



18 February 2011

The Cannon Report

The Powhatan Troop, SCV Camp 1382

John Moody
Commander

Vacant
Lt. Commander

Michael Pogue
Adjutant

Andrew Seamons Jr.
Treasurer

Bishop Dennis Campbell.
Chaplain

Dr. Ronald W. Toney
Surgeon

Malcolm Campbell Jr.
Color Sergeant

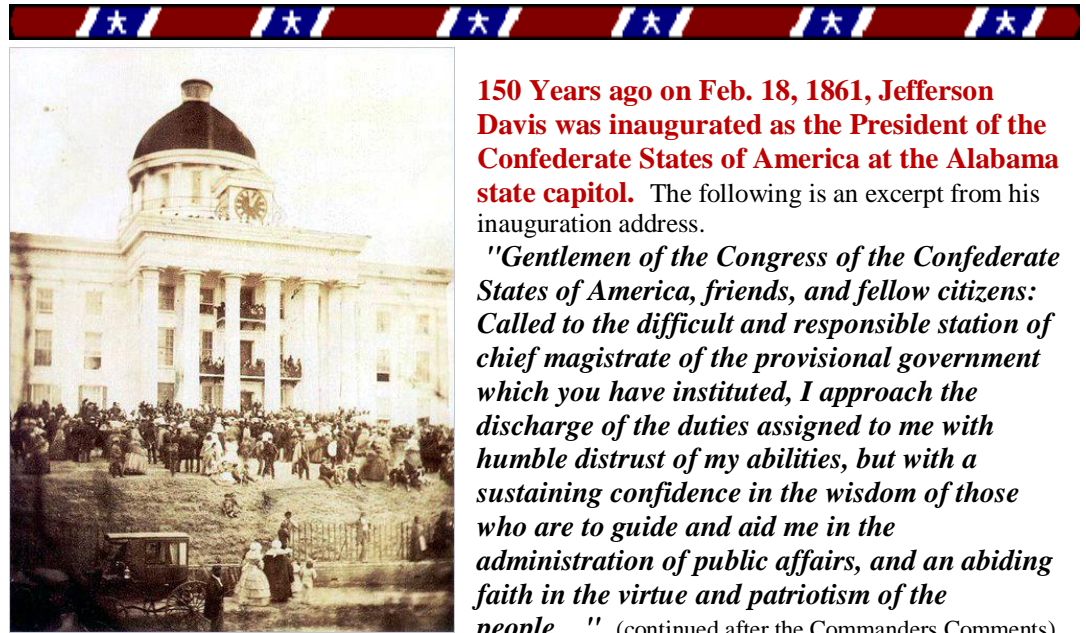
Vacant
Aide-De-Camp

Stuart Townes
Quartermaster

Kenneth Phibbs
Camp Historian

Gordon Drumheller
Judge Advocate

Paul M. Houser
Editor TCR
Webmaster



150 Years ago on Feb. 18, 1861, Jefferson Davis was inaugurated as the President of the Confederate States of America at the Alabama state capitol. The following is an excerpt from his inauguration address.

"Gentlemen of the Congress of the Confederate States of America, friends, and fellow citizens: Called to the difficult and responsible station of chief magistrate of the provisional government which you have instituted, I approach the discharge of the duties assigned to me with humble distrust of my abilities, but with a sustaining confidence in the wisdom of those who are to guide and aid me in the administration of public affairs, and an abiding faith in the virtue and patriotism of the people...." (continued after the Commanders Comments)

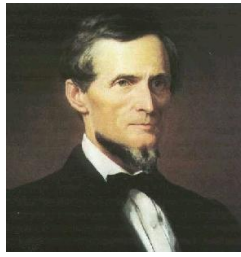
Commander's Comments and Cannon Report

Our February meeting will be at Rosa's Restaurant on February 27 starting at 1:00 PM for lunch. Our program will begin at 2:00 PM and this month we are fortunate to have Mr. Mike Hailinen as our guest speaker. Anyone who has attended the camp's Muster Day program in recent years will recognize Mr. Hailinen as the Commander of the 59th Virginia. The Hailinen family has been involved in re-enacting activities related to the War Between the States for years.

Since the 59th Virginia gets just a few minutes each year to demonstrate their soldiering skills, some of your officers thought that our camp members would be interested in more information about the 59th Virginia including their weapons, dress, and activities. An informal presentation is anticipated and members will be encouraged to ask questions about all topics that Mr. Hailinen covers. Mike will give a demonstration of a "blanket inspection", something that the troops had to do before they broke camp. For the benefit of the ladies attending, Mrs. Hailinen will also be present to give her presentation from the ladies perspective.

Last month's meeting was well attended and I thank our speakers, compatriot William P. Jervey, and Mrs. Pat Moody. Our members have often demonstrated an interest in genealogy and historical events regarding TWBTS. From an informal survey of members, I encourage members to show a similar interest for historically correct uniforms, arms, manner of dress and related subjects. Please show your thanks for the past generosity of the 59th Virginia by coming to the February meeting.

**DEO
VINDICE**



President Jefferson Davis

excerpts from President Jefferson Davis address continued

"Our present position has been achieved in a manner unprecedented in the history of nations. It illustrates the American idea that government rests upon the consent of the governed, and that it is the right of the people to alter or abolish a government whenever it becomes destructive of the ends for which it was established. The declared purposes of the compact of Union from which we have withdrawn were to establish justice, insure domestic tranquillity, to provide for the common defence, to promote the general welfare, and to secure the blessings of liberty for ourselves and our posterity; and when in the judgment of the sovereign States now comprising this Confederacy it had been perverted from the purposes for which it was ordained, and had ceased to answer the ends for which it was established, an appeal to the ballot box declared that so far as they were concerned the government created by that compact should cease to exist. In this they merely asserted a right which the Declaration of Independence of 1776 defined to be inalienable. Of the time and occasion for its exercise, they, as sovereign, were the final judges each for itself. The impartial and enlightened verdict of mankind will vindicate the rectitude of our conduct, and He who knows the hearts of men will judge the sincerity with which we have labored to preserve the government of our fathers, in its spirit and in those rights inherent in it, which were solemnly proclaimed at the birth of the States, and which have been affirmed and reaffirmed in the Bills of Rights of the several States. When they entered into the Union of 1789, it was with the undeniable recognition of the power of the people to resume the authority delegated for the purposes of that government whenever, in their opinion, its functions were perverted and its ends defeated. By virtue of this authority, the time and occasion requiring them to exercise it having arrived, the sovereign States here represented have seceded from that Union, and it is a gross abuse of language to denominate the act rebellion or revolution. They have formed a new alliance, but in each State its government has remained as before. The rights of person and property have not been disturbed. The agency through which they have communicated with foreign powers has been changed, but this does not necessarily interrupt their international relations.

Sustained by a consciousness that our transition from the former Union to the present Confederacy has not proceeded from any disregard on our part of our just obligations, or any failure to perform every constitutional duty -- moved by no intention or design to invade the rights of others -- anxious to cultivate peace and commerce with all nations -- if we may not hope to avoid war, we may at least expect that posterity will acquit us of having needlessly engaged in it. We are doubly justified by the absence of wrong on our part, and by wanton aggression on the part of others. There can be no cause to doubt that the courage and patriotism of the people of the Confederate States will be found equal to any measure of defence which may be required for their security. Devoted to agricultural pursuits, their chief interest is the export of a commodity required in every manufacturing country. Our policy is peace, and the freest trade 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 interchange of commodities. There can be but little rivalry between us and any manufacturing or navigating community, such as the Northwestern States of the American Union.

It must follow, therefore, that mutual interest would invite good will and kindness between them and us. If, however, passion or lust of dominion should cloud the judgment and inflame the ambition of these States, we must prepare to meet the emergency, and maintain, by the final arbitrament of the sword, the position we have assumed among the nations of the earth. We have now entered upon our 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 tranquillity and obtain respect for the rights to which we were entitled. As a necessity, not a choice we have resorted to separation, and henceforth our energies must be devoted to the conducting of our own affairs, and perpetuating the Confederacy 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 us, and the integrity and jurisdiction of our territory be assailed, it will but remain for us with a firm resolve to appeal to arms and invoke the blessings of Providence upon a just cause....."

Source: Southern Historical Society Papers, Vol. I. Richmond, Virginia., January, 1876

Paul M. Houser
Cannon Report Editor