

1st. Lt. JOHN A. BANKSTON

The attached photograph is of John A. Bankston, who was killed in the Battle of Atlanta on July 22, 1864.

John A. Bankston enlisted on March 18, 1861 in Company F., "Gate City Guard", of "Ramsey's" 1st. Regiment Georgia Volunteer Infantry, of the Confederate States Army in Fulton County, Georgia. This regiment went to Montgomery, Alabama in April 1861. At Garland, Alabama they received word of the firing on Fort Sumter, where upon they moved to Pensacola, Florida and were stationed near Fort Barraneas. In June 1861 they were transferred to Virginia and served in West Virginia under Brig. Gen. Garnett, who was killed at Carrick's Ford, West Virginia and Brig. Gen. Henry R. Jackson. This regiment was in engagements at Belington, West Virginia; Laurel Hill, West Virginia; Carrick's Ford, West Virginia; Cheat Mountain, West Virginia; Greenbrier River, West Virginia; Bath, Virginia and Hancock, Maryland. In December 1861 this regiment was transferred to Gen. T.J. "Stonewall" Jackson's command at Winchester, Virginia. On March 15, 1862 this regiment was mustered out at Augusta, Georgia. About May 2, 1862 Private John A. Bankston, formerly of Company F. of "Ramsey's" 1st. Regiment Georgia Volunteer Infantry, enlisted in Company C. of the 1st. Confederate Regiment Infantry of the Army of Tennessee of the Confederate States Army in Fulton County, Georgia. This regiment was stationed at Fort Gaines, ~~Florida~~ Alabama. On December 11, 1862 they moved to Camp Forney near Mobile, Alabama, then to Camp Cummings, also near Mobile, Alabama. On April 15, 1863 they moved to East Tennessee where they served in engagements at Chickamauga, Georgia in Jackson's Brigade, Cheatham's Division of the Right Wing (Gen. Polk) of Bragg's Army and at Chattanooga, Tennessee (Missionary Ridge) in Jackson's Brigade, Cheatham's Division, Hardee's Corps of Bragg's Army and in the Atlanta Campaign in Steven's Brigade, Walker's Division; Hardee's Corps of Johnston's (Hood's) Army. John A. Bankston was elected Junior 2nd. Lieutenant of Company C. on May 2, 1862, and elected 2nd. Lieutenant on June 20, 1863 and 1st. Lieutenant on September 17, 1863. On July 22, 1864 1st. Lt. John A. Bankston was killed in the Battle of Atlanta at age 25.

John A. Bankston was born in 1839 in Dekalb (now Fulton) County, Georgia. His father was Henry Bankston Jr. (January 20, 1812, Clarke (now Oconee) County, Georgia-July 17, 1896, Fulton County, Georgia) whose farm was on Land Lot 213 in the 14th. District of Fulton County. Henry Bankston Jr. was the son of Henry Bankston Sr. (1783, Wilkes County, Georgia- May 1811, Clarke (now Oconee) County, Georgia) and his wife, Sarah, last name unknown, (died about 1849, Dekalb (now Fulton) County, Georgia). John A. Bankston's mother was Elizabeth J. Connally (September 15, 1815, Tennessee or Alabama- March 10, 1890, Fulton County, Georgia). Elizabeth J. Connally was the daughter of David Connally (October 31, 1776, Orange County, North Carolina-June 17, 1848, Dekalb (now Fulton) County, Georgia) and Elizabeth Christian (November 5, 1777, Amherst County, Virginia-September 20, 1842, Dekalb (now Fulton) County, Georgia).

John A. Bankston's brother and sisters were Sarah E. Bankston (May 16, 1837-August 22, 1899)(Mrs. J.F. Donehoo); Josephine J. Bankston (1841-after 1898) (1st. Mrs. _____ Johnson, 2nd. Mrs. _____ Morgan); Nancy E. Bankston (1843-after 1898) (Mrs. J.P. Hellings); Martha E. Bankston (January 20, 1845-August 20, 1922) (Mrs. S.A. Stovall); Mary J. Bankston (April 10, 1847- August 5, 1915)(unmarried)

(2)

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Cynthia Temperence Bankston (June 13, 1849-May 2, 1904) (Mrs. C.C. Hart); Charles Henry Bankston (1853-after 1898)(Mary F. Davis); Ella F. Bankston (1855-before 1896)(Mrs. Felix Sheats); Amanda Beatrice Bankston (1857- after 1898) (Mrs. H.P. Tilly).

John A. Bankston's Bankston ancestors, according to the best available information were as follows: His great grandfather and great grandmother were John Bankston Sr. (June 1754, North Carolina-September 1823, Louisiana) and Henrietta Coates (1760, Georgia- 1839, Louisiana). John Sr. was the son of Jacob Bankston Sr. (c.1731, Pennsylvania-c.1827, Louisiana) and Elinor Cock or Cox. Jacob Sr. was the son of Lawrence Bankston Sr. (1704, Pennsylvania-1774, North Carolina) and Rebecca Hendricks (1705, Pennsylvania-c.1740, Pennsylvania). Lawrence Sr. was the son of Andrew Bankston Jr. (1671, Pennsylvania-1750 Pennsylvania) and Gertrude _____. Andrew Jr. was the son of Andrew Bankston Sr. (1640, Sweden-1706 Pennsylvania), who came on the ship "Mercurius" from Sweden to Fort Christina (Wilmington, Delaware) in 1656 and anglicized his name from Andro Benkestok. His wife was Gertrude Rambo (October 19, 1650, Pennsylvania-after 1706, Pennsylvania).

The attached copy of the photograph of John A. Bankston was copied from a tintype (ferrotype) copy of an earlier photograph now lost. It is not known if the original was a daguerreotype, ambrotype, ferrotype or carte de visite. The original was probably made in 1861 or 1862. The tintype (ferrotype) copy was on a brown surfaced tintype plate which means it was made after 1870. The tintype copy is in the possession of John A. Bankston, the great great nephew and namesake of John A. Bankston, who was killed in the Civil War. John A. Bankston resides at 711 Bothwell Place S.W., Marietta, Georgia.

The above genealogical information was provided by Donald S. Clarke, 1784 South Deshon Road, Lithonia, Georgia 30058. Also a great great nephew of John A. Bankston.

August 22, 1982

Donald S. Clarke