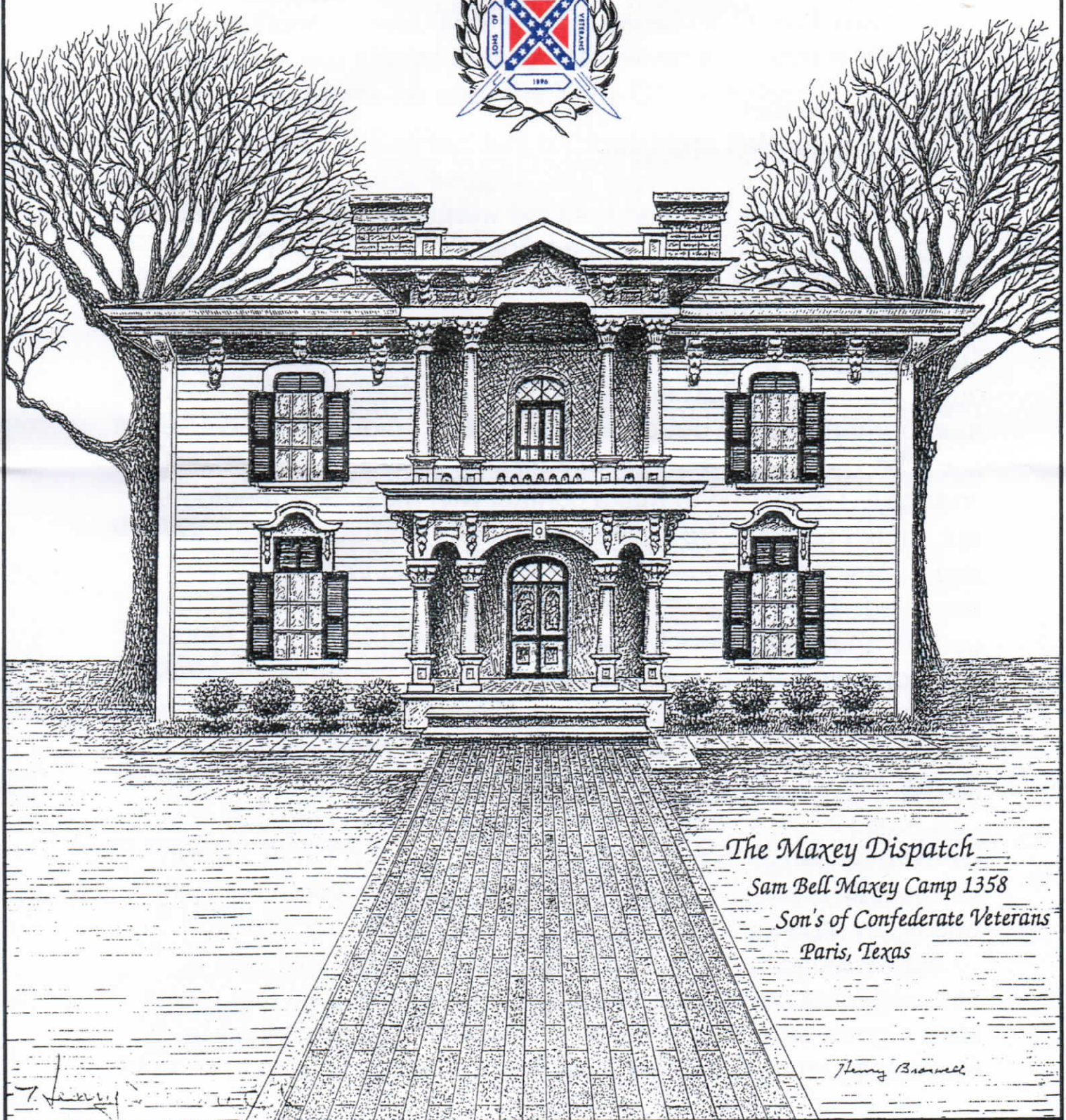


TEXAS



The Maxey Dispatch
Sam Bell Maxey Camp 1358
Son's of Confederate Veterans
Paris, Texas

Henry Braswell

Sam Bell Maxey House - Paris, Texas - By Judge Henry Braswell

THE MAXEY DISPATCH
The Newsletter of the Gen. Sam Bell Maxey Camp 1358
Sons of Confederate Veterans, Paris TX
Dispatch # 296 March 2020

Adjutants Report

Commander Ball and I decided that the weather threat for the meeting in February this year was a cause to cancel. It turned out that we could have met because the weather was not that bad, but we didn't know at the time that it would be. We agreed that the threat was real to the point that the safe thing to do was cancel, and we did. I tried to call every member except those in Louisiana, and Oklahoma. I was pretty sure that those that lived out of state were smart enough to stay at home. We also have a member that lives in deep East Texas that I didn't call because I know he is one of the brightest bulb's on the tree, and wouldn't chance it. I managed to make contact with most local members. but some I couldn't. So I called the Library and asked them to inform anyone that came expecting a meeting that it was canceled. I now need to check with some members about their current phone numbers because I couldn't contact them.

I hope we can have a really good turn out for our March meeting, again weather permitting. We are going into the period of time that we expect to have potential violent weather in North East Texas, but we will hope for the best this year.

I received an e-mail about the Texas Division Reunion Convention which is scheduled for the 5th to the 7th of June in Grapevine Texas this year. Some may have received the e-mail and know all about it but one thing really caught my attention.

So for those that didn't get it the guest speaker this year is someone that has really impressed me for more than one reason. He's a great American serving his country more ways than most. Reaching Lieutenant Colonel rank in the Army, serving in combat

in Viet Nam I think. Also serving in the U.S. House of Representatives representing Florida's 22 congressional district from 2011 to 2013. He is presently a political commentator, and he flies in the face of all who say that a Black person should hate everything Confederate. This special person is Lt. Col. (retired) Allen B. West and I know that he will deliver a speech worth hearing. I don't think he sees the Sons Of Confederate Veterans as enemies, but as allies.

I also received a letter from General Headquarters (National) requesting donations to build a museum on the grounds at Elm Springs Tennessee where they are located. Maybe all our members received the letter, and maybe some donated. I made a donation and made sure they knew it came from the Sam Bell Maxey Camp. If any didn't get the letter, and would like to donate, let me know and I will provide the address- if you don't have it - where to mail your donation. The letter from GHQ was addressed to individuals, not the Camp.

Obviously we didn't have a program for February since we didn't meet so if anyone feels like presenting one at the March meeting please do so. Otherwise we will have pot luck, maybe a video or just fellowship. We will see then.

The next meeting will be tuesday 3 March 2020 at the Paris Public Library at 6:00 p. m.

John Brown: Adjutant

Quasi Editor: John Brown

Most of the war for southern independence was in the east with only skirmishes in Texas. Union forces occupied Galveston the major port in Texas early on, but Texans had displaced them to open the port.

A Union fleet with 20,000 troops was poised to retake the Island. The date was 11 January 1863. They had one ship, an iron-hulled merchant steamer, the Hatteras retrofitted as a Union warship, there to support the invasion. The Texans had no defense against it and the outlook appeared grim.

Unexpectedly, at 2:00 p. m. an unknown speck appeared on the horizon, visible from Galveston. It was the Confederate Battle Cruiser the CSS Alabama. What followed was a fierce battle lasting only 13 minutes for the Hatteras was no match for the Alabama's superior design and firepower. That victory put the invasion on hold giving the defenders at Galveston time to build a defensive position that kept the port in Confederate hands for the rest of the war.

According to some historians that victory had a much greater effect since Texas never experienced an invasion of it's interior, and in the words of one, came out of the war "supercharged."

Galveston and Houston became major cities almost overnight after the war since they managed to survive damage, and could focus on the commercial side when things returned to normal. The wreck of the Hatteras is now considered an important historical site since it's demise had enormous ramifications for the way Texas, and that entire part of the Gulf coast, developed.

Later the CSS Alabama was in port at Cherbourg France for necessary repairs. Union spy's managed to get that information to Union naval forces, and they put a fleet of their latest warship's in place to sink the Alabama. They overwhelmed the Alabama when it had stayed in port for its' allotted time and then sailed out to do battle with the Union fleet. It sank just off the coast of France. Many of the crew were saved by British ships which the Union Navy carefully avoided since the British Navy was still the the most powerful in the world, and they wanted no quarrel with them. Some of the dead were buried in what is now considered a "Confederate Cemetery" in France near Cherbourg. One is buried in a cemetery in Mobile Alabama. A sailor's remains were found encrusted on the bottom of a cannon when it was raised, and the burial ceremony was conducted by the SCV and it was awesome. I know, I was there.

Quasi Editor John Brown

***Stand firmly by your Cannon
Let ball and grapeshot fly
And trust in God and Davis
But keep your powder dry***