



Reuben Weston Cleveland

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Reuben Weston Cleveland was born in Elbert County March 14, 1842. He left Elbert County with the first volunteer Confederate Regiment July 15, 1861.

He was shot through the body at Antietam, a minnie ball passing through his lung. After months of absence, he rejoined his command and at the Battle of Gettysburg, fighting at close quarters, a portion of his right leg was shot off by an enemy within ten feet of him. Mr. Cleveland was out of service for several months again. Dr. Murray, of Baltimore, said he would never walk again. But he did, and rejoined his command. In the Battle of the Wilderness a part of the top of his head was shot off. Erysipelas developed and he came near dying. Again he recovered and rejoined his command. He was with Lee at Appomattox.

After the surrender he walked back to his home in Elbert County, and has since lived here as "a lively corpse" 64 years after the close of hostilities.

He is now serving as county surveyor of Elbert County, and, at the completion of this term, will have served his people in this office continuously for 56 years.

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The brief biography speaks for itself; he left a noble heritage. He died in 1935.

Wes Cleveland was a meticulous worker; his field book is still used by surveyors of today and they speak highly of him.

G.A.

Irene Wilcox

# Cleveland Shot 3 Times IN CIVIL WAR

Among the Confederate soldiers shown in the group of thirteen present at Memorial Day exercises in Elberton in 1929 one was Wes Cleveland. From time to time I had heard people speak of him with admiration, and I was happy to find in the Memorial Day issue of The Elberton Star of that year a brief biography of

Mr. Cleveland. Learning that he had two sons living in Elberton, Harry and Hugh, I appealed to Harry to lend me a picture of his father to accompany this article. I am grateful to him for granting the request and for giving me a few more facts concerning his father. Reuben Weston Cleveland

was the son of Peter Cleveland and his wife Mary Frances Cleveland. He married first Mary A.V. Fortson and they have many descendants living in this area, but none of their children now survive. He married second India Wansley and they are the parents of Harry and Hugh.

Harry remembers asking

his father if he ever had contact with Robert E. Lee. His answer was yes, that in his line of duty he had talked with him personally, an experience he never forgot.

I now quote the article from The Star:

R.W. CLEVELAND  
WROTE HIS  
War Record On The  
Battle of...

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