

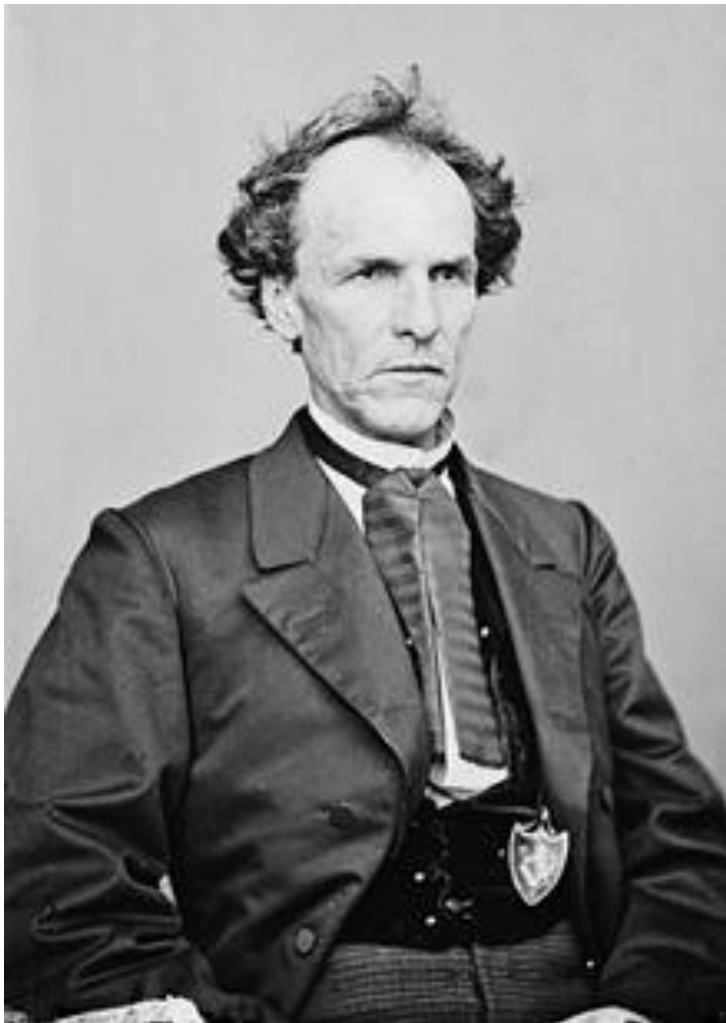
James Henry Lane

Both armies in Lincoln's War had generals named James Henry Lane. They were both brigadier generals and I think that is where the similarities end.

UNION GENERAL

This James Lane was a famous Jayhawker, a group of pro-Union partisans that operated in Kansas before and during the Civil War. He was the son of Amos Lane (1778-1849), his mother was Mary (Foote) Lane (1778-1854) and he was born in Lawrenceburg, Indiana on June 22, 1814. Lane studied law in his father's office and was admitted to the Indiana bar in 1840 and became a lifelong political figure.

By 1843 he had married Mary Elizabeth (Baldrige) Lane. Together they would have five children: Three girls and two boys: Ellie (Lane) Adams (1844-1874); James Henry Lane (1848-1893); Anna (Lane) Johnson (1852-1928); Mary A. (Lane) Warren (1854-1874); and Thomas D. Lane



During the Mexican War, he commanded the 3rd and then the 5th Indiana Regiments. After the war, he returned to Lawrenceburg and followed his father into politics. He was chosen as Indiana's lieutenant governor in 1849. In 1853 he was elected a U.S. congressman and in 1854 he cast a vote for the Kansas-Nebraska Act, an act to create the Kansas and Nebraska Territories and allow the citizens to determine if they would be free or slave states. The original intent of the act was to create the way for a transcontinental railroad. It gave birth to the Civil War instead. In 1855 he moved to Lawrence, Kansas Territory, where he would soon gain notoriety as the leader of the "Jayhawkers", guerrilla fighters who often clashed with pro-slavery groups from Missouri known at the time as "Border Ruffians". After the Civil War,

the word "Jayhawker" became synonymous with the people of Kansas

Lane organized the defense of Lawrence during the so-called "Wakarusa War" in December, 1855, which became a turning point in his career. This skirmish arose when a

slave holder shot and killed a “free stater.” Missourians laid siege to Lawrence, Kansas. Lane and James Brown assembled an army to defend Lawrence. Cooler heads finally prevailed and a peace treaty was settled on. Up until this time, Lane had been a conservative, but as the strife of the Kansas-Missouri Border War increased, he became more and more controversial, due to his speeches, ruthlessness, and tactics.

Though he is often described as quarrelsome, belligerent, and unbalanced—often committing acts that were every bit as atrocious as those of the Missouri Bushwhackers, he was a dynamic speaker with charismatic leadership abilities that won him much support among those supporting the antislavery cause in Kansas during the time.

Kansas was admitted to the Union as the 34th state on January 29, 1861. In the same year Lane was elected as one of Kansas’ first senators and was appointed Brigadier General of Volunteers in December, 1861. As such, he raised the "Frontier Guard" as well as commanding what was referred to as "Lane's Brigade" or the "Kansas Brigade," comprised of the Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth and Seventh Kansas Volunteers. He was also responsible for forming the First Kansas Colored Volunteers, the first regiment of African American troops to see action on the side of the Union during the Civil War.

After the Battle of Wilson's Creek, Missouri on August 10, 1861, the Union army retreated, leaving the Kansas border exposed. To combat this, Lane organized his men and led them into action against Confederate General Sterling Price in the Battle of Dry Wood Creek on September 2, 1861. Though his troops lost the battle Lane continued fighting in a skirmish at Paninsville, Missouri on September 5th. Lane continued his cause, fighting through the towns of Butler, Harrisonville, and Clinton, Missouri, before he ended his campaign by the burning of Osceola, Missouri on September 23, 1861.

Lane had heard that there were hidden caches of Confederate supplies and money being held in Osceola and he determined to wipe Osceola from the map. He and his men first stripped the town of all its valuable goods which were loaded into wagons taken from the townspeople. They found no hidden Confederate supplies or money, but nine citizens were given a farcical trial and shot. Finally, Lane's men brought their frenzy of pillaging and murder to a close by burning the entire town. The settlement suffered more than \$1,000,000 worth of damage including that belonging to pro-Union citizens.

Lane's Brigade then celebrated by getting drunk, so much so, that according to reports, many of the men were unable to march when it came time to leave and many had to ride in wagons and carriages. With them, they took their plunder including Lane's personal share, which included a piano and a quantity of silk dresses. The troops then continued to Kansas City, Missouri.

Lingering fury regarding the Osceola Massacre stirred hatred in many a Missouri citizen and would become one of the causes for William Quantrill's raid on Lawrence, Kansas two years later on August 21, 1863.

After the assault on Osceola, Lane and his men joined Major General John C. Fremont's army in a southward pursuit of Price's retreating forces but were soon ordered back to Kansas to take defensive positions.

Lane was severely criticized for his actions in Osceola, most severely by General Henry Halleck, Commander of the Department of Missouri, who believed that the attacks

made by Lane and Colonel Charles Jennison, aggravated anti-Union sentiments in Missouri and intensified resistance to federal authority in the state.

Of their actions, Halleck would state: "The course pursued by those under Lane and Jennison has turned against us many thousands who were formerly Union men. A few more such raids will make this state unanimous against us." Thus, Lane's Brigade was ended.



The monument reads:

In memory of
citizens of Osceola
Murdered by Kansas
Jayhawkers
And the Union Army

In June 1861, President Abraham Lincoln issued an order making The U. S. Senator from Kansas, James H. Lane, a Brigadier general.

In September 1861, General Lane and his rabble army of Kansas Jayhawkers, under questionable authority of Mr. Lincoln, invaded Missouri. His objective was to pillage and destroy peaceable, prosperous Osceola.

On September 21 & 22, the Jayhawkers invaded, occupied, sacked, and torched Osceola. Twelve male citizens sought to protect one of the banks from being looted and ultimately burned. Gen. Lane arrested these citizens for "treason" and by way of a "drumhead court-martial", appointed himself prosecutor and judge, condemning the twelve to death.

He mustered a makeshift firing squad, in which he himself took part, murdering all but three of the twelve men, thinking all were dead.

Two years later, when William Quantrill attacked Lawrence, Kansas in what has become known as the Lawrence Massacre, Confederate guerillas could be heard shouting, "Remember Osceola!" Though Lane was in residence in Lawrence at the time, he escaped the attack by racing through a cornfield in his nightshirt. Quantrill admitted the reason for the raid was to "loot, plunder and destroy the town in revenge for Osceola." Quantrill

had 300-400 men with him and they killed 185-200 men and boys. There were 18-23 unmusterd army recruits among the victims.

Lane continued to serve in the Civil War until it ended and was re-elected to the U.S. Senate in 1865. However, he soon began to lose favor among his supporters when he backed President Andrew Johnson's reconstruction policies, including the president's veto of the Civil Rights Bill. He soon became despondent and was accused of abandoning his Radical Republicans, as well as rumors of financial irregularities.

Lane University, Lane, Kansas and Lane County Kansas are named in honor of the former senator and Union General.

On July 1, 1866, he shot himself in the head as he leapt from his carriage in Leavenworth, Kansas. He died ten days later and was buried in Lawrence's Oak Hill Cemetery



CONFEDERATE

It was April 9, 1865, and as the early morning mist began to lift around Appomattox Courthouse, Virginia, General Robert E. Lee the Commanding General of the Army of Northern Virginia, had determined that it was time to lay down the arms and stop the killing of all the young men of both countries. Not because he had been “out-generaled,æ but because he had been out-resourced in money, men, and supplies. Later that day he would ride into the small village and surrender his army to General Ulysses S. Grant, Commander in Chief of the Union Army, and end the powerful struggle between two great armies.

One of his lieutenants at Appomattox Courthouse was Brigadier General James Henry Lane. Lane was a Virginian, but he was the commander of the North Carolina Brigade of the Light Division, Third Corps of the Army of Northern Virginia. Lane was thirty-two years-old and had served in every battle from Bethel to Appomattox in the War for Southern Independence.

Lane was born at Matthews Courthouse, Virginia on July 28, 1833. He was the son of Colonel Walter and Mary A.H. Blackwell Lane, plantation owners descended from colonial ancestry. His early education was by private schools and tutors. He entered and graduated with honors from Virginia Military Institute in 1854. After graduation, he was employed as a tutor for a family in Weyauoke, Virginia. He entered the University of Virginia in 1856 where he completed a year of study before his alma mater gave him the position of Assistant Professor of mathematics for the 1857-1858 year. The year 1858 found him as the principal of the Upperville Academy in Upperville, Virginia. He returned to Matthews Courthouse in July of 1859 and spent a few months seeking employment before he was invited to chair the departments of Mathematics and Military Tactics at the State Seminary West of the Suwanee River in Tallahassee, Florida, where he taught for one year.



When Fort Sumter was fired on and fell into Confederate hands in April of 1861, Lane was the Professor of Natural Philosophy and instructor in Military Tactics at the North Carolina Military Institute in Charlotte, North Carolina, which was headed by Colonel Daniel Harvey Hill, who would become a lieutenant general. The governor of North Carolina called for 30,000 volunteers to defend the state from an expected invasion from the north. Lane and the cadets joined Colonel Hill who had been named the commander of the First Camp of Instruction at Raleigh, North Carolina. The recruits were placed in a regiment called the First North Carolina Volunteers and they elected Hill as their colonel and Lane as the major in charge of drill. They soon departed for Richmond, Virginia and from there to Yorktown where they came under the command of Colonel John Magruder, Commander of the Southern Forces on the Peninsula. Magruder sent Hill's regiment to Big Bethel Church at Hampton, Virginia, eight miles from the Union

forces under the command of General Ben Butler. Some days later Butler ordered his troops to attack the Southerner's position and was badly beaten in one of the opening battles of the war. After the battle, Hill was promoted to brigadier general and Lane was elected as the First North Carolina's lieutenant colonel.

On September 21, Lane received the news that he had been elected Colonel and commander of the Twenty-Eighth North Carolina Infantry which was forming in High Point, North Carolina.

In the spring of 1862, General Ambrose Burnside began an amphibious attack on the North Carolina coast and Lane's Twenty-Eighth Regiment was ordered to the area where it was assigned to General Lawrence O'Brien Branch's Second Brigade which was then mustered into the Army of the Confederate States of America and ordered to Gordonsville, Virginia.

On June 1, 1862, Robert E Lee assumed command of the Confederacy when Joseph E. Johnston was wounded in the Battle of Seven Pines. The North Carolina Brigade, including Lane's regiment was assigned to Ambrose Powell Hill's Light Division of Longstreet's Corps in the reorganization of the Army of Northern Virginia. As Lee began an offensive movement to clear the Union Army from around Richmond, Lane's regiment took an active role in what was to become known as the Seven Days Battle. In the Cold Harbor battle Lane received a wound to his head that caused some humor in the ranks. Lane asked his color-bearer, Sergeant, is my scalp cut?" The sergeant checked his head thoroughly before replying, "No, Colonel, it is only scorched a little."

Following the Seven Days Battle, A.P. Hill's Light Brigade was transferred from Longstreet's to Jackson's Corps. Lane's 28th North Carolina was with Jackson at the battles of Cedar Mountain, Second Manassas and Sharpsburg. General Branch was killed shortly after he arrived on the battlefield. On November 6 Lane, still only 29 years-old was promoted by President Jefferson Davis to brigadier general in charge of Branch's North Carolina Brigade.

Lane would soon show his leadership ability at the Battle of Fredericksburg. Lee was in a strong defensive position in the heights above town when Ambrose Burnside's Army of the Potomac attacked about 10:00 in the morning of December 13. General George G. Meade's Pennsylvanians attacked Hill's position. These thrusts were repelled, but an afternoon attack was begun with a drive toward the gap between Lane and the regiment to his left. The regiments to his right, Thirty-Seventh and Twenty-Eighth North Carolina received the initial attack. Lane sent an urgent request for General Maxcy Gregg to provide some help, but none came. Meade's troops discovered the gap to Lane's left and poured more troops into it. Lane's troops were forced to pull back and more Federal troops raced into General Gregg's regiment. Gregg was shot from his horse and killed. General Thomas and his Georgians were now able to provide help. The Georgians, along with Lane's Seventh and Eighth North Carolina Regiments repulsed the attack and the Federals retreated. The damage was horrific, but especially so to Burnside and his army. The Federals suffered 1,284 killed, 9,600 wounded, and 1,769 missing for a total of 12,653 casualties out of 114,000 men engaged. The Confederate force numbered 72,500 and suffered 595 killed, 4,061 wounded and 653 missing, a total of 5,309 casualties. The result was that the Feds retained control of the city and the Confederates kept their defensive position and General Lane had survived his baptism under fire.

Lane's brigade spent the winter of 1862-1863 camped at Moss Neck, just below Fredericksburg. They performed picket duty and road repair. Lane's officers presented him with a "sword and General's sash, and a fine saddle and bridle" as a token of the esteem they held for the "Little General."

In the spring of 1863, Union General Joseph "Fighting Joe" Hooker was sure that he could deal a defeat to General Robert E. Lee at Chancellorsville that would end the war. The Chancellorsville Campaign was one of the most lopsided clashes of the war, with the Union's effective fighting force more than twice the Confederates', the greatest imbalance during the war in Virginia. Hooker's army was much better supplied and was well-rested after several months of inactivity. Lee's forces, on the other hand, were poorly provisioned and were scattered all over the state of Virginia.

In the Confederate's finest hour, Stonewall outflanked Hooker's army and they were forced to retreat and General Lee was victorious in one of his greatest victories. Unfortunately, it was Confederate General Lane whose troops committed the act that might have decided the outcome of the war. Late that day Stonewall, determined to press the advantage while it was available, rode out with several of his staff beyond his front line to assess the likelihood of a successful nighttime attack on the Union army. As they turned around to head back to headquarters in the darkness, Lane's North Carolina troops mistook them for the enemy and opened fire. Stonewall was struck by three shots and fell from his horse. One of the wounds to his left arm required amputation, but during the recovery he developed pneumonia and died on Sunday, May 10, 1863.

The early morning of July 1, 1863 found Lane and his men on a march to a little Pennsylvania town known as Gettysburg. He was now a part of the newly formed Third Corps under Lieutenant General A. P. Hill. The corps had been told not to take any action. As the day began to break the two enemy forces stumbled into one another. Lane's brigade helped to drive the Union troops off Cemetery Ridge and rested at the end of the first day's fighting. Lane's brigade saw very little action on day two. On the morning of day three he and another brigade were ordered to report to General Longstreet. General Lee gave Lane's brigade to General Isaac Trimble. After the Confederate's two-hour barrage of artillery fire on the Union position they received the order to begin the assault at 3:00 in the afternoon. Union fire blew huge gaps in the Confederate ranks. Trimble suffered a wound requiring him to leave the field. An officer in another brigade reported Lane, "as being in the thick of the battle on horseback quite near the stone wall riding just behind and up to his men, in attitude of urging them forward with his hand; a moment later a spurt of blood leaped from the horse as he rode up, and the rider and the horse went down in the smoke and uproar.

As Lane struggled to get free from the wounded horse he ordered Colonel Avery to press forward. Avery replied, "My God, General do you intend to rush your men into a place unsupported when the troops on the right are falling back." Lane recognized the futility of the situation and ordered a retreat. His brigade was one of the last to leave the battle ground. The brigade suffered 390 of the 1600 men as wounded or killed. Lane then lead the retreat to the safety of Virginia. Lane, the senior brigadier general, expected that he might receive a promotion to fill a vacancy. Lee recommended another North Carolinian, Brigadier General Cadmus M. Wilcox to fill the position. Lee said in his recommendation that "... Lane the Senior Brigadier of the Division is not recommended for promotion. ..." Lane accepted the decision graciously.

In the spring of 1864, Lane's brigade helped to stem Grant's break through at "Mule Shoe" in the Battle of the Wilderness. At Cold Harbor Lane received a serious wound to the stomach and was carried from the field. After recuperating, Lane joined his men at Petersburg. After Petersburg was evacuated the end came quickly at Appomattox Courthouse. His regiments stacked their arms and began their long trek back home.

Lane returned penniless to his parent's home in Matthews Courthouse and pursued his old profession of teaching and military training. His ideas for a military program was adapted by Virginia Agricultural and Mechanical College and were virtually unchanged for 100 years. Now known as Virginia Tech, the Corps of Cadets is a constant reminder of one of Lee's best generals and a great Virginian.

Lane suffered a stroke on the morning of September 21, 1907, and died that afternoon. He was buried on September 24 with full military rites in the Pine Hill Cemetery in Auburn beside his wife, Charlotte. His gravesite marks the final resting place of a man who gained fame as one of Lee's lieutenants during the Civil War and one of the Confederate soldiers who helped to rebuild the educational and cultural landscape in the South after the war.



Sources: *Civil War Quarterly Magazine*, *James H. Lane: Confederate*, by Nevin R. Frantz, Jr; numerous internet websites