

### Recollections of a Confederate Staff Officer.

A new book in the town library, by Gen. G. Moxley Sorrel, Chief of Staff at Longstreets Corps Army of Northern Virginia.

The introduction to this extremely interesting book by U. S. Senator John W. Daniel, formerly a Staff Officer in Early's Division is in part as follows:

A few months ago I entered a room where a group of five or six gentlemen were seated around a table in conversation. As I took my seat to join them, one of the number, a distinguished Northern Senator, of high cultivation and who is a great reader of history, made this remark to his companions: "The army of Northern Virginia was in my opinion the strongest body of men of equal numbers that ever stood together upon the earth." As an ex-Confederate soldier I could not feel otherwise than pleased to hear such an observation from a gentleman of the North who was a student of military history. As the conversation continued there seemed to be a general concurrence in the opinion he stated, and I doubt if any man of intelligence who would give serious consideration to the subject, would express a different sentiment.

The army of the Potomac, the valiant and powerful antagonist of the Army of Northern Virginia, was indeed of much larger numbers, and better equipped and fed; but it would have nevertheless failed for its high qualities of soldiery which are by none more respected than by their former foes. Both armies were worth of any steel that was ever forged for the business of war, and when General Grant in his "Memories" described the meeting after the surrender of the officers of both sides around the McLean House, he says that they seemed to "enjoy the meeting as much as though they had been friends separated for a long time while fighting under the same flag." He prophesied in his last illness that "we are in the eye of a new era when there is to be great harmony between the Federal and Confederate."

"The era came to a meridian when the Federal Government magnanimously returned to the states of the South the captured battle-flags of their regiments." "Recollections of a Confederate Staff Officer" by Brigadier-General G. Moxley Sorrel of the Army of Northern Virginia, is a valuable contribution to this great history. Its author received his "baptism by fire" in the First Battle of Manassas July 31st, 1861, while serving on the staff of Brigadier-General James Longstreet as a volunteer aid, with the complimentary rank of captain.

"Sorrel followed the fortunes of his chief, serving as adjutant-general of his brigade, division, and corps with rank successively as captain, major, and lieutenant-colonel, and distinguished himself many times by gallantry and efficiency. During the siege of Petersburg the tardy promotion which he had long deserved and for which he had been time and again recommended, came to him and he succeeded Brigadier-General Girard, a gallant soldier who had been killed in battle, as commander of a brigade in Mahome's division, A. P. Hill's Third Corps.

"When promoted he showed the right spirit by making a faithful and brave courier his aide-de-camp. As a general, as while on the staff, Sorrel often had his "place in the picture by the flashing guns." At Sharpsburg he leaped from his horse, with Fairfax, Green, Manning, and Walton, of Longstreet's staff, to serve as cannoners at the guns of the Washington Artillery, whose soldiers had been struck down.

"While he was carrying a message to a brigade commander his horse was shot under him and still later on the same field a fragment of a shell struck him senseless and he was for a while disabled. He passed through the maelstrom of Gettysburg, here and there upon the field of blood; the hind legs of his horse were swept away by a cannon ball, and at the same time he and Latrobe, of Longstreet's staff, were carrying in their arms saddles taken from under them.

"He was wounded in the leg while commanding his brigade on the right of the Confederate line near Petersburg; and again he was shot in the lungs at Hatcher's Run in January, 1865, the same action in which fell the brave General John Pegram, then commanding Early's old division.

"Scarcely any figure in that army was more familiar to its soldiers than that of General Sorrel, and certainly none more so to the soldiers of the First Corps. Tall, slender, and graceful, with a keen dark eye, a trim military figure, and an engaging countenance, he was a dash and fearless rider, and attracted attention in march and battle by his duties as adjutant-general, and became as well known as any of the commanders.

General Sorrel's book is written in the temper and spirit which we might expect of the accomplished and gallant soldier that he was. It is without rancor, as he himself declares, and it is without disposition unduly to exalt one personage or belittle another. It bespeaks the catholic mind of an honest man. It tells things as he saw them, and he is one who did his deed from the highest and purest motives.

"Fortunate indeed is the man who like General Sorrel is entitled to remind those around his death-bed that he did his best to do his duty and to serve his country with heart and soul. The records of his life tell us how well, how faithfully he did serve her, and if anything can console you and others for his loss it must be that fact."

These are the words of Field Marshal Wolseley, written to Mrs. Sorrel, the widow of the General, upon his death in New York, in 1901.

They are worthy of repetition in connection with General Sorrel's name by reason of their just estimate of his worth as a patriot and a soldier, and the high spirit which they breathe; and that they are uttered by a soldier and a man of such character and ability as Field Marshal Wolseley impress all the more their inherent merit.

They better introduce the volume of General Sorrel's composition than anything I can say, for they reveal in short compass the nature of the man, the principal that actuated his life, and the estimate formed of him by an eminent soldier who had no partial relation to him or his deeds.

### Special Low Rates.

C. & N. W. and C. & N. Railways.

Upon application and sufficient notice to this office, Special Round Trip Rates will be quoted parties of Twenty-five to Fifty people on one ticket, on regular trains, between any two points, on these lines. Effective on and after April 1, 1906. E. F. REID, General Passenger Agent.

### Henry C. Coffey.

Hibriten Lodge No. 292 A. F. & A. M., in a called communication on Friday, March 23rd, 1904, attended in a body the funeral obsequies of the subject of this sketch, and returning to the Lodge Room, the undersigned were appointed a committee to draft for the lodge, and publish the following testimonials.

Henry C. Coffey was born at his ancestral home in Caldwell County, N. C. in 1842 and died at his home near Collettsville, N. C., March 21, 1906. Early in life, before youth had attained unto mature manhood, he entered the service of his State and Country, in the Confederate army as a member of Company E, of the famous 26th North Carolina Regiment. After the war, he returned to his home and entered upon that life of energy and frugality, for which his family and ancestors were noted, and as such was known far and wide as one of Caldwell County's best citizens. Brave, without bravado, and one of her best soldiers, doing his duty well and faithfully under all circumstances, and was one of the eighty-six gallant men of Capt. R. M. Tuttle's Co. E. 26th N. C. Regiment who fell wounded among so many of his dead and wounded comrades, on that ever to be remembered July 1, 1863, in the battle of Gettysburg.

"Strong willed as he was, he too became a soldier ready to do and dare in that later conflict which began in 1865; his Country against the results of a wasting war, against consequent poverty, and the rule of iniquity in high places, he lived to see, after many years, peace and prosperity restored to the land which he loved. He at last rejoiced in a victory more renowned than the one to which he lowered his flag in 1865. None in his sphere of action did more than to bring about that restoration, which is now the theme of Southern Orators.

Industrious to a marked degree, he did with his might that which his hands found to do. Economical without parsimony, he lived and got gain, as it was wise to do, without the stain of dishonesty or fraud upon his fingers. Charitable without ostentation, he helped those who would help themselves, and did not withhold his hand from the helpless and suffering. The hospitality of his home in his modest way was pleasing to his guests. A thinking man, he had firm and strong convictions upon all matters which fell under his observation, and he had the courage to maintain them.

A Christian indeed, in whom was no guile, he lived and loved and labored as one who desired "a better country, that is a heavenly." As a Mason, he built well, following the designs of the Great Architect in His will, concerning himself as well as he understood them upon the trestle-board of the Supreme Master's revelation. As a man, esteemed by all, his were some of the faults common to our humanity, over which his brother manhood would throw the mantle of charity and brotherly love and into his grave we cast the "Sprig of Accacia" with all that it signifies, and leave him to the One "who seeketh judgment and hasteth righteousness."

For the Lodge.  
P. J. JOHNSON, }  
GEO. D. SHELL, } Com.  
J. G. HALL, }

### Young Woman Burned to Death.

Special to The Observer.  
Reidsville, April 7.—Miss Mary Harris, who lived near Groom's school house, about eight miles east of Reidsville, was burned to death Wednesday while engaged in burning trash in her yard at home. Her dress caught fire and, becoming frightened, she ran in the direction of the residence. A creek was as near to her as the house, and had she reached the stream she could easily have saved her life. She lingered until Wednesday night, when she passed away. The remains were buried at Groom's Thursday afternoon. Miss Harris was 36 years old.

Shortly after marrying for better or for worse both of the contracting parties can see where they got the worst of it.

A Badly Burned Girl  
or boy, man or woman, is quickly out of pain if Bucklen's Arnica Salve is applied promptly. G. J. Welch, of Tekonsha, Mich., says: "I use it in my family for cuts, sores and all skin injuries, and find it perfect." Quickest Pile cure known. Best healing salve made. 25c at J. E. Shells Drug Store.

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A sensible widow wants to get married again and says she does not care a rap whether or not the man is "tall or short, fat or lean," as long as he has money enough to insure a comfortable bequest to his widow.

Grip Quickly Knocked Out.  
"Some weeks ago during the severe winter weather both my wife and myself contracted severe colds which speedily developed into the worst kind of a grippe with all its miserable symptoms," says Mr. J. S. Egerton of Maple Landing, Iowa. Knees and joints aching, muscles, sore, head stopped up, eyes and nose running, with alternate spells of chills and fever. We began using Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, aiding the same with a double dose of Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets, and by its liberal use soon, completely knocked out the grip." Sold by J. E. Shell, Dr. Kent and Granite Falls Drug Co.

No man ever broke his leg trying to get away from an office that was seeking him.

### LAND ENTRY—No 9218.

State of North Carolina, Caldwell County.  
W. J. Crisp, a citizen of said state, enters, locates and claims three hundred acres of land in said State and County on the waters of Mulberry creek and adjoining the lands of Joe Estes, C. A. Abernathy and others. Beginning at allikery in the side of the branch of Anderson Mill creek corner of the Dickson and Glass land and running East to the line of the Yankin River land association, then South 320 poles to a stake; then west 160 poles to a stake, then North to the N. E. corner of Joe Estes 100 acre tract, then with the line of the Wilson Lumber and Milling Co. and Dicksons lines to the beginning. Entered at P. M. March 15th, 1906.  
W. J. CRISP.  
A true copy.  
J. L. Miller, entry taker.

### Excursion RATES

—TO— CALIFORNIA

—ACCOUNT— Imperial Council, Ancient Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine

MAY 7th to 10th, 1906.

Tickets will be sold April 24th, inclusive with a limit of July 31st.

The Rate from Lenoir to Los Angeles is \$75.50. Proportional Rates from other points.

The Route is via St. Louis and the "Scenic Line of the World" viz: Missouri Pacific and Denver and Rio Grande Railways through Colorado and Salt Lake City. This rate is open for the public. Write for illustrated literature and maps.

Low Rates will also be made to Denver in July account of meeting of the B. P. O. E., The National Educational Association meeting in San Francisco, July 9th-13th and the National Baptist Convention, Los Angeles, Cal., September 12th-19th.

I. E. REHLANDER, Trav. Pass. Agt., CHATTANOOGA, TENN.

### THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

LESSON III, SECOND QUARTER, INTERNATIONAL SERIES, APRIL 1st.

Text of the Lesson, Luke vi, 1-17. Memory Verses, 14, 15—Golden Text, John xi, 25—Commentary Prepared by Rev. D. M. Stearns.

(Copyright, 1902, by American Press Association.) In all these studies we are beholding true godliness, "God manifest in the flesh" (I Tim. III, 16), for "God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power, who went about doing good and healing all that were oppressed of the devil, for God was with Him (Acts x, 38). We are also seeing foreshadowings of the kingdom when sin and sickness and death shall have been forever banished from the earth, and the world of righteousness shall be peace, and the service of righteousness shall be quietness and assurance forever (Rev. xii, 3, 4; Isa. xxxii, 17). While we wait for the kingdom and live to hasten it this may all be in some measure reproduced in our lives, for as the Father sent Him so He sends us in His name and filled with the same spirit (John xvii, 18; xx, 21; Acts I, 8).

The discourse in Luke vi, immediately preceding our lesson, is largely the teaching of the sermon on the mount (Matt. v-vi), but under different circumstances and on a different occasion. Then He went up into a mountain and sat down and taught, but now He came down from a mountain and stood in the plain (vi, 17). He thought it well to repeat the same truths again and again. He who said by the prophet, "Precept upon precept, line upon line" (Isa. xxxviii, 13), practiced the same Himself, knowing the hardness of our hearts.

We learn from Heb. xi, 6, that without faith it is impossible to please God, and he that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him. Frequently He reproved His disciples because of their little faith (Matt. vi, 30; viii, 26; xvi, 27). I have not found so great faith, nor, not in Israel" (verse 9), and to another gentle He said, "O woman, great is thy faith; be it unto thee even as thou wilt" (Matt. xv, 28). Why do we not trust Him implicitly?

This centurion's servant, who was dear unto him, was very sick and it seemed as if he would die (verse 2), and bearing of Jesus, but not thinking himself worthy to come to Him, he sent the elders of the Jews to ask for the servant's restoration to health (verse 7). It looks from the account in Matthew as if the centurion came to Jesus himself, but Luke explains it, for what we do by another whom we have appointed to represent us is as if we had done it personally ourselves. When Jesus sent out His disciples He said, "He that receiveth you receiveth Me, and he that receiveth Me receiveth Him that sent Me" (Matt. x, 40).

The messengers said that the centurion was quite worthy to receive this favor, for he loved the Jews and had built them a synagogue. This is man's estimate of worthiness and goodness, and it is still a common saying, "Well, such a one will surely reach heaven, for he is always doing good." But it is a wrong thought, for no one can be worthy to receive anything from God by anything that he can do until he is saved. They that are in the flesh cannot please God (Rom. viii, 8).

The centurion was more enlightened than these elders of the Jews, for he said by other messengers, "I am not worthy that Thou shouldst enter under my roof; neither thought I myself worthy to come unto Thee" (verses 6, 7). This is a right spirit, a truly humble spirit, like Paul, who had learned to say, "I know that in me, that is in my flesh, dwelleth no good thing" (Rom. vii, 18). Poor in spirit is the only right attitude before God, for we are all utterly unworthy. This man knew how to obey and to be obeyed (verse 8) and felt sure that just a word from such a one as Jesus would do the work, and he was not disappointed.

"Go thy way, and as thou hast believed, so be it done unto thee, and his servant was healed in the selfsame hour" (Matt. viii, 13), or, as in our lesson (verse 10), "They that were sent, returning to the house, found the servant whole that had been sick." Compare John iv, 50-53; Matt. xv, 28, and then consider John iv, 13, 14.

The next incident is told only by Luke. The raising of the ruler's daughter was a much later incident and recorded by Matthew, Mark and Luke; the raising of Lazarus, brother of Martha and Mary, a still later incident and recorded only by John. These three are the only recorded instances of His raising the dead. There are three also in connection with Elijah and Elisha, and two in the Acts of the Apostles, but we know that many bodies of the saints came out of their graves after His resurrection (Matt. xxvii, 52, 53), and the time draws ever nearer when all the bodies of the saints shall rise and all the living saints be changed and caught away to meet Him in the air (I Thess. iv, 10-18; I Cor. xv, 51). Having all power in heaven and on earth, it is as easy for Him to raise the dead as to heal the sick.

There is something very touching in the words "the only son of his mother, and she was a widow" (verse 12). None can tell the anguish and loneliness of that poor heart unless they have been in like sorrow, but He understood it all and felt for her and said, "Don't cry." How she must have looked at Him, if she could through her tears, but before she had time to consider He had given her boy back to her alive and well. What glad hearts and happy homes He did make when He was here, and He is the same yesterday, today and forever (Heb. xiii, 8).

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### Week End Rates—Season 1906.

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This will be your authority to sell Round Trip Tickets between all Stations on these lines at a rate of One First-Class Fare, plus twenty-five cents (25c) for the Round Trip. Tickets to be sold on Saturday of each week, good returning on Monday following date of sale.

The above rates will go into effect on Saturday, April 7th, 1906, and are effective until and including Saturday, October 28th, 1906.

Use regular Local Tickets, marking across face of same, "Week End".

Approved: L. T. NICHOLS, General Manager.

### Confederate Veterans' Reunion.

New Orleans, La., April 25th-27th, 1906.

For the above occasion the Southern Railway will sell tickets to New Orleans, La., and return at rates named below

- Goldboro, \$20.00
- Selma, 19.55
- Raleigh, 18.90
- Durham, 18.50
- Greensboro, 17.40
- Winston Salem, 17.20
- Salisbury, 16.45
- Hickory, 15.75
- Charlotte, 15.55

Approximately low rates from other points. Tickets on sale April 23rd, 24th, and 25th, with final limit April 30th. The original purchaser may secure extension of final limit until May 21st by personally depositing ticket with Joseph Richardson, Special Agent, Theatre Arcade, New Orleans, La., not earlier than April 25th nor later than April 30th, and paying fee of fifty cents.

General J. S. Carr has selected the Southern Railway via Atlanta, Montgomery and Mobile as the original route for his "Annual Confederate Veterans' Special," which will consist of first class day coaches, and Standard Pullman Cars to be handled through to New Orleans without change.

This special train will leave Raleigh N. C. at 3:30 P. M., Monday, April 23rd, and will reach New Orleans about 8:30 P. M., Tuesday, April 24th. Any one may use this special train. Berth rate from Raleigh and Durham \$6.00, Greensboro \$5.00, Salisbury and Charlotte \$5.00. Two persons may occupy a berth without additional cost. Excellent service on regular trains in each direction. Ask your agent for rates from your station. For further information send for circulars free of charge.

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		8.05	5.15	Lenoir	9.05	2.19	9.00
		8.33	5.29	Hudson	8.49	1.54	7.45
	7.10	4.05	8.38	Granite Falls	8.39	1.42	7.00
				Hickory	7.53	1.57	6.00
	8.30	5.40		Newton	7.38	1.29	1.00
				Lincolnton	6.65	1.46	10.45
				Gastonia	5.50	10.38	7.50
				Yorkville	5.10	9.48	5.57
				Chester	3.30	8.50	4.80

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