## "A Southern Girl In '61": The Romance And Tragedy Of A Great ... **EMILY EMERSON LANTZ**

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MISS TURNER MACFARLAND, OF VIRGINIA (Mrs. J. Willeox Brown, of Baltimore.)



MISS VIRGINIA PEGRAM, OF VIRGINIA (Mrs. David Gregg McIntosh, of Baltimore.)



MISS MARY MABEN, OF VIRGINIA (Mrs. Frank Peyton Clark, of Baltimore.)



MISS LELIA POWERS, OF VIRGINIA

## "A Southern Girl In '61"

The Romance And Tragedy Of A Great Conflict. By Mrs. fleet, for, although I believe General Beau-officers at the batteries, observing that the regard is prepared on every side, yet I boat never swerved from her course, inshould feel all danger were over if we had ferred that Wigfall must have been in it, D. Giraud Wright, Of Baltimore.

truth, and in a book when such truth deals sit quietly by listening to the talk and hear-

the author of which is Mrs. Louise Wigfall Wright, wife of Judge Daniel Giraud Wright, of the Supreme Bench of Baltimore. Mrs. Wright is a daughter of Gen. Louis T. Wigfall, who was both a Senator of the United States and of the Confederate States from Texas, an aid on the staff of President Davis and a brigadier-general of resident of the Baltimore Chapter and of the Maryland Division, United Daughters of the Confederacy, and to her indefatigable nity and grace he presided as President of energy and devotion to the Southern cause is largely due the erection in Baltimore by the Daughters of the Confederacy of the partiality of his rulings. He was a desplendid sculptured group, "Glory Stands lightful man to know well, and I shall Beside Our Grief," which commemorates the heroic military service of the soldiers. Mrs. Wright tells a droll little story of the gallors of the Confederate flectors. and sailors of the Confederate States. The work is written "in loving memory of two Confederate soldiers-my father and my Civil War. He mistook the hour and ap-Mrs. Wright was only a girl of 14 years

book unconsciously shows her to have been of thoughtful and ardent nature and incidents of the war period that came beneath her notice were etched upon her mind with such intensity that time has in no wise blurred the memories she so graphically

The daughter of a father honored in council and military action, chaperoned for months by the wife of Gen. Joseph E. Johnston, with a brother who participated in great battles while on General Hood's staff, Mrs. Wright felt the very heartand her book, which includes many letters written by these Southern leaders, thus possesses the value of containing the unpremeditated utterances of those upon whose shoulders rested the burden of Confederate

The author's memories open with the portentous appearance of the comet of 1858 as it flashed with ominous significance upon the tranquil plantation life of ante-bellum

"I remember," she says, "in the summer of 1858 sitting on the broad piazza in front of our home in Marshall, Texas, watching the great comet that hung in the heavens. I can see now the crepe myrtle bushes with their rose-colored blossoms flanking the tor Liddell. steps; feel again the warm, languorous air of the summer night, heavy with the odor of white jasmine and honeysuckle and hear again the voices, long stilled, as we talked until at last my father was left almost together of the comet and its portent. As alone in his place, Texas not having seceded, a child I felt the influence of the time; he held his ground and refused to give up great events were forming; the 'irrepressible conflict,' which culminated in the nwful passed the ordinance of secession. During

drive to Austin, halfway across the State of Texas, by carriage. In leaving her of Texas, by carriage. In leaving her other fathfulness of the nearon strategies of the supply of medicines of the white the other contrained of the two was not done with interpolation to exceed the fath of white the present of the war was now deepening into deferate colors. It nemenber seeding the adjustance of the supply of medicines of the supply of medicines of the supply of medicines of the two was now to design the fath of the present of the supply of medicine

with vital questions concerning a thrilling ing the great questions of the hour disperiod of American history and is present-cussed. The war clouds were growing ed with a vividness that makes these black and threatening, and even the chil-events live again in the reader's mind, a dren felt the impulse of the time. My delightful piece of literary work is usually great delight was to go to the Capitol and the morning by the booming or a cannon, the result.

| this morning by the booming or a cannon, and it has been going on steadily ever since the firing is constant and rapid—with flery eloquence than the little daughter in the gallery, who listened to the debates with beating heart, but with the most su-

to vanquish all adversaries." Concerning the makers of history, Mrs. Wright says: "In thinking of the men who made the South famous in the Senate at that day, the Vice-President, John C. Breckinridge, of Kentucky, naturally comes peared at a time when the lady was expecting a new butler, and the visitor being at the outbreak of the Civil War, but her ushered into a semi-darkened room, the following conversation was the result. The countess seeing only the splendid physical proportions of her guest and not his fea-

tures, asked:
"'Have you a reference from your last place?' The General took in the situation instantly and with a twinkle in his eye, unobserved by his hostess, answered respectfully, 'Yes, my lady.' "'What were your duties?' was the next

query. 'Well, my lady, in the last three places I held I was Vice-President of the United States, Major-General in the Confederate Army and Secretary of War of the Confederate States of America." Referring again to the "makers of history" in the United States Senate in 1861

Mrs. Wright says: "Jesserson Davis was afterward to be the most famous of that remarkable group of men. \* \* \* My father's intimacy with him was of the closest, and he loved and esteemed him as a friend and admired him as a man until in the last unhappy years of the Confederacy an estrangement grew up between them, owing to differing views as to the conduct of affairs." Others of the group were Judah P. Benjamin, R. M. T. Hunter, Senator Clement C. Clay and Sena-

"As the fateful winter of 1861 wore on ble conflict, which culminated in the awful struggle of the sixties, was just becoming to the minds of thinkers a fearful probability, and when we looked at the blazing comet in that fair summer sky a feeling of awe and mystery enveloped us."

In the autumn of 1858 Mr. Louis T. Wigfall was elected to represent Texas in the fall was elected to represent Texas in the confidence of secession. During struggle of the sixties, was just becoming to that time a synopsis that time he stood at bay, surrounded by the minds of thinkers a fearful probability, and when we looked at the blazing comet in the fall of Sumter Colonel Wigfall and thinkers a fearful probability, and when we looked at the blazing comet in the fall of Sumter Colonel Wigfall and chivalrous worked his way up to a group of officers scarcely realize the cause of the excitement. Was no ice to cool the fevered thirst; no diet studies from which many, indeed, most of the journey and its incidents were given in The Sux.

In the autumn of 1858 Mr. Louis T. Wigfall had just left. He fall was elected to represent Texas in the Confederate Senate and his loss been released from Fort McHenry, where the officers of the excitement. September 1904 at which time a synopsis of the excitement. Was no ice to cool the fevered thirst; no diet studies from which many, indeed, most of the journey and its incidents were given in The Sux.

In the autumn of 1858 Mr. Louis T. Wigfall had just left. He from the State of Texas. Later from Rular to the fall of Sumter Colonel Wigfall and chivalrous worked his way up to a group of officers as any deed of modern times. Stationed at which time a synopsis of the excitement. Was no ice to cool the fevered thirst; no diet state of the journey and its incidents were given in The Sux.

In the autumn the

doubt) the fire of the batteries on him will lowed by a shell which came near proving open at 8 tonight. God grant the fort may fatal. The Africans strained every nerve the fort. It will be a night of intense ex- thereby acknowledging his more than Palcitement, and although I can't help feeling metto recklessness and daring. when I hear the answer Anderson returns." this morning by the booming of a cannon,

what results we don't yet know."

surrendered before the arrival of the to get under the lee of the fort and the me.'

down after a while to walk with Mrs. Ches-nut on the Battery, and will add more fort, through which, with the aid of a loose piece of timber which he placed beneath it, "April 12.—I was awakened about 4.30 he swung himself from a protruding gun Major Anderson and the garrison were in

From a contemporary newspaper is in- raging, the heat intense and the smoke inerted an account of the surrender of Fort sufferable. Shells were still exploding above, April 26: "The people here are all in fine of Baltimore, is one of the most interesting Sumter and the connection of the Hon. and from time to time within the fort from spirits and the streets are so lively and chapters of the book. It was previously publicular T. Wigfall with that affair. "Mr. Wig- the mortars on Sullivan's Island. He everyone looks so happy that you can lished, however, in McClure's Magazine for

"'You have. Haul down your flag.'

humanity. There can be no doubt that it was no joking matter.

of a contretemps which had occurred, a two had come across the lines after experi- hair. This last was Titian-tinted an real tragedy in view of the difficulties sur-"'But your people are still firing into rounding her enterprise. The undergarments of the men, by some unfortunate accident, inexplicable and most deplorable, on my own responsibility.' had all been cut out for the same leg! The "A shell burst in the ground within 10 lady was in real brief over the mishap, and had all been cut out for the same leg! The paces of them as they were speaking. Major in spite of the ludicrousness of the situa-Anderson invited the ex-Senator into a case- tion, the company were so in sympathy BY EMILY EMERSON LANTZ.

Often gathered many of the distinguished shivery and nervous, yet I am not as much alarmed as I might be, and something tells sprang ashore, and, finding the gate burst uth, and in a book when such truth deals at the strength of the day, and I, a child of 14, would alarmed as I might be, and something tells sprang ashore, and, finding the gate burst sprang ashore, and, finding the gate burst sprang ashore, and something tells sprang ashore, and something tells sprang ashore, and alarmed as I might be, and something tells sprang ashore, and sprang ashore, and something tells sprang ashore, and s "All parties concur that Wigfall's per- laughed long and unrestrainedly, much to formance was an act of heroism and high the discomfiture of Mrs. Johnson, to whom

At this time Colonel and Mrs. Wigfall that state of morbid exaltation which is began to feel great anxiety owing to their "He stumbled unchallenged upon one of the forerunner of martyrdom. They were separation from their two children, and the the firing is constant and rapid—with the garrison, who did not know where ready to see their magazines explode and journey of the children from Boston to Dixieland under the care and through the From Montgomery Mrs. Wigfall writes agency of the late Mr. William T. Walters,

private secretary, and has since attained widespread note from the clever fiction of which she is the author.

at Miss Pegram's, on Franklin street, which mond. With all the distractions of the time it was difficult to keep the girls at their books. It was difficult to keep one's attention on ancient history and belles-lettres when very modern history was being made in our midst and such beaux soldats were marching, with drums beating and banners flying, by our very doors. Richmond has always been famed for its lovely women, but venture to assert that there has never heen a larger assembly of beauties than that collected at Miss Pegram's school during

"Reading over the letters written at this period (the winter of '62-63), the thing that hope that runs through all of them. It had not dawned yet on the minds of anyone that moles, was not assured. Tablean the first note of discouragement to the first note of discouragement. strikes me is the tone of cheerfulness and iccess was not assured. Jackson was the idol of the people and everything was an-Wigfall writes: "May 11, 1863. We are all ticipated of him when the spring campaign should open. The confidence in Lee was of the death of our hero, Jackson. In adabsolute and no one doubted that he would dition to our own irreparable loss, it will carry all before him. The fact that procarry all before him. The fact that pro-visions were scare; that prices were phe-it will cause mourning all over our land, nomenally high; that the purchasing power and each person seems to feel as if he had of our currency was depreciating daily lost a relative. I feel more disheartened to the purchasing power of the temporary of seemed to make no impression on the tem-

per or spirits of the people." "The girls made the best show possible with their meager wardrobes, and fortunate were the extravagant ones of other days, which to levy supplies, to cut and make over to suit the fashion of the day. \* \* \* The schoolgirls, too, in spite of the troub-lous times, found many ways to amuse Atlanta, Ga., General Johnston being then

"One day, when the snow lay thick on the ground, we were all at luncheon, when we heard a great shouting in the street, and with one accord rushed to the windows to see the cause. We found a regiment marching by, on their way through town to the railway station. They were footsore and weary, ill clad and worse shod; but the flag was flying and they held their heads up and stepped out bravely as the bevy of again and came out speedily, with our thing portable from the table. There was

encing many thrilling adventures on the rippled back from her fair, low forehead. In a letter written at the time I Her complexion was lilies and roses and found the following: 'The young ladies who her figure magnificent. She was, indeed, seem to be the greatest belies are the Misses beauty. It is told of Miss Hetty Cary Cary, of Baltimore. \* \* \* They are very that, on one occasion, when Federal troops beautiful and are commonly known by the were passing through Baltimore, she stood name of the Cary Invincibles. Constance at an open window of her home and waved Cary was also a very lovely girl and even in a Confederate flag. One of the officers of those days was noted for her facile pen a regiment passing below noticed the dewhich from time to time delighted her monstration, and calling it to the attention many friends with charming little productions. Miss Cary, as is well known, mar- rested? The Colonel, glancing up and ried Mr. Burton Harrison, President Davis' catching a glimpse of the vision of defiant is beautiful enough to do as she pleases. Gen. Joseph E. Johnston, commanding at Chattanooga, December 4, 1862, appears to have been the only one of that company so "My sister and myself had been entered loyal to the Confederate cause

peared to have any premonition of the disthe first he appeared to feel the disposition of troops to have been unfortunate, and "Nobody ever assumed a command un der more unfavorable circumstances. If Rosecranz had disposed our troops himself, unfavorable for us." Again and again he writes to the Senate through his friend

urging a different policy from that pursued in which suggestions he had the sympathy of General Wigfall, but his propositions were not adopted. These letters form an interesting portion of the book. the part of the women of the South. Mrs.

about the war now than I have ever felt before. It seems to me it is to be interminable, and what a wretched life of anxiety it is to look forward to."

During an imperative journey to Texas in command of the Army of Tennessee. Here they remained members of his house-hold until the position of affairs at Atlanta became so uncertain that General Johnston thought it best to send the two young girls to Macon, Ga., to the care of

their mother's friend, Mrs. Clay.

"I shall never forget the horrors of that journey from Atlanta to Macon. We left in a hospital train filled with wounded, sick girls appeared on the doorsteps and greeted them with a great shout. We rushed in and myself and one other lady were the hands and aprons full of bread and every-thing portable from the table. There was a halt, and we ran out into the street and safe to our journey's end. I never imagpassed our refreshments from man to man.

They laughed in great glee and cheered and what a hideous, cruel thing war was until I was brought into direct contact shouted, and then such a frolic ensued, for one of the mischievous girls threw a snowball in their midst. This was 'a dare' and hospital train with scientific arrangements they took it. All discipline was at an end and the snowballs flew thick and fast—as they filed past us on their journey, alas to battlefields from which many, indeed, most of them would return the same and the relief of suffering. There was scant supply of the common comforts and even decencies, of life—no cushions nor air pillows for weary heads;



MISS LOUISE WIGFALL (Mrs. D. Giraud Wright, of Baltimore.) The star in this portrait was from the coat collar of General Johnston and was given by him to the

fall was elected to represent Texas in the State Senate, and his daughter gives a most interesting description of their 10 days. The state Senate are to remain temporarily with my maternal away than he resolved to make his way to the fort and persuade Major Anderson to "Whom have I the honor of addressing description of their 10 days."

aw the sword and white handkerchief.

"Whom have I the honor of addressing?"

"Golonel Wigfall, of General Beaure
"Golonel Wigfall, of General Beaure
"The early enthusiasm of the first few white apron with red ribbons, the Con
a white apron with red ribbons, the Con
bar and a lock of the with red ribbons.

MISS EVELYN BAYLY, OF VIRGINIA

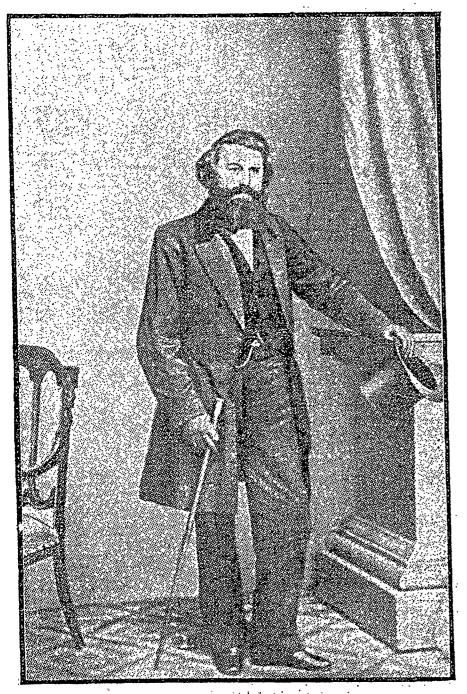
[Photo by E. Berkeley, Staunton, Va.]



MISS! HETTY CARY, OF BALTIMORE



EDMUND RUFFIN, OF VIRGINIA, AT THE AGE OF MINETY He fired the first shot at Fort Sumter, and after the surrender at Appointation killed himself, saying:
"I cannot surrive the liberties of my country."



SENATOR LOUIS TREZEVANT WIGHALL, OF TEXAS



MISS. FANNY WIGFALL, OF TEXAS (Mrs. B. Jones Taylor, of Baltimore.)

