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Letter from L. R. Connell to D. M. Featherston. 9 August 1899

Lucy R. Connell

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MERCHANDISE BROKERS,

1322 E. CARY STREET.

MANUFACTURERS' AGENTS.

RICHMOND, VA.

Oct. 11th, 1897.

General Featherstone,

Holly Springs, Miss.

My Dear General,

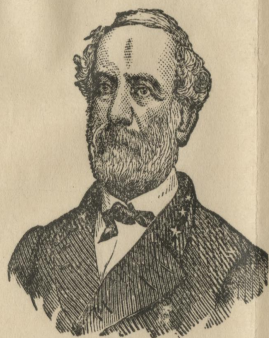
Doubtless time has effaced from your memory my name, but possibly you can recall me as the Adjutant of the 12th Mississippi Regiment of your former glorious brigade in the army of Northern Virginia, and my object for thus intruding on you is to enclose a copy of a circular letter from R. E. Lee Camp #1 Confederate Veterans of this city, which explains itself fully, and further to state that these oil portraits can be painted in the best manner with a fine frame for the sum of \$35. We expect to get the portraits of Generals Posey, Harris, and Griffith, and we should be delighted above all things to have that of your illustrious self. I have not heard of you for many years and write with the hope that you are still hale and hearty. I have lived in Richmond since the close of the war, and have reared a family around me, but still I love the old state, and those who contributed as you did to her great fame.

Trusting that it may be your pleasure to let me hear from you without delay, I remain,

Very truly,

Your friend and comrade,

James H. Capers



JOHN M. WARREN,
Col. and Commander.

J. TAYLOR STRATTON,
Capt. and Adjutant.

Headquarters R. E. LEE CAMP, No. 1,

CONFEDERATE VETERANS,

R. E. LEE CAMP HALL,

Richmond, Va., March 19, 1897.

Comrades and Friends:

The history of our Camp is, perhaps, not wholly unknown to you. After many years of earnest effort in the organization of Confederate Camps, in the care of veteran and disabled comrades, in the perpetuation of just views of the Confederate struggle, and in defence of the good name of our great and noble dead, Lee Camp has now entered upon a new and most interesting work in its devotion to our Confederate cause, only the more sacred to us that it is numbered in the history of those that lost.

It is proposed to establish in its spacious and attractive new hall, on a principal street in the capital city of the late Confederacy, a collection of portraits of the more notable men, who, by their virtues and their deeds, have made the Confederate story illustrious for all time.

BE OF ENDURING INTEREST.

Such a gallery of faithful portraits of the great officers and gallant soldiers, both of the army and navy, will be of enduring interest, and of large influence upon the minds and characters of men for generations to come. It is due to the noble men themselves, and their unselfish and heroic sacrifice of lives and fortunes. It is due to the cause they served and the great principles for which many of them laid down their lives. It is due to the truth and value of history, which will record their names and their heroic achievements. It is due to those that come after us, their sons and ours, that they shall know well the men who gave the Confederacy its imperishable glory.

Such faithful portraits of our honored leaders and heroes it will not be possible to secure if the work of gathering them be much longer deferred. A full-length portrait of the great commander of the Army of Northern Virginia, Robert E. Lee, now adorns our walls, and will remain the central object of interest so long as this building stands. Around it we are already assembling those who stood with him and gave that army its strength and its fame.

ALL URGED TO HELP.

We respectfully and urgently ask the families of our distinguished Confederate leaders and their friends, and those who followed them on land or sea, to give personal and prompt assistance in securing the portraits we desire. It is eminently desirable that the pictures to be hung in our gallery be faithful portraits in oil, and in Confederate uniform; and that they be provided for this honorable place in our gallery without expense to our Camp, if that be possible. A minimum size is suggested of 16x20 inches inside the frame.

That the gallery may be made of the greatest value and dignity, the privilege of a place on its wall will be accorded by our special committee, to whom the portraits should be sent, and to whom is assigned the duty of discrimination both as to the artistic value and the fidelity of the portraits.

It is requested that a biographical history of Confederate service accompany each picture.

J. TAYLOR STRATTON,
Adjutant.

JOHN M. WARREN,
Commander.