

**AT CLOSE OF WAR.**

**Rode Into Confederate Lines With Officer Who Brought Flag of Truce From General Lee on Appomattox Field.**

AMONG the most interesting stories told of the surrender of the Confederate armies at Appomattox court house, fifty years ago—April 9, 1865—are the eyewitness accounts of Gen. Edward W. Whitaker, who was the chief of staff to General Custer at that time, and who has been a resident of Washington since 1872. Brigadier general by brevet, he was at that time a lieutenant colonel, and the first Union officer to enter the Confederate lines before hostilities were suspended.

That was April 9, 1865, and General Whitaker is the man who accompanied Captain Sims, the Confederate officer who brought out the flag of truce to the point at which were located General Longstreet and General Gordon who were in active command after the departure of General Lee. General Whitaker was sent with Captain Sims to ascertain if the flag of truce meant "unconditional surrender." General Custer sent word by his chief of staff that unless the flag did mean unconditional surrender he would be unable to stop a charge that was about to be made, as he was not in sole command. Having received favorable assurances from the Confederate generals, General Whitaker took the flag of truce and at their request rode out to stop the charge of the infantry line of battle, thereby braving the fire of his own side, waiting for the word to engage the enemy.

**Resented Yankee's Presence.**  
"I recall hearing a soldier shout, 'What is the Yankee doing here with his arms on?' General Whitaker said, discussing those historic days with a reporter for the Washington Star. 'The flag of truce,' he said, 'was a fringed honeycomb towel. It is now on exhibition at the New National museum.'

**Worthy of All Respect.**  
The survivors of the great war formed an element inextricably interwoven with all that was best in the last two generations of Americans. They were the leading citizens, the pillars of society in every hamlet from Maine to California. Respect for their uniforms and tattered battle flags was taught to our youth by precept and example.

**Heirs Got Three Cents More.**  
Once a tightwad went to the store to get a piece of rope. The storekeeper sold his rope at eight cents per pound. Mr. Tightwad said as he only wanted to tie up a calf he would take five cents worth. He got the rope. That evening his folks found him hanging in the barn dead.

**Useful Cement.**  
To make cement for stopping leaks and holes in iron pipe, etc., secure about two pounds of iron shavings or borings from a foundry; add one ounce of powdered sal ammoniac and one ounce of sulphur. Mix with water to a paste and use at once, as it hardens very fast. This will resist heat and water and will be found useful for many purposes. Steel wool or shavings may be secured from any paint or drug store.

**Came Together.**  
George and Robert are twins. One day when they were about eight a little playmate neighbor boy of about the same age came running up to where they were playing in the yard with this startling exclamation: "Oh, say, I got a little brother at my house; he came last night." "Huh, that's nothing," said George, "I brought my brother with me when I came."

**Old Valencian Industry.**  
The making of glazed tiles or "azuulejos" is the only ancient Valencian industry which has retained its importance through the centuries up to the present day. These wall and floor tiles enter into the construction of nearly every modern building throughout the region, and the local consumption alone is sufficient to keep the factories running.

**Some Results of Fatigue.**  
It is known that fatigue shows itself by certain chemical changes in the body, all of the sustaining elements being consumed rapidly, and a kind of intoxication of the cells taking place, because they cannot carry off the waste products rapidly enough. The battery has become clogged and does not reverse properly.

**The Word "British."**  
"The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland" has, since January 1, 1801, been the official title of the political unity composed of England, Scotland and Ireland. In this sense the word "British" applies to Ireland, but in no other. Politically the "British Isles" include England, Scotland and Ireland.

**Remembered That.**  
Jock Robinson, having been making merry with some boon companions, finally took his leave and got aboard a street car. Soon he was fast asleep, but was finally aroused by the conductor calling "Robinson street!" Sleepy and befuddled, Jock made answer, "It's no. I treated last time."

**Lee Had Gone to Find Grant.**  
"When we arrived at the place where Sims had left General Lee we found only Generals Gordon and Longstreet, who explained that General Lee had galloped off to the rear to find

General Grant immediately after Sims had started out with the flag of truce, and had left them in command. I stated to them the message from Custer to Lee and told them that I must have an immediate reply. They said there was no doubt of surrender, as we had cut off their line of retreat the night before, and that they were personally satisfied of the uselessness of further resistance. I expressed regret that so many good men had been killed the night before and that morning, whereupon they said that General Lee would not believe that the Union infantry was across the Lynchburg pike until the repulse of Gordon's charge, which had been made that morning by his orders.

"While we were talking firing was heard to the east of where I had left Custer, and at my suggestion an officer was sent with orders to stop it. I noticed that the guns that were moving past us as we talked had smoke coming from their muzzles, indicating that they were the same that had been used so vigorously on our column a short time before. I protested against the moving of these guns, and was assured that the object was to water the horses in a small creek near by. At this moment General Ord's infantry line of battle was seen closing in on us from the west, and I was begged to announce the surrender of the army to that line.

**First Notice of Surrender.**  
"I saw that there was no time to lose, so I pulled out the old towel again and rode out to the Union infantry line and said to General Chamberlain of Maine that Lee's army had surrendered. The line halted at once and a shout went up from right to left, followed by a scene that words fail to describe. I then galloped back across the field to General Custer to make the same announcement. It was in this way that the infantry historians claim that the surrender was first made to them.

"In conclusion, let me say that of all the battlefields of the Civil war—and I had the honor of being in eighty-one battles—Appomattox was the most magnificent."

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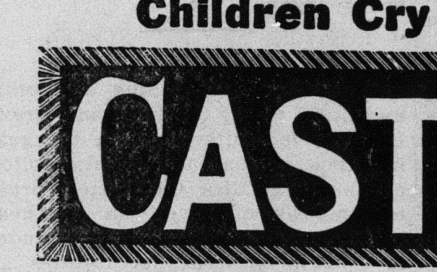
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**CASTORIA.** **CASTORIA.**

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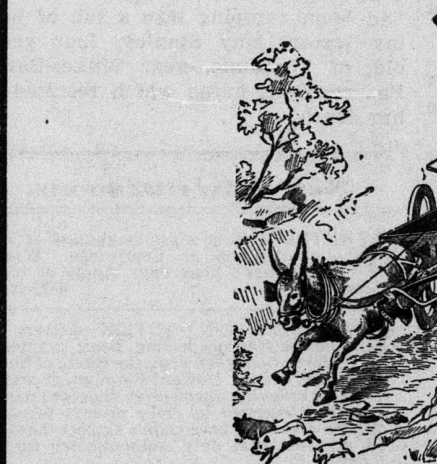
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