

Col James W Bowie, born 1835.

When twenty-one years old was elected sheriff of Chicot, the largest and wealthiest county in Arkansas. In 1861 was elected captain of a company of men which he raised, and entered the Confederate Army at Memphis under Forest, who attached him to his staff. Was badly wounded at the battle of Shiloh, and forced to return home. Later recovered, raised another company of men in Chicot County, and was assigned to General Price's command, and with it invaded Missouri. (Fall of 1864)

For gallant conduct on the field of battle was commissioned colonel. When near Jefferson City, Colonel Wright, his immediate commander, asked for an officer who would undertake the difficult and dangerous task of making a reconnoissance within the enemy's lines, Colonel Bowie volunteered, succeeded in successfully passing the pickets, and was returning, when fired upon from ambush. Both arms and shoulders were shattered, and his body pierced by fourteen balls. Though almost helpless, he did not fall from the saddle, but catching the reins in his teeth, galloped back to his command with the desired information.

He died in great agony some hours later, and his body was sent to Arkansas and buried near his father. He was unmarried. Colonel Wright, the ranking officer who sent Colonel Bowie on his fatal errand, was a nephew of that Major Wright who fell in the famous Sandbar duel with Col. James Bowie, uncle of the subject of this sketch.

The Bowie's and their Kindred, WW Bowie 1899. pages 264-264, orginial source is not given.

Repeated in The Rezin Bowie Family of Louisiana, Virginia Lobdell Jennings, cited to WW Bowie above.

Son of John Jones Bowie and his 3rd? wife America A Watkins, widow of Richard Kirkland. Listed in 1850 census Issaquena County Miss at age 12 and 1860 census Chicot County Arkansas at age 23.