

## **Private Peter Tribble Cowles Company H (James City Troop) – 5<sup>th</sup> Virginia Cavalry**

Peter Cowles was born on August 23, 1844 to John and Drucilla Tribble Cowles of James City County.

Peter enlisted on April 1, 1863 at Culpeper and was mustered in by Captain Allen of the James City Cavalry (Co. H) of the 5<sup>th</sup> Virginia Cavalry.

Muster rolls from the end of December, 1863; February, 1864 & April, 1864 show him present and paid up thru the previous muster report. This tells us that the 5<sup>th</sup> Virginia Cavalry is 60 days behind in pay which was the norm for the Army of Northern Virginia in early 1864.

Peter was wounded in his right leg at Burnt Ordinary on July 21, 1864 and taken prisoner. He was confined at Hampton, Virginia, on July 23 and forwarded to Point Lookout on July 27. He arrived at Point Lookout on July 28 and will be confined until released for exchange on March 17, 1865. Peter departed for exchange at Aiken's Landing on March 17, was exchanged on March 18 and arrived at Chimborazo General Hospital #9 in Richmond on March 19, 1865.

A Chimborazo Hospital #2 report, dated March 20<sup>th</sup>, notes his gunshot wound to the right leg. He is issued a 60 medical furlough to expire on May 25, 1865.

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

Peter married Laura F. Hubbard (daughter of Dr. Charles M and Mary Henley Hubbard) on November 21, 1866. They lived at Grove Hill on Diascund Road across from Cowlesville. Their union resulted in 12 children. Peter was a farmer and was appointed Superintendent of Schools for James City County after the death of Col. Allen in 1898.

Peter died at his home on May 16, 1929. Funeral services were held at Olive Branch and he is interred in the Hubbard family cemetery, next door, along with Mary (his wife) and 7 of their children.

Peter's obituary noted that, "he is the last survivor of the Confederate Army in James City County." He was three months short of 85 at the time of his death.

**(Compiled Service Records Confederate, Brewer Library, United Daughters of the Confederacy, Richmond, Virginia, Micro Copy 324, Roll 50. Additional family history provided by Camp 2095 Historian Fred Boelt in his 'James City County Confederate Gravesites' from the August, 2009 edition of *Picket Lines*.)**