

In Memoriam.

Capt. J. Gardner Greene

Sgt. Jessie T. Scoggins



CAPT. J. GARDNER GREENE

Company C, 167th U. S. A.
42nd Division, A. E. F.

CAPT. J. GARDNER GREENE

Fellow Citizens and Masonic Brethren:

We have met here today to offer a tribute of respect and love to our departed friend and brother, Captain J. Gardner Greene, who was killed on September 12th, leading his troops to battle with the German forces on the battle field of St. Mihiel, France.

The report of Captain Greene's death was made to his wife in a telegram received from the War Department on the morning of October 2nd.

He died that we might continue to live as a free democracy, that the declaration of our independence; "That all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness" should not perish from off the earth.

Captain Greene was born in Ashville, St. Clair County, Alabama, April 16th, 1878. Was the son of James T. and Margaret Ashley Greene. His youth and young manhood was passed in the town of his birth. After finishing his preparatory education he studied law in the offices of his father and Judge Inzer at Ashville; was licensed to practice law in Alabama in 1897. At the age of 20 years he volunteered for the Spanish-American war and served with distinction; was a non-commissioned

who sink to rest
in wishes blest,
thy fingers cold
in hallowed mould,
as a sweeter sod
have ever trod."

—Collins.

officer when mustered out after twelve months service.

"War is honorable
In those who do their native right maintain,
In those whose swords an iron barrier are,
Between the lawless spoiler and the weak."

In 1900 he entered the Law School of the George Washington University, Georgetown, D. C., graduating in 1901; the same year he entered the U. S. Government service in the Department of the Census; resigned from the Census Bureau in 1908 and opened a law office in Pell City in the early part of that year. On March 20th, 1915, he organized the Pell City Guards, and as its Captain, took great pride in its development and in a year had whipped it into a crack military organization. The guards were mustered into the state service as Company C, Fourth Alabama Regiment.

When the call came for troops to quell the Mexican Border troubles, the Pell City Guards were ready for service and under the leadership of Captain Greene left Pell City for Montgomery on June 26th, 1916, and went to the Border on October 21st, 1916; returned to Montgomery in March, 1917. In April war was declared against Germany; all the state troops were re-organized and the Fourth Alabama became the unit of the 167th United States Infantry and a part of the 42nd Division and was given intensive training for over seas duty at Camp Sheridan. The 42nd Division was transferred to Camp Mills, Mineola, L. I., on August 26th, 1917, while there received the name now known and honored in all the allied camps, Rain-

bow Division. The 42nd Division left New York on November 1st, 1917, in Liverpool, England, and went from there to France in the first month where they received their baptism into the trenches of the Toul sector.

Company C has seen active service in initiation in February to March at Toul; in the Champagne, and in numerous other minor engagements known as one of the Star Companies.

Captain Greene was gassed in the summer and returned to the command in late August and from later of Captain Greene, it is presumed that he died at the St. Mihiel front.

The Master, when on earth, was a love hath man than that, and he gave his life for his friends." Captain Greene's supreme sacrifice for his country and the white cross in far of the remains of our beloved friend's personal part in the great world war. The people of the world is the loss of a man and brothers, mourn the loss of a man.

"Aye, he had fought the fight
Our great young leader
So swift to seize the day
And careless only of his own."

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bow Division. The Rainbow Division sailed from New York on November 3rd, 1917, and disembarked in Liverpool, England, on November 19th, went from there to France in the latter part of the same month where they received their final training and went into the trenches on February 21st, 1918, on the Toul sector.

Company C has seen active service from its trench initiation in February to this day, having fought at Toul; in the Champagne, at Chateau Thierry, and numerous other minor engagements; Company C is known as one of the Star troops of the 42nd Division.

Captain Greene was gassed July 31st, but recovered and returned to the command of his company in late August and from letters received by Mrs. Greene, it is presumed that he was killed on the St. Mihiel front.

The Master, when on earth, said, "What greater love hath man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." Captain Greene has made this supreme sacrifice for you and for me; beneath a little white cross in far off France lies the earthly remains of our beloved friend and brother, his personal part in the great work for the freedom of the people of the world is finished, and we, his friends and brothers, mourn the loss of one of God's noblemen.

"Aye, he had fought the fight and passed away—
Our great young leader smitten in the strife,
So swift to sieze the chances of the fray,
And careless only of his noble life."

But the work will go on until liberty, equality and fraternity shall be the cornerstone upon which all civilized nations shall be builded.

Captain Greene died in the performance of duty; died nobly, facing the enemy; died the death of a true soldier; in truth it can be said of him:

"Man's acts proclaim nobility and not the kingly crest;
For he's the noblest who performs life's trying duties best."

T. H. RENNIE.

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SGT. JESSIE T. SCOGGINS

Sergeant Jesse T. Scoggins was born in the town-
ship of Branchville, St. Clair County, on January
10th, 1893; he was the son of A. J. and Besse Scog-
gins. His youth was passed with his parents at the
home place working on the farm and doing those
things which are the common lot of an American
boy brought up on farm.

At the age of twenty he was appointed Jailor by
Sheriff Love and placed in charge of the County Jail
in Pell City; this position he filled in a most credible
manner, being known as one of the best officers in
the service of the County.

Sergeant Scoggins enrolled as a private in the
Pell City Guards at its organization in March, 1915,
and was mustered into the Alabama National
Guards when the Pell City Guards became Com-
pany C of the Fourth Alabama Regiment; his apt-
ness for things military, combined with his faith-
ful performance of all duties assigned him, were
quickly recognized by the officers of Company C;
he was appointed a non-commissioned officer after
a short term as a private.

Sergeant Scoggins served with Company C on the
Border and went to France with this troop in No-
vember, 1917, and into the trenches on the French
front, Toul sector, in February, 1918; he was in all
the engagements of which Company C has been a

fighting unit until his death in battle on July 26th, 1918.

A few months before his death he entered an officer's training school in France and made a high mark for efficiency, his work being specially commended; had he lived he would have been commissioned as an officer. He had but recently rejoined his company when he met his death in action.

Our friend sleeps in his grave in France, he died fighting for liberty, for the safety of humanity, to rid the world from autocracy; it is our duty to continue until the great cause for which he died shall be accomplished, that his death shall not have been in vain.

R. D. LOVE.

GLORIOUS YEAR FOR

From the New York Evening

Maj. Gen. Charles D. Menoher has addressed to that body on the "Rainbow Division" a year past. Starting with the Maj. Gen. Menoher took his lance into the trenches in the glorious victories recently

His message dated August 1918, been received here, reads:

"To the Officers and Men
Division:

"A year has elapsed since the organization. It is, therefore, what you have accomplished and what you should expect in the future.

"Your first elements entered France on February 21. You were there 110 days. You were the first to hold a divisional sector and on June 21 you had served with in the trenches for a longer American division. Although you were without experience in the trenches you conducted yourselves as equals of the French soldiers.

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At his grave in France, he died
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R. D. LOVE.

GLORIOUS YEAR FOR "RAINBOWS"

From the New York Evening Sun.

Maj. Gen. Charles T. Menoher of the 42d division has addressed to that body an interesting review of the "Rainbow Division's" accomplishments in the year past. Starting with the time it was formed, Maj. Gen. Menoher traces its actions from the entrance into the trenches in Lorraine in February to the glorious victories recently won.

His message dated August 13, which has just been received here, reads:

"To the Officers and Men of the Forty-second Division:

"A year has elapsed since the formation of your organization. It is, therefore, fitting to consider what you have accomplished as a combat division and what you should prepare to accomplish in the future.

"Your first elements entered the trenches in Lorraine on February 21. You served on that front for 110 days. You were the first American division to hold a divisional sector and when you left the sector June 21 you had served continuously as a division in the trenches for a longer time than any other American division. Although you entered the sector without experience in actual warfare you so conducted yourselves as to win the respect and affection of the French veterans with whom you

fought. Under gas and bombardment, in raids, in patrols, in the heat of hand-to-hand combat and in the long dull hours of trench routine so trying to a soldier's spirit you bore yourselves in a manner worthy of the traditions of our country.

"You were withdrawn from Lorraine and moved immediately to the Champagne front, where during the critical days from July 14 to July 18 you had the honor of being the only American division to fight in Gen. Gouraud's army which so gloriously obeyed his order, 'We will stand or die,' and by its iron defence crushed the German assault and made possible the offensive of July 18 to the west of Rheims.

"From Champagne you were called to take part in exploiting the success north of the Marne. Fresh from the battle front before Chalons you were thrown against the picked troops of Germany. For eight consecutive days you attacked skillfully prepared positions. You captured great stores of arms and munitions. You faced the crossings of the Ourcq. You took Hill 212, Sergy, Meurcy Ferme and Seringes by assault. You drove the enemy, including an imperial guard division, before you for a depth of 15 kilometres. When your infantry was relieved it was in full pursuit of the retreating Germans and your artillery continued to progress and support another American division in the advance to the Vesle.

"For your services in Lorraine your division was formally commended in general orders by the French army corps under which you served. For your services in Champagne your assembled officers received the personal thanks and commenda-

tion of Gen. Gouraud himself, on the Ourcq your division was commended in a letter from the First Army Corps, of July 25, 18.

"To your success I am indebted, and I desire to express the command my appreciation of your courageous effort.

"However, our position places a responsibility upon us which we must meet steadily forward without falter. For the comrades who have fallen we owe the duty of maintaining the reputation we have established. The influence of our actions upon our allies and our enemies cannot be overestimated. We were one of the first American divisions to show the world that Americans can fight.

"Hard battles and long campaigns can only be met by ceaseless vigilance and determination. We must therefore, to approach the future but above all with firm determination as it is in your power to do so, whether in training or in combat, to maintain the record of our division and the country."

Letter from Sgt. Julian DeGard
Mrs. Sumter Cogswell, Pell
France

My Dear Mother:

This is the first chance I have had in such a long time I fear that something happened to me, but nothing definite.

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tion of Gen. Gouraud himself. For your services
on the Ourcq your division was officially compli-
mented in a letter from the commanding general,
First army corps, of July 28, 1918.

"To your success 11 ranks and all services have
contributed, and I desire to express to every man in
the command my appreciation of his devoted and
courageous effort.

"However, our position places a burden of re-
sponsibility upon us which we must strive to bear
steadily forward without faltering. To our com-
rades who have fallen we owe the sacred obligation
of maintaining the reputation which they died to
establish. The influence of our performance on our
allies and our enemies cannot be overestimated, for
we were one of the first divisions sent from our
country to France to show the world that Ameri-
cans can fight.

"Hard battles and long campaigns lie before us.
Only by ceaseless vigilance and tireless prepara-
tion can we fit ourselves for them. I urge you,
therefore, to approach the future with confidence,
but above all with firm determination that so far
as it is in your power you will spare no effort
whether in training or in combat to maintain the
record of our division and the honor of our coun-
try."

Letter from Sgt. Julian DeGaris to his mother,
Mrs. Sumter Cogswell, Pell City,
France, Sept. 22, 1918.

My Dear Mother:

This is the first chance I have had to write for
such a long time I fear you think something has
happened to me, but nothing doing in that line.

Poor Capt. Greene got his on the morning of Sept. 12th, at about 10 o'clock in the first of the battle. A machine gun sniper got him, the bullet struck between the eyes, going through, and also killed the man behind him. I feel as if my best friend is gone because he treated me as a younger brother and was always doing something for me. Every man in the outfit was crazy about him, he was so brave and looked after them so well.

Capt. Greene must have had a premonition. He had just received his promotion as major about ten minutes before going into battle when he called me over and gave me his captain's bars, telling me to mail one to his mother and one to his wife, and to tell them of the battles these bars had been through. He asked me to take an inventory of personal property in his roll and send a list to his wife. He gave me his insurance papers. In his last fight we only had three men killed and he was one of them. We captured so many Germans it was hard to find men to take them back to the lines.

Capt. Greene was sick before this fight, not entirely recovered from the last wound he got. The doctor tried to persuade him to return to the hospital, but no, he must be with his men. He had just been a major ten minutes.

I am in the front line now and can't write very well, because I am under a pup tent and there's very little room. So with lots of love for you, father and the girls,

Your boy,

JULIAN S. DEGARIS,
Sgt. Co. C, 167th Inft, A. E. F., 42nd Division,