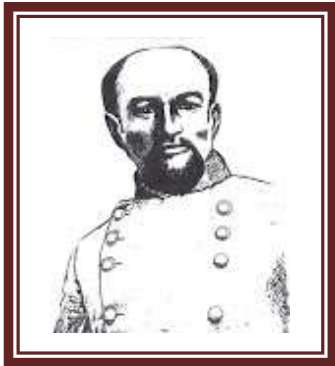


# CALCASIEU GREYS

Volume 37, Issue 10 Sons of Confederate Veterans, Lake Charles, Louisiana Oct. 2018



**Captain James W. Bryan**

## **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of Captain James W. Bryan Camp 1390, Sons of Confederate Veterans, from 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 9, at Ryan's Buffet at 4051 Ryan St., Lake Charles, Louisiana. This is very important meeting since we will be taking nominations for officers for 2019. The election will be at the November meeting. Adjutant Luke Dartez will also give a report on the 2018 Louisiana SCV Division Fall Assembly. Please attend this important meeting and enjoy good food and great Confederate fellowship.

## **GEN. GARDNER BIOGRPHY**

Compatriot Mike Jones gave a program on Major General Franklin Gardner at last month's meeting. He has written possibly the first book length biography of the great Louisiana general, who commanded the Confederate garrison at the longest true siege in American military history—the Siege of Port Hudson, La. The books were not in yet at that meeting, but they are in now and will be available at our Oct. 9 meeting for anybody interested.

## **NATIONAL CONFEDERATE MUSEUM**

Construction is now underway on the SCV's National Confederate Museum at our international headquarters, Elm Springs, in Columbia, Tenn. More donations are needed so please consider donating as soon as possible. They can be sent to Sons of Confederate Veterans, c/o TCM Building Fund, P.O. Box 59, Columbia, TN 38402.



**SCV NEWS**

*Mike Jones, editor/historian*

While attacks on Confederate monuments have continued, striking down symbols of our past have gone well past just ours. Just recently an impressive and very artistic statue called "Prospector Pete," was removed from the campus at Cal State in Long Beach, Calif. because it may be offensive to some Native Americans. The statue depicts a prospector in the California Gold Rush in 1849.

The university stated the statue, formally named "The Forty-Niner Man" was intended to represent founding President Pete Peterson's that he "struck the gold of education." But now the university believes the gold rush was "a time in history when the indigenous peoples of California endured subjugation, violence and threats of genocide."

Couldn't the same thing be said of what happened to the people of the South at the hands and torches of the Northern invaders from 1861 to 1865? Starving Southern civilians, burning vast swaths of Southern states and Southern cities, as well as committing all manner of atrocities against men and women, are a matter of historic record. But we hear very little of that from Anti-Confederate politicians and historians. There seems to be no acknowledgement of that fact of history from these modern-day haters and monument destroyers.

This monument-hate campaign has spread beyond our shores as well. It was recently reported there was a bitter row in Parliament in London, England over a statue of Oliver Cromwell outside the Palace of Westminster.

We, Sons of Confederate Veterans, have won some and lost some of these battles, but let us never surrender and never retreat until they just "LEAVE US ALONE."



**COL. HUME R. FEILD**

### **Latest Confederate Medal of Honor awarded...**

Confederate Medal of Honor

CITATION

Colonel Hume R. Feild

1st/27th Consolidated Regiment Tennessee Infantry

Maney's Brigade, Cheatham's Division, Army of Tennessee

Battle of Kennesaw Mountain, Georgia

27 June 1864

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty as regimental commander of the 1st/27th Consolidated Regiment Tennessee Infantry on 27 June 1864 at the "Dead Angle." Ordered to hold his position at all costs, Colonel Feild and his men withstood a severe, accurate, and lengthy bombardment by dozens of Union cannon prior to being attacked by massed enemy infantry which, upon quickly reaching the Confederate defensive position, resulted in desperate fighting at near point-blank range all along the line. Colonel Feild, seeing his men hard-pressed, mounted the works with sword in hand and, though completely exposed to enemy fire, shouted encouragement to his men. In the midst of the most intense fighting, he began firing loaded muskets

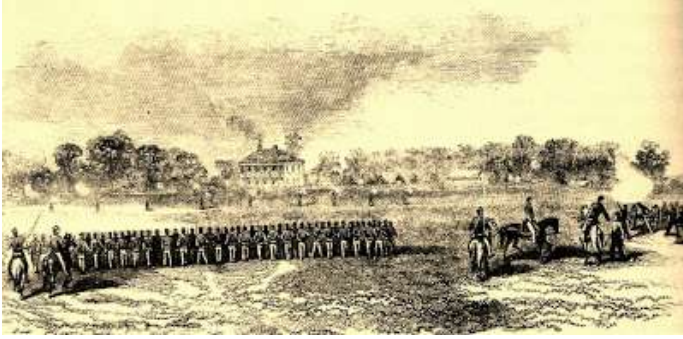
passed to him by his men shooting at least a dozen enemy soldiers before receiving an incapacitating wound to the head. Inspired by his valiant actions, Colonel Feild's men continued the fight with determination and valor against the numerically superior enemy force eventually forcing the enemy to withdraw with heavy casualties. His personal heroism and battlefield leadership in extreme circumstances contributed significantly to the successful defense of the "Dead Angle" and the Army of Tennessee's defense at Kennesaw Mountain. Colonel Feild's valor, steadfast devotion to duty, and extraordinary heroism are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself, the Confederate States Army, and all American veterans from the birth of our country to the present.

### **NC VOTES TO KEEP MONUMENTS**

[Excerpted From Smithsonian.com](#)

Days after a group of protestors [tore down a Confederate statue](#) at the University of North Carolina, officials decided to keep three Confederate monuments in place at the state Capitol in Raleigh. According to [NPR's Merrit Kennedy](#), the North Carolina Historical Commission voted 9-2 in favor of a motion that says it does not have the authority to recommend the relocation of the three statues. The monuments pay tribute to [Confederate soldiers who died in battle](#), the ["women of the Confederacy"](#) and [Henry Lawson Wyatt](#), the first Confederate soldier from North Carolina to be killed in the Civil War. In its [resolution](#), the historical commission said it felt these monuments are "an overrepresentation and over-memorialization of a difficult era in NC history." Nevertheless, the resolution states, the commission could not recommend moving the sculptures due to a 2015 [law](#) stipulating that statues on public property can only be relocated if it is necessary for their preservation—and even then, they must be moved to "locations of similar prominence or honor," according to the resolution. Before reaching its resolution, a historical commission task force held a public hearing, collected some 10,000 public comments and consulted with legal experts and historians. Republican lawmakers informed the commission that it did not have the authority to move the statues, according to Adeel Hassan of the [New York Times](#).

## 155-years-ago BATTLE OF BUZZARD'S PRAIRIE



The Battle of Buzzard's Prairie, Louisiana. The Chretien Point plantation can be seen in the distance. (Frank Leslie's Illustrated News)

By Mike Jones

The Battle of Buzzard's Prairie occurred on October 15, 1863 on the grounds of Chretien Point Plantation near modern day Sunset, Louisiana. It was part of the Great Texas Overland Expedition in the fall of that year when the occupying Federal Army in New Orleans was trying to invade Texas across the Cajun prairies and bayous of Southwest Louisiana.

The expedition force in this battle was made up of part of Maj. Gen. Nathaniel P. Bank's Army of the Gulf and led in the field by Maj. Gen. William B. Franklin. Opposing the invaders was the Confederate cavalry division of Brig. Gen. Thomas Green. The three Federal divisions in the battle were those of Brig. Gen. Stephen Burbridge's 4th Division, 13th Corps, men from Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Wisconsin and Kentucky; Brig. Gen. Godfrey Weitzel's 1st Division, 19th Corps, men from New York, Massachusetts, Connecticut and Vermont; and Brig. Gen. Cuvier Grover's 3rd Division, 19th Corps, men from New York, Massachusetts, Maine, and New Hampshire.

The Confederate force was made up of Green's Cavalry Division, including the 1st Cavalry Brigade of Col. Arthur P. Bagby, including the 4th, 5th and 7th Texas Cavalry regiments; 2nd Cavalry Regiment (Arizona brigade); 13th Texas "Horse" Battalion; 2nd Louisiana Cavalry and the Valverde Battery. Also in the division was the 2nd Cavalry Brigade of Col. John P. Major, made up of the 1st Regiment (Lane's) Partisan Rangers; 3rd Regiment (Arizona brigade) Partisan Rangers; 6th Regiment (Stone's) Partisan Rangers; and Capt. Oliver Semmes' 1st Confederate Battery.

The battlefield was an open prairie in front of the Chretien plantation, near Bayou Bourbeau, and the road from Opelousas to Vermilionville (modern day Lafayette). The Federals had been camped the previous night,

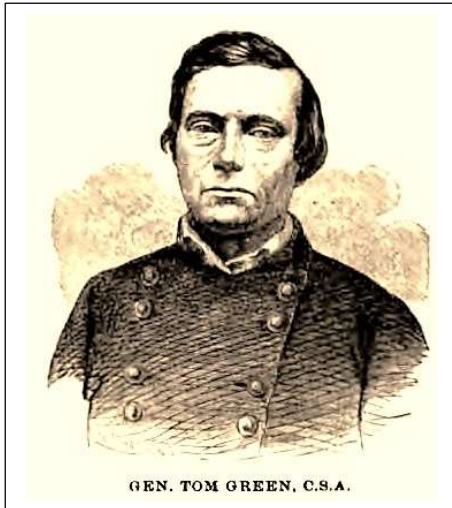
stretched across the road and along Bayou Carencro. Green had moved up the previous day and camped his division behind Bayou Bourbeau and along the plantation road.

Early in the morning of the 15th of October, Green advanced the 4th, 5th and 7th Texas cavalry regiments to a plantation fence bordering the prairie. He placed Semmes' Battery on the left and the Valverde Battery on the right. Col. William Polk "Gotch" Hardeman of the 4th Texas, led a contingent of skirmisher, made up of one company from each regiment, out onto the prairie the lure the Federals into attacking the strong Confederate position. General Franklin took the bait and ordered out Weitzel's Division to attack across the open prairie, supported by artillery batteries. Advancing in full battle order with flags flying, the Federals crossed the prairie and easily pushed the Confederate skirmishers back to the fence line.

The horse soldiers of the 4th, 5th and 7th Texas cavalry regiments then made a wild dash and full-throated "Rebel Yell" on the right of Weitzel's line. The soldiers from New York and Massachusetts became panic-stricken and the Yankee right collapsed. Coming to the rescue for the Federals was Lt. William Marland of Nim's Battery who stopped the rout and drove the Confederates back with grape and cannister, as well as exploding an ammunition chest of Semmes' Battery.

The battle then settled into an exchange of musket and cannon fire that lasted several hours. While the Federals had overwhelming numbers, Franklin didn't order another full strength attack until about 10 o'clock that morning, led by the Mid-Westerners of Burbridge's Brigade. The Confederates withdrew behind Bayou Bourbeau while Hardeman had the 7th Texas Cavalry slow down the Yankees from concealed positions, around the Chretien Plantation. The 7th then withdrew across the bayou and the 4th and 5th Texas began skirmishing with the Mid-Westerners to slow their advance. Green's men were driven off, but he accomplished his goal of taking the measure of the Federal Army's strength.





## Brig. Gen. Tom Green

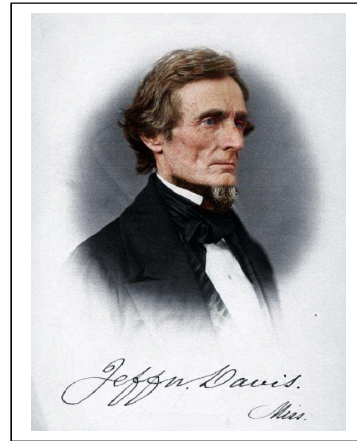
Thomas Green was born in 1814 in Virginia, moved to Tennessee with his family and graduated from the University of Tennessee in 1834. He came to Texas in December 1835 to join the Texas Revolution, and enlisted in Captain Isaac Moreland's Company of the First Infantry Regiment. He helped fire the "Twin Sisters" cannons at the Battle of San Jacinto April 21, 1836. After the battle, he was promoted to lieutenant and then major and aide-de-camp of General Thomas J. Rusk.

Green returned to Tennessee after the war but returned to Texas in 1837, where he became active in the politics and government of the new republic. He also continued his military service helping defend Texas from Mexican raiders, and commanded a company of Texas Rangers in the First Texas Regiment of Mounted Riflemen.

During the war for Southern Independence, he commanded the 5th Texas Cavalry in the New Mexico Campaign, the Battle of Galveston, and the Bayou Tech Campaign. He was promoted to brigadier general May 20, 1863. At the the Battle of Bayou Bourbeau, he was overall commander of both the Confederate cavalry and the Confederate infantry.

In the Battle of Mansfield, April 8, 1864, his cavalry division skirmished with Federal before they reached the battlefield, fighting the Battle of Wilson's Farm on April 7. Then on the day of the Mansfield battle, his division held the Confederate left and smashed the Federal right. He was killed in action four days later, April 12, 1864, at the Battle of Blair's Landing, Louisiana.

Without a doubt, Gen. Tom Green was one of greatest of the many great cavalry leaders in the Confederate Army. His loss was devastating to his men, and to the cause of Southern Independence.



## THE REASON FOR SEPARATION IN PRESIDENT JEFFERSON DAVIS' OWN WORDS

“An agricultural people, whose chief interest is the export of a commodity required in every manufacturing country, our true policy is peace and the freest trade which our necessities will permit. It is alike our interest, and that of all those to whom we would sell and from whom we would buy, that there should be the fewest practicable restrictions upon the interchange of commodities. There can be but little rivalry between ours and any manufacturing or navigating community, such as the northeastern States of the American Union. It must follow, therefore, that a mutual interest would invite good will and kind offices. If, however, passion or the lust of dominion should cloud the judgment or inflame the ambition of those States, we must prepare to meet the emergency, and to maintain, by the final arbitrament of the sword, the position which we have assumed among the nations of the earth. We have entered upon the career of independence, and it must be inflexibly pursued. Through many years of controversy with our late associates, the Northern States, we have vainly endeavored to secure tranquility, and to obtain respect for the rights to which we are entitled. As a necessity, not a choice, we have resorted to the remedy of separation; and henceforth our energies must be directed to the conduct of our own affairs, and the perpetuity of the Confederacy which we have formed. If a just perception of mutual interest shall permit us peaceably to pursue our Separate political career, my most earnest desire will have been fulfilled; but if this be denied to us, and the integrity of our territory and jurisdiction be assailed, it will but remain for us, with firm resolve, to appeal to arms and invoke the blessings of Providence on a just Cause.”