



**Official Newsletter of the BG Micah Jenkins
SCV Camp 1569
Volume XIII Number XII December 2014**



Honoring the Gray

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Micah Jenkins Camp Meeting Tuesday, December 9th 2014

**Regularly scheduled meeting will be at 7:00 PM at the
Mayflower Seafood Restaurant at 2124 Celanese Rd, Rock Hill, SC
Come early join the fellowship and eat.**

Commander Leland Summers will be our speaker for December. He will speak to us about the need for participating in Division events.

Leland Summers is the current Commander for the South Carolina Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans. He was elected at the 2014 Convention to serve for a two year term. Leland is a life member of Witherspoon Barnes Camp 1445 in Lancaster, SC. He has been a SCV member since 1993 and is a descendant of seven Confederate Veterans, all of which were privates in SC Units. He began reenacting with the Palmetto Battalion in 1994 and presently holds the rank of Lt. Colonel.

He has held a number of Camp, Brigade, and Division posts. He has received several awards for his SCV service. Leland is editor of The Lancaster Line. He is a graduate of the University of South Carolina and a retired juvenile probation officer. Leland is a former member of the Lancaster County Historical Commission and a founding member of the Historic Lancaster County Museum. He is an Eagle Scout. When not doing SCV or reacting, Leland is most likely found in local cemeteries repairing and maintaining veteran's graves.

**From Micah Jenkins Camp 1569
Merry Christmas to All
and Happy New Year**

Lowry's Christmas Parade 2014

The Lowry's Christmas Parade will be on Saturday, December 20th 2014.

We need decorations for the float. Please try to be there at 10:00am and bring any spare Christmas decorations you may have and help decorate the float.

Hopefully you have already stocked up on candy after Halloween. If not, please do so. Bring LOTS of candy to throw out to the "kids" (of all ages).

Commander's Comments

Spread The Word

As time goes by we begin to assume things about people. All along I have assumed that students were taught the facts about the "Civil War" and that as they grew into adults they took that knowledge with them. I also assumed that those who demanded the removal of the Confederate Battle flag were just mean spirited.

My fellow compatriots, none of this is true.

Recently, I gave a speech to two different non-SCV groups about the War for Southern Independence. In both cases, numerous people came up to me and stated how they appreciated the information I shared. One group included a high school history teacher with some of the students.

Yes, there are those out there who have ulterior motives, such as passing the hat for money, or seeking a political advantage, but I believe the vast majority of folks are simply ignorant about the War. That means for us, it is more important now than ever to take up the banner to defend our ancestors. This is our opportunity to tell everyone the truth about their dedication, their perseverance and the reasons they fought to protect their property and their lives.

Looking for Somewhere to Get Confederate Stuff?

If you are ever heading up hwy 81 in the Shenandoah Valley take exit 243, please stop in and visit Rex Miller in the Shenandoah Heritage Market. He has lots of Confederate items (including some books that are very hard to find). You can also check out his store on his website: www.ConfederateShop.com

Another place to visit, a little closer, is Dixie Republic. They boast to be: the South's Largest Confederate Store. They are located at: 1315 Hwy 25 N, Travelers Rest, SC. You can find out more about the store on their website: www.dixieoutpost.net or you can call them at: 864-834-7024.

Plan on stopping by when you are near either of these two Confederate stores.



He is the reason for the season.
Christmas prayers to all.

Prayer Closet

- Please pray for the unspoken families that are having health and financial problems.
- Please pray, as well, for those unemployed and continually looking for employment.
- Please keep Jim Floyd to your prayer list. Jim recently fell while hunting and broke his femur.
- Please continue to keep Brad Blackmon's wife, Deborah, on your prayer list.
- Please continue to keep Ray Baker on your prayer list. Ray is doing much better, but still needs your prayers.
- Please keep Micky Parris on your prayer list. He falling issues are getting worse.
- Please continue to pray for the SCV, national, division and brigade.
- Please continue to pray for our President & government leaders.
- Please continue to pray for our country. We are in very troubling times.
- Pray for our service men and women and for their families.

*Camp Chaplain,
Mike Short*

From the Chaplain

Please send your Prayer Requests to our Camp Chaplain, Mike Short. Mike can be contacted by phone (803-547-5446) or by email (cmshort@comporium.net).

**Visit the Micah Jenkins Camp website at:
<http://bgmicahjenkins.org/>**

Time Line December 1864

Dec 1st - The Union army commanded by Schofield, entrenched itself in Nashville and dominated the Cumberland River.

Dec 2nd - Sherman was halfway to Savannah. His subordinates in Nashville were ordered by Washington to confront and defeat Hood's army. However, very poor weather hindered both armies.

Dec 8th - General Grant made it clear that Hood should be attacked immediately by Schofield's men. Either that or he wanted Schofield replaced. General Thomas, a subordinate of Schofield telegraphed Grant that his cavalry had no horses and that any attack not supported by the cavalry was doomed to failure.

Dec 9th - Appalling weather in Nashville made all forms of fighting near impossible. Roads had been reduced to quagmires.

Dec 10th - Sherman's army arrived in Savannah.

Dec 13th - In a further blow to the defenders of Savannah, Sherman's men established a route to the sea that would allow the Union Navy to supply his army.

Dec 15th - Once the weather had cleared Thomas ordered an attack on Hood's army at Nashville. The only thing that saved Hood was the shortened day.

Dec 16th - Thomas conveys the news to Grant. He followed up the attack with a further massive attack using all the men at his command - 50,000. Hood could only muster 30,000 men. The Army of the Tennessee put up a good defense but defeat was almost inevitable. 4,500 Confederate troops surrendered, 1,500 men were either killed or wounded. 59 out of 156 artillery guns were captured. Hood could only order a retreat for those who survived - a retreat that had to be executed in the dead of winter with minimal supplies.

Dec 17th - Hood's men started their retreat to Columbia.

Dec 18th - Savannah refused to surrender to Sherman.

Dec 20th - The Confederate force in Savannah left the city. 10,000 men managed to withdraw from the city but they were still facing in the field an army six times larger than them. Savannah fell to Sherman. The Confederates left behind in the city 250 heavy artillery guns and 25,000 bales of cotton.

Dec 21st - Sherman entered Savannah.

Dec 22nd - Sherman telegraphed Lincoln the following: "I beg to present you, as a Christmas gift, the city of Savannah."

Dec 24th - Union forces started an attack on Fort Fisher at Wilmington, North Carolina. This fort defended the only remaining port open to the Confederacy. The largest Union naval force of 60 warships gathered before the fort to blast it into submission. However, their task was not easy. The design of the fort and the inaccuracy of those bombarding the fort meant that many Union shells fired from the ships simply flew over the fort and into Cape Fear River.

Dec 25th - 6,000 Union troops landed to take Fort Fisher but the fort's guns were still intact and kept them pinned down. A rumor that Confederate reinforcements were on their way, convinced the commanders on the ground that they should withdraw.

Dec 26th - The Union troops at Fort Fisher were evacuated. Lincoln ordered an investigation as to what went wrong and why what should have been a relatively easy victory turned into a full-scale withdrawal.

Dec 30th - Lincoln proposed to remove General Ben Butler from the command of the Army of the James. It was Butler who commanded the abortive landing at Fort Fisher. Grant also had a very low opinion of Butler's ability.

Dec 31st - Sherman's army rested in Savannah in preparation for its advance north to support Grant.



Children of the Confederacy®

Thank you Micah Jenkins Camp for your generous donation last month to our CofC Chapter. We appreciate your support. With your help, we will be able to complete our projects and reach our goals in 2015. Please encourage your children, grandchildren and others to join our chapter. It would be great to have them be a part of sharing our Southern history. We will be attending monument rededications in Manning and Timmonsville on December 7th as part of the SC Division CofC. Several of our Iredell Jones CofC members are serving on the SC Division level. Billy Gallien is the head of the Nominating Committee and chair of the Jefferson Davis Highway Com-

mittee. Gabe and Emily Winkler, grandchildren of Jerry and Sandy Brown are co-chairs of the Norman V. Randolph Committee. Billy Gallien also serves on the SCV Cadet Committee. Our children have been busy this fall participating in Veteran's Programs at school and in the community, and collecting food and coats for the needy in the community. We have a great group of young people and they stay busy in school and community service projects. Please contact me with any questions about our CofC.

*God Bless Dixie!
Renee Gallien,*

Director, Iredell Jones CofC #85 Rock Hill, SC

Southern shame, Southern ghosts

The University of Mississippi has terminated its mascot, "Colonel Reb." The mascot, an archetypal Southern gentleman with a hat, cane, and a little bow-tie, is of course racist. Affable, bearded and jaunty, with a bright costume that cleverly foiled his dark history on the plantation, Col. Reb, when he was alive, looked rather like that other infamous slave-driver, Col. Sanders, whose inscrutable and permanent smile these days (in markets where he still shows his face) offers only a faint clue as to the fortunes he's made in his long, post-war masquerade as a peddler of fried chicken. "We just want it to be over," said one Mississippi student on the subject of Col. Reb's execution. Watch your back, Sanders.

There is of course nothing sacred about a football mascot or a corporate brand, and nothing particularly sad about the disappearance of either one, except for the fact that now there is nothing left of Southern symbolism to erase. Some time ago, you see, most Southerners started believing that fried chicken, football games, NASCAR and maybe a handmade basket or two were among the only cultural 'treasures' they could, or should, be proud of. And now we learn that what legions of Americans consider to be a transcendent symbol of extraordinary military leadership and valor, states' rights, indefatigable heroism, enduring pride and strength in the face of terrible odds and calamitous defeat – the Confederate battle flag – is now officially deemed a symbol of hate by the U.S. armed forces. Prospective members of all branches of the armed forces who happen to have a "Confederate flag" tattoo are automatically rejected.

Red crescents, Ankhs and the like are a "go" as are satanic pentagrams with bleeding goat-heads, inverted crosses, Vishnus and Virgin Mothers doing just about anything anywhere you can imagine, but not a star-studded blue cross (or saltire) over a red field. That image is un-American, hateful and now officially equivalent to the swastika.

Americans who sport the Confederate battle flag – many whose ancestors fell under the flag, who are buried with honor on American soil beneath the flag, whose fathers and great-grandfathers flew this flag with patriotic pride over homes, and seats of government, and even U.S. Navy ships at war – and who want to serve our country under arms, are no longer deemed compatible with our armed forces.

The Confederate battle flag has been appropriated by hate groups of one kind or another for racist reasons, but it is also, indisputably, the reigning symbol of Southern history and pride. Why would Southerners ever surrender this treasure? Why would they have it erased from a state flag, as Geor-

gia did in 2001? Why would they allow America's "best and brightest" to ban it as a universal "symbol of hate" without even putting up a fight?

Historians disagree about whether the war would have happened "with or without slavery." Slavery was a national evil, the great mainstay of the agrarian South and a catalyst for polarized politics and violent action on both sides. But even Southerners have now forgotten about the enormous and complex roster of constitutionally based complaints regarding tariffs, direct and indirect taxation, the extraordinarily significant issue of nullification, innumerable federal impositions and more, and more, which led the Confederate states to draft their declarations of secession. These short, concise documents are not only fascinating, they are of obviously incalculable value to any free citizen whose aim is to know the history of his state, his country and his constitution. Do you know of even one young Southerner who has studied any of these documents in school?

It is commonly held even among schoolchildren in the South that the war was fought in the wake of a glorious national Emancipation Proclamation, when of course Lincoln's proclamation very belatedly only freed Southern slaves. Northern slaves were freed even later (the last in New Jersey at the very end of the war), as the cause of emancipation became a public-relations boon for Lincoln, for conscription and for the North internationally. To be sure, there were more slaves in the South than in the North, and the Emancipation Proclamation was a very important and effective document, but "The Great Emancipator" plainly admitted he would free all, or none, of the slaves if it would save the Union. Why must these truths be ignored?

All Americans understand that scores of Union soldiers fought proudly and honorably "to free the slaves," but now Southerners seem to have started to believe, en masse, that their Confederate ancestors raised their battle flag "to defend the institution of slavery." In fact only a miniscule percentage – I have seen estimates lower than 2 percent – of Confederate soldiers were members of slave-owning families, lived or worked on plantations, or were otherwise part of the "antebellum" life painted by Hollywood. Anyone who knows their history knows exactly what most Confederate officers would have told you in the field: "We have no desire for conquest and, as clearly stated by our political leaders, every wish for national reconciliation. The Confederate battle flag represents the fighting spirit of the citizens of these states who are proudly and patriotically rebelling

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Southern shame, Southern ghosts

against a central government which has become tyrannical.”

Have you ever asked a Southern high-schooler or college student what the Confederate battle flag represented to the men who fought for the confederacy? I've done it many times. The answer is usually: Hatred. Slavery. And who spoke out against slavery? Many on both sides, of course, and probably many more in the North than in the South, but also Jefferson Davis, the president of the Confederacy; his secretary of state, Judah Benjamin; Gov. William Smith of Virginia; Reps. Barksdale and Kenner (once one of the largest slaveholders in the South) as well as the highest-ranking CSA generals Joseph Johnston and none other than General Robert E. Lee. The Confederate battle flag was Lee's flag, the flag of the Army of Northern Virginia. On slavery, he said: “There are few, I believe, in this enlightened age, who will not acknowledge that slavery as an institution is a moral and political evil.”

The dirty, not so-little secret of the war, you see, is that slavery had become morally, politically, and (because of the industrialization of agriculture, labor disputes, etc.) financially untenable in both the North and the South, and it was on its way out. Still, Congress did not consider an abolition amendment until 1864. At that time, the Southern states were long absent from Congress. Even then, shamefully, it did not pass and was not adopted until after the war. The North was obviously as tragically intertwined with the institution of slavery as the South. But what Southern youngster knows it?

And who defended the freedom of the press and information in this terrible time? More than 300 Northern newspapers were suppressed during the war and the Northern press was known to have been heavily censored, while, for instance, even Jefferson Davis endured astonishingly dark personal attacks from even the Southern press, but unlike Lincoln, refused to limit their freedoms. In short, scholars agree that “dissenters” had freedom of speech only in the South. It would seem important to keep these facts in mind as we review a tiny part of the historical record and ponder the present near-universality of the South's acquiescence to a comically simplistic and largely inaccurate “victor's history” of the war. But perhaps facts no longer matter.

The long, arduous road toward national reconciliation and equal rights need never have included cultural annihilation: historical, symbolic or otherwise. Yet that is what Southerners face today, and it is their own fault. By failing to educate their children, or by allowing others to mis-educate their children, and as evidenced by their willingness to

repeatedly allow the definition of their cultural symbols – from the Confederate battle flag down to a bow-tied, fancified Southern colonel in a funny suit – as symbols of “hate,” they are ultimately, finally, characterizing their forebears – soldiers, yes, along with doctors, lawyers, philosophers, scientists, and farmers, free blacks (including slave-owners), businessmen and politicians (many of whom were abolitionists) – universally, as the simple, hateful hicks federal propagandists once made them out to be.

By abandoning these most sacred and most benign symbols of Southern heritage, they admit a deeper commitment to ignore and let others define, their past. Worse perhaps, they turn their backs on the legacies and souls of real American patriots and heroes.

When they once again encounter their ancestors, which I believe they will, how will so many Americans account for their feeble treachery? Maybe, like the Mississippi student, they will say: “We just wanted it to be over.” I wonder what some of those old heroes might say in reply.

What about: And here you are, my spiritually impoverished progeny, 300 years after the first war in which we fought and died that you might be free from a tyrannical central government, and almost 200 years after another great and terrible war, the worst imaginable, in which we fought our brothers and died for the very same cause. You have now willingly disgraced not just this cause – which might have been understandable given the terrible complexity of the time – but you have also disgraced almost every vestige of our memory, corrupting even the flags on our graves. The degree to which you are now indebted to, and dependent on, your federal government is a most bitter reminder of our failure. But you have failed in a deeper sense. You, like many Americans, have in your ignorance abetted in the practical destruction our founders' Constitution. Having surrendered liberty, you are no longer entitled to its blessings. So please do not speak of slavery. You have stripped yourself of your knowledge, pride and heritage. You have shamed and prostrated yourself, and, to no small degree, it is you who are now enslaved.

I shudder to imagine what the ghosts of the past, black and white, will say to us when we join them. And then again, maybe it won't be so bad. After all, you know what happens to those who do not remember their history. One way or another, by reverence or ignorance, history is destiny.

*Franklin Raff is a Virginian.
He lives in Mount Vernon, Va., and Jerusalem, Israel.*

A Reminiscence of the Christmas of 1861

By - W.F. Shippey

It was Christmas day in the year 1861. A party of officers and soldiers of the old First Virginia Cavalry, then encamped near Bull Run, had assembled to celebrate the day at Stuart's Tavern, on the Little River Turnpike. The party was composed of Captain Jas. H. Drake, Captain Irving, Lieutenant Larrick, Dave and Gash Drake, Wm. Guy, Wm. Meade, and the writer of this; it there were others I cannot, at this distant day, recall their names. The day was "cold and dark and dreary," but the bright fire from the old fashioned fireplace, shining upon the polished and irons, sanded floor, and cheerful faces of "mine host" and his guests in their gray uniforms and their burnished side arms leaning conveniently in the corners of the room, gave an air of comfort and snugness to the scene which contrasted favorably with the outdoor gloom, and gave something like a home feeling to the soldiers who, for several months, had known nothing better than a fly tent, or a cross roads bivouac.

Our horses were picketed at the front fence, ready to mount and away should any foraging party of the enemy happen along and disturb us in our festivities, but we trusted to the inclemency of the weather and proximity of our infantry pickets, to prevent any such interruption, but the rule of our lives in the front under "Jeb" Stuart, was vigilance, and on this occasion it was not relaxed.

With song and jest and story interspersed with occasional libation to the Shrine of Bacchus, (represented by a large bowl of punch and an egg nog on the center table), the hours passed merrily away while the landlord busied himself with preparations for dinner, and the odor of the roast turkey and other good things from the kitchen, sharpened the already keen appetites of the hungry soldier — such appetites as we had twenty years ago.

In the midst of the scene of enjoyment, a "solitary horseman" rode up to the house, dismounted and entered — a tall soldierly looking man, in uniform of a Captain of Infantry. Seeing that we were a private party and believing himself to be an intruder, he was about to beat a retreat, but we pressed him to join us, and after some hesitation he consented to do so. He introduced himself as Captain Atkins, of Wheat's battalion, and told us that the battalion was on picket duty, and he on the grand round, and had come out of his way to warm himself by the hospitable fireside of the tavern. Learning from him that Major Wheat was on the line Meade and I started off in search of him. We found him at his headquarters, a fly, under a tree at the cross road it required no great deal of eloquence to induce him to join our dinner party, for the Major was one of those whole souls that would never hesitate to exchange a mud hole and camp fare for a cheerful fireside, boon companions, and a good dinner, when his duty did not forbid it, as willingly as he would the reverse, when the long roll sounded, or the call was — duty. Of a

genial disposition, graceful manners, and air of savoir faire, mingled with a certain amount of recklessness, and a lover of good things, he was at once installed, by virtue of military precedence and age, the ruler of the feast.

In fancy I can see the happy faces that gathered around the table and responded to the toast, "Our Dixie Land." Alas! ere another Christmas had come around some of them had paid the soldier's debt — friends were scattered, and another scenes were being enacted. For us there was but one Christmas of the four spent in service at "Stuart's tavern;" and of those who answered to the roll call that day, how many could now answer "Here! The gallant Wheat fell in the battle of Cold Harbor in June, 1862; Colonel Drake fell at the head of the Old First, at Falling Waters, on the retreat from Gettysburg. The others did their part, and some "laid their heads upon the lap of earth," to fame unknown, and in other commands, but under one flag bore the brunt of the Virginia campaigns.

The memory of those days seems like a beautiful dream — seem through the mists of the rolling years. We were boys then, fired with enthusiasm and arbor in the cause we loved so much. The dark side of war had no dimmed the halo that invested all things with a beautiful romance. Up to that time we had known no such word as defeat. The victories of Bull Run and Manassas, and several in our colors and our chief. The cypress had not become so entwined with the laurel as so dim the lustre of our chaplets, and cause us to mingle tears with our songs of triumph; and "victory" was the watchword of those who followed the feather of Stuart.

The dinner passed pleasantly without interruption, and the stars had "set their sentinel watch in the sky" when we parted and make our way back to camp, filled with enthusiasm, turkey, and punch, to say nothing of egg nog, oysters, and many other delicacies provided by our host. Indeed, so happy were we, that we found some difficulty in getting back camp, though the road was plain, and there were few paths in the country around Manassas unknown to Stuart's Cavalry. They had learned them all, as the infantry would say, in "buttermilk ranging."

I do not know that this will meet the eye of any of those who met at Stuart's Tavern that Christmas day, or even that any of them survive the storms of twenty years; but should it do so, I feel assured that they will recall with pleasure this little episode in our camp life, and sigh to think of the days that can come no more, and of the comrades who will meet no more, who counted it happiness to endure fatigue, hardship, and privations in the cause we loved, and under the man we loved as only soldiers can love such a leader as the glorious "Jeb" Stuart.

*Source: Southern Historical Society Papers, Volume XI.
Richmond, Va., June, 1883. No. 6.*

Martin Witherspoon Gary (March 25, 1831 – April 9, 1881)

Martin Witherspoon Gary was an attorney and a soldier, advancing to the rank of brigadier general in the Confederate States Army during the American Civil War. He played a major leadership role in the 1876 Democratic political campaign to elect Wade Hampton as governor, planning a detailed campaign to disrupt the Republican Party and black voters by violence and intimidation.

Gary was elected to the State Senate in 1876 from Edgefield, serving two terms. He fell out with Hampton after failing to get appointments to the US Senate in 1877 and 1879.

Born in Cokesbury, South Carolina, to Dr. Thomas Reeder Gary and Mary Ann Porter, he received his primary education at Cokesbury Academy before enrolling at South Carolina College in 1850. However, his participation in the Great Biscuit Rebellion in 1852 resulted in his withdrawal from the state college. He returned to his studies and graduated from Harvard in 1854. In 1855, he was admitted to the bar and began practicing as a lawyer in Edgefield.

Gary was elected in 1860 to the South Carolina House of Representatives as a secessionist and, when South Carolina seceded, he joined The Hampton Legion as a captain of infantry. At the First Battle of Manassas, he was given control of the Legion after his superior officers were disabled. By 1862 he had been elected lieutenant colonel of an infantry battalion in the Legion and was promoted to colonel when given control of a regiment. The Legion came under the command of General Longstreet and was active in the battles of Virginia through mid-1863 before being transferred to help the Army of Tennessee in the latter part of the year.

Rejoining the Army of Northern Virginia in 1864, Gary was made a brigadier general of a cavalry brigade in the Legion. He refused to surrender with General Lee at Appomattox and instead led 200 men of his brigade to escort President Davis and his cabinet from Greensboro, North Carolina, to his mother's house in Cokesbury, where he ended his service as a Confederate soldier.

After the war, Gary resumed his law practice in Edgefield and pursued a number of other business ventures. Fed up with the Radical Republican government which obeyed the constitutional amendments and allowed the black majority in the South Carolina population to have a say in the government, he became an outspoken racist. On one occasion he said "that the negro shall not become a part of the body politic, or from any qualification either as to education or property, be allowed to vote in this country." Gary worked with white paramilitary groups, rifle clubs and the Red Shirts, who organized in 1874 to suppress black voting in the state. A

manuscript of his "Plan of the Campaign of 1876" shows the level of detail and attention he gave to this project.

In the summer of 1876, Matthew Calbraith Butler wrote to his former commander, Wade Hampton, urging him to seek the governorship in the upcoming election. Butler omitted the details of the violent campaign planned by Gary and others, and Hampton accepted. Two years later Gary claimed credit for convincing Hampton to run.

It soon became apparent that Hampton did not support Gary's campaign plan, known as a modified version of the Mississippi Plan or the "Shotgun Policy. It was also known in South Carolina as the "Edgefield Plan" due to Gary's leadership in its design and implementation. It called for the bribery or intimidation of African-American Republican voters by local Democratic "rifle clubs" or "Red Shirts," formed ostensibly to attend campaign events and to insure order at polling places. The Red Shirts conducted parades and rode openly at political gatherings with the overt goal of overturning the Republicans. After the election it was clear that Gary's tactics had helped Hampton to win, as black Republican voting was deeply suppressed in Aiken and Edgefield counties. In addition, Hampton had expressed himself as a moderate with paternalistic interest in blacks and won their trust and votes in several areas.

In Edgefield and Laurens counties, the total votes for Hampton exceeded the total number of registered voters. The election returns from these two counties were challenged by the state board of returns. Their contribution was critical, as Hampton had a victory margin of only 1100 votes statewide. Hampton's victory resulted from a deal between South Carolina Democratic leaders and the national Republican Party. In April 1877 Republican candidate Hayes received the hitherto contested votes of South Carolina electors and was finally declared the winner of the contested United States presidential race. In return, he ordered the withdrawal of Federal troops from South Carolina and Louisiana, ending the formal Reconstruction era.

Gary was elected to the state senate from Edgefield County in 1876, and he was reelected in 1878. During his time in the State Senate, he became a vocal opponent of Governor Hampton because Hampton blocked his appointment to a U.S. Senate seat in 1877 and 1879. In addition, Hampton and his allies prevented Gary's candidacy in the gubernatorial election of 1880. Upon leaving the South Carolina Senate in 1881, Gary returned to his family home in Cokesbury. He died there on April 9.



BG Micah Jenkins Camp # 1569
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Martin Witherspoon Gary (March 25, 1831 – April 9, 1881)