

CONFEDERATE MONUMENTS: LESSON 6: HANDOUT 2**EXCERPTS FROM *THE OXFORD EAGLE* (1906)¹**

Oxford Eagle, Thursday, May 24, 1906

“Dedication of the Monument to the Departed Confederate Soldiers”

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Last Thursday by the U.D.C. was very imposing—Hon. Chas. Scott was the **Orator** of the Day.

Last Thursday a great throng of people attended the unveiling of the Confederate Monument. This beautiful marble shaft standing upon the campus of the State University is a fitting memorial to the gallant service of the men of LaFayette County who wore the gray. This shaft was erected by the noble women of this community under the auspices of the Albert Sidney Johnson Chapter, U.D.C., and was the result of several years continuous labor.

The vast crowd began their line of march from the square at 1:30 o'clock headed by the First Regiment Band, followed by many vehicles containing Hon. Charles Scott, of Rosedale, the speaker of the day, and many of the women who had labored so hard in this cause, behind all these came the Veterans, some with tottering steps, but inspired at the sight of their **comrades** in gray and the old banner they followed so closely in the carnage of war. Behind these the military boys upon whose shoulders must fall a share of the responsibilities of war in future days. The scene was an inspiring one and the day was highly enjoyed.

Hon. C.L. Sivley was master of ceremonies and when the large crowd assembled near the monument, Rev. W.D. Hedleston invoked the blessing of Deity in an earnest prayer. The speaker of the day was then introduced who for more than an hour recalled the glorious deeds of the men in gray and pointed out that all history had no parallel where men fought such a great fight for the sake of **principle** alone. He stated further that the highest courts in the land had long since upheld these principles for which the Southerner fought for. His address was earnest, replete with wholesome information and highly appreciated.

On behalf of the University Mr. C.A. Alexander, of the law department, made a very appropriate address. Mr. John F. Brown paid a beautiful tribute to the untiring work of the ladies in building this monument as a memorial to the deeds of his comrades.

The young ladies of Oxford placed at the base of the shaft many lovely garlands of flowers. The entire program was carried out to the great enjoyment of all present.

¹ Source: *A Brief Historical Contextualization of the Confederate Monument at the University of Mississippi*, Prepared by: John Neff Jarod Roll Anne Twitty, May 16, 2016, The University of Mississippi Libraries. <https://history.olemiss.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/6/2017/08/A-Brief-Historical-Contextualization-of-the-Confederate-Monument-at-the-University-of-Mississippi.pdf>.

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The magnificent Confederate Monument which was dedicated Thursday, is an imposing shaft and its dimension is 22 1-2 feet high, surmounted by figure of a Confederate scout six feet six inches high, making a total of 29 feet. The monument is made of the best quality of white Georgia marble, taken from the famous Tate quarries. A pretty **sentiment** connected with this marble is that the **valiant** Joseph E. Johnston fought some of the famous battles of the war at and near this quarry, and it can truthfully be said that it was been baptized with some of the South's best blood.

The work with the exception of the figure of the soldier was manufactured by The Columbus Marble Works of Columbus. The figure was cut by the famous Italian artist at Carora, Italy. The entire designing of this monument was done by Mr. John A. Stinson, proprietor of The Columbus Marble Works, who is the son of a Mississippi Confederate soldier.

The monument throughout is strictly Southern, being of Southern material, manufactured by Southern men and designed by a Southern man. The monument is a credit to its designers and builders who have submitted designs and prices on six Confederate monuments in Mississippi, and of this number have secured contracts for five.

The Columbus Marble Works is the largest concern of its kind in Mississippi and one of the largest in the entire South, being fitted up with the very latest machinery for the manufacture of Marble and Granite. Their motto is The Best Material at the most reasonable prices, and parties desiring anything in this line will do well to write them before placing their orders elsewhere.