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# The Cape Fear Civil War Round Table

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## The *RUNNER*

### Newsletter of The Cape Fear Civil War Round Table

Editor **Tim Winstead**

March 2011

Our next meeting will be Thursday, 10 March 2011 at St. Andrew's On-the-Sound (Airlie Road).  
Social Hour at 6:30 p.m., meeting at 7:30



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We invite and welcome all people with an interest in American history to attend a meeting of the Cape Fear Civil War Round Table. The speakers for our programs are diverse in their views, interpretations, and presentations.

\*\*\*\*\* **March Program** \*\*\*\*\*

#### **Revolutionary War Connections to the Civil War**

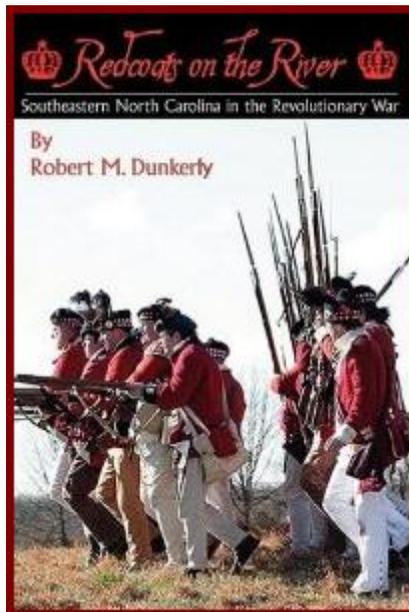
**Robert M. Dunkerly**, Lead Park Ranger at Appomattox Court House National Historical Park, will be the speaker at our March 10 meeting. Bert will present his examinations of the similarities between the American Revolution and the American Civil War. How will the events of 1776 and 1861 be viewed during the 150th anniversary observance of the cataclysmic civil war that tested the very existence of a nation founded upon the ideals of equality for all men?

Join us on March 10 and learn what Bert thinks of this and other questions.



Bert is a historian, award-winning author, and speaker who is actively involved in historic preservation and research. He is a graduate, with a degree in History, of St. Vincent College (Pennsylvania) and holds a Masters in Historic Preservation from Middle Tennessee State. Bert's service with the National Park Service includes assignments at nine historic sites (including Moores Creek National Battlefield). Bert is the author of six books on the American Revolution and over twenty articles. His research includes archaeology, colonial life, military history, and historic commemoration.

Bert has visited over 300 battlefields and over 700 historic sites worldwide. When not reading or writing, Bert enjoys hiking, camping, and photography.



***Redcoats on the River: Southeastern North Carolina in the American Revolutionary War***

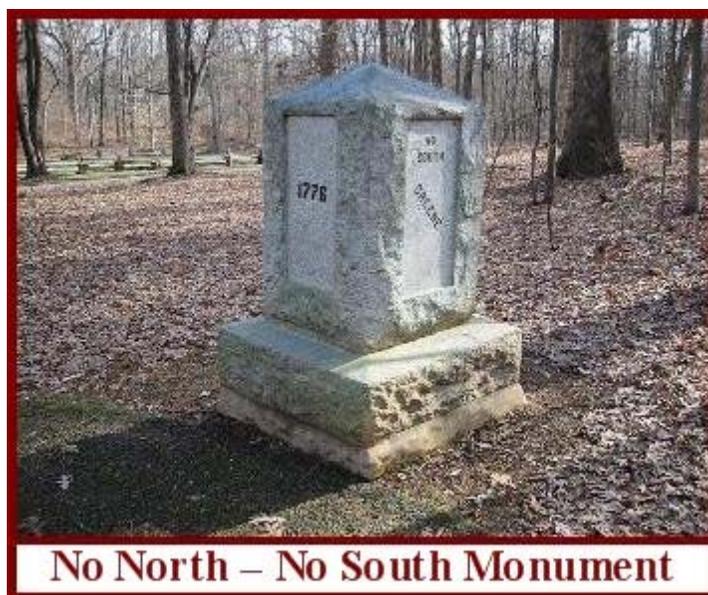
From a paper entitled, "Our History's History" (*The George Wright FORUM* 20, no. 1 (2003)), Bert explained some of his views about the way events are affected by the passage of time. The connection between the Revolution and Civil War may have been little understood, but it seemed that it may have had much more meaning to the people of 1861 than to many of us today.

My historical research with the National Park Service (NPS) has led me to some pretty interesting places, from Washington's family deeds to the work of the Civilian Conservation Corps. As I have studied various reports, historical studies, and site histories, I began to acutely perceive changes evident in historiography today. It is important to periodically stop, look around, and see where we are going. The study and application of history and its applied concepts is constantly changing as society evolves .....

**\*\*\*\*\* CFCWRT Spring Tour Reminder \*\*\*\*\***  
**Cape Fear Civil War Round Table Spring 2011 Battlefield Tour**  
**of Guilford Courthouse National Park**

A 1 day bus tour on Saturday, **March 26, 2011** (the 4th Saturday in March 2011). Our guide will be Josh Howard, NC Division of Cultural Resources, who was our speaker at the January 2011 Table. (Josh is co-author of *Long, Obstinate, and Bloody: The Battle of Guilford Courthouse.*)

We have a 55 passenger bus, with on board toilet for the tour, reserved. A box lunch will be included in the cost of the tour as well as coffee, water, soda, donuts and cookies on the bus as on past tours. The price will be determined based on the number of participants. The more people who go make the trip, the cheaper the tour. We will leave at 7 AM on Saturday, March 26th from Pine Valley Methodist Church for the 3 and ½ hour bus trip to the park in Greensboro.



This monument is dedicated to the unity of the American people. On the west face of the monument is an inscription honoring Nathanael Greene, a northerner who served in the south during the Revolutionary War.

The Park is open from 8:30 AM to 5 PM. At the Park Headquarters, where we will start, they have a 32 minute live action film, in the 1st person, which starts on the hour. There is an animated battle map presentation which takes place on the :15 and :45 of the hour. There is also a bookstore and a small museum. We will travel the tour road which is 2 & ½ miles long. Josh advised we will some walking at the beginning of the tour to see things you cannot see from the tour road.

You Tube has "[The Battle of Guilford Courthouse](#): an animated map" that you may want to look at as well as other articles found via Google.

The Tour Guy will need E-mail addresses of interested people. His E-mail address is [DELSNOOP@aol.com](mailto:DELSNOOP@aol.com). **Please put in the subject line of your E-mail CFCWRT 2011 Tour.** The tour is open to nonmembers of the CFCWRT. The bus seats limit us to 55 participants and reservations will be sold on a 1st come basis.

Dale Lear  
\*\*\*\*\* **Raffle Winners** \*\*\*\*\*

*Mr. Gatling's Terrible Marvel* – Joe George  
*Nine Died in Vain* – Mary Royal  
*Civil War Blunders* – Dale Lear  
*Mary Lincoln: Biography of a Marriage* – William Clark  
*The Civil War* – Ed Gibson  
*Best Little Ironies, Oddities and Mysteries of the Civil War* – John Moore  
*Elmira: Death Camp of the North* – Mary Bolger

\*\*\*\*\* **Trivia Questions February 2011** \*\*\*\*\*

- 1 – Ever wonder why there are 13 stars on the Confederate battle flag and the final national flag? Sure, Kentucky and Missouri were included as an inducement for the Border States to join the Confederacy, but why include what was not a reality?
- 2 – How did Southerners view the celebration of the Fourth of July 1861?
- 3 – Waite Rawls, CEO of the Museum of the Confederacy, provided a detailed story that traced the beginning and actions of the ladies of the South to honor and then remember those who had fallen during the late war. Rawls shared the stories of the ladies collecting artifacts from Confederates, great and small, to keep the spirit of these men's efforts remembered. The museum's collection was recently valued at more than \$400,000,000. This collection was obtained without the benefit of trained historians or preservationists. In 1907, the ladies hired a John Hopkins PhD. graduate to catalog the vast collection. Who was the man lucky enough to see and document the content of this collection?
- 4- Among the 510 flags in the MOC collection, which one flew last over a Confederate unit?
- 5 – The majority of items in the MOC collection were received from Southerners answered the call of the Confederate Memorial Literary Society's January 1892 appeal. Waite mentioned two items that were donated by Union officers. What were these items?

\*\*\*\*\* **Member News** \*\*\*\*\*

**1 - John Winecoff** has initiated the formation of a Wilmington chapter of the *North Carolina Military Historical Society*. The meeting is scheduled for March 23, 1230 hours at Jackson's Big Oak Bar-B-Que located on Kerr Avenue.

This society is a historical organization that honors the State's rich military history and traditions by recording the bravery, sacrifices, and challenges of Tar Heel service members and the military events in which they participated from the Colonial period to the present.

See [http://ns50.webmasters.com/\\*ncmhs.net/httpdocs/NCHMSwhoweare.htm](http://ns50.webmasters.com/*ncmhs.net/httpdocs/NCHMSwhoweare.htm) for additional details about the society. For further details of the initial Wilmington meeting, contact John at [winnabowjohn@atmc.net](mailto:winnabowjohn@atmc.net).

2- See **Ed Gibson** to purchase your raffle ticket(s) for the Civil War print that was on display at the February dinner meeting. Ron Lesser's painting of Stonewall Jackson's "Final Assault" at Chancellorsville is ready for hanging on **your** wall. The lucky winner, whose name will be drawn at the May meeting, will receive a great print for only \$5.

3- "**Black Jack**" **Travis** has written a biography of E. Porter Alexander – Confederate artillerist who commanded the barrage against the Union center at Gettysburg on July 3, 1863. *Rebel Gunner: Gen. E. Porter Alexander* (\$14.95). Contact Jack at [www.ColBlackJackTravis.com](http://www.ColBlackJackTravis.com) for details on getting his books.

4- **Stephen Gunter** was recognized by the National Safety Council for completing one million miles of unpreventable motor vehicle accident driving. Stephen is a rural carrier in Magnolia, NC.

\*\*\*\*\* **Sesquicentennial Commemoration** \*\*\*\*\*

The early days of the secession crisis witnessed many individuals trying to keep the Union together. George Davis from Wilmington was one of those individuals.



Davis, an attorney, was named a North Carolina delegate to the Washington Peace Conference held in February 1861. He had been a member of the Constitutional Union party and strong supporter of the Union prior to this conference. He had urges his state to resolve the secession debate "within the Union." When members to the peace conference failed to achieve a compromise, Davis reached a decision that, to guarantee its constitutional liberties, North Carolina must support the Southern states in the crisis.

Upon his return to Wilmington, Davis addressed its citizens on March 2, 1861. He noted that he had failed in every honorable fashion to secure a fair peace. As reported in the *Wilmington Herald* on March 4, 1861, Davis told the citizens that the only course for North Carolina was that it "must go with the South."

George Davis served his state as a senator in the Confederate Senate. He became Attorney General in late 1863 and remained in that post until the end of the war. After the war, Davis resumed his Wilmington law practice and worked to heal the wounds of the Union.

Tim  
\*\*\*\*\* Southern Histories \*\*\*\*\*

With Waite Rawls speaking on the collection of artifacts and the history of the Museum of the Confederacy, I think it appropriate to share some information about why the Civil War may be one of the most written about conflicts in history. Beginning in 1866, the ladies of the South, and the North, begin efforts to honor the fallen soldiers. Historians and veterans begin a prolific era to document the struggle for which each side fought. Initially, high ranking officers, in North and South, feel the need to "clarify" decisions and actions. Jubal Early leads the efforts of Southern officers to share their stories; hence, the Lost Cause is born. To the victors go the spoils; to the defeated goes the pen.

Daniel Harvey Hill, Jr. (1859 – 1924), was an educator (president of the North Carolina Agricultural and Mechanical College - NCSU), historian, and writer. As the son of a famous Confederate general, Hill felt the need to encourage Southern writers to record the events of 1861 – 1865 through the eyes of the Southern cause. Hill delivered a paper entitled "Southern Histories" at a meeting of the Southern Educational Association at Chattanooga, Tennessee in July 1891. The following excerpts came from that paper.

When I was invited to address this Association on the subject of "Southern Histories," one of Hood's pieces of merry-making suggested itself. While he was out walking, he came across a sign-board having on it this inscription, "Beware of the dog." Taking out his pencil, Hood wrote just under the inscription, "Ware be the dog?" "Southern Histories," said the programme. "Ware be the histories?"

Now, though, as Burns says, "it gars me greet" to admit it, the truth is, the South has been sadly to blame for her indisposition to write history. Glance over the list of America's most celebrated historians – Sparks, Ramsay, Bancroft, Hildreth, Lossing, Prescott, Motley, Cooper, Irving, Parkman. We can claim but one man in the list, Dr. Ramsay, and he was a Southerner only by adoption, having been born in Pennsylvania.

Southerners have always been ready to dare all for their principles; in every American war their prowess has been remarkable; in the council of nations they have been foremost, but how few of them have been willing to commemorate, with their pens, the deeds of their associates or countrymen? Had they been as ready to use their pens as their swords, how many unrecorded deeds of heroism, how many unselfish instances of patriotism would have been added to our national annals? To illustrate: In 1773, three merchant vessels, loaded with tea, entered Boston harbor. Some patriotic colonists, after disguising themselves as Indians, and waiting for "seeling night to scarf up the tender eye of pitiful day," went on those vessels and threw the tea overboard. Almost every child in the land has heard of this daring deed. Story and song and art have, very properly, embalmed it. On the other hand, how many people know that eight years before this Boston tea party, an English man-of-war – not merchant vessel – the *Diligence*, bearing stamped papers, entered the Cape Fear river, in North Carolina. As soon as it was known, the men of that section, without disguise and in broad daylight, boarded that man-of-war and said to its commander, "You must not land that paper here." After having so terrified the Captain that no attempt was made to land the paper, they seized the ship's boat, hoisted it on a cart, fixed a mast to it, mounted a flag and marched in triumph to Wilmington, where that night, in defiance of Governor Tryon, they had a grand illumination in honor of their victory. Suppose this had happened elsewhere than in the South. It would, as Wheeler says, "have been pealed and chimed on every tongue of fame" until it was known in the obscurest hamlet in the republic.....

Hill went on in his presentation to encourage Southerners to set the record right. He encouraged the educators to make it known to all that, "Unless we preserve the record of what has been thought,

written, and done by our own people, as a matter of course, these records will perish or be imperfectly or untruthful kept." Hill urged his audience to keep "the truth of history."

From the quantity of all the diaries, letters, articles, and books written to record the history of the conflict from the Southern view, I think Hill was and is successful in his goal. Whether all the written records recorded the absolute truth may be the subject of another article in **The Runner**.

Tim

\*\*\*\*\* February Meeting \*\*\*\*\*

**History of the Museum of the Confederacy  
The People, The Place, The History**

**Waite Rawls**, CEO of the Museum of the Confederacy, presented an interesting program about the history, the people, and the 21st century direction of the MOC.



After the end of the war, the men of the South were faced with rebuilding the shattered economy of a defeated nation. Their time and energies were expended in an effort to return the southern states to solvency; their wives and daughters assumed the task of honoring and reburying the Confederate soldiers fallen on battlefields throughout the North and South. These ladies established Decoration Day to memorialize those fallen soldiers who lay in makeshift graves far from their homes. The ladies of Richmond formed the Ladies Hollywood Memorial Association (LHMA) on May 3, 1866. This organization became the catalyst for the future reburials, memorial statues, and creation of a museum to collect and display artifacts of the Confederacy.

By 1890, the LHMA and other women's groups had overseen the reburial of 72,000 Confederate soldiers. On May 29, 1890, 150,000 people attended the dedication of the Robert E. Lee Monument in Richmond. On May 31, 1890, the Confederate Memorial Literary Society was chartered with the express purpose of securing the former residence of Jefferson Davis (the Confederate White House) as a museum in which to store and display the artifacts the ladies were determined to collect from throughout the South. Isobel (Belle) Lamont Stewart Bryan was the president and able leader of the CMLS.

The new Museum's first appeal for donations went out in January 1892. The language reveals the sentimental and commemorative ideas with which the Museum was founded a  
[href="http://www.moc.org/site/PageServer?pagename=abt\\_ov\\_history">](http://www.moc.org/site/PageServer?pagename=abt_ov_history)  
([http://www.moc.org/site/PageServer?pagename=abt\\_ov\\_history](http://www.moc.org/site/PageServer?pagename=abt_ov_history), accessed February 19, 2011.) :

The clothes, the arms, the money, the belongings of the Confederate soldier, and the women whose loyal enthusiasm kept him in the field, are properly objects of historical interest. The glory, the hardships, the heroism of the war were a noble heritage for our children. To keep green such memories and to commemorate such virtues, it is our purpose to gather together and preserve in the Executive Mansion of the Confederacy the sacred relics of those glorious days. We appeal to our sisters throughout the South to help us secure these invaluable mementoes before it's too late.



**Belle Bryan**

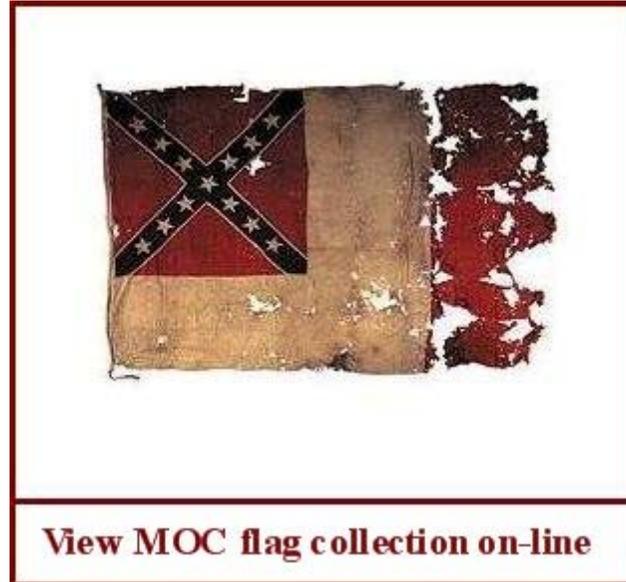
Belle Bryan and the influential ladies she enlisted were successful in attainment of their goals: 1- Secure the Confederate White House and reopen it as a museum (February 22, 1896) ; 2- Rebury Jefferson Davis in Richmond's Hollywood Cemetery (May 31, 1893); 3- Organize a museum to display their collection. Note: In 1907, Douglas Southall Freeman became the first historian hired by the CMLS.



**Confederate White House**

Waite recounted the number and varied contents (510 flags, uniforms, weapons, and paintings. 100,000 manuscripts, diaries, letters, maps, etc.) of the collection. He told of past exhibits, distinguished guests

(Margaret Thacker, David Lloyd George, a reenactment group from Stuttgart, Germany). Waite also told of the conservation efforts and their costs and fund-raising efforts to maintain the collection.



What was and is the goal of the museum? Education. The exhibits, past and present, were designed to further understanding of not only the Confederate nation but all aspects of Southern life. Students from 8 to 80, 50 states, and 73 countries have enjoyed and learned from the materials available at the MOC. The MOC and North Carolina Central University have collaborated on research projects. With 90% of the collection "in the vault," changing the exhibited items continued to add to the knowledge of the public and researchers.

What are the future plans for the MOC? Waite and the MOC board are working to be able to display more of the collection to the general public. They envision taking the museum to where the people are. A new museum is under construction at Appomattox Court House (150,000 visitors a years) with a 2012 opening. If plans and donations enable, another museum in the Fredericksburg area (500,000 visitors and 30% of the Civil War casualties) will add to a multi-museum vision. Plans for another museum at Fort Monroe are unclear because of ownership issues at the fort. From that point, other sites may emerge as the opportunities arise. The possibility of another museum outside of Virginia could become a reality.

With the difficulty of locating a future site at Fort Monroe, I would propose to Waite and the MOC that Wilmington be the location of a Confederate Navy Museum. Wilmington, Fort Fisher, and its port are a critical part of the history found within the MOC collection. Wouldn't it be fitting that the naval collection be in **Wilmington – Lifeline of the Confederacy**? But why limit its scope to just the Confederate Navy? Expand the scope to include Confederate and Union Navies, white and black servicemen. The Fort Fisher bombardment was the largest US Navy engagement until Normandy. While the daring Confederate officers, John Taylor Wood, John Newland Maffitt, and John Wilkinson, used Wilmington as a base for operations; US Navy officers, William Barker Cushing and David Dixon Porter, also shaped history here.

Tim

\*\*\*\*\* **Comments and Suggestions** \*\*\*\*\*

Comments and suggestions to make the Cape Fear Civil War Round Table and "The Runner" more relevant to your Civil War experience are welcomed. Send them to me at tpwinstead@gmail.com.

\*\*\*\*\* Trivia Question Answers February 2011 \*\*\*\*\*

1 - Ever wonder why there are 13 stars on the Confederate battle flag and the final national flag? Sure, Kentucky and Missouri were included as an inducement for the Border States to join the Confederacy, but why include what was not a reality? Some Confederates were "taken" by the number thirteen and its association with the American Revolution. The Confederate Congress also included seats for thirteen states. Wishful thinking as it turned out; however, thirteen was a lucky number in 1776 so why not in 1861.

2 – How did Southerners view the celebration of the Fourth of July 1861? Southerners appeared to have been divided, as they had been on the question of secession. Some were for embracing the celebration. A minority were against. From an article written by Robert F. Durden , "The American Revolution as Seen by Southerners in 1861," *Louisiana History: The Journal of the Louisiana Historical Association*, 19, no. 1 (Winter, 1978) 33-42.

From the Raleigh *Register* of July 3, 1861, "no reason why the birth of Liberty should be permitted to pass unheeded wherever Liberty has votaries..... The conduct of the North in trampling the principles of 1776 under foot and throwing ashes on the memory of its forefathers is no sufficient reason for a failure by the South to recognize and celebrate the Fourth of July as the anniversary of the most glorious human event in the history of mankind....." The editor continued, "the accursed Yankees are welcome to the exclusive use of their 'Doodle'" He urged that the South "hold on tenaciously to Washington's March and Washington's Principles and on every recurring anniversary of the promulgation of the Declaration, reassert the great principles of Liberty."

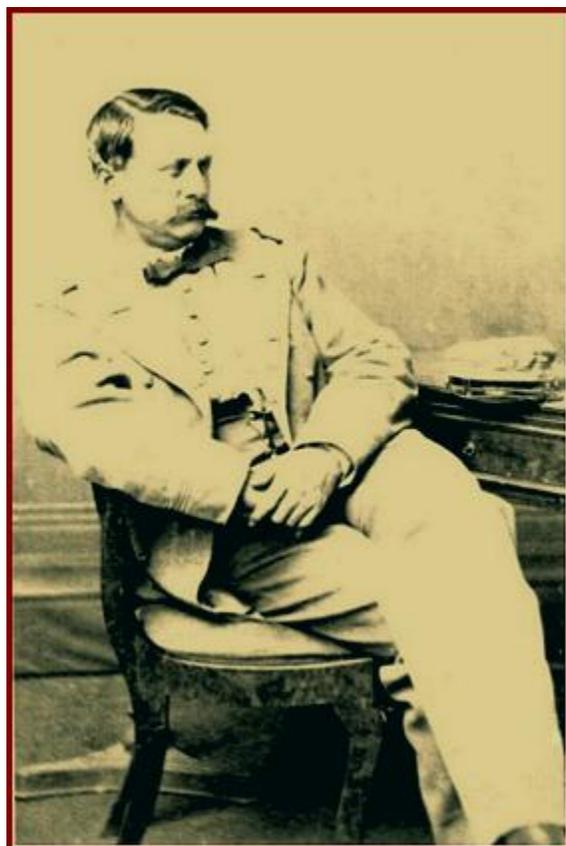
The editor of the New Orleans *Picayune* boldly claimed the Fourth of July as the South's "own." In a July 1861 article, he wrote, "The Confederate States of 1861 are acting over again the history of the American Revolution of 1776." He continued that the Lincoln administration had applied the same measures adopted by George III and his government. "The resistance of the South has been based on the same eternal principles which justified and glorified the patriots of 1776." The Fourth of July was "the work of men who laid the cornerstone of constitutional freedom." Since the North had "thrown off the respect" and was "marching its armies openly to overthrow State authorities and State existence with fire and sword;" hence, the Confederate States had "the most sacred right of property in the memories of Independence Day, as the loyal inheritors of its principles and its glories."

A dissenting voice was heard from the editor of the *Wilmington Journal*. In an article dated June 27, 1861, he wrote that the Fourth of July was not relevant because it was part of a "history of a union which no longer exists." He favored stopping celebrations for the duration of the war.

3 – Waite Rawls, CEO of the Museum of the Confederacy, provided a detailed story that traced the beginning and actions of the ladies of the South to honor and then remember those who had fallen during the late war. Rawls shared the stories of the ladies collecting artifacts from Confederates, great and small, to keep the spirit of these men's efforts remembered. The museum's collection was recently valued at more than \$400,000,000. This collection was obtained without the benefit of trained historians or preservationists. In 1907, the ladies hired a John Hopkins PhD. graduate to catalog the vast collection. Who was the man lucky enough to see and document the content of this collection?

Douglas Southall Freeman. He would continue his career as a journalist, historian, and author (Lee's Lieutenants).

4- **Among the 510 flags in the MOC collection, which one flew last over a Confederate unit?** The flag of the C.S.S. Shenandoah. James Iredell Waddell commanded the Shenandoah and turned his ship over to the British Navy in Liverpool in November 1865. NOTE: The Shenandoah made port in Melbourne, Australia in January 1865. Per Waite Rawls, the people of Melbourne still fondly remember the visit of the Confederate commerce raider. An American Civil War Round Table of Australia still promotes the study of all aspects of the American Civil War and its link to Australia.



**Lt. Cdr. James Iredell Waddell of North Carolina  
Commander of the C.S.S. *Shenandoah***

5 – **The majority of items in the MOC collection were received from Southerners answered the call of the Confederate Memorial Literary Society's January 1892 appeal. Waite mentioned two items that were donated by Union officers. What were these items? Gen. Lewis Armistead's sword,** which he carried at the battle of Gettysburg. Armistead commanded one of the three brigades in Pickett's division, Armistead led his troops during "Pickett's Charge" with his hat raised high on the point of this sword. Armistead was mortally wounded in the charge and died two days later. The veterans of the unit that defended Cemetery Ridge against the charge returned the sword to the Pickett Division Association during a reunion at Gettysburg in 1906, and it was donated to the museum that same year. ([www.moc.org](http://www.moc.org)) The silver service used at the Confederate White House by Davis family. With the fall of Richmond, a New Hampshire regiment was assigned to guard the house. Years later, the silver was returned with an added engraved inscription, "war booty."

