



**Official Newsletter of the BG Micah Jenkins
SCV Camp 1569**

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Honoring the Gray

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Honoring the Gray
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Commander's Comments

At this writing I pray that all members and their families are in good health.

For those that missed last month's meeting you missed a good one. I thought Vernon Terry was going to speak on artillery but instead he brought just a portion of his coin and paper money collection. He has such a large collection, that he was not able to bring all of them. He had a book with pictures and autographs of all the presidents except one, and he said that one will never be in this book. Too many coins and bills to explain all their history. A very educational program.

Hope to see all members on July 13th. Come early and we will chat a while.

A good book to read "Black Flag by Thomas Goodrich."

Jim Floyd, Commander

Civil War Soldier Comes Home After 147 Years

By Johna Strickland

The Robesonian of Lumberton

Posted: Sunday, Jun. 20, 2010

LUMBERTON, N.C. He left Robeson County in March 1863 to fight for the South in the Civil War, never to be seen again by his wife and their seven children. Eventually a descendant, Jim Walters, found him and brought him home to be buried near his fallen comrades.

It took Walters nearly six years to come to the moment on May 8 when local re-enactors gathered to place a stone with the name Calvin C. Britt in the Norment Cemetery on Fifth Street in Lumberton.

"It's a marker indicating his place in history," Walters said. "... It allows his descendants a little bit of peace and closure."

At the wake on May 7, Walters found family he didn't know existed.

"People I've seen all my life and I had no idea I was related to these people," he said. "... You sit back and scratch your head and think how did we get to this point that we lost somebody and he just fell through the cracks with nothing left to signify that he lived except some papers in the file."

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Camp Meeting

Tuesday, July 13th 2010

Regularly scheduled meeting at the Mayflower Seafood Restaurant @ 7:00 PM.

Come early join the fellowship and eat.

The guest speaker(s) for July will be members of the York County Metal detectors club to talk about their findings and the trips to Virginia.

Civil War Soldier Comes Home After 147 Years

Walters' trip back in time began six years ago when he learned from Sammy West, a childhood friend, that one of his ancestors fought in the Civil War. Walters asked West if he was kidding.

"From there I started digging, uncovered the whole thing and sort of put it together," he said. "The more I dug, the more intrigued I became."

He began following Britt's paper trail. In about a year, he knew the basics of his great-great-grandfather's life from records of military service, birth, marriage, death, census and family writings. For the next five years, he and his family hunted the details.

"Other people were going to the beach and the Bahamas and so on and I was out stomping around Civil War battlefields, the archives in Raleigh and the records in Richmond," Walters said. "... You're talking about years of working, many miles on the road, many hours on the computer plowing through records."

Eventually, Britt's life jumped from many pieces of scattered paper to just three the biography Walters wrote. Britt was 18 years old when he was counted in the 1850 census as the son of Jessie and Mary Britt living in Robeson County.

"Lumberton is my home and the community I live in is the same community Calvin lived in," Walter said.

On Sept. 24, 1851, he married Amelia Ann Pitman in Robeson County; they had seven children, the last one born in 1863, about the time he joined the Confederate army.

"One of the most fascinating things to me, why in the world did he wait two years to join the Confederacy?" Walters said. And why did he go to Charleston, Walters wondered.

For whatever reason, Britt and two other Britts traveled to Charleston, S.C., to enlist. Britt was given the rank of private and assigned to Company E of the 51st North Carolina Infantry, a unit of men from Robeson, Cumberland, Brunswick, Bladen, Columbus, Duplin and New Hanover counties. Walters bought a set of books that chronicles the movements of Confederate army units: How the units were formed, where they fought and who was in the units. He also pulled Britt's service record. From these sources, he learned that Company E fought against the 54th Massachusetts at Fort Wagner, a battle retold in the film "Glory."

"History kinda jumps out at you and really takes on a personal meaning when I finally found out that his company was at Fort Wagner," Walters said.

The men marched through parts of Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina and Virginia for 14 months. Walters knows Britt was hospitalized

twice in Wilmington but the sparse service record doesn't say why.

Britt moved on to Fort Darling near Richmond, Va., where he was killed on May 14, 1864, as Union forces attempted to take the fort. He was likely buried on the battlefield, a park ranger told Walters.

"For me, he left in 1863. He died in May of 1864 and there was no ceremony for him," he said. "There was no burial site for him. He left and never came back. His kids never saw him again. His family got a notice from, I guess, the Confederate war department that he had died."

Britt's widow applied for a pension in 1864 but her request was never processed. She later remarried.

Walters traveled to Virginia and brought home two 1-gallon buckets of dirt from the battlefield. He had a small concrete vault constructed and received a marker from the Veterans Administration. Britt was buried under the Confederate flag.

"You do the best you can to bring back what represents that individual. Whatever it is you treat it with the same dignity and respect that you give a body," he said. "... I brought him back. I don't have a body there. I don't have teeth. I don't have rings. I don't have anything tangible that I can look at, say for a fact that that is him. ... Calvin is in good company. He is right next to one of his company mates as well as his commander."

The years of work culminated in one moment for Walters, an Army veteran, before the memorial ceremony. He was driving down Fifth Street and saw his son, Corey, who is in the Army National Guard and ROTC, kneeling before the monument.

"To see one of Calvin's descendants have a place to go, see, feel and touch I can't describe to you what I felt when I saw it," he said.

Walters stopped his truck and went to his son.

"Neither one of us said anything, we just looked," he said. "If nothing else than for just that one moment in time, it was worth that. ... My ancestor is mine

NOTE: BG Micah Jenkins camp members Barry Ratcliff & Brad Blackmon had family members who also served in the 51st North Carolina Infantry.

The Micah Jenkins web site is back up and running with a new web address:
bgmicahjenkins.org

Chris Brown was able to get it set up again with the name change.

John Bell Hood (June 1 or June 29, 1831 – August 30, 1879)

Hood had a reputation for bravery and aggressiveness that sometimes bordered on recklessness. Arguably one of the best brigade and division commanders in the Confederate States Army, Hood became increasingly ineffective as he was promoted to lead larger, independent commands late in the war, and his career was marred by his decisive defeats leading an army in the Atlanta Campaign and the Franklin-Nashville Campaign.

Hood was born in Owingsville, Kentucky, the son of John W. Hood, a doctor, and Theodosia French Hood. He was the cousin of future Confederate general G. W. Smith and the nephew of U.S. Representative Richard French. French obtained an appointment for Hood at the United States Military Academy and graduated in 1853, ranked 44th in a class of 52 that originally numbered 96, after a near-expulsion in his final year for excessive demerits.

Notwithstanding his modest record at West Point, in 1860 he was appointed chief instructor of cavalry at West Point, a position that he declined, citing his desire to remain with his active field regiment and to retain all of his options in light of the impending war. At West Point and in later Army years, he was known to friends as "Sam". His classmates included James B. McPherson and John M. Schofield; he received instruction in artillery from George H. Thomas. These three men became Union Army generals who opposed Hood in battle.

Hood was commissioned a second lieutenant in the 4th U.S. Infantry, served in California, and later transferred to the 2nd U.S. Cavalry in Texas, where he was commanded by Col. Albert Sidney Johnston and Lt. Col. Robert E. Lee. While commanding a reconnaissance patrol from Fort Mason, Hood sustained one of the many wounds that marked his lifetime in military service—an arrow through his left hand during action against the Comanches at Devil's River, Texas.

Hood resigned from the United States Army immediately after Fort Sumter and, dissatisfied with the neutrality of his native Kentucky, decided to serve his adopted state of Texas. He joined the Confederate army as a cavalry captain, but by September 30, 1861, was promoted to be colonel in command of the 4th Texas Infantry.

Hood became the brigade commander of the unit that was henceforth known as Hood's Texas Brigade on February 20, 1862, part of the Confederate Army of the Potomac, and was promoted to brigadier general on March 3, 1862. Leading the Texas brigade as part of the Army of Northern Virginia in the Peninsula Campaign, he established his reputation as an aggressive commander, eager to lead his troops personally into battle. At the Battle of Gaines' Mill on June 27, he distinguished himself by leading his brigade in a charge that broke the Union line, which was the most successful Confederate performance in the Seven Days Battles. While Hood escaped the

battle without an injury, every other officer in his brigade was killed or wounded.

Because of his success on the Peninsula, Hood was given command of a division in Maj. Gen. James Longstreet's First Corps of the Army of Northern Virginia. He led the division in the Northern Virginia Campaign and added to his reputation as the premier leader of shock troops during Longstreet's massive assault on John Pope's left flank at the Second Battle of Bull Run, which nearly destroyed the Union army. In the pursuit of Union forces, Hood was involved in a dispute over captured ambulances with a superior officer. Longstreet had Hood arrested and ordered him to leave the army, but Gen. Lee intervened and retained him in service. During the Maryland Campaign, just before the Battle of South Mountain, Hood was in the rear, still in virtual arrest. His Texas troops shouted to General Lee, "Give us Hood!" Lee restored Hood to command, despite Hood's refusal to apologize for his conduct.

During the Battle of Antietam, Hood's division came to the relief of Stonewall Jackson's corps on the Confederate left flank. Jackson was impressed with Hood's performance and recommended his promotion to major general, which occurred on October 10, 1862.

In the Battle of Fredericksburg in December, Hood's division saw little action, placed in the center, between Longstreet's lines on Marye's Heights, and Jackson's lines. And in the spring of 1863, he missed the great victory of the Battle of Chancellorsville because most of Longstreet's First Corps was on detached duty in Suffolk, Virginia, involving Longstreet himself, Hood's, and George Pickett's divisions.

At the Battle of Gettysburg, Longstreet's Corps arrived late on the first day, July 1, 1863. General Lee planned an assault for the second day that would feature Longstreet's Corps attacking northeast up the Emmitsburg Road into the Union left flank. Hood was dissatisfied with his assignment in the assault because it would face difficult terrain in the boulder-strewn area known as the Devil's Den. He requested permission from Longstreet to move around the left flank of the Union army, beyond the mountain known as [Big] Round Top, to strike the Union in their rear area. Longstreet refused permission, citing Lee's orders, despite repeated protests from Hood. Yielding to the inevitable, Hood's division stepped off around 4 p.m. on July 2, but a variety of factors caused it to veer to the east, away from its intended direction, where it would eventually meet with Union forces at Little Round Top. Just as the attack started, however, Hood was the victim of an artillery shell exploding overhead, severely damaging his left arm, which incapacitated him. (Although the arm was not amputated, he was unable to make use of it for the rest of his life.) His ranking brigade commander, Brig. Gen. Evander M. Law, assumed

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John Bell Hood (continued)

command of the division, but confusion as to orders and command status dissipated the direction and strength of the Confederate attack, significantly affecting the outcome of the battle.

Meanwhile, in the Western Theater, the Confederate army under General Braxton Bragg was faring poorly. Lee dispatched Longstreet's Corps to Tennessee, and Hood was able to rejoin his men on September 18. At the Battle of Chickamauga, Hood led Longstreet's assault that exploited a gap in the Federal line, which led to the defeat of Maj. Gen. William Rosecrans's Union Army of the Cumberland. However, Hood was once again wounded severely, and his right leg was amputated four inches below the hip. Hood's condition was so grave that the surgeon sent the severed leg along with him in the ambulance, assuming that they would be buried together. Because of Hood's bravery at Chickamauga, Longstreet recommended that he be promoted to Lieutenant General as of that date, September 20, 1863.

In the spring of 1864, the Confederate Army of Tennessee, under Gen. Joseph E. Johnston, was engaged in a campaign of maneuver against William T. Sherman, who was driving from Chattanooga toward Atlanta. During the campaign, Hood, joining other Johnston subordinates Joe Wheeler, William Hardee and AP Stewart, sent the government in Richmond letters very critical of Johnston's conduct. On July 17, 1864, just before the Battle of Peachtree Creek, Jefferson Davis, who remembered all too well Johnston's preference for a strategy of withdrawals instead of offensives (such as during the Peninsula Campaign of 1862) and lack of communication (after First Bull Run), lost patience with Johnston and relieved him. Hood, commanding a corps under Johnston, was promoted to the temporary rank of full general on July 18, and given command of the army just outside the gates of Atlanta. (Hood's temporary appointment as a full general was never confirmed by the Senate. His commission as a lieutenant general resumed on January 23, 1865.) At 33, Hood was the youngest man on either side to be given command of an army. Robert E. Lee gave an ambiguous reply to Jefferson Davis's request for his opinion about the promotion, calling Hood "a bold fighter, very industrious on the battlefield, careless off," but he could not say whether Hood possessed all of the qualities necessary to command an army in the field.

Hood conducted the remainder of the Atlanta Campaign with the strong aggressive actions for which he was famous. He launched four major offensives that summer in an attempt to break Sherman's siege of Atlanta, starting almost immediately with an attack along Peachtree Creek. All of the offensives failed, with significant Confederate casualties. Finally, on September 2, 1864, Hood evacuated the city of Atlanta, burning as many military supplies and installations as possible.

As Sherman regrouped in Atlanta, preparing for his March to the Sea, Hood and Jefferson Davis attempted to devise a strategy to defeat him. Their plan was to attack Sherman's lines of communications between Chattanooga and Atlanta, and to move north through Alabama and into central Tennessee, assuming that Sherman would be threatened and follow. Hood's ambitious hope was that he could maneuver Sherman into a decisive battle, defeat him, recruit additional forces in Tennessee and Kentucky, and pass through the Cumberland Gap to come to the aid of Robert E. Lee, who was besieged at Petersburg. Sherman did not cooperate, however. Instead of pursuing Hood with his army, he sent Maj. Gen. George H. Thomas to take control of the Union forces in Tennessee and coordinate the defense against Hood, while the bulk of Sherman's forces prepared to march toward Savannah.

Hood's Tennessee Campaign lasted from September to December 1864, comprising seven battles and hundreds of miles of marching. He attempted to trap a large part of the Union Army of the Ohio under Maj. Gen. John M. Schofield at Spring Hill, Tennessee, before it could link up with Thomas in Nashville, but command failures and misunderstandings allowed Schofield's men to safely pass by Hood's army in the night. The next day at the Battle of Franklin, Hood sent his men across nearly two miles of open ground without the support of artillery in a last gasp effort to destroy Schofield's forces before they could reach the safety of Nashville, which was only a night's march from Franklin. His troops were unsuccessful in their attempt to breach the Union breastworks, suffering severe casualties in an assault that is sometimes called the "Pickett's Charge of the West". Hood later wrote that "Never did troops fight more gallantly" than at Franklin. Hood's exhausted army was unable to interfere as the Union force withdrew into Nashville.

Unwilling to abandon his original plan, Hood stumbled toward the heavily fortified capital of Tennessee, and laid siege with inferior forces, which endured the beginning of a severe winter. Two weeks later, George Thomas completely defeated Hood at the Battle of Nashville, in which most of the Army of Tennessee was devastated. It was later reorganized by General Joseph E. Johnston in North Carolina to defend against Sherman's Carolina's Campaign.

Near the end of the war, President Jefferson Davis ordered Hood to travel to Texas to raise another army. However, before he arrived, General Edmund Kirby Smith surrendered his Texas forces, and Hood surrendered himself in Natchez, Mississippi, where he was paroled on May 31, 1865.

After the war, Hood moved to Louisiana and became a cotton broker and worked as a President of the Life Association of America, an insurance business. In 1868, he married New Orleans native Anna Marie Hennen, with whom he would father eleven

John Bell Hood (continued)

children over ten years, including three pairs of twins. He also served the community in numerous philanthropic endeavors, as he assisted in fund raising for orphans, widows, and wounded soldiers. His insurance business was ruined by a yellow fever epidemic in New Orleans during the winter of 1878 – 79 and he succumbed to the disease himself, dying just days after his wife and oldest child, leaving ten destitute orphans, who were adopted by families in Louisiana, Mississippi, Georgia, Kentucky, and New York.

John Bell Hood is buried in the Hennen family tomb at Metairie Cemetery, New Orleans. He is memorialized by Hood County, Texas, and the U.S. Army installation, Fort Hood, Texas.

In the movies *Gods and Generals* and *Gettysburg*, Hood was portrayed by actor Patrick Gorman.



Prayer Closet

- Continue to pray for our those effected by the economy; especially those unemployed.
- Please add the following members of the Palmetto Battalion to your prayers: Leo Lozano, Curtis Sauls (Moose), Leland Summers, Wayne Dukes & Steve Wilson. Each has been an accident or has a serious illness.
- Lets all keep in prayer Bob Jackson, he has a broken leg. Also, Jack Morton's wife Connie, she has a broken arm.
- Our Commander, Jim Floyd is still recovering from the surgery on his shoulder. Let's keep Jim in our prayers for a quick recovery.
- Please keep Mickey Parrish (Laddie's father) on your prayer list.
- Please continue to pray for our President & government leaders. The SCV, national, division and brigade.
- Pray for our service men and women and for their families.

To be a Confederate

To be a Confederate is to be mindful of our National Heritage. To have an understanding of the Constitution of the United States as intended by our founders, and insight into the sacrifice of those who pledged their lives, fortunes, and sacred honor to the formation of the Republic. To harbor reverential pride and respect in the forfeiture of life given so freely by those duty bound individuals who knowing the consequences of their actions could offer no less.

To be a Confederate is to endeavor to always comport one's self as a lady or gentleman and conduct one's affairs honorably. To acknowledge that God's precepts as set forth in His Holy Bible have served mankind well and that only ill can come from their abandonment. To stand firm in the belief that liberty's greatest burden is the freedom to choose between good and evil.

To be a Confederate is to honor our Flag and Heroes and to stand at attention for our Anthem. Yes, to be a Confederate is to be a true American.

"If the Declaration of Independence justified the secession of 3 million Colonists in 1776 then why did it not justify the secession of 5 million Southerners from the Union 1861?" - *Horace Greeley*

To secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, that whenever any form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is The Right of the People to alter or abolish it ... -*Declaration of Independence, July 4, 1776.*

"...Therefore the Last American Army to actually fight in defense of the principles of The Declaration & American Constitution was the Army of the Confederate States of America." - *Rex Miller*

To learn more visit the Bookroom at:
Crossroads Country Store
Shenandoah Heritage Market
4309 S. Valley Pike (US Rt. 11)
Harrisonburg, VA 22801
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Naming the American Civil War

The American Civil War has been known by a number of different names since it ended in 1865. These names reflect the historical, political, and cultural sensitivities of different groups and regions.

The most common name, particularly in modern American usage, is simply “the Civil War”. Although not used during the war, the term “War Between the States” became widespread in the Southern United States as historians searched for an ideologically acceptable name. During and immediately after the war, Northern forces often used the term “War of the Rebellion”, while the Southern equivalent was “War for Southern Independence”. The latter regained some currency in the late 20th century, but has again fallen out of use. Other terms often reflect a more explicitly partisan view of events, such as “War of Northern Aggression”, used by some white Southerners, or the “Freedom War”, used by their black counterparts.

In the United States, Civil War is the most common term for the conflict; it has been used by the overwhelming majority of reference books, scholarly journals, dictionaries, encyclopedias, popular histories, and mass media in the United States since the early 20th century. The National Park Service, the government organization entrusted by the United States Congress to preserve the battlefields of the war, uses this term. It is also the oldest term for the war. Writings of prominent men such as Jefferson Davis, Robert E. Lee, Ulysses S. Grant, William Tecumseh Sherman, P.G.T. Beauregard, Nathan Bedford Forrest, and Judah P. Benjamin used the term “Civil War” both before and during the conflict. Abraham Lincoln used it on multiple occasions. In 1862, the United States Supreme Court used the terms “the present civil war between the United States and the so called Confederate States,” as well as the “civil war such as that now waged between the Northern and Southern States.”

English-speaking historians outside the United States usually refer to the conflict as the “American Civil War,” or less often, “U.S. Civil War.” These variations are also used in the United States in cases in which the war might otherwise be confused with another historical event (such as the English Civil War or the Spanish Civil War).

The term War Between the States was rarely used during the war but became prevalent afterwards in the South. The Confederate government avoided the term “civil war” and referred in official documents to the “War between the Confederate States of America and the United States of America.” There

are a handful of known references during the war to “the war between the states.” European diplomacy produced a similar formula for avoiding the phrase “civil war.” Queen Victoria’s proclamation of British neutrality referred to “hostilities ... between the Government of the United States of America and certain States styling themselves the Confederate States of America”.

After the war, the memoirs of former Confederate officials and veterans (Joseph E. Johnston, Raphael Semmes, and especially Alexander Stephens) commonly used the term “War Between the States”. In 1898, the United Confederate Veterans formally endorsed the name. In the early twentieth century, the United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC) led a campaign to promote the term “War Between the States” in the media and in public schools. UDC efforts to convince the United States Congress to adopt the term, beginning in 1913, were unsuccessful. Congress has never adopted an official name for the war. The name “War Between the States” is inscribed on the USMC War Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. This name was personally ordered by Lemuel C. Shepherd, Jr., the 20th Commandant of the Marine Corps.

Franklin Delano Roosevelt referred to the Civil War as “the four-year War Between the States.” References to the “War Between the States” appear occasionally in federal and state court documents.

The names “Civil War” and “War Between the States” have been used jointly in some formal contexts. For example, to mark the war’s centenary in the 1960s, the state of Georgia created the “Georgia Civil War Centennial Commission Commemorating the War Between the States”. In 1994, the U.S. Postal Service issued a series of commemorative stamps entitled “The Civil War / The War Between the States”.

Do you have an article for *Honoring the Gray?*

If so, please send to Jerry Brown at jenkinsscv@yahoo.com or call Jerry at 803-327-2834. Articles may be funny or serious as long as it reflects the ideals and purpose of the SCV. Please limit the size of articles for mailing purposes.

Naming the American Civil War

During and immediately after the war, U.S. officials and pro-Union writers often referred to Confederates as “Rebels” and to the war itself as “the Great Rebellion.” The earliest histories published in the northern states commonly refer to the Civil War as “the Great Rebellion” or “the War of the Rebellion,” as do many war monuments. The official war records of the United States refer to this war as “The War of the Rebellion”, and are a chief source of historical documentation for those interested in Civil War research. They are compiled as a 70-volume collection published by the U.S. War Department as *The War of the Rebellion: a Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies*, U.S. Government Printing Office, 1880–1901. Present-day historians usually refer to this collection as the *Official Records*.

The “War for Southern Independence” is a name used by many Southerners in reference to the war. While popular on the Confederate side during the war, the term’s popularity fell in the immediate aftermath of the South’s failure to gain independence. The term resurfaced in the late 20th century. To Southerners, the terminology parallels usage of the term “American War for Independence.” A popular poem published in the early stages of hostilities was “South Carolina”. Its prologue referred to the war as the “Third War for Independence” (it named the War of 1812 as the second such war).

In the 1920s, historian Charles Beard used the term the Second American Revolution to emphasize the completeness of the northern victory. This is still used by the Sons of Confederate Veterans organization, though with the intent to demonstrate the depth of the South’s cause.

The War of Northern Aggression is a name which suggests that the North was the belligerent party in the war. Although this is arguably opinion, historically, the view of “Northern Aggression” is debatably/arguably/thematically linked to the idea of “States’ Rights”.

Other terms for the war have seen even less frequent usage, particularly in modern times.

In the South: War in Defense of Virginia, Mr. Lincoln’s War, and War of Secession. In the North: War of the Insurrection, Slaveholders’ Rebellion, Slaveholders’ War, Great Rebellion, War to Save the Union, War of 1861 to 1865. Later writers invented terms such as War for Abolition, War of Southern Reaction, War to Prevent Southern Independence, Second American Revolution, and Second War of Independence which were rarely used in print.

Immediately after the war, the following expressions were common in the South:

The War, The Late Unpleasantness, and The Lost Cause.

Thomas DiLorenzo has called it the “War to Prevent Southern Independence”, citing a “Civil War” would be two belligerents fighting over control of the federal government. But in this case, the south was fighting to leave the federal government, and the north was fighting to keep them in the federal government.

Naming the combatants

U.S. forces were popularly referred to as “the Union”, “Federals”, “the North,” “the National Army (Armies),” “The Old Army,” “Yanks,” “Yankees” or “Blue Bellies”. Confederate forces were commonly referred to as “the Confederacy,” “the South,” “Secesses,” “Grays,” “Rebels,” “Rebs,” or “Dixie”. Each side had a variety of nicknames for enemy soldiers as well. These included “Johnny Rebs” for Southerners and “Billy Yanks” for Northerners.



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Yours in the Cause,
Jerry Brown, editor, *Honoring the Gray*



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John Bell Hood (June 1 or June 29, 1831 – August 30, 1879)