

THE LIFE OF CONFEDERATE JOHN PELHAM IN THE ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA

by Sarah Kay Bierle



Footnotes

Prelude

his eyes were restless, and flashed like diamonds."1 it had arrived safely at the battery."2

Chapter 1

relics connected to their boy-hero. 3 the family lived in Jacksonville and later in Alexandria. 4 "He was like other boys had his fights, loves . . . 75 studied the West Minister Catechism on Sunday. 76 Pelham applied for an appointment to West Point. 2

¹ Confederate Veteran, Vol. 6, September 1898, page 436.

 $^{^2}$ Heros Von Borcke, *Memoirs of the Confederate War For Independence* (Philadelphia: J.B. Lippincott & Co., 1867), 234-235.

³-Birmingham Public Library, Fred R. Martin Scrapbook Collection; Anniston-Calhoun County Public Library, Fred R. Martin Collection.

 $^{^{4}}$ Sam Stewart to Peggy Vogtsberger, May 2, 1981, John Pelham Historical Association Papers, Folder 1.

⁵ Peter Pelham to Edwin P. Cox, November 25, 1898, Page 2, Question 7. Cox Papers, Freeman Files, Library of Congress.

⁶ Peter Pelham to Edwin P. Cox, November 25, 1898, Question 10. Cox Papers, Freeman Files, Library of Congress.

⁷ Peter Pelham to Edwin P. Cox, November 25, 1898, Question 9. Cox Papers, Freeman Files, Library of Congress.

the influence of Senator Miles Washington Abernathy.8 enter into any engagement with [the] U.S."9

Chapter 2

to visit extended family during his trip northward. 10 John he reached W. Point . . . seem well pleased."11 Academy records recorded his entrance on July 1, 1856.12 and has an area of forty odd acres."13 according to the Rules and Articles of War.14 Mathis W. Henry, Hugh J. Kilpatrick, and Emory Upton. 15 Patrick O'Rorke (Class of June 1861), and George A. Custer (Class of June 1861). 16 I suppose nowadays it would be called personality."17 since height determined those allotments.18 You must allow me to introduce him."19 to begin the arrangements for permission and travel.²⁰ the pleasure of seeing you boys all together..."21 "every action[,] word & thought . . . vividly stamped upon the mind."22 "I now stand face to face with the stern realities of life."23 if not this year, and that it will affect my class."24 a series of forlorn (and not entirely specified) hopes.²⁵

⁸ Jacksonville Public Library, John Pelham Collection, Folder 2, "John Pelham's Appointment to West Point"

⁹ Jacksonville Public Library, John Pelham Collection, Folder 2.

William C. Pelham, Mayville, KY, no date, list of answers to question – Cox Papers, Freeman Files, Library of Congress.

¹¹ Martha Pelham to William Pelham, June 15, 1856 (University of North Carolina, William Pelham file).

¹² Jacksonville Public Library, Pelham Collection, Folder 2, USMA Archives to Peggy Vogtsberger, November 20,

¹³ Morris Schaff, Before The Storm: West Point and the Civil War (Big Byte Books, 2016), 10.

¹⁴ Jacksonville Public Library, Pelham Collection, Folder 2, Pelham Service Oath.

¹⁵ Jerry H. Maxwell, *The Perfect Lion: The Life and Death of Confederate Artillerist John Pelham* (Tuscaloosa: The University of Alabama Press), 16-18.

¹⁶ Kent Masterson Brown, *Cushing of Gettysburg: The Story of a Union Artillery Commander* (Lexington: The University Press of Kentucky, 1993), 35.

¹⁷ Charles G. Milham, Gallant Pelham: American Extraordinary (Washington: Public Affairs Press, 1959), 21.

¹⁸ Milliard K. Bushong and Dean M. Bushong, *Fightin' Tom Rosser, C.S.A.* (Shippensburg: Beidel Printing House, Inc., 1983), 5.

¹⁹ John Pelham to Marianna, March 26, 1861. Civil War Times, October 2003, Pages 59-60.

²⁰ Jacksonville Public Library, Pelham Collection, Folder 3, March 29, 1858.

²¹ University of North Carolina, William Pelham File: Martha Pelham to William Pelham, April 29[?] 1858

 $^{^{22}}$ Jacksonville Public Library, Pelham Collection, Folder 3, September 1858 letter to Charles Pelham, published in newspaper.

²³ Ibid.

²⁴ Ibid.

²⁵ Jacksonville Public Library, Pelham Collection, Folder 3, October 1858 letter to Charles Pelham, published in newspaper.

familiarize myself with the different subjects."26 Philosophy—46 in Drawing & Painting—33 in Spanish."27 watching the girls touring the academy.²⁸ "the road I'll take" looked certain.29 South winds come North since the 'Harpers Ferry' affair."30 we have to cut, thrust, parry and jump, each one taking his turn."31 leading to his injury on at least one occasion.32 "You could see it was always fun for him."33 Artillery Tactics 31, Cavalry Tactics 19, Chemistry 33, and Drawing 40.34 the summer dances, "Hops" as he and other cadets called them.35 I am <u>now</u> inclined to prefer the Infantry."36 "I enjoyed the Prince's visit vastly."37 a dying king, a prince, and the concepts of honor and love.38 it shows a want to true courage...."39

Chapter 3

preponderance of young men from the South.40 who shared their antipathy to slavery."41 more wise, more discreet that John Pelham's."42 very conservative—we call [him] submissionists."43 or preaching the desire for freedom.44 and obey the orders of the President of the United States..."45 higher after the coming Jan. examination than I have ever been before."46

²⁶ Jacksonville Public Library, Pelham Collection, Folder 3, John Pelham to Atkinson Pelham, May 29, 1859

Commented [DD1]: Them (plural submissionists)

²⁷ Jacksonville Public Library, Pelham Collection, Folder 3, John Pelham to brother, July 13, 1859

²⁸ Jacksonville Public Library, Pelham Collection, Folder 3, John Pelham to Martha Pelham June 12, 1859.

²⁹ Jacksonville Public Library, Pelham Collection, Folder 3, John Pelham to Atkinson Pelham, December 29, 1859.

³¹ Jacksonville Public Library, Pelham Collection, Folder 3, John Pelham to Martha Pelham, January 25, 1860 32 Ibid.

³³ Maxwell, 21.

³⁴ Jacksonville Public Library, Pelham Collection, Folder 2, Copied from USMA Archives.

³⁵ Jacksonville Public Library, Pelham Collection, Folder 3, John Pelham to Atkinson Pelham, August 13, 1860. Jacksonville Public Library, Pelham Collection, Folder 2, Copied invitation card to "Cadet Hops" ³⁶ Jacksonville Public Library, Pelham Collection, Folder 3, John Pelham to Atkinson Pelham, August 13, 1860.

³⁷ Jacksonville Public Library, Pelham Collection, Folder 3, John Pelham to Bettie Pelham, October 18, 1860.

³⁸ Jacksonville Public Library Pelham Collection, Folder 2, Copied page of French literature and accompanying research notes.

³⁹ Jacksonville Public Library, Pelham Collection, Folder 3, John Pelham to Samuel Pelham, February 26, 1859. ⁴⁰ Schaff, 98.

⁴¹ Ibid., 88-89.

⁴² Jacksonville Public Library, Pelham Collection, Folder 2, Quoted in "Stores of 'The Gallant Pelham' and Adelbert Ames Recalled by Relic in Possession of a Memphis Girl" published February 21, 1932.

⁴³ Charles Pelham to Martha Pelham, March 12, 1861, Civil War Times, October 2003.

⁴⁴ Ibid

⁴⁵ Jacksonville Public Library, Pelham Collection.

 $^{^{46}}$ Jacksonville Public Library, Pelham Collection, Folder 3, John Pelham to Martha Pelham, December 11, 1860.

"I wish you would write me as soon as you have time." 47 deemed most desirable for our common peace and security."48 Two cadets from Ala resigned on account of secession..."49 his resignation to the Superintendent or other proper officer of that Institution."50 which they are naturally most anxious to do."51 if I am recalled by the Authorities, I will obey it."52 in attempting to force to me to resign" (emphasis original).53 "cursing and abusing me awfully in Montgomery" for his decision.54 —and I feel a confidence that I can succeed in it."55 It should be stored away...."56 these flirtatious efforts had only been a "sad blunder."57 they did not send him any official information consequently."58 "I have accepted no place or appointment from any state or government." 59 Pelham's academic standing to the Secretary of War.60 John Pelham's resignation to April 22, 1861.61 "alive, walking across the 'area'."62 "I am going home. I shall be in two or three fights and then be killed."63

Chapter 4

another cadet who had already gone south.⁶⁴ he first went West & soon made his way to Calhoun Co."⁶⁵ and John got red in the face."⁶⁶ Father didn't like the looks of things at all."⁶⁷

⁴⁷ Jacksonville Public Library, Pelham Collection, Folder 2, John Pelham to Atkinson Pelham, December 11, 1860.

 $^{^{\}rm 48}$ The Ohio State University, "Alabama Ordinance of Secession," accessed at:

https://ehistory.osu.edu/exhibitions/Regimental/alabama/confederate/secession

⁴⁹ Cyrus Ballou Comstock, The Diary of Cyrus B. Comstock, edited by Merlin E. Sumner (Madison: University of Wisconsin, 1987), 225.

⁵⁰ Jacksonville Public Library, Pelham Collection, Folder 2, Atkinson Pelham regarding resignation.

 $^{^{\}rm 51}$ Jacksonville Public Library, Pelham Collection, Folder 2, Henry DuPont Letters.

 $^{^{\}rm 52}$ John Pelham to Motts, March 26, 1861, Civil War Times, October 2003.

⁵³ Ibid

 $^{^{\}rm 54}$ Jacksonville Public Library, Pelham Collection, Folder 3 to sister in law.

 $^{^{55}}$ Jacksonville Public Library, Pelham Collection, Folder 3, Pelham to Walker March 31, 1861

 $^{^{\}rm 56}$ Jacksonville Public Library, Pelham Collection, Folder 3 to sister in law.

⁵⁷ Ibid.

⁵⁸ Jacksonville Public Library, Pelham Collection, Folder 2, Henry DuPont Letters.

 $^{^{\}rm 59}$ Jacksonville Public Library, Pelham Collection, Folder 2, Pelham resignation.

⁶⁰ Ibid

 $^{^{61}}$ Jacksonville Public Library, Pelham Collection, Folder 2, USMA Archives to Peggy Vogtsberger, November 20, 1978.

⁶²Schaff, 81.

⁶³ Maxwell, 45.

⁶⁴ Library of Congress, Charles Pelham, 1898. Page 4

⁶⁵ Ibid.

⁶⁶ Ibid.

⁶⁷ Ibid., Page 5

but actually "chewed tobacco in ranks!"68
pray God to take him safe from the battlefield."69
a sobering reminder of the realities of slavery.⁷⁰
on May 16, heading to Lynchburg, Virginia.⁷¹
from Virginia Military Institute who acted as drillmasters.⁷²
4 battered caissons with limbers, and 43 three horses.⁷³
Albertis was in his mid-forties⁷⁴
drilled the awkward squad that had been assigned to him."75
I ask thee not now for thine."76
not insensible to the virtues of courage and patriotism."77

Chapter 5

arriving in the early morning hours of July 21.⁷⁸ position for hours against the enemy's advancing thousands."⁷⁹ and wheeled his guns into battery."⁸⁰ Latham's left by General Jackson, and supported by fragments of troops. . . ."⁸¹ "were cool and brave and made terrible havoc on the enemy."⁸² "to write . . . from Washington City before many weeks."⁸³ "the West Point battery that I have drilled with so often."⁸⁴ and we must meet him as becomes us, as becomes men."⁸⁵

Chapter 6

ten days after the first battle of Manassas.86

⁶⁸ Ibid., Page 8

⁶⁹ Jacksonville Public Library, Pelham Collection; Freeman Papers, Library of Congress.

⁷⁰ Maxwell, 323-324; Jacksonville Public Library, Pelham Collection.

⁷¹ University of North Carolina, Atkinson Pelham to William Pelham, May 24, 1861.

⁷² Fredericksburg-Spotsylvania National Military Park Bound Volume 018-11: Murray Taylor.

⁷³ Maxwell, 50.

 $^{^{74}}$ 1860s Federal Census, accessed through Ancestry.com.

⁷⁵ Maxwell, 49.

⁷⁶ Jacksonville Public Library, Pelham Collection; Milham, 58.

 $^{^{\}it 77}$ Belle Boyd, Belle Boyd in Camp and Prison (New York: Blelock, 1866), 61-62.

⁷⁸ Maxwell, 51-52.

⁷⁹ Official Records, Volume 2, page 481: General Jackson's battle report for First Manassas.

⁸⁰ William Thomas Poague, *Gunner with Stonewall: Reminiscences Of William Thomas Poague* (Golden Springs Publishing, Kindle Edition), 41-42.

⁸¹ Official Records, Volume 2, page 497: General Beauregard's battle report for First Manassas.

⁸² John Pelham, Letter, Jacksonville Republican, August 8, 1861 – Jacksonville Pubic Library, Pelham Collection; Maxwell, 59-61.

⁸³ Ibid.

⁸⁴ Ibid.

⁸⁵ Ibid.

I know you will discharge your duty on every occasion..."⁸⁷ continuing to organize, supply, and further train that unit.⁸⁸ equipment from the Confederate War Department.⁸⁹ authorized the formation of the Stuart Horse Artillery.⁹⁰ did not meet approval from authorities in Richmond.⁹¹ "I need a commander very much to organize the battery forthwith."⁹² Fauntleroy, Breathed, and Brown."⁹³ It has taken the name of 'Stuart Horse Artillery:"⁹⁴ "20 skillets and 20 Camp Kettles" had to be obtained.⁹⁵ "they are bound to be in the front..."⁹⁶ "and I want good men to man them."⁹⁷ \$600 bounty reward for signing up so many volunteers.⁹⁸ inspired by their French-Creole heritage and their 12-pound Napoleon cannon.⁹⁹ Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Tennessee."¹⁰⁰

Chapter 7

Stuart Horse Artillery as a Virginia unit despite its state-diverse recruiting. Peninsula to join the defense. 102 contained 141 men and had 8 cannon. 103 baggage wagons with their tents and personal supplies. 104 and eventually the incident passed. 105 artillery commanded to guard against Union landings "two 12-pounder howitzers and one 12-pound rifled gun, Blakely." 106 to enfilade the enemy's line." 107

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<sup>86</sup> A.J. Walker to John Pelham, July 31, 1861, Jacksonville Public Library, Pelham Collection, Folder 3, #34.
<sup>87</sup> Ibid.
88 Maxwell, 63.
<sup>89</sup> Ibid., 63.
<sup>90</sup> Ibid., 64.
<sup>91</sup> Robert H. Moore, The 1st and 2nd Stuart Horse Artillery (Lynchburg: H.E. Howard, 1985), 1-2.
<sup>92</sup> James Ewell Brown Stuart, The Letters of Major General James E.B. Stuart, edited by Adele H. Mitchell (The
Stuart-Mosby Historical Society, 1990), 225.
93 Ibid., 230.
<sup>94</sup> Ibid., 233-234.
95 Maxwell, 65.
<sup>96</sup> Ibid., 65.
<sup>97</sup> Jacksonville Republican, December 19, 1861.
98 Ibid.
99 Maxwell, 66.
<sup>100</sup> Ibid., 66.
^{101} Robert H. Moore, The 1st and 2nd Stuart Horse Artillery (Lynchburg: H.E. Howard, 1985), 5.
<sup>102</sup> Ibid., 6.
<sup>103</sup> J.C. Wise, Long Army of Lee, Volume 1, 185-186.
<sup>104</sup> Moore, 9.
<sup>105</sup> Moore, 9-10.
<sup>106</sup>Official Records, Volume 11, Part 1: Captain Pelham report, 574-575.
107Ibid.
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I withdrew for want of ammunition."108 13 escaped animals, though most were eventually retrieved. 109 and never showed cowardice after that."110 Stuart only had praise for Pelham and the horse artillery. 111 to fire at Col. William W. Averell's Union cavalry¹¹² They say they don't like to be fired on by cannons from every old field...."113 with Pelham's battery which sent them howling back in confusion."114 by Lt. James Breathed and Lt. William McGregor joined the force. 115 as did this raid around McClellan, in which Pelham['s guns] took part."116 his guns helped to secure a crucial bridge over Totopotomoy Creek¹¹⁷ some good service on the flanks of the enemy."118 opening the road for Jackson's slow advance. 119 forming line, near Old Cold Harbor Tavern. 120 held position and fought back against the batteries. 121 Enemy's battery at last quieter."122 Gun of our enemy groaning threw the are."123 lived near Martinsburg, Virginia (now West Virginia). 124 sprung up at the place since its occupation by the Northern army."125 The gunboat never returned."126 notably at Forge Bridge on the Chickahominy River. 127 silent witnesses of Pelham's death-dealing shots seen by us the day previous."128 Evelynton Heights unguarded and sent a note, informing Stuart. 129

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<sup>108</sup> Ibid.
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¹⁰⁹ Ibid.

¹¹⁰ Moore, 8.

 $^{^{111}}$ Official Records, Volume 11, Part 1: General Stuart report, 570-574.

 $^{^{\}rm 112}$ Official Records, Volume 11, Part 1: Captain Pelham report, 574-575.

¹¹³ Robert J. Trout, Galloping Thunder: The Stuart Horse Artillery Battalion (Mechanicsburg: Stackpole Books, 2002),58.

 $^{^{114}}$ James Ewell Brown Stuart to Flora Stuart, May 17, 1862. Archive of the Virginia Museum of History & Culture MSS 1ST923d38Stuart

¹¹⁵ Official Records, Volume 11, Part 1: General Stuart report, 570-574.

¹¹⁶ Wise, 206.

¹¹⁷ Maxwell, 89.

¹¹⁸ W.W. Blackford, War Years with Jeb Stuart (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1993), 73.

¹¹⁹ Maxwell, 90

¹²⁰ Official Records, Volume 11, Part 2: General Stuart's report, 513-523.

¹²¹ Maxwell, 91.

¹²² Robert J. Trout, With Pen & Saber: The Letters and Diaries of J.E.B. Stuart's Staff Officers (Mechanicsburg: Stackpole Books, 1995), 76.

¹²³ Maxwell, 91.

¹²⁴ Charles G. Milham, Gallant Pelham: American Extraordinary (Washington: Public Affairs Press, 1959), 98.

¹²⁵ W.W. Blackford, 74-75.

 $^{^{\}rm 126}$ Official Records, Volume 11, Part 2: General Stuart's report, 513-523.

¹²⁷ Maxwell, 98-99.

¹²⁸ Maxwell, 98.

¹²⁹ Trout, Galloping Thunder, 67.

Chapter 8

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headquarters had military duties and mandatory social events. 130
that Pelham live at the noisy headquarters. 131
"the grandest flirt that ever lived." 132
silent upon all subjects connected with his own actions."133
Pelham an easy target for Stuart's stories and regular teasing. 134
the more likely there would be a dangerous raid or operation.<sup>135</sup>
he received from the captured bounty from the Peninsula. 136
destruction of the Richmond, Fredericksburg & Potomac Railroad. 137
33 skirmishes and 2 regular fights."138
"tried in vain to silence the enemy guns." 139
prepared for a raid on Pope's headquarters. 140
trading out two of the 12-pound howitzers.141
"intrusted specially to him." 142
"a few well-directed shots."143
our reinforcements coming up, we drove the enemy back."144
"firing until the enemy were driven back," instead of withdrawing sooner. 145
"yet steadily forward pressed the line." 146
"his services [which] were much needed." 147
response and arrival had bought time for Jackson.<sup>148</sup>
Jackson later praised. 149
"unlimbered his battery and soon dispersed that portion in the woods." 150
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130 Von Borcke, 187.
131 W.W. Blackford, 90.
132 Ibid., 90.
<sup>133</sup> John Esten Cooke, Wearing of the Gray (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1959), 124.
<sup>134</sup> John Esten Cooke, Surrey of Eagle's Nest (New York: F.J. Huntington, 1866), 378.
135 W.W. Blackford, 90.
<sup>136</sup> Maxwell, 106.
137 W.W. Blackford, 95.
138 Trout, Galloping Thunder, 76.
<sup>139</sup> Official Records, Volume 12, Part II: General Stuart's report, 730.
<sup>140</sup> Trout, Galloping Thunder, 80.
<sup>141</sup> Ibid., 84.
<sup>142</sup> Official Records, Volume 12, Part II: General Stuart's report, 735.
<sup>143</sup> Ibid., Captain Pelham's report, 753.
<sup>144</sup> Ibid., 753-754
<sup>145</sup> Ibid., 754
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¹⁴⁶ Alan D. Gaff, *On Many A Bloody Field: Four Years in the Iron Brigade* (Indianapolis: Indiana University Press, 1996), 155.

¹⁴⁷ Official Records, Volume 12, Part II: General Jackson's Report, 645.

¹⁴⁸ Hotchkiss, Jedediah. *Jedediah Hotchkiss Papers: Diaries, -1899; 1862, May 20-Dec. 16 extracts.* - December 16, 1862, 1862. Manuscript/Mixed Material. https://www.loc.gov/item/mss265260019/.

¹⁴⁹ Official Records, Volume 12, Part II: General Jackson's Report, 646.

¹⁵⁰ Official Records, Volume 12, Part II: General Stuart's report, 735.

"to engage my battery where fitting opportunity should occur." 151 "until the trail of my only gun had been struck and shivered." 152 "could only get a very limited supply." 153 "would be very much needed in case of a retreat or pursuit." 154 "and the execution they wrought was very great." 155 "upon them with telling effect, scattering them in every direction." 156 "The Horse Artillery has won imperishable laurels," 157

Chapter 9

Pelham's cannons carried war into Maryland. 158 horses to replace the equine casualties from Second Manassas. 159 Pelham apparently asked no questions. 160 "and felt able to aniholate the enemy at once." 161 music provided by the 18th Mississippi Infantry's band. 162 multiple cannon and helped in the night's repulse.163 his promotion had arrived from Richmond. 164 returned to his Confederate friends on September 14.165 Old Sharpsburg Road in Confederate hands for a short time. 166 crossing at the Middle Bridge.167 neither attempting further fighting that rainy night. 168 "until daylight the hill will be swarming with blue coats." 169 which Jackson had sent to the position.¹⁷⁰ the women and children arrived safely in the Confederate lines.¹⁷¹

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<sup>151</sup> Ibid., Captain Pelham's report, 754.
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¹⁵² Ibid., 755.

¹⁵³ Ibid., 755.

¹⁵⁴ Ibid., 755.

¹⁵⁵ Ibid., 755.

¹⁵⁶ Ibid., General Stuart, 744.

¹⁵⁷ Stuart. Letters. 264.

¹⁵⁸ Trout, Galloping Thunder, 89.

¹⁵⁹ Moore, 32.

¹⁶⁰ George Shreve Collection, Library of Virginia.

¹⁶¹ Ibid.

¹⁶² Trout, Galloping Thunder, 91.

¹⁶³ Von Borcke, 135.

¹⁶⁴ James Ewell Brown Stuart to Flora Stuart, September 12, 1862. Archive of the Virginia Museum of History & Culture MSS1ST923d48Stuart

¹⁶⁵ Heros Von Borcke, Colonel Heros Von Borcke's Journal, 26 April-8 October 1862 (Palaemon Press, 1981), 167.

¹⁶⁶ Trout, Galloping Thunder, 99.

¹⁶⁷ Ibid., 101; James A. Rosebrock, Artillery of Antietam: The Union and Confederate Batteries at the Battle of Antietam (Sharpsburg: The Antietam Institute, 2023), 331.

¹⁶⁸ Maxwell, 153.

¹⁶⁹ Ibid., 153.

¹⁷⁰ Ibid., 156.

¹⁷¹ W.W. Blackford, 150-151.

Chapter 10

refused to leave until Pelham let her fire a cannon.¹⁷² he did blush when Major von Borcke told us all about him!"173 a mix of Blakeleys, Napoleons, and a few leftover Howitzers. 174 "such terrible execution among the Yankees, and so on to the end."175 "together with officers of cavalry regiments encamped near by..." 176 "he became a favourite with all around him...."177 as they headed deep into enemy territory. 178 capturing a signal station along the way. 179 with horses needed by the army for "their cause." 180 Pelham picked new animals for his teams. 181 they reached Mercersburg, Pennsylvania. 182 in exchange for shoes and boots.183 they prepared to ride on.184 that they resembled Shaker bonnets."185 turn east instead of heading to that supply town. 186 inhabitants with the most enthusiastic demonstrations of joy."187 he nearly lost two cannons down a slope. 188 "and the march was made without delay or interruption." 189 "to be sleepy and not to be allowed to sleep is exquisite torture." 190 "great spirit, on the heads of their columns." 191 "we soon crossed and stood once more on Virginia soil." 192 estimated \$250,000 of property along their route, mostly in Chambersburg. 193 "of those . . . days," mused one witness later. 194

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<sup>172</sup> Maxwell. 174-175.
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¹⁷³ Milham, 170.

¹⁷⁴ Maxwell, 177.

¹⁷⁵ Trout, Galloping Thunder, 114.

¹⁷⁶ W.W. Blackford, 156.

¹⁷⁷ Cooke, Wearing of the Gray, 121

¹⁷⁸ W.W. Blackford, 164.

¹⁷⁹ Official Records, Volume 19, Part II: General Stuart's report, 52.

¹⁸⁰ W.W. Blackford, 166-167.

¹⁸¹ Maxwell, 195.

¹⁸² Official Records, Volume 19, Part II: General Stuart's report, 52.

¹⁸³ Maxwell, 195.

¹⁸⁴ W.W. Blackford, 165.

¹⁸⁵ Trout, Galloping Thunder, 117.

¹⁸⁶ Official Records, Volume 19, Part II: General Stuart's report, 52.

¹⁸⁷ Ibid., 53.

¹⁸⁸Maxwell, 200.

¹⁸⁹Henry B. McClellan, *The Campaigns of Stuart's Cavalry* (Secaucus: The Blue & Grey Press, 1993), 153.

¹⁹⁰W.W. Blackford, 173.

¹⁹¹Ibid., 176.

¹⁹²Ibid., 178.

¹⁹³ Maxwell, 208.

¹⁹⁴ W.W. Blackford, 163-164.

Chapter 11

reducing the number of mounted men who could fight. 195
"our efforts by 'Pelham's Battery' of horse artillery." 196
"they requested Uncle Richard to order their horses...." 197
crossed the Blue Ridge Mountains at Snicker's Gap, and entered Loudoun County. 198
to Middleburg, avoiding more Union cavalry approaching his rear. 199
"one of our caissons exploding from the enemy's shot." 200
"struck him down at a distance of 800 yards." 201
the 7th Indiana Infantry Regiment in the fighting near Union. 202
"with the cannoneers in loading and aiming the pieces." 203
"put on his fighting clothes." 204
his Napoleon detachment sang "The Marseillaise." 205
"expecting, when I looked up, to see Major Pelham shot to fragments." 206
"threw their ranks into confusion and arrested their farther progress." 207

Chapter 12

the one closest to Pelham's immediate command.²⁰⁸
"long since won a colonelcy at the hands of his country."²⁰⁹
"He... looks like a man who would make his mark upon the world."²¹⁰
wounding at least one Confederate artilleryman.²¹¹
Union gunboats moved further downstream and out of range.²¹²
examine the horse artillery and quiz him on preferred tactics.²¹³
made their way back to Confederate lines the following morning before daybreak.²¹⁴
I am going to crowd them with artillery."²¹⁵

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<sup>195</sup> Trout, Galloping Thunder, 125.
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¹⁹⁶ Thomas Wallace Colley, edited by Michael K. Shaffer, *In Memory of Self and Comrades: Thomas Wallace Colley's Recollections of Civil War Service in the 1st Virginia Cavalry (Knoxville: The University of Tennessee Press, 2018), 42. ¹⁹⁷ Dulany to her mother, November 21, 1862. Library of Virginia, Dulany Family Papers, 1821-1966; 50465, RC7347687*

¹⁹⁸ Official Records, Volume 19, Part II: General Stuart's report, 140.

¹⁹⁹ Trout, Galloping Thunder, 126.

²⁰⁰ Official Records, Volume 19, Part II: General Stuart's report, 140.

²⁰¹ Ibid., 140.

²⁰² Trout, Galloping Thunder, 127.

²⁰³ Von Borcke, 243.

²⁰⁴ Maxwell, 224.

²⁰⁵ Ibid., 225.

²⁰⁶ Ibid., 231.

²⁰⁷ Official Records, Volume 19, Part II: General Stuart's report, 145.

²⁰⁸ Trout, Galloping Thunder, 135.

²⁰⁹ Maxwell, 235.

²¹⁰ Ibid., 237.

²¹¹ Official Records, Volume 21: General Fitzhugh Lee's report, 738-739.

²¹² Maxwell, 239

²¹³ Ibid., 241.

²¹⁴ Von Borcke, 282-285.

²¹⁵ Maxwell, 249.

Capt. Mathis W. Henry, to go out into the advanced position. ²¹⁶ "to raise our heads and look about while he amused himself." ²¹⁷ "Tell mother I die bravely," before he died. ²¹⁸ praised Pelham's action, remarking on his gallantry. ²¹⁹ that I have only lost one man so far." ²²⁰ Pelham routinely deflected praise to Capt. Henry. ²²¹ "so I won't say any more about it. . . . "²²²

Chapter 13

gathered for a cheerful dinner party in a large tent.²²³ has always been considered impracticable for vehicles."²²⁴ eventually went into the Official Records after the war.²²⁵ "and Pelham dined with me last night."²²⁶ "He was so young and brave. Just a beautiful boy."²²⁷ his good humor, dancing skills, and quiet conversation.²²⁸ heard about Pelham's recent trip to the Confederate capital.²²⁹ "had men promoted for distinguished gallantry."²³⁰ "there would be no difficulty about his promotion."²³¹ Pelham's age and appeal to President Davis.²³² "the honor you do me in allowing me to fire it for you."²³³ "list of victories for will certainly be the result."²³⁴

Chapter 14

²¹⁶ Maxwell, 250.

 $^{^{\}rm 217}$ Bound Volumes, Alexander Bates "Artillery".

²¹⁸ Trout, Galloping Thunder, 146.

²¹⁹ Channing Price.

²²⁰ Bound Volumes, J. Churchill Cooke, Newspaper article from 1929.

²²¹ Maxwell, 257.

²²² Trout, *Galloping Thunder*, 147.

 $^{^{\}rm 223}$ Bound Volumes, James Power Smith speech notes about Lee.

 $^{^{224}}$ Official Records, Volume 21: General Stuart report, 731-735.

²²⁵Jedediah Hotchkiss. *Jedediah Hotchkiss Papers: Diaries, -1899; 1863, Jan. 1-Nov. 28.* January 1, 1863, 1863. Manuscript/Mixed Material. https://www.loc.gov/item/mss265260021/.Jedidiah Hotchkiss Diary, January 10, 1863.

²²⁶ Susan Leigh Blackford & Charles Minor Blackford, *Letters from Lee's Army*, (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1998), 159.

²²⁷ Fannie G. Adams, Reminiscences of a Childhood Spent at "Hayfield" Plantation near Fredericksburg Virginia during the Civil War. Archive of Virginia Museum of History & Culture: MSS 1F5785G53.

²²⁸ Maxwell, 293.

²²⁹ Cooke, Library of Congress. Rosser went to The Bower; Pelham had no surviving comment.

²³⁰ Trout, Galloping Thunder, 155.

²³¹ George Washington Custis Lee to James Ewell Brown Stuart, February 5, 1863. Archive of Virginia Museum of History and Culture: MSS 1St923d57.

²³² Stuart, *Letters*, 293-294.

 $^{^{\}rm 233}$ Jacksonville Public Library, Pelham Collection, Letter, March 9, 1863.

²³⁴ Trout, *Galloping Thunder*, 155-156.

or interrupted his breakfast.235 [no. Pelham, Maj. Art.[illery]²³⁶ waving her handkerchief to the passing officers.237 they anchored and readied at the prominent stonewall.²³⁸ where we were ordered into position."239 "drive them from their position."240 "We had a battle royal holding our own."241 "and then falling back to reform and charge again."242 and engaged in hand-to-hand combat.243 "forward to aid in leading the charge of the 3d regiment. . . . "244 "Forward, boys! forward to victory and glory!"245 2nd Virginia Cavalry's position and near Breathed's guns.²⁴⁶ while the cavalrymen cheered him.²⁴⁷ making suggestions for the wounded animal's treatment.²⁴⁸ looked up to ask Pelham a question.249 "looking very natural, but fatally hurt." 250 to an ambulance and get a surgeon.²⁵¹ "'Our loss is irreparable!' he exclaimed." 252

Chapter 15

and confirmed that he still breathed.²⁵³ oversaw the next stage of his transportation.²⁵⁴ his life might have been saved."²⁵⁵

 235 Some officers recalled being awoken by the news. Some versions claim that Pelham was having breakfast with Stuart when word arrived that Averell had crossed the river.

²³⁶ Milham, 229.

 $^{\rm 237}$ Henry Gilmor, Four Years in the Saddle (New York: Harper & Brothers, 1866), 66.

²³⁸ Maxwell, 304.

²³⁹ Trout, *Galloping Thunder*, 178.

²⁴⁰ Maxwell, 304.

²⁴¹ David P. Bridges, *Fighting With Jeb Stuart: Major James Breathed and the Confederate Horse Artillery* (Arlington: Breathed Bridges Best, Inc., 2006), 130.

²⁴² Gilmor, 70.

 $^{\rm 243}$ See Gilmore, and see Bound Volume 153-10 and Bound Volume 014-01.

²⁴⁴ Henry B. McClellan, I rode with Jeb Stuart: The Life and Campaigns of Major General J.E.B. Stuart (New York: Da Capo Press, 1994), 217.

²⁴⁵ Von Borcke, 350.

²⁴⁶ Gilmor, 70.

²⁴⁷ Ibid., 70-71.

²⁴⁸ W.W. Blackford, 202.

²⁴⁹ Ibid, 202.

²⁵⁰ Gilmor, 71.

²⁵¹ Ibid., 71. ²⁵² Ibid., 72.

²⁵³ Ibid., 73.

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²⁵⁴ Maxwell, 311.

²⁵⁵ Gilmor, 73.

hands were caked and clotted with mud and blood."256 "to see him & everything was done for him that could be."257 "had all things in readiness for his reception." 258 relieve the compression on the brain."259 but that his brain had not been pierced.²⁶⁰ and left him to the comfort care of his friends.261 Military men²⁶² drew a long breath, and died without a struggle."263 "the door was gently opened, and Stuart entered."264 remains to his parents in Alabama.265 "—a permission which I was, however, constrained to refuse."266 a solemn reminder of the Confederacy's view of "camp servants."267 and politicians who knew the Pelham Family.²⁶⁸ "his friends and admirers might take a last look at the young hero." 269 "still forever—lies a single snow-white flower...."270 "brought garlands and magnificent bouquets to lay on the coffin."271 "safe from the battlefield" by death.²⁷²

Chapter 16

the last seven miles toward the Pelham family home.²⁷³ the light would fall on his face when Sunday [morning] came."²⁷⁴ took the burden of those arrangements from the family.²⁷⁵ to the larger Baptist church.²⁷⁶

"as a sacred legacy in the hearts of all who knew him."277

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<sup>256</sup> Gilmor, 73.
<sup>257</sup> Maxwell, 323; Jacksonville Public Library, Pelham Collection, Mrs. William Herndon to Martha Pelham, March
1863.
<sup>258</sup> Gilmor, 73.
<sup>259</sup> Ibid., 73-74.
<sup>260</sup> Ibid., 73-74.
<sup>261</sup> Ibid., 74.
<sup>262</sup> Maxwell, 312.
<sup>263</sup> Gilmor, 74.
<sup>264</sup> Ibid., 74.
<sup>265</sup> Von Borcke, 350.
<sup>266</sup> Ibid., 350.
<sup>267</sup> Jacksonville Public Library, Pelham Collection, J.E.B. Stuart to Dr. Pelham.
<sup>268</sup> Von Borcke, 350-351.
<sup>269</sup> Ibid., 351.
<sup>270</sup> Maxwell, 316; Jacksonville Public Library, Pelham Collection.
<sup>271</sup> Von Borcke, 351.
<sup>272</sup> Maxwell, 49.
<sup>273</sup> Ibid., 317-319.
<sup>274</sup> Ibid., 321-322.
<sup>275</sup> Ibid., 322.
<sup>276</sup> Maxwell, 322.
<sup>277</sup> General Orders No 9, University of North Carolina Library.
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"permit me to share with you a grief so sacred, so consoling."²⁷⁸ they named her Virginia Pelham Stuart.²⁷⁹ which have yet been yielded up in this desolating war."²⁸⁰ That is really what he was, you know—a boy, a splendid boy."²⁸¹

Appendix A

He has been portrayed as perfectly pure²⁸² implied to have been a womanizer²⁸³ and hinted that he romantically preferred men.²⁸⁴ and all her little friends how to ride horses.²⁸⁵ teach the girls to ride horses "like Cavalry officers."²⁸⁶ surrounded by enslaved women and girls²⁸⁷ to marry our only sister."²⁸⁸ "excuse me—about the girls you ever saw."²⁸⁹ I now stand face to face with the stern realities of life."²⁹⁰ a concert evening for the Dialectic Society²⁹¹ "Think I will make a good <u>Batchelor</u>."²⁹² one [of the girls] had remained a few days longer."²⁹³ That is the road <u>I'll</u> take."²⁹⁴ the summer dances, acting as floor manager.

²⁷⁸ J.E.B. Stuart to Atkinson Pelham, Jacksonville Public Library, Pelham Collection.

 $^{^{}m 279}$ J.E.B. Stuart to Flora Stuart, 1863, Virginia Museum of History and Culture.

²⁸⁰ Maxwell, 326.

²⁸¹ Milham, 225.

²⁸² Innocence and purity are reflected in some of the immediate writings post-Pelham's death and other staff officers echoed this idea as they wrote in the early years of the Lost Cause era.

²⁸³ Especially prominent in William W. Hassler's biography (1960) and perpetuated in more recent biographies and a variety of historical fiction.

²⁸⁴ Author John Matteson in his biographical history of the battle of Fredericksburg (2021) has implied a modern reading of 19th century writings. He does not directly say that Stuart and Pelham had a romantic interest, but his interpretation leaves much to implication of a gay relationship. Multiple readers have approached Bierle without prompting to ask about this interpretation.

²⁸⁵ John Pelham to Charles Pelham, February 27, 1856. Jacksonville Public Library, Folder 1. Jacksonville Public Library, Pelham Collection, Folder 3 to sister in law.

²⁸⁶ John Pelham to Marianna Pelham, March 26, 1861. Civil War Times, October 2003, page 60.

²⁸⁷ 1850 and 1860 Slave Schedules.

²⁸⁸ Charles Pelham, November 21, 1898, Library of Congress.

²⁸⁹ Jacksonville Republican, April 5, 1884, "Pelham of Alabama."

²⁹⁰ John Pelham to brother, September 25, 1858, Jacksonville Public Library, Folder 3. Reprinted in newspaper.

²⁹¹ John Pelham to Martha Pelham, February 26, 1859, Jacksonville Public Library, Folder 3, #19.

²⁹² John Pelham to Martha Pelham, June 12, 1859, Jacksonville Public Library, Folder 3.

²⁹³ John Pelham to brother, July 13, 1859, Jacksonville Public Library, Folder 3, #23.

²⁹⁴ John Pelham to Dr. Atkinson Pelham, December 29, 1859, Jacksonville Public Library, Folder 3, #25.

²⁹⁵ John Pelham to Dr. Atkinson Pelham, May 13, 1860, Jacksonville Public Library, Folder 3. John Pelham to Martha Pelham, June 4, 1860, Jacksonville Public Library, Folder 3, #27. John Pelham to Atkinson Pelham, August 13, 1860, Jacksonville Public Library, Folder 3, #28.

the most unaccountable thing I ever heard of—don't you agree?" 296 and visit him if he got arrested. 297

I know thou wilt ne'er be mine..."298

"the 'Gallant Pelham,' which you must be sure to give to him." 299

the lower Shenandoah Valley or Martinsburg area. 300

as a couple moved toward engagement and marriage.301

(Other relatives stoutly insisted that Pelham had no romantic attachments at all. 302)

"I don't think they were engaged."303

had been an engagement between Pelham and Dandridge.³⁰⁴

"a boy, a splendid boy."305

that Bessie reminded him of his sister.306

offended at the implications for both his romantic choices and his honor.³⁰⁷

white patriarchy which is tied to sexual prowess.³⁰⁸

"the greatest flirt that ever lived" 309

"off-color story that caused Pelham to blush like a girl."310

"I had not called on her."311

Appendix B

"until the dead are called upon to give up their secrets". 312

Appendix C

(No footnotes.)

²⁹⁶ John Pelham to Marianna Pelham, March 26, 1861. Civil War Times, October 2003, page 60.

²⁹⁷ Jacksonville Public Library, Pelham Collection, Folder 3 to sister in law.

²⁹⁸ Jacksonville Public Library, Pelham Collection; Milham, 58.

²⁹⁹ Maxwell, 295.

^{300 1860} Census Records, Ancestry.com

³⁰¹ Mary Pelham Graves handwritten note, "General Articles", Jacksonville Public Library, Pelham Collection.

³⁰² Emma Interview, Library of Virginia.

³⁰³ John Esten Cook to Martha "Pink" Taliaferro Hunter, March 30, 1863. Archive of the Virginia Museum of History & Culture, MSS1H91966, 710-722

³⁰⁴ John Esten Cooke, Library of Congress.

³⁰⁵ Milham, 225.

³⁰⁶ Maxwell, 292.

³⁰⁷ Peter S. Carmichael, *Lee's Young Artillerist: William R.J. Pegram* (Charlottesville: University Press of Virginia, 1995), 148-149.

³⁰⁸ V. Lynn Kennedy, *Born Southern: Childbirth, Motherhood, and Social Networks in the Old South* (Baltimore: John Hopkins University, 2010), 126-127; see also Kristin Kobes Du Mez, *Jesus and John Wayne* (London: W.W. Norton & Company, 2020), particularly 13-18; see also James J. Broomall, *Private Confederacies: The Emotional Worlds of Southern Men as Citizens and Soldiers* (Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 2019).

³¹⁰ Sgt. Robert S. Hudgins II, edited by Garland C. Hudgins and Richard B. Kleese, *Recollections of an Old Dominion Dragoon: The Civil War Experiences of Sgt. Robert S. Hudgins II Co. B, 3rd Virginia Cavalry* (Orange: Publisher's Press, Inc. 1993) page 65.

³¹¹ John Pelham to Martha Pelham, January 25, 1860, Jacksonville Public Library, Folder 3.

³¹² James H. Kidd, *Personal Recollections of a Cavalryman* (Ionia: 1908), 131-132.

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