

# EYES AND EARS



Tom Wood, Commander  
Spence Morgan, Adjutant  
☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆  
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## BRUCE BOLTON AND THE GETTYSBURG CAMPAIGN PART II

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

October Meeting	30th 7:00pm
No Meeting in November	
Christmas Party December	TBA

### Special Observance Days:

- Oct. 2, 1821. Lt. Gen. A. P. Stewart born in Rogersville, TN.
- Oct. 3-4, 1861. Battle of Corinth, MS.
- Oct. 7, 1826. Maj. Gen William Brimage Bate born in Bledsoe Lick, TN.
- Oct. 12, 1870. Death of Gen. Robert E. Lee.
- Oct. 19, 1864. Battle of Cedar Creek, VA.

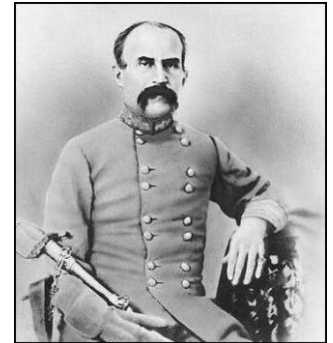
**Join us for  
the September  
Meeting on  
Thursday,  
Sept. 25, 7:00pm**

This month we are looking forward to another great program when our friend Bruce Bolton shares with us the second part of the Gettysburg virtual tour.

As many of you may remember, at our May meeting, Bruce lead us in a program on the first day of battle at Gettysburg. This month's program is a follow-up to that tour, and as it was in the earlier program, it

is a computer virtual tour of the remaining days of the Gettysburg Battle.

The virtual tour can be viewed from 360 degrees around the terrain giving a unique perspective of the battlefield, from both North and South viewpoints without the viewer having to physically walk the terrain. It's an interesting program and we hope you will plan on joining us.



Maj. Gen. Isaac R. Trimble



### Commander's Corner..

From the early founding years of our nation, secession from the Union has been discussed, debated and strongly considered many times through the years by a variety of states for a variety of reasons. All of those reasons being what the states considered to be an oppressive national government impacting upon their individual and states rights of self determination. For all of this states talk and threatening of secession and independence over the nation's history, only our beloved Southern States of the Confederacy actually seceded from the Union and formed their own independent nation. The debate over a state's right to secession did not end with Mr. Lincoln's War but actually continues even today. It may be surprising to you that many in the

State of Alaska continue to fire the flames of secession from the Union even today.

If you follow the news at all, you are well aware of the prominence of Alaska in the news over the last few weeks. You may not be aware that there has been hot debate for several years within the state as to whether Alaska should remain in the Union or secede, and even secession talk within the regions of the state itself. You may ask why all this talk of secession. Interestingly, the reasons for this continued debate is very similar to the reasons that our Southern ancestors opted out of the Union originally.

I also see another parallel with the current debate in Alaska with the debates in the south some 150 years ago. The citizens feel oppressed, underrepresented, and feel they

have lost control of their individual liberties and state's rights. When the South seceded, the Union realized it could not survive without the resources and revenues that the South provided and therefore went to war to conquer that independent nation. It's interesting today that the Union needs the resources of Alaska more than Alaska needs the assistance of the Union. I think you have to wonder what the response would be to such an actual occurrence.

Even though our sister state of Alaska is located and isolated in the far northwest corner of the continent, I believe they share many of the same values and qualities that we here in the South believe and share. Knowing several residents of Alaska, and having met several others over the years, I find them to be God fearing, family oriented, hard working, tough minded and

## Commander's Corner.....(continued)



independent thinking people with the same values you and I share as Southerners. I believe strongly that these are the same values that our ancestors shared and passed down to each of us. I have even met re-enactors from Alaska who take their summer vacations to come to the South to fight for the Confederacy.

Just so you don't misunderstand my comments, I am not advocating secession from the Union with this article, just noting some interesting observations of movements, debates and discussions that continue even today within our nation, and that these discussions have been taking place since the nation's beginning. Let's thank God that we still have the right to openly debate such serious issues affecting our nation, and pray that right is never taken away. May God Bless Us In Our Efforts!

Tom

### Dues

If you have not already done so, please remember to send in your dues payment or pay them at the upcoming meeting to Adjutant, Spence Morgan, or Treasurer, Tim Heath.

### Supporting the Troops

Thus far we have shipped eight boxes of goods to our troops in Afghanistan and Iraq.

On Monday, September 8, 2008 my son, the contact for the troops in Iraq, received an email from Airman James J. Gregory, U.S.Navy, who had volunteered for a tour of duty on the ground in Iraq manning a machine gun on one of the escort Hummers for many of the convoys in the area. In the email Airman Gregory stated,

" I really appreciate those packages alot. Thank you and tell your dad I said thank you very much. That stuff will be used for sure,.... I will get the info from some of the other guys and I'll email it to you as soon as I can. I'm an E-3 in the Navy. Its called Airman. But again thanks for all the stuff. Its very appreciated."

Many thanks to all who contributed to the effort.

### Trimble's meeting with Ewell - Gettysburg - 1 July 1863

The battle was over and we had won it handsomely. General Ewell moved about uneasily, a good deal excited, and seemed to me to be undecided what to do next.... I approached him....

He replied that "General Lee had instructed him not to bring on a general engagement without orders, and that he would wait for them."

I said, that hardly applies to the present state of things, as we have fought a hard battle already, and should secure the advantage gained. He made no rejoinder, but was far from composure. I was deeply impressed with the conviction that it was a critical moment for us and made a remark to that effect.

I said: "General, *there*," pointing to Culp's Hill, "is an eminence of commanding position, and not now occupied, as it ought to be by us or the enemy soon. I advise you to send a brigade and hold it if we are to remain here." He said: "Are you sure it commands the town?" "Certainly it does, as you can see, and it ought to be held by us at once." General Ewell made some impatient reply, and the conversation dropped.

- Isaac R. Trimble, *Southern Historical Society Papers*



## A Confederate Veteran Said It

"Run old hare, run. If I was an old hare, I'd run too."

-anonymous Confederate soldier waiting to make Pickett's Charge upon seeing a rabbit run after being spooked



Jefferson Davis  
Davis Bi-centennial  
1808 - 2008