

Otho French Strahl, Brigadier General CSA



Otho French Strahl (1832 – November 30, 1864) was a brigadier general in the Confederate States Army during the American Civil War. He was born in Ohio, which made him one of the few Confederate generals with a Northern birth-right.

Otho F. Strahl was born near Elliotts Cross Roads, Ohio, and raised in nearby Malta, in rural Morgan County. His grandmothers were both raised in the South, which is believed to have influenced his ardent support of the South's appeal for states' rights.

In 1854, after attending Ohio Wesleyan University with the intent of obtaining a law degree, Strahl moved to Tennessee where he read law and eventually opened a practice in the town of Dyersburg.

Early in 1861, at the outset of the Civil War, Strahl organized a local infantry company from among his friends and neighbors in Dyersburg. He was quickly promoted to captain of the newly raised 4th Tennessee Infantry, which was called to service in August of 1861. Strahl continued as an officer of the 4th Tennessee Infantry for several months and was promoted through the ranks to lieutenant colonel during that period. In April 1862, after the Battle of Shiloh, the regiment was reorganized and consolidated with the 5th Tennessee Infantry, with Strahl then being promoted to colonel of the combined force. Through his leadership of the 5th regiment he was eventually promoted to brigade command.

Otho French Strahl was killed in the second Battle of Franklin on November 30, 1864 and for a period of time was buried near the battlefield. His remains were later re-interred in Old City Cemetery in Dyersburg, Tennessee.



Birthplace Historical Marker – Malta, Ohio



Tombstone – Dyersburg, Tennessee

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