



FLAG OF COMPANY B, 26TH N.C. INFANTRY

(THE WAXHAW JACKSON GREYS)

A newspaper article was published in the Sept. 24, 1900 issue of the *St. Louis Republic* showing the above flag. **Charles Hornung** of Burlington, Iowa was asking readers for help in identifying the “beautiful Confederate flag which he has owned since 1868, but about which he knows next to nothing.” **Mr. Hornung** purchased the flag from a Union cavalryman named **Burns** who lived in Brookville, Missouri. **Burns** told him that he got the flag from a dying comrade, who had captured it

in battle.

The flag was made of heavy silk with gold fringe and had hand painted lettering. In the center, the Confederate seal was painted in oil. On its reverse side the flag bore the words, “Waxhaw” and “Jackson Greys.”

A follow-up story on Oct. 27, 1900 from the same newspaper was entitled “Confederate Veteran Identifies Company Flag.” **Samuel Doster Richardson** from Greenwood, Arkansas, wrote a letter to the newspaper which stated that the flag was from his company, Company B, Twenty-sixth Regiment North Carolina troops. He went on to say that he thought **Miss Anna Cureton** (sister of **Captain T. C. Cureton**) made the flag and presented it to the company at Waxhaw, NC on July 4, 1861. Captain **J. J. C. Steel** and company received the flag on that day.

The flag was carried to Raleigh, NC, then to Morehead City, NC, and then to Newbern, NC, and at Newbern, on March 14, 1862, the flag was taken in battle. The flag was not a regimental, but a company flag. **Richardson** himself safely carried the regimental flag with him from Newbern to Kingston, NC. He lost his right arm and was shot through the right leg at Gettysburg, and it will be remembered that the 26th NC regiment suffered the greatest loss at Gettysburg of any regiment on either side during the Civil War.

It would be interesting to know whatever became of this historic flag.

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