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Mail Reference Order Form

Please fill out this form online, print it out, and mail it in with the appropriate fee.

Your information:

Name: W. Richard Crotwell

Address1: 605 Carolyn St.

Address2:

City: Metter

State: GA

Zip Code: 30439

Telephone: 912-685-7688

For the person or subject on which you seek information:

Name: William Jasper Brown

Date of Event: Unknown

County: Candler

Other information: See attached sheet.

Please check one and enclose the appropriate amount in check or money order ONLY. This fee is non-refundable.

Georgia Resident: \$15.00

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Please mail form to:

State Archives of Georgia  
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Please select only one type of record you would like to have searched. Each additional search request requires a separate form with the appropriate fee.

**Georgia County Records (name of county must be provided)**

- Estates** [circle type of Estate record if known]:  
(a) Wills; (b) Annual Returns; (c) Guardianship Inventories and Appraisements; (d) Letters of Administration
- Marriages** [provide names of bride and groom, as well as county]
- Tax Digests** [provide name of taxpayer]
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**Georgia Military Records**

- Confederate Pensions** [give name of soldier and/or widow, indicate regiment if known]
- Militia Records** [includes Indian Wars, War of 1812, Mexican War, other pre-Civil War service]
- Revolutionary War** [provide name]
- Spanish American War** [provide name]
- World War I Service Summary** [provide name]

**Georgia Records**

- Land Lottery or Headright Grant** [provide name, location or year]
- State Departments or Agencies** [provide department and series title]
- General Name File or Genealogical Folders** [provide surname]
- Private Manuscripts** [give name of collection and folder-level identification if known]

**Federal Records of Georgia Residents**

- Confederate Compiled Service Records** (provide soldier name, indicate regiment if known)
- Federal (U.S.) Census** [provide name of head of household] **Please select one year only.**

<input type="radio"/> 1820	<input type="radio"/> 1830	<input type="radio"/> 1840	<input type="radio"/> 1850	<input type="radio"/> 1860	<input type="radio"/> 1870
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**Note:** The Georgia Archives Staff will only search the census years which have a printed index (1820-1870). The years 1880-1920 are indexed by the Soundex. For further information, please see: [Using the Federal Census in Georgia](#).

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## ATTACHMENT

### Additional Information For William Jasper Brown

Name: William Jasper Brown

Born: ca 1846

Died: 2 March 1949 Age 103.

Burial: Lake Primitive Baptist Church Cemetery, Candler Co. GA

Wife: Matilda Williams (Brown)

Parents: Emanuel and Sarah Brown [1850 census Emanuel Co. GA page 474B dwelling 437 family 437]

Reported to be the only surviving Confederate Veteran in Bulloch Co. GA in 1937.

Places of residence: Emanuel County, Bulloch County, Candler County. Some of this caused by county formations.

### Confederate Military Service:

Rank: Private

There is a reported Bulloch Co. GA note that the pension was transferred to Candler Co. GA. Pension file dates are not known.

The following information found in Index to Georgia Confederate Pension Files, page 154, transcribed by Virgil D. White

These may or may not be the same individual.

"Brown, William J. srv. Co. D 22nd Batt'n Arty, he filed Bulloch Co. GA."

"Brown, William J. serv Co. H 2nd GA Mil. he filed Emanuel Co. GA."

61st and Last U.C.V. Nat'l. Reunion, Norfolk, Va., May 31, 1951  
Left to right, "Joshua" Bush, 106, Fitzgerald, Ga.; John Salling, 105, Bristo-Slant, Va.; Wm.  
D. Townsend, 105, Olla, La. Photo courtesy of Tom White Crigler, Jr., 89 yrs.—S.C.V. of  
Macon, Miss.

# The South's Last Boys in Gray

An Epic Prose Elegy

A Substudy of  
Sunset and Dusk of the Blue and the Gray

Jay S. Hoar

Bowling Green State University Popular Press  
Bowling Green, Ohio 43403

ARCHIVES AND HISTORY



61st and Last U.C.V. Nat'l. Reunion, Norfolk, Va., May 31, 1951  
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D. Townsend, 105, Olla, La. Photo courtesy of Tom White Crigler, Jr., 89 yrs.—S.C.V. of  
Macon, Miss.

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## Acknowledgments

I WOULD LIKE to acknowledge my gratitude to these enthusiasts and friends for their longstanding faith and strategic material support to my endeavor in bringing off this study—LCDR Robert G. Marcotte, USCGR of Lynn, Mass.; Leon Basile, of Woburn, Mass.; Ila Mae Norman, of Garrison, Texas; Sarah V. Moore, of Jacksonville, Fla., whose granddad, Jefferson Davis Brooks (1845-1938), of Lafayette, Ala., fought in the C.S.A.; Robert V. Telford, of Needham, Mass.; David M. Sullivan, of Rutland, Mass.; Robert N. Herbert of Nashville; James B. Pilcher, of Cordele, Ga.; Dr. William D. McCain, of Hattiesburg, Mississippi; Mrs. Belle Cook, Custodian, Texas Division, U.D.C., Austin; Louise Parker at the Dallas Public Library; Camille Sims, of New Market, Ala.; Hugh D. McCormick, Esq., of Front Royal, Va.; Thomas W. Crigler, Jr., of Macon, Miss.; Bert E. Farmer, of Columbia, S.C., for his timely sleuthing on the Palmetto Rebs; Shirley Martin and Emily Scribner at Mantor Library, U.M.F., whose patience I must surely have tried.

I thank Phyllis G. Dennison out on the Temple Stream for putting up with my recitals of research defeats and triumphs. My fundamental indebtedness to source persons across this land is self-evident from cover to cover. May I also convey here my indebtedness to Jerry L. Russell, Editor and Publisher of the *C.H.I. Journal* for inviting me to participate in the 2nd Annual Confederate Historical Institute in Richmond in April 1980.

"The Youngest Soldierboy" in *North/South Trader* May-June '77, much expanded, appears as "Youngest Soldierboys Among the Last." "Age Differentials of Spring-Winter Marriages," also in the *Trader* May-June '83 appears here as Appendix F. "Sarah F. Rockwell" appeared in the Aug. '74 *U.D.C. Magazine*; "The Old Dominion's Last Boys in Gray," since amply expanded, was in the Winter '81 *Confederate Historical Institute Journal*.

To Michael Cavanaugh, Editor of *Civil War Book Exchange*, in Philadelphia, who includes excerpts from my work for his key clearinghouse, I offer my thanks for raising reader consciousness in this field; and to David E. Roth, Editor of *Blue & Gray Magazine*, in Galloway, Ohio, I extend my appreciation for a vital presence in his most attractive Civil War showcase. Finally, I deeply appreciate how the Old Rebs have regained the higher eminence of *Confederate Veteran* magazine and how they are entrenched in *Southern Partisan* this first summer ('85) of their wide exposure.

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On Jan. 1, 1903, the Whittons moved to Timpson. Here he became expert in estimating and measuring timber, particularly the ever more valuable longleaf pine, loblolly pine, and shortleaf pine of East Texas. Until he was ninety-three, he enjoyed a wide reputation for this skill. He said many times to his children, "Do not let criticism discourage you. The person who does worthwhile things will make some mistakes and be criticized." He often quoted Psalm 103, verses 1-6 and had his children memorize it. After his wife's death in July 1914 in a horse-and-buggy accident, his increased home obligations required him to cut back his regular work. Later on, being fond of the West, Mr. Whitton toured New Mexico, Arizona, California, Colorado, Nevada and Utah with his son Benjamin. Again, in 1927 he bought a new Chevrolet and showed several of his children the wonders of the West. Of all sports squirrel hunting was perhaps his favorite, squirrel meat being always a choice item on his menu.

If we observe carefully, as he steps along before us now, we can just see his "VETERAN" badge, which tells us he made the trip to Gettysburg for that great reunion in 1938. During his last sixteen years W. N. Whitton took increased interest in the U.C.V. On June 7, 1940, at New Orleans he was made Captain and Aide de Camp on the Staff of Major-General L.N. Baugh, Cmdr. of the Texas Division, his commission being signed by Henry A. Miller, Ass't. Adj.-Gen. and Julius F. Howell, General Commanding. In 1949 he was commissioned an honorary colonel by the Confederate Stamp Alliance in recognition of his valiant service in the war. Beginning with his ninety-fifth birthday, the Whittons held a reunion annually to honor him. During his last nine years he lived with and prospered by the care of his youngest daughter, Hazel. These last years were filled with planting a hundred pecan trees and an orchard of peach, apple, pear and plum trees. Each year, too, he raised vegetables, his hobby from childhood. Every memorial Day he represented the Boys in Gray by placing a beautiful magnolia wreath to their sacred honor in City Park. He was still doing this in May 1948. A November 1948 bout with pneumonia began his decline. Just after visiting his orchard on Washington's Birthday 1949, he peacefully passed away at 102 years 8 months and 19 days. How could he have been a finer American citizen?

### William Jasper Brown

Feb. 26, 1846—Mar. 2, 1949

Old Jasper Brown was among Georgia's final Gray triumvirate. Close to the soil his livelong days, he, like his poor farming folks, eked out a modest living from gainless agriculture. He was the younger son of the Joseph (Manning) Browns, whose dwelling place was between Aaron Station and Garfield, Emanuel County, Georgia. There he grew up to become a tall, tough, blue-eyed lad. While Jasper helped keep the farm going, his brother

Jim went to the Civil War first. Though details of his own war record are elusive, Brown was a full eighteen when he served eight months with a Georgia infantry unit during 1864-65.

Lewis Boatright, an octogenarian living near Garfield, Georgia, shares these Jan. 21, 1974 thoughts on his old friend—

Mr. Brown lived on his small farm near my home during 1880-1918, and my folks and me were neighbors nigh on fifty years, all told. He grew cotton, corn, hogs, cows, and vegetables for his own use mainly. His wife died about 1897. He liked to be of service to his friends. . . had a beautiful gray horse and a buggy he enjoyed. He'd talk on his Confederate Army experiences some. In spare time he'd fish in the creek by his farm. Poor Mr. Brown lost his farm to his doctor friend when he was not able to pay his bills.

I remember him as an independent, honest, upright gentleman whose desire was for a better state and nation for future young folks to enjoy. Good old Jasper hoped for a life after death where there would be no wars, tears, sorrows nor trials.

Mrs. Leroy Stapleton of Metter, Georgia, recalls Mar. 7, 1973:

Our friend, Wm. J. Brown, joined Lake Primitive Baptist Church (2 miles E. of Metter) in June 1936 during their big meeting. He was baptized in the heated church pool as he was too old to be baptized in 15-Mile Creek that runs behind Lake Church. He was honored in April 1937 in Statesboro when he was 91 by citizens of Bulloch Co. His wife was Matilda Williams and they had a daughter, Nan, I believe, who died in the late 1930s. After losing his own place, he moved into the little home of the J.M. Rooks, Rt. 2, Summit. Her father was brother to Wm. Jasper. Her Uncle Jasper was quite a character. He prevailed upon the Rooks to move an old car (that wouldn't run) to a favorite spot of his. Lazy afternoons he'd go out to sit in it and bask by the hour. . . managing at times a trifle of liquid nourishment for his quiet ride in the sun.

Finally (and modestly) in her Apr. 26, 1973 response, Mrs. J. M. Rooks of Metter offers—

I knew Uncle Jasper about thirty years, I guess. Being tenant farmers on a sandy knoll, our dwelling was hardly a rest home worthy one of Dixie's old heroes. I kept him thirteen years, the last four of which he was about helpless and bedfast. His low-ceiling room was unheated and a kerosene lamp was our only lighting at Summit, Ga. in those days. I wish we could have done better by him, but we didn't have the means. I cooked soups and fed him by spoon. Like my husband, J. M., said at the time—"We are proud we did all our means let us, but now we just don't have what it takes to put him away the way he deserves. We've appealed to the welfare so he won't go to a pauper's grave, but no one has told us he'll get a decent funeral."

Mrs. Rooks, the equal of a practical nurse, kept her home and her patient's bedding spotless. By late January 1949 the plight of the Rooks was discovered when V. E. Durden of nearby Graymont wrote "City Beat," a column in *Savannah Morning News*—"Could some person lend Mr. Brown a comfortable wheelchair, for his last days certainly aren't many." Oglethorpe

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Sanitarium quickly donated the chair via a group of marines who may well recall the rural vignette they were a part of that Saturday, Feb. 26th. Though Mrs. Rooks was in a hospital from overwork, the arriving marines were given a warm welcome by Mr. Rooks. As he led them to Brown's bedside, sunlight pierced into the little antechamber between wide boards. The Confederate flag covering his headboard had its own story. The Rev. F. H. Sills, Candler Co. legislator, and civic groups had responded in 1941 when they learned of Brown's request for it. Sills would remember the day he presented this flag. "There were big tears in his eyes when I gave it to him. He was blind then, but he rubbed his hands over the folds and said, 'I marched many a mile under this flag.' " And now eight years later the old warrior lay beneath Dixie's colors, too weak to lift his head. As the marines brought him the wheelchair, he was blinking and whispering "Tell them I thank them." While they stood by his bedside, a marine asked Brown if they could do something for him. Hoarsely he spoke, "Give me a drink."—whereupon, Mr. Rooks noted that Brown didn't mean water. Swiftly the marines invaded a country mile, reconnoitered a store, captured two bottles of wine, and retreated to their new-found comrade's bedside. This being his 103rd birthday, Old Reb Brown, all gratitude, took several sips as Mr. Rooks held a bottle. With surprising strength he raised from his pillow to give his company a smiling salute.

When these Savannah members of Co. D, 10th Inf. Battn., Marine Corps Reserve, learned that Brown would be carried to a pauper's grave, they promised this would never be. They organized fund-raising in Savannah. One marine, insisting he remain unknown, donated a \$500 casket. Wm. Jasper Brown clung to life those last four days beyond his birthday, just time enough to raise the funds. Some 500 people came to his funeral; it was then noted he had been "among loved ones where he had wished to be." The marine detachment gave him full military honors and nine S.C.V.'s of Camp No. 93 were on hand. After all expenses were paid, poetic justice won out when Mrs. Rooks was presented the surplus, "a token of Appreciation for her excellent care of the old veteran during his invalidism."

### Aaron Scales Cockerham

Oct. 9, 1848—Apr. 1, 1949

In a remote mountainous section of North Carolina's Mitchell River Valley there still lived in the late 1940s an old Boy in Gray. He had always lived in Surry County where Mitchell River, rising in Allegheny County, flows east until it enters Yadkin River. Near their confluence just outside Mount Airy, Aaron Cockerham, one of the most self-sustaining and freedom-loving men who ever lived (and he knew how to), rivaled and outdid the famed Henry David Thoreau for his very harmony with and closeness to nature.

Bullloch COUNTY.

I, W. J. Moore Ordinary of said County, certify that I know the applicant W. J. Moore for pension is the person he represents himself to be and resides in said county. That I also know W. J. Moore the witness swearing to the service; that they are both residents of said county and were duly sworn by me before signing the foregoing affidavit and they are all truthful and trustworthy and their statements are entitled to full faith and credit.

Sworn under my hand and official seal of office this 12 day of Oct 1921  
W. J. Moore Ordinary  
of Bullloch County.  
(SEAL)

NOTES: 1. Before any questions are answered the Ordinary shall swear applicant and witnesses in the following words: "You do solemnly swear that you will true answers make to each of the questions asked you and the evidence you give shall be the whole truth. So help you God."  
2. Additional affidavits may be attached if blank spaces are insufficient.  
3. All affidavits must be made before the Ordinary of the county in which the applicant or witness resides and must be certified by such Ordinary.

Brown, William H.  
Bullloch Co

No. O.N. No. 1921

**Confederate  
Soldier's Application**  
Under Act 1910—As Amended by Act of 1919.

County Bullloch

Name W. J. Moore

Company A

Regiment 22nd Battalion

Approved \_\_\_\_\_

E. R. C.  
1939.

J. W. LINDSEY,  
Commissioner of Pensions.

Burd Printing Co., State Printer, Atlanta.

1921-1922

Questions for Witness as to Service

STATE OF GEORGIA,

Bulloch COUNTY. }

A. Scarborough of said State and County is hereby presented as a witness in support of the application of W. J. Brown for the pension provided by the Act of 1910, as amended by the Act of 1919 in said State, and, after being sworn true answers to make to the questions propounded, answers as follows:

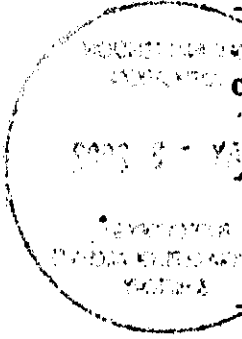
1. What is your name and where do you reside? A. Scarborough, Bulloch Co. Ga.

2. How long and since when have you known W. J. Brown the applicant? All his life.

3. Where does he now reside, and since when has he been a bona fide, continuing resident in this State, and how do you know? Born in State all his life & now resides at Raven Bulloch Co. Ga.

4. When, where and in what Company and Regiment did W. J. Brown enlist during war from 1861 to 1865? (Give date and place.) About June 1864, in Co. 27<sup>th</sup> Regt. Art.

5. How did you obtain your information of this Service? Served with him



6. How long within your own personal knowledge did he perform actual military service with this Company and Regiment? (Give date) From June 1864 until about July 1<sup>st</sup> 1865.

7. When and where was his command surrendered or discharged (give date and place)? Green Springs, N. C. April 1865.

8. Were you personally present at the surrender? Yes.

9. If not, where were you and how came you there? ✓

10. Was the applicant personally present with his command at surrender? No.

11. If not where was he and how came him there? I don't know.

12. When did he leave his command? Don't know. Where was his command when he left it? Don't know. For what cause did he leave? ✓

By whose authority did he leave? ✓ and how long was he granted leave? ✓ How do you know all that you have stated to be true? If of your own knowledge, tell clearly and specifically. ✓

13. In what way was he prevented from returning to his command? ✓ How do you know? ✓

14. What effort did he make to return to his command and how do you know? ✓

15. Was applicant captured as a prisoner? ✓ If so, when and where? ✓ In what prison was he held? ✓ and when released? ✓

Sworn to and subscribed before me, this the 13 day of Sept. 1922 } A. Scarborough  
L. A. Wade Ordinary }  
of Bulloch County. }

(SEAL)

I, Walter Moore Ordinary of said County, certify that I have

the applicant W. J. Brown for pension in the person he represents himself to be and resides in said county. That I also know J. Keabler the witness swearing to the service; that they are both residents of said county and were duly sworn by me before signing the foregoing affidavit and they are all truthful and trustworthy and their statements are entitled to full faith and credit.

Sworn under my hand and official seal of office this 22 day of Oct 1920

of Walter Moore Ordinary  
County

(SEAL)

NOTES: 1. Before any questions are answered the Ordinary shall swear applicant and witnesses to the following: "You do solemnly swear that you will answer all questions asked to each of the questions which you read the evidence you give shall be the whole truth, so help you God." 2. Additional affidavits may be attached if such sworn are insufficient. 3. All affidavits must be made before the Ordinary of the county in which the applicant or witness resides and must be certified by said Ordinary.

Bulloch Co  
No. W. J. Brown 1921  
**Confederate Soldier's Application**  
Under Act 1810—As Amended by Act of 1919.

County Bulloch  
Name W. J. Brown  
Company D  
Regiment 22nd Battalion  
Approved Walter Moore

E. R. C.  
1939.

J. W. LINDSEY,  
Commissioner of Pensions.

Byrd Printing Co., State Printer, Atlanta.

10/23-1920

Questions For Applicants to Answer

NAME OF GRANTEE

W. J. Brown COUNTY

of said State and County, hereby applies for the pension provided by Act of 1810, as amended by Act of 1919, to Confederate Soldiers, and submits his sworn statement, with his testimony to make out the same, and after being duly sworn true answers to make to the questions propounded, answers as follows, to-wit:

1. What is your name and where do you reside? (Give County and Post-office) W. J. Brown  
Walter Moore Co Ga

2. How long and since when have you been a continuous resident citizen of this State?  
One and 1/2 - 7 1/2 years

3. Did you enter the Army of the Confederate States or in the organized militia of this State from 1861 to 1865?  
Yes

4. When and where, and in what Company and Regiment did you enlist? (Give the year and day of Service) June 1864 at Richmond Va. 22nd Bat.

5. How long did you remain in the regular military service with said Company and Regiment? (Give date of discharge) Until Oct 21, 1865 a Med. Sick

6. Where and where was your Company of Regulars attached or detached from the Service?  
Bullsville Va April 20, 1865.

7. Were you actually present with your command when it was surrendered or disbanded?  
Yes

8. If you were not actually present, state specifically and clearly where you were.  
At Raleigh Va

When was your command taken by the U. S.?  
Richmond Va. C. Johnston

9. When did you learn the command?  
April 1865

a. For what cause did you leave?  
I was never allowed to keep up.

b. By whose authority did you leave?  
No one

c. For how long was your leave granted? In what way?  
—

10. Why did you not return to your command after being pardoned?  
Was out of

11. In what way were you prevented?  
Out of the country

12. What effort did you make to return?  
Went up to Va

13. Were you captured during the war?  
No

14. If so, when, and where? In what prison were you held and when were you released?  
—

15. Are you drawing a pension of any amount from this State or the United States?  
No

16. Have you ever applied for the Georgia Pension and had it refused? and for what cause it was not allowed?  
No

Sworn to and subscribed before me, this the 13 day of Sept 1920  
W. J. Brown Applicant  
Walter Moore Ordinary  
Bulloch County

19 20 21 10 22  
11 23 12 24

