

# Jubal Early Chapter 553 Newsletter



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February 2017

## Chapter News

Thirteen members and one guest were present at our February meeting which was held at the Franklin County Library (Children's reading room).

Chapter Yearbook updates and Membership Cards were distributed to those in attendance.

Members voted to donate \$50 to the UDC Memorial Building Fund.

Mrs. Woody indicated that Valentines were sent to the Veteran's Hospital and were very well received.

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Martha Hubbard indicated that she has begun to receive applications for the Hazel Davis Memorial Scholarship for 2017. The deadline for applications is April 1<sup>st</sup>. Contact Martha for additional information.

Plans are underway for a Veteran's Memorial Day Ceremony on Monday, May 29<sup>th</sup>. A wreath-laying ceremony will take place at the Courthouse in Rocky Mount. More information to follow.

Members of the 57<sup>th</sup> Va. Infantry group from New York will again be the guests of the Historical Society from June 2<sup>nd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup>. They will be camped out on the lawn next to the History museum. Chapter members are asked to submit food and/or beverages for their stay. Contact Linda Stanley for more information.

Our June meeting will be held at the Katherine Grace Manor in Wirtz, followed by a tour of the house and grounds. Lunch will follow. Reservations, which include lunch, are \$15 per person and payable at the April meeting.

Owners of the Manor have indicated they would like our chapter to host a Marker Dedication at a later date, for a CSA soldier buried there

Anyone interested in purchasing a copy of the Minutes of the 121<sup>st</sup> Annual Convention should contact Beverly prior to the April meeting. They are \$5.00 per copy.

The Fincastle Chapter 797 will be hosting the First District Conference on Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> which will be held at the Mill Creek Baptist Church on Rt. 11 in Fincastle. Registration is \$5.00 and lunch is \$17.00. Those planning to attend should submit their checks to Arlene Cundiff prior to April 7<sup>th</sup>. More information will be available at the March meeting.



## Other News

The Anne Eliza Johns Chapter is sponsoring the Old South Ball at the Danville Museum on Saturday, April 8<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 – 11:00 p.m. \$35 per person. Period Dress or Formal Attire is requested! The Museum is located at 975.Main Street, Danville.



## Upcoming Events

- |                |   |   |
|----------------|---|---|
| April 8, 2017  | - | Old South Ball, Danville Museum<br>Danville, Va.      |
| April 22, 2017 | - | 1 <sup>st</sup> District Conference<br>Fincastle, Va. |
| May 7, 2017    | - | Ft. Hill Dedication Ceremony                          |
| May 29, 2017   | - | Veteran's Mem. Ceremony<br>Courthouse, Rocky Mount    |



**March Meeting**  
**Sat., March. 11th – 10:30 a.m.**  
**Franklin County Library**  
**Rocky Mount**

# Confederate Ancestor of the Month

Each month the Jubal Early Chapter of the UDC features a Confederate Ancestor. The "Ancestor of the Month" for February 2017 is Samuel P.G. Brown. The Jubal Early Chapter is proud to present his story.

## Samuel P.G. Brown

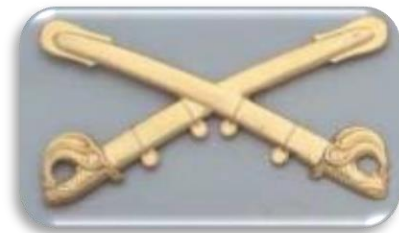
Samuel was born in Franklin County, circa 1844, one of at least six children born to Tarleton Brown, Jr. and Lucy Clark Moorman. Known siblings were: Bolling Callahill, (1841-1895); Micjah M, born in 1846, Richard Spotswood, (1849-1907). His father died in 1849, leaving his mother to raise their children. As were most of the citizens of Franklin County, the Brown family were farmers. Their farm was located in the North Eastern Division, near Dickinson's Post Office.

On 2 March 1862, Samuel's brother, Bolling enlisted as a 1st Lt. in Co. C, 10th Va. Cav. He was listed as a Student. Bolling was wounded in the arm in June 1863 and admitted to a Richmond hospital. He is listed as Present on the July-August 1864 roster, and was elected 2nd Lieutenant on 12/10/64. He would later marry and lived in the Sago area of Franklin County where he died in 1895.

Samuel enlisted as a Private in Co. K, 10th Va. Cavalry on 23 March 1862. He is listed as having been Killed in Action between 1 May and 1 October 1864. There is no further record of his military career.



*Samuel P.G. Brown*



## *American Civil War – February 1863*

The economic blockade of the South during the American Civil War started to really hit home by February 1863 with the South's currency worth just 20% of its pre-war value. The weather meant that important military issues were kept to a minimum though the intelligence network of the Army of the Potomac was completely revamped.

February 1<sup>st</sup>: The dollar used in the Confederacy was worth just 20% of what it did when the war broke out. Such was the success of the Federal Navy in the rivers of the South that a decision was taken to remove any stores of cotton away from rivers. Any cotton that could not be moved was burned to save it falling into the hands of the Union.

February 2<sup>nd</sup>: Grant started his attempt to build a canal around to the rear of Vicksburg using the Yazoo River as his source of water. By doing this, Grant's men would avoid the Confederate artillery stationed in Vicksburg.

February 3<sup>rd</sup>: The French continued to offer attempts at mediation. Secretary of State Seward met the French ambassador in Washington DC to discuss such a move.

February 5<sup>th</sup>: The British government announced that any attempts at mediation would result in failure. Their lack of action was in stark contrast to the pro-active stance of the French government.

February 6<sup>th</sup>: The Federal government officially announced that it had rejected French offers of mediation.

February 9<sup>th</sup>: General Hooker started his reorganization of the Army of the Potomac. He decided that his first task was to improve its intelligence gathering. On his arrival at his headquarters he found no document that could inform him about the strength of the Army of Virginia. General Butterfield wrote: "There was no means, no organization, and no apparent effort to obtain such information. We were almost as ignorant of the enemy in our immediate front as if they had been in China. An efficient organization for that purpose was instituted, by which we were so enabled to get correct and proper information of the enemy, their strengths and movements."

February 11<sup>th</sup>: Hooker then turned his attention to the conditions his men lived under, which he linked to the high levels of desertion. New huts were built that could cope with the winter weather and fresh fruit and vegetables were provided. Medical facilities were also improved. The impact on desertions was dramatic and even men who had deserted returned to their regiments.

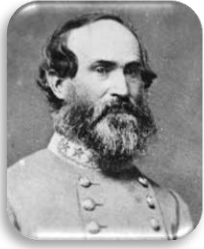
February 12<sup>th</sup>: The Union's naval blockade had a disastrous impact on the South's economy and the river patrols of its flat-bottomed boats were equally as successful. However, the sheer size of the fleet operating meant that the Federal government faced a supply problem no one had encountered before. It was estimated that the North had to supply 70,000 bushels of coal each month to keep the fleet on the move. Food and water could be obtained locally but there was little chance of getting hold of large quantities of coal.

February 13<sup>th</sup>: General Hooker made what was to prove to be one of the most important changes to the Army of the Potomac during the war. Scattered cavalry units were amalgamated into one corps. No one was immediately appointed to command it as no army commander had ever had access to one concentrated cavalry unit. Hooker was willing to wait to appoint the most suitable candidate – he later selected General Stoneman to command it.

February 16<sup>th</sup>: The Senate passed the Conscription Act, which was passed, as volunteers for the Union army were not forthcoming.

February 22<sup>nd</sup>: Hooker believed that his changes were starting to have an impact as the levels of scurvy and intestinal diseases dropped quite markedly.

February 25<sup>th</sup>: Congress authorized a national system of banking.



*Jubal Early Chapter 553  
Newsletter  
Rocky Mount, Virginia*



Love, Live, Pray, Think, Dare

**Linda B. Nezbeth**  
1449 Carroll Rd., Goodview, VA 2495-3124

**Editor**  
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