

Selected Entries from the Civil War Diary of Dr. James Richmond Boulware

(Part One)

James Richmond Boulware (1835-1869) was the son of Benjamin James Boulware and Sarah Barber Richmond. He was a brother of my great-great-grandmother, Nancy Ann (Boulware) Hall.

Graduated from South Carolina Medical College.

Enlisted in the 6th South Carolina Volunteer Regiment on April 11, 1861, in Winnsboro, SC, and served throughout the war as Assistant Surgeon until the surrender in April 1865.

Copy of diary transcription provided by Wes Phinney.

FRAGMENT OF DIARY OF DOCTOR JAMES RICHMOND BOULWARE,
6th SOUTH CAROLINA VOLUNTEERS, C. S. ARMY.

---oOo---

April 17, 1862. Thursday:

We left our camp three miles from Richmond and had a warm, dusty road to the City. We marched through the City direct to Rockets Landing and embarked for the Peninsula on board the Steamer "Curtis Peck", at half past 11 o'clock A.M. and landed at Kings Landing at 6 o'clock P.M., having traveled about 80 miles. Had quite a smoothe ride although much crowded. Nothing of interest was observed except some fine looking residences, &c. We marched six miles that night and when the Brigade stopped (about 1 o'clock) more than half of the boys had dropped out by the way and took up quarters for the night. I kept up with the command and Butler Alston and myself had just laid down when a night attack took place. It sounded terrible to us (not being accustomed to such sounds). Of course we were called to our arms but were permitted to lie down again and slept with our accoutrements all on, yet I slept soundly.

The Peninsular Campaign

From *Time Line of The Civil War, 1862* (<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/cwphtml/tl1862.html>): "In April, General McClellan's troops left northern Virginia to begin the Peninsular Campaign. By May 4, they occupied Yorktown, Virginia. At Williamsburg, Confederate forces prevented McClellan from meeting the main part of the Confederate army, and McClellan halted his troops, awaiting reinforcements."

May 5, 1862:

At half past 6 o'clock the battle commenced. I had commenced to drink a cup of tea we had made in one of the old houses built for winter quarters when the bullets began to fall about us. I was with the surgeons and Dr. Post was hit on the head, rendering him unfit for duty on that day. We carried him back to the rear and had the wounded brought there (to an adjacent house). Soon the artillery opened on our men and our quarters being in direct range we were soon shelled away from there. It commenced to rain but still the firing increased and by noon it was terrible. We soon drove the enemy back on our right wing but they came again and back were they driven again. We took hundreds of prisoners and 3 pieces of artillery. Our Regt., 6th S.C.V., being placed on our left were not engaged until late in the afternoon, the 6th Regt. was placed in and around a Fort. A Rifle company was sent out to act as skirmishers, and while out on that duty Hugh Smith and Lt. Campbell were cut down by the first fire of the enemy's artillery. We were forced to fall back leaving poor Hugh & Lt. on the field. We soon regained the ground but alas, Hugh was dead. Lt. died shortly afterwards for his wounds were mortal in the extreme.

Night came on leaving us in possession of the field. We were busily engaged in carrying off the wounded and administering to their comfort until 2 o'clock that night. The rain had been coming down all day long and we necessarily had to go over ground where thousands of Infantry, Artillery, wagons, ambulances, had been running all the time; so one - who has ever seen anything of the kind - can form a faint idea of it. (You will find list of casualties of Williamsburg Battle on page 16).

List of Casualties in 6th S.C. Regt. on May 5th, 1862, at Williamsburg, Va.

Co. B	Lt.	Campbell	Killed	
"	Priv.	H. A. Smith	"	
Co. C	"	Wittkowsky	Wounded	Leg severe
"	"	Phillips	"	Head slight
"	"	Henson	"	Leg "
Co. F	Priv.	HeA. Barber	"	Knee severe
"	"	W. J. M. Cornwall	"	Leg "
"	"	W. M. Grier	"	" broken severe
"	"	A. D. Lael	"	" severe
"	"	J. L. McDaniel	"	Breast slight
"	"	John Strong	"	Left shoulder severe.
Co. G	Sergt.	John Rabb	"	Arm slight
"	Priv.	McDowel	"	Heel "
"	"	Jame Tinkler	"	Hand severe
"	"	Joe T. McReight	"	Arm slight
Co. I	Sergt.	McNinch	"	Hand "
"	Priv.	Jno. Dodds	"	Abdomen mortal.
"	"	Sam McCarley	"	Hip "
Co. K	Sergt.	Scott	Wounded	abdomen severe.
"	Priv.	Tobias	Killed	
"	"	Brier	Wounded	slightly
"	"	Levister	"	"

May 18, 1862

Sunday, 18th:

We have been moving along at a slow rate - moving five miles a day and perhaps lying over two or three days at a time. We are now within five miles of Richmond at Laurel Church. I have been dismissed from taking the Sick Squad under my care and glad I am for no one knows the trouble I have had with them.

Jim Phinney (Capt.) has come to us also Capt. Lyles of the Buckhead. They came to the camp very hungry indeed - managed to buy a Hen and made a good stew, and late at night drew rations.

This morning we heard an excellent sermon from our Chaplain W. E. Boggs. His sermon was chiefly on the similarity between our present contest and the one between David and Goliath, (The Hosts of Israel and the Hosts of the Philistines). He charged and exhorted us to rely (like David did) on the Lord of Hosts.

Mr. Ellison started home this evening.

We have just received the mail, after being without it for several weeks and I am sad to find there is no letter for me.

May 27, 1862

Tuesday, 27th:

We moved camp again this morning over to the right of the City on the Nine Mile Road. The day was very warm indeed. Several of the soldiers gave out but came up the next day. Our route led by a cemetery (Oak Grove) where mostly South Carolinians and Georgians are buried. The situation was well chosen, beautifully laid out and planted over with trees of every kind that grow in the vicinity around. It covers (I suppose) ten or twelve acres - most of the graves seem fresh, very few have marble head stones to them, yet all have a board with the name of person, company, Regt. and State on it. So that by referring to the keepers Book any one can easily find the grave of a relative or friend. I could not but think as we passed "There lies many a fond hope".

The Battle of Seven Pines (Fair Oaks)
May 31 & June 1, 1862

Saturday, 31st:

Last night we had as hard a rain as I ever heard fall - the water flooded over nearly every bed in camp. We were aroused early this morning and were ordered to pack up for a march leaving most of the baggage behind. We had no idea where we were going but after travelling a mile or so we guessed our destination. We entered the battle about two o'clock P.M. Our boys soon began to fall and were brought to the rear, those who were able came themselves. The sight was a sad one, for so many of our bosom friends were brought to us in a horrible state of mutilation. Five O'clock P.M. Our Brigade has gone for more than a mile driving the enemy before them. Night came on and with her silence, except groans of the wounded and cries for help. The wounded were not all got in until late at night. I closed my eyes for only one hour on that night.

June 1st (Sunday):

When the Sun arose he found us about to begin our work of getting off the wounded to the York River R.R. In two hours their places were vacant. We took ourselves to the Battle ground where occasional firing was going on. Soon all was quite and remained so all day. The day was quite warm, I lost a great many of my friends in this engagement. Poor Jimmy Weir I was sorry to lose him. In the loss of our Capt. (J. M. Phinney) the Regt. lost one of its best officers and the Company its all. I give a list of casualties:

List of Casualties in 6th Regt. S.C.V. on 31st May, 1862.

Company	Rank	Names	Wounded, where at.	Character of
Staff	Col.	J.M.Bratten	" left arm & chest	Severe.
"	Capt.	L.M.Love	" leg	Slight.
	Sgt.Maj.	E.M.Means	Wounded and died.	
C ^o A	Lt.	J.W.McFadden	" arm	"
"	Sergt.	J. N. Whitesides	" side & arm	"
"	"	J.C.Furgison	" leg	"
"	Private	J. H. Gaston	" "	Severe.
"	"	J. B. Nail	" "	Dangerous.
"	"	Thos. Peden	" foot	Severe.
"	"	A. Hicklin	" ankle	"
"	"	Wm. Hughs	" head	Slight.
"	"	D. J. Wylie	" "	Severe.
"	"	Jas. McGarity	" thigh	"
"	"	L. J. McGarity	" leg	"
"	"	R. L. Blanks	" shoulder	Slight.
"	"	Frank Bigham	" leg	"
"	"	G. A. Brown	" "	Severe.

Continuing Battle of Seven Pines 6th SC Casualty list

Co. A	Private	L. H. Dye	Wounded, leg and ear	Slight.
"	"	Jno. Dunlap	" thigh	Severe.
"	"	W. N. Elder	" arm and leg	"
"	"	J. P. Gaston	" head	Slight.
"	"	Wm. Kitchens	" Shoulder	Severe.
"	"	Joshua Kitchens	" Neck slight. Leg	"
"	"	B. J. Massey	" Thigh	"
"	"	D. S. Dickey	" "	Missing.
"	"	A. P. W. Neely	" Hand	Slight.
"	"	J. J. Nickols	" Finger	"
"	"	J. D. Williamson	" Arm	Severe.
"	"	W. C. Reid	" Shoulder	"
"	"	J. T. Thomas	" Side & Arm	"
"	"	Perry Furgison	" Thigh	"
"	"	John McGarity	Missing	29
"	Sergt.	W. E. Lewis	Killed	
"	Private	B. L. Baxtrum	"	
"	"	Wm. Moore	"	
"	"	Samuel Miller	"	
"	"	W. L. McFadden	"	
"	"	T. S. Reid	"	
"	"	J. M. Fry	"	9 = Total 36
Co. B	Private	W. S. McFadden	Killed	1
"	Sergt.	J. P. Miller	Wounded severely.	
"	Priv.	J. M. Caskie	" "	
"	"	W. O. Glow	" "	
"	"	Henry Johnston	" "	
"	"	B. Merritt	" "	
"	Capt.	J. M. White	" slightly.	
"	Lt.	T. M. Wylie	" "	
"	Priv.	B. F. Baker	" "	
"	"	James Epps	" "	
"	"	M. P. Haygot	" "	
"	"	Henry Merritt	" "	
"	"	W. C. Perry	" "	
"	"	J. S. Nivens	" severely	13 = Total 14
Co. C			None Killed.	
"	Priv.	M. Baum	Wounded severely.	
"	"	J. Motley	" "	
"	"	J. Bedon	" "	
"	"	J. J. Brown	" "	
"	"	J. Cotton	" "	
"	"	B. Hough	" "	
"	"	J. J. Jackson	" "	
"	Sergt.	J. A. McLeod	" slightly.	
"	Corpl.	J. B. Arrants	" "	
"	Priv.	W. Morthus	" "	
"	"	T. Shinn	" "	
"	"	C. C. Stucky	" "	
			Missing 2	12 = Total 12
Co. D	Capt.	J. W. Walker	Killed	
"	Priv.	W. D. Mayo	"	2
"	"	John May	Wounded mortally	
"	"	F. Powel	" slightly	
"	"	A. P. Cox	" "	3
			Missing 3	Total 5 + 3
Co. E	Corpl.	Kilgore	Killed	
"	Priv.	Dinkins	"	
"	R."	R. Dixon	"	
"	"	T. Hudson	"	
"	"	Kilgore	"	
"	"	McLendon	"	
"	"	Tyner	"	7
"	Corpl.	Lucky	Wounded mortally	1

Continuing Battle of Seven Pines 6th SC Casualty list

Co. E	Sergt.	Fountain	Wounded severely.	
" "	Cofpl.	Durant	" "	
" "	"	Kelly	" "	
" "	Priv.	Bateman	" "	
" "	"	Bottoms	" "	
" "	"	Bradley	" "	
" "	"	E. Byrd	" "	
" "	"	Clements	" "	
" "	"	W. Gainey	" "	
" "	"	J. King	" "	
" "	"	G. McCutcheon	" "	
" "	"	J. M. Polsen	" "	
" "	"	A. L. Shaw	" "	13
			Missing 8	Total 21 + 8
Co. F	Capt.	J. L. Gaston	Killed	
" "	Priv.	Fred Babcock	"	
" "	"	Wm. H. Gaston	"	
" "	"	Wm. Crawford	"	4
" "	"	J. F. Barber	Wounded severely	
" "	"	Wm. H. Brawley	" "	
" "	"	J. L. Caldwell	" "	
" "	"	W. J. Cornwall	" "	
" "	"	D. E. Dunlap	" "	
" "	"	S. E. Vanpelt	" "	
" "	"	C. S. Wilson	" "	8
" "	"	W. L. McDaniel	" mortally	
" "	"	Robert Hemphill	" "	
" "	"	S. H. McWalter	" "	3
" "	"	Howard Morris	" seriously	
" "	"	J. A. Rader	" "	
" "	"	W. S. Turner	" "	
" "	Lt.	J. M. Moore	" slightly	
" "	Sergt.	J. J. Stringfellow	" "	
" "	"	E. M. Shannon	" "	
" "	"	J. G. Blair	" "	
" "	Priv.	F. D. Boyd	" "	
" "	"	Henry Duffie	" "	
" "	"	R. S. Lindsey	" "	
" "	"	E. J. McDaniel	" "	
" "	"	J. H. McDaniel	" "	
" "	"	H. McElduff	" "	
" "	"	Joe C. Pedin	" "	
" "	"	J. R. Peay	" "	
" "	"	W. T. Fraser	" "	
" "	"	W. F. Smith	" "	18
			Missing None	Total 33
Co. G	Capt.	J. M. Phinney	Killed	
" "	Sergt.	I. W. Sloan	"	
" "	Corpl.	S. Y. Carnack	"	
" "	Priv.	J. J. Weir	"	
" "	"	W. A. Ellison	"	
" "	"	P. N. Powel	"	6
" "	Sergt.	W. A. Milling	Wounded seriously	
" "	Priv.	A. W. Ladd	" "	
" "	"	G. E. Boggs	" "	
" "	"	Robt. Bankhead	" "	
" "	"	T. T. Williamson	" "	
" "	"	J. A. Lewis	" "	
" "	"	W. M. Melton	" "	
" "	"	I. D. Caillard	" "	8
" "	Lt.	J. M. Brice	" slightly	
" "	Sergt.	Jno. W. Rabb	" "	
" "	Corpl.	W. D. McKinstry	" "	
" "	Priv.	R. S. Aiken	" severely	
" "	"	Peter Bird	" slightly	

Continuing Battle of Seven Pines 6th SC Casualty list

Co. G	Priv.	B. F. Boulware	Wounded	severely	["B. F. Boulware" was Benjamin Franklin Boulware, brother of James R. Boulware]
"	"	J. L. Richmond	"	slightly	
"	"	A. Boney	"	severely	
"	"	A. C. Fraser	"	mortally	
"	"	W. H. Jamison	"	severely	
"	"	W. T. Hodges	"	slightly	
"	"	J. T. Lemon	"	"	
"	"	J. T. McCreight	"	"	
"	"	J. W. McCreight	"	"	
"	"	W. M. Nelson	"	"	
"	"	J. C. Raines	"	"	
"	"	J. A. Wooten	"	"	
			Missing	None	
					Total 31
Co. H	Capt.	W. B. Lyles	Killed		
"	Priv.	Saml. Stevenson	"		
"	"	J. B. Marfield	"		
"	1st Sergt.	R. W. Brice	Wounded	severely	
"	Priv.	W. R. Counts	"	mortally	
"	"	W. W. Hunt	Killed		
"	"	E. P. Allen	Wounded	severely	
"	"	J. H. Glenn	"	"	
"	"	W. P. Gray	Killed		
"	"	A. T. Holley	Wounded	mortally	
"	"	W. H. Kerr	"	severely	11
"	"	J. T. Bynum	"	slightly	
"	"	W. Boyce Simonton	"	"	
"	"	J. A. Brice	"	"	
"	"	T. S. Brice	"	"	
"	"	R. M. Cook	"	"	
"	"	J. H. Crosby	"	"	
"	"	J. L. Dye	"	"	
"	"	J. Garrick	"	"	
"	"	J. D. Grissolm	"	"	
"	"	A. Grubbs	"	severely	
"	"	M. B. McCormick	"	"	
"	"	J. F. Joiner	"	slightly	
"	"	W. B. Norris	"	"	
"	"	T. R. Sterling	"	"	
"	"	W. M. Young	"	"	
"	"	J. B. Blackledge	"	"	16
			Missing	None	Total 27
Co. I	Lt.	W. McAlily	Wounded	severely	
"	Sergt.	H. S. Hardin	"	"	
"	Corpl.	W. McCorkil	"	"	
"	Priv.	J. W. Brooks	"	"	
"	"	R. M. Duffie	"	"	
"	"	R. D. Duffie	"	"	
"	"	W. R. Kennedy	"	"	
"	"	J. Leopold	"	"	
"	"	S. J. McHinch	"	"	
"	"	Jas. Walker	"	"	
"	"	Andrew Wages	"	"	
"	"	G. W. Wilson	"	"	
"	Sergt.	B. M. Neely	"	slightly	
"	Corpl.	H. J. Davis	"	"	
"	Priv.	J. H. Jaggars	"	"	
"	"	T. A. Lipsey	"	"	
"	"	J. A. Lipsey	"	"	
"	"	W. H. Ross	"	"	
			Missing		1
			Killed	None	Total 19
Co. K	Priv.	S. J. McCullough	Wounded	severely	
"	"	R. M. Footman	"	"	
"	"	H. C. Floyd	"	"	

Continuing Battle of Seven Pines 6th SC Casualty list

Co. K	Corpl.	J. H. Fulmore	Wounded slightly	
" "	Priv.	W. S. Allen	" "	
" "	"	R. W. Barrow	" "	
" "	"	D. Keels	" "	
" "	"	J. A. McRae	" "	
" "	"	J. T. Elwood	" "	9
" "	"		Killed None	
			Missing	2
				Total 11
		Total Killed, Wounded & Missing in Regt.		220

June 2, 1862, (Monday):

We returned to camp pretty well worn out besides having very little to eat. I managed to write five letters today. They were of course short as I wished to give my particular correspondents a sketch of what had been done in this fight.