


2-13-1888

## Letter: Lafayette McLaws to Isaac R. Pennypacker, February 13, 1888

Lafayette McLaws

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ULDRICK H. McLAWS,

7 Drayton Street, Cor. Bryan.

Savannah, Ga., July 13 1885

75  
not 75  
Very good  
Z. 604

Isaac R. Pennybacker  
Edin. Phil. Press  
Dear Sir

I sent you a few days since, a review of Genl  
Lamp. "Gettysburg" - in his work. Called "Memoirs of Genl Lee" - he  
for as he refers to the operations of McClellan's Division - I wrote  
a letter to accompany the paper, but by mistake it was  
included with the roll of manuscripts - I suppose, as it can-  
not be found, - To make sure that you received one, I trouble  
you with this -

I therein stated, or intended to write - that I would at once  
Commence a paper, on the Maryland Campaign of 1862,  
especially commenting therein on the failure of Franklin  
to push his advantages, after having forced the Campaign  
Camp, down from a six miles above Harper's Ferry, and  
hope to give you a paper that will be acceptable -

Several years ago, five or six or perhaps 8 years ago, Genl  
Lamp published an article in some Magazine or newspaper,  
stating therein that, when Genl Lee assumed Command  
after the battle of Beaver Dam - the day after Genl Johnston  
was wounded - he, Genl L., found the army very dispirited  
but that the presence of Genl Lee infused new life into it.  
- Genl Johnston sent me clippings from Lamp article  
and asked if it was true as Lamp stated - with my  
Command. Was he had not discovered it until this -

I replied, ridiculing the idea - saying that it was far  
fetched, and absurd - that nothing had happened to  
to dampen the ardor of the troops, and as Genl Lee was  
not known to the army then - and had up to this  
time, had done nothing to bring him into favorable



notice - ~~at~~ the contrary, his Campaign in West Va  
from whatever cause, no one knew; ~~that~~ had been a failure  
- and therefore, if there was a despondent spirit among  
us when he came, it must have been, he came, but  
he was to replace Gen Johnston, whose Courage both  
in the Florida war, & afterwards in the Mexican war,  
had been brilliant, & whose conduct at Bull Run  
had excited much enthusiasm - that Gen Johnston  
was well known to be a very chivalrous officer.  
Constantly exposing himself, whenever the chances of  
Success seemed doubtful & was personally always  
scrupulously affable, especially to the men in the ranks  
and never otherwise than pleasant to any one - &  
therefore it must have been, that if there was any de-  
jection it was because, ~~not that~~ ~~Gen Johnston~~ Gen Johnston  
was going away - I wrote freely to Gen Longstreet  
who was a classmate, never supposing for a moment  
that it would be given to the public - But nevertheless  
he did publish it, without my consent & without  
my knowledge - nor did I know of it - until many  
months after. I happened to read in an old paper  
a reply to my private letter - made by Gen Long, who  
wrote in a very irritated manner - ~~this~~ was so long a time  
after my letter was written to Gen Longstreet - that I did not  
begin - and now I suppose Gen Long, is still irritated  
and is taking his spite out, by writing, concerning  
my command, such stuff as we read of in the Memoirs  
& which I look the thing to correct & hope you will  
publish

Gen Franklin in a short notice, in reference to the surrender of Harper's  
Ferry, says this - the Federal Commander surrendered the place out  
of order - As I did not know of a white flag until 10 o'clock - How  
I know as to the flag, before I did? "