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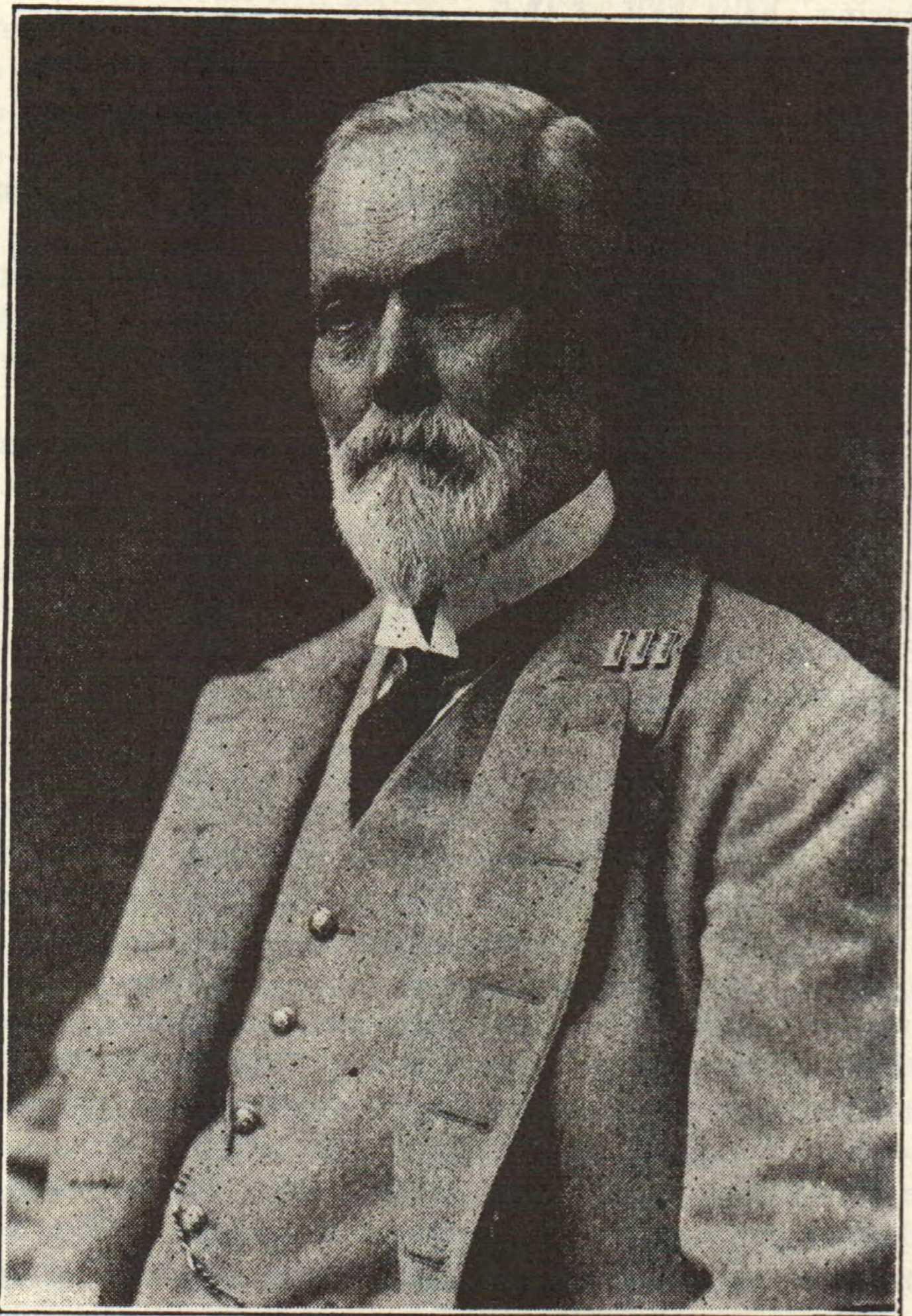
MATTHEW FONTAINE MAURY

From the portrait presented to the Naval Academy at Annapolis during the U. D. C. Convention in Washington, D. C. The portrait was the gift of the Atlanta Chapter U. D. C.

CAPT. FRED BEALL COMMANDER FOR LIFE.

When the richly merited honor of being made Commander for life of the Confederate veterans of the District of Columbia was bestowed upon Capt. Fred Beall, who has for many years commanded Camp No. 171, of Washington, D. C., he received this highly prized letter from Commander in Chief William B. Haldeman, writing from his winter home in Florida:

"My Dear Captain Beall: No greater honor can come to a man than that which has come to you in being elected Life



CAPT. FRED BEALL.

Commander by the comrades of your Camp, whom you have so efficiently and earnestly served. . . . I know of no man who deserves more than you the sincere respect and admiration of his Confederate comrades. God bless and keep you."

And the VETERAN appreciates this privilege of paying tribute to a friend who has through many years given his support and coöperation in its behalf no less zealously than he has worked for the advancement of his Camp and comrades. Friends everywhere will be interested in the late honor which signified the confidence and appreciation of his comrades, and they will also be interested in this bit of his personal history as a Confederate soldier, which he furnished upon request of the VETERAN:

"I began my service as a private in Capt. P. A. Mann's Company of Partisan Rangers, organized at Aberdeen, Miss. Soon after its organization the company was ordered into active service, and in our first battle the first sergeant of the company was demoted while the battle was raging, when Captain Mann ordered me to take charge of the company as first sergeant. I served with his company until it was consolidated with the 12th Mississippi Cavalry, all the time responding to every duty that devolved upon me. I never missed a fight

from the time I enlisted till the close of the war, and we were engaged in many hard battles.

"In 1864 Colonel Pegues, who commanded a regiment in our brigade, was ordered to take a thousand men to South Alabama, and I was ordered to report to him as his quartermaster. Some time later news came to us that General Sherman was marching through Georgia. I asked to be relieved, that I might go to my command, then pursuing Sherman, but Col. Pegues declined my request, saying he couldn't do without me. After some argument, I stated to him that I had never known a soldier to be punished for going to the front, that I was going, with or without his consent, and, saluting him with 'Good-by,' I at once started for the front.

"We followed Sherman through Georgia and South Carolina into North Carolina, and I was with my command when Gen. Joseph E. Johnston surrendered. President Davis and some members of his cabinet were escorted to Washington, Ga., by our brigade and that of Basil Duke. At Lawrenceville, S. C., I was detailed to dispose of all horses, mules, and camp equipage, and my horse also got sick, so I was not able to keep up with the command, and only reached it the night after it had surrendered. We started then to go to General Taylor at Mobile, but when we reached Alabama we learned that he had surrendered, so there was nothing to do but to go home, which I reached on the 17th of May, 1865, and never surrendered. I am still a Confederate, as devoted to the cause as ever."

THE BRAVEST DEED I EVER SAW.

From J. M. Weiser, Dublin, Va.:

Living now in the home town of Gov. E. Lee Trinkle, Wytheville, Va., is a Confederate veteran, Sam Chinault, who served in the same company (F), of the 54th Virginia as did the writer.

At the battle of Jonesboro, fifteen or twenty miles South of Atlanta, August 30 (as I recall the date), 1864, we had charged and been driven back over open ground to the shelter of our own breastworks. All the men lying on the ground charged over were supposed to be dead, till the movement of an uplifted arm showed life in one. Instantly the great soul of Sam Chinault responded. Without discarding his gun, which action might have lessened the risk of being shot at, he strode forward under the fire of the enemy and, reaching the wounded man, with the strength of an ox, which he possessed, placed the stranger on his broad shoulders and bore him back to safety. But Sam had discovered on this trip two more wounded men, all strangers, from a Kentucky command, but that didn't matter, and straightway made the second and third trip of mercy and rescue under a constant fire, which fortunately failed to reach the target aimed for, though one of the three comrades rescued received a second wound while on the hero's back.

"In the days of the years that are fading" no braver act was done.

From Gen. J. H. Harp, Commander Florida Division, U. C. V., Crescent City, Fla.:

In the last days of May, or first of June, 1864, while we were in the trenches to the left of Kenesaw Mountain, Ga., there was continuous heavy artillery firing on our lines, making it necessary for us to stay in the trenches, though the frequent heavy rains had made the trenches damp and muddy. One day a time-fused 12-pound shell struck our earthworks below the headlog, and its velocity was so impeded that it fell in the trench right among the men at that point, the fuse

burning and spluttering, just ready to explode. Of course, we sprang out of that trench at once, but while the fuse was still burning and spluttering, Sergt. I. P. (Pete) Collier, of Company K, 5th Georgia Regiment, jerked up that shell in his hands and tossed it out of the trench. It fell into a puddle of water and the fuse was put out, so the shell did not explode. I think that was a cool, brave act, and for it Pete Collier was offered a commission as lieutenant in Company E, but he would not leave his old Company K, the Upton Guards. When the shell struck the puddle of water, we sprang back into the trench without waiting to be told to get back. I wonder how many of the old 5th Georgia who witnessed that scene are living now. Comrades, speak up!

CASUALTIES AT GETTYSBURG.

BY CAPT. H. C. MICHIE, CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA.

In the *VETERAN* for July, 1923, page 258, Colonel McFarland compares the losses of the 11th Mississippi with the losses of Pickett's Division in a way that does injustice to the latter. He makes no allowance for the killed and wounded among the missing who fell into the hands of the enemy. He also says Brockenbrough's Brigade broke, leaving Davis's Brigade's left flank exposed. General Longstreet does not say that Brockenbrough's Brigade broke before the other brigades of Pettigrew's Division.

Then, in the August number of the *VETERAN*, Gen. C. I. Walker, of South Carolina, corrects Mrs. Ida Lee Johnson in a reference to Pickett's Division loss (page 249), and says Pickett's loss was only 22 per cent, more than half being prisoners, leaving 11 per cent killed and wounded, this in face of the report of General Longstreet, a native of South Carolina, who gives the losses at 2,863, out of 4,900 engaged, which would be about 58 per cent.

All the brigade generals and field officers of Pickett's Division were killed or wounded except one, who was taken prisoner. Nearly all the wounded were taken prisoners, so there could be no correct report of killed and wounded; they could only be reported missing. My company (H, 56th Virginia, Garnett's Brigade) had casualties that will give an idea of the terrible losses. It carried into the battle thirty-seven officers and men, of whom one officer was killed, two officers wounded and captured, thirteen men killed and fourteen men wounded, six captured; only one escaped unhurt. Total, fourteen killed, sixteen wounded, six prisoners, one escaped.

General Longstreet commanded all the troops engaged in the battle of Gettysburg on July 3. After making all arrangements for the attack and putting the troops in motion, he recounts as follows:

"The advance was made in very handsome style, all the troops keeping their lines accurately and taking the fire of the batteries with coolness and deliberation. About halfway between our position and that of the enemy, a ravine partially sheltered our troops from the enemy's fire, where a short halt was made for rest. The advance was resumed after a moment's pause, all still in good order. The enemy's batteries soon opened on our lines with canister, and the *left* seemed to stagger under it; but the advance was resumed and with the same degree of steadiness. Pickett's troops did not appear to be checked by the batteries and only halted to deliver a fire, when close under musket range. Major General Anderson's Division was ordered forward to support and assist the wavering columns of Pettigrew and Trimble. Pickett's troops, after delivering fire, advanced to the charge and entered the enemy's lines, capturing some of his batteries and gaining his

works. About the same moment, the troops, that had before hesitated, broke their ranks and fell back in great disorder, many more falling under the enemy's fire in retiring than while they were attacking. This gave the enemy time to throw his entire force upon Pickett, with a strong prospect of being able to break up his lines or destroy him before Anderson's Division could reach him, which would in its turn have greatly exposed Anderson. He was, therefore, ordered to halt. In a few moments, the enemy, marching against both flanks and the front of Pickett's Division, overpowered and drove it back, capturing about half of those of it who were not killed or wounded."

CASUALTIES, PICKETT'S DIVISION.

(Pages 360-363 "Official War Records," Volume XXVII.)

Garnett's Brigade: 78 killed, 324 wounded, 539 missing; total, 941.

Armistead's Brigade: 88 killed, 460 wounded, 663 missing; total, 1,211.

Kemper's Brigade: 58 killed, 356 wounded, 317 missing; total, 731.

Grand total: 224 killed, 1,140 wounded, 1,499 missing; total, 2,863.

Only those are reported killed and wounded who are known to be so. Many of the missing are supposed to be killed or wounded.

Eleventh Mississippi Infantry, page 344: Casualties on 3rd of July: 32 killed; 170 wounded; no missing.

THE BATTLE OF BALL'S BLUFF.

BY P. B. GOCHNAUER, SR., UPPERVILLE, VA.

The article on "The Battle of Ball's Bluff," in the January *VETERAN*, by Lieut. G. Nash Morton, of the Richmond Howitzers, in some respects is very misleading. Colonel Barksdale's 13th Mississippi Regiment was not engaged in that battle, but was doing duty at Edward's Ferry, some distance below on the Potomac River, where the enemy in large force was trying to effect a crossing. The battle was opened by the 8th Virginia, commanded by Col. Eppa Hunton, who, by a desperate struggle and heavy loss of life (five being killed outright in our company, which numbered only forty when we went in), succeeded in holding the enemy in check under a murderous artillery fire in conjunction with their infantry attack, until the 17th and 18th Mississippi Regiments came in on our right with a rush and daring that drove the enemy back. Colonel Hunton then ordered the 8th Virginia to storm the battery, which was done, and the three enemy howitzers were captured and taken back to Leesburg.

These statements can be verified by Mr. Eppa Hunton, a son of Col. Eppa Hunton, also by Capt. Lewis Shumate, who was in the battle. The character of both these gentlemen is unquestionable and no one knowing either of them would for one moment doubt their veracity. It will do the 17th and 18th Mississippi Regiments great injustice, as also the 8th Virginia, to let this statement go without correction. If there are any of the 17th and 18th Mississippi Regiments still living, I am sure they will verify that I have here stated, as they are the only regiments outside the 8th Virginia that were in the battle.

A CORRECTION.—A typographical error changed the name of the writer of the article on "How General Taylor Fought the Battle of Mansfield, La.," to J. E. Sliger, when it should have been J. E. Sligh, of Long Beach, Calif., lately deceased. And the additional notes to article should have been credited to his brother T. S. Sligh, of St. Louis, who is still living.