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WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY,

LEXINGTON, VIRGINIA.

HISTORICAL PAPERS,

No. 6.—1904.

1. THE HISTORY OF WASHINGTON COLLEGE, 1830-1848.
BY WILLIAM HENRY RUFFNER, LL. D.
2. PAPERS RELATING TO THE LIBERTY HALL VOLUNTEERS.

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LYNCHBURG, VA.:
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1904.



OFFICERS OF THE LIBERTY HALL VOLUNTEERS

LIBERTY HALL VOLUNTEERS,

Company I, Fourth Va. Infantry.*

This company was organized at Washington College early in the month of April, 1861. It took its name from a similar organization formed at old Liberty Hall Academy during the war of American independence, which marched under William Graham, rector of that institution, to Rockfish Gap to meet the British under Tarleton. It was composed almost exclusively of those then connected with the college and recent graduates, more than one-half of whom were professors of religion and about one-fourth candidates for the ministry.

After repeated applications to be allowed to join the troops then moving to the field from every part of the State and of the South, it received marching orders Sabbath evening, May 20, 1861. Several days were spent in necessary preparation, and on the morning of the eighth of June, it was mustered on the college campus, and the following roll was called:

Captain,† James J. White.

First Lieutenant, John N. Lyle.

Second Lieutenant, Joseph L. Sherrard.

First Sergeant, Wm. A. Anderson; Second Sergeant, D. E. Ruff; Third Sergeant, E. A. Mitchell; Fourth Sergeant, Chas. W. Bell; Fifth Sergeant, Chas. F. Nelson.

* The following sketch was written by Dr. G. B. Strickler, and the rolls were prepared by a committee of the Lee-Jackson Camp of Confederate Veterans, of Lexington, Va.—EDITORS.

† Alex. L. Nelson, the present Professor of Mathematics and senior member of the Faculty of Washington and Lee University, was elected captain of the company, but owing to a spell of illness was compelled to decline the office, and his commission was not issued.—EDITORS.

First Corporal, G. B. Strickler; Second Corporal, Frank T. Brooke; Third Corporal, Wm. L. Paxton; Fourth Corporal, Wm. F. Meade.

PRIVATES.

Anderson, J. M.	Myers, Henry H.
Arnold, Jacob W.	McKee, John T.
Amole, J. P.	McCoughtry, Jack W.
Arnold, J. Harry	Neel, Cyrus, F.
Barclay, A. Tedford	Ott, W. B.
Bird, John A.	Page, Copeland R.
Brooks, Andrew	Paxton, Alex. S.
Bell, Wm. J.	Paxton, Horace A.
Bradley, Benj. A.	Ramsey, Alex. B.
Brooks, Wm.	Raymond, Joseph S.
Davidson, Givens K.	Reiley, John W.
Godwin, Thos. J.	Reed, Thos. H.
Gwynn, Bronson B.	Roberts, Thos. H.
Hallett, Robt. J.	Richardson, Wm. E.
Jones, John H. B.	Rollins, Thos. S.
Johnston, S. A.	Redwood, J. T.
Jordan, Harry	Strickler, Cyrus D.
Kahle, Matthew S.	Suddarth, Jas. L.
Laird, H. R.	Thompson, Wm. J.
Lam, C. M.	Turner, Thos. M.
Lyle, Samuel H.	Utz, Calvin
Logan, N. B.	Varner, John A. R.
Lightner, John P.	Watson, John G.
Lightner, Samuel M.	Williams, Chas.
Lackey, Geo. W.	Wilson, Wm. N.
Mackey, James S.	Wilson, John T.
Meade, Everard	White, Hugh A.
Moore, J. Julius	Wilson, H. L.
Morrison, H. R.	Woods, J. Watson
Moore, Samuel R.	

RECRUITS.

The following names were added to the original roll of the company at different times during the war, to-wit :

Adair, Alex.	Echard, W. K.
Anderson, John R.	Ervine, John H.
Amole, T. F.	Gaylor, James
Anderson, Robt. M.	Glasgow, A. M.
Almond, R. B.	Green, Thomas
Baine, George	Gross, John
Bare, George	Gordon, F.
Brooks, Moffett	Guy, John R.
Bacon, A. S.	Gwynn, Worth O.
Bartley, H. A.	Hodge, J.
Benson, H. M.	Hall, A. H.
Brooks, Chas.	Holt, P. W.
Brown, Wm. L.	Helmick, Wm.
Buchanan, J. W.	Hutton, Gardner P.
Bryan, J. H.	Irvine, J. C.
Burke, T. N.	Johnson, R. J.
Bushong, Abraham	Johnson, Wm. M.
Cash, G. R.	Jackson, J.
Culton, J. B.	Lackey, Nathan A.
Chapin, Geo.	Lam, M. H.
Coffman, J. H.	Lackey, J. T.
Chester, Joseph T.	Link, A. T.
Crist, G.	Lewis, Edward
Copper, J. M.	Larew, M. F.
Clyce, G. A. E.	Lackey, Wm. H.
Carr, R.	Lackey, Thos. T.
Clifton, Robt.	Lunsford, Wm.
Day, W. E.	Miley, John W.
Dunlap, R. K.	Myers, John D.
Day, Samuel M.	McCray, J. C.
Dunlap, S. M.	McCalpin, R.
Dunlap, John	McClung, A. A.

RECRUITS.

Moore, Wm.	Stoner, G. H.
McCurdy, Wm. T.	Sterrett, J. D.
McClung, Chas. B.	Stoner, W.
McNutt, Benj. F.	Snyder, D.
McClelland, Wm. A.	Snyder, A.
McFaddin, Joseph.	Shields, Geo. W.
McCraw, J. W.	Sheckle, Daniel
Moore, W. Dorman	Stratton, Thos.
Moore, John F.	Shelton, ———
Moore, John P.	Smiley, W. S.
Ott, Henry	Taylor, I. M.
O'Brien, Dennis	Trevey, David
Patterson, W. L.	Welsh, John H.
Paxton, J. Mc.	White, Thos. S.
Preston, W. C.	Wilbourn, Wm. R.
Pettigrew, J. M.	Williams, S. P.
Pettigrew, Samuel	Whitmore, G. W.
Rollins, W. R.	Whitmore, David
Rozen, D. H.	Wilhelm, Samuel H.
Rowsey, Lafayette	Wilson, J. Edgar
Roadcap, D. L.	Withers, Marion H.
Spohr, James W.	Youell, Wm. A.
Steele, Wm.	Zollman, Madison

After the calling of the roll of the original company on the college campus, as hereinbefore stated, the company proceeded to the court-house, Rockbridge county, Virginia, where an immense concourse of ladies and gentlemen had assembled from the town and surrounding country to witness its departure. Here, a beautiful flag, bearing the inscription "*Pro aris et focis*," and wrought by the ladies of the Falling Spring congregation, was presented in an eloquent speech by Rev. John Miller, and received in a few pertinent remarks by Capt. White. A short address was then made by Rev. Wm. S. White D. D., the venerable pastor of the Presbyterian church, and a prayer offered for

them and the cause in which they were about to engage, after which the command was given and the noble band of youths filed out of the streets of Lexington towards the field of strife, many of them never to retrace their steps. They were accompanied to the river by a large number of friends, in carriages, on horseback, and on foot.

From Lexington they proceeded immediately to Staunton, and were formally mustered into service on the tenth of June, 1861, by Major, afterwards General, John Echols. From Staunton they moved to Winchester, and by order of Gen. Jos. E. Johnston were assigned to the Fourth Virginia Infantry, then under the command of Col. J. F. Preston, of Montgomery county, Virginia. This regiment, with the Second, Fifth, Twenty-seventh and Thirty-third Virginia regiments, composed what was afterward known as the "Stonewall Brigade." The company remained in this brigade during the entire service and participated in all its marches and battles.

The first forced march in which the company engaged was in the celebrated movement of Gen. Johnston, from Winchester to Manassas, to reinforce Gen. Beauregard. Although almost all of them were unused to hardships of any kind, and had so recently changed the light physical exercises of student life for the rough toil of the soldier, they preserved their ranks unbroken, and kept pace with their comrades of the regiment who had preceded them to the field and who were now somewhat inured to its rugged service. They reached Manassas Junction on the evening of the nineteenth of July, and were immediately marched to the neighborhood of the battle ground of the previous day on Bull Run. The following day was devoted to rest, needed both on account of their recent extraordinary march and the part they were to perform in the bloody drama so soon to be enacted. Of their conduct in the great battle of July 21, 1861, it is enough to say that they prominently participated in all the movements, which obtained for their brigade the soubriquet of "Stonewall," and by their gallantry attracted the special notice and secured the special praise of the brigade's illustrious chief. In the de-

cisive charge of that day, which, in the language of Stonewall Jackson, "broke the moral power of the Federal army," the General rode close to this company and declared that they were "more than brave." And here began those heavy losses by which the history of this organization was particularly characterized during the entire war. Seven were killed and six wounded. The killed were Bradley, C. W. Bell, Ott, Utz, H. L. Wilson, W. L. Paxton, and C. D. Strickler—a precious sacrifice to the cause in which they were engaged.

After this battle the company remained in the army of the Potomac until about the close of the year, when, with the brigade, it was transferred to the department of the Valley, recently placed under Gen. Jackson's command. In the meantime, greatly to the regret of every member of the company, ill health made it necessary for Capt. White to resign, and he was succeeded in office by H. Ruffner Morrison, who retained command in a most acceptable manner until the battle of Kernstown, where he and Lieut. Lyle and eight privates were captured.

The company was now serving as camp bodyguard for Gen. Jackson, remaining with him in quarters, but always serving with its regiment in action. This position it held until after the battle of Sharpsburg, when its numbers had been so much reduced by the casualties of battle that it was unable to perform the duties required.

In the opening of the following year it participated in the celebrated "Romney expedition," cheerfully enduring hardships such as seldom fall to the lot of the soldier, and during the following summer was with Jackson in all those marches and battles in the Valley, which furnished the first decisive evidence of that genius which subsequently commanded the homage of all countries and excited the admiration of the enemy himself. Marches were here made which for length and swiftness have, perhaps, never been surpassed.

From the Valley the company marched to Richmond, and took part in the battles of Cold Harbor and Malvern Hill, but without loss in killed or wounded.

The next great battle in which it was engaged was the Second Manassas. Here it lost its third captain, Hugh A. White, who had succeeded Capt. Morrison at the re-organization of the army, that excellent officer being still retained in prison. The noble character and glorious death of Capt. White will be fondly cherished as long as any who knew him shall survive. He was a capital officer and fell in the last decisive charge of that great conflict, bearing the flag of his regiment, which had just fallen from the hands of the lamented Gen. Baylor, who was mortally wounded a few minutes before. Here were mortally wounded two other members of the company, J. W. McCoughtry, of Jefferson; and Wm. C. Preston, of Lexington. The former had been known to go into battle when physically too weak to carry his gun, and the latter died with the noblest expressions of patriotism on his lips.

A small remnant of the company—all that the casualties of the battle had left—was engaged in the battle of Chantilly and Sharpsburg. At the last battle the company numbered only five, three of whom were severely wounded.

In the fall following, the army moved from the Valley to Fredericksburg, and in the spring fought in the battle of Chancellorsville. This company was in the column that passed around Gen. Hooker's right, and took part in all the fighting that resulted in the great victory there achieved. In the final onset on Sunday morning, under Gen. J. E. B. Stuart, it was among the first to penetrate and break the enemy's lines. It went into this battle with twenty-eight men, and lost nineteen in killed and wounded. The only student killed was Andrew Brooks, of Augusta county, a young man of the very highest character.

Some time after came the battle of Gettysburg. Here in a charge on the enemy's works, the company lost one killed, four wounded, and sixteen captured, Capt. Givens B. Strickler among the number. The greater proportion of those captured remained in prison until the close of the war.

During the following fall it suffered severely in the battle

of Mine Run, or Payne's Farm, and, the spring succeeding, was engaged in almost all the battles in the Wilderness, losing very heavily. On the twelfth of May the enemy made a vigorous assault on the Confederate works—and all of the company present, except two, were killed, wounded or captured.

Again recruiting, the company marched with Gen. Early's forces to the defense of Lynchburg, and subsequently took part in all the battles fought by that General in the lower valley and in Maryland. In the fall of this year the company received a large number of recruits from the county of Rockbridge, as it had done previously about the time of the reorganization. It is due to these men to say that, as a body, they faithfully performed every duty required of them, and on more than one occasion their courage was complimented by their General.

In the fall of 1864, the corps to which the company was attached was withdrawn from the Valley and taken to the army at Petersburg, and the company was stationed for the winter near Burgess' Mill. In February following, it took part in the bloody battle of Hatcher's Run, and had one man killed and several severely wounded. It was also in the column that stormed and captured Fort Steadman. Here the company had four men killed, four wounded, and four captured. Among the killed was student N. B. Logan, of Fincastle, a young man of excellent character.

Very soon after Grant succeeded in forcing the lines above Petersburg, and in the evacuation the company again sustained some losses. A few days more of weary marching and sadness and its history closed with that of the Army of Northern Virginia, in the surrender at Appomattox Court-house.

Although the discipline of the company was always strict, it was never found necessary to inflict any penalty on any of the original members. In no instance did the company fail to discharge any duty imposed on it, and in battle was always characterized by the highest degree of courage. Its character from first to last was unsullied.

The following is a list of the officers of the company during the war, in the order in which they succeeded each other:

Captains—James J. White, Henry Ruffner Morrison, Hugh A. White and G. B. Strickler.

First Lieutenants—John N. Lyle, G. B. Strickler and Saml. H. Lyle.

Second Lieutenants—Joseph L. Sherrard and J. H. B. Jones.

Third Lieutenant—James B. Culton.

First Sergeants—Wm. A. Anderson and J. S. Raymond.

Second Sergeants—D. E. Ruff and Alexander S. Paxton.

Third Sergeants—E. A. Mitchell, Joseph T. Chester and J. J. Moore.

Fourth Sergeants—Chas. J. Bell, J. W. Arnold and S. A. Johnson.

Fifth Sergeant—Chas. F. Nelson.

First Corporals—H. H. Myers and Worth O. Gwynn.

Second Corporals—Wm. T. Meade, G. K. Davidson and J. Mc. Paxton.

Third Corporals—Wm. L. Paxton, Thos. J. Godwin, C. R. Page and J. T. McKee.

Fourth Corporals—F. T. Brooke, S. R. Moore and Geo. W. Lackey.

A. Tedford Barclay, a member of the company, served as ensign of the regiment, with honor.*

* In the official report of the engagement at Mine Run or Locust Hill special mention is made of the gallantry of Private A. T. Barclay in the following terms: "Among the non-commissioned officers wounded is Color Sergeant J. H. Lawrence, who was severely wounded through both legs while gallantly bearing the colors of the regiment against the foe, and I desire to mention specially the conspicuous gallantry of Private A. T. Barclay, Company I, who seized the colors when Sergeant Lawrence fell and carried them through the balance of the fight." Report of Major William Terry, Fourth Va. Infantry, December 4, 1863, of engagement on 27th of November at Locust Hill. Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies, series 1, Vol. XXIX, 851.

CASUALTIES.

1. First Manassas.

Killed: Sergt. Chas. W. Bell, Corporal W. L. Paxton, Benj. A. Bradley, W. B. Ott, Calvin Utz, H. L. Wilson and Cyrus D. Strickler.

Wounded: Sergt. W. A. Anderson, Corporal G. B. Strickler, Saml. H. Lightner, H. A. Paxton (left hand), C. F. Neel and Bronson B. Gwynn.

2. Kernstown.

Killed: Sergt. Chas. F. Nelson.

Wounded: W. J. Bell.

Captured: Capt. H. R. Morrison, Andrew Brooks, Lieut. John N. Lyle, Corporal John T. McKee, Horace A. Paxton, John A. R. Varner, J. Watson Woods and A. B. Ramsey.

3. First Winchester.

Captured: Worth O. Gwynn.

4. Second Manassas.

Killed: Capt. Hugh A. White, Jack W. McCoughtry, W. C. Preston.

Wounded: Chas. Brooks, Robt. K. Dunlap, Everard Meade, J. Mc. Paxton, David E. Ruff, Lieut. G. B. Strickler and John T. Wilson.

Captured: James L. Suddarth.

5. Sharpsburg.

Wounded: Corporal S. R. Moore, Thos H. Roberts and Cyrus M. Lam.

6. Kearneysville.

Killed: W. Dorman Moore.

Wounded: Sergt. J. S. Raymond, Corporal S. A. Johnson, Corporal Givens K. Davidson.

7. Chancellorsville.

Killed: Nathan A. Lackey, Saml. M. Day and Andrew Brooks.

Wounded: J. P. Amole, H. M. Benson, George Chapin, R. K. Dunlap, Bronson B. Gwynn, Corporal T. J. Godwin,

Lieut. S. H. Lyle, John P. Moore, Alex. S. Paxton, Horace A. Paxton (left leg), Alex. B. Ramsey, Worth O. Gwynn, Geo. H. Stoner, Isaac M. Taylor, H. A. Bartley and John T. Wilson.

8. Gettysburg.

Killed: Alex. Adair.

Wounded: T. F. Amole, Thos. J. Godwin, Wm. H. Lackey, Corporal J. M. Paxton and H. A. Paxton (right foot).

Captured: Saml. M. Dunlap, Thos. J. Godwin, Worth O. Gwynn, R. J. Johnson, Wm. H. Lackey, John F. Moore, J. Julius Moore, John T. McKee, J. Mc. Paxton, Sergt. J. S. Raymond, Capt. G. B. Strickler, W. S. Smiley, James L. Suddarth, Isaac M. Taylor, Thos. M. Turner and John A. R. Varner.

9. Bealton Station.

Wounded: H. A. Bartley, Alex. B. Ramsey and Sergt. J. S. Raymond.

10. Mine Run.

Killed: Geo. Chapin.

Wounded: Lieut. S. H. Lyle, J. P. Amole, A. B. Ramsey and A. S. Paxton.

11. Wilderness.

Wounded: Lieut. J. H. B. Jones, S. A. Johnson, John W. Miley (died), James S. Mackey, Horace A. Paxton (left hip broken), A. B. Ramsey and Ensign A. T. Barclay.

12. Spottsylvania C. H.

Killed: Sergt. Joseph T. Chester and William Steele.

Wounded: John P. Moore, Wm. E. Day and Wm. A. McClelland.

Captured: J. P. Amole, Ensign A. T. Barclay, W. M. Johnston, Lieut. S. H. Lyle, Wm. A. McClelland, Thos. H. Roberts, J. S. Raymond, Thos. S. Rollins, Jas. S. Mackey and George W. Whitmore.

13. Monocacy.

Wounded and captured: T. F. Amole.

14. Second Winchester.

Wounded: Geo. W. Lackey and A. T. Link.

Captured: A. T. Link.

15. Bell Grove.

Wounded: J. H. Coffman and James W. Spohr.

Captured: A. B. Ramsey.

16. Fort Steadman.

Killed: Robert Anderson, N. B. Logan, Geo. H. Stoner and Marion H. Withers.

Wounded: John H. Ervine, J. Hodge, Wm. L. Patterson and John H. Welsh.

Captured: Abraham Bushong, ——— Shelton and Wm. R. Wilbourn, Wm. L. Patterson and J. H. Coffman.

17. Petersburg.

Killed: John P. Moore.

Wounded: Sergt. A. S. Paxton and J. Edgar Wilson.

18. Hatcher's Run.

Killed: Wm. A. Youell and Madison Zollman.

Wounded: M. H. Lam and Wm. L. Patterson.

DIED OF DISEASE.

Anderson, Joseph M.

Anderson, John

Brooks, Wm.

Brooks, Moffett

Clifton, Robert

Jordan, Harry

Larew, Milton F.

Lightner, John P.

Lightner, S. M.

Mitchell, Edward A.

McCraw, J. W.

Reed, Thos. H.

Richardson, W. E.

Smiley, Wm. S.

Thompson, Wm. J.

Wilhelm, Samuel H.

STATE OF VIRGINIA,

In Rockbridge County Court Clerk's Office.

I, A. T. Shields, Clerk of the County Court for the county aforesaid, in the State of Virginia, do certify that the foregoing is a copy of the Muster Roll of the Liberty Hall Volunteers, Company I, Fourth Virginia Infantry, on file in said office.

Given under my hand this the twenty-second day of October, 1903.

A. T. SHIELDS, Clerk.