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### 1891 March: Obituary of Joseph E. Johnston, Transcription

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[1891]

Joseph E. Johnston,  
On the night of March the twenty first,  
when a world was wrapped in darkness and  
nations were sleeping peacefully on their couch-  
es; the proud spirit of Joseph E. Johnston  
yielded to the grim conqueror, who must  
finally overcome all who dwell upon the  
earth, and passed to that realm from  
which no traveler returns. One of the great-  
est men and leaders of the overthrown  
Confederates, <sup>States</sup> of America has joined his  
comrades-in-arms in their dreamless sleep.  
The majority of the old commanders and  
soldiers are gone. And of all the hosts who  
were marshaled for battle by the North and  
by the South, thirty years ago, where are  
the glittering armies eager for <sup>the strife</sup> battle? The  
greatest, by far the greatest, number will wake  
no more at the roll of the drum, or the  
bugle, as it sounds the reveille. All the great  
Southern commanders of distinction, save  
Beauregard, have laid down their armor  
for their shroud, and have gone to their fi-  
nal rest. One by one they cross the dark river.  
And ere twenty years shall have passed away,  
all the old soldiers of 1860 and 61, save a few  
old veterans, whom time has spared to tell of  
the stormy days of the war, will await the  
sound of the trumpet to awake them from



their last sleep.

Johnston was born at Cherry Grove Va, in 1807 and died in his eighty third year. Graduating from West Point, in the same class with Robt. E. Lee, he was appointed second lieutenant of the fourth artillery. He did active service in <sup>the</sup> Black Hawk and Seminole wars. In the Mexican war he followed Scott from the coast at Vera Cruz to the city of the Montezumas, fighting in all the principal battles of that memorable campaign, and achieving great distinction for his gallantry. The bloody field before the grim fortress of old Chapultepec, is dyed with his blood.

At the breaking out of <sup>the</sup> Civil war he espoused the cause of the South and was one of her most gallant defenders. He fought through the war with great bravery, receiving a severe wound at Seven Pines. In April, 1865, he surrendered the shattered remains of the once noble army of Tennessee, to Sherman,

After the war he buried his animosity and became an honored citizen of the Union. For his devotion and love for the South, he has received the respect and homage of a grateful people. He fought bravely in every battle in which he was engaged, receiving ten wounds during his military career. As a soldier he ranks next to Lee, and his name will be ever remembered in connection with the fallen Confederacy.