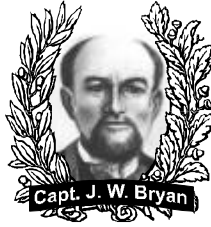


# THE CALCASIEU GREYS



Capt. James W. Bryan  
Camp 1390  
Sons of Confederate Veterans  
Lake Charles, Louisiana



Lt. Isaac Ryan  
Chapter 205  
Military Order of the  
Stars and Bars



*Winner of the 1992-93 Dr. Paul Jon Miller National Newsletter Award*

*Winner of the 1997 Harvey Hutchinson State Newsletter Award*

<http://www.geocities.com/scv1390>

## November 2003

### Next Meeting

The next meeting of Captain James W. Bryan Camp 1390 will be at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 11, at the Southwest Louisiana Genealogy Library, 411 Pujot St. in Lake Charles. The program will be on the Battle of Mansfield. We will also have important business to conduct so please make every effort to attend.

### Dues Renewal

It is time to renew camp dues for 2004. Please make checks out for \$32 to the Sons of Confederate Veterans and send them to Adjutant Donald Tarver, P.O. Box 12097, Lake Charles, Louisiana 70612. Please act promptly. In these times when our Southern Heritage is under such relentless assault, we need every good Southern man we can get. Even if you are unable to take part in camp activities, just maintaining your membership helps more than you'll ever know. We thank and appreciate all our compatriots. (Of course our lifetime members can disregard this dues renewal notice.)

### Commander Comments

Compatriots:

In an effort to increase attendance we began back in the early summer to hold our meetings at Carnegie Library in downtown Lake Charles. The reasoning was that the quiet and undisturbed environment of the library meeting room would be conducive for discharging the business of the camp, holding discussions, having speakers, beginning the meetings on time and ending them promptly without the interference of spill-over noise and conversation from other diners and the comings and goings of waiters and waitresses tending to the culinary needs of the members and guest.

Also, it was thought that without the expense of a meal, whether it be an entree or short order, that members would not feel as if having our meetings had to necessarily incur expenses that could easily run to over \$25 for two persons.

However, our attendance has slacked greatly, and our last meeting was attended by only 11 persons, including a guest. Although we all had a wonderful time

and afterward walked downtown together to a quaint restaurant where we broke bread and discussed matters great and small, it is evident that this experiment to increase attendance, though worthy of the effort, has not succeeded. Therefore, it will be announced in our next newsletter, among the other things of import for this time of year, that we will, if one is able to be found accommodating to our taste and needs, be meeting again at a local restaurant. If any of the members have any suggestions or any information about some appropriate place, you may give me a call anytime. My office number is 433-1683 and my cell phone is 526-0855.

It is the desire of your camp leadership that all those who have the inclination will attend our meetings. The meetings are informative, entertaining, and fun! Nothing is required but a shirt and shoes (all other apparel or costuming is assumed.) There is no cussing, no drunkards, and everyone minds their manners (although eating barbecue with your hands is permissible.) Anyone engaging in a harangue will be subject to hanging! (Myself included.) We don't allow hysterical altercations or historical alterations. Also, for those interested in hearing harangues without penalty, the deliberations of the executive council meetings will be open to all camp members. If you would like to attend, simply give me a call so I can direct you to my home, or any other venue we may use. Looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible at our next meeting, I am, sirs,

Your Obedient Servant,

Tommy Curtis

Commander

### From the Pages of the Lake Charles Echo

(Ed. Note: Here is an exciting story originally published 14 March 1885 in the Lake Charles Echo by Captain James W. Bryan. It is about the experiences of his regiment, the 28th Louisiana Infantry during the war. Especially exciting is the capture of two enemy flags on 22 May 1863 at Vicksburg.)

Reminiscences of the 28th La. Regiment

Commonly known as the Vicksburg 28th La.

Washington Argus.

Editor Argus - As there were in the Confederate service two regiments of Louisiana infantry known as the 28th Louisiana, and desiring to put on record through the columns of your valuable paper, the main facts in regard to the 28th Louisiana, to which many of the St. Landry boys belonged, I append the following short history of it:

Col. Thomas' 28th Louisiana Regiment of Infantry was organized at Camp Moore, May 3, 1862, the following companies comprising the regiment:

Company A, Capt. Doremus, St. Landry; Co. B, Capt. Hailey, DeSoto; Co. C, Capt. Sloan, New Orleans; Co. D, Capt. Norman, New Orleans; Co. E, Capt. Landry, Ascension; Co. F, Capt. Bredow, New Orleans; Co. G, Capt. , St. Bernard; Co. H, Capt. Lauve, Ascension; Co. I, Capt. Bryan, Calcasieu; Co. K, Capt. Robin, St. Landry.

The Field and Staff was as follows: Colonel Allen Thomas, St. Landry; Lieutenant-Colonel, J. Octave Landry, St. Landry; Major C.M. Pegues, DeSoto; Surgeon, W.H. Winn, Avoyelles; Assistant Surgeon, D.B. Pierce, Ascension; Captain and A.Q.M., G. Weightman, New Orleans; Captain and A.C.S., G.A. Woodward, Calcasieu; Lieutenant and Adjutant, George O. Elms, Calcasieu; Sergeant Major, George Millard, New Orleans.

The regiment at this time, consisting of about 710 men, remained at Camp Moore until May 18th, when they were moved to Vicksburg. We were of course not known at the War Department until our first monthly return was made, June 10, 1862. We had been organized under orders from department headquarters as the "28th Louisiana Infantry," some time in the latter part of May, 1862. A regiment of infantry had been organized at Monroe by Col. Henry Gray, and which also took the name of the 28th Louisiana, but as it served altogether on the west side of the Mississippi river, continued to carry the same name until the close of the war. We were known at the War Department as the "29th Louisiana," but elsewhere as "28th Louisiana."

Our regiment was engaged in all the battles at Vicksburg, losing Sergeant John Johnson and several others on the "Ram Arkansas" on the 15th of August, and about 50 killed and wounded at "Chickasau bayou" on the 28th and 29th of December, 1862. Regarding this engagement the following order was issued:

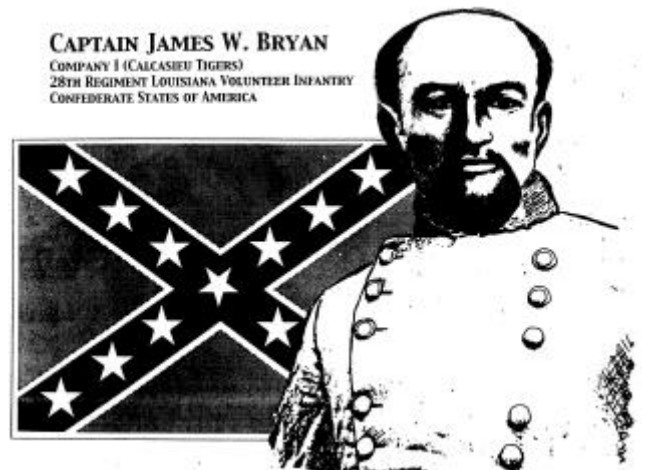
Headq'trs Dep't. Miss. & East La.

Vicksburg, April 30, 1863.

General Order No-.

To commemorate the glorious victory achieved over the enemy on the 28th and 29th of December 1862, and in honor of the troops engaged on that occasion, the following named commands will inscribe Vicksburg on their banners, to-witt: Third, Seventeenth, Twenty-sixty and Twenty-eighth Louisiana Infantry.

By Order of Lieut. Gen. Pemberton.



(Signed) J.G. Devereaux, A.A.G.

In March 1863, in company with other troops, we went to the Yazoo river to undertake the capture of several Federal gunboats, but they had left before our arrival.

The investment of Vicksburg was completed on the 17th of May, 1863, and we were constantly under fire until the surrender on the morning of July 4th. Going to Vicksburg in May, 1862, with 710 rank and file, and receiving while there about 200 recruits, we numbered at the surrender about 450 - 27 had been discharged for disability - 12 or 15 were absent on detached service - the balance of the grand total of 910 had been killed or died of wounds or disease.

The regiment was reorganized at Alexandria in 1864 - Col. Thomas having been made a Brigadier General, Lieut. Col. Landry became Col., and Maj. Pegues, Lieut. Col. A Parole camp had been established at Opelousas in December 1863, and all who had reported at Parole camp previous to June 27th, 1864, were exchanged on that day.

The writer was not with the regiment after the reorganization, and know but little of its service on this side of the Mississippi - of our service at Vicksburg it may truthfully be said, that we at all times justified the confidence reposed in us by our commander - we with the 26th Louisiana Infantry, were the only troops engaged on the 28th December, 1862, when we held in check Blair's Brigade of the Federal army from daylight to dark; when finding ourselves about to be cut off from our army, were compelled to fall back, which we did in good order under a heavy fire of musketry and artillery.

The first day of the siege our regiment was on the reserve (Col. Thomas being in command of Baldwin's Brigade until May 22nd.) On that day two companies of our regiment, Co. I, Capt. J.W. Bryan, and Co. B, Capt. A.B. Hailey, had the honor of saving Vicksburg to the Confederacy - the enemy had charged our line at the Jackson road repeatedly during the afternoon, and failing each time to break it, held at that point by the 3rd Louisiana and 2nd Texas respectively on each side of the road - the road itself was deep cut in the hill, and to secure it, some fifty or more bales of cotton the enemy had knocked down with their artillery, so that it

afforded no obstacle to the passage of troops - the Federals took advantage of this circumstance, and the first intimation that the Confederates had of it was when a column of the enemy came passing through - the two named companies of our regiment happened to arrive just at the moment when the head of the column was in the act of passing our lines. They at once opened fire on them and drove them back, killing a number of them, and themselves losing about 42 or 45 in killed and wounded. Two flags were here captured by Capt. Bryan.

On the morning of May 23rd, our Brigade, consisting of the 26th, 27th and 28th Louisiana Regiments, took possession at "The Big Redan," one of the most exposed positions on the whole line - this we held until the surrender on July 4th, losing many officers and men. It was here that Lieut. Octave Fontenot lost his arm. He had been occupied all the night before, in command of a fatigue party repairing the breastworks, and at daylight had laid down to get some necessary rest - he was sleeping soundly, when a portion of a shell struck him on the arm, severing it from the body. Here we also lost Capt. , Lieut. Crowder, Serg. Coreil and many others. Of the officers, many have "crossed the river and camped on the other side." Surgeon Winn died in 1877, Bredow in 1867, Captain Woodward in 1864, Capt. J.E. Clarke, with us at Vicksburg as Drill-Master and a Chief of Ordnance on the Staff of Gen. Shoup-afterward A.A.G. on the Staff of Gen. W.H. Allen, was killed at New Orleans in 1867 by being run over by a train of cars. Lieut. E.M. Smith died at Vicksburg in July, 1863; Lieut. Wemple died at Mansfield, Capt. Sam Brewer at New Orleans, Lieut. Frank Turner at St. Bernard, Capt. W.F. Norman at New Orleans, Lieut. Morehead at Ascension, Lieut. R.S. Robin, in St. Landry.

Gen. Thomas lives at Baton Rouge, Col. Landry at New Orleans, Colonel Pegues at Mansfield, Capt. Doremus is in Europe, Capt. Hailey in New Orleans, Capt. Bryan at Lake Charles, Capt. Lyons in Lafayette parish; Lieutenant Octave Fontenot, Jules DeBailon, Jones Burleigh and W.C. Johnson are living in St. Landry; Lieut. J.B. Ashley in Rapides, Lieut. Jno. V. Richard at Lake Charles, Capt. E.E. Law and Lieuts. Vives, Webre and Gilbert, in Assumption; Lieut. Grier in Lafayette, Lieut. Blair in Ascension. The whereabouts of the remainder are unknown to me.

The survivors in this town are Sergeant Lucien Dupre, Julien Claude and the writer, who sends greetings to his old comrades.

Yours respectfully,  
George O. Elms.

#### An Explanation

In reference to the "Reminiscences of the 28th Louisiana Regiment," written by our old friend Major Geo. O. Elms, and which we reproduce from the columns of the Washington Argus, in which he says I captured two flags on the memorable day of May 22, 1863, in an engagement at the "Jackson road," with a mighty and powerful enemy flushed with a succession of victories and with the hope of capturing Vicksburg,

one of the main strongholds of the Confederacy, I must say, in justice to the brave and noble men who sacrificed their lives and won laurels for the 28th Louisiana Regiment (Thomas') at Chickasaw, by their effective service, that the credit for the capture of the flags referred to, belongs to them and the officers in command of the detachment which did the fighting.

As I was in command of the regiment on that day in obedience of orders, I detached two companies, Capt. A.B. Hailey commanding, with orders to proceed at once to reinforce the command at the "Jackson road," at which place the enemy was concentrating their forces, with a view of breaking our lines and capturing the entire army; and Capt. Hailey, with this detachment of the 28th regiment, lost no time in getting to that point, and arrived as Maj. Elms says, just in time to save Vicksburg to the Confederacy. And I repeat, to him and his troops belong the honor of capturing the flags, and not to me.

The fight was fierce and short, and the enemy repulsed, but the victory was a dear one to Capt. Hailey's noble boys, as stated by Major Elms.

J.W. Bryan.

## **Judge in Museum Case Removed by Supreme Court**

NEW ORLEANS - The judge who ruled against the Confederate Museum in New Orleans in 2002, and gave title to its 112-years-old building to the University of New Orleans Foundation, has been removed from office by the Louisiana Supreme Court for wrongdoing in his 2002 re-election campaign.

The high court, in a 7-0 decision, removed State District Judge C. Hunter King of Orleans Parish from office and barred him from running for a judicial office for at least five years.

The Supreme Court found King had forced his employees to work on his 2002 re-election campaign and then lied about it.

In an opinion written by Justice Jeffrey Victory, the court said King's campaign misconduct and lying to the judiciary commission "is so prejudicial to the administration of justice, not only in his section of court, but throughout the judicial system, that he cannot be allowed to remain on the bench."

"In our view, any discipline less than removal would undermine the entire judicial discipline process and diminish the strict obligation of judges to be truthful in the face of an investigation by the commission," the Supreme Court said.

King, a civil judge, first denied any wrongdoing to the commission. But when he learned the panel had tape recordings of his staff meetings, he admitted everything.

The Confederate Museum, with the help of Gov. Mike Foster and businessman Patrick Taylor, reached an out-of-court settlement following the verdict. The deal will give the neighboring Ogden Museum of Southern Art, owned by the University of New Orleans, the right to have an underground passage under the Confederate Museum, and the Confederate Museum will be able to

remain in the building and will receive title within 10 years.

### **Port Hudson Petition Signed**

Members of Captain James W. Bryan Camp 1390 and Lt. Isaac Ryan Chapter 205 signed the below petition at their respective monthly meetings in October, demanding that the state place a historic monument at the Port Hudson State Historic Site.

Those not at the meeting and who would like to sign the petition may do so online at [www.gopetition.com/region/238/2223.html](http://www.gopetition.com/region/238/2223.html).

You can also write to the lieutenant governor, who thus far has refused to accept the monument, at:

Lt. Gov. Kathleen Blanco  
Office of the Lt. Governor  
PO Box 44243  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804

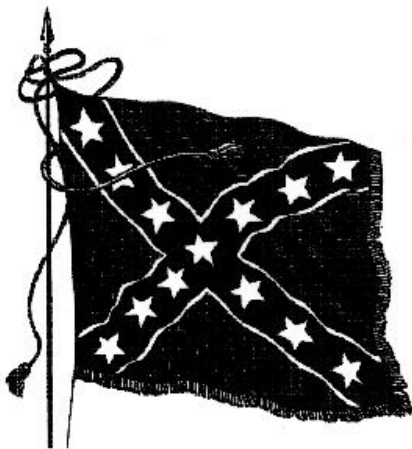
WE, THE UNDERSIGNED, DEMAND THAT THE HISTORICAL MONUMENT DEDICATED IN 1930 BY THE LOUISIANA DIVISION, UNITED DAUGHTERS OF THE CONFEDERACY, TO THE MEMORY OF THE CONFEDERATE SOLDIERS WHO SERVED DURING THE PORT HUDSON CAMPAIGN IN THE SPRING AND SUMMER OF 1863 - THE LONGEST SIEGE IN AMERICAN MILITARY - BE ERECTED IN A PLACE OF

HONOR AND PUBLIC ACCESSIBILITY ON THE GROUNDS OF PORT HUDSON STATE HISTORIC SITE. FURTHERMORE, WE DEMAND THAT THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA, KATHLEEN BLANCO, CHARGED WITH THE RESPONSIBILITY OF PRESERVING, PROTECTING, AND PROMOTING THE STATE'S HISTORY AND HERITAGE (INCLUDING THE WAR FOR SOUTHERN INDEPENDENCE) PERFORM THE DUTIES OF THIS OFFICE IN A POSITIVE, INFORMED, AND ACCURATE MANNER, AND THAT ANY DEPARTMENT, AGENCY, OR COMMISSION UNDER HER OVERSIGHT PORTRAYING THE PERIOD OF 1861 - 1865 DOES SO WITHOUT REVISIONISTIC INTERPRETATION FOR POLITICAL CORRECTNESS, EXPEDIENCY, OR GAIN.

### **State flag More Popular Than Ever in Mississippi**

In a recent poll commissioned by The Associated Press and The Clarion-Ledger of Jackson, 70 percent of Mississippians said the Confederate symbol should stay on the state flag, 26 percent said it should be removed and 4 percent said they weren't sure. The poll of 623 likely voters, conducted Oct. 21-23, has an error margin of plus or minus 4 percentage points.

Captain J.W. Bryan Camp 1390, SCV  
Lt. Isaac Ryan Chapter 205, MOSB  
<http://www.geocities.com/scv1390>



**FLY THE  
FLAG!**



**The South's Defenders**