

THE THIRTY-SECOND ALABAMA INFANTRY.

The rendezvous of the regiment was at Mobile, where it was organized in April, 1862. In July it was sent into Tennessee, and received its baptism of fire at Bridgeport, where it crossed the river. It was this regiment that captured Stevenson, Tenn. It was in middle Tennessee under General Forrest, and was overpowered and lost a number of prisoners at Lavergne, October, 1862. The regiment met severe loss at Murfreesboro and its roll of honor is a long one. It was sent to the relief of Vicksburg, and did valiant work in the trenches at Jackson, where, in repulsing an attack of the enemy without loss, it slaughtered 260. It rejoined the army of Tennessee and at Chickamauga suffered severely. During the winter of 1863-64, the regiment was transferred from Adams' to Clayton's brigade and consolidated with the Fifty-eighth under Col. Bush. Jones, and took part in the Atlanta campaign; was with Hood in Tennessee, taking part at Franklin twice, at Columbia and Nashville. Transferred to the district of the Gulf under General Maury, it suffered serious losses during the siege of Spanish Fort and was finally surrendered at Meridian. Capt. G. W. Cox was severely wounded at Missionary Ridge, and Lieuts. J. J. Keith and Hiram Slay were killed at Murfreesboro.

The field officers were Col. Alexander McKinstry, Lieut.-Col. Harry Maury, captured at Lavergne, wounded at Murfreesboro and Jackson, afterward transferred to the command of the Fifteenth Confederate. After consolidation, Col. Bush. Jones was in command; he was promoted and succeeded by Maj. Harry Thornton, and later by Maj. John C. Kimbell. Majs. Thomas P. Ashe and Thomas S. Easton were also among its officers.

EXTRACTS FROM OFFICIAL WAR RECORDS.

Maxey of attack at Bridgeport and Battle Creek, August 27, 1862: "I ordered the Twenty-third Alabama infantry, Colonel McKinstry, to cross the river. They crossed and formed in line of battle near the crest of the hill. The enemy's cavalry dashed forward at full speed and were permitted to come within 50 yards of the infantry before a gun was fired, when a galling fire was poured into them and they retreated. . . . A company of the Thirty-second Alabama, armed with the Enfield rifle, commanded by Lieut. A. Sellers, was placed in the center, in ambush, and as the enemy came up the hill, in very close range, this company arose and delivered its deadly fire simultaneously with the wings, and they (the enemy) broke and fled in perfect confusion. . . . The Thirty-second Alabama did nobly, fighting like veterans under their able colonel (McKinstry), seconded by Lieutenant-Colonel Maury, distinguished for gallantry and coolness on the field. Our loss was trifling." (952) Lieutenant-Colonel Maury informs General Jones that after a few hours' fighting, the enemy was driven from Stevenson and place occupied by our troops, August 31st.

Vol. XVI, Part 2—(762) August 17, 1862, to be left at Chattanooga, in Maxey's brigade, under Maj.-Gen. Sam Jones. (764) Gen. J. K. Jackson's brigade, army of the Mississippi, General Polk, August 18-20, 1862. (857) Gen. Sam Jones leaves Colonel McKinstry in command at Chattanooga, September 20, 1862. (862) Lieut.-Col. H. Maury ordered to take part at Tullahoma, September 21st. (864) Guards of Thirty-second to be relieved by Colonel Russell's cavalry, September 21st. (886, 890) Instructions to Colonel McKinstry. (907) Lieutenant-Colonel Maury ordered by General Jones to move regiment to Murfreesboro, October 4th. (918) Mentioned by General Jones. (929) Ordered to report to General Forrest, October 9th. (931) General Jones inquires regarding Lieutenant-Colonel Maury and regiment. (938) Lieutenant-Colonel Maury and 35 men reported captured at Lavergne, October. (981) Regiment assigned to Second brigade, Col. J. B. Palmer, army of Middle Tennessee, October 28, 1862, General Breckinridge.

Vol. XX, Part 1—(659) Daniel W. Adams' division, Hardee's corps, army of Tennessee, December and January, 1863. (678) Return of casualties, battle of Murfreesboro, December 31st, 21 killed, 84 wounded. Lieuts.

J. J. Keith and Hiram Slay killed; 2 killed January 2d. (793, 794) Mentioned in report of same battle by General Adams: "Lieut.-Col. H. Maury was wounded in the side with a minie-ball while leading his men, with his colors in his hand, and deserves praise for his gallant conduct. Lieut. J. L. Chandler deserves great praise for his courage and coolness under the trying circumstances in which he was placed." (795-799) Reports of Col. Randall L. Gibson. Regiment held in reserve January 2d. Several times mentioned. Aggregate present, January 8th, 261. (800) Report of Lieut.-Col. Henry Maury: "Adj. John L. Chandler acted with conspicuous gallantry. Officers and men all did their duty." (802) Mentioned in Maj. J. E. Austin's report. (973) Roll of honor, battle of Murfreesboro: Private James Clemens,* Company A; Corp. Vincent H. Joiner, B; Private Edmund Davis, C; Corp. John C. Oliver,* D; Private Reuben Dumas, E; Private Nathaniel F. Wheeler,* F; Corp. James H. Dove, G; Private Alfred C. Hulls, H; Sergt. Geo. W. Vansandt, I; Corp. Elijah P. Gabel,* K.

Vol. XX, Part 2—(419, 431) Second brigade, Col. J. B. Palmer, Breckinridge's division, Polk's corps, army of Tennessee, General Bragg, November, 1862. (456) Adams' brigade, Hardee's corps, near Eagleville, Tenn., December, 1862. (459) December 21st, assigned to duty with Preston's brigade until Adams' brigade joins division.

No. 37—(654) Casualties before Jackson, Miss., 1 wounded. (655, 656) Report of General Adams, engagement of July 12, 1863, gives great praise to regiment. Lieutenant-Colonel Maury was wounded. Capt. John C. Kimbell's report.

No. 51—(13) Adams' brigade, Breckinridge's division, Hill's corps, army of Tennessee, General Bragg, Chickamauga campaign. (197) Mentioned in report of General Breckinridge. (216-219) Mentioned in report of General Gibson of battle of Chickamauga; strength, 145. (219, 220) Maj. John C. Kimbell's report of September 20th, 2 wounded. (227) Mentioned in report of J. E. Austin.

No. 53—(661, 745) Clayton's brigade, army of Tennessee. Casualties, battle of Missionary Ridge, November 23 to 25, 1863, 8 killed and 34 wounded.

No. 56—(618, 686) October 31, 1863, regiment com-

*Killed in action.

manded by Capt. John W. Bell. Transferred to Clayton's brigade, Stewart's division, November 12th. (805, 824) Thirty-second and Fifty-eighth commanded by Col. Bush. Jones, December 10th. Total present (consolidated), 325.

No. 57—(479) Casualties at Rocky Face mountain, February 24 and 25, 1864, 3 killed, 31 wounded.

No. 74—(641, 649) Assignment as above. (657, 664, 672) Holtzclaw's brigade, Clayton's division, July to August, 1864. (832-834) Report of Gen. H. D. Clayton of engagements from May 7 to May 27, 1864 (Atlanta campaign), speaks of "their unexceptional conduct" at Resaca. "The Thirty-second and Fifty-eighth pushed up to within a few paces of the enemy's works without hesitation, though they knew what was before them, and the fate they would certainly encounter." List of casualties for the consolidated regiments gives 3 killed and 36 wounded. (841, 844) Report of Col. Bushrod Jones of operations May 7th to 28th: "Lieut. John H. Jones was unhurt in the fight, but was captured while endeavoring to have our wounded brought off the field. . . . Lieut. J. G. Goldthwait was wounded in wrist and Capt. G. W. Cox had his left thigh broken. My command behaved with rare and exemplary gallantry." May 15th, strength 345; killed 15, wounded 54; May 25th, strength, 225; killed 3, wounded 36; total, 18 killed, 90 wounded.

No. 78—(854) Assignment as above, Hood's army, September 20, 1864. Maj. Harry I. Thornton, of Fifty-eighth Alabama, in command of consolidated regiment.

No. 79—(879) Total present, 240, November 7, 1864.

No. 93—(665) Assignment as above, December 10, 1864.

No. 103—(1046) Holtzclaw's brigade, district of the Gulf, General Maury, March 10, 1865.

No. 104—(1131) Consolidated regiment, under Major Kimbell, directed to hold command in readiness to skirmish with enemy and, if hard pressed, to fall back in Spanish Fort, March 20, 1865. (1132) Near Hollywood, March 20, 1865.

THIRTY-SECOND ALABAMA—(INFANTRY).

This regiment organized at Mobile, in April 1862, and three months later proceeded to Tennessee. It was first under fire at Bridgeport, where it forded the Tennessee in the face of the enemy. Shortly after, the regiment captured Stevenson, with valuable stores. It operated in middle Tennessee, part of the time under Gen. Forrest, and was surprised and overpowered at Lavergne, losing a number of prisoners. Placed in Gen. D. W. Adams' brigade, the Thirty-second fought with severe loss at Murfreesboro. Having wintered at Tullahoma, the regiment was part of the force sent to Mississippi to the relief of Vicksburg. It was in the trenches at Jackson, and, without loss, repulsed an assault of the enemy, 260 of whose dead were counted and buried in front of its position. Two or three months later, the Thirty-second rejoined the Army of Tennessee, and participated in the battle of Chicamauga with small loss. It was then transferred from Adams' brigade to that of Gen. Clayton of Barbour, and consolidated with the Fifty-eighth Alabama, where its further record will be found.

FIELD AND STAFF.

COLONEL.—Alexander McKinstry of Mobile; relieved.

LIEUT. COLONEL.—Harry Maury of Mobile; captured at Lavergne; wounded at Murfreesboro and Jackson; transferred.

MAJORS.—Thos. P. Ashe of Washington; resigned. Thos. S. Easton of Mobile; resigned. John C. Kimball of Clarke; relieved.

ADJUTANT.—John L. Chandler of Mobile; relieved.

CAPTAINS, AND COUNTIES FROM WHICH COMPANIES CAME.

WASHINGTON.—R. L. Bowling; wounded at Murfreesboro; relieved.

MOBILE.—John Drew; resigned. Charles H. Garner; resigned. Hinson H. Smith; resigned. H. McF. Tatum; died in the service.

MOBILE AND BALDWIN.—Thos. S. Easton; promoted. Benj. H. Smoot; relieved.

WILCOX AND CLARKE.—John Creagh; resigned. George W. Cox; wounded at New Hope.

CLARKE.—Alexander Kilpatrick; resigned.

MOBILE, WASHINGTON, AND CHOCTA.—H. S. Smith; resigned. Thomas S. Fry; wounded near Dalton; transferred.

CLARKE AND WASHINGTON.—J. C. Kimball; promoted. S. T. Taylor.

CLARKE.—John W. Bell; died in the service.

MOBILE, TUSKALOOSA, AND FAYETTE.—Walter Thompson; detached.

MOBILE.—J. McF. Cleveland; resigned. W. B. Grist.

Field and staff

Colonels.-Alexander McKinstry of Mobile county, relieved.

Harry Maury of Mobile county, captured at Lavergne, wounded at Murfreesboro and Jackson and transferred.

Majors.- Thomas P. Ashe of Washington county, resigned; Thomas S. Easton of Mobile county, resigned; John C. Kimball of Clarke county, relieved.

Surgeons.-

Chaplains.-

A. C. S.-

A. Q. M.-

Adjutants.- John L. Chandler of Mobile county, relieved.

Sgt. Major.-

Q. M. Sgt.-

Ordnance Sgt.-



Companies

- Co. A, " " - from Washington county. Captain: R. L. Bowling,
wounded at Murfreesboro and relieved.
- Co. B, " " - from Mobile county. Captains: John Drew,
resigned; Charles H. Garner, resigned; Hinson H. Smith, resigned;
H. McF. Tatum, died in the service.
- Co. , " " - from Mobile and Baldwin counties. Captains:
Thomas S. Easton, promoted; Benjamin H. Smoot, relieved.
- Co. D, " *Creagh Guards* " - from Wilcox and Clarke counties. Captains:
John W. Creagh, resigned; George W. Cox, wounded at New Hope.
- Co. E, " *Clarke County Confederates* " - from Clarke county. Captain: Alexander
Kilpatrick, resigned.
- Co. F, " " - from Mobile, Washington and Choctaw^w counties.
H. S. Smith, resigned; Thomas S. Fry, wounded near Dalton and
transferred.
- Co. G, "Dickinson Guards" - from Clarke and Washington counties. Captains: *D. E. Thomas*,
J. C. Kimball, promoted; S. T. Taylor.
- Co. , " " - from Clarke county. Captain: John W. Bell,
died in the service.
- Co. , " " - from Mobile, Tuscaloosa and Fayette counties.
Captain: Walter Thompson, detached.
- Co. , " " - from Mobile county. Captains: J. McF.
Cleveland, resigned; W. B. Grist.



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Capt. G. W. Cox was severely wounded at Missionary Ridge, and Lieutenants J. J. Keith and Hiram Slay were killed at Murfreesboro. The field officers were Colonel Alexander McKinstry, Lieutenant-Colonel Harry Maury, captured at Lavergne, wounded at Murfreesboro and Jackson, afterward transferred to the command of the Fifteenth Confederate. After consolidation, Colonel Bush Jones was in command, and he was promoted and succeeded by Major Harry Thornton and later by Major John C. Kimbail. Major Thomas P. Ashe and Major Thomas S. Easton were also among its officers.

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(For the Register and Advertiser.)

From the Members of Captain R.L. Bowling's Company
(A), 32d Alabama Regiment.

CAMP EIGHT MILES EAST OF CHATTANOOGA,)
Tennessee, Sept. 4, 1863.)

Messrs. Editors: On our way from Mississippi to Tennessee, a few days ago, we had the satisfaction of meeting some of our old friends and neighbors at Mobile. They were Messrs. J.S. Malone, J.D. Williams, Thomas Wainright, Dr. W. Woodyard and our gallant Capt. R.L. Bowling and Mr. Sam'l Hooks, all from Washington county. We were all revived to see our Captain, who stood by us so gallantly at Bridgeport, Battle Creek, Stephenson, Lavergne and Murfreesboro, and to our deep regret was wounded and crippled for life. Mr. Editor, you do not know how cheering it is to worn-down, weather-beaten soldier, after being nearly two years from home, to meet with old neighbors and friends, and for them to assure you that all is well at home. And while we are writing we must not forget to express our gratitude to the gentlemen above named for their liberality in making up the sum of three hundred and twenty-five dollars for the benefit of our company, and to assure all those who have families that they shall be seen to and provided for.



Respectfully,

COMPANY A, 32D ALABAMA REGIMENT.

THE "THIRTY-SECOND" at BRIDGEPORT.

A friend has kindly presented us the following letter, received this morning:

CAMP 32D ALABAMA REGIMENT,
Graham's Station, August 29.

Dear-----: As I have a little leisure I will tell you something about the battle of Bridgeport, fought by the brave 32d. You never say men go into a fight with such a vim in all your life. We received great praise from Harry Maury and also from Gen. Maxey, who said that he had been in five battles before, and never saw men go into a fight so cool as we did. But that is not telling you how we succeeded. About 10 o'clock on Wednesday morning we received orders to proceed to Bridgeport, as there was a report that the Yankees were landing on this side of the river. We then proceeded to the Tennessee river, and as the bridges were burned, we had to wade it; It was about 600 yards wide, and the current strong enough to pull a ~~millstone~~ millstone. After wading two hours we reached the other side, and had no sooner collected our men together and formed the line of battle, than the yankee cavalry were upon us. We fired into them ~~back~~ and drove them back. They then made three desperate charges, but were repulsed as fast as they came up, and the last time we drove them back they never returned again, which of course is natural for them to do. We have just received orders to proceed to the river to try them once more. The first time we gave them fits, and this time we will give them something ending in ---ation.



I remain, very respectfully.

B. H. SMOOT.

Hurrah for the 32d—she has gained a name and she is going to hold it.

(From Miss Sottrill's Scrapbook, now owned by Mr. Charles DeBriere, Mobile, Alabama.)