

the young men is included in the historical section herein. An article in the Louisville, Kentucky Courier-Journal May 2, 1980, printed a letter written by William H. Thompson to his parents before he was executed. The letter sends appreciation and love for family members. It also apologizes to his parents for having joined the Confederate Army against their advice, and sends instructions for the disposal of his personal property and payment of his debts.

This monument is really a large 4' x 4' double tombstone made of limestone placed on a two-foot concrete base. It is inscribed with: Charles W. Thompson, Pierman Powell Confederate Soldiers. Executed in the City of Henderson July 22, 1864 by Order of Gen. Burbridge—C.S.A. It is believed that George Mischel and Sons of East Second Street in Owensboro, Kentucky erected this monument.

The "C.S.A." under the name of Gen. Burbridge on the monument was an error. Uncorrected errors sometimes lead to confusion and even speculation. It appears that this was the case with this error. Curious about the CSA under the name of the Union General, and disregarding research of the facts, a good speculative story was written by a curious observer. It made good copy. It all seems to have begun with a newspaper column under the headline: **In Retaliation Daviess County Youths Slain:**

"While the monument was being prepared for the graves of Charles Thompson and Pierman Powell, friends and relatives of the pair, aware of Burbridge's intense hatred for the Confederate cause, had the following carved by the stonemason: By order of General Burbridge, C. S. A. It is said that this act caused the Union General great moments of anguish and frustration and that the 'gentleman' tried unsuccessfully, for many years afterward to have the letters CSA, removed." (OS, November 20, 1968, 1)

Two facts negate the above story. First and foremost, the monument was erected in 1914, twenty-one years after the death of General Stephen Gano Burbridge, who died in New York City on December 2, 1894. He is buried in Section 1, lot 666, in Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia. (Author viewed tombstone)

The president of the JCB appointed Mrs. Mary Haycraft Sutherland to look into getting the monument corrected at St. Joseph's, "the inscription being wrong". Although not specifically stated, it is assumed that the C. S. A. under the name of Burbridge was the incorrect inscription referred to in the minutes. (Minutes, JCB Apr, 1931, 218) For some reason Mrs. Sutherland never got around to having the inscription corrected. Confusion over this incorrect inscription continues today. Sadly, the untrue story is still being repeated.

The Kentucky Heritage Council placed this monument on the National Register of Historic Places in 1997.

Sutherland Hill Monument

The Sutherland Hill Monument is located on the right side of US 431, 5 miles south of Owensboro, and marks the only military action (Skirmish) waged in Daviess County during the War Between the States. It involved about four hundred of Col Gabriel Netter's Owensboro Battalion, re-enforced with soldiers from Southern Indiana., and a unit of about 350 from the Command of Colonel Adam R. Johnson led by Col. Martin in September of 1862. Even though this was a Union Victory, the Commander, Col. Netter, was killed along with thirty-six Confederate soldiers. While the Official Records of the

War of the Rebellion called this a "Skirmish at Owensborough," it was also referred to as the Battle of Panther Creek.

The Monument is about three feet by three feet made of limestone resting on an 18" concrete base. The slanting slab has the following inscription:

*THIS MARKS THE SPOT WHERE
THE ONLY BATTLE WAS FOUGHT
IN DAVIESS COUNTY DURING
THE WAR BETWEEN THE STATES
SEPT. 20, 1862.*

*ERECTED BY
THE JOHN C. BRECKINRIDGE CHAPTER
UNITED DAUGHTERS OF THE CONFEDERACY
NO. 306*

*MARGARET MOSELEY HARRISON
CHAPTER PRESIDENT, 1936-1939*

Notice that the inscription does not list the name of the only action in Daviess County. The date of the Battle/Skirmish is listed as September 18 and 19 in the OR.

Dr. C. L. Medley deeded the land for the monument to the United Daughters of the Confederacy, and the unveiling was held on Sunday, November 17, 1940. The Daviess County Fiscal Court erected a rustic bridge to the marker. A short program was held in the nearby Rushing Chapel conducted by Mrs. Harrison and Mrs. E. R. Bennett. Attending were Mrs. Jon D. Howard, Children's director; Miss Jesse Yager Past Kentucky Division President and Mrs. W. D. Lancaster, chapter historian.

Mr. Ben D. Ringo was Master of Ceremonies and Mr. L. P. Tanner gave the address. The pastor of the Buena Vista Baptist Church, Rev. Walter Harvey, gave the invocation, and a quartet of Allen, J. D. Brown, George Wilhoyte and Homer Ford assisted by Misses Ellen Taylor, Chessie Compton and Elizabeth Taylor sang. The Bumpus C of C Chapter President, Miss Elizabeth Guenther, and Kentucky Division C of C President, Jerome Parker Conrey unveiled the marker. (M-I, Nov. 19, 1940)

The marker was covered with the flag of the Rice E. Graves Camp 1121 of the United Confederate Veterans. The flag was given to the JCB Chapter 306 at the last business meeting of the Camp for safekeeping. This may well have been the last use of the flag, for this is the last reference thus far located about the flag. The deed for the land on which this monument rests is now in the possession of the Mollie Morehead Chapter 2605, Calhoun, Kentucky.

Unknown Confederate Soldier Marker

There is a simple grave marker for an unknown Confederate Soldier in Elmwood Cemetery. The marker was given by George Mischel and Sons, of East Second Street, Owensboro. Although little is known of the circumstances, it is a simple single marker