

Thomas W Jackson Files

Company K 6th Indiana Regiment

Biographical Information:

Thomas was the son of Isom and Elanor {Jones} Jackson, of Saluda, Jefferson County, Indiana. Thomas had a log cabin near Saluda, where he lived with his wife and children until his death. He was a member of the GAR in Madison, Indiana.

Madison, Indiana Mirror Newspaper Article Excerpt July 9, 1964

By 6 a.m., it being hardly light, on December 31, 1862, bloody Stone's [sic] River Battle had begun. It was here, at Stone's [sic] River in Tennessee, before Murfreesboro, Tennessee, that the Indiana Sixth Volunteer Infantry was to rendezvous with a very tragic destiny. The battle was over on January 2, 1863. Jefferson County's own gallant Sixth was struck very hard on the first day. The Sixth fought a valiant defensive battle. Because of overwhelming odds, the Sixth moved back about 1 ½ miles contesting the ground all the way. Typical of those who died at Stone's [sic] River was Lemon Jackson of Company K in the Indiana Sixth with his brother, Tom Jackson. During the horrifying retreat because of overwhelming odds on the 31st of December, Lemon Jackson was climbing over a rail fence after his older brother, Tom Jackson, when he was struck in the back of a neck by a Confederate minnie [sic] ball. Brother Tom Jackson rushed back to his side, but Lemon collapsed in his brother's arms. Just before he collapsed, Lemon told his brother Tom to stay with the regiment and leave him. Tom Jackson then went on. After the day's battle, lemon Jackson was picked up and later returned to a hospital in Nashville where he died on January 13, 1863. Lemon Jackson, who died from wounds at Stone's [sic] River now lays in peace, at a quiet country cemetery, near the old Saluda Schoolhouse- mute example of the heroism and terrible sacrifice of the gallant men of Jefferson Country's own Sixth Indiana Volunteer Regiment at Stone's [sic] River, Tennessee.

Madison, Indiana Mirror Newspaper Article Excerpt January 14, 1965

About 3 p.m. on November, 25, 1863, the Army of the Cumberland was ordered to the first of the Confederate rifle pits at the base of Missionary Ridge. The orders were to hold at this point. One of those rare things that happen in the course of activity by men

at arms now occurred. Someone in the line at the base of the ridge cried forward! The cry was echoed all along the line and a spontaneous movement of Missionary Ridge began. No one could imagine a successful storming of the deeply fortified position rising sharply up from the valley floor some 500 feet. The storming was now on a Regimental basis. The gallant old 6th Indiana was racing for the summit ahead of the other units. The last 100 feet up the ridge was determined by bayonet charge. Company K of the 6th Indiana captured a Confederate captain and 16 men while they were still in the topmost rifle pits of the Ridge. Capt. C. C. Briant was the commander of Company K in the old 6th. He was near the head of his company racing for the crest of the ridge. Tom Jackson of Hanover kept jumping ahead of Capt. Briant. Capt. Briant tells of repeatedly grabbing hold of Tom Jackson's coat tails and pulling himself ahead of Jackson. Each time, Jackson would race ahead of the others. Capt. Briant admitted that Jackson beat him to the crest by a step or two. Many will argue that Tom Jackson was, indeed, the first of the Cumberland boys to reach the top of Missionary Ridge. The Regiment paused at the crest to catch their breath. On the far side of the Ridge a Confederate captain was imploring his men to rally and return to repulse the hated Yankee. Tom Jackson of Hanover leaned his rifle against a captured Confederate cannon, unfastened his cartridge belt and started after the saber-waving Confederate captain- bare handed! The captain saw something determined and primeval in the advancing, unarmed Jackson. The captain obviously decided that the battles was lost, dropped his weapon and scampered down the eastern slope of the Ridge after his routed soldiers. The old 6th lost 20 men killed and several others wounded in the engagement. Among the wounded in the engagement was Tom Jackson of Company K.

[photo: Thomas W Jackson grave]

Inscription on Headstone

THOS. W. JACKSON
CORP. 6 IND. INFT.
BORN OCT. 12, 1841;
DIED SEPT. 20, 1930.

Other Find-a-Grave Information

Burial: Marling Cemetery, Saluda, Jefferson County, Indiana, USA