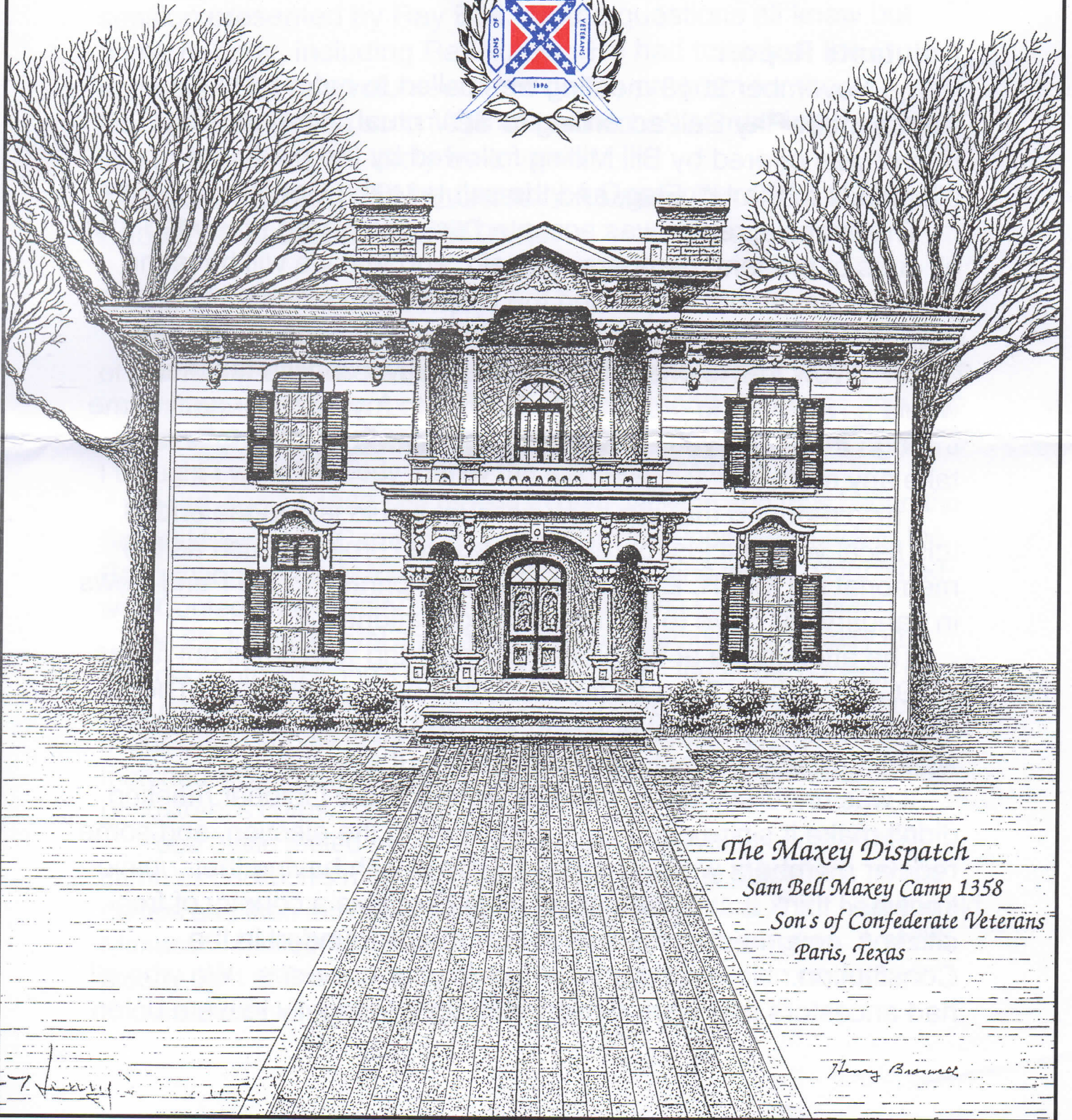


TEXAS



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 # 283 December 2018

Adjutants Report

The November 2018 meeting was called to order by Commander Ray Ball according to SCV ritual, The opening prayer was offered by Bill Milling followed by the pledge of allegiance to the US Flag, and the salute to the Confederate Flag.

The financial report was accepted as read where I reported that all dues of present members are paid, and that we will have the standard payments for printing the Dispatch and stamps for mailing them for the rest of this fiscal year that ends on 31 July 2019. (Wow that is one run-on sentence. My english teachers would have loved to grade that. Thanks to my mom for getting me through freshman year of college english, and that I didn't have to take any more.)

I also reported that our bank account would last to the end of this fiscal year but just barely. Any special projects such as the memorial to Gen, R. E. Lee that we have printed in the Paris News in January will have to be funded by donations.

The attendance at the November meeting was small but it was ELECTION NIGHT, and a lot was riding on the outcome. The ones that could make it however enjoyed a lively comradeship which is what the meeting should be about anyway.

It was understandable that our visitors at the October meeting didn't make it since one was a candidate in the election, and some regular members were probably involved with having their opinion known. I think that is the duty of all to keep this a country of free citizens, governed by the rule of law that is founded in the Constitution. How you do your duty is your business. We who all had ancestors that were denied their right to legally leave a union

know what a tragedy occurred. That tragedy was the bloodiest war this country has ever been involved in by far. We therefore do our duty and vote, and if the outcome is not the way we wanted we live with it until it is. That's the way it should work.

The program for November was a "question and answer" session presented by Ray Ball. Some questions all knew but some nobody, including Ray, knew. He had to look at the answers. Nobody volunteered to do the program for the December meeting so unless someone has something they would like to present it will likely be a video.

The next meeting will be tuesday 4 December 2018 at the Paris Public Library at 6:00 p. m.

Quasi Editorial Comments

The program for the November meeting was a video about the battle of first Manassas where the outnumbered Confederates won a decisive victory over the Union Army. The battle of second Manassas was also decisive for the Confederates as well, but was not covered in the video. I thought I would remedy that by the following account.

On 13 August 1862 Lee moved to help Jackson and thus began the Second Manassas Campaign. Union General Pope drew back to the Rappahannock River toward McLellan's retreating troops, skirmished with Confederate cavalry, and tried to determine Lee's intentions.

On 22 June General Jeb Stuart now commanding all cavalry in Virginia captured Pope's baggage train, containing all his papers. On 26 August General Fitzhugh Lee's troopers captured Manassas Junction a major Union supply point as Jackson detached with a large corps and marched around Pope's right flank. Lee followed with General James Longstreet's corps.

Pope battle rested his army and waited for developments. They came as Jackson's men captured or destroyed the Manassas ammo dumps and then moved to a strong position on a railroad cut near the old Manassas battlefield between Pope's army and Washington. A sharp, bloody fight at Brawner's Farm focused Pope's attention on Jackson, and a slow Union concentration began.

Elements of Pope's army launched the battle of Second Manassas by the Union with a piecemeal attack against Jackson's entrenched line on 29 August 1862. Jackson beat off repeated assaults, even though he was hard-pressed at times. In fact some of his men ran out of ammo and had to throw rocks at the enemy. By the end of the day Lee and Longstreet were in position to hit the Union left flank in the morning. Pope, having convinced himself that the "Rebels" would retreat, struck Jackson hard but reeled under Longstreet's flank drive which threatened to envelop his whole army. Heavy fighting around the Henry House Hill (the scene of bitter struggle during First Manassas) kept open Pope's lines of retreat and prevented total destruction of his army. Defeated, he retreated toward Washington with a fierce rearguard action at Chantilly (or Ox Hill), Virginia, on 1 September 1862.

Casualties were enormous on both sides as the war showed the lethal power of modern weaponry. From 27 August to 2 September, Confederate losses were at least 1400 killed, 7600 wounded, and near 100 missing, for a total close to 9000 out of a force of about 50,000. Union losses were about 1700 killed, 8300 wounded, nearly 6000 missing, or a total of about 16,000 out of the 75,000 engaged.

The Union losses then were about twice the Confederates. As Pope's defeated army straggled into Washington, Lincoln considered ways to save the city and possibly the war. With serious misgivings, and against heavy Cabinet opposition, Lincoln put McLellan back in command of Union forces around Washington. Although Lincoln doubted the general's fighting qualities, he admired the man's ability to rebuild morale.

The final outcome of this action was the same as at First Manassas except this time there were no civilians clogging the road back to Washington.

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***