



**Official Newsletter of the BG Micah Jenkins
SCV Camp 1569**

Volume XI Number V

May 2012



Honoring the Gray

Camp Officers

Commander
Brad Blackmon
803-322-4674

1st Lt. Commander
Bucky Sutton
803-328-8732

2nd Lt. Commander
Jerry Brown
803-371-6237

Camp Adjutant
Chris Sims
803-981-7560

Chaplain
Larry Gregory
803-324-7438

Color Sergeant/
Quartermaster
Jack Morton
803-789-3457

Camp Historian
Jim Floyd
803-324-3532

Webmaster
Chris Brown
704-340-1944

Graves Registration
Ray Baker
803-329-2257

Honoring the Gray
Editor
Jerry Brown
803-371-6237

Communications
Jerry Brown
803-371-6237
scvcamp1569@yahoo.com
or
jenkinsscv@yahoo.com

Commander's Comments

"Gashed with honorable scars, Low in Glory's lap they lie, Though they fell, they fell like stars, Streaming splendour through the sky."

These words are inscribed on a Confederate Monument in Edenton N.C. Even though this monument is dedicated to North Carolina's Confederate Soldiers, this testament can be used to describe all of our gallant soldiers who wore the gray.

This will be a busy month for the camp as we will be attending several Memorial Day Services. First of all the South Carolina Division will be having their Memorial Day Parade on Saturday, May 5th 2012. This event generally coincides with the Battle of Columbia re-enactment each year.

Also the Brigadier Micah Jenkins Camp will be holding their Memorial Day Service on May 26th 2012 at 3:00 PM at Beth Shiloh Presbyterian Cemetery in York this year. Please make plans on attending this service in support of your camp this year.

*Your Humble & Obedient Servant,
Brad Blackmon, Commander*



The Anna Jackson skit at Winthrop on March 26, 2012
Back row (left to right) Linda Sutton, Cathy and Bruce Raniszewski,
Vernon Terry and Kimberly Herndon
Middle row (left to right) Glenna Hubbell and Terry Wilson
Front row (left to right) Ann Terry, Steve Wilson, Mike Short and Nora Brooks

Camp Meeting Tuesday, May 8th 2012

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.

May's speaker will be Gene Scuggs. His topic will be on Elmira Prison.

1st Lt Commander's Comments

A Proclamation

Abraham Lincoln wrote a proclamation. It is popularly called the Emancipation Proclamation. It was issued as an executive order on January 1, 1863, using his war powers. It proclaimed the freedom of slaves in the ten states then in rebellion, thus applying to 3.1 million of the 4 million slaves in the U.S. at that time. The Proclamation did not compensate the owners for their property, it did not outlaw slavery in any other state and did not make the ex-slaves citizens.

Another proclamation came from Robert McDonnell, Governor of Virginia, who proclaimed April, 2010, as Confederate History Month. The proclamation dealt with encouraging tourism and studies related to the War Between the States in Virginia. The NAACP and various Black Caucus members went nuts that it did not condemn slavery.

Last year the York County Council approved a Proclamation encouraging the study of the War here in York County. A similar Proclamation will be read by Councilman Bruce Henderson at the upcoming Council meeting, asking for its approval.

The South Carolina Division has requested a Proclamation to be issued by Nikki Haley for South Carolina, but the Governor has refused to respond. I have personally written to the Governor but I have not received a reply either.

*Bucky Sutton,
1st Lt Commander*

Honoring the Gray

Needs your input each month.

Do you have an article you would like to see in the the newsletter?

If so, please send to Jerry Brown at jenkinsscvc@yahoo.com or call Jerry at 803-327-2834. Articles may be funny or serious as long as it reflects the ideals and purpose of the SCV. Please limit the size of articles for mailing purposes.



Prayer Closet

- Please continue to pray for those effected by the economy; especially those unemployed.
- Please keep Vernon Terry on your prayer list.
- Please keep Wayne Conner's granddaughter to your prayer list also. She was born premature 7 months ago weighting only 1 pound. She is really growing and doing well.
- Please continue to keep Laddie's mother (Clara Parrish) on your prayer list.
- Please keep Dan Sipe on your prayer list. Dan is still having problems from back surgery.
- Please add to your prayer list, UDC member Marion Mannheim, who lost her daughter, Gretchen, on Easter. Also member, BJ Hayden, who has recently been diagnosed with lung cancer. And daughter of member, Mary Bailey. Her name is Edna Phillips. She is currently having a difficult time recovering from surgery on her aorta.
- Please add Camp member Ray Baker to your prayer list. Ray has been having back problems.
- Please keep Rita Cater, Ann White UDC member, in your prayers. She recently fell and suffered a broken hip. She was able to go home after having her hip pinned.
- Also, please keep Virginia Palmer of the Ann White Chapter in your prayers. She fell and crushed her wrist.
- Please continue to pray for our President & government leaders. The SCV, national, division and brigade.
- Pray for our service men and women and for their families.

*Camp Chaplain,
Larry Gregory*

From the Chaplain

Please send your Prayer Requests to our Camp Chaplain, Larry Gregory. Larry can be contacted by phone (803-324-7438) or by email (poppyg@comporium.net).

Time Line May 1862

May 1st - Infantry under Federal General Benjamin Butler begin entering the city of New Orleans, Louisiana

May 3rd - Yorktown is evacuated by General Joseph Johnson

May 5th - Battle of Williamsburg, Major General James Longstreet nearly defeats Major General Joe Hooker during a rear-guard action.

May 7th - At the Battle of Eltham's Landing Federal General William B. Franklin skirmishes with Confederate General John Bell Hood in Virginia

May 8th - Battle of McDowell is a major encounter in the Shenandoah Valley. Stonewall Jackson repulses an attack by General Robert Schenck.

May 9th - Confederates withdraw from Norfolk, destroying the base as they leave Virginia

May 10th - Federal mortar boats, shelling Fort Pillow in Tennessee, are attacked by a makeshift Confederate fleet. The Federals responds in force, with ironclads, the 8 Confederate boats manage to sink 2 ironclads. The battle of Plum Run Bend or Plum Point ended when the Confederates withdrew to Fort Pillow. Confederates destroy the Naval Base at Pensacola.

May 11th - Confederate soldiers scuttle the C.S.S. Virginia near Norfolk, Virginia

May 15th - The Battle of Drewry's Bluff involves the Federal ironclad Monitor and the gunboat Galena where the Federals are forced to retreat as the forces at Fort Darling prove adequate.

May 16th - Federal General Benjamin Butler issues Order Number 28 (also known as the 'Woman Order'), directing his troops to treat any woman who insults them as they would a woman "plying her advocacy (a prostitute)." It was this order that led to his title, the Beast of New Orleans.

May 19th - Lincoln countermands General David Hunter's May 9th order emancipating of the slaves in his department.

May 23rd - The Battle of Front Royal, Virginia, Stonewall Jackson's forces encounter 8,000 Federal soldiers and take the area from Federal control.

May 25th - At the Battle of Winchester, Jackson defeats Nathaniel Banks and forces Banks to pull back in retreat toward Harper's Ferry, Va. Federal General Halleck arrives outside of Corinth, it has taken him 26 days to march 20 miles, virtually unopposed.

May 27th - Battle of Hanover Court House in Virginia

May 30th - Confederates evacuate Corinth. Stonewall pulls away from the Harper's Ferry area to avoid being cut off by Federal Generals Fremont and McDowell.

May 31st - The Battle of Seven Pines results in McClellan's Army of the Potomac having to pull back away from Richmond. Joseph E. Johnston is severely wounded during the battle, causing President Davis to name Robert E Lee as commander of the Army of Northern Virginia.

Discovering My Ancestor

My ancestor is John Wyatt Berry from Wayne County, Tennessee and later Searcy County, Arkansas. I know about my ancestor through Ancestry.com, service records and such. I knew when he was born, what unit he served in, his wife, his children and when he died, but I really didn't know him until recently. My wife, Sandy, and I just got back from a trip to Arkansas and Oklahoma and I got to "meet" John Wyatt Berry.

He is buried in the Scribner/Berry Cemetery located off a dirt road, which you can't get to from here - really, really rough road. We drove as close to it as possible and then walked through a cow pasture to get to the cemetery.

John Wyatt enlisted in the Confederate Army in Wayne County, was captured at Island No. 10 on the Mississippi River, was a prisoner of war at Camp Douglass and returned to Searcy County, AR after the war. Searcy County was not especially friendly to Confederate soldiers, it is the site of the "Chain Gang" where 77 or 78 men were marched in chains to Little Rock and conscripted into the Confederate Army. He had an 88 acre tract on Cellar Creek not far from Campbell, AR (another very difficult place to get to), but lost 80 acres due to taxes - as an ex-Confederate, Searcy County officials would not have been lenient to him.

He married and had children, but died young (40 years old) of some virulent disease, perhaps typhoid fever. Life in this area of the country could not have been very easy, there were some hard feelings there and the Ozark Mountains can be hard as well.

I am proud of my ancestor, John Wyatt Berry and look forward to learning a lot more about him through contacts made while visiting Arkansas.

Jerry Brown, 2nd Lt Commander



Benjamin Butler's New Orleans "Woman's Order"

One of the major problems that confronted by Maj. Gen. Benjamin F. Butler on his occupation of New Orleans in April of 1862, was the abuse his soldiers endured from patriotic Confederate women. Bitterly resentful of the Union occupation, whenever any of Butler's men were present they would contemptuously gather in their skirts, cross streets, flee rooms, cast hateful glances, or make derisive comments. Some sang spirited renditions of "The Bonnie Blue Flag" and other Confederate songs, or spat on soldiers' uniforms, while teaching their children to do the same. One woman emptied a chamber pot on Capt. David C. Farragut from her window shortly after the mayor surrendered the city to him.

The women hoped their actions would force a retaliatory incident serious enough to incite paroled Confederates to revolt against the occupation troops. Butler's men showed remarkable restraint against the insults, but he realized that it was only a matter of time until one of them, pressed too far, would arrest some female belligerent. Undoubtedly the men of New Orleans would attempt a rescue, and Butler feared his small force would be overcome. He dealt with the problem on May 15 by issuing General Orders No. 28, carefully worded to be self-enforcing:

"As the officers and soldiers of the United States have been subjected to repeated insults from the women (calling themselves ladies) of New Orleans, in return for the most scrupulous noninterference and courtesy on our part, it is ordered that hereafter when any female shall, by word, gesture, or movement, insult or show contempt for any officer or soldier of the United States, she shall be regarded

and held liable to be treated as a woman of the town plying her avocation."

Except for a few isolated incidents, the insults stopped abruptly when the women learned they would be treated as common whores for demeaning a man wearing a U.S. army uniform. A few who persisted were arrested and imprisoned on Ship Island, notably Mrs. Philip Philips, who was confined from 30 June until mid-September for laughing when the funeral procession of a Federal officer was passing her house.

The "Woman's Order" provoked criticism throughout the Confederacy and in Europe from people who considered his proclamation an unpardonable affront to womanhood. In defense of the order he emphasized the restraint his soldiers had shown civilians in New Orleans. Nevertheless, the infamous order excited indignation and personal animosity toward Butler. Many felt his nickname, "Beast" Butler, was well deserved.

Immediately upon learning of General Orders No. 28, John T. Monroe, Mayor of New Orleans, wrote a scathing letter to General Butler decrying the order. Strangely, almost as soon as it was written, Monroe retracted it and issued an apology. However, one who did not issue an apology was Jefferson Davis. President Davis issued a "Proclamation" branding Butler and his officers as nothing more than outlaws that would be hanged if captured.

*Source: "Historical Times Encyclopedia of the Civil War"
Edited by Patricia L. Faust*

Brigadier General Micah Jenkins Camp 1569 Confederate Memorial Day Service

**Will be Saturday May 26th at 3:00 PM at Beth Shiloh Presbyterian Cemetery
on 1184 N. Shiloh Road in York.**

Other Confederate Memorial Day Events:

Saturday May 5th and Sunday May 6th - the Battle of Columbia reenactment will take place at Sandy Run, SC. On Saturday, a large number of the reenactors along with anyone else that wishes to join, will participate in a State Confederate Memorial Service at Elmwood Cemetery and then march to the State Capital for the conclusion of the ceremonies to include a musket and cannon salute.

3rd Brigade Confederate Memorial Service Dates:

Sunday May 6th - Gen. States Rights Gist Camp #1451 at Gist Monument in Union
Thursday May 10th - Private Thomas Caldwell Camp #31 at 7:00 P.M. Bethany ARP Presbyterian Cemetery.
Saturday May 12th - Moses Wood Camp #125 in Gaffney at Confederate Monument on Buford St.
Sunday May 27th - Walker Gaston Camp #86 for the Walker-Gaston memorial service
at Armenia United Methodist Church

Flags of the Confederate States of America (Western Theatre) Army of Tennessee - Brad Blackmon

After the secession of Tennessee, the principal line of Confederate defenses in the Western Theatre (defined roughly as that portion of the Confederacy lying between the Allegheny Mountains and the Mississippi River), were situated along a line running from Columbus Kentucky on the west, eastwardly to Forts Henry and Donelson on the Tennessee and Cumberland Rivers, thence to Bowling Green Kentucky and on eastwardly to Cumberland Gap.

After the fall of Fort Donelson in February 1862, Generals Albert Sidney Johnston and P.G. T. Beauregard concentrated the various Confederate army commands at Corinth Mississippi and formed them into an army composed of three corps and a reserve. The army was named the Army of Mississippi. After the Kentucky Campaign in late 1862, it was renamed the Army of Tennessee.

The problems caused by the similarity of the Stars & Bars to the Stars & Stripes, lead commanders in the West to adopt battle flags, just as those in Virginia had done. Prior to Shiloh each of the corps commanders (Bragg, Breckenridge, Hardee, and Polk) were issued separate and distinctive battle flags.

Bragg's Corps Army of Mississippi pattern flag (or Cassidy Flag), Major General G.T. Beauregard was responsible for the introduction of the Cassidy Battle Flag. He came to the western theater in February 1862 as second in command of what would soon become the Army of the Mississippi. One of his ideas

was to introduce the Army of Northern Virginia Battle Flag into service with the western armies, but in this he found himself frustrated by the prior adoption of the battle flags described above.

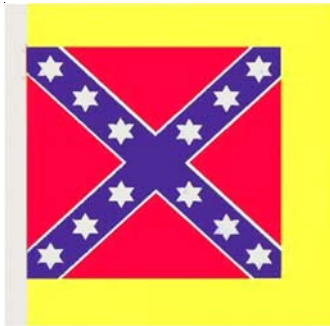
One component of the Army of the Mississippi still needed battle flags, however: Major General Braxton Bragg's corps, coming north from Pensacola and Mobile. Accordingly, Beauregard ordered ANV-style battle flags for Bragg's troops. The flags were produced by Henry Cassidy, a New Orleans sailmaker.

The first and second issues, totaling 101 flags in three sizes (4 feet square for infantry, 3 feet 6 inches square for artillery, 3 feet square for cavalry) were made of bunting with 12 six-pointed, polished cotton stars, yellow tape binding and a white canvas pole sleeve. Since the tape was only applied to three sides of the flag, and was much wider than the pole sleeve, the effect was to make these flags slightly rectangular.

The third issue flags were rectangular, 3 feet 6 inches at the hoist by 6 feet on the fly, and were finished with a wide pink tape binding and a cotton heading furnished with eyelets. Only 31 of these flags were made, and they were issued as replacements for lost or unserviceable flags.

Breckenridge's Corps Army of West Tennessee pattern flag was another of the Christian Confederate flag themes. A blue field with a red Roman cross, with white five point stars placed in the cross. Breckenridge's Corps also used First National flags well into 1863 as their battle flag.

This flag was carried by the Orphan Brigade beginning in 1862. The 4,000-man 1st Kentucky Brigade was organized in the summer of 1861. Not recognized by their home state, which remained in the Union, these soldiers were forced to train in Tennessee. In February 1862, the Confederate army was forced out of Kentucky, and with it went the 1st Kentucky Brigade, never to return during the war. This forced exile gave the unit its nickname, "Orphan Brigade."



Bragg's Corps (1st & 2nd Pattern)



Bragg's Corps (3rd Pattern)



Breckenridge's Corps

Earl Van Dorn (September 17, 1820 – May 7, 1863)

Earl Van Dorn was a career United States Army officer, fighting with distinction during the Mexican-American War and against several tribes of Native Americans. He also served as a Confederate general during the War, noted for his defeats at Pea Ridge and Corinth in 1862, and his murder by a civilian in the spring of 1863.

Van Dorn was born near Port Gibson in Claiborne County, Mississippi, to Sophia Donelson Caffery, a niece of Andrew Jackson, and Peter Aaron Van Dorn, who worked as a lawyer and judge. He also had a sister named Emily Van Dorn Miller. In December 1843 he married Caroline Godbold, and they had a son named Earl Van Dorn, Jr. and a daughter named Olivia.

In 1838 Van Dorn attended the United States Military Academy at West Point, and graduated four years later, standing 52nd out of 56 cadets. His family relations to Andrew Jackson had secured him an appointment there. He was appointed a brevet second lieutenant in the 7th U.S. Infantry Regiment on July 1, 1842, and began his Army service in the Southern United States. Van Dorn saw action at the Battle of Monterrey on September 21–23, 1846, and during the Siege of Vera Cruz from March 9–29, 1847. He was then transferred to Gen. Winfield Scott's command in early 1847 and promoted to first lieutenant on March 3.

After the war with Mexico, Van Dorn served as aide-de-camp to Brev. Maj. Gen P. F. Smith from April 3, 1847, to May 20, 1848. He and the 7th were in garrison at Baton Rouge, Louisiana, from 1848 into 1849, and then at Jefferson Barracks in Lemay, Missouri, in 1849. He saw action in Florida against the Seminoles from 1849 to 1850, and was on recruiting service in 1850 and 1851.

From 1852 to 1855 Van Dorn was stationed at the East Pascagoula Branch Military Asylum in Mississippi, serving as secretary then treasurer of the post. He spend the remainder of 1855 stationed at New Orleans, Louisiana, briefly on recruiting service again, and then in garrison back at Jefferson Barracks. He was promoted to captain in the 2nd Cavalry on March 3, 1855. Van Dorn and the 2nd were on frontier duty at Fort Belknap and Camp Cooper, Texas, in 1855 and 1856, scouting in northern Texas in 1856, and fought a minor skirmish with Comanche on July 1, 1856. He was then assigned to Camp Colorado, Texas, in 1856 to 1857, scouting duty again in 1857, returned to Camp Colorado in 1857 to 1858, and finally stationed at Fort Chadbourne located in Coke County, Texas, in 1858.

Van Dorn saw further action against the Seminoles and also the Comanches in the Indian Territory. He was wounded four separate times there,

including seriously when he commanded an expedition against Comanches and took two arrows (one in his left arm and another in his right side, damaging his stomach and lung) at the Battle of Rush Spring on October 1, 1858. He served at Fort Mason, Texas, in 1859 and 1860. While at Fort Mason, Van Dorn was promoted to the rank of major on June 28, 1860. He then was on a leave of absence from the U.S. Army for the rest of 1860 and into 1861.

Van Dorn chose to follow his home state and the Confederate cause, and he resigned his U.S. Army commission, which was accepted effective January 31, 1861. He was appointed a brigadier general in the Mississippi Militia on January 23, and replaced Jefferson Davis as major general and commander of Mississippi's state forces in February when Davis was selected as the Confederacy's President.

After resigning from the Mississippi Militia on March 16, 1861, Van Dorn entered the Regular Confederate Army as a colonel of infantry on that same date. He was sent west to raise and lead a volunteer brigade within the new Confederate Department of Texas. On April 11 he was given command of Confederate forces in Texas, and was also ordered to arrest and detain any U.S. troops in the state who refused to join the Confederacy.

Van Dorn was summoned to Richmond, Virginia, and appointed a colonel in the 1st C.S. Regular Cavalry on April 25, leading all of Virginia's cavalry forces, and then quickly promoted to brigadier general on June 5. After being promoted to major general on September 19, 1861, Van Dorn was given divisional command in the Confederate Army of the Potomac five days later.

By late 1861 and early 1862, Federal forces in Missouri had pushed nearly all Confederate forces out of the state. When Van Dorn took command of the department, he had to react with his roughly 17,000 man, 60 gun Army of the West to events already underway. Van Dorn wanted to attack and destroy the Union forces, make his way into Missouri, and capture St. Louis, turning over control of this important state to the Confederacy. He met his now-concentrated force near Boston Mountains on March 3, and the army began moving north the next day.

The Battle of Pea Ridge would be one of the few instances in the War where the Confederate forces outnumbered the Union forces. Just prior to taking command of the district, Van Dorn wrote to his wife Caroline, saying "I am now in for it, to make a reputation and serve my country conspicuously or fail. I must not, shall not, do the latter. I must have St. Louis — then Huzza!"

continued on next page

Earl Van Dorn (continued)

After waiting for McCulloch to join him, Van Dorn grew frustrated and decided to act with what he had on March 7. Around 9 a.m. he ordered Price to attack the Union position close to Elkhorn Tavern, and despite Price being wounded they had succeeded in pushing the Union forces back by nightfall, cutting Curtis' lines of communication.

The following day, March 8, showed Curtis and his command in an even stronger position, about a mile back from where they were on March 7. Van Dorn had his men arranged defensively in front of Pea Ridge Mountain, and when it was light enough he ordered the last of his artillery's ammunition fired at the Union position, to see what the Federals would do. The Union artillery answered back and knocked out most of Van Dorn's guns. Curtis then counterattacked and routed the Confederates, mostly without actual contact between the opposing infantries. Van Dorn decided to withdraw south, retreating through sparse country for a week and his men living off what little they got from the few inhabitants of the region. The Confederate defeat at this battle, coupled with Van Dorn's army being ordered across the Mississippi River to bolster the Army of Tennessee, enabled the Union to control the entire state of Missouri and threaten the heart of Arkansas.

The performance of Van Dorn at the Second Battle of Corinth that fall led to another Union Army victory. As at Pea Ridge, Van Dorn did well in the early stages of the battle on October 1-2, 1862, combining with the Price's men and prudently placing his force that now was roughly equal in size to the Federals at about 22,000 soldiers. However, Van Dorn failed to reconnoiter the Union defenses, and his attack on Brig. Gen. William S. Rosecrans' strong defensive position at Corinth, Mississippi, on October 3 was bloodily repulsed.

After the battle Van Dorn ordered a retreat, falling back through Oxford and then Coffeeville, and finally reaching Abbeville, constantly skirmishing with Federal cavalry. Along the way Van Dorn and his staff were nearly captured at Water Valley on December 4. Two days later Van Dorn halted the retreat at Grenada. Following the defeat at Corinth, Van Dorn was sent before a court of inquiry to answer for his performance there. Though he was acquitted of the charges against him, Van Dorn would never be trusted with the command of an army again, and he was subsequently relieved of his district command.

Van Dorn proved to be more effective as a cavalry commander; his action in a raid at Holly Springs, Mississippi on December 20, 1862, seriously disrupted Ulysses S. Grant's first

Vicksburg Campaign plans, capturing 1,500 soldiers and destroying at least \$1,500,000 USD worth of Union supplies. On January 13, 1863, Van Dorn was appointed to command all cavalry in the Department of Mississippi & East Louisiana, and then was ordered by Gen. Joseph E. Johnston to join the Army of Tennessee, operating in Middle Tennessee. Van Dorn and his force left Tupelo, Mississippi, went through Florence, and reached the army on February 20 at Columbia, Tennessee. Van Dorn set up his headquarters at Spring Hill, and assumed command of all of the surrounding cavalry from there. He was ordered by the army commander, Gen. Braxton Bragg, to protect and scout the left of the army, screening against Union cavalry.

Van Dorn was also successful at Battle of Thompson's Station, on March 5, 1863. There a Union brigade, under Col. John Coburn, left Franklin to reconnoiter to the south. About four miles short of Spring Hill Coburn attacked a Confederate force composed of two regiments and was repulsed. Van Dorn then sent Brig. Gen. W. H. Jackson's dismounted soldiers to make a direct frontal assault, while Brig. Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest's troopers went around Coburn's left and into the Federal rear. After three charges were beaten back, Jackson finally carried the Union position as Forrest captured Coburn's wagon train, blocking the road to Columbia and the only Union escape route. Nearly out of ammunition as well as surrounded, Coburn surrendered.

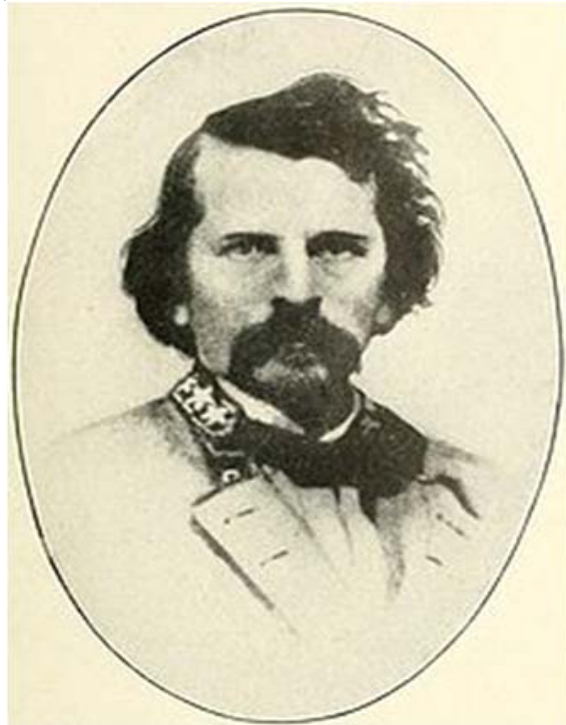
On March 16, 1863, Van Dorn was given command on the cavalry corps of Army of Tennessee and fought his last fight April 10 at the First Battle of Franklin, skirmishing with the cavalry of Gordon Granger and losing 137 men to Granger's 100 or so. This minor action caused Van Dorn to halt his movement and rethink his plans, and subsequently he returned in the Spring Hill area.

It was Van Dorn's reputation as a womanizer, not a Union bullet, that led to his death. In May 1863 he was shot in his headquarters at Spring Hill in Maury County, Tennessee, by Dr. James Bodie Peters, who claimed that Van Dorn had carried on an affair with his wife Jessie McKissack Peters. Alone in his office at the home of Martin Cheairs (now known as Ferguson Hall) Van Dorn was writing at his desk, and Peters entered and shot him once in the back of the head, killing him instantly. Peters was later arrested by Confederate authorities, but was never brought to trial for the killing. In defense of his actions, Dr. Peters stated that Van Dorn had "violated the sanctity of his home."

Van Dorn's body was brought back to Mississippi and buried at Wintergreen Cemetery in Port Gibson. His father Peter had also been buried there, and Earl Van Dorn was laid to rest beside him.



BG Micah Jenkins Camp # 1569
4240 Mt Gallant Road
Rock Hill, South Carolina 29732



Earl Van Dorn (September 17, 1820 – May 7, 1863)