Robert Webb Banks, Captain, Co. D 37th MS Infantry C.S.

1843 July 29: Banks was born in Columbus, MS to Dunstan and Lucretia Webb Banks.

1850 December 12: The U.S. Federal Census taken in Columbus, Lowndes County, MS showed 7 year old Robert living with his parents and siblings. His father was a planter with $25,000 in real estate and 50 slaves.

1859 Enrolled at the University of Alabama.

1860 August 15: The U.S. Federal Census enumerated in Columbus, Lowndes County, MS showed 17 year old Robert, a student, living with his parents and siblings. His father was listed as a planter.

1862 May 1: Enlisted in the C.S. Army as a Private in Columbus, MS. Assigned to the Co. B 43rd MS Infantry.


March to October: Company Muster Rolls. Present.


1863 January & February: Field and Staff Muster Roll. Present. On this first muster roll he is listed as a Sergeant Major.

July 4: Captured at Vicksburg.

July 5: Signed an oath promising never to take up arms against the Untied States again in exchange for release.

July 9: Showed up on a Roll of Prisoners of War.

June 30 – October 31: Field and Staff Muster Roll. Present

November & December: Field and Staff Muster Roll. Absent. Remarks “Absent with leave.”

1864 July & August: Field and Staff Muster Roll. Present. Remarks “Assigned to duty Jan. 1. 63”

November 30: Fought in the Battle of Franklin.

1865 May 1: Paroled at Greensboro, North Carolina.

1869 November 19: Married Alice C. Sherrod in Lawrence County, Alabama.
1880 June 3: The U.S. Federal Census enumerated in Lowndes County, MS showed Robert, a planter, and Alice living with their children: Sarah, 9, Lucile, 6, Robert, 5 and James, 3.

July 2: *Daily Commercial*, Vicksburg, MS.

---

Capt. R. W. Banks, familiarly known as "Bob Banks," was the efficient chairman of the executive committee of the Democratic party in Lowndes county last year, and last Monday he was unanimously re-elected to the same position, a compliment worthily bestowed upon a man who has fairly and honorably earned it. During the progress of the meeting, at which he was re-elected, Capt. Banks made a rousing speech, one bristling with good sense, and sparkling with happily expressed ideas. In introducing the permanent chairman of the meeting, Dr. Lipscomb, to his audience, Capt. Banks, was very happy, and introduced him as "the Chevalier Bayard of Lowndes county politics," a tribute at once as graceful as it was deserved by the true Democrat and accomplished gentleman to whom it was paid.

---

1908 Authored the book *The Battle of Franklin, November 30, 1864: The Bloodiest Engagement of the War Between the States.*

1910 April 23: The U.S. Federal Census enumerated in Biloxi, Harrison County, MS showed a retired Robert and Alice living with their adult children: Lucile, Robert and Alice.
1915  February 12:  **Gulfport Daily Herald**.

April 23:  **Gulfport Daily Herald**: Robert and Alice's son, Robert Jr., got into some trouble with the law but is acquitted of attempt to commit murder.

1919  September:  Robert Webb Banks died.
September 15: Obituary appeared in *Gulfport Daily Herald*.

**COL. R. W. BANKS DIES AT HOSPITAL**

Well Known Citizen of Mississippi Passes Away After Several Days’ Illness.

Col. Robert Webb Banks, a well known citizen of Mississippi, died at the King’s Daughters Hospital Saturday night after an illness extending over several days. He was buried in the Biloxi cemetery yesterday after noon, Rev. H. H. Sneed officiating. A more extended notice of his death will appear later.

Lives of Mississippi Authors, 1817-1967, Univ. Press of Mississippi

**BANKS, ROBERT WEBB: 1843–1919**. Robert Webb Banks, son of Dunstan and Lucretia Webb Banks, was born in Columbus, Mississippi, on 29 July 1843. In 1869 he enrolled at the University of Alabama, but left after the Battle of Shiloh to join the Confederate Army as a private (rising to the rank of captain). After the War he returned to Columbus, where he was owner and editor of the *Columbus Index*. He later moved to Meridian to edit the *Standard*. Author of a book on the War between the States and numerous historical articles, he died in September, 1919, and was buried in Biloxi, Mississippi. JMH 5; EK; F. The Battle of Franklin, November 30, 1864: The Bloodiest Engagement of the War Between the States. New York: The Neale Publishing Company, 1908.