

George W. Whitecotton, 2nd Lieutenant, Co. A, 37th Georgia Infantry, CSA

- 1823 George Washington Whitecotton was born in South Carolina to parents Axton and Mary Whitecotton.
- 1846 G W Whitecotton married Mary Louisa Seay.
- 1850 Sep 25: The US Federal Census enumerated in Murray County, GA listed G W Whitecotton as a twenty eight year old farmer. He lived with his wife and an infant child. The 1850 Slave schedule recorded that G W Whitecotton was the owner of three slaves.
- 1860 Jun 11: The US Federal Census enumerated in Murray County, GA listed G W Whitecotton as a farmer with \$4,000 in real estate and \$6,740 in his personal estate. He lived with his wife and four children. The 1860 slave schedule listed G W Whitecotton as the owner of eleven people.

1861 Jan 7: G W Whitecotton's name appeared on a muster roll for a militia company from Murray County, GA. An accompanying letter to the Governor of Georgia stated,

"Dear sir,

We have organized a militia company (infantry) composed of the names and officers upon the accompanying sheet. We wish arms and accouterments immediately, as we desire to commence drill as early as possible. We need all the aids and helps possible in our efforts to establish military companies. The want of all military organizations in this section of country render it difficult to get up and carry through such enterprises. The troubles and dangers of the times require everything practicable done to put us in a state of defense and protection. We have lost our county (country?) in the late election. She went largely for the glorious union. Please direct attention to this matter as early as practicable. With high regard, I remain your friend and humble servant, R E Wilson"

Jun 13: G W Whitecotton was mustered into Co. B, 3rd GA Infantry Battalion as 1st Sergeant.

Dec 25: Promoted to Jr. 2nd Lt. while on furlough until Jan. 16th, 1862.

- 1862 Dec 31: Wounded in action at the Battle of Stones River. 2nd Lt. Whitecotton was wounded slightly in the head according to his service record.
- 1863 May 6: Co. B, 3rd GA Infantry Battalion became Co. A, 37th GA Infantry. The 3rd GA Infantry Battalion was combined with the 9th GA Infantry Battalion to form this new regiment.

*This regiment was formed in May, 1863, by the consolidation of the 9th Battalion Georgia Infantry (also known as the 17th Battalion Georgia Infantry) with companies B, C, E, F and H of the 3d Battalion Georgia Infantry.

1864 Jun 24: Promoted to 2nd Lt.

Nov 30: The 37th GA Infantry fought at the Battle of Franklin as part of Smith's Brigade in Gen. William Bate's Division. They were formed on the western flank of Gen. Hood's attack formation and maneuvered through rough terrain which slowed them down. Though delayed, their advance began and they marched north towards the entrenched Federal positions. 2nd. Lt. Whitecotton was killed in action during the charge and buried on the battlefield in the days after. He was

moved to the Confederate cemetery at Carnton in 1866. Lt. Whitecotton was reburied in the GA section, Grave #63.



¹ <u>https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/6571148/george-washington-whitecotton</u>