

THE THIRTEENTH TENNESSEE REGIMENT—CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA.

JAMES DURHAM WEST, D.D. (dec.)*

The Thirteenth Tennessee Regiment consisted of the following companies:

Company A—Fayette Rifle Grays—Capt. Wm. Burton, Somerville, Tenn.

Company B—Macon Grays—Capt. J. L. Granberry, Macon, Tenn.

Company C—Secession Guards—Organized at Germantown, Tenn.—Capt. J. H. Morgan of Horn Lake, Miss.

Company D—Yorkville Rifles—Capt. J. A. Wilkins, Yorkville, Tenn.

Company E—Dixie Rifles—Organized at Moscow, Tenn. Composed of both Mississippians and Tennesseans. Capt. A. J. Vaughn, Jr., of Marshall County, Miss.

Company F—Wright Boys—Capt. John V. Wright, Parry, Tenn.

Company G—Gains Invincibles—Capt. W. E. Winfield, La Grange, Tenn.

Company H—Yancee Rifles—Capt. R. W. Pittman, Hickory Wythe, Tenn.

Company I—Forked Deer Volunteers—Capt. G. L. Ross, Forked Deer, Tenn.

Company K—Dyer Grays—Capt. S. R. Latta, Dyersburg, Tenn.

The regiment was organized at Jackson, Tennessee, on the 3rd day of June, 1861, and on the following day, June 4th, the election of officers resulted in the choice of:

Capt. John V. Wright, Company F, for Colonel.

Capt. A. J. Vaughn, Jr., Company E, for Lieut.-Colonel.

Capt. W. E. Winfield, Company G, for Major.

Orders were forthwith received for the Regiment to report at Randolph, to join what was then known as the "River Brigade" commanded by Brig. Gen. J. L. T. Sneed.

Pursuant to above orders Col. Wright immediately proceeded to Randolph, via Memphis,—where the organization was completed by the appointment of

Lieut. W. E. Morgan, Co. G, Adjutant.

Dr. J. A. Forbes, Co. E, Surgeon.

Dr. B. F. Dickinson, Co. I, Assistant Surgeon.

*See close of article for full sketch of author by his daughter Miss Elizabeth Howard West, State Librarian, Austin, Texas.

DB II-1014

THE THIRTEENTH TENNESSEE REGIMENT, vol. 7, 1921-22, 181

James Durham West,
W. E. Dyer, Co. G, A. C. S.
L. F. Gables, Co. A, A. A. Q. M.
P. H. Cole, Co. H, Sergeant Major.

The attention of the officers was now directed to the discipline of the newly levied troops, and the rapid progress made during the short stay at Randolph was truly gratifying, and reflected great credit upon the energy and capacity of those in charge. Shortly afterwards, it becoming evident that Gen. Lyons' intention was to mass a heavy force in front of Gen. McCulloch, who was then in S. W. Missouri, it became necessary to throw a force into Missouri, to prevent the desired reinforcements from reaching him. Accordingly on the 26th July orders were received for the Brigade to proceed to New Madrid.

AT NEW MADRID AND COLUMBUS.

Soon after this the 15th Regt which had previously been a portion of the State troops, was mustered into the Confederate States' Service, and together with the 154th Sr. Tenn. Regt—Col. Preston Smith—was ordered into a Brigade & placed under Command of Col. J. P. McCown; who pursuant to orders moved his brigade on the 18th for Benton, where he arrived on the 19th, and was joined by the 4th Tenn. Col. Neely—on the 20th. This rapid march beneath the burning rays of a mid-summer's sun, and over roads which rendered it painfully toilsome, was cheerfully and opportunely accomplished, not only thwarting the enemy's designs, but removing all doubts as to the capacity & willingness of the troops to undergo the severest hardships, and bringing to light that address and gallantry of their considerate leaders, which produced a wholesome confidence on the part of their men that has never forsaken them. Here owing to unforeseen circumstances, the supply train was interrupted, and the men were reduced to the necessity of subsisting upon roasting-ears & fresh meat without salt; but the objects of the move being soon accomplished the Command returned to New Madrid where it arrived Sept. 2nd, and on the following day proceeded to Hickman Ky., where the Regt was placed in Gen. Cheatham's Brigade, and witnessed Sept. 4th an artillery fight between the Gunboats and some of our land batteries. This was the first battle our troops had seen, and though eager to take a part no opportunity presenting itself as the Gunboats soon retired without either inflicting or receiving any injury.

At this juncture, Gen. Polk seeing the necessity of in-

vesting Columbus Ky. with a force prior to its occupation by the enemy, ordered Gen. Cheatham's Brigade by R. R. to that point, which it reached on the 6th and was among the first to occupy that important post.

After reaching Columbus nothing worthy of special notice occurred in the history of the Reg't until Sept. 10th, when it was thrown into a Brigade, composed of the 12th Tenn.—Col. Russel—and 21st Tenn. Col. Pickett—known as the 3rd Brigade and commanded by Col. Russel of the 12th. Its connection with the 3rd Brigade continued until Oct 24 when it was placed in the 1st Brig. 1st Div., which were respectively commanded by Col. J. Knox Walker—and Brig. Gen. Pillow.

FIRST ENGAGEMENT.

A few days subsequent to this latter change the Reg't went into its first engagement. On the morning of the 7th Nov. it being discovered that a considerable body of the enemy had disembarked from his gunboats and moved down to a point near Belmont on the Missouri shore, rapid preparations were made to meet him. Col. Wright in obedience to orders formed his regiment rapidly, crossed the river, and took position on the extreme left, contiguous to Watson's Battery. Here, the enemy posted in a dense wood that concealed him from view, soon opened a galling fire that was immediately returned. The position was an important one, and firmly did those gallant men hold it for the space of an hour and a half, when it was discovered that the ammunition was failing. Col. Wright immediately notified Gen Pillow of the fact through Lieut. Col. Vaughan, and received orders to fall back to the river which he did, and soon afterwards joined in a charge upon the enemy which resulted in killing & capturing numbers of the now vanquished foe.

While the men did their part nobly & gallantly in this bloody fight, too much cannot be said of our brave officers. Col. Wright had a horse killed in the engagement & Lieut Col. Vaughan, who was ever in the thickest of the fight, cheering & encouraging his men, had two horses shot under him. Adjt Morgan was slightly wounded. A lasting tribute is due Lieut Matt Rhea, whose Co. A—was deployed as skirmishers on the extreme left. Being overpowered by numbers, and surrounded in person by a squad of the enemy he chose death in preference to surrendering his Grand Father's sword to the insolent foe. The Reg't lost in killed wounded & missing 149 from about 400.

RESIGNATION OF COL. WRIGHT.

Col. Wright at the solicitation of friends resolving to change the "field," for the legislative Hall, offered his resignation, and on the 4th Dec., Lieut. Col. A. J. Vaughan was chosen Colonel by the unanimous vote of the Reg't. Adjt W. E. Morgan was elected Lieut. Col., and Lt. R. M. Harwell was appointed Adjt—as will be seen by reference to muster Roll Co. E.—The winter now setting in put a bar to further military operations of importance, and nothing occurred worthy of notice until early in the spring, when it became a military necessity to evacuate Columbus & establish our line of defence further South. After taking part in the preliminary arrangements, attendance on such a move, the 13th Reg't was ordered to Union City, where it arrived the succeeding day. It here made a short stay, and proceeded on the 12th March, by R. R. to Humboldt, and on the 13th was there thrown into a Brigade, with the 12th Tenn.—Col. Russel—22nd Tenn.—Col. Freeman—and designated as 1st Brig. of 1st Grand Div. of the army of Miss.,—Com. by Col. Russel of the 12th.

Four days later orders were rec'd for the Brigade to proceed to Corinth Miss.: by R. R. which point it reached on the 19th, and with its former Division was soon afterwards placed in the 1st Corps of the army of Miss.

BATTLE OF SHILOH.

It now being the policy of Gen. Johnston to attack the enemy near Pittsburg Landing, where he had disembarked in force from his Gunboats, before reinforcements could arrive from Nashville, a general movement was ordered. Accordingly, on the 3rd of April the 1st Brig. of the 1st Div. of the 1st Corps of the army of Miss., started for the point of conflict. Owing, however, to the heavy rains, and the imperfect nature of the roads, they did not get formed in battle line, preparatory to the attack, until the evening of the 5th although the distance marched did not exceed eighteen miles. Early on the morning of the 6th the battle of Shiloh commenced, and soon the 13th was called upon to take a battery of 4 guns which it promptly accomplished with great credit both to officers & men, amid a perfect shower of "grape" & "canister" that literally mowed the ranks. The enemy was soon beaten back at all points and nothing more of consequence was done on the present day. Having rec'd heavy reinforcements during the night Gen. Grant renewed the contest in the morning and the 13th was again called into action in checking his advance. Prudential reasons however, rendered a withdrawal of the forces from

the unequal contest necessary; and, accordingly after about 96 hours of almost incessant toil, with no resting place but the mud, our troops returned, without interruption, to Corinth. In this severely contested battle, Col. Vaughan displayed that tact and skill, which has ever been a "lever of power," in moving the hearts of his men. He lost a horse, early in the action of the 7th & had a 2nd horse shot about noon of the same day. Nor can too much be said in praise of Lt. Col. W. E. Morgan, whose coolness, & decision in the hour of peril proved him worthy of every confidence. Adjt. R. M. Harwell was severely, though not dangerously, wounded in the hip. In the two days' contest, the 13th lost in killed & wounded 112 men besides a number of prisoners.

REGIMENT REORGANIZED.

The time of enlistment now drawing towards a close, the attention of the Regt was directed to the subject of reorganization. Accordingly on the 28th April eight companies proceeded to reorganize according to the provision of Congress, and elected officers. Two Companies—A & D—refusing to exercise this privilege, were consolidated & had officers appointed.—See Muster Roll Co. A and the deficiency thus arising was supplied by the admission of Co. L—"Zollicofer Avengers"—Capt. C. B. Jones, of Ia Grange Tenn, for the unexpired term of the 13th Regt or during the war. A. J. Vaughan was again unanimously chosen Col.—a compliment no less merited, than cheerfully bestowed, W. E. Morgan was elected Lieut. Col., and P. E. Cole Sergeant Major was chosen Major. Soon after this, the enemy having somewhat recovered the terrible blow received at Shiloh, began to advance slowly upon Corinth. Consequent upon this movement of the enemy, frequent calls to the front became necessary, in which, however, nothing of importance occurred in connection with the Regt except a slight skirmish with the enemy, which resulted in no injury to us.

About this time the 1st Brig. recently placed in Command of Brig. Gen. Preston Smith—formerly Col. of the 154th Sr. Tenn.—began making preparations for the evacuation of Corinth, and on the night of the 30th May, took up the line of March for Baldwin, Miss., which point it reached without interruption on the evening of the 1st June, and from thence, in a few days, proceeded to Tupelo, where the health of the Regt, so greatly impaired by long use of the impure water at Corinth, improved to a gratifying extent.

Here undivided attention was given to a thorough training

and disciplining of the troops, until orders were received for the Brigade to proceed by R. W. Via Mobile & Atlanta—to Chattanooga, where it arrived early in Aug. and on the 10th was detached from the 1st Div. 1st Corps army of Miss., and ordered to the Department of East Tenn.

KNOXVILLE TO KENTUCKY.

At Knoxville, it was placed in the 4th Div. of the Army of East Tenn. under Command of Brig. Gen. Cleburne and on the 13th Aug. took up the march for Ky. Via Wilson's Gap and arrived at Harboursville, in rear of Cumberland Gap, on the 18th, after a severe & toilsome march of five days.

From this point, after a short stay, & a slight change in the designating title of the Corps—"Army of Ky." being substituted for "Army of Tenn.," the command moved forward towards Richmond by way of Manchester, and by rapid marches arrived within eight miles of that place on the evening of the 29th of Aug. A battle was now imminent: for Gen. Nelson, who had moved forward with a heavy force, to check the advance of our column, was now within three miles of the point where our troops, in line of battle, had halted to bivouac for the night. Early on the morning of the 30th our army was in motion and by 8 o'clock the battle was opened by Gen. Preston Smith's Brigade and raged with terrible fury for near half an hour, when the enemy were driven back in confusion.

Gen. Cleburne was unfortunately disabled in the first engagement, by a severe wound in the mouth, which threw the Command of the Division upon Brig. Gen. Smith. Col. Vaughan in consequence had to take charge of the Brigade & Lieut. Col. W. E. Morgan was left over the 13th Regt. Under this disposition our troops again met & routed the enemy where he had made his second stand about 10 o'clock, and completely demoralized him, when he for the 3rd and last time offered battle near Richmond.

Both Officers & men behaved with becoming heroism in the several deadly charges which the 13th was called upon to make, and such impetuous & resistless advances, as were made on this occasion, by men almost exhausted by continued marching in the heat of summer, with but unwholesome rations, can but win the admiration, and stand forth as a crowning monument of their undying patriotism and devotion. In this engagement the Regt met with the good fortune of capturing a sufficient quantity of Superior Minnie Rifles to supply the places of their muskets, which has since added greatly to its efficiency in battle.

AT RICHMOND, KY.

Lt. Col. W. E. Morgan was now temporarily made Provost Marshal of Richmond, and the 13th Regt was charged with guarding the town until orders were recd to proceed to Lexington. The Army entered Lexington on the 3rd Sept. and two days later proceeded to Cynthiana, where the Brigade was detached & ordered to Frankfort, which it occupied on the 9th.

Col. Vaughan however, pursuant to orders, soon moved the brigade back to Cynthiana, and from that point proceeded to rejoin the command in front of Covington. Our forces were again soon put in motion, and after passing several minor points, came into Frankfort on the 23rd—where Gen. Smith returned to the brigade & Col. Vaughan to his Regt—and soon proceeded to Shelbyville where a halt of several days was made. From this point Gen. Cleburne returned to Frankfort where he met reinforcements, and the detached Brigades were ordered to rejoin their respective Commands in Gen. Bragg's Army then at Harrodsburg. Accordingly on the 5th Oct. Gen. Smith's Brigade rejoined Cheatham's Division as 4th Brigade 1st Div. Right wing of the army of Miss.

The enemy was now advancing in heavy force upon Gen. Bragg, and already had encountered the opposing forces of Gen. Hardee at Perryville which had been selected as the battle ground. Accordingly on the evening of the 7th Gen. Cheatham's Division started for Perryville, but for some reason Gen. Smith's Brigade was ordered back to Harrodsburg when he had gone but a short distance, and did not rejoin the Division until the following day when he reached Perryville. Here in the disposition of the forces, the 4th Brigade was held as a reserve, and was not called into any engagement during the day, though it was exposed to a severe Artillery fire. On the following day Gen. Smith was assigned the important and dangerous post of bringing up the rear of our forces, which had been moving back, during the entire morning, towards Harrodsburg. This duty was performed with the loss of but few men in the Brigade, and none in the 13th Regt. The Division having reached Harrodsburg, proceeded after a short delay to Camp "Dick Robinson," where it remained for a day or two and then took up the line of march from Ky. by way of Crab Orchard, Barbourville, & Cumberland Gap, for Knoxville.

KENTUCKY TO KNOXVILLE.

This retreat was one of the great trials of the men. The greater portion of country passed over was almost a barren wilderness, destitute of supplies and the quantity transported

being necessarily small, rendered their provisions very scarce, which combined with the disappointment in not holding Ky. and the fatigue & sufferings inseparable from a hard march, greatly weighed their spirits. But their bold determination was unshaken, and the patient endurance displayed during these trials, was a most gratifying evidence of their invincibility. The temporary absence of Gen. Smith about the 20th again placed Col. Vaughan in Command of the Brigade which reached Knoxville four days subsequent to this time, and was moved by R. R. to Tallahoma.

Here the men received a fresh supply of clothing & blankets which were greatly needed: and after a few weeks' rest were marched to Murfreesboro, by way of Manchester & Beech Grove, where the command arrived in the latter part of November.

About this time several cases of small pox made their appearance in the Regt and it was therefore deemed advisable to detach it. It was accordingly separated from the Brigade early in Dec., where prompt measures were taken to secure the vaccination of all its members, which together with the rigid enforcement of other sanitary regulations had the gratifying effect of checking this dangerous epidemic.

MURFREESBORO AND STONE'S RIVER.

The Regt was kept under quarantine until the advance of the Rosecrans on Murfreesboro rendered a battle necessary, when it was ordered back to the Brigade on the 28th Decr.

On the following day, Col. Vaughan, who was in command of the brigade, was ordered to move beyond Stone's River to a point immediately on the left of the Trinne road, where he bivouaced for the night in line of battle. Early in the morning of the 30th having received orders to form upon the right of the road with his left resting upon it, Lt. Col. Morgan was directed to move the Regt to the right several hundred yards, where he formed it in proper position. Here the Regt remained during the entire day, bivouacing the 2nd night in line of battle.

Early on the morning of the 31st, however the battle was opened with great spirit on the left, and the Brigade was immediately moved forward to support Gen. Gardner in its immediate front. Scarcely had it come within supporting distance when the firing commenced a short time before, on the extreme left, and rapidly extended down the line, opened with terrific fury upon Gen. Gardner's Brigade. Orders were im-

mediately given by Col. Vaughan for his men to lie down, which were scarcely obeyed when the line in front gave way, and the 4th Brigade was ordered forward. Now came a scene of terror, for prompt to orders the men sprang up with a yell, and advanced through an open field, while the enemy strongly posted with artillery in a wood beyond disputed the advance with a perfect storm of deadly missiles. Our ranks were fearfully thinned at every step; but nothing could shake the determination of those hardy veterans of Tenn. On they went, their shouts rising above the din of battle, and soon drove the enemy from his position capturing his artillery.

LOSS OF OFFICERS.

Our gallant Lt. Col. W. E. Morgan, and patriotic Major P. H. Cole having both fallen mortally wounded about this time, and J. W. Brook Sr. Capt. being severely wounded the command of the Reg't devolved upon Capt. R. F. Lanier next in seniority, who continued to push forward after the slowly retiring foe until, owing to the tardiness of the forces on our right, a heavy enfilading fire was opened upon our right flank, when Col. Vaughan ordered the Brigade to retire beyond the field through which he had charged.

The command was then moved up the Trinne Road, where a fresh supply of ammunition being obtained proceeded to make position on the left of Gen. Maney's Brigade, where the Reg't was exposed to a severe artillery fire that wounded several men. From this point Col. Vaughan was soon ordered forward, and proceeding to "changed front forward," and advancing his Brigade in a line nearly parallel with the Wilkerson Pike, again encountered the enemy beyond a dense thicket of cedars, at the edge of a field and though exposed to a raking fire of grape and canister from a battery on the right, succeeded in driving him from his artillery in front, back to the Nashville Pike, when a heavy fire upon the right & left flanks forced him to retire. He accordingly returned to the Wilkerson Pike where the command bivouaced for the night. The conduct of the 13th during this entire engagement was most gallant. In both charges she drove the enemy from his guns and sealed her devotion to the cause of liberty with the blood of many of her best officers & men—losing in killed & wounded 110, from 226 men—Major P. H. Cole died from his wound in the evening of this day, but Lieut Col Morgan did not expire until the 4th Jan.

LIEUT. COL. MORGAN.

Few men ever stand so high in the estimation of all as did our gallant young Lieut. Col. He was fearless & collected in the hour of danger, while his many social attractions rendered him a universal favorite in camp. Great was the loss sustained in his fall, & long will the 13th Reg't mourn his death. Great praise is due Capt. R. F. Lanier Co. G, who commanded during the greater part of both engagements. The fearless and prompt manner in which he discharged the duties of this responsible position, amid the most trying circumstances, prove him worthy of promotion.

Many instances of heroism on the part of the men might be mentioned, but where all did their duty so nobly, it is unnecessary to specify. On the morning of the 1st the Brigade was moved down the Wilkerson Pike a short distance to the point where Gen. Cheatham's Division was massed, and here formed in line near to & parallel with this thoroughfare. Here Gen. Smith returned and Col. Vaughan once more took charge of the Reg't, after having led the Brigade through its severest battle, with great credit to himself & the Command.

On the following day we were advanced about a half mile, where we passed the night, and in the morning proceeded to occupy the front line. Here the Command remained, greatly annoyed by the enemy's sharp shooters & shells, until about 11 o'clock P. M. when orders were received for the Brigade to move out towards Murfreesboro, and the retreat to Shelbyville commenced. The march was continued during the remainder of the night & late next day when the men were halted for rest, so much needed after the exposure and toil attendant upon a contest so long protracted.

On the following day the command reached Shelbyville and went into camp.

Here the deficiency of field officers in the 13th Reg't was supplied in part by the appointment of Capt. R. W. Pirmam Co. H to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Lt. Col. Morgan. But Capt. W. J. Crook, next in point of seniority, who was wounded and captured at Murfreesboro, being absent, the office of Major, was filled temporarily, by Capt. R. F. Lanier Co. G, until for convenience in field operations, the Reg't now greatly reduced in numbers, was consolidated with the 154th Sr. Tenn. Reg't about the 1st March, when Major J. W. Dawson of the latter, filled the office in the consolidated Reg't, and, together with A. J. Vaughan Jr. Col. & R. W. Pirmam Lieut. Col. constitutes the present field officers of the 154th & 13th Reg't Tenn. Vol.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF THE REVEREND JAMES DURHAM WEST, D.D.

By ELIZABETH HOWARD WEST.

My father, James Durham West, was born on June 1, 1838, in Winston County, Mississippi, and died at Newton, Mississippi, on April 19, 1921.

He was of predominantly English descent; his great-grandfather, William West, was born in England, emigrated to South Carolina, served in the Revolutionary militia, and after the Revolutionary War, emigrated to Kentucky, where he died. His grandson, Preston Milton West, was the father of James Durham West.

Preston Milton West, meeting with financial reverses in Kentucky, his native state, went to Mississippi in the thirties, and got another start, as a farmer on public land bought from the United States Government. He passed the rest of his life in that state.

James Durham West therefore passed his boyhood in pioneer conditions which went far toward developing in him the courage, the cleanness of life and thought, the stern, almost ascetic moral standards, the deep religious feeling, the breadth of personal and social sympathy, the straight, independent, keenly logical habits of thought, which always characterized him. He learned in the pioneer boy's inevitable conflict with nature—and with his school-fellows!—to be a good fighter and a good loser. His faults and his virtues were the faults and the virtues of a strong character.

His preparatory education was obtained in pioneer schools of Leake County and by private study. After his ambition to become an educated man was aroused he kept a book in his pocket for study on such occasions of leisure as were afforded by horseback trips to the neighborhood mill and the like.

Later, he decided to enter the ministry, and entered the La Grange Tennessee Synodical College about 1858. Here he paid the major part of his own expenses by teaching country schools in the vacation. On at least one occasion his school lasted until so late in the college session that his class was reviewing for examination when he entered; he successfully passed his examinations, however, and made good grades, at that.

Like many thoughtful Southerners, he was opposed to secession; his first presidential vote was cast for Bell and Everett. After secession became a fact, however, he loyally went with his country, enlisted in the Confederate Army, and took the oath of allegiance only when there was no longer a Confederacy.

It was characteristic of the man that when he did take the oath of allegiance to the United States Government, he did so without mental reservation and with a full determination to be a thoroughly good American. It was also characteristic of him that he always held in reverence the great men of both sides. It was as serious an offense in the West household to speak disrespectfully of Abraham Lincoln as to speak disrespectfully of Jefferson Davis.

It was hard to get him to talk about his war experiences, because he felt so keenly his obligation as a loyal American to forget the bitterness of the past, and he felt that dwelling overmuch on the War would tend to keep up feelings inconsistent with loyalty. It was of course, however, impossible to forget altogether. For instance, I recall that one day in the course of the Spanish-American

can War he said as we walked past the City Hall of Bryan, Texas, "It looks strange to me to see the United States flag flying yonder. I love my country, but I can never look at the flag without remembering how it looked crawling like a snake up Missionary Ridge." I think that the World War, however, blotted out even that memory; for, like many other old Confederates, he felt the deepest pride in the way our boys carried the flag on the battlefields of France.

On one of the rare occasions when he was surprised into talking of his war experiences, one of his sons-in-law, Richard Pope Reese, of Pensacola, Florida, took notes which are quoted below. In a few points, Mr. Reese's notes or his secretary's transcription were evidently a little confused; in these cases corrections, mostly quoted from his remarks on other occasions, are inserted in brackets, as are also certain additions to make the narrative more clear and complete for persons outside of his own family.

"Judge James Campbell," the notes run, "was raising a company for the Confederate Army, and Adam Walker and I joined this company at (Carthage), Leake County, Mississippi, (in 1861.) After about ten days Adam and I decided we would get the Governor to transfer us to a company that was going to see some fighting, as there was delay in organizing the company we had joined.

"Captain Fletcher of Kosciusko, Mississippi, captain of an Attala County company, told us we could transfer to his company, so we did. But when we got to Union City, Tenn., the place where his company was, we found too many men in his company, so he told us to come on; he would soon make room for us and he would furnish us transportation. We were there at Union City a few days, and Captain Fletcher got orders to go to Manassas, Va. I got leave of absence to go to Somerville, where I got my license to marry and went down to LaGrange, Tenn., and was married at eight o'clock, (Sunday morning, July 14, 1861). The train came by there at 8:40 and I went on to join the company at Manassas, Va. (Just one week later, about three o'clock in the afternoon, we left the train at Manassas Junction and double-quickened out to the battlefield. We got out just in time to see the Yankees run.)

"Captain Fletcher's company was the Atlanta Rifles, 13th Mississippi Regiment.

"I was detached after the Battle of Manassas to take some sick boys to the Hospital at Lynchburg. After I had gotten the boys fixed up, I, myself, was sick and lay down. I had on a gray shirt and the pocket was full of all sorts of things, and the nurse asked me if I would like to take those things out of my pocket so I would be more comfortable. I said yes, and the first thing I pulled out was (a picture of my wife. Woman-like), she asked me if it was my sweetheart, and I said no, she was my wife. (She asked what was my wife's maiden name. I told her, Mary Robertson Waddel, daughter of Professor John N. Waddel, of LaGrange College.) Then she (asked if I) would like to go to the house of a Presbyterian family, a Mr. McCorkle who lived near there. (Mrs. McCorkle sent her carriage for me), and I was taken there; and that was the beginning of my illness from typhoid fever. My wife and Dr. Waddel came to me, and my wife nursed me. When I was able to travel, the Surgeon ordered me not to go back into the Army until Spring. I went back to LaGrange and settled down to study and finish my college course. There were two students there, Will

Markham and myself, and they let us go as fast as we preferred. We got our diplomas in March.

"Then a little company was forming there at LaGrange, and I joined that company. Baker Jones was captain. It was company L of the 13th Tennessee, Vaughn's Brigade, Cheatham's Division. This company joined the 13th Tennessee at Corinth, Mississippi.

"We were in all of the battles from that time on, in which the 13th Tennessee participated, until I was captured.

"I had been, for a long time, studying for the ministry and had my books with me in my knapsack. I preached before the Cherokee Presbytery and was licensed to preach at Marietta, Georgia, about six or seven weeks before I was captured. After I was licensed to preach, I went back to Dalton, Georgia. I preached occasionally in the camps and sometimes in other places. I was captured at Cheatham's Bend near Marietta, Georgia, [in the Battle of Kennesaw Mountain] on the 27th day of June, 1864. I was Second Lieutenant and had charge of an outpost with a squad of four, and we had orders to hold that post at all hazards.

"When the Yankees got ready to charge, they began to shell our lines and this post. I told my men to fire on the gunners. They fired on us and missed us on one side about a foot and then on the other side about a foot. About this time First Lieutenant Logan Anderson of my company came along and said to me, 'Look here, Lieutenant, you had better get out of here,' and I said, 'Have we got orders to retreat?' He said he didn't know. I said 'Lieutenant, you rank me; you take charge of the post and I will go back to the line and find out.' I ran back to the line, and when I found out, I started to run back to the post; as I started, an Irish officer said to me, 'Where are you going? Where are you going?' I didn't have time to stop and tell him, so I ran on, and ran right into a squad of blue-clothed Yankees with their rifles turned on me; and they called to me to surrender. The Major, who was behind a tree, called to me and turned his pistol on me and told me to surrender; I said, 'I surrender!' and handed him my sword.

"They ordered me to the rear of the line, and when I had gone a little way, Lieutenant Logan Anderson jumped out from behind a bush and asked me, 'West, [have] they got you, too?' I am so glad. Not glad you are captured, but glad you are going to be here with me! They took us back to the rear of the line with some other men. One of these men was Stit Matthews. We were standing around in a group talking with some Yankees, when one Yankee came up and made himself very, very agreeable, talking about different things, [especially about what good fighters we were]; and finally he got to talking about the Confederate lines as they were established that day when we were captured. He asked Stit Matthews about these lines and said he couldn't understand them; and Stit Matthews squatted down on the ground and started to draw the lines. I said to him, 'Stit, enemy lines are discovered by armed reconnaissance.' With that Stit dropped his stick and looked kind o' blank. Then the little Yankee officer got very angry, and said that I was the smartest man he ever saw; that certainly I should be mentioned to General Sherman, because it ought to be known that there was such a smart man among the prisoners. They took us to Johnson's Island, Lake Erie, where I stayed until the end of the war. After the surrender of Lee's and Johnson's army I was

paroled. I studied about it some time before I made up my mind to be paroled and take the oath; but I considered that it was better to take the oath and live in the United States,—the only country that I knew, where all of my life had been spent and my wife and family were, than to go to some foreign country. So I took the oath and returned home to Mississippi.

He was paroled June 17, 1865.

After his return to Mississippi he began his work as a Presbyterian minister in charge of a group of churches in and about Newton, Mississippi. He remained here one year; in 1866 he went to Fontoc to take charge of another group; here he remained for sixteen years. Later fields of work in Mississippi were pastorates at Aberdeen, 1882-1885; and Brandon, 1892-1895; evangelistic work, with headquarters successively at Starkville, Kosciusko, and Trenton, 1885-1892.

For about ten years after the close of the War, he was also a teacher.

In 1895, he went from Brandon, Mississippi, to Bryan, Texas, where he spent thirteen years. This was his last pastoral charge. Broken health caused him to withdraw from active work in 1908, when he went back to Mississippi. In the Autumn of that year he took up the work of stated supply to the Presbyterian church of Newton, which work he continued until 1919, when he grew too feeble for public work of any sort.

In December, 1919, he went to Pensacola, Florida. There he resided until his death, which came suddenly on April 19, 1921, in the course of a visit to my eldest sister in Newton—almost two years to the day after my mother's death.

The manuscript history herewith presented was found among his papers after his death. I do not know the precise date of its composition, but the handwriting would indicate that it was written in the late seventies.

I am told that it was part of the material used by General Vaughn in preparing a history of his division, but that by a curious coincidence, my father's name does not occur in the roster included in this history, probably as the result of a clerical error. His own recollection of his service, however, is corroborated by the War Department at Washington.†

James D. West enlisted at the first call for troops in a Mississippi regiment, grew impatient, obtained his discharge, and joined the 13th Mississippi, with which command he participated in the first battle of Manassas. He was soon stricken with typhoid fever, but upon his recovery reenlisted in company L, 13th Tennessee, when he was made 2nd Lieutenant. On June 27th, 1864, he was captured at Kennesaw Mountain, and was confined at the military prison on Johnson's Island until June 17th, 1865, when he received his discharge.

State Library

Austin Texas.

†The records show that James D. West, Sergt. Co. I., 13th Tenn. Inf. C.S.A., enlisted March 8, 1862, at La Grange, Tenn., and was promoted to 2d Lieut. Oct. 14, 1863. He was captured near Marietta, Ga., June 27, 1864, and was released on oath of allegiance at Johnson's Island, June 15, 1865.