

HISTORIES  
OF THE  
SEVERAL REGIMENTS AND BATTALIONS  
FROM  
NORTH CAROLINA  
IN THE  
GREAT WAR 1861-'65.

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WRITTEN BY MEMBERS OF THE RESPECTIVE COMMANDS.

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EDITED BY  
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(LIEUT.-COLONEL SEVENTIETH REGIMENT N. C. T.).

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## PREFACE.

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More than two thousand years ago Pericles, speaking of his countrymen who had fallen in a great war, said: "In all time to come, whenever there shall be speech of great deeds they shall be had in remembrance." More truly than to the Athenian soldiery can these memorable words be applied to those North Carolinians who for four long years carried the fortunes of the Confederacy upon the points of their bayonets.

With a voting population at the outbreak of the war of less than 115,000, North Carolina furnished to the Confederate cause, as appears from Major Gordon's article herein, 127,000 troops, or more than one-fifth of the men who marched beneath the Southern Cross, in addition to the Militia and Home Guards who rendered useful, though short, tours of duty, under State authority. In the first battle of the war, at Bethel, North Carolina was at the front and the first man killed in battle was Wyatt from Edgecombe. When the great tragedy was closing at Appomattox it was the men of Cox's North Carolina Brigade, of Grimes' Division, who fired the last volley at the foe. The two great pivotal battles of the war were Gettysburg in the East and Chickamauga in the West. Upon them turned the issue of the great struggle, and in both the men who fell farthest to the front, nearest to the muzzles of the enemy's guns, were from North Carolina regiments. This is demonstrated not only by the narratives of eye-witnesses in these volumes but by the monuments which the Federal Government has erected on those great battlefields to indicate the "high-water mark" to which the tide of Southern success rose, and from which, after those days of historic struggle, it painfully and slowly but surely ebbed away.

Not, therefore, in boast, but in sober historic truth, on the cover of these volumes, has been inscribed the lines which tell the story of North Carolina's fidelity to duty:

"FIRST AT BETHEL.  
 FARTHEST TO THE FRONT AT GETTYSBURG AND  
 CHICKAMAUGA.  
 LAST AT APPOMATTOX."

It is to tell the plain, unvarnished story of the men at the front that these sketches have been written by those who participated therein, and by the authority and at the expense of the State they are now printed in order to hand down to posterity an authentic account of what the soldiery of this State suffered and did in the discharge of their duty. It was inscribed upon the stones piled above the Spartan dead who died at Thermopylæ: "Stranger, go tell it in Lacedemon that we lie here in obedience to her command." North Carolina can never forget that in obedience to her command more than 40,000 of her bravest, best and brightest young men fill soldiers' graves from "the farthest north" at Gettysburg to that far Southern shore

"Where the mightiest river runs, mingling with their fame forever."

These dead have not died in vain. The cause of Southern Independence for which they fell has passed forever from among men. Not an advocate remains. But as long as valor shall move the hearts of men, as long as the patient endurance of hardship, and fatigue, and danger in the discharge of duty shall touch us, as long as the sacrifice of life for the good of one's country shall seem noble and grand, so long shall the memory of the deeds recorded in the plain, sober narratives in these volumes, written by men whose gallantry is surpassed only by their modesty, and who were more eager to handle the sword than to use the pen, be preserved and cherished by their countrymen.

The story of these volumes is briefly told. At the meeting of the State Confederate Veterans Association at Raleigh, N. C., in October, 1894, on motion of Judge A. C. Avery, seconded by F. H. Busbee, Esq., it was

*Resolved*, That a history of each regiment and organization from North Carolina which served in the Confederate Army

shall be prepared by a member thereof, and that Judge Walter Clark be requested to select the historians from each command and to supervise and edit the work; and further, that the General Assembly be memorialized to have these sketches printed at the expense of the State."

On motion of Captain W. H. Day, Judge A. C. Avery, General Robert F. Hoke and Lieutenant-Colonel Wharton J. Green were appointed a committee to present this memorial and procure the passage of the legislation desired.

Already at that date (1894) nearly thirty years had passed since the close of hostilities and the steady advance of the years had driven gaps in our ranks wider than those made by the leaden hail of battle. Suitable men for the work were difficult to find for many of the regiments, and when found they often pleaded the press of business, loss of memory and increasing infirmities. But by persistent effort competent historians were secured for each regiment, except the 73d, 74th, 76th, 77th and 78th (which being Senior Reserves, over forty-five years of age during the war, had few survivors left), and some of the battalions. As to the Senior Reserves, the only resource was to utilize some sketches heretofore written.

But here another difficulty arose. Among those who promised to write the story of their regiments some died and others procrastinated. The latter class was large by reason of the failure of the General Assemblies of 1895 and 1897 to assume the publication by the State. This, however, was done by the General Assembly of 1899, the bill being introduced and eloquently championed by Hon. H. Clay Wall, member from Richmond county and historian of the Twenty-third Regiment. Upon the passage of the act the vacancies caused by death or declination were filled up and the remaining sketches (with a few exceptions) being in hand by the spring of 1900, and the others promised, publication was begun. The printing was, for certain causes, however, so much delayed that the General Assembly of 1901 passed an act to expedite the completion of the work, which is now guaranteed to be finished during the current year.

The work of the several historians and of the Editor has of course been one of love and without pecuniary compensation. We would that our labors could have been worthier of the subject and of our noble comrades living and dead. The State assumed the cost of publication and the work is its property, as the deeds it commemorates are the noblest inheritance of its people and their sure gage of fame.

It was thought that it would add vividness to these pen-and-ink sketches of their deeds to give engravings of as many of the actors in those stirring times as could be readily obtainable. The selection of these was left, of course, to the several regimental historians. No line was drawn at rank. The only restriction has been that each picture shall have been taken "during the war or soon thereafter"—the object being to present the men as they *then* looked—and that the subject made an honorable record in the Great War. Major C. L. Patton, a Southerner residing in New York City and the head of a great publishing house, kindly and without remuneration undertook the supervision of the engravings and their proper grouping to go with the histories of their respective commands. In this way it is believed that the interest of the work has been greatly enhanced and that this will grow as the years diminish the number of survivors. Many of their descendants, perchance, will look back as a patent of nobility to the men whose names or whose features are preserved in these volumes. The cost of the engravings has been defrayed by the relatives or friends of the parties. A few maps have been also added to illustrate the text.

The requirement that the history of each command should be written by a member thereof was to insure authenticity. But as by reason of wounds or other temporary absence few men were every day of the four years present with their commands, and the lapse of time might cause errors of memory, the several historians were requested to refresh their memories by conversation and correspondence with their surviving comrades, and they also had access to the publication by the Government of the invaluable series of "Official Records of the Union and Confederate

Armies." In addition, the sketch of each regiment as sent in was published in the newspaper of largest circulation in the section in which the regiment was principally raised, and survivors were requested to note errors and omissions and to communicate them to the writer of the regimental history.

This was a heavy tax upon the columns of the press, but with the patriotism which has always characterized the editors of North Carolina this service was cheerfully and freely rendered without charge or compensation. The Confederate Veterans of North Carolina are greatly indebted for this great service in rendering our histories more full and accurate to the *Raleigh News and Observer* and *Morning Post*, the *Wilmington Messenger and Star*, the *Charlotte Observer*, the *Fayetteville Observer*, the *New Bern Journal*, the *Asheville Citizen*, the *Waynesville Courier*, and perhaps others.

During the compilation of these sketches we have, up to this date, lost no less than nine of the writers of these sketches by death, Captain John Cowan, Third North Carolina; Captain Neill W. Ray, Sixth North Carolina; Professor H. T. J. Ludwig, Eighth North Carolina; General Rufus Barringer, Ninth North Carolina; Colonel Stephen D. Pool, Tenth North Carolina; Colonel W. J. Martin, Eleventh North Carolina; Sergeant H. C. Wall, Twenty-third North Carolina; General Robert B. Vance, Twenty-ninth North Carolina; Captain M. V. Moore, Sixth-fifth North Carolina, and there were others who died before completing their sketches and for whom substitutes were had.

If errors or omissions of importance are discovered by any of our comrades as these volumes successively issue from the press, they are requested to promptly communicate the needed correction to the historian of the regiment concerned, that proper amendment may be made among the *Errata* in the last volume. The most scrupulous and exact accuracy is earnestly desired in these volumes.

North Carolina has grandly known how to make history. She has till now always left it to others to write it. Hence she has

never had full justice done the memory of her sons. With these volumes the reproach is taken away. Herein the historian will find authentic, reliable material, compiled by the gallant men who saw the deeds they narrate. From these volumes some yet unborn Thucydides or Macaulay of the future may draw some of his material for that history which shall transmit to all time the story of this most memorable struggle, and the historians in these pages shall have thus contributed their share in perpetuating the fame of their State and of their comrades to the most distant times.

WALTER CLARK.

RALEIGH, N. C.,  
26 April, 1901.

# GENERALS FROM NORTH CAROLINA.

BY WALTER CLARK, LIEUT.-COL. SEVENTIETH N. C. T.

From General Ainsworth, Chief of the Record and Pension Office at Washington, in whose custody are the "Archives of the War Department of the Confederate States," I have procured the following *certified list* of the Generals appointed from North Carolina, with the date of commission of the highest rank attained by each, and graded accordingly to seniority of commission:

## LIEUTENANT-GENERALS.

<i>Name.</i>	<i>Date of Rank.</i>
1. THEOPHILUS H. HOLMES -----	10 October, 1862
2. *DANIEL H. HILL (not sent to Senate) -----	11 July, 1863

## MAJOR-GENERALS.

1. W. H. C. WHITING (killed in battle)-----	28 February, 1863
2. ROBERT RANSOM, JR.-----	26 May, 1863
3. WILLIAM D. PENDER (killed in battle) -----	27 May, 1863
4. ROBERT F. HOKE -----	20 April, 1864
5. †STEPHEN D. RAMSEUR (killed in battle)-----	1 June, 1864
6. BRYAN GRIMES-----	15 February, 1865

## BRIGADIER-GENERALS.

1. RICHARD C. GATLIN-----	8 July, 1861
2. L. O'B. BRANCH (killed in battle)-----	16 November, 1861
3. J. JOHNSTON PETTIGREW (killed in battle) -----	26 February, 1862
4. JAMES G. MARTIN-----	15 May, 1862
5. THOMAS L. CLINGMAN-----	17 May, 1862
6. GEORGE B. ANDERSON (killed in battle)-----	9 June, 1862
7. JUNIUS DANIEL (killed in battle) -----	1 September, 1862
8. JAMES H. LANE-----	1 November, 1862
9. JOHN R. COOKE -----	1 November, 1862
10. ROBERT B. VANCE -----	1 March, 1863
11. ALFRED M. SCALES -----	13 June, 1863
12. MATTHEW W. RANSOM-----	13 June, 1863
13. LAWRENCE S. BAKER-----	23 July, 1863
14. WILLIAM W. KIRKLAND-----	29 August, 1863
15. ROBERT D. JOHNSTON -----	1 September, 1863
16. JAMES B. GORDON (killed in battle) -----	28 September, 1863
17. †WILLIAM R. COX (temporary)-----	31 May, 1864

18. †THOMAS F. TOON (temporary) -----	31 May, 1864
19. †W. GASTON LEWIS (temporary) -----	31 May, 1864
20. RUFUS BARRINGER -----	1 June, 1864
21. †JOHN D. BARRY (temporary) -----	3 August, 1864
22. ARCHIBALD C. GODWIN (killed in battle) -----	5 August, 1864
23. WILLIAM MACRAE -----	4 November, 1864
24. COLLETT LEVENTHORPE -----	3 February, 1865
25. WILLIAM P. ROBERTS -----	21 February, 1865

This is a full list of the Generals appointed from North Carolina. There were several other Generals who were born in North Carolina but who went into the service from other States of which they had become citizens and which justly claim them, as Generals Braxton Bragg, Cadmus M. Wilcox, Jeremy F. Gilmer, Gabriel J. Rains, Felix Zollicoffer, Ben. McCullough, and possibly others. On the other hand, General D. H. Hill, born in South Carolina, had long been a citizen of this State, and General W. H. C. Whiting, born in Mississippi, and General John R. Cooke, of Missouri, threw in their lot with us and were appointed from this State and commanded North Carolina troops the whole war.

General James Conner, of South Carolina, and General Alfred Iverson for a while commanded North Carolina brigades, but they were appointed from their respective States and do not figure properly in a list of Generals from North Carolina.

It is worthy of note that one-half of the Major-Generals and one in four of the Brigadier-Generals from this State were killed in battle or died of wounds during the war.

The parole lists at Appomattox were signed by Bryan Grimes, Major General, and by James H. Lane, John R. Cooke, Matt. W. Ransom, William R. Cox, William MacRae and William P. Roberts as Brigadier Generals. "*Official Records of Union and Confederate Armies, Vol. 95, pp. 1277-1279.*" The parole lists at surrender of Johnston's army were signed by Daniel H. Hill and Robert F. Hoke as Major-Generals, and Thomas L. Clingman, W. W. Kirkland and Lawrence S. Baker, Brigadier-Generals. "*Official Records of Union and Confederate Armies, Vol.*

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\*For some unexplained reason, President Davis did not send in General Hill's appointment as Lieutenant-General to the Senate and he was never confirmed as such by that body, though at the President's request and by virtue of the President's appointment he served in that capacity. As Lieutenant-General he commanded a corps in the Army of the West at Chickamauga in 1863. Later he resumed his rank of Major-General.

†Major-General Ramseur was a temporary Major-General, and Brigadier-Generals Cox, Toon, Lewis and Barry were temporary Brigadier-Generals. These temporary appointments were peculiar to the Confederate army. They were made to a command whose head was absent in prison or wounded, upon whose return it was contemplated that the temporary appointee would go back to his previous rank, though while occupying his temporary grade he had the same rank and authority as if permanently appointed. In point of fact, each of such appointees held his rank to the close save General Barry, who went back to the colonelcy of the Eighteenth Regiment, being disabled by wounds very soon after his appointment, whereupon General Conner was temporarily placed in command of the brigade until the return of General Lane, the permanent Brigadier, who had been absent wounded.

98, pp. 1061-1066." The other general officers from North Carolina above named were at the time of the above surrenders either dead, or wounded, prisoners or on detached service.

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REGIMENTS AND BRIGADES.

North Carolina furnished seventy-eight full regiments and some twenty battalions to the Confederacy, besides a few scattering companies and a large number of individuals who served in commands from other States, of both which latter we have no data recorded in these volumes. The composition of brigades was so often changed that it was found useless to record it here. Of the regiments the Tenth, Thirty-sixth and Fortieth were artillery, and the Ninth, Nineteenth, Forty-first, Fifty-ninth, Sixty-third, Sixty-fifth and Seventy-fifth were cavalry regiments. Most of the battalions were artillery or cavalry.

The Seventieth, Seventy-first and Seventy-second Regiments and three battalions were Junior Reserves—boys seventeen years of age, who, however, did good service at the battles of Southwest Creek and Bentonville, and a portion of them at the bombardments of Wilmington and of Fort Branch on the Roanoke, and in other minor actions. They were brigaded and were commanded first by Colonel F. S. Armistead, then by Colonel Nethercutt and later by General L. S. Baker, and composed one of the brigades of Hoke's Division. They also aided at Belfield, Va., to repulse the enemy's advance southward.

The Seventy-third, Seventy-fourth, Seventy-sixth, Seventy-seventh and Seventy-eighth were Senior Reserves, between the ages of forty-five and fifty, and rendered good service, a portion of them being under fire.

All the above, being regularly in the Confederate service, have a part in these volumes.

Besides these there were regiments and battalions of Home Guards, composed of those exempt from Confederate service by reason of being State officers (as justices of the peace, county officials, etc.), or for other causes, who rendered service from time to time, for short tours of duty, under the orders of the Governor. Also, in the early part of 1862 there was service rendered by Militia ordered out for short periods, in emergency, notably those under Brigadier-Generals David Clark, Collett Leventhorpe and Jesse R. Stubbs for the defense of the Roanoke after the fall of Roanoke Island, and a regiment of Militia shared in the battle of New Bern. There was also doubtless valuable service rendered by the Militia in other parts of the State. But from the scope of this work, and the dearth of material at this late date, no adequate account is herein given of the services of our Militia and Home Guards, though at the time their aid was valuable.

## NAVAL OFFICERS.

The following appear, in the Confederate Archives, as the highest officers in the Navy, appointed from North Carolina, though there were many others of lesser rank:

<i>Name.</i>		<i>Date of Rank.</i>
James W. Cooke-----	Captain-----	10 June, 1864.
John N. Maffitt-----	Commander-----	13 May, 1863.
James Iredell Waddell -----	First Lieutenant-----	6 January, 1864.

Captain Cooke commanded the ram "Albemarle" at the capture of Plymouth, 20 April, 1864, by General R. F. Hoke, for which victory General Hoke and himself, with the officers and men under their command, were voted thanks by the Confederate Congress. General Hoke's commission as Major-General bears that date in recognition of his service.

Lieutenant James Iredell Waddell, as commander of the "Shenandoah," was the last to bear the Confederate flag, not having heard of the fall of the Confederacy till August, 1865, when he was in mid Pacific.

Commander J. N. Maffitt's services were also conspicuous and are well known.

WALTER CLARK.

RALEIGH, N. C.,  
26 April, 1901.