

WAR REMINISCENCES.

Sketch of the 40th Regiment.

Co. G. From Chatham.

The following interesting sketch of the 40th North Carolina regiment was written by W. H. H. Lawton, who is now a prominent Minister in the Sandy Creek Baptist Association, and was a captain in that regiment. (Continued from last week.)

At Spotsylvania Court-house we were engaged on May 12th; but the loss of the Forty-eighth was not so great as that of some other regiments, as we were not in the hottest of the battle. However, we did some hard marching through the brush and some fighting.

From here we were, on the memorable march to Richmond, exposed to an awful heavy shelling on May 25th, near Hanover. The solid shot were falling and bouncing thick on the ground. The only casualties I remember were Sergeant C. Lawton and Corporal M. C. Von, of Company D, Forty-eighth North Carolina, both killed with the same shot. Our next engagement was at a place called Turkey Bend, or Turkey Hill. Wilcox's Division was fighting in front of us, and a heavy body of Federals were moving on his left flank. We were preparing to meet them, throwing up some temporary breastworks under a sharp skirmish fire. Lieut. W. C. Howard, of Company E, Forty-eighth, was killed. Some four or five men wounded, I think, all of those lost from the Forty-eighth in this engagement. The enemy was moving in line of battle to our right. We were ordered to move in quick time and make no noise. While on this rapid march an amusing incident occurred, which I will relate: We were passing through a ravine where some Yankee prisoners were being guarded. A very large, gruff looking Yankee was standing up chaffing the rebels. He asked: "Why do you rebels wear such dirty, ragged clothes?" An Irishman by the name of Forest, belonging to Company B, Forty-eighth Regiment, and as good a soldier as was in the regiment answered: "Faith and he's jabbers, we Southerners always put on our coarsest clothes when we kill dogs, and it is bog killing day with us now," pointing to a dead Yankee near by. This wit of the Irishman caused a laugh, and forgetting the order to be quiet, some two or three men raised a yell, which was taken up all along the line—a regular rebel yell. The enemy's lines halted, broke and fell back, so we did not get into any further engagement. Whether it was this yell that caused them to fall back, I cannot say, but I don't suppose they knew we were near them until the yell betrayed our whereabouts.

Our next engagement was at Cold Harbor, on the 3rd of June, '64. Cook's Brigade was on the extreme left of the Confederate line, only some cavalry being on our left. This was, with us, one of our hardest fought battles of the war. Just as we were about to start on our march, a heavy rain fell, and the ground was so muddy that it was almost impossible to march. We were ordered to march in single file, and after a few minutes we had to stop. The mud was so deep that we had to wade through it. We were ordered to march in single file, and after a few minutes we had to stop. The mud was so deep that we had to wade through it.

After the experience of last winter the Rebels' readers will have no more faith in this tradition, or weather sign, because the 2nd of February last year, was a bright day and the weather for several weeks after was as cold and wintry as it ever becomes in this latitude.

Contributions For Cannon.—In response to the Record's suggestion and appeal in behalf of the Cannonick sufferers, collections have been taken up in many of the churches of this county. The Record announced that Capt. W. L. London had kindly consented to receive any contributions that might be sent him and would carry them to Cannonick himself. All contributions sent to him will be acknowledged in the Record.

Thus far he has received the following contributions: Hon. W. F. Stroud, \$10.00; Pittsboro Episcopal church, 12.00; Pittsboro Presbyterian church, 4.55; Ebenezer Baptist church, 1.35; H. H. Fike, 50; Rock River Baptist church, (Stimmon Grave), 2.70; Mr. Gilead Baptist church, (Hacknoys), 4.00.

A PITTSBORO CHATHAMITE.—While in Florida last week we had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Charles B. Rogers, who was born and reared in this county, but removed to Florida about twenty five years ago. With out capital or influential friends he began business, when quite a youth, on a very small scale, and now he is the head of the largest business house in the state of Florida. He is the founder of the C. B. Rogers Company, which is an incorporated company at Jacksonville, and in compliment of him, and which does over a million dollar business annually. It is a wholesale grocery company and has immense warehouses, through which Mr. Rogers kindly showed us. We knew him well as a boy, before he left Chatham, and found him as the prosperous man just as pleasant and polite as in former years. He has most kindly recollections of his old county and spoke of bringing his family here to spend next summer.

ing to us, who had to make the third attack. The timber for 50 or 75 yards in front of their works had been cut down, the limbs sharpened, making it very difficult to reach the works. The position of the Forty-eighth was near the center of the line, the timber in our front being thicker than in other portions. We succeeded in gaining the works soon after those on the right or left, who had more brush to go through. The first part of the line broken was on the left wing of the Forty-eighth, but the whole line was surrendered in a very few minutes. We lost several in this charge. Lieut. M. D. Clegg, of Company D, was killed on the works about the time the line was broken. Lieut. C. W. Shaw, of Company D, was wounded before he reached the works.

The next day we marched back to Petersburg to our position on the right of the lines. The next march we took, and I think it was in December, was to Bellfield where we had a skirmish with Yankee cavalry. Sergeant H. B. Cox, of Company D, lost his foot by a shell. This was all the loss I remember. We remained on Hatcher's Run until the Confederate lines were broken, the 2nd of April, 1865. We had several skirmishes while here. About the 23rd of March the troops on our left had made a charge on the enemy's lines and had carried their front works near the Appomattox river but had to desert them the same day. We were ordered around there in the morning and returned in the evening to our quarters to find the Yankees in possession of our picket post. They had captured all of our pickets and could have been in possession of our breastworks and winter quarters if they had known it, as we had left only a few men in camp, who were unable for duty. Capt. Henry R. McKinney, of the Forty-sixth regiment, who was commander of the brigade sharpshooters formed his line on the right, near the creek, and made a very brave and successful charge, recapturing our picket post in this charge. Lieut. Austin, of the Forty-eighth regiment, a very brave and good officer, was killed, and I do not remember that any other was killed or wounded. (I believe that Lieut. Austin was the last man killed in the Forty-eighth as I do not remember any other being killed afterwards.)

We only held our picket post about two days, as our pickets were captured on the 28th or 29th of March, and on the 2nd day of April, the lines to our left were broken. We took up the line of march to the right, and crossing the creek, moved to Jarrett's Station, where in the evening we had a skirmish but were about to get away and were on the memorable retreat to Appomattox Court House, losing more or less of our men every day.

The last skirmish we were in was on Thursday evening before the surrender on Sunday, the 9th of April, 1865. The Twenty-seventh and Forty-eighth Regiments were ordered out to the right to protect the wagon trains, but before we arrived the enemy had set fire to a part of the wagons, and a heavy force of infantry was marching the road the way we were on. Here we had a narrow escape. A squadron of cavalry got in our rear, cut us off and we were scattered on both sides of the road. Several of our men were captured. Every man was left to take care of himself. Company D, which had only 37 men at Petersburg April 2nd, had been reduced to 11 men and in this affair lost 10, leaving only one man and the captain to witness the surrender. On Sunday morning, and in the race through the woods on Thursday evening, the captain lost his hat, running from a Yankee horseman, and would have been captured had it not been for a deep gully near by into which he went and got out of the horse's way. At the surrender the Forty-eighth Regiment had been reduced in number until we did not have men enough to make more than one full company.

Now a few words in regard to the officers of the regiment, and I close. Col. R. C. Hill was a very fine military man, very strict and much beloved by his men, but being in bad health he was often absent. He only commanded the regiment in the campaign of '62 and '63. He died in December, 1863.

Lieut. Col. S. H. Walkup was made colonel. He was one of the bravest officers in the Army of Northern Virginia. He was often laughed at on dress parade and brigade drill for his awkwardness, but when in battle all that knew him were satisfied that Walkup was there and that his regiment would do its duty.

Lieut. Col. A. A. Hill was a good and kind officer. All his men liked him. He made a very fine appearance and was always with his men. I think he was one of the two or three officers of the regiment who missed no part of the march or duty imposed on the regiment during the memorable campaign of 1864.

Maj. B. H. Husk was a very mild, gentle and kind hearted man, a well posted and good officer. The whole regiment was grieved at his death, which occurred on the 15th of July, 1862, from wounds received in the battle at French's Farm, June 25th.

Capt. F. L. Wiat, of Company H, was promoted to major at the death of Husk. He was an old man, and won the respect of the whole regiment; was wounded at Harper's Ferry, September 15, 1862, and resigned in October of the same year and was with us only a short while.

Capt. W. H. Jones, of Company G, was made major on the death of Col. Hill, December 4, 1863, but owing to bad health was not with us much. He was a very good man and kind hearted. He loved his men and was loved in return.

H. A. Gauter, of Wake, was our first adjutant. From some cause was not with us much in battle at French's Farm. Lieut. J. H. Anderson, of Company D, was acting adjutant and was wounded in that battle. Adjutant Gunter was wounded in the battle of Sharpshooting, and died soon after from wounds.

Lieut. John R. Winchester, of Company A, was with us all the while. He was a very good officer and soldier. He was a cheerful and lively man and was generally ready for any fun with officers or men. The men all liked Winchester. We all of the company officers are worthy of special reference in this history, and the writer would be glad to give it but failing to get any answer to his letters of inquiry and having to depend solely to his memory, can not recall the names and company to which they belonged. Each company had its brave men. Many of these are entitled to mention in this sketch but for the reason stated above the writer will have to leave them out, but feels assured that he can say that the Forty-eighth Regiment did as much hard marching and fighting as any regiment from North Carolina. From first to last, it had about 1,300 men, many of them as brave and as obedient as any soldiers in the Confederate army.

W. H. H. Lawton, Captain Co. D, Forty-eighth S. C. T.

The Mifflin Manufacturing company, of Ottawa, Ill., failed last Monday for \$200,000.

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