



JOHN CHARLES DOYLE

John Charles Doyle was born in Knoxville, Tennessee on December 19, 1838, the son of James Pleasant and Mahala Childress Doyle. John was the third of six children. This family migrated to Kansas in 1856. At that time, the Kansas/Missouri area was engaged in the

struggle over Slave versus Free State rights, which many thought was a civil war before the actual American Civil War.

Abolitionist John Brown and two of his sons murdered James Doyle and his sons, William and Drury, in the infamous Pottawatomie Massacre of May 24, 1856, because they were from the South and were suspected slave owners. John Charles Doyle's life was spared when his mother begged them not to kill her 17 year old son. The remaining Doyle family returned to Tennessee and settled in Chattanooga.

John Brown was found guilty of treason by the state of Virginia after his capture at Harper's Ferry. Governor Wise offered Doyle the privilege of springing the trap-door of the gallows, but John was unable to travel to Virginia before Brown's death sentence was carried out. John worked as a stagecoach driver and farmer.

John Charles Doyle enlisted as a Private in Company H, Second Tennessee Cavalry (Ashby's) in Knoxville, Tennessee on June 17, 1861. He served as a bugler in Wheeler's command for four years and was paroled and discharged in Charlotte, North Carolina on May 3, 1865.

After the War, John lived in Rome, Georgia, where he met and married Cleopatra Ann Clowdis on October 15, 1867. They soon moved to Chattanooga where John worked as a carpenter for the railroad. They were parents of two children: Mark and May. John was a member of the N.B. Forrest UCV Camp. He died of pneumonia at age 84, on December 29, 1922. Cleopatra followed John in death in 1926 and was buried beside him in the historic Chattanooga Confederate Cemetery.

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