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Re: Notes/Outline

IV. Bennett Place

Appomattox surrender on April 9, 1865. Lee surrendered unconditionally his Army of Virginia, a force of 38,000 men.

The war was still not over.

There were still Confederate armies in the field. Joe Johnston's Army of 40,000 was still intact. There were southern forces in Tennessee, Alabama, and in Texas. A total order of battle of at least 100,000 men still in uniform after Appomattox.

Sherman met with Johnston at a place outside of Durham, North Carolina, belonging to a farmer named Bennett. Here Johnston and Sherman talked about surrender terms for all the remainder of the CSA forces.

Both men were concerned that the remaining Southern armies did not break up into smaller units and move into the interior of the South and prepare to resort to guerilla-warfare or a war of national liberation. This was always a possibility that bitter-enders could take over and the war could go on indefinitely.

Johnston had received orders from Jefferson Davis who was now held up in North Carolina after fleeing Richmond with the residue of the Confederate treasury to surrender the infantry but send him, Davis, his remaining cavalry. Johnston refused this order. And ultimately agreed to surrender all CSA armies to the Union on the grounds of the terms Lee received at Appomattox. They arranged that Johnston's army would be paroled in segments. . . men released to return home over a scheduled time frame.

There would be no southern partisans taking to the mountains and swamps to continue the "holy cause." No prolonged and dirty war of guerrilla hit-and-run tactics and efforts to mobilize the southern civilian population in a war of national liberation. No continued resistance from Kirby Smith's large army in Texas. The South expired quietly.