James A. McCord, Private, Co. A, 30 GA Infantry C.S.

1835  McCord was born in Butts County, GA to James and Mary McCord.

1850  August 10: The U.S. Federal Census enumerated in Butts County, GA showed 15-year-old James living with his father, step mother and siblings. His father, James was a farmer. Living a household away was a “Deason” family, whom James mentions in his letter to his brother after the Battle of Franklin.

1861  September 25: Brother, John W. McCord, enlisted in the C.S. Army. He mustered into CO. F, 30 GA Infantry.

1862  November 1: Enlisted in the C.S. Army and mustered into Co. A, 30 GA Infantry. 

November & December: Company Muster Roll. Present.

1863  July to December: Hospital Muster Rolls. General Hospital, Lauderdale Springs, Miss. Present. McCord was not a patient, he was serving in the capacity of a clerk at the hospital. He was detailed at the hospital because of his inability to serve, “upon surgeons certificate.”

December 1: Appeared on Descriptive List taken near Dallas, GA: J.A. McCord, 27 yrs old, blue eyes, light hair, fair complexion, 5’6”, born in Butts County, GA, Merchant, enlisted on 1 Nov 1862 in Savannah, GA,

1864  August 20: Appeared on a receipt roll for clothing.

November 30: Wounded at the Battle of Franklin.

December 3: James wrote a letter home to his brother John about Franklin, filling him in on details and the fate of some of their friends.

Franklin, Tenn.,
Dec. 3rd, 1864.

Dear Brother;

After a long and very hard march we arrived at this place the 30th day of November, about 4 o’clock, when we went immediately into a fight and every one says that it was the hardest fought battle that has been fought during the war. There is no telling what our loss. We lost ten (10) generals killed and wounded. Generals Cleburne, Granbury, Gist, Adams, Sturrall, and I forgotten one man, were killed and four that were wounded. Granbury’s celebrated left this place yesterday morning with one hundred thirty-seven (137) guns, all told. Hall and John Tom Gillispie were both killed dead on the field, and nearly every one of the company fared the same fate.

The larger portion of General Bates’ division acted very cowardly in the first of the fight. Tyler’s and Finley’s and Jackson’s left would not charge the works. I was skirmishing in front of Tyler and Finley and they run three (3) times and left me on the hill begging them to come back when one of the old Abe’s boys plugged me in the right foot, making it a severe wound, tho not a serious one I hope. I am well cared for. I do not know any place where I could fare as I do here.
The People are the kindest in the world, especially the ladies. The world does not know their superiors, and I doubt that their equal can be found. Lieutenant McKibbin wounded in left forearm: Troy Saunders slightly in arm (gone back to the Co.).¹ John Mays² and Ben Deason were wounded but not dangerous, I believe. I do not know how your company suffered (but little I believe). No country knows a braver man than General Bates. I am proud to say that there was no one between me and the Yankees when I was wounded.

You will have to excuse this short letter as my foot pains me a great deal and I do not know when I will get a chance to send it off, though I believe I will put it in to p.o.

Give my love to all.

 Truly yours,

       Jas. A. McCord

P.S. The fight lasted (11) eleven hours.³

1866 Married Mollie Coffman.

1883 Advertisement:

1886 Elected Secretary of the County Prohibition Executive Committee.

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¹ Thomas McKibbin
² John Mayo
³ The Atlanta Constitution, Atlanta, GA, Sunday 9 Nov 1924, pg. 5
March 3: Mollie McCord was a good shot and her husband was appointed secretary of the Immigration Society.
September 6: James McCord died in Atlanta, GA.

Sudden and Unexpected Shock to Our Town.

In the Death of Capt. J. B. McCord.

Atlanta, Ga., Sept. 7. 1888.

John Huffington,
Grenada, Miss.

J. B. McCord died last night.

H. Y. McCord.

The above telegram was received yesterday (Friday) morning about 9:10 o'clock, and immediately groups of citizens could be seen around Capt. McCord’s store and elsewhere, talking and looking like a great calamity had befallen the town, which shows the high estimation in which Capt. McCord was held in our community.

Only a few weeks ago Capt. McCord left here for Georgia for the benefit of his health, as he had been complaining for some time. About ten days ago he went to Atlanta, where he was shortly afterwards taken sick, and carried to an Infirmary there, and it is supposed that he died with congestion.

Capt. McCord stood amongst the foremost factors of our town, and had the confidence of our best people for his integrity and intelligence. His devoted wife is now lying very sick at her residence here, and around her the sympathies of the whole town cluster. To break the sad news to her at this time would be death, for a more devoted couple we have never known. We will have more to say in our next issue of the lamented dead.

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5 The Grenada Sentinel, Grenada, MS, Saturday 15 September 1888, pg. 5
6 The Grenada Sentinel, Grenada, MS, Saturday 8 September 1888, pg. 5