

BAYLOR, JOHN ROBERT T

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Born at Paris, Bourbon County, Kentucky, July 20, 1822.

Son of John Walker 'Baylor and Marie (Weidner) Baylor.

Married Emily J. Hanna at Marshall, Texas, _____, 1844.

Children, John William, Walker Keith, Henry Weidner, Tom Perry,

George Wyth, Albert Seacry, Sidney Johnson, Sophie (Mrs. _____),

Elizabeth (Mrs. _____) & Annie Louisa (Mrs. _____).

Commissioned Lieutenant Colonel, 2d Texas Mounted Rifles, Confederate States Army, May 23, 1861; promoted Colonel, December 15, 1861; served as Governor of the Confederate Territory of Arizona, 1861-1862.

Died at Montell, Uvalde County, Texas, February 6, 1894, aged 71.

Buried _____ Cemetery, _____, _____.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Rebellion Records - Series I, Vol. 1, 4, 9, 15, 22, 26, 34, 41, 50, 53; Series II, Vol. 1-4; Series III, Vol. 2, Series IV, Vol. 1, 3.

Bancroft, H.H. *History of Arizona and New Mexico, pp. 512, 688.

Johnston, W.P. - Life of General Albert Sidney Johnson, N.Y., 1880, pp. 281-288.

Farish, T.E. - History of Arizona, Vol. 2, pp. 85, 86-87, 97.

Orton, R.H. - Records of California Men in the War of the Rebellion, Sacramento, 1890, pp. 15, 45.

COLONEL JOHN R. BAYLOR

Colonel John R. Baylor was born July 20, 1822, in Bourbon county, Kentucky, where his father, an army surgeon, was on military duty. He grew up at Fort Gibson and other frontier army posts. In 1844, when 22 years of age, he married Emily J. Hanna at Marshall, Texas. Following his marriage he engaged in farming and ranching near Fayetteville, Fayette county, Texas. He studied law and was admitted to the bar, but there is no evidence that he ever practised law.

Fayette county sent Baylor to the legislature at Austin in 1852 and again in 1854. In 1855 the Indian commissioner for the state of Texas appointed him Indian agent to the Comanches with headquarters near old Camp Cooper in Stephens county. (Other records indicate the agency was near old Fort Belknap on the Clear Fork of the Brazos, and I am inclined to believe this is correct)

Baylor insisted on punishing reservation Indians by hanging when he caught them raiding white settlements. As a result of his quarrels with the Indian commissioner he was dismissed from service in the summer of 1857. For four years he warred on the Comanches and attracted wide attention as an Indian fighter. With the outbreak of the Civil war he was named lieutenant colonel of the Second Texas Mounted Rifles and sent west to Fort Bliss to protect the frontier. He lost his commission and his position as governor of Arizona territory as a result of order to exterminate and enslave the Apaches, who gave his

troops much trouble and cost him more men than the **Federals**. At **Mesilla** he quarrelled with General Sibley and offended Oury. One quarrel was of a military character and the second of a political nature. He accused **Sibley** of being drunk at Val Verde and Santa Fe and losing the New Mexico campaign; Oury disliked him because he backed **McWillie**, a **Mesilla** lawyer, for delegate to the Confederate Congress. Oury and Sibley sent his Indian order to Richmond. During the course of the retreat into Texas Jefferson Davis cancelled Baylor's appointment as governor of Arizona territory and removed him from command of the Arizona Brigade. Sibley lost his command.

Left without rank or office, Colonel Baylor returned to Weatherford, where he was a great hero. During the last half of 1862 and fore part of 1863 he helped with recruiting duty. In the attack by the Union navy on Galveston he served as a private in the ranks. In the autumn of 1863 the Weatherford District sent him to Congress, where he remained until the end of the war. In ^{MARCH}~~April~~, 1865, Jefferson Davis commissioned him a full colonel. He took the oath in August, 1865, after returning to San Antonio.

From 1865 until 1879 Colonel Baylor ran a truck farm below San Antonio. In 1879 Texas gave him head right as a war veteran. He chose land at Montell, Uvalde county, where he resided on a ranch until his death in 1895 at the age of 73. He is buried in the churchyard at Montell.