

CONFEDERATE GAZETTE



Confederate Gazette

*Is a monthly publication
of the Major Robert M.
White Camp #1250
Sons of Confederate
Veterans
Temple, Texas*

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Temple, Texas

County Judge Orders Flag Removed

FLAG COMES DOWN AT COURTHOUSE

A First National Confederate flag (the Stars & Bars) that has flown atop the flagpole next to the Confederate Soldier's monument on the Bell County Courthouse square was ordered down by County Judge Jon Burrows.

Camp member Rocky Sprott put the flag up last spring and except twice, when it was stolen, the flag has flown continuously.

On January 6th County Judge Burrows summoned Rocky to a meet-



ing. Also attending were County Commissioner Richard Cortese and Camp member John Perry.

Judge Burrows told Rocky that he wanted him to remove the Confederate flag from the flag pole next to the Confederate monument and have it removed by the end of the upcoming weekend.

The County Judge had received a handful of complaints about the flag in the past week. According to the County Judge

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17th Lee-Jackson Dinner Held

About 60 people gathered for the 17th annual Lee-Jackson dinner at the Hilton Hotel in Temple on January 8th.

Featured speaker for the event was Scott Bowden from Arlington. Bowden is the co-author of the best-selling book, *Last Chance For Victory, Robert E. Lee and the Gettysburg*

Campaign. Bowden spoke on "Great Captains of Like Minds: Lee, Jackson, and Their Vision of Victory."

Also in attendance was the SCV's Texas Division Commander, Steve von Roeder. Commander von Roeder installed the new camp officers.

Installed were: George Ballentine as Camp Com-

mander, James Kinnear as 1st Lieutenant Commander, Harold Sutton as 2nd Lieutenant Commander, Richard Sutton as Adjutant, Ralph Snyder as Quartermaster and Color Sergeant, and Rocky Sprott as Chaplain.

A number of Camp members as well as a number of ladies were

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CONFEDERATE PROFILE

Old Leathercoat

Adopted
Texan,
A Former
Governor

He supported Sam Houston in his fight against Texas leaving the Union, but in the end offered his services to the Confederacy, and was eventually removed as Texas' governor at the point of a U.S. bayonet.

James Webb Throckmorton was born on February 1, 1825, at Sparta, Tennessee. He was the son of Elizabeth (Webb) and William Edward Throckmorton. James spent the early days of his youth in Sparta but moved with his family at age 11 to Fayetteville, Arkansas. His father was a physician and in 1841 purchased land near the East Fork of the Trinity River in Collin County, Young James then came to Texas as a teenager.

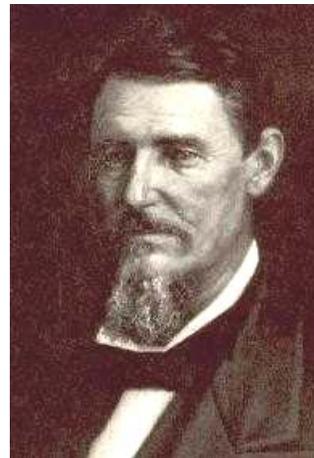
His father became ill and died in less than a year after moving to Texas. Young James quickly became the man of the family, helping his family adjust to Texas frontier life.

Throckmorton left Texas about a year later to study medicine in Princeton, Kentucky. He remained in Kentucky until the Mexican War began. In 1847 he returned to Texas and joined a volunteer regiment as a private. He served in the field for only three months due to becoming ill, suffering from a kidney disease that would plague him his entire life.

During the remainder

of the war he served as a surgeon's assistant with service at Monterrey, Saltillo, and Buena Vista. Due to his health problems he received a medical discharge on June 8, 1847.

In 1848 Throckmorton married Annie Rattan in her native state of Illinois. The newlywed couple moved to McKinney, where he began a very successful



James Webb Throckmorton

medical practice. Throckmorton and his wife would have ten children. In the late 1840's Throckmorton switched professions and became a lawyer. That led him into politics where in 1851 he was elected to the Texas legislature. In 1857 he was elected to the Texas Senate.

His political ally was Texas Governor Sam Houston, and like Houston Throckmorton opposed secession. He even made an unsuccessful effort to form a pro-Union party in the state. He was one of

only seven delegates to the 1861 Secession Convention who voted against Texas leaving the union. When U.S. President Abraham Lincoln urged Governor Houston to organize a resistance movement, backed by U.S. aid, Throckmorton was one of Houston's advisors to urge him not to do it.

Although he was against secession, Throckmorton quickly came to support his adopted state and new nation, the Confederacy. In May of 1861, he organized a Texas regiment, of which most of the men were from Collin County. Throckmorton would later serve in the 6th Texas Cavalry and saw action in various locations. He resigned from the military in September of 1863 due to his kidney condition.

Throckmorton served in the Texas Senate in 1864 and in late 1864 he was commissioned brigadier-general of the state's First Frontier District. In 1865 Confederate General, E. Kirby Smith appointed Throckmorton as a commissioner to the Indians. He earned the nickname of "Old Leathercoat" from the Indian tribes.

After the war was over Throckmorton served on the state constitutional committee in 1866 and served as its chairman. The new state constitution provided only limited new

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Photos From the 17th Annual Lee-Jackson Dinner



Photos: Above Officers being sworn in by Commander von Roeder, right, James Kinnear receives the Johnston Award, and featured speaker, Scott Bowden shows off his bestselling book. (Photos by J. Perry & J. Nelson)

Old Leathercoat

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rights for African-Americans in the state. In the following statewide election held in June of 1866 Throckmorton defeated M. Pease by a margin of 49,277 to 12,168 for the governorship of Texas.

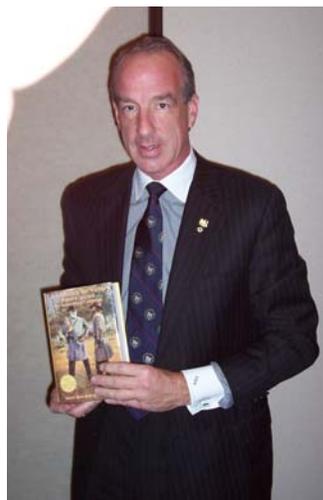
With the passage of the Military Reconstruction Act of 1867 Texas was placed under U.S. military command. Throckmorton often clashed with the U.S. commander of Federal troops in Texas, General Charles Griffin. Griffin pressed for greater rights for African-Americans in the state, but Throckmorton refused to cooperate, saying he had done all he could based on his powers as a governor. Finally, on July 30, 1867 he was removed from office as "an impediment to reconstruction."

Throckmorton returned to McKinney and returned

to his law practice. When the General Amnesty Act of 1872 was passed Throckmorton's right to run for public office was returned. In 1874 he was elected to the U.S. Congress from the state's 3rd District and was reelected in 1876. In 1878 Throckmorton made a run at the governor's office, but he was defeated. He returned to Congress in 1882 and then was reelected in 1884 and 1886. He also considered several runs at the U.S. Senate, none of which were successful.

As his health continued to decline he retired from public service, although he considered another governor's contest in 1892, but he just wasn't up to it.

In 1894, during a business trip, Throckmorton suffered a fall. He never fully recovered and died in McKinney on April 21st.



Camp Schedule

February 8, 2005 Camp meeting, Golden Corral Restaurant, Temple, 7:00 PM. Speaker: George Ballentine, "Little David vs. Goliath, The Attack on USS New Ironsides."

March 8, 2005 Camp meeting, Golden Corral Restaurant, Temple, 7:00 PM. Speaker: TBA

April 9, 2005 Camp meeting, Golden Corral Restaurant, Temple, 7:00 PM. Speaker: TBA

Next Camp Meeting:
February 8th
at
Golden Corral
Temple
7:00 PM



Flag Comes Down!



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the first complaint was from an unnamed Belton lady, followed by complaints from the Carroll brothers, Jimmy who is the General Counsel for Scott & White and his brother Joe Carroll, Judge of the 27th Judicial District, and Roscoe Harrison an African-American fundraiser at Scott & White and the pastor of a Baptist Church in Temple. Judge Burrows stated that it wasn't the quantity of the complaints but rather the influential status of those complaining. Apparently what caught everyone's attention was the Confederate flag not flying at half staff like the other flags at the courthouse for the Tsunami victims.

Judge Burrows also noted that Bell County elected officials were sworn in earlier in the week by Texas Supreme Court Chief Justice Wallace B. Jefferson an African-American, who had to "pass by that flag," as one complainant said. Judge Burrows did ad-

mit that Chief Justice Jefferson made no comments about the flag.

Judge Burrows said he would not allow the flag up on any occasion, including the state holiday of Confederate Heroes Day, however he noted that we perhaps could put it up without his knowledge.

He was asked what the flag flying options were. He said we could appeal to the County Commissioners in a Workshop session. He said if we did that they would seek public comments from all sides and he feared starting a "war." He warned that there have been comments made to him about removing the Confederate monument and this could renew calls for that from others.

At the Camp's Executive Council meeting on January 10th the camp's officers agreed to make contact with the Bell County Historical Commission to see if they would support any efforts to return the flag. At the request of the Commission a group of Camp members

met with the Commission's Executive Council. Camp members were asked not to attend their regular January meeting due to their already heavy agenda, but wait for it to be discussed at their February meeting. Violating the commitment not to discuss the issue the Commission, at their January meeting, passed a motion not to support the flying of the flag.

The Camp will consider how to respond to these actions at the next camp meeting.

Lee-Jackson Dinner

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honored at the meeting.

James Kinnear received the Camp's General Albert Sidney Johnston award for exemplary service to the camp during 2004.

A complete listing will be in the next issue of the Gazette.



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Next Meeting:
Feb. 8th
Golden Corral
Temple