**From:** Bryan Payne

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 01, 2011 12:24 PM

**To:** Uncle Glenn

**Subject:** RE: bowl bid winner

I still have a number of questions/issues regarding this.

The letter (which Rhodes says in his article is from a post-war confidant of JTHolliman) says he was sent to DC after a week. However, according to Rhodes' article - so were Miles Bobo and John South. He even states that the Federal Archives say all three were sent to DC then to Mississippi after taking the oath. Could the statement "In US Army about 1 week" mean not actually enlisted in the US Army but held there outside Petersburg by US Forces for a week prior to being sent to DC for the oath? Hmm….yes, they could have been held for a week in Petersburg and then to DC for an oath. That letter is John Thomas Holliman’s handwriting. Very poorly educated. I have a copy of his wife’s will, Martha Jane Walker Holliman from 1932. Almost unreadable. Her father, your 3 GGF, was at Gettysburg AND Appomattox. Eventually I will get to him, Samuel Walker, an amazing character.

Was it common at that late-war period for the Feds to enlist surrendered Confederates? (I know there are many cases of this on both sides during the war - but why would it make sense at this late-war period?) Good question and I don’t know.

Do we have any additional evidence that JTH was actually enrolled in the US Army? None that I know of, BUT would a search of U.S. Army archives reveal anything? I have not done so, and I bet Rhodes has not. Most of Rhodes work is from his father, Cecil Rhodes, who late in his law career in Birmingham focused on family history. This was in the 1960s.

As an alternate hypothesis - could he have not surrendered, been held at Petersburg, sent to DC for the oath, and then to a POW camp in Indianapolis? Rhodes told me verbally John Thomas worked for a farmer in Indianapolis and promised to stay with him until his crop was in. When the crop was harvested, John T. walked home to Fayette Co., Alabama. John was assigned to the farmer. Yes, it would make sense it was a POW situation. Obviously John was not a free man, yet.

Are there other documented cases of Confederate soldiers being enrolled in the US Army then furloghed/indentured to private citizens? I have never seen this anywhere else - it sounds odd.

Since you mention it, yes, it does sound odd. Maybe John had the option of staying in a prison camp or working as a farm laborer.

I'm just curious - b/c the story seems so different from standard accounts. According to Rhodes - he does seem to have been separated from his other companions - was this in DC or outside Petersburg? Was his separation just a random US Army processing event - these guys sent here/ him somewhere else - or was it actually due to him volunteering to join the Federal Army? We need you to dig into Army records there in D.C.

I have a copy of the 41st Alabama Infantry Regiment by Col. William Morales. On p. 388, John T. Holliman, Company H is listed as a deserter on Feb. 16 and relocated to Indianpolis, IN. Bobo and Stong are NOT listed. However, of the 13 men in the 41st who deserted, two were ‘relocated’ to Holly Springs, MS and the rest to Savannah, Pittburgh, Rock Island, IL, five to Oil City, PA and two to Jacksonville, FL (which seems strange).

Attached are two pages from that work. Rhodes seems to have been the source of the material on John.

Any thoughts?

Bryan

From: glennfromyahoo@gmail.com
To: bppayne@hotmail.com
CC: glennholliman@embarqmail.com
Subject: Re: bowl bid winner
Date: Tue, 1 Mar 2011 06:41:27 -0500

No, John Thomas and two others surrendered in Feb. 1865, six weeks before the war ended.  Rather than be a POW, John Thomas joined the Union Army!  Now as far as I know he never ‘served’ but was sent to Indiana and helped a farmer get his crop in and then in September of that year walked home.  I think he was ostracized by the community to some extent, and this may be why the family ended up being Republicans in the late 1800s and fifty years into the 20th century.

I think I have a paper in John Thomas Holliman’s own hand writing which I will email to you, if I can find it.

Uncle Glenn

**From:** Bryan Payne

**Sent:** Monday, February 28, 2011 11:16 PM

**To:** glennfromyahoo@gmail.com

**Subject:** RE: bowl bid winner

Uncle Glenn,

So I am reading a book on the Civil War - and re-read the blog entries on your site about John Thomas Holliman. I am curious if you know anything more about his time as a POW following his surrender at Petersburg - especially since Rhode's Holliman's note differs from the archives. Also - I have not heard of other accounts of Confederate soldiers being furloughed (indentured) to farmers. I did notice on a quick google search that there was a POW camp in Indianapolis (Camp Morton). Could this be where he was sent and furloughed from?

-Bryan