

J. J. HANEY

Born near Winchester, VA, June 23, 1833. At 14 years of age, he went from home in VA to Baltimore, MD, where he learned the trade of plastering and brick making. He went to California during the gold rush for four years. He joined the U.S. Army and was serving on the staff of General Van Dorn as Lieutenant of Cavalry in 1861 when the war broke out.

He resigned with General Van Dorn and came east. He enlisted in the Confederate army at Lexington, MO, in June, 1861, and served as escort with General Price. He was transferred to Van Dorn's staff and served with him until Van Dorn's death. Haney then joined Company F, 4th TN Cavalry as a private, and served with them as a private until the end of the war. He was wounded at Chickamauga, but rejoined his command when able.

He found himself in an interesting circumstance while scouting on August 10, 1861. He was captured at Oak Hill, MO, and sent to prison at Indianapolis. After his arrival at Camp Morton he was court-martialed on the charge of being a spy, and sentenced to be shot. The morning before the execution was to take place, a young lady who knew the circumstances and was a strong sympathizer with the Southern Cause secured permission to visit the prisoners. She conveyed to Comrade Haney a rope and arranged for him a plan of escape.

The night was a propitious one, being dark and stormy. Soon after nightfall, securely tying his rope to a ring in the floor, he crawled out through the window and slipped down the rope to the ground. Managing to elude observation, he made his way to a house nearby, where his young lady friend awaited him. He was then served with a substantial supper by his heroine. His Confederate gray was discarded for the Federal uniform with new boots and a hat, and he was given directions to the home of a friend of his benefactor, many miles in the country to the southward.

He arrived next morning, weary and footsore. He was hospitably entertained, and after a day's rest was furnished with a horse and escort for another day's journey, and then by a chain of friends he finally reached St. Louis, whence he made his way into the Confederate lines and rejoined his command, General Van Dorn's staff.

He came to Chattanooga in 1871 and lived here until he died on December 20, 1898.

