



STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY

MILO B. HOWARD, JR., DIRECTOR
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36104

June 18, 1974

Re: Dorough, Hugh Lyle
A-911

Mrs. Ethel Dorough Stine
1012 Cogswell Avenue
Pell City, Alabama 35125

Dear Mrs. Stine:

Your letter of June 14 requesting the Confederate service record of the man mentioned above is at hand.

A muster in roll not dated of Company C, 18th Alabama Infantry Regiment lists one Private H.L. Dorough from Shelby County, Alabama.

Private H.L. Dorough is on an alphabetical list of members of Company C, 18th Alabama Infantry Regiment in 1861. He enlisted according to this list July 24, 1861.

We have in our files the pension application of H.L. Dorough which was filed in Elmore County, Alabama. The application states that Mr. Dorough enlisted August 12, 1861 at Cedar Grove, Jefferson County, Alabama and served with Company C, 18th Alabama Infantry. There are also papers in the pension file stating that he was with Company K, 30th Alabama. You may have a xerox copy of this pension file for two dollars (\$2.00).

Very truly yours,

Milo B. Howard, Jr.
Director

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Confederate hero

By CAROL PAPPAS

Although it has been more than a century since he took up arms to fight for his southern heritage, Private General Andrew Jackson Alverson is not forgotten.

On Sept. 29 the Sons of Confederate Veterans John W. Inzer Camp 308 and Lieutenant George W. Arnold Camp 360 paid tribute to Alverson, who served in the Civil War.

Twelve men in uniforms, seven of whom were riflemen, participated in the service.

They were Gary Davis, Gary Buttram, Auburn Odom, First Sgt. Barry Taylor, Billy Price, Robert Dobbs and John Thompson. Capt. Mark Horton gave the command, and Master Sgt. Randy Smith was color bearer, carrying the flag. Thirteen-year-old Matthew Smith was the drummer boy.

Twelve-year-old James Wansart was the trumpet player, who played taps after the 21-gun salute by the seven riflemen.

David Bryant, a retired minister and teacher is chaplain of Camp 308 and gave an eloquent invocation and benediction.

Commanding Officer Randall Williams of SCV Camp 308 delivered the memorial to Alverson.

Alverson was born June 20, 1845, the son of Archibald Alverson and Elizabeth Cann.

Following is an excerpt from the commander's memorial:

YOUNG JACKSON, brave and mature for his age, was only 16 years old, had his mind made up and his heart was set on enlisting to serve in the Confederate Army.

His father and brother, George, were both going and he wanted to go, too. On a cold day, Dec. 12, 1861, the three men made the long trek across the mountain to Ashville from their home in Riverside. They enlisted in Company I, 18th Infantry Regiment.

Jackson's grandfather, Elijah Alverson, who was born July 2, 1785, in North Carolina served in the War of 1812. He died in 1872. His great-grandfather, John Alverson, served in the American Revolu-

tionary War.

He enlisted the first time in 1777 and then again in 1780 as a wagon master and was captured by the British at the Fall of Charleston.

He was in the Battle of Brandywine, where he sustained the loss of two fingers on his left hand, a cut on his right arm and bayonet stabs of the right thigh and leg.

Records show that he was allowed a pension for his wounds and for having served in the American Revolutionary War.

Young Jackson had heard stories many times of the hardships endured about the battles won and lost that his grandfather and great grandfather had been involved in.

IN HIS YOUNG mind, he must have been thinking that some day he would be telling his children and grandchildren of his experiences and the part he played in the Confederate War, and he would be proud he had a part in it.

The 18th Infantry Regiment completed its organization in September 1861, at Auburn. The men were recruited in the counties of Coffee, Pike, Coosa, Butler, Jefferson, Tuscaloosa, Shelby, St. Clair, Talladega and Covington.

It was attached to the Department of Alabama and West Florida. Then, in March, 1862, it moved to Tennessee. Assigned to Jackson's brigade, the unit took an active part in the fight at Shiloh, Tenn. Later it was ordered to Mobile and placed under the command of General Slaughter and Cumming.

The 18th moved again in April 1863, and attached to General Clayton's and Holtzclaw's brigade.

It fought with the Army of Tennessee from Chickamuga to Nashville. Returning to Mobile in January 1865, it participated in the defense of Spanish Fort. The regiment totalled 858 men in January 1861, but lost 20 who were killed and 80, who were wounded at Shiloh and 56 percent of the 527 engaged at Chickamuga.

It sustained 209 casualties at Chattanooga and had a force of 275 effectives in November 1864. The unit was included in the surrender

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honorred in special ceremony

of the Dept. of Alabama, Mississippi and East Louisiana.

JACKSON RETURNED TO his father's home at Riverside after the surrender of the Confederate forces. His brother, George, was wounded in battle and died in a hospital in Mobile and is buried in the Confederate cemetery in Mobile.

Jackson married Sarah E. Nichols on Dec. 31, 1871. She was the daughter of Lemuel Nichols and Avalline Wester.

Jackson and his wife had 10 children before her death June 26, 1898. The following year, April 21, 1899, Jackson died, leaving children ranging in ages from seven years to 27 years.

The Rev. H.B. Ralls, who conducted the funeral service, spoke consoling words to the family.

The children were: Elizabeth, born Dec. 17, 1872; Mary Etta, Dec. 17, 1874; Mack E., April 17, 1877; Wiley Franklin, August 6, 1879; Ida Louella, Oct. 17, 1881; James Marvin, Dec. 13, 1883; Walter L., Aug. 21, 1885; Jeff Baswell, Oct. 25, 1887; Rose B., Jan. 3, 1890; and Benjamin Grover, June 9, 1892.

Those attending the memorial service for Jackson, coming from Jefferson, Blount and St. Clair counties, were: Hazel Morgan, Lucille Bishop, UDC member, Mona Black Scott, great-granddaughter, Edna V. Gunter, Willie Dean Smith, Vada Vaughn, Vida Jo Odom, Jeralyn Lenox of Atlanta;

Grace Springer, Sue Johnston, Michael Smith, Sonny Smith, Edward Alverson, great-grandson, Barbara Alverson, David Bryant, Camp 308 chaplain, Estelle Higginbotham, Jack Hazelwood, Bobby L.

Tollison, Morris Nixon, Billy G. Thorpe, Flynn Nixon, Emma Linder, Nancy Futrell, Paula Smith, Mary Higginbotham, great-great-granddaughter of Birmingham;

Susan Dorris of West Frankfort, Ill., great-granddaughter, Gwain Dorris, West Frankfort, Ill., Grace Higginbotham, granddaughter.

Sons of Confederate Veterans came from Jefferson, Blount and St. Clair counties.

"These were difficult times for the men in uniform and for the families left behind, said Chaplain

Bryant. Many came back to find everything gone and their money worthless. These men have given to us an example of their love and patriotism.

"As we look at the rock of remembrance, people pass by and say, here was one dedicated to this country.

"Out of this conflict, men renewed their faith in God. Many pulpits in the South and many in the North were filled with these men after they returned."

Company's F. 10th 14th Alabama Infantry
 C S A 1861-1865

Listed below are names of soldiers
 mustered in the Confederate Army under an
 apple tree at Crosswell. They marched to
 Montevallo (15 miles) to board train to join
 Gen Robert E Lee's army in Virginia

Cpts

Wm T Smith
 James D Truss

Spts

Sidney T Coleman
 Wm W King

1st Lieuts

Robert M Allen
 Wm E S Hardwick
 James Williamson

cols

Thomas P Coleman
 Peter C H Funderburg
 George W Milum

2nd Lieuts

John R Castleberry
 Elias M Cook
 Abner K Wait

3rd Lieut

James A Walker

Privates

3rd Lieut

James D Cunningham

A M Abernethy
 Richard H Allen
 Nathan T Allen
 Henry F Barber
 James Barber

George P Benson
James H Gibby
Wm M Braden
John H Bricksome
B C M Bruster
Edward R Buchanan
A H Carnaday
Solomon F Chase
James R Clowson
Selvester Clowson
James R Coleman
Joseph H Cook
B H Corly
Levis Davis
John Davis
Robert G Davis
Wm E Davis
George M Dickson
B S Lobbins
John C Dolbe
Robert G Durans
George W Elwood
E F Harrison
Alex W Helton
Daniel Heston
James Hitchcock
Henry Ford

J M Howell
Edward F Hayes
Lewis R Jenkins
John L Jones
Wm A Gordon
Wm W Gordon
Wm D Kae
Thomas Lancaster
Andrew T Laid
Charles H Laid
George W Lewis
Sergeant M^cMillen
Robert P M^cKey
David M^cKey
Wm A Mearse
Wm Marvin
John B Martin
John F Martin
John G Martin
T J Martin
Joseph H Martin
Rouss J Miles
Daniel Mosley
Richard J. Mortimer
L P Murchison
Sam C Murchison
John W Nichols

1-04
cont.

Richard W Rispergo
Willis H Robertson
Elijah J Roberts
Thomas J Ramsey
James H Steadman
Alonzo C Tuck
Elijah B Tuck
Benjamin Turner
Elisha Turner
Wm H Walker
John B Watts
John T Weatherly
Gery H Weatherly
John E Williams
J T Wooten
John Wright
Young B A Wright

A J David
John C Dickson
Martin V Graham
F M Hardwick
Thomas W Helton
John K Hendrix
Thomas M Johnson
Wm H Jordan
John D Lewis^{LEWIS}
Hyman W Mark
Charles Martin
John C Metcalf
J B Pilburn
Henry T Mosley
Samuel Mallett
John A Marchison
W A Mcarenison
Willis R Niwens
John D Pilkington
Elijah J Roberts
Wm T Roberts
James F Rowland
Theodor M Smith
James V Sullivan
Wm Wicker
Wm M Weatherly
W T Williams

Recruits

W J T Abbercrombie
Wm X Bibby
Blayton Braden
A J Brewster
Jeremiah Casey
John F Casey
Wm Cobb
J M Crawford

P/14
#

Jepe Nielsen
John Peterson
James W. Peterson
John M. Peterson
A. Pilkington

James E. Williamson
John P. Williamson
Randolph D. Williamson
Robert T. Williamson
Tillman [unclear]

Subscribers

Moses R. Casey
John D. Pressitt

Order C S H Patriots
Not in Co F

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| 1 | 17 |
| 2 | 15 |
| 3 | 16 |
| 4 | 17 |
| 5 | 18 |
| 6 | 17 |
| 7 | 16 |
| 8 | 17 |
| 9 | 18 |
| 10 | 17 |
| 11 | 17 |
| 12 | 16 |
| 13 | |

lys Into Funeral Home

soldiers -

Cropwell Marker Pays Tribute

BY AUGUST LEHE

Soon after Alabama formally seceded from the Union on January 7, 1861, the call for volunteers went out across St. Clair County. Those men who chose, many with broken hearts, to take the field against almost certain Unionist aggression came from every corner of the county as the trumpets sounded the opening chapters of the American Civil War.

When completed, the Cropwell Memorial Marker will immortalize an important page in the history of St. Clair County during the Civil War period. The monument, which is nearing completion, will eventually list the names of all members of Company F of the 10th Alabama Infantry Regiment and all ancestors of St. Clair County Citizens who fought in the War Between the States, according to Mary Mays of Pell City.

The committee, which has been charged with the task of making the monument a reality is composed of W.D. Jackson,

James E. Ingram, George Williams, Charles Abbot, Bob Cornett and Mary Mays.

At present, all five St. Clair-quarried monoliths have been erected, curbing and lighting have been installed and landscaping is virtually complete. But without additional funding for the erection of the all important plaques, the project may be slowed to a standstill.

The monument's site was donated two years ago by the county. This particular location was selected because it is believed the original volunteers of Company F mustered beneath an ancient apple tree which grew near the present monument area.

In any event, the Cropwell markers may someday pay fitting tribute to the more than two hundred men who left their homes and families to march off to waiting trains at Montvello. Men who fought, fell and died in the snowy battlefields of Northern Virginia alongside the troops of Gen. Robert E. Lee.



Cropwell Historical Marker

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I
A ² - Jackson Alverson -

Commander - CO D - 9th Ala Battalion,
1 Infantry
Enlisted - Nov 1961 -
Newburn - Green Co Ala.

Grand daughter -

Mrs A T Higginbotham
Route 1 - Box 516 Ragland Ala

2 Archibald A - Alverson

51st Alabama Confederate Cavalry

great grand daughter

Emma Vandergrift Linder
(Mrs C J Linder)

names 4 pages

Ready to be
copied for
remembrance
words

2

3 B

S J Banks
Co D. 25 Regiment Alabama Infantry
Enlisted Fort Gaines. 10 sept 1861

ref by - Grandson
9 | B C - Banks.

4

Leroy Franklin Boy
Co A - 10th Alabama Regiment

ref by - Great Grandson
9 | Jim Bass Embury Jr.

5

Wiseman Boy
Co A - 58th Alabama Regiment C S A
Fought at Battle of Missionary Ridge.
Died before end of war.

ref by: Grand daughter, Jesse Boy

6

John Barton -
Grand daughter - 2/1

COAL BARGING IN ALABAMA IN WAR TIMES -- 1861-65

By Dr. W. M. Blake, Sheffield, Alabama

During the War of Session coal from mines in St. Clair County, Alabama, was supplied to the Confederate Arsenal at Selma. Most of this coal was mined by Ragland and Sims at a place now called Ragland two miles west of Coosa River. Part of it was mined by Crandle and Anderson at a place one mile west of Ragland. From these mines the coal was hauled to the river on wagons and there loaded on flat boats. Some of these boats were floated down the river to Yellow Leaf, now Wilsonville, and there the coal was transferred to railroad cars and shipped over the Selma, Dalton and Roan railroad to Selma. The greater number of the boats were floated down the Coosa river to the Alabama river, and thence by Montgomery to Selma. Ira Harmon, who acted as pilot for these boats is still living. The writer recently visited him at his home one mile south of Easonville in St. Clair County. The statements set forth in this article were made by Mr. Harmon on this visit. He is an intelligent old man, now feeble with the infirmities of age, but his straight-forward, blunt statements bear evidence of the energy and courage of his earlier years.

Ira Harmon was born among the western foothills of the Great Smoky mountains in Green County, Tennessee. When a child of six years his father moved to Talladega County, Alabama. Pioneer methods on travel are illustrated by a description of the move. The elder Harmon placed his family on a flat boat on the Nolichucky River, floated down this stream to the Nolston River, and continued down the Nolston to the Tennessee River. The latter stream was followed to a point near Chattanooga. From this point the family was carried overland across the "divide" to the headwaters of the Costanaula River. Another boat was here built, and they floated down to Rome, Georgia, and thence down the Coosa River to Talladega County, where the elder Harmon settled and where Ira Harmon was reared.

Talladega County was rich in agricultural products before the days of railroads in that Section. Ira Harmon gained his experience as a pilot while floating these products down the Coosa River to market. When asked the date of his first trip, he could not remember, but stated that on this trip, when his boat was twelve miles north of Wetumpka at the "Devil's Chair Case", Miller's comet made its appearance, causing alarm among the crew,

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and on reaching Wetumpka the next day, the town was in commotion and excitement, caused by the appearance of the comet. To those who have seen the Coosa River above Wetumpka is evident that no degree of courage and judgment were required to conduct loaded boats with safety over these shoals. Higher up the river are other rapids, where the fall is greater, the current swifter, and the passage more difficult to make. There are jutting cliffs projecting into the channel at many of the abrupt bends in the river, and if the boats were not sterred clear of these menacing rocks it meant destruction to craft and freight, and perhaps the crew. These same projecting rocks produce great whirlpools wh circling vortexes swallowed up everything that entered them. What was most dangerous o all were the hidden rocks in the channel of the stream whose location must be known to avoided.

It was in the face of such difficulties as these that Ira Harmon supplied coal to the Confederate arsenal at Selma. He states that the mine operated by Hagland and Sims from 1861 to 1865 was not under the control of the Confederate government, but that their coal was sold at Montgomery and Selma. During the latter part of the war Crandle and Anderson operated their mine under the supervision and control of the Confederate government. The labor at both mines was done chiefly by Negro slaves, many of whom had been recently brought to that section as refugees from Kentucky and Tennessee. Negroes also constituted the crew for the boats which were made of sawed lumber and were fifty feet long, eighteen feet wide and thirty inches in depth. The largest boat built was seventy-eight feet long, twenty-two feet wide, and thirty inches in depth. The amount of coal carried on each boat was from twenty to fifty-two tons. The trip down the river could be made only when the stream was swollen. Sometimes the loaded boats would have to wait for months until there was water enough in the river to enable them to pass over the shoals. During this time of waiting the boats crew was employed in building new boats. They would go into the forest, cut down trees, split them, and hew the halves into shape for the sides of the boats. Since tall large trees, free from knots were required, such timber was not always easily found. Some of the trees were hauled six to eight miles. Pine and poplar, chiefly pine, were used to make the gunnells with wodden pegs. On a tri

down the river from two to eight boats were carried at the same time - usually about five. Five men were required for each boat. Under favorable conditions the trip from Ragland to Montgomery could be made in three days. Mr. Harmon states that he had made the trip from Ragland to Wetumpka in a day and night. Sometimes it would require two weeks for the same trip. If conditions were unfavorable the boats were tied up to the bank at night. If there was wind or fog on the river it was sometimes necessary to remain tied up several days. Wind gave much trouble especially if the boats were loaded with cotton. The time to go from Montgomery to Selma was two days and nights. On delivering the coal the boats were sold and the return trip made from Selma back to the Coosa River by railroad. If the coal was sold in Montgomery, the crew went on down the river to Selma to return from there by railroad. The price received for coal in Montgomery from 1861 to 1865 was one hundred to one hundred and twenty-five dollars per ton. The price paid a pilot for his services on each trip during the war was one hundred dollars in Confederate money. The price paid before and after the war was as much as fifty dollars. There were others boating on the Coosa during the war, and many boats with their freight were lost.

Mr. Harmon relates many interesting stories connected with these trips. One occasion the coal on a boat was discovered to be on fire. In removing the coal to put out the fire, it was discovered that the negroes on the boat had stolen a hog before starting on the trip, and had hidden it beneath the coal, to be eaten as they went down the river.

About thirty miles below Wilsonville the country is mountainous and wild. The river here runs for some distance, close to the base of tall, almost perpendicular, rocky cliffs. For two years, on different trips smoke has been seen rising from beneath an overhanging rock among the cliffs. On one occasion, the river being very high, Mr. Harmon was enabled to run his boat close up to this "smoking rock". Then he saw a fire burning, and nearby, were eight men lying on the ground with their faces downward. They had seen the boat approaching and did this to avoid recognition. They were bushwhackers--men who were in hiding to keep out of the Confederate army. This was their rendezvous. The overhanging rocks sheltered these wartime cave-dwellers from the rain: the river cut off approach on one side and the cliffs made their retreat almost inaccessible on the other. Several months afterwards Mr. Harmon mentioned this discovery to a Confederate officer at the mines.

time that this was a bushwhacker camp?" "Yes," said Mr. Harmon, "but had it ever occurred to you which is of more importance to the Confederate government, coal for its arsenal at Selma or these bushwhackers as soldiers?" "To disturb these men means to endanger the life of every man who passes those cliffs on a flat boats." Perhaps, after all you are right, Mr. Harmon," said the officer and the bushwhackers went unmolested.

(The foregoing article by Dr. Blake was published in the Gulf State Historical Magazine, May, 1903)

IRA HARMON DIED IN 1903 AND IS BURIED AT EASONVILLE, ALABAMA.