John W. McCrabb

(- 6 Nov 1839)

The National Intelligencer, April 8, 1840

The Late Capt. John W. McCrabb

The remains of Captain John W. McCrabb, late of the United States Army; who died in Florida on the 6th of November, 1839, were this day consigned to their last resting place near the Eastern branch of the Potomac. The writer of this tribute of respect to the memory of the deceased had not an acquaintance of many years' standing with him; but it was long enough to know his ample merits. In the relations of life, as a friend, and the more interesting ones of husband and father, he was not excelled, and his acknowledged devotion to his profession, and the zeal and energy with which he pursued it, have made his death a public loss. Cut off in early life, he leaves a widow and child to whom this bereavement is a severe affliction, but there is reserved for her the consolation arising from his fair fame, and for the infant son the valuable inheritance of a bright example.

Capt. J.W. McCrabb was the only child of Captain McCrabb of the Army, who died of yellow fever at Baton Rouge, in the 29th year of his age, leaving an infant son, the subject of this memoir. It is a remarkable concurrence of events that both father and son died at the same age, held the same rank in the Army, were cut off by the same disease in a Southern climate, each leaving an infant son.

Capt. J.W. McCrabb graduated at West Point, in 1833, and, during the brief term of his subsequent career, was actively engaged in the line of the Army on topographical duty, and in the general staff as assistant quartermaster. The zeal and intelligence with which he performed these services marked him for one to whom great trusts could be confided, and, for the commencement of hostilities in the South, to the time of his decease, he was entrusted with important duties in Alabama and Florida, and gained a high reputation in the Army by the manner in which he acquitted himself. With all the qualities for distinction in war, when the just hopes of friendship were beginning to be realized, he fell by a pestilential fever, and added another name to the list of gallant spirits whose loss the Army has been called on to deplore. April 6, 1840.

Cullum. Biographical Register of U.S. Military Academy

Class of 1833: John W. McCrabb

Born and appointed Tennessee, Ranked 28 of ??

Cadet at the Military Academy July 1, 1828 to July 1, 1833, when he was graduated and promoted in the Army to Bvt. 2d. Lieut., 4th Infantry, July 1, 1833.

Served in garrison at Baton Rouge, La., 1833-34; in Operations in Cherokee Nation, 184; on Topographical duty, Aug. 22, 1834 to Sept. 1, 1835; in garrison at Ft. Mitchell, Ala., 1836-37; and on Quartermaster duty at Boston, Mass., 1837, and in the Florida War, 1837-39. Died Nov. 6, 1839 at St. Augustine, Fla., Aged 29.

Ranks:

Bvt. 2d Lieut., 4th Infantry, July 1, 1833 2d Lieut., 4th Infantry, Dec. 28, 1835 1st Lieut., 4th Infantry, Sept. 30, 1836 Asst. Quartermaster, Nov. 24, 1836 to July 7, 1838 Capt. Staff--Asst. Quartermaster, July 7, 1838