

Robert Lee Bottoms

By Keith and Lynne at keith999@yahoo.com

Birth:	Dec. 27, 1819 Georgia, USA
Death:	Dec. 27, 1907 Anson Jones County Texas, USA

Robert was probably born in Georgia although some records show South Carolina. His parents were Ibba & Thomas Bottoms. He married Susan Ritter. Places of residence for Robert were: South Carolina, Georgia, Mississippi, Tennessee, Arkansas, Oklahoma and Texas. By 1870, he, his wife and children were living in Scott county, Arkansas. He and Susan had the following children: John E, Thomas Newton, William A, Mary Isabel, Fletcher Monroe, Susan Caroline "Callie", Robert W and Joseph Lee. The date of Susan's death is unknown but was before April, 1889. Robert married second to Sarah Ann Burkes that year in Scott county, Arkansas.

He enlisted in 21st Infantry, Co K, CSA MS (New Albany Greys) in the Civil War. At that time he gave his age as 35.

A family member named Leon told Lester and Verna Bottoms how Robert was wounded. It happened on the 5th day of the seven day battle over Richmond. The guns in use at the time required time to reload as they were loaded from the muzzle and a rod used to pack the shot home. Therefore, the soldiers took turns firing: the first group would fire and then fall to the ground to reload while the second group would shoot over them. They would lay on their left side and use the rod with their right hand. While he was reloading and reaching with his right hand up to ram the shot home, he was shot in the arm four inches above the wrist by an enemy bullet.

Some family Memories: He was a very small man. He always smelled of Sloan's Linament as he was in constant pain from the wounds he suffered during the Civil War.

From Julia Bottoms Thompson, a granddaughter: "Pa" (Thomas Newton Bottoms) always kept reading material around for us kids. When grandpa and pa would come in from the fields, grandpa would take whatever I was reading and sit on it and say "Girls, go to the kitchen and help your ma. Go on. Go on." What she liked to read most was a church paper "Golden Days For Children".

Grover C. Bottoms, a grandson, thought Robert might have been only about 5' 2" tall.