

Confederate Gazette

Lee-Jackson Dinner Held

The Major Robert M. White Camp #1250 held its 23rd Annual Lee-Jackson Dinner on January 15, 2011 at the Cultural Activities Center in Temple. About 70 people attended the event which featured Texas Division Commander Dr. Ray James as the keynote speaker. Dr. James spoke on "Sharpshooters of the Confederacy." Also speaking was H.K.

Edgerton from "March Across Dixie" fame.

The winner of the George

extraordinary service to Camp #1250 during 2010.

At the meeting Camp Officers for 2011 were installed by Division Commander James. Installed were John Larson of Troy Commander, Jimmy Dossey from Gatesville, 1st Lt. Commander, Brandon McGregor of Salado, 2nd Lt. Commander,



Dr. Ray James (far left) installs the Camp's Officers including (from left) Joe White, Brandon McGregor, Jimmy Dossey, and John Larson. (Photo by John C. Perry)

Ballentine award for 2010 was announced by Linda Wooley. The award was given to James Kinnear for his

(Continued on page 3)

Wal-Mart Withdraws from Wilderness

After years of fighting with the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the Wilderness Battlefield Coalition, Wal-Mart has finally given in and pulled its plans for one of its supercenter stores near the Wilderness Battlefield in Virginia.

Opponents of building the Wal-Mart have been fighting the store since July of 2008.

Wal-Mart claims it wasn't trying to build on battlefield



land, but most historians argued that they were.

Although the local county government had approved the proposed new store numerous groups rose to protest the development and a lawsuit was filed. The case was supposed to go to trial in late January, but Wal-Mart unexpectedly pulled the plug on the new store before the trial began.



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Inside this issue:

Profile on: William Preston Johnston 2

The Death of Robert E. Lee 2

Photos from Lee-Jackson Dinner 3

National Archives Scandal 4

CONFEDERATE PROFILE

Son of Albert Sidney



**William Preston
Johnston**

**Johnston was
captured by the
Federals with
Jefferson Davis**

His father was more famous, but this Confederate Veteran would build a reputation as a great Southern educator post war.

William Preston Johnston was born on January 5, 1831, the son of Albert Sidney Johnston and Henrietta Preston, in Louisville, Kentucky. When William was only four years old his mother died of tuberculosis, and soon after that his father left for the Texas frontier, and ended up fighting for the Republic of Texas.

Young William was left to be raised by his mother's family. As a youth he first attended public schools and later a private academy. As a young man he headed east for college studies, graduating from Yale in 1852. He then studied law at the University of Kentucky and later opened a law practice in Louisville. While at Yale Johnston met Rosa Elizabeth Duncan, who was from New Orle-

ans. The two married in 1853. They had six children, but she died in 1885, and Johnston remarried in 1888 to Margaret Henshaw Avery.

When the War Between the States began both father and son offered their services to the Confederacy. William's father was made a full general, the second highest ranking Confederate officer in 1861. William entered the Confederate Army as a major in the 2nd Kentucky Infantry. He was later transferred to the 1st Kentucky Infantry and promoted to Lt. Colonel.

He saw action at First Manassas, but they became ill with "camp fever," likely typhoid fever. By the time he became well his unit had been disbanded and he became an aide-de-camp to Confederate President Jefferson Davis. His father was killed at Shiloh on April 2, 1862 and William was appointed a full colonel on Davis' staff on April 19, 1862.

Johnston worked closely with Davis, helping him with military strategy, delivering important communications, and accessing various Confederate positions. He also became quite close with President Davis' family.

He was present on the field of battle at Seven Pines, Cold Harbor, and during the Petersburg siege. He was with the Davis entourage as it fled south after Richmond fell in 1865. When President Davis was captured on May 10, 1865 in Irwin, County Georgia, Johnston was with Davis and was also taken as a captive.

He was held in solitary confinement at Fort Delaware on Pea Patch Island in Delaware. After being released Johnston fled to Canada.

Johnston eventually returned to Louisville, Kentucky and resumed his practice of law. After Robert E. Lee became the president of Washington College (now Washington & Lee

(Continued on page 4)

The Death of Robert E. Lee

William Preston Johnston, the son of Confederate General Albert Sidney Johnston, was an Aide-de-Camp to Confederate President Jefferson Davis.

Being on Davis' staff meant that Johnston had much interaction with various Confederate commanders, including

Robert E. Lee.

Post war, after Lee became President of Washington College, Lee invited Johnston to come to the college and chair the school's History and English Literature Departments. Johnston jumped at the chance.

When Lee died in 1870 Johnston was at his side and was involved in Lee's funeral. Johnston would later write a recollection of Lee's last days and his funeral. His writings have today become the standard account of the death of Lee and are often re-quoted.

23rd Annual Lee-Jackson Dinner

(Continued from page 1)
and Joe White from Temple as
Adjutant.

Edgerton, along with his broth-
er, Terry Lee, travelled from
Ashville, NC to attend the Lee-
Jackson Dinner as guests of
the Camp.



Above: Dr. Ray James speaks; *Right:* James Kinnear receives Ballentine Award; *Left:* H.K. Edgerton speaks; *Below:* Attendees at the Lee-Jackson Dinner. (Photos by John C. Perry)



About 70
people
honored the
memory of Lee
& Jackson



Camp Schedule

February 8, 2011

Regular Camp meeting at Cotton Patch Café, Temple Mall. 7:00 PM. Speaker: TBD.

March 8, 2011

Regular Camp meeting at Cotton Patch Café, Temple Mall. 7:00 PM. Speaker: TBD.

April 9, 2011

Quarterly Camp Dinner meeting at Cotton Patch Café, Temple Mall. 7:00 PM. Speaker: TBD.

May 10, 2011

Regular Camp meeting at Cotton Patch Café, Temple Mall. 7:00 PM. Speaker: TBD.



June 14, 2011

Regular Camp meeting at Cotton Patch Café, Temple Mall. 7:00 PM. Speaker: TBD.

Next Meeting:
February 8th
Cotton Patch Café
Temple Mall
7:00 PM

Confederate Gazette

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Next Meeting:
Feb. 8th
Cotton Patch Cafe
Temple Mall
6:00 PM Social
7:00 PM Dinner

▶ Page 4

Scandal at the National Archives

In late January the National Archives announced that they had discovered that a Lincoln document in their safekeeping had been altered to try to make it more historically significant.

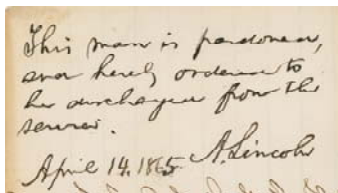
Thomas Lowry, a long-time Lincoln researcher from Woodbridge, VA, confessed on January 12, 2011, to altering an Abraham Lincoln Presidential pardon. The pardon was for Patrick Murphy, a Union Army soldier who was court-martialed for desertion.

Lowry admitted to changing the date of Murphy's pardon, written in Lincoln's own hand, from April

14, 1864, to April 14, 1865, the day John Wilkes Booth assassinated Lincoln.

Having changed the year from 1864 to 1865, Lowry was then able to claim that this pardon was of significant historical relevance because it could be considered one of, if not the final official act by President Lincoln before his assassination.

Lowry apparently brought a fountain pen into a National Archives research room where, using fade proof, pigment-based ink, he altered the date of the Murphy pardon.



Portion of doctored document

Son of Albert Sidney

(Continued from page 2)

University) in Lexington, Virginia, Lee wrote to Johnston asking him to become the chair of the college's History and English Literature departments. Johnston eagerly accepted a chance to be reunited with Lee. Johnston was at Lee's side when he passed away on October 12, 1870.

Johnston stayed on at Washington College until 1877. That same year the college confirmed on Johnston a honorary doctorate of law degree.

In 1880 he became the president of Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge. He led a reorgani-

zation of the university and by many is considered the one who got the school on a modern and successful track. In 1883 he left LSU to become the first president of Tulane University in New Orleans.

Johnston was the author of a number of books. His biography of his father, The Life of Albert Sidney Johnston in 1878, was well received; he also authored books on poetry, English literature, and education. He was also a very popular public speaker.

He died on July 16, 1899 at the home of his son-in-law, Henry Tucker in Lexington, Virginia. He was buried in Cave Hill Cemetery in Louisville, Kentucky.



Grave of William Preston Johnston