

GEN. STEPHEN D. LEE DIES IN VICKSBURG

**Stricken After a Speech Welcom-
ing Northern Soldiers Whom
He Had Fought 45 Years Ago.**

OVERCOME BY EMOTION

**Commander of Confederate Veterans
and Directed the Firing of the
First Shot of the Civil War.**

VICKSBURG, Miss., May 28.—Lieut. Gen. Stephen D. Lee of Columbus, Miss., Commander in Chief of the United Confederate Veterans, answered his last roll call to-day. Cerebral hemorrhage was the cause of his death.

Gen. Lee died at the official residence of the Vicksburg National Park Commission, of which he was a member. He was stricken last Friday night, following the delivery of a speech welcoming four regiments of Iowa and Wisconsin soldiers, whom he had fought upon the Vicksburg battlefield forty-five years ago.

President Roosevelt, who was a great admirer of Gen. Lee, was among the first to send condolences.

An incident in connection with Gen. Lee's military career not generally known is the fact that he directed the firing of the first shot of the civil war. He was one of the two officers of the South Carolina troop sent by Gen. Beauregard to demand the surrender of Fort Sumter, and upon refusal of this demand he ordered the nearest battery to fire on the fort.

Gen. Lee was born in Charleston, S. C., in 1833. He received an appointment to the United States Military Academy at West Point. At the outbreak of the civil war he resigned his commission in the United States Army and entered the Confederacy. He served with the Confederate Army in Virginia until after the battle of Antietam, when he was made a Brigadier General and sent to Vicksburg.

On the death of Gen. John B. Gordon, Gen. Lee was unanimously chosen Commander in Chief of the United Confederate Veterans, and was always the most conspicuous figure at the annual reunions of that organization. Just before his death he was making preparations for the reunion, June 8, at Birmingham.