

# Confederate Gazette

## 8<sup>th</sup> Battle of Temple Junction

The 8<sup>th</sup> annual Battle of Temple Junction was held on May 20<sup>th</sup>

through May 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Texas Early Day Tractor Assn. grounds in Temple.

The event was co-sponsored by the City of Temple and the Major Robert M. White Camp #1250.

May 20<sup>th</sup> was Education day, but only about 100 school kids participated. This year the event competed with the Little Wildcat Relays which prevented Temple ISD students from participating.

Rain held off for the most part, just a few light showers



*Above: Cannon is fired during artillery demonstration (photo by John C. Perry); Below: Confederate skirmish line, (photo by Judy Tyler).*

on Friday and Saturday of the event. On Saturday two battles were fought and there were demonstrations on artillery. The Heritage Brass Band performed period music and the Reenactors Ball was held.

On Sunday there was a Ladies Tea, an afternoon battle and a Civil War medicine demonstration. The Heritage Brass band also performed on Sunday.

A house fire occurred on Saturday bringing out the



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### Inside this issue:

Profile: William Wirt Adams 2

Shoot Out in Jackson 2

Reenactment Photos 3

Camp #1250's Calendar 3

May Camp Meeting Review 4

## U.S. House Votes to Ban CSA Flags

Not even the dead can have their Confederate flag as the U.S. House of Representatives voted on May 19<sup>th</sup> to ban the display of any Confederate flag in a national cemetery.

In a vote which was allowed to take place by the Republican Speaker of the House, Paul Ryan, the prohibition was passed as an amendment to a military spending

bill, 265 to 159. All House Democrats, but one, voted for it along with 84 House Republicans.

The amendment was sponsored by Jared Huffman a Democrat from California. "Over 150 years ago, slavery was abolished. Why in the year 2016 are we still condoning displays of this hateful symbol on our sacred national cemeteries?" Huff-

man asked. Huffman also said he would offer similar amendments when appropriate to other spending bills.

Two Texas Republicans, Lamar Smith, who represents parts of Travis, Comal and Bexar counties and Will Hurd, who represents parts of Bexar County and into west Texas, voted for the Confederate flag ban.



# CONFEDERATE PROFILE

## *Cavalry Commander*



**William Wirt Adams**

**Adams Served with Nathan Bedford Forrest**

**O**ne biographer called him "high strung" during Reconstruction times and apparently it would cost him his life in a gun duel in the middle of a street in Jackson, Mississippi.

William Wirt Adams was born to George and Anna Weisiger Adams in Frankfort, Kentucky, on March 22, 1819. In 1825, his family moved his family to Natchez, Mississippi. Adams who was better known by his middle name of Wirt, returned to Kentucky in 1839 to attend college in Bardstown.

The lure of Texas apparently short circuited his college life as he enlisted in the Republic of Texas Army that same year. He joined as a private but rose to be an adjutant and saw action against both the Cherokee and Comanche Indians in northeast Texas.

After his father passed away Adams left Texas and returned to Mississippi. He also became

a successful sugar planter in Louisiana and had businesses in Jackson and Vicksburg. In 1850 he married Sallie Huger Mayarant, they would not have any children to survive beyond childhood. He ran and won a seat in the Mississippi legislature in 1858 and was reelected in 1860. As secession talk raged Adams was firmly on the side of leaving the union and first worked hard to see Mississippi leave the union and then went to Louisiana to see that they left the union.

When the Confederacy was formed Jefferson Davis offered Adam a position in his cabinet as the Postmaster General, but Adams declined the offer. Rather he formed a cavalry regiment the 1<sup>st</sup> Mississippi Cavalry, which would later be named after him as Wirt Adams's Regiment of Cavalry.

Adams, who was elected as the regiment's colonel, and his men saw action in the fall of 1861 in Kentucky. During the Battle of

Shiloh in April of 1862 Adams and his men help hold the Confederate right flank of the infantry and then covered the Confederates withdrawal following the battle. From April to June 1862 Adams saw action during the Siege of Corinth and after the fall of Vicksburg, Mississippi in July 1863, his command harassed and had skirmishes with various Union cavalry units.

Adams' regiment was combined with others and he was promoted to a brigadier general on September 25, 1863. He was part of Confederate forces attempting to stop William T. Sherman's movements on Meridian, Mississippi. By summer of 1864 Adams was serving with Nathan Bedford Forrest in Alabama. He was given command of the Central District of Mississippi and later command of the District of South Mississippi and East Louisiana. His brigade surrendered in Ala-

*(Continued on page 3)*

## Shoot Out in Jackson

Post war William Wirt Adams, the Postmaster of Jackson, Mississippi was opposed to the Negro vote. When one of his political allies killed a local newspaper editor Adams became the target of a newspaper the *New Mississippian*.

On May 1, 1888 Adams and the *New Mississippian* editor, J.H.

Martin, met on the streets of Jackson. Words were exchanged between the two.

Accounts vary on who drew first. Each man had Colt revolvers. Adams fired three shots at Martin. Martin fired six shots at Adams. All the pistol firing occurred at a range of about 10 feet and lasted only for a few

seconds.

As Martin fell to the ground with three wounds, he said "I am dead," then died. Adams stood straight up after being hit and then collapsed with a bullet wound to his heart. Adams was dead in the middle of a city street at age 69.

# Reenactment Photos



Reenactment Photos: *Above:* H.W. Irby gives instructions on how to fire a cannon. *Left:* Table setting for the tea. *Below:* The Heritage Brass Band performs. (Top photo by John C. Perry, and the other two by Judy Tyler)



## Cavalry Cmdr.

(Continued from page 2)  
bama on May 4, 1865. Adams gave his farewell speech to the troops two days later and was paroled on May 12<sup>th</sup>.

Adams returned to Mississippi, living in both Jackson and Vicksburg attending to his business interests. In 1880 he was appointed as Mississippi's state revenue agent. He resigned in 1885 and took the position of postmaster in Jackson.

Post war Adams was an active member of the Democratic Party and he was strongly opposed to Blacks having the right to vote in the South. In 1887 he authored, "Red Manifesto," which opposed Blacks voting and promised harm to those who did. After an incident where a former Confederate officer killed a newspaper editor, the *New Mississippian* editorially attacked Adams. On May 1, 1888 the two men met on a Jackson city street, guns were drawn and fired. When the smoke cleared both men lay dead. Adams was buried in Greenwood Cemetery in Jackson. His wife lived until 1904.

**Adams was an active member of the Democratic Party.**

## Camp Schedule

### June 14, 2016

Camp's Regular Meeting, 6:00 PM Social and Meeting at 7:00 PM, Cotton Patch Café, Temple Mall. Speaker: Dr. Buddy Wheat

### July 9, 2016

Camp's Quarterly Dinner Meeting, 6:00 PM Social and Meeting at 7:00 PM, Location and speaker: TBD

### July 4, 2016

Annual Belton 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade. Camp to participate with a float entry.

### July 13-17, 2016

SCV National Reunion, Richardson, TX. See details on SCV web site.



### August 9, 2016

Camp's Regular Meeting, 6:00 PM Social and Meeting at 7:00 PM, Cotton Patch Café, Temple Mall.

**Next Camp Meeting:  
June 14<sup>th</sup>  
Cotton Patch Cafe  
Temple, TX  
6:00 PM Social  
7:00 PM Meeting**

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P.O. Box 794 Salado, Texas 76571

**Next Meeting:  
June 14th  
Cotton Patch Cafe  
Temple, Texas  
6:00 PM**

▶ Page 4

## ★ ★ Camp #1250's May Camp Meeting ★ ★

*By Michael E. Belcher*

Compatriot and Camp 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Commander James Bozeman was our guest speaker. James gave us a wonderful presentation on his Bozeman ancestors and their contribution to the Southern Cause. He began by telling us about how his grandmother got him interested in genealogy when he was 10 years old, which led to a life of researching his family history. Through it all he discovered that several of his ancestors were very involved in the War Between the States. It was a long and very informative presentation, and well received and enjoyed by the members in attendance.

At the meeting Ms. Holly Leifer-

man of Temple Parks and Leisure Services reported that there would be a television interview in Waco at the KWTX studio for the "The Battle of Temple Junction." The Camp will get someone there in period clothing. Holly needs more volunteers. There are 150 school children signed up for education day on Friday, which is down from 400 from last year. We have 9 events scheduled, which is down from 14 from last year.

Camp Commander Tyler reported that he had discussed the South Belton Cemetery with the City of Belton, and was told that it was all on us. They will only provide for a regular mowing of the cemetery grounds. He will check with the Bell County Historical Commission

about a possible grant to assist with the repair work.

Camp Commander Tyler reported that it will cost \$700 for a 2-foot by 2-foot monument for the Jacob Hemphill monument at the North Belton Cemetery. A motion to support this expense was passed by a unanimous vote.

Camp Commander Tyler reported that the curbstone at the Hillcrest Cemetery in Temple will be poured first and then we will follow with the gravel work later. Compatriot Steve Wooley made a motion to pay for this work, which was seconded by several members, and approved by a unanimous Camp vote.

1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Commander and Camp Chaplain Rev. Dr. Buddy Wheat

spoke on a proposal to get Compatriot Henry E. Kidd from Virginia to come and be our Camp guest speaker for our Lee-Jackson Dinner in January. Compatriot James Bozeman made a motion to pay for his transportation fees to come and be our speaker, which was seconded by John Larson, Jr., and passed by a unanimous Camp vote of approval.

A new member was voted on and approved for membership in the Sons of Confederate Veterans and Camp #1250. He is Glenn Joel Kelley, Jr. of Temple, who is joining on the service of his 3<sup>rd</sup> Great Grandfather ancestor, Joseph James Shannon, who served as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in Company F, 53<sup>rd</sup> Regiment, of the Tennessee Infantry.