

“It Is A Goodly Land”
A History of the Mansker’s Station—
Goodlettsville Area

by Deborah Kelley Henderson

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Virginia and settled near Shackle Island.⁴⁸¹ The Dugger property is listed as a boundary line in the will of Robert Taylor, which would have made the Dugger land lay east of Shackle Island.⁴⁸² There are four Dugger names listed on the 1824 Sumner County Tax List; they include Fludd, John, Dread, and James. The Dugger name also shows up on military rosters of the War of 1812 and the Civil War.

Peter Blair also served in the Virginia Militia during the American Revolution as a private in the infantry.⁴⁸³ He is believed to have settled in the Shackle Island area. He paid taxes in 1797 on 100 acres in Sumner County. His son, Robert, paid taxes on seventy-four acres. He had at least two sons and perhaps six daughters. A Peter and Sarah Blair were listed as the parents of Francis in the Old Beech Cemetery. There are also several Blairs listed in the 1850 Davidson County Census, but the Blair line has not been researched.

There are several names listed on deeds recorded in 1792 which reflect who was living near Mansker's Creek. They include the names of Thomas and George Perry, James and John Shannon, Simon Kuykendall, Adam Lewis, Robert Hays, James Byrns, Dempsey Powell, and John Rhoads. In 1793, James Byrns and Dempsey Powell purchased land from the Shannons, one tract included the house where Shannon lived.⁴⁸⁴

There were also early Tennessee settlers who moved from their original homes to new homes in the Goodlettsville area. Among the new residents were David Smiley, Sr. and James Bullock Elizer. David Smiley had owned property at Baker's Station, but had resided in Robertson County for almost fifty years. He immigrated to Robertson County in c. 1805 and acquired large land holdings in the Ridgeway vicinity. After the death of his wife, Temperance, in 1858, he moved to the Twentieth District of Davidson County, where he lived with his son, David Smiley, Jr.⁴⁸⁵ James B. Elizer emigrated from Virginia to the Hendersonville community. The young man was an apprentice carriage-maker and had a shop, probably located on his farm, which was a mile north of Hendersonville. He made wagons, plows, and buggies. James acquired land and became rather affluent in the community. His hard work, however, was all lost when he signed a note for a friend and had to sell his farm to pay off his friend's debt. He then moved to Shackle Island near New Hope, where he purchased less expensive property.

He married Mary Garrett and they had eight children: James, Amanda, Jessie, Mary, Timothy, John, Frances, and Elizabeth. Their son, Jessie, died during the Civil War while fighting with Morgan's Raiders. Another son, Timothy, fought during the entire length of the war and was paroled at Appomattox, Virginia, after Lee's surrender.⁴⁸⁶ The Elizer family married into several prominent families in Shackle Island and their descendants make their homes in the community. Through Charles and Mary Elizer, descendants of James Elizer, many important historical documents dating from 1800 through the 1890s have been preserved.

Joseph Pilkington was in Goodlettsville prior to 1830 and married Temperance Cole, the daughter of Pilmore and Lydia Cole. Leonard Martin and George C. Kemper also joined the ranks of Goodlettsville residents.⁴⁸⁷ By the 1830s, the Elam family had immigrated to Sumner County. They made their way from Virginia through North Carolina to Goodlettsville. Joel and Peter, the sons of Edward Elam, Jr., appear in the Sumner County marriage records. In June, 1846, Mark S. Elam, Jr., enlisted in the Mexican War. The 1850 Sumner County Census lists Chandler Elam as a miller. He and his wife, Catherine, had three children: Reuben, Eli, and Tyree. James Tyree Elam's homeplace was located on Jackson Road off Long Hollow Pike. James Tyree was the grandfather of Aubry Shelby Moore.⁴⁸⁸

Daniel Allen made his home in Goodlettsville prior to 1830, when his son, James Franklin Allen, was born. He married Anna Boyd, the daughter of John and Mary Boyd.* The Boyds made their home on today's Center Point Road, where in 1792 John settled on a land grant. Daniel and Anna settled on 129 acres on Madison Creek in District Eight of Sumner County. His property joined that of Bryant Montgomery, David Harch, Phillip Kizer, and Robert Cunningham.⁴⁸⁹

James Franklin Allen married Susannah Paschal of Bedford County. Susannah was visiting Allen's neighbors, Sam and Anne Paschal, when she met James. The young couple was married in Shelbyville and rode double on horseback to Sumner County. James and Susannah had seven children: William Thomas,

*Children of John and Mary Boyd: Elizabeth Allen, Robert Boyd, Anna Chandler, Sarah Duke, and Cyrus Boyd. (Sumner County Wills Book 91, Book 2, p. 274, research by Edythe R. Whitley.)

Junction there our friends and sweethearts give us the farewell goodbye, and there was many tears shed there that evening." 90

On May 24, the Goodlettsville company arrived at Camp Trousdale, a rendezvous point near the Kentucky line. They were joined daily by new recruits and on June 11, 1861, companies from Rutherford, Cannon, Bedford, Wilson, and Davidson counties were organized into the Eighteenth Tennessee Infantry Regiment. The men of the Eighteenth Regiment unanimously elected Joseph B. Palmer colonel of the regiment. "The other officers were installed as follows: Lieutenant Colonel, A. G. Garden; Major, Samuel Davis; Adjutant, J. W. Roscoe; Capt. R. P. Crockett, Quartermaster; Capt. William Wood, Commissary; Dr. John Patterson, Surgeon. . . ." 91 The Goodlettsville troops were designated as Company B under the command of Captain J. W. Joyner, who was elected major on September 26, 1862. The service record of J. W. Roscoe shows that he was elected lieutenant of Company B, Eighteenth Regiment and in 1862 was promoted to captain. 92 Roscoe's position as an adjutant of the regiment was probably equivalent to an executive aide or secretary, and he probably held this office while assuming the responsibilities of his job as a lieutenant.

The men of Company B included: Major William H. Joyner, First Lieutenant James W. Roscoe, Second Lieutenant S. C. Bowers, Second Lieutenant W. M. Gleaves, Second Lieutenant Thois H. Hamilton, Second Lieutenant William M. Easley, First Sergeant Edwin B. Moore, Second Sergeant W. J. Warmack, Third Sergeant M. P. Cartwright, Fourth Sergeant J. A. Looney, First Corporal Richard L. Smith, Second Corporal F. S. Harrison, Third Corporal I. W. Cunningham, and Third Corporal J. A. Crunk. The enlisted men included: 93

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| William N. Adcock | Jesse P. Elizer |
| Emmet O. Allison | H. H. Foulks |
| M.V. Appleton | M.A. Freeman |
| A. Baker | Archibald Freeman |
| Allen F. Barber | Lunsford P. Galbreath |
| C.G. Beasley | J.P. Glasgow |
| W.D. Blair | Thomas F. Glasgow |
| J. P. Blackemore | John Gregory |

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Francis M. Blasingame | T. T. Grizzard |
| Stephen C. Bowers | Wm. H. Hamilton |
| Lawson Bowers | Banjamin J. Hampton |
| Adam B. Bowers | Noah Jasper Hampton |
| John Bowers | Wm. C. Hardaway |
| James M. Bruce | Ferguson S. Harrison |
| S.L. Bruce | John R. Harrison |
| John W. Bruce | James Harrison |
| Thomas F. Burge | J.M. Harch |
| W.M. Byrd | James W. Hawkins |
| William W. Capps | E.A.D. Hawkins |
| Hugh A. Carman | Enoch Hawkins |
| Robert W. Cartwright | R.H. Herrod |
| C.S. Cash | W.N. Hopper |
| Joshua C. Coggin | Lafayette Hulsey |
| James Jordan Coggin | W.A. Hulsey |
| John C. Coggin | T.R. Johnson |
| Samuel S. Cole | James J. Jones |
| Walter W. Cole | William A. Kemper |
| Allen P. Connell | W.C. Looney |
| Henry T. Croxton | Josiah W. Luton |
| W.H. Crosswy | J.W. Mathews |
| Jesse J. Crosswy | T.E. Moore |
| J.T. Crosswy | B.F. Myers |
| James B. Crunk | G.W. Myers |
| Thomas L. Cunningham | W.H. Newton |
| William H. Daniel | Chas. W. Nichols |
| J.L. Dismukes | T.H. Nichols |
| John Morrell Drake | R. Nokes |
| W.P. Drake | J.M. Patton |
| Thos. J. Phillips | Sunner Taylor |
| W.H. Raymond | Wm. Timmon |
| Robert Ridge | T.J. Utley |
| W.S. Roscoe | Thos. J. Warmack |
| J.W. Savely | Adam Williams |
| D.C. Scruggs | Haywood R. Williams |
| W.F. Shaw | Adam Williams |
| A.G. Smiley | James Williams |
| John J. Smith | John Lawson Young |
| Richard L. Smith | John L. Avent |
| Jasper B. Stark | A. P. Campbell |

J.W. Stark
James P.B. Swift

Alexander Cothran

While Company B was getting organized, other volunteers from the Goodlettsville area were joining other Tennessee regiments. Some of the volunteers can be connected with Goodlettsville by cross-referencing cemetery records and census lists to military rolls, although it is virtually impossible to name everyone who served. Soldiers from Goodlettsville serving in other companies included:⁹⁴

Company H 44th
Tennessee Infantry
Regiment

John P. Warmack

Timothy D. Elizer
T.G. Latimer
Hiram W. Beasley
William D. Frazer
James W. Garrett
Alex Kirkpatrick
Fredrick Lassiter
Linville Lassiter

Company A, 7th
Tennessee
Cavalry Battalion

John M. Cantrell
James M. Cantrell
Thomas H. Joyner

Company C, 7th
Tennessee Infantry

Stephen O. Cantrell

Company C, 9th
Tennessee Cavalry

John K. Kirkpatrick
William H. Kirkpatrick
William F. Lassiter
Lyeurgus Baker
H. Bloodworth
James Butterworth
Joseph A. Campbell
James McMurty
Jacob McMurty
John McMurty
William McMurty
James Campbell

Company C

John S. Clendenning
John Luton
John N. Crosswy
James F. Allen
William T. Crosswy
Sammuel B. Kirkpatrick
J.B. Kizer
Thomas G. (C) Kizer
Daniel O. Montgomery
John F. Patton
James Ralph
John Ralph

First Tennessee Regiment

J. W. Freeman

Company C, Cumberland
Rifles

Ambrose J. Grizzard

Second Tennessee
Regiment

Major T. Grizzard
Luther Roscoe
Thomas C. Shaw

Company G, Eighteenth
Regiment

John R. Raulston

Tennessee Volunteers
Company K, Eighteenth
Regiment

Captain, William P. Bandy

Company H, Thirty-
eighth Regiment

James R. Cole (maybe
James Cole of
Goodlettsville)

The Eighteenth Tennessee Regiment remained at Camp Trousdale, where they trained and drilled. Private Tinnin wrote that during the first few days at camp "they met with Battle's company, and others, the boys began to run foot races and wrestle. In a day or two, we began to clear the ground. Then we set our tents in uniform and then we began to drill. We had a drill master a few days. We had a long seige of drilling, about 7 months. [Only five months drilling was possible according to

other dates.] Oh, how hot the weather was. It began to rain, the dog funnel grewed on our drill ground and as we marched over it, we bruised it and caused a sent [sic] that made the boys awful sick. Such boys as Tom and Clay Glasco would fall like they were shot. There we drilled morning and evening till we began to think we were well drilled equal to a Zouvac [sic]. We drilled against each other and we thought we were the best drilled company in the camp."⁹⁵

On September 17, 1861, the Eighteenth Regiment was ordered to Bowling Green, Kentucky. Private Timmin had contracted measles at Camp Trousdale and had been sent home on sick leave. Upon his return, he found the troops in winter quarters at Bowling Green. Here they drilled in a walnut grove and continued in basic training until receiving news that the enemy was approaching. They then went to work building a fort on Baker's Hill and secured other fortifications. Early in February, 1862, the Eighteenth Regiment received orders to march to Fort Donelson, where they joined Colonels Bailey's and Head's Tennessee regiments.

The Confederate forces of approximately 17,500 were commanded by General John B. Floyd, a political officer from Virginia. The Union army was commanded by General Ulysses S. Grant, a graduate of West Point. The Union army consisted of 15,000 infantry, 2,500 reinforcements stationed at Fort Henry, and another 10,000 men enroute by ship.⁹⁶ It was Grant's plan to use his naval gunboats to bombard the fort while he surrounded the Confederates on land and forced their surrender. However, Grant found the Confederates strongly entrenched and on February 13 a frontal assault was repelled. One of the major factors in the battle was the change in weather conditions. At dusk the temperatures dropped to twenty degrees below freezing and the drizzling rain changed to sleet and snow. On the morning of the fourteenth, the troops awoke to a two-inch snow and the frozen bodies of wounded soldiers left undiscovered on the battlefield after the previous afternoon's attack. By mid-afternoon of February 14, the rebels had repulsed the gunboats and the Confederates seemed to have the Yankees on the run. The escape route to Nashville by Wynn's Ferry Road was secured at this time, but with the Confederates' apparently superior position General Floyd ordered General Pillow to withdraw from the road.⁹⁷ During the night, General Grant

called his reinforcements from Fort Henry and a fleet carrying 10,000 men arrived, bringing his total number of troops to 27,000.⁹⁸ By nightfall on February 15, Grant now had forces outnumbering the Confederates by 10,000 men. During the night, General Floyd and General Pillow discussed the Confederates' position against such overwhelming forces. They tried to decide if they could hold out one more day, try to escape into the night by cutting through the Union lines which reportedly held their escape route on Wynn's Road, or if they should surrender their forces. As the night slipped away, the opportunity for escape also dwindled away, and the generals gave in to Buckner's argument to surrender rather than jeopardize the lives of their soldiers. The following day, General Buckner surrendered to General Grant while Colonel Forrest galloped toward Nashville. During the early morning hours, Colonel Forrest, who had refused to accept surrender, had led 500 cavalry men and 200 foot soldiers out of Fort Donelson. Forrest found that the Union blockade at Wynn's Road did not exist and that Dudley Hill was occupied by only a few wounded Union soldiers left on the field from the previous day's battle and not by a full regiment of Union forces as had been earlier reported. Forrest escaped without firing a shot and thoroughly believed that the whole army could have retreated by this route had the council for surrender not been so strong.⁹⁹ In the meantime, General Buckner had accepted an unconditional surrender from Grant, and the Confederate soldiers were laying their rifles at the feet of Union officers.

Less than nine months had passed since the men of Goodlettsville had marched off to war, and they must have felt disillusioned and helpless as they were taken to prison camp. The defeat at Fort Donelson left the route north into Tennessee open to invasion. The men of Company B realized with despair that their families would be in the path of the Union army as it marched to Nashville. Of the approximately 100 men in Company B, sixty-nine were captured, several were severely wounded, and only six escaped. "The privates and non-commissioned officers of the Eighteenth Regiment were sent to Camp Butler in Illinois," and captains and lieutenants, such as Roscoe and Joyner, were imprisoned at Johnson's Island, Ohio.¹⁰⁰

Incarcerated in prison, the soldiers, many of whom were

physically ill and others who were emotionally tired and homesick, looked for ways to pass their time. Private Timmin wrote: "Some of us read our Bibles, some played cards, and we had some Irishmen in our company that would fight a little sometimes. As we thought of our situation we began to look for a way to escape, and would think, oh how hopeless, but still we thought and they began to make their escape."¹⁰¹ One of the first ways contrived to escape was for a fellow prisoner to write a pass and sign Colonel Morris' name, thus giving the prisoner an excuse to move around camp. Tom Cunningham escaped while he was in the hospital and returned south, where he joined the Ninth Tennessee Cavalry. An attempt was made to tunnel out of prison, but before the escape was made the underground passage was discovered.¹⁰² Mark Prince Cartwright and John L. Dismukes were two Goodlettsville boys who escaped and made their way home. They hid in a thicket near the Central Illinois Railroad until dark, boarded a southbound train and made their way into Kentucky. Once in Kentucky, they travelled unquestioned to middle Tennessee, where they found the city of Nashville occupied by the Federal army. After reaching the Cartwright home, the boys hid out with neighbors until they could rejoin the Confederate army.¹⁰³

The fall of Fort Donelson came as a terrible shock to the South and especially to the city of Nashville, where a telegram from General Floyd had arrived on Saturday, prematurely announcing a "victory complete and glorious." The news of Floyd's surrender on Sunday, February 16, 1862, threw Nashvillians into a panic and the civilian population began to evacuate the city. The rumor had spread that General Buell's Union army from Kentucky and General Foote's gunboats from Fort Donelson would converge upon the city by mid-afternoon and shell the city into submission.¹⁰⁴ Until this time the war had been fought in Virginia, but the arrival of General Hardee's troops retreating from Bowling Green brought the ugliness of war to the front door of middle Tennesseans. General Albert S. Johnston's defense line across Kentucky caved in when Grant struck at Fort Donelson and General Buell's army of 60,000 men defeated General Hardee at Bowling Green. Hardee, with an army of 25,000 men, was greatly outnumbered and almost half of the force was lost in heavy fighting. He returned to Nashville with battle-worn, wounded, half-frozen soldiers whose blood-

stained shirts and defeated faces brought the reality of war to all of Nashville. Hardee's troops were joined in Nashville by the few men who escaped with General Floyd. Colonel Forrest and approximately 700 men arrived in Nashville on Wednesday, having been forced to alternately ride and walk to keep from freezing.¹⁰⁵ By the time of Forrests arrival, General Johnston had evacuated the town, keeping his promise to the citizens of Nashville not to make a stand which would result in destruction of the city. Forrest stayed in Nashville, shipping Confederate supplies out of the city's warehouses; at the last possible moment, he pulled back to join Johnston in Murfreesboro. The immediate panic in Nashville was unfounded. The Federal troops that were expected by dusk did not reach Nashville for a week, and then only a small advance force arrived. Mayor Cheatham rowed across the Cumberland and surrendered the city to a Union captain before an offensive could be mounted. The majority of the Union forces were still enroute when Nashville was delivered into the hands of a minimal force. On February 24, 1862, the Federal forces marched into Nashville unopposed and held the city until the close of the war.¹⁰⁶

Goodlettsville's location on the Louisville and Nashville Turnpike placed it in the direct path of both General Hardee's and General Buell's march to Nashville. One can only imagine how disheartened and worried the people of Goodlettsville felt as they observed the straggling retreat of the southern forces. The citizens had probably just received word of the surrender of Fort Donelson and feared that their loved ones were being marched off to prison camps. Coupled with anxiety over the unknown fate of their soldiers was concern for their own safety. It must have been a frightening experience to see the armed, blue-clad soldiers marching across southern soil and realize that they were at the mercy of the Union forces.

General Buell's troops were just the first of many Yankee soldiers who would be seen in Goodlettsville during the Federal army's three-year occupation of Nashville. Goodlettsville's location on the turnpike made it vulnerable to troops travelling north or south. The Union troops are said to have camped along Tivhopptite at Millersville and Mansker's Creek at Goodlettsville. The rural community's close proximity to Nashville also made it a convenient location for soldiers foraging for supplies. Both Union and Confederate troops had trouble receiving

supplies, so when rations were depleted the soldiers confiscated food from the surrounding communities. Alexander Cartwright wrote that his older brother, John, had a difficult time providing food for a large family and a number of slaves. The Federal troops confiscated produce, grain, and livestock to meet the needs of the army; as a result, there was a "great scarcity of supplies" throughout the countryside.¹⁰⁷ Robert A. Cartwright, III, the grandson of Nancy Williamson Grizzard, who was a little girl during the Civil War, heard a few war stories she had related to her family, but many of the stories seem to have been forgotten over the years. Nancy Williamson's father, Thomas, was around forty-five years old at the outbreak of the Civil War. He was too old to serve and his sons were too young for duty. He was a prosperous farmer, but the Civil War almost ruined him, as it did many other plantation owners. According to Williamson descendants, the Yankees came to the Williamson house, took the wagon from the backyard, hitched up a team, and pulled up to the crib, where they loaded out a wagon of corn. They stole every horse on the place, except a two-year-old crippled colt, including an old mare which had been turned out to pasture. They took the mare over to the highway, but deciding she was too old they turned her loose. Upon hearing the animal was left behind, Mr. Williamson went to retrieve her because the old mare was all he had left to plant spring crops. Thomas Williamson even had one of his horses stolen out from under him while riding home from town. He and his younger son, Jim, who was only three or four years old, were forced at gunpoint to dismount when a Union soldier stepped from behind the split rail fence and forced him off the horse.

The Federal troops also threatened to burn the Williamson house in retaliation for the death of a Union soldier, who was supposedly killed in the community. They probably chose the Williamson house because it was one of the larger plantations in the vicinity. The Yankees, however, were willing to overlook the incident if funds were provided to care for the soldier's widow. Williamson's neighbors raised the funds and the house was spared.¹⁰⁸

The people of Goodlettsville went to great lengths to protect their possessions by hiding their jewelry in loose bricks behind the hearth, burying their silver, and hiding valuables in false compartments. They hid hams in small corn cribs that held

quantities not large enough for the Yankees to steal; chickens were hidden under the houses; and cattle and horses were kept in secret hideouts. One hideout in Union Hill was a cave-like area called Buzzard's Roost, off present Union Road or the Old Shane's Ford Road, which is no longer in use.

There are no records indicating any skirmishes or battles were fought in Goodlettsville, but R. A. Cartwright, III, remembers the story of a Confederate troop preparing for a battle on the outskirts of Goodlettsville, although the battle never materialized. The Confederate cannons were placed on the hill at the Connell farm (across from Goodlettsville Feed Mill), one of the highest points in Goodlettsville with an excellent vantage point of the turnpike. The Williamson and Connell plantations, located in the line of fire, were ordered vacated, but the plan was abandoned and the cannons removed. Over ensuing years, the minnie and cannon balls left behind have been plowed up during cultivation.¹⁰⁹

On September 16, 1862, while the families of Company B were struggling to survive under Federal controls, the soldiers of the Eighteenth Regiment were being paroled at Vicksburg, Mississippi. Private Tinnin wrote: "Finally the word came, a day set, they marched us out to cars, we got aboard and went down to the Mississippi River, got on a boat and what a pleasure trip. . . . [After] about 2 miles, we crossed over into Vicksburg, there we enjoyed the luxury of potatoes, oysters and sugar, for we had drawn our money. We were really enjoying our freedom. . . ." ¹¹⁰ In a few days, the regiment was reorganized and W. H. Joyner was elected major under the command of Colonel Palmer, who was elected to his former position as commander of the Eighteenth Regiment. The Eighteenth Regiment travelled by rail to Knoxville, and on December 31, 1862, joined General Bragg's army at the Battle of Murfreesboro. After the first day of battle, Tinnin wrote: "It was awful to hear the groans of the wounded men and begging for water and the moans of the wounded horses made it more solemn [sic]. Some time that night we were ordered back to the right. We didn't sleep very much that night and didn't have much to eat." ¹¹¹ The following day, Preston's and Palmer's brigades were ordered to "cross the river and attack a seemingly impregnable position held by the enemy, and which was their central and pivoted stronghold." ¹¹²

Tinnin observed:

"We laid there in expense [suspense] until 4 o'clock Friday evening and Henry Marshall began to sound his bugle, and Col. Palmer give the command, Forward! As we moved slowly to the front with a firm step and a bouyant spirit without a break in the line, we got [with] in about 40 or 50 yards of the enemy. We halted and poured a solid shot into them. They were mighty stubborn to move. When I had shot 7 times, the line broke and they began to run. As we crossed over the line, I looked up and down and it seemed to me I could run on the dead and wounded like pumpkins in a field. We then run them into Stones River and it was said that some of them drowned, but most of them took shelter under the bank. Then to our sorrow as we retreated the enemy began to play on us with there [sic] shot and shell. I thought to myself there never was men who fought that way before. That night it was whispered around that we was going to retreat. Sometime early in the night, I was put on guard duty in the front. The dead and wounded hadn't been moved from the battlefield. It was awful to stand guard. Sometime during the night came word that the army had retreated. Then it was raining in torrents and you can know how discouraging [sic] it was."¹¹³

The Confederate troops had pushed Rosecran's troops back approximately four miles the first day and, with victory seemingly assured, word was sent on New Year's Day to President Davis stating that the enemy was falling back. On January 2, Rosecran received fresh reinforcements. After an unsuccessful attempt to take a hill just west of Murfreesboro, General Bragg decided to retreat.¹¹⁴ The Eighteenth Regiment went to battle with 430 soldiers, but after fighting in the thickest part of the battle, lost 166 wounded and killed. After the Battle of Murfreesboro, Bragg's army went into winter quarters.

The Eighteenth Regiment fought in some of the most important battles of the Civil War, including the battles in Chickamauga, Georgia, Missionary Ridge, and, after wintering at Dalton, Georgia, in 1863, fought in the Atlanta campaign. When the Confederates fell back in Atlanta, Brigadier General Palmer's troops were stationed on Peachtree Street at one of the most exposed and important positions of defense. The men of Palmer's brigade held the line under continuous fire for twenty-six days. The Eighteenth Regiment was ordered on special assignment during which time they fought against superior odds and were outflanked. Colonel Butler escaped with a small force, but a number of soldiers were captured, including John Bowers, W.M. Byrd, Samuel S. Cole, Henry T. Croxton,

Noah Hampton, Josiah W. Luton, and William Tinnin from Company B. The battle came to a close when the Federal troops abandoned their position under the cover of darkness.¹¹⁵

The last significant confrontation in which the Eighteenth Regiment was involved was Hood's campaign in Tennessee. By December, 1864, the number of men serving in Company B was greatly depleted, with a number having been wounded and captured. The last big battle in Tennessee was the Battle of Nashville, during which time General Palmer's brigade was detached to General Forrest at Murfreesboro. General Palmer engaged the enemy on December 7, at Murfreesboro, but after several days the battle was called off by General Hood, who commanded General Forrest to hold his troops in readiness during the Battle of Nashville. When the disastrous news of the Confederates' fate at Nashville reached General Palmer, he marched to Columbia to intercept the retreating troops and serve as rearguard to protect the battle-weary troops.¹¹⁶

On February 23 General Palmer joined General Joseph E. Johnston in North Carolina. The Eighteenth Regiment engaged the enemy several times between February and April. In April, the word reached Johnston and Palmer that on April 10, 1865, General Robert E. Lee had surrendered. Tennesseans present at Appomattox included Sergeant Timothy D. Elizer of Shackle Island. Sergeant Elizer was paroled at Appomattox and returned to Tennessee carrying three handwritten documents. The documents included a parole agreement directed to General Lee from Grant, a general parole to be used by soldiers for their trip home, and a copy of the speech delivered by Lee to the Confederate army.

Hd. Qrs. Armies of the United States
Appomattox C.H. Va. April 10th 1865
General R.E. Lee
Commandr. C.S.A.

In accordance with the substance of my . . . to you of the 8th inst I propose to receive the surrender of the Army of Northern Va. on the following terms to wit:

Rolls of all officers and men to be made in duplicate, one copy to be given to an officer designated by me, the other, to such officer or officers as you may designate.

The officers to give their individual paroles not to take up arms against the United States until property exchanged and each company and Regimental Commander will sign a like parole of their commands.

The Arms, Artillery and Public property to be parked, stacked and turned over to the officer appointed [sic] by me to receive them. This will not embrace the side arms of the officers, nor their private horses or baggage. This done each officer and man will be allowed to return to their homes, not to be disturbed by United States authority as long as they observe their paroles and the laws in force when [where] they reside.

Respectfully
(signed) U.S. Grant
Lieut. General

Hd. Qrs. Army of Northern Va.
April 10th, 1865

Special Orders

The following order is published for the information of all parties concerned.

Hd. Qrs. Armies of the U.S.
In the field 10th April 1865

Special Orders

All officers and men of the Confederate Service paroled at Appomattox C. H. Va. who to reach their homes, are compelled to pass through the lines of the Union Armies, will be allowed to do so, and to pass free on all Government transports and Military Rail Roads.

By Command of Lieut. Genl Grant
(signed) E.S. Parker

Lt. Col. & A. A. Genl

By Command of General R. E. Lee
(signed) L.S. Venable
A. A. Genl.

Charles Elizer remembers his grandfather Elizer describing General Lee's address to his troops. The occasion was tearful and sad as the troops lined up to hear Lee's farewell.

Hd. Qrs. Army Northern Va.
General Orders
No. 9

After four years of arduous service marked by an _____ courage and fortitude, the Army of Northern Va. has been compelled to yield to overwhelming numbers and resources. I need not tell the brave survivors

of so many bravely fought battles who have remained steadfast to the last, that I have consented to this result from no distrust of them, but feeling that valor and devotion could accomplish nothing for the _____ that would have attended the continuance of contest, I determined to avoid the sacrifice [sic] of those whose past services have endeared them to their countrymen. By the terms of agreement officers and men can return to their homes and remain until exchanged.

You will take with you the satisfaction that proceeds from the consciousness of duty faithfully performed and earnestly praying that a merciful God will extend to you his blessings and protection. With an unceasing admiration of your constancy and devotion to your country and grateful remembrance of your kind and generous consideration for myself. I bid you an affectionate farewell.

(signed) R. E. Lee
General¹¹⁷

Lee's speech and the documents, along with other Confederate memorabilia belonging to Mr. Elizer, were found in a trunk after his death. The speech's text is identical to that which appears in *Lee's Lieutenants* by historian D. S. Freeman; he copied the speech from Lee's Manuscript Letter Book. Relevant parole papers and speeches also can be found in the Confederate Collection at the Tennessee State Library and Archives.

On April 26, 1865, General Johnston followed General Lee's example and surrendered his army at Greensboro, North Carolina. General Palmer was directed to assemble his men and, after receiving provisions, marched his army from North Carolina west to Tennessee. The members of Company B paroled from North Carolina were Major W. H. Joyner, W. J. Warmack, John Coggins, M. A. Freeman, and John L. Avent.¹¹⁸ Many of the men of Company B had been wounded, killed, captured, or disabled. The service records of each soldier have been compiled by Edwin L. Ferguson in *Summer County, Tennessee, In The Civil War*, and through these records the roles of individual soldiers can be traced. The men of Company B fought courageously throughout the war and returned to Goodlettsville as proud men who had fought for their convictions. They began to pick up the pieces of their lives and went to work rebuilding the South.