

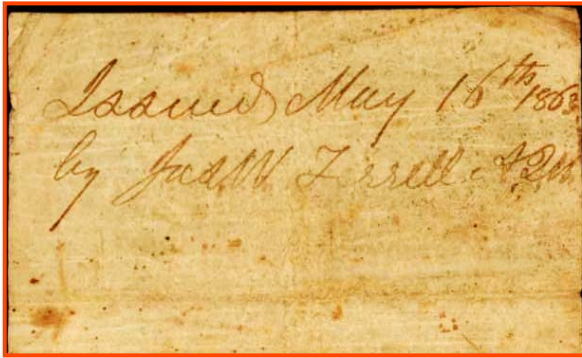
TERRELL, James W. Capt., AQM

The National Archives contains eighteen documents for James W. Terrel (sic) in the files for Officers, and twenty-six documents for James W. Terrell are found in the files for the State of North Carolina, Thomas' Legion. This unit is also known as Thomas' Legion of Cherokee Indians and Highlanders and was organized at Knoxville, Tennessee on September 27th, 1862. For context see the excellent Wikipedia article:

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thomas'_Legion

The endorsement reads:

"Issued May 16th, 1863
by Jas W Terrell AQM"



In an inspection report of the Regiment of Thomas' Legion, 4th Brigade, commanded by Lt. Col. J. R. Love dated December 12th, 1863 at Yellow Store, Hawkins Co., Tennessee, James W. Terrell was noted as having been appointed and assigned to

duty September 27th, 1862 by the Secretary of War.

A voucher for receipt of Quartermaster stores located Terrell in Jonesboro, Tennessee on May 9th, 1863. On a report of the Quartermaster Department dated December 10th, 1863, the Regiment was located in East Tennessee and attached to the Brigade of Brig. Gen'l A. E. Jackson.

Terrell was appointed Capt. & AQM on November 25th, 1864, taking rank retroactively on November 12th, and reporting to Thomas' Legion in the State of North Carolina. A letter to Col. Thomas dated November 9th, 1864 stated that Capt. Terrell's bond had been received but not approved. Quartermaster General A. R. Lawton added the following comment on November 12th:

"Respectfully submitted to the Hon. Secretary of War with the remark that it appears from these papers that the nomination of Capt. J. W. Terrell as Asst Qr Master has never been confirmed by the Senate.

"In view of his peculiar fitness for the position designated, and of the fact that he has been in the service as an officer of this Department for a considerable length of time as Asst Qr Master of this command, his reappointment and reassignment to duty with Thomas' Legion is respectfully recommended."

This recommendation for reappointment without a bond is highly unusual and speaks to Terrell's good track record. The normal policy of the Quartermaster General's Department in light of a failure to acquire or maintain a bond would normally result in the removal of the officer from the rolls of the QM Department.

At Asheville, North Carolina, Terrell wrote to both Quartermaster Gen'l A. R. Lawton and Adj.



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& Insp. Gen'l S. Cooper on March 3rd, 1865, noting his acceptance of his appointment as Assistant Quartermaster to Thomas' Legion. According to the Wikipedia article, Col. Thomas had brought up the strength of the unit to 1,200 men, including 400 Cherokees, by April 1st, 1865. Gen'l Robert E. Lee surrendered on April 9th, and Thomas' Legion surrendered to Union forces at Waynesville, North Carolina on May 10th. Terrell signed an oath to the Confederacy on March 3rd and described himself as 35 years and 2 months old, residing in Jackson County, North Carolina. A National Archives summary card noted that Terrell was 5 feet 9 inches tall with a fair complexion, blue eyes, yellow hair, and was a merchant and tanner by occupation.

An undated National Archives card from the file named Mallett's Battalion (Camp Guard) AND McCorkle's Battalion, Senior Reserves AND McLean's Battalion, Light Duty Men AND Thomas' Legion in the files for the State of North Carolina contains an interesting transcription of a document written by James W. Terrell at Strawberry Plains, Tennessee (just outside of Knoxville), prior to his appointment as an AQM in Thomas' Legion:

“I, James W. Terrell, of the State of North Carolina, Jackson County, do certify that I was myself mustered into the service of the Confederate States on the 9 day of April 1862 by G W Morgan, Major of 3 Regt Tenn Vols and Recruiting Officer as shown on the written roll, and that the within named Indians were all mustered in on that day as shown by the roll as an organized Company. I further certify that I am well acquainted with the Indians residing in North Carolina having been for years connected with them in an official capacity, that I have been the Mustering and Inspecting Officer for this company as well as for Capt Hank's Company of Indians belonging to the same command and have regularly mustered and inspected them ever since they have been in the service, that I can at any time identify the Indians named on this roll, and that this roll is correct.

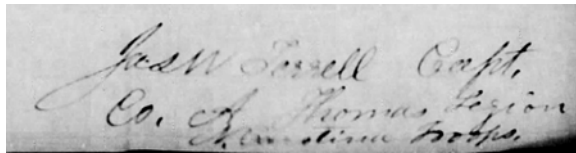
Jas W Terrell

Capt and Inspecting &
Mustering officer”

McNeil

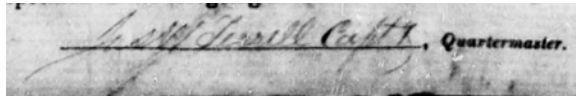
James W. Terrell's signatures from the National Archives.

The earliest known example, signed on October 18th, 1862, on a pay voucher, as "Capt., Co. A Thomas Legion, N. Carolina Troops."



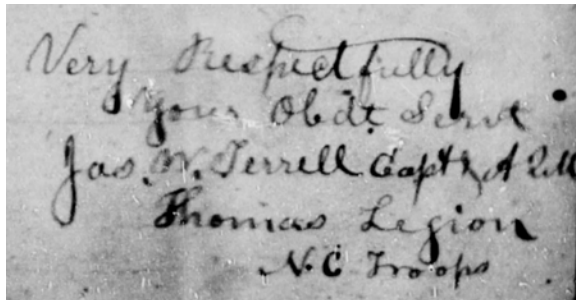
James W. Terrell Capt.
Co. A Thomas Legion
N. Carolina Troops.

Signed on May 9th, 1863, at Jonesboro, Tennessee, as "Capt & Quartermaster."

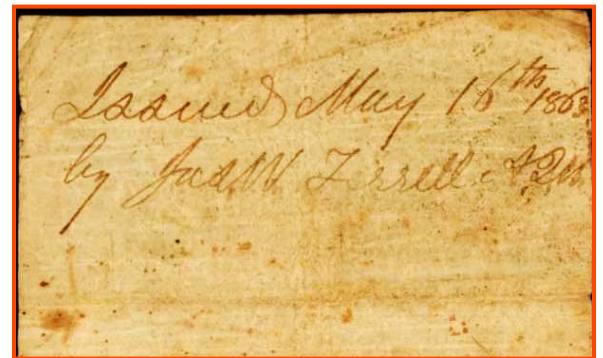


James W. Terrell Capt & Quartermaster.

Signed on March 3^d, 1865, at Asheville, North Carolina, as "Capt & AQM, Thomas Legion, N. C. Troops."



Very Respectfully
Your Obedt Servt
James W. Terrell Capt & AQM
Thomas Legion
N. C. Troops



Issued May 16th 1863
by James W. Terrell - AQM

(Confederate.)

²
Co. A. 1st Reg't Thomas Legion
N.C. Troops

Company Muster and Descriptive Roll

of the organization named above,

for Not dated, 1863,
Rec'd A. S. H. C. June 1/63.

shows station of company,
Strawberry Plains Tenn

RECORD OF EVENTS.

I James W. Terrell of the State
of North Carolina, Jackson County
do hereby certify that I was myself
mustered into the service of the
Confederate States on the 9 day
of April 1862 by J. W. Morgan
Major of 3 Reg't Tenn Vols
and Recruiting Officer as shown
on the within roll and that the
within named Indians were
all mustered in on that day as
shown by this roll as an organ-
ized company. I further
certify that I am well acquaint-
ed with the Indians residing
in North Carolina having been for
years connected with them in
an official capacity, that I
have been the Mustering and
Inspecting Officer (over

Alberty

(642b) Copy.

for this company as well as
for Capt Harris Company
of Indians belonging to the
same command and have
regularly mustered and
inspected them ever since
they have been in the service,
that I can at any time
identify the Indians named
on this roll, and that this
roll is correct

Jas W Terrell Capt
and Inspecting & Mustering
Officer

FORM OF OATH.

I *Jas. W. Terrell* aged *35* years *2* months, born in
Jackson County, N.C. appointed from *Jackson County, N.C.*
do solemnly swear or affirm that while I continue in the service I will bear
true faith, and yield obedience to the **CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA**,
and that I will serve them honestly and faithfully against their enemies, and that
I will observe and obey the orders of the President of the Confederate States,
and the orders of the Officers appointed over me, according to the Rules and
Articles of War.

Jas. W. Terrell

Sworn and subscribed before me this *3rd*

day of *March* 1865

at *Shuette, N.C.*

A. H. Perry
Notary Public