

Captain Cuthbert 'Charles' Powell Grady Company D – 6th Virginia Cavalry

Charles was born on July 16, 1840 in Loudoun County, Virginia. He graduated with a Master of Arts in Latin from the University of Virginia. Following the outbreak of hostilities Charles enlisted as a private on July 21, 1861, at Fairfax Courthouse, Virginia, for 1 year.

He was absent sick from September 18 till early November, 1861.

Charles re-enlisted on March 18, 1862 for 2 years or the duration of the war. Charles was promoted to 3rd Corporal in May, 1862 and promoted to 4th Sergeant in September, 1862.

In November, 1862 he was assigned as a clerk to the staff of General William 'Grumble' Jones. In December Charles is paid monies owed since June, 1862.

On June 5, 1863 in a letter about the Jones-Imboden raid into West Virginia he writes, “. . . *in 32 days we marched 700 miles or more . . . frequently without rations. For 7 consecutive nights we were in the saddle nearly all night . . . at Cairo Station we destroyed millions of dollars worth of oil . . . burnt large numbers of boats containing over 1000 barrels of oil each . . . we eclipsed the sun and set on fire the Kanawha River . . .*”

On a February 11, 1864 report Charles is shown as Captain and AAG on the staff of General Lomax. His effective date of rank as Captain was December 19, 1863.

Charles was wounded in the left arm on May 6, 1864, at the Wilderness, and is shown on wounded furlough on June 9, 1864.

The January 1, 1865 and March 24, 1865 reports show him as Captain and AAG of Payne's Brigade under General Fitz Lee. No further military record.

Charles married Susan Gordon Armistead in 1867 and they made their home in Lexington, Virginia, where he was Professor of Latin at Washington College and later at Washington and Lee. They would move to Baltimore in the latter part of the century. Charles died on December 4, 1922 and is buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

(Compiled Service Records Confederate, Brewer Museum, United Daughters of the Confederacy, Richmond, Virginia, Microcopy 324, Roll 66; Powell Family Papers, 65 P875, Box 3, Folder 4, Swem Library Archives, College of William & Mary, Williamsburg, Va.; 6th Virginia Cavalry, Michael Musick, Lynchburg, 1990, p.118.)