

Captain John D. Grantham
38th Georgia Infantry and 61st Alabama Infantry

John Grantham was born in 1836 in Henry County, Alabama. His father, A. Marcellus Grantham, will die in 1864.

John enlisted on August 8, 1861, as a private in Co. I (Irwin's Invincibles) – 38th Georgia Infantry in Franklin, Alabama. He is 25 years old and initially enlisted for 1 year. Elected, from the ranks, as 2nd Lieutenant on July 22, 1862. He received a \$50 bounty in the spring of 1862 for re-enlisting for the duration of the war.

In January, 1863, is shown absent without leave for 4 days. John transferred to the 61st Alabama and is elected Captain of Company K on March 1, 1863. From June 13 thru June 21, 1863 he was sick at the Howard's Grove Hospital in Richmond.

July 31, 1864 'Sick & Wounded Report' shows John at the Charity Hospital in Gordonsville, Virginia, with a gunshot wound in the left thigh. On August 6th he is admitted to Chimborazo Genl. Hospital #4 and furloughed till August 30th.

On September 30, 1864, he signed Clothing Requisitions ordering 3 jackets, 5 pair pants, 12 pair shoes, 9 pair drawers and 8 cotton shirts for the men of Company K. At the end September the regiment was in Waynesboro, Virginia. Records indicate John is in Richmond.

A collection of August thru November Inspection Reports show him sick in various Richmond hospitals and continued extensions of his medical leave. A November, 1864, Inspection Report shows John on duty at Belle Isle in Richmond since July, 1864, with an application to return to the regiment pending.

The December, 1864, muster report notes that the 61st Alabama is in Battle's Brigade, Rode's Division, Second Corp of the Army of Northern Virginia. A February, 1865, Inspection Report shows that the Medical Exchange Board has transferred John, who is unfit for field duty, to serve as Residence or Post Officer at Ft. Gaines, Georgia.

There is no record of his surrender, parole or Oath of Allegiance.

Postwar he married Mary Statam in 1869. They had at least 2 children: Thomas and Nat "Willie." John lived in Marion, AL., running a general store. After Mary died John married Elizabeth Bailey in 1899. John died in 1915 at the age of 78.

(Compiled Service Record Confederate, Brewer Library, United Daughters of the Confederacy, Richmond, Virginia, Microcopy 311, Roll 974 & Microcopy 266, Roll 436. Additional family information from Donna Grantham)