and Miss Anna, summoning all her strength, attempted to smile. Nothing could be more heart-rending than to see the agony of this brave girl, struggling in the embrace of death, and against terrible mortal pain. Governor Pickens, whose courage is known, was almost without consciousness and Mrs. Pickens looked upon her child with dry haggard eyes of one whose reason totters.

Lieutenant De Rochelle was the first to speak, "Anna," he cried, "I will die soon, too, but I would have you now die my wife. There is yet time to unite us."

The young girl did not reply; she was too weak. A slight flush rose for an instant to her pale cheek. It could be seen that joy and pain were struggling in her spirit for the mastery. Lying upon the sofa her bridal dress all stained with blood, her hair disheveled, she had never been more beautiful. Helpless as she was, Lieutenant De Rochelle took her hand and requested the Rev. Mr. Dickinson to proceed with the ceremony. When it was time for the dying girl to say "Yes" her lips parted several times but she could not articulate. At last the word was spoken, and a slight foam rested upon her lips. The dying agony was near. The minister sobbed as he proceeded with the ceremony. An hour afterwards all was over and the bridal chamber was the chamber of death.

[Submitted by Artie Quick]

### Recent Poll

A recent poll taken on the Internet does not claim to be scientifically correct because those who participated had randomly chosen to do so. This poll was concerning the removal of Confederate flags from the old courtroom in Richmond and whether they should be replaced in their original places. The overwhelming response was ninety-four percent in favor of putting the flags in their former positions.

### Last Months Meeting

Compatriot Alex Johnson gave a very interesting talk of his experiences in Afghanistan as an Agriculture representative. This was a most informative program of things going on over there. Most of the media only talk of military operations and it was exciting to realize that many good things are taking place to make a difference in the lives of the citizens of that country. Alex didn't agree with a lot of things that is going on over there, but he made it clear that he had been excited about some of the progress his department has been making with the people of Afghanistan. He had slides of some interesting sites. If you missed this meeting, you missed a real treat. Also, the ladies of the OCR served our evening meal, which was perfect for the hot weather we have been having. Thanks ladies, ya'll done good.

## “My Will is Absolute Law”

May 23, 1861, the State of Virginia, by eighty six percent of the popular vote decided to leave the Union. The fourteen percent of the voters wishing to remain in the Union was concentrated in the western portion of the state. Out of the entire western part of the state, only eighteen of the counties voted to remain in the Union. By summer of that year, Federal forces had overrun the northwestern part of the state, and a Unionist rump regime was promptly put forward as “the Restored Government of Virginia.” In October a referendum was held. The United States Troops were stationed at the polling places to keep loyal Confederates from participating. This referendum was calling for the creation of a breakaway state called West Virginia. According to the U. S. Constitution, this was done illegally, because the state of Virginia did not grant its approval to the creation of a new state from within its existing borders. West Virginia was admitted to the United States on June 20, 1863. Fifty counties were chosen in this inclusion of the new state, the will of the people were not consulted nor considered. Half of the counties within the boundaries of West Virginia had already voted in the May referendum by a two to one vote to leave the Union. They now had a new master; his name was General Robert H Milroy. He was a forty-six year old fellow from Indiana. He was a lawyer, veteran of the Mexican War and a militant abolitionist with a temper. At his home in Rensselaer, Indiana, the Presbyterian Church for “having resorted to unscriptural and unchristian means to avenge himself” disciplined him. He promise to “refrain from similar acts of violence.” He was finally suspended of church membership because of his unorthodox beliefs. In his new roll of “Tyrant,” he immediately made a name for himself. Some of the Unionist in the occupied western Virginia was suspected of selling their horses in Pennsylvania and then making reimbursement claims with Federal authorities back home on the grounds that they had been robbed by “bands of guerrillas.” Gen. Milroy



Maj. Gen. Robert H. Milroy  
Self proclaimed tyrant

had a solution for this problem. He decided that the citizens of Tucker County should pay for these supposed losses. He had thirty to forty people served with papers that required them to appear before the general at his headquarters in the town of Saint George. He assessed a ‘tax’ on these people in the amounts ranging from \$14.25 to \$700.00. He then gave them three days to pay the tax, or “their houses would be burned and themselves shot and their property all seized.” Milroy then directed his officers to “be sure that you carry out this threat rigidly and show them that you are not trifling or to be trifled with.” In the same order to his subordinates, Milroy demanded that should civilians observe Confederate soldiers approaching a Federal camp, “they must dash in and give you notice.” If noncombatants failed to perform as required, “their houses will be burned and the men shot.” It was estimated that within the three days that the tax assessment had been made on these citizens of little Tucker County that Milroy had raised six

thousand dollars. [The rest of this article will be in next month’s newsletter] (Information taken from “War Crimes Against Southern Civilians” by Walter Brian Cisco.)

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## Either You or the Tattoo Have Got to Go

The U. S. Navy’s Machinist’s Mate First Class Walter Blackburn is stationed at Newport News, Virginia. He has a crossed flag tattoo displaying the Confederate Battle flag and Irish flags on one arm. His superior told him that he had a choice to either have the Battle flag portion of the tattoo eradicated, or he would be removed from the Navy. Blackburn applied for a waiver that would have allowed him to keep the tattoo, but the waiver was denied. He decided to contact the SLRC in early August seeking advice as to how to save his eight-year Navy career without abandoning his Confederate heritage. The SLRC advised Blackburn to request a naval mast hearing so that he could present the cultural and First Amendment issues raised by his case. That is exactly what he did, even if it meant jeopardizing his naval career. Blackburn took a two-week leave and when he returned, he was informed that his case had been reconsidered and he could his tattoo. Blackburn sent an e-mail to the SLRC thanking them for their help and said, “Score one for the little guy.” We must also agree with the sentiments of Chief Trial Counsel Kirk Lyons when he stated, “We love happy endings.”

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## September’s Meeting

This month’s meeting will be held on Thursday the 20<sup>th</sup> of September. The evening meal will be served at 6:30 PM and the meeting will begin at 7. This month the speaker will be Joe Long from the SC Relic Room. He will be speaking on Confederate descendants of the Spanish American War. Chaplain, John Bumgardner, will prepare the evening meal. Sounds like a good meeting, so please don’t miss it. Do a friend a favor and bring him with you.

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## James A. McDaniel, Jr.

### [Confederate Soldier]

James A. McDaniel Jr. was born March 24, 1836. After the War Between the States began, he enlisted with Company H, Orr’s Regiment, 1<sup>st</sup> SC Rifles at Camp Marion on March 30, 1862. Being in Charleston on Sullivan’s Island in late April of 1862, Orr’s Rifles became part of J. R. Anderson’s Brigade in Virginia. Their first encampment was near Milford Station on the Richmond and Fredericksburg railroad. The first experience in combat was around Richmond, Virginia in the summer of 1862. After which combat was experienced around Richmond from June 25<sup>th</sup> until July. From July through September of 1862 he was engaged at Second Manassas, Ox Hill, Harpers Ferry, Sharpsburg and Shepherdstown, Va. Orr’s Regiment of Rifles took winter quarters along the Rappahannock River near Burress’ House from January till May of 1863.

James A. McDaniel was placed in the Wayside General Hospital #9 in Richmond because of fever contracted from

conditions of weather and locale on May 3, 1863. On May 18<sup>th</sup>, he was transferred from Chimborazo #5 in Richmond, to a hospital in Danville.

On July 1, 1863 he was returned to duty and was with his regiment when they engaged the Union Army at Gettysburg. From July 13 to November 26, 1863 he saw action in Northern Virginia. From that time until the engagement at the Wilderness on May 4, 1864 preparations were being made for the 1864 campaign. On May 8, 1864 he participated in the battle at Spotsylvania Courthouse in Virginia. Then on May 12 1864, he was wounded in a battle at North Anna River. There, the total casualties for Orr's Rifles were, 4 killed, 24 wounded and 5 missing. On May 25, 1864 he was received at Wayside Hospital #9 in Richmond. Then on the 26<sup>th</sup> he was admitted to Jackson Hospital in Richmond. On June 16, 1864, he was furloughed from General hospital and sent home on wounded furlough. He was paid at Florence, S. C. on December 28, 1864 while on indefinite wounded furlough.

After the War's end, he married Ann Smith McKellar, widow of John J. McKellar and helped her raise her seven children. The



James A. McDaniel, Jr and his niece  
Mary Jane McDaniel - Allen

family worked a 300-acre farm in the Oakland section of what is now Dillon County. He never had any children of his own, but raised Ann's children, as they were his own. James A. McDaniel and Ann McDaniel were listed as founding members of the Beulah Church that was organized in 1891. This church was later known as the Hamer Presbyterian Church. The church was

located across the railroad tracks not far from the Hamer house. The church building was torn down in 1974 and the new John Deere Company was built on the same location. Ann died before the 1900 census and is buried in the Baker Cemetery near the state line in the Oakland Community. Her head stone was engraved "Annie, wife of J.A. McDonald." For some reason, McDonald had been used in the place of McDaniel by a number of accounts. It is thought that one possibility of this is because of the strong accent of the Gaelic language that may have been spoken by some of the family. James A. McDaniel died sometime between 1900 and 1910 and has never had a headstone to mark his final resting place. He is much more deserving than this. He now has a Confederate headstone, thanks to Compatriot David McDaniel, who cared enough to see to it that a memorial marker was ordered that should be placed on James A. McDaniel's gravesite. May he rest in peace...Deo Vindice.

## General Jackson's Cap and Gloves

["Richmond Sentinel" June 27, 1863]

When Gen. Jackson was wounded, his cap and the gloves which he wore, were left on the field where his injuries were first examined. They were there found by a soldier of company G,

38<sup>th</sup> North Carolina regiment, Pender's brigade. His name is Wm. D. H. Covington, and he is now in Chimborazo Hospital. Mr. Covington carefully preserved the interesting articles, and though offered large sums for them by those who wished to possess these mementoes of our great General, he was fixed in his purpose of delivering them to his family. Through the aid of his Surgeon, Dr. Bowen, he has found the opportunity of sending the gloves. The cap is with Gen. Pender. We have seen the gloves. "T. J. Jackson, Virginia," is printed neatly on the wrist of each. The course of the fatal ball that wounded the wearer, is seen on both. - The right-hand glove is cut by the ball just about the base of the thumb, but so near the edge as



Gen. Thomas J.  
"Stonewall" Jackson

apparently just to have grazed the flesh. The left-hand glove was perforated on the wrist, near the top of the glove. The stain of the blood which flowed from the wound is still upon the glove. The ball, after entering the wrist, ran up the arm, rendering necessary its amputation above the elbow. Mr. Covington's nice feelings and sense of honor in reference to these relics are much to be commended. Such a soldier is worthy to have such a General as Jackson was.

[A little information found about this soldier]

His full name is William Daniel Henry Covington. He was a 20-year-old farmer from Cleveland County North Carolina when he



Flag of 38th Regiment NC Vols

enlisted into Confederate service on November 21, 1861. He was mustered into Company I, 38<sup>th</sup> Regiment of the North Carolina troops as a private. (The article above stated that he was in Company G) In March of 1862 he was hospitalized in Petersburg, Virginia but

had written that he was getting well and expected to be sent back to his regiment soon. By March the following year, he had been promoted to Corporal and was present or accounted for until July 25, 1863 when he was reported AWOL. He had returned to duty by October of 1863. (Some think that during this time he was AWOL, he was trying to get Gen. Jackson's cap and gloves back to Jackson's family) Sometime during 1863 he had written home that he had seen "Yankee Balloons" in the evening, he wrote that he had been chosen for a firing squad (but not the receiving end). He was hospitalized again on May 8, 1864 with a head wound, at Richmond, but was able to return to duty prior to July 1, 1864 and was present or accounted for until taking the Oath Of Allegiance at Washington, D. C., on or about July 13, 1865.

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