

FROM THE PAPERS OF

JOSEPH RICHARDSON HAW, born Dec. 14, 1845, at
father of Oak Grove farm, Hanover
County, Virginia.

Joseph Cumming Haw

Haw's Shop on Oak Grove farm was situated in Hanover County, Virginia, 16 miles from Richmond on the county road leading from Hanover Town ferry on the Pamunkey River to Richmond and 4 miles from Hanover Town, 8 miles from Hanover Courthouse, the road to which crosses the Richmond road at this point, and about 8 miles from the battlefield of Cold Harbor (Civil War.)

The English vessels that brought the first settlers to Virginia passed into Chesapeake Bay between Cape Henry and Cape Charles and after a strenuous time on the noble James these fathers and founders of the greatest country on earth pushed rapidly up the many beautiful rivers emptying into the splendid harbor of Chesapeake Bay and Hampton Roads, securing land grants from the crown in the fertile valleys of the streams.

The York River, navigable for 30 miles from its mouth on the Chesapeake, is formed by the junction of the Pamunkey and the Mattaponi rivers.

In colonial days the only means of transportation was by water, hence public tobacco warehouses were established at intervals on these navigable rivers. The nearest to Haw's Shop was Hanover Town, quite a flourishing little town, a candidate for the capital of Virginia at the election in the House of Burgesses. The selection of Richmond for the state capital, the opening of the James River and Kanawha Canal, and the building of railroads sounded the death knell of the town and at the beginning of the war between the states there was nothing left but the ferry and the ferryman's hut.

The Haw family

Tradition says that some time early in the eighteenth century John Haw the emigrant ran away from his parents in England because they wanted to make him a clergyman, and settled in one of the lower counties of Virginia, married, and lost his wife by death. Married again and settled at ~~BAKE~~ Oak Grove Farm, which lies in the west angle of the crossroads at Haw's Shop and extends a mile on the Richmond road.

John Haw I died about the beginning of the Revolutionary War and left one son, John Haw II, and several daughters. John Haw II died rather young and left two sons, minors.

These were John Haw III (note--father of Joseph Richardson Haw) and Richardson Haw. They were apprenticed by their guardians to trades, millwrighting and carpentry.

John Haw III inherited Oak Grove farm and a corn water mill about a mile from the shop. His brother ~~like~~ Richardson Haw inherited a farm on the same road as Oak Grove ~~and~~ some half mile from the shop.

From the papers of Joseph Richardson Haw (continued)

They both inherited, along with these farms, a few negro servants.

Early in the nineteenth century there arrived in the country from the north of Ireland 4 members of the Watt family, George, Hugh, and two sisters. George and Hugh settled in Richmond. Hugh Watt married Sarah Bohannon Kid, who owned Springfield, the Watt farm on the Chickahominy where the severest part of the First Battle of Cold Harbor was fought in the war between the states.

Of this marriage, two daughters, Mary Austin and Margaret Mills, resulted.

John Haw III married Mary A. Watt and Richardson Haw married Margaret, thus was English and Scotch blood blended.

End of this fragment.

NOTES BY JOSEPH CUMMING HAW.

1. My father has told me that his maternal grandmother (Mary Austin Watt Haw) was sick at the time of the battle and was carried to safety. "First Cold Harbor" is better known as the battle of Gaines Mill. Second Cold Harbor (usually referred to simply as Cold Harbor) was fought in the vicinity two years later. Gaines Mill was fought June 27, 1862.

2. See my father's articles, clipped from the "Confederate Veteran" (a magazine) for interesting data on the Haw's Shop Community, The Haw Boys in the Civil War, etc.

3. My father's brothers and sisters were:

Jane, who never married

Eliza, who married a Cross. Daughters and grand-daughters survived but I do not believe any Cross males of this line are alive today. The last I know of, Charles, about my age, was at Virginia Military Institute with my cousin Samuel Calvin Cumming and was about my age. He was the grandson of my father's sister.

John and George, twins. Both wounded in Civil War. John died a bachelor at a ripe old age. He had a farm on the Pamunkey, and ferry--Pipe-in-Tree ferry. Loved fox-hunting so much that when a girl agreed to marry him if he would give up his ~~farm~~ hounds, he refused.

George was a lieutenant and lost an arm. Became County Attorney of Hanover County--held the position for years. Married a wealthy widow and lived at her place, "Dundee," a fine old brick plantation house in Hanover. 2 sons, George, a successful lawyer in Richmond, Lucien, (now dead) a contractor in Washington, D.C. Each had one son, George in both cases, following their father's professions. William--three daughters, only 1 married, no

From the papers of Joseph Richardson Haw(continued)

Notes by Joseph Cumming Haw (continued)

children. Husband is Doctor Joseph Leake.
They live in Churchland, a village near
Norfolk, Virginia.
Joseph Richardson Haw, my father.
Edwin Haw, died about the time of the Civil
War.

Total, 7 children of John Haw III and Mary
Austin Watt Haw.

~~End of this paper.~~

FURTHER DATA FROM JOSEPH RICHARDSON HAW'S PAPERS.

ⁿJohn Haw III was born at Oak Grove in 1802.
His wife, Mary Austin Watt, was born at Springfield, the
paternal home (farm) of her mother, Sarah Kidd Watt, in 1805.
John Haw III and Mary Austin Watt were married Dec. 13, 1827.
365
Oak Grove was 325 acres.

"John Haw III owned Oak Grove, a corn mill, a machine
shop run by steam consisting of machine shop, foundry, car-
penter shop and all appliances necessary to build lumber mills
and grist mills and farm machinery. His employees were
all enlisted in the Confederate army, thus closing down his
plant. The enemy over-ran the country and he sold the
plant in 1862 to the Tredegar Iron Works in Richmond for
Confederate money, which of course became valueless.
Grant's army stripped Oak Grove completely and at the close
of the war John Haw III was financially ruined. There was
a cavalry fight May 28, 1864 on the farm (battle of Haw's
Shop) and he, his wife, and oldest daughter Jane were in
the house which was struck by artillery fire as were all
the other buildings in the yard. Four horses were killed
in the yard and a Yankee lieutenant's leg cut off and
horse killed."

End of this paper

BRIEF ACCOUNT OF JOSEPH RICHARDSON HAW'S MILITARY
SERVICE IN THE CIVIL WAR *

In 1864, Joseph R. Haw, then 18 years old, was detailed at the armory of the Confederate States Ordnance Department in Richmond, Virginia, because of the mechanical training he had received in his father's shop.

(John Haw III, his father, had a corn mill, operated by a water wheel, on his farm "Oak Grove" in Hanover County, Virginia. He also had a machine shop, operated by steam, on the place, where he made parts for corn and wheat mills and sawmills, which he erected under contract in various locations in Virginia.)

The following excerpt from an article written by him, published in the "Confederate Veteran," April, 1908, gives a brief account of his service in 1864-'65, after his outfit had been called out for a day or two and helped repulse a Yankee force, known as "Dahlgren's Raiders," which had penetrated to the outskirts of Richmond on March 1, 1864.

"After this the brigade was in the field frequently-- first to defend the city from the big Sheridan raid, when J.E.B. Stuart was killed, then below Richmond when Grant changed his base from the north to the south side of the James, and again on the 29th of September in front of Fort Harrison. Here we stayed close under the enemy's guns in a sodden slush for some time under artillery fire and doing heavy picket duty until the 29th of January, 1865. When reduced by details back to the city, our battalion was ordered to Richmond to remove and ship the machinery of the armory to Danville. Our last field duty was in March, 1865, to meet Sheridan's last big raid.

"On the 2d of April Richmond was evacuated. The men of the Armory Battalion were ordered to Danville. A few of us, after waiting at the depot nearly all night, took a train and reached that city the next night, remaining until General Lee surrendered, when some went to North Carolina, where the final collapse found us.

"While this is not a story of my personal experience, I will say that two of us (Albert Cuthbert, of Jeff Davis Legion, Georgia, and myself) walked to Greensboro, N.C., then to High Point to join General Johnston's army. Here Cuthbert decided to go on to his home, in Augusta; while I joined Company A, 4th Tennessee (Shaw's) Battalion of Cavalry, Dibrell's Brigade, Dibrell's Division, detailed to escort Jefferson Davis, and marched with them to Washington, Georgia, where I surrendered, and was paroled on the 10th of May. In going south I saw some of the armory boys and one of them guarding the Confederate wagon train near the Georgia line. I received nearly \$26 from the Confederate treasury some of which I have now." (End of excerpt.)

*Until the evacuation of Richmond, when he went south as stated in this account, he was a private in Company A, 1st (or Armory) Battalion, 1st Brigade, local defense forces of Richmond.

End

D
BRIEF ACCOUNT OF JOSEPH RICHARSON HAW'S MILITARY
SERVICE IN THE CIVIL WAR.

In 1864 Joseph R. Haw, then 18 years old, was detailed at the armory of the Confederate States Ordnance Department at Richmond, Virginia, because of the mechanical training he had received in his father's shop. Until the evacuation of Richmond, when he went south as stated in the clipping below, he was a private in Company A, 1st (or Armory) Battalion, 1st Brigade, local defense forces of Richmond.

(John Haw III, his father, had a corn mill, operated by a water wheel, on his farm "Oak Grove" in Hanover County, Virginia. He also had a machine shop, operated by steam, on the place, where he made parts for corn and wheat mills and sawmills, which he erected under contract in various localities. His son's had all had mechanical training in his shop.)

The following excerpt from an article written by Joseph R. Haw, published in the "Confederate Veteran", April, 1908, gives a brief account of his service in 1864-'65, after his outfit had been called out for a day or two and helped repulse a Yankee force, known as "Dahlgren's Raiders," which had penetrated to the outskirts of Richmond on March 1, 1864.

to Veteran.

155

which were very amusing and, if space would permit, would bring smiles to the faces of many readers.

After this the brigade was in the field frequently—first to defend the city from the big Sheridan raid, when J. E. B. Stuart was killed, then below Richmond when Grant changed his base from the north to the south side of the James, and again on the 29th of September in front of Fort Harrison. Here we stayed close under the enemy's guns in a sodden slush for some time under artillery fire and doing heavy picket duty until the 29th of January, 1865. When reduced by details back to the city, our battalion was ordered to Richmond to remove and ship the machinery of the armory to Danville. Our last field duty was in March, 1865, to meet Sheridan's last big raid.

On the 2d of April Richmond was evacuated. The men of the Armory Battalion were ordered to Danville. A few of us, after waiting at the depot nearly all night, took a train and reached that city the next night, remaining until General Lee surrendered, when some went to Salisbury, N. C., where the final collapse found them.

While this is not a story of my personal experience, I will say that two of us (Albert Cuthbert, of Jeff Davis Legion, Georgia, and myself) walked to Greensboro, N. C., then to High Point to join General Johnston's army. Here Cuthbert decided to go on to his home, in Augusta; while I joined Company A, 4th Tennessee (Shaw's) Battalion of Cavalry, Dibrell's Brigade, Dibrell's Division, detailed to escort Jefferson Davis, and marched with them to Washington, Ga., where I surrendered, and was paroled on the 10th of May. In going south I saw some of the armory boys at Salisbury, and one of them guarding the Confederate wagon train near the Georgia line.

I received nearly twenty-six dollars in silver and gold from the C. S. A. treasury, some of which I have now.