Capt= E. D. Willett

Co. B. 40 Regmt

Ala Vol=

CH 5-1-1958 Estate of J. J. Willett, Sr Military

The Pickens Planters. Company "B." 40th Regiment Ala. Volunteers Col. A. A. Coleman Commanding. Organized on the 13th day of March. 1862. at Speeds Mill in Pickens County Alabama.

Roll of Officers and Privates of Company "B."

Age

Elbert. D. Willett Captain
John. T. Terry 1. Lieut.
James. A. Latham 2 Lieut.
James. H. Wier 2 Lieut.

Non Com officers

Jesse T Hancock 1st Sergt
Eli D Vance 2 "
Jno W. Sanders 3 "
Wm K. Shaver 4 "
Wm C. Stewart 5 " Disch.
John R Weems. 1. Corporal
Jas Wiley Horton 2 Corp.
Jacob. H Eaton 3 "
Andrew. W Largent 4 "

Privates

Allen. James M.
Acker Bayless. S
Acker George W.
Barham. William

Roll Continued

Belk George W
Burris James H. Disch at Demopolis
Black Sam D
Bush John C.
Bush James M.
Byars James A.
Burns, Joseph H, Dis. at Demopolis
Cook Geo. P.
Carver Wesley H.
Cockerell James M Dis at Demopolis
Collins Jonathan
Collins Joseph
Camelin Joseph
Cameron James
Cameron Thomas
Calley Wm. P.
Cole Lewis F.
Channell Thos. C.
Connell David G. Loaned to Capt Sum 1. M.
Daniel Thomas P.
Easterling Henry
Eads John A.
Freeman Morgan
Freeman Isham A.
Fowler John F.
Goodwin John,

Graham George M.
Hicks John F
Hicks Dane N.
Hicks Henderson
Hicks John R.
Howell Anderson F.
Hall Gasoph N
Hildreth Sardine
Irby William H. Dis at Demopolis
Irwin Robert.
Jones Robert A.
Jones Wm H.
Jones Thos W.
Jones Wm G.
Jones Henry W. M. Loaned to capt Sum 1. m
Jennings John G.
Jennings Abner D.
Jennings Wm. H
Jones Marcellus S. Dis. at Demopolis
Kirk John Dis at. Demopolis
King Samuel G.
Lancaster Eli. G.
Lee Thos H.
Lancaster Gasoph
Ledbetter Richard B.
McAteer Wm R.
McDaniel George W, Loaned to capt Sum

ALA. DEPT. ARCHIVES & HISTORY
MIL

McGee Jno. P. 8th
McManis John. C.
Mullins Benj F
McDaniel Reuben Dis at Demopolis
Morrison William
McBoy Alex D.
Pate James B. Dis at Demopolis
Pratt Joseph A.
Pratt Jno. L
Parker Charles K Loaned to Capt Sam 1. m.
Pearson Samuel
Parker James F
Robertson Samuel
Robertson Hugh
Reddish James H.
Russell John A.
Russell Asbury C.
Russell Charles M.
Reynolds Thos K
Reynolds James S.
Ralph Francis W
Staggs John W Loaned to Capt Sum 1. m
Staggs Abner W
Shockley Thos W
Spud James H Loaned to Capt Sum 1 m
Strickland Wm G.
Strickland Jno J.

Strickland Abel
Strickland Saml. Dis at Demopolis
Williams Paul P.
Williams Thos. H.
Williams Thomas.
West James. H.
Wells James F
Wood Joshua
Wood William
Wood Enoch
Walker Francis M Dis at Demopolis
Walker Gov. G. Loaned to Capt. Sum 1 m.
Walker Miles W. Loaned " " " 1 m
Vance Wm. V.
Gates Wm M. Dis at Demopolis-

The above company, on the 2 day of April 1862. took up the line of march from Carrollton the place of Rendesvous to Vicksville, at which place on the 3 day of April 1862. I went on board the Steamer Warrior, to be transported to Demopolis Ala. the place by the Governor, appointed, for the Organisation of Col A.A. Colemans Regiment and on Friday Apr. 4 1862 arrived at Demopolis or Camp. Coleman-

The Company remained at Dumopolis until the 19 day of April 1862. and while there the Company was examined by Dr Culgin Surgeon C. S. A. and the Bounty paid to the Company by Capt. Benj Yancy. The Surgeon discharged the following Members of the Company Wm C Stewart. James H. Burris, Joseph H. Burns. James M Lockerell. Wm H. Irby, Marcellus Jones. John Kirk. Reuben Mc Daniel. James B Pate, Saml Strickland. Francis M Walker, and Wm M Yates; which discharged Soldiers returned to their homes from Dumopolis. And as above Stated by the Order of the Governor, on Saturday the 19 day of April the Pickens Planters Started on Board the Warrior to Mobile Ala. and arrived at Mobile on the 20 day of the Same month on Sunday, and were Stationed in a Ware House on Royal Street.

On the 26 day of April 1862 we took up the line of March. (Saturday) for Cantonment Walton. five Miles from Mobile, down the Bay on Dog River, and arrived at Said Cantonment on

the same day- The company had but little Sickness, until it was Stationed at Cantonment Watts. when the measles broke out in camps. and fifty six of the company had the measles, and two members died to wit John F Fowler died on the Eleventh day of May 1862 in camps, of measles. Succeeded by congestion, of lungs, and his body was sent home in Pickens County to his father, he was without family unmarried and about Seventeen years of age-
Wesley H. Carver unmarried died also of Measles. Succeeded by typhoid fever, in Marine Hospital in Mobile his body was also sent home. he died on the 17th day of May 1862-
Thomas Williams private in the Pintus was taken Sick with fever. about the first of June 1862 and lingered on until the 14 day of June 1862 when he died he was buried at Cantonment Watts the Government. on account of apprehensions of an attack on Mobile refused to furlough an Escort to take the body of Williams to his home He left a wife & four children

was about forty years of age and resided in Pickens Co Ala on Bearbeck Upto the 21 day of June 1862 no Other deaths have occurred in the Pickens Planters.

On the 16 day of may 1862 the 40th Regiment of Ala Vol. was Organised and the following Companies composed and now compose the Regmt to, wit. Pickens Planters Co B Capt E D Willett, Pickens Stars Co. F. Capt Summerville now Capt F. O. Stone both from Pickens County Ala - Company "C" C A W Jones Captain, Company A. Capt E S. Gully. Company K Capt A M Moore all from Sumter Co Ala. Company D. Capt E Marsh. Company I Capt Coleman Co H. Capt A G Campbell all from Choctaw Company K Capt C C Crowe from Perry Company G. Capt Hiram Gault from Covington Co Alabama, and on said 16th day of may at said organisation Col. A A Coleman was Elected Colonel of Said Regiment which is the Fortieth Regiment of Alabama Volunteers,

On the 21 day of June 1862, Charles W. Russell private in Capt Willetts Co died in Hospital at Cantonment Walton, of the Measles followed by typhoid fever, his body was taken home by John Shirley, to Pickens County. He was about 26 years old, left a wife in Pickens County;

On the 18th day of April 1862, I transfered to Capt H Summerville to complete his Company Eight men David G Connell James F. Speed, Charles R Parker, Henry W M Jones, George W McDaniel, John J. Walker, Miles W. Walker, and John W. Staggs on condition that he retransfer them so soon as he recruited that number to his Company which he did soon after,

On the day of 1862 John H. Higley was Elected Lieutenant Colonel of said Regiment, and Devereux Hopkins was Elected Major, Hopkins refused to accept, and the 30 day of June no Major has been elected or appointed for the Regiment, a contest arose between Capts Gully and Jones about Rank, and promotion to the office of Major.

On the 25 day of June 1862 the Fortieth Regiment Ala Vol. with all the Confederate Army of Mobile was reviewed by Genl. G T. Beaugard - and then Brigade drill commenced at the old Race Course, the Regiments that drilled were the 40 ala 3d & 4 Florida and 27 Miss 38 & 32 Ala. Sometimes they were drilled by Gen Forney and Gen Jones,.

About the 4th of July there was a General review of all the troops of the Mobile Army to celebrate that day by Gen Jno H. Forney. It was a very hot day and rained a hard rain in the evening and all the army got very wet,

On the 5th day of July 1862 Thomas P. Daniel and Abner W. Savage and Abner D Gennings took Sick, with the typhoid fever, Savage & Gennings had previously had the Measles, Savage lingered for about two weeks, and on the 20 day of July 1862 in the Hospital at Cantonment Walton Abner W. Savage died and was buried at Cantonment Walton, and his grave marked by a

nice Board, at the head of his grave
He was unmarried and about 18 years
of age was a good Soldier, and very
Stout and able bodied before his Sickness
Thomas P. Daniel, lingered until the 21
day of July 1862, when he also died at
Cantonment Walton in Hospital. his
case was a Severe one from the Start, he
grew worse from the beginning. He was
buried in a nice Coffin at Cantonment
Walton, and a nice head board put at the
head of his grave. He was about thirty
years old, left a wife and one child who
reside near Reform in Pickens County Ala
He was a noble man, a patriot. one of
the best of men loved by officers & men
robust and Stout was never sick a day
from the day he entered the Service until
he took his last Sickness, nothing seemed
benefit him he Sunk rapidly and died as
Stated above on the 21. day of July 1862
On the 21 day of July 1862, Our Camps
were broken up at Cantonment Walton, and
the 40. Regmt Ala Vol. moved to and en
Camped at Camp Marshall Austell, one
and a half miles from Mobile; all the
Sick were moved to Hospitals in Mobile

Abner D Jennings was one of the Sick moved to Mobile, he got worse and on the 27 day of July 1862, at the Gmird Hospital he died, and was buried in the New Grave Yard in Mobile. his grave was marked by a Board at his Head, he was about 24 years of age left a Wife and one Child, who reside in Pickens County Ala. His Father Wm. Jennings attended him in his last Sickness until he died. On the 23 of July 1862 all the Regmts about Mobile were Sent to Chattanooga with nearly all the Army of Tupelo and only two Regiments were left at Mobile the 40th (Owls) and 1st Kitchums. 38 Regmt, Ala Vol. The 40th commenced doing Guard Duty in Mobile the Whole Regmt, and on to August 1st doing that duty with the 38th and Some Cavalry in and about Mobile.

On the 14 day of August 1862, Henderson Sichs. Wm Morrisson Thos W. Shockley. Abl Strickland. Jas F Wiens, and Jas. D. Wien were discharged from the Service, on account of Disease and Disobidity.

On the 27 day of July 1862 Lieut J. H. Wien got leave of absence for twelve days, and returned back to Camp,

Marshall Austell at the expiration of the time.

On the 2 day of August Lieut G A Latham got Sick leave of absence for twenty days, and at this writing Nov. 2. 1862. has not returned to his company, He went to his home in Pickens Co and had a Severe attack of Camp Fever,

On the 13 day of August 1862, Capt E. D Willett got leave of absence to go home for fifteen days, went home and returned to Camp Marshall Austell on the 28 day of Same month,

On the 3. day of Sept 1862. Lieut Jno T Terry got leave of absence twenty days to go to his home went home, and about ten days after was attacked with Jaundice, and did return to Camps for Several days after his leave expired —

To date Nov 2 1862 have had no deaths among the officers of Co. B, and consequently no promotions in the Company, Since its organisation. March 13 1862,

On the 9. day of August 1862. Wm L Lipsey, Benj T Black, Jno M French, and Wm S Taylor Enlisted and were received into the Company

On the 18 day of August 1862 John K

Brandon entisled and was received into the Company, and on the 19. of Same month John G. Robinson entisled and was received into the Said Co. B. all from Pickens County Alabama On the 27 day of August 1862 H F B Gilbert of Sumter Co was Entisled and received into the Co,

On the 10. day of Sept 1862 Sergt F W. Ralph got tired of the Service, and Substituted one Peter Clark in my Co & was himself discharged, The officers and men not wanting the Said Peter in the Co, But Willing to let Sergt Ralph (who was nearly crasy) out of the Service, took the Substitute, and on the Same day transfered the Said Peter Clark to Co H, Capt C C Crows Co, so that Sergt Ralph by a Substitute is Serving his country in a Co from Perry Co Ala,

On the 31. day of Oct 1862. Jno P McGee Sr was discharged the Service on account of Sequalea of Measles and Bronchitis,

> On the 8th day of Oct 1862 the Camp at Marshall Austell was broken up and the 40. Reg Ordered to Camp Forney on Spring Hill Rail Road, four miles from Mobile between Gov & Dauphin Streets, and was there ordered into

a Brigade composed of the 18. 36. 38. & 40. Regmts Ala vols, at first commanded by Col. G T Holtsclaw Seigner Col for about two weeks. when Brig General Cummings reported for duty at Mobile and took command of said Brigade it was in official papers called the first Brigade of the Army of Mobile. Col A A Coleman Com^d 40. Col R.H. Smith the 36. Col G T Holtsclaw 18 & Col Ketchum 38. Regmts, at Camp Ferry we cleared of a large area of ground for a Brigade Drill Ground; and for many weeks. until the 2 day of Decr 1862. drilled in Brigade Drill Battalion Drill. Co & Skirmish Drill daily when the weather would permit, about the 23. of Novr 1862. all the Regmts of that Brigade commenced building cabins for winter quarters, and had up to the 2 day of Decr. 1862 nearly completed their Cabins. for quarters;

On the 27 day of Novr 1862 Andrew Bush and A. J. Hollingsworth joined Co B. 40 Regmt by enlistment arriving at the age of 18 years - they were from Pickens Co Ala,

On the - day of November 1862 D S. Lavender & Gm C. Pratt, joined Co B. 40th Regmt Ala Vol. having been brought from Camp of instruction at Talladega Ala - to camp of 40th Regmt. with 100 other men, who were apportioned to the Several Companies to equalise them. and Co B then having over an average number did not get, but two men the ones above named, They were taken to Talladega Ala under what was known as the Conscript Act-

December 12th 1862,

On the morning of the 2 day of Dec 1862 Orders came to Col Coleman 40 Regmt to be ready in two hours to March to Mobile, to take the evening train on the Mobile & Ohio Rail Road for Grenada Miss, and at two o'clock the Regmt, Started, leaving tents, and all heavy baggage and march to Mobile about 750 men effective men, and the Quarter Master had a train of Box Cars ready which the Regmt took with what baggage they could carry and left for Meridian Miss in a cold rain, and no rations in their Haversacks, at 3 o'clock

A.M. arrived at Meridian, changed arms & baggage from that train to the ground, and had fires kindled, and had crackers and pickled pork issued for breakfast, not having had any thing to eat since the morning before, except what the men could buy or pick up - The Regt remained at Meridian until next Morning 4. O'clock Dec 4. and left in train or rather two trains for Jackson Miss. at which place we arrived at 8 O clock P.M. and were thence ordered to Grenada, but when we arrived at Canton at 12 O'clock Night received Orders to return back to Jackson, as the fight at Coffeeville was over and our Army had retreated back to Grenada, at 12 O'clock the Cars started back to Jackson and arrived there at day light on Morning of the 7th December, 1862 that day, the Cars, after breakfast, on the New Orleans Rail Road carried us out two miles to a Creek, and the 40th pitched tents there at the Same time in the Same field the 74. 80 & 81. Tenn. Regts Composing Vaughns Brigade, encamped, We remained at Jackson until the 17th of December, doing Some drilling and Provost duty in Jackson

On the Evening of the 16th of Decr orders at Jackson were issued for the 40th Ala Regt to go to Columbus Miss. to assist an attack of the Enemy down the Mobile & O. R. Road. on that night tents were struck, and Co B. remained all night at Camps and hauling baggage to Jackson. On the morning of the 17th the Regt took up the line of march for Jackson Miss to take the cars for Columbus, and arrived there at 8 o clock A. M. at 10 o'clock the 1st Battallion left in the cars with Lt Col Coleman & Lt Col Sigley Major T. O. Stone remaining with 2 Battallion at 3 o clock P. M. the 2 Battallion left in cars for Columbus, The Sick of Co B. had increased in number on account of cold weather & exposure. The Sick of Co B. left at Jackson were these Jas. A. Pratt, Josh. Wood, Wm R. Vance, Joseph Lancaster, & J. F. Parker. A few days before the said Lt. Lieut Terry had gone back to Mobile taking with him under arrest J. R. Hicks Private of Co. B. charged with Whipping to death a Slave of Lieut Pickens. He also took a witness Jno. R. Weems of Same Co B. Lieut Terry & Weems returned to Regmt at Columbus Miss.

The 40th Regt. arrived at Meridian on the morning of the 18th of Decr. and waited there transportation until 3 o clock P. M.

The Regt went in open cars to Meridian-
in the Severest weather; and Suffered from
Cold and hunger greatly. On the evening of
the 18th the Regmt in Cars left for Columbus-
and arrived at Columbus on the Morning of the
19th Decr. and remained at the Depot that day
until evening and the Regmt marched thro town
to the Fair Grounds, and pitched tents;
The Regmt, remained at Columbus until the
Morning of the 27th Decr, While at Columbus
We all had a pleasant time there, the Men and
officers were better fed and could buy more than
at any other place we had encamped. Many
of the Wives and friends of the Men in Co, B,
Visited them there, being near their homes, but
none officers or men were allowed to visit
home. On the evening of the 26th Decr. Mrs
Willett. Latham & Perry Came into Camps-
at Columbus, to See us, We took them to Hotel
at Cady's and remained with them the Night
of 26th Decr. The Regt having orders then from
Gen. Pemberton to go to Vicksburg Miss, We
remained that night at Hotel with our wives
Lieut Weir Superintending the moving of the
Baggage of the Co to the Depot that Night
The train was to leave at 4 o'clock A. M
Decr with the left Battallion, We got up

at 3 o'clock A M Dec 27 1862 and took leave of our wives at Cadiz Hotel and went down to the Depot. the train with 2 Battallion was ready to Start. and did Start in a few minutes in a very hard rain. It having rained very hard all that night. The train Started for Meridian Saturday Morning Dec 27. 1862. and arrived at Meridian the Same day in the Evening about 4 o'clock. A Train was in waiting to take us on to Jackson. But Col Coleman. wishing to enjoy his wife, who met him there, dispensed with the necessity of going, which was urgent and by dilatoriness. and excuse and delay caused us to loose that train at 9 o'clock P. M, and to suit his personal ease and comfort we had to remain that Evening and night and until next day Sunday Dec 28 1862 at 11 o'clock A. M. When we took another train for Vicksburg - the First Battallion by this time having come up. left Soon after for Vicksburg on another train. On Monday Evening the 40th arrived at Jackson after many delays on the Road. and the trains with the 40th Stood there all that night. It raining torrents and the Men without any thing to eat except what could be picked up here and there when the trains Stopped,

Tuesday morning Decr 30. 1862 the 4th Regt left in same trains for Vicksburg the place to which the Regmt had been ordered by Gen Pemberton, and Arrived at Vicksburg at 8 O clock Tuesday 30 day Decr 1862 -
The Sick of Co B. 40. Ala. left at Columbus Miss in Hospitals were there. D N. Sicks F M Williams. Benj F. Black Mark L. Thompson, Geo G Strickland. Geo A. Pratt. Geo C Pratt. C G Lancaster F M Lee. Geo Goodwin and as Nurse for them Geo M Bush. Thompson and Lee, returned to Camp at Chickasaw Bayou, on the 12 Jany 1863 -
At Columbus Miss Hugh G Robinson deserted and has not to 24 Jany 1863 returned to the Co. Also at same place Sergt Shaver and Geo F Hancock without Leave absented themselves from Co from Decr 27 1862 the first until 2 day of Jany and Second until 7th Jany 1863 when they returned. and have had their trials before Regimental Court Martial. but the Sentences have not yet been published
When the Regmt arrived at Vicksburg the Siege was going on, and the Regmt was ordered within two hours to take up the

line of March (Tuesday night 10 O'clock Decr 30 1862) for Chickasaw Bayou. the Battle Field of Sunday and Monday previous. The Regmt was drawn up in line of battle. on one of the Hills of Vicksburg and Parson Barker took it upon himself to make a short harangue. He spoke loudly and warlike. but wound up by saying he was sorry he could not go. as he had positive orders from the Col. not to go. tho not sick at all. then excused by the Surgeon, and went on further to state that the Col A.A. Coleman was sick and could not go further with the Regmt. The time had come when to all human appearances the 40th would get into a fight on the morning of Decr 31- 1862, as the enemy were in large force and a battle or a continuation of the battle was expected The Col. had the bowel complaint. and a sore or painful knee and therefore could not go any farther with the Regmt. the Regmt heard the Parson through and the word forward by Col Higby was given and we all marched off in fine Spirits for the battle field. The Regmt marched up the River Road that is made along the base of the Hills or mountains in Silence. as we were at many points on the Road within Shelling. distance from the Enemys Batteries. No accident happened on the way