

## JAMES H. LATIMER – 49th Georgia Infantry

Born on Christmas Eve in 1843 down in Hancock County, Georgia. He was admitted to Mercer University. On May 12, 1862, he left his studies at Mercer University and joined the army. He was soon sent to Richmond, Virginia, as a private in the 49th Georgia Volunteer Infantry, 18 years old at the time.

For 3 years with the 49th GA, he was part of the Army of Northern Virginia, first commanded by General Joe Johnston then under General Robert E. Lee.

James was in many battles: the Battle of Seven Pines, the Seven Days Battle near Richmond, Cedar Run, Manassas, Harper's Ferry, Sharpsburg, Fredricksburg, Chancellorsville, Wilderness, Cold Harbor, Petersburg and many more.

He was wounded twice at 2nd Manassas, but was promoted through the ranks to the post of 1st Sargent of his company. He was at Appomattox on April 9th, 1865, when it all ended. The army was starving and outnumbered 5 to 1. He felt like an old man at age 21.

He returned to GA after the war and settled down for a while. Later he moved to Alabama for a time and then settled in Tennessee. His occupation for 11 years was farming to re-establish his health. Then for 35 years he worked as a school teacher to reestablish education in the South. He also held the office of County Surveyor for a short time.

