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SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

THE FIGHTING McCOOKS
"The Tribe of John"
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Daniel McCook's younger brother John (1806 - 1865) was a 55 year old Ohio doctor when the Civil War started. He volunteered as an army surgeon. He was born and educated at Cannonsburg, Pennsylvania, the home of Jefferson College. His wife Catherine Julia Sheldon was from Hartford, Connecticut. Dr. McCook practiced medicine for many years in New Lisbon, Ohio before moving to Steubenville, Ohio. He died in October, 1865 while visiting his son, Brigadier General Anson George McCook, at his headquarters in Washington DC. John and his five sons all served as Union officers during the Civil War. The "Tribe of John" combined with the "Tribe of Dan" provided fifteen "Fighting McCooks" during the Civil War.

Edward Moody McCook (1833 - 1909) the oldest son of John McCook was a lawyer who had served in the Kansas legislature before the war. For his work as a secret agent of the government he was commissioned a 1st lieutenant of cavalry just before the war. When the war started he was appointed major of the 2nd Indiana cavalry. He saw action at Shiloh, Perryville, Chickamauga, and rose to the rank of major general. He resigned from the army in 1866 when he was appointed Minister to Hawaii. When General Grant became President of the United States he appointed him twice to serve as Governor of the Colorado Territory.

Anson George McCook (1835 - 1917) the second son of John McCook started as a captain in the 2nd Ohio Volunteers and ended the war as a brigadier general. He moved to New York City after the war and served six years in the United States House of Representatives and became secretary of the United States Senate.

Henry Christopher McCook (1837 - ?) the third son of John McCook was a chaplain. He was a Presbyterian minister before the war. He served as a 1st lieutenant and chaplain for nine months during the war in the 41st Illinois Regiment.

Roderick Sheldon McCook (1839 - 1886) the fourth son of John McCook graduated from Annapolis in 1859. He fought in battles on the James River and along the coast of North Carolina. He retired from the Navy in 1885. He reached the rank of Commander in 1873. His death was caused in 1886 when he was thrown from his buggy and landed on his head.

John James McCook (1842 - ?) the fifth and youngest son of John McCook served as a 1st lieutenant in the 1st Virginia Volunteers. Most of the members of this unit were from Ohio and fought in West Virginia. He became a professor and an Episcopal minister. He wrote several books. He taught Modern Languages at Trinity College, Hartford, Connecticut.

The Ohio McCooks acquired a wide popular reputation during the Civil War as the "Fighting McCooks."