

Private Joel Henry White Badham's Battery – 3rd Battalion N. C. Light Artillery

Joel Henry White was born February 1, 1844. He was the second of at least 7 children of Henry Lafayette White and Penniah Boyce White of Chowan Cty., N. C. Joel is shown as 16 in the 1860 census both going to school and working on the farm. The farm was located 12 miles north of Edenton on the Chowan River.

Joel enlisted in Edenton, Chowan County, on January 21, 1862. He is listed as a farmer, age 18. Badham's Battery is also known as the Edenton Bell Battery. Local brass church bells were donated to the foundry for casting the barrels. The battery was mustered into CSA service on March 27, 1862, in Raleigh.

April through August, 1862, they served as Battery 7 of the Richmond Defensive Line. They were detached to lower Shenandoah Valley in September to serve as reserve during the Maryland invasion. They were back in Richmond in November and were then sent to Wilmington, N.C., on December 13 via Kinston. They saw action in Kinston and Goldsboro in December, 1862.

From May to August, 1863, Joel was on detached duty in Kenansville, North Carolina.

Joel served at Fort Holmes from November, 1863, till the fall of Fort Fisher on January 15, 1865. Fort Holmes was part of the defenses of Wilmington and the Cape Fear River.

He fought at the battle of Bentonville March 19, 1865, and was paroled on May 1, 1865, following the Durham and Greensboro surrender of the Army of Tennessee.

He married Mary Elizabeth Byrum on February 5, 1866. They had 9 children between 1870 and 1897: Edward, Mary (Mamie?), William, Roxie (Celia), Dickie, **Fannie**, Minnie, Mary & John. It would appear that the second Mary died before the following census.

Joel farmed and badly damaged his arm in a farm equipment accident. Amputation was required. The operation was performed on the kitchen table without sedation. The doctor suggested alcohol but Joel did not drink. Family legend says he instructed the Doctor to, "saw sawbones saw." Joel, a devout Baptist, sang hymns throughout the operation.

Joel died in 1927 and Mary passed in 1929. They are interred on the northernmost parcel in the White – Harrell cemetery lot adjacent to their home on what is known as the 'White Farm.' The farm is still in the Harrell family.

(Compiled Service Records Confederate, Brewer Library, UDC, Richmond, VA., Micro Copy 270, Roll 81; *North Carolina Troops 1861-1865 A Roster*, Manarin, 1996, Raleigh, P. 346-357; Family history provided by Joel N.

Goodwin. Ancestry.com Federal Census 1860, Provo, Roll M653-893, p. 289, image 26; + 1850, 1880, 1900, 1910 & 1920.)