

Bluford L. Scarlett Article

Cookeville. Tenn. Paper Article

B.L. Scarlett, Aged Confederate Veteran, Dies at home in Iowa.

Bluford L. Scarlett, aged 91, the last surviving soldier of Co "F" 16th Tennessee Confederate Regime died Jan. 20th (1935) at his home in Anita, Iowa, where he had resided since 1872. He was born and reared in this county, (Putnam Co) having been born at the old Moses B. Scarlett farm now being owned by Foster Daniels.

Company "F" of the famous 16th Tennessee Regiment (Col. John H. Savage's regiment) was composed of Putnam County volunteers and was the first Putnam Co Confederate Company to be organized. It was organized on the Public Square in Cookeville, in May 1861. Three prominent Putnam countians served as its Captain. At the organization of the company in May 1861 Capt. H.G. Dillard, a prominent lawyer of Cookeville, was elected as its first Captain. In 1862 Capt. Dillard was promoted to the rank of Major and Prof. John Boyd Vance, a prominent school teacher of this county was elected Captain of the Company to succeed Capt. Dillard. Vance was mortally wounded while leading his company. Upon his death, Dr. F.M. Amonette, a prominent physician of this county was elected Captain of the company and served as its Captain during the remainder of the war.

Twenty-Four of the soldiers of this company were killed in battle, nine died of disease while in the service and thirty one other members of the company received serious wounds in battle, many of them losing arms or legs.

The death of Mr. Scarlett, the last surviving member of the company, almost seventy years after the close of the civil war, also marks the passing of the last member of the immediate family of Moses E. Scarlett, his father, who was a prominent pioneer citizen of this county, and served for several years as co-register of Putnam county.

Although Mr. Scarlett was a resident of Anita, Iowa, for sixty-three years prior to his death, he never ceased to retain a lively interest in Putnam county. He always read the local newspapers and occasionally he wrote articles to them. Untill [sic] the day of his death he cherished the memories of the "lost cause" and was devoted to his native state and county. Elsewhere in this issue is published a letter from a daughter of Mr. Scarlett, giving the particulars of his death.