

HISTORY
OF
EDGEFIELD COUNTY

FROM THE EARLIEST SETTLEMENTS

TO

-1897-

BIOGRAPHICAL AND ANECDOTICAL; WITH SKETCHES OF THE
SEMINOLE WAR; NULLIFICATION; SECESSION; RECON-
STRUCTION; CHURCHES AND LITERATURE; WITH ROLLS
OF ALL THE COMPANIES FROM EDGEFIELD IN
THE WAR OF SECESSION; WAR WITH MEX-
ICO AND WITH THE SEMINOLE INDIANS.

BY

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With New Index
By
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Company D, Nineteenth South Carolina Volunteers, I have learned, from inquiry, that Billy Reese, a litter-bearer, who helped to carry me off the field when I was wounded, and Lieutenant J. W. Denny, who became Captain of the company before the close, have died since the war. Sam. Edwards, Bas Peterson, James Crouch, and John Gregory, who was also a litter-bearer, were living in 1891. There were others whose names I cannot now recall. Sam. Edwards was wounded twice at Atlanta and taken prisoner. One of his legs was amputated. My brother, Sergeant Thomas Chapman, who himself was mortally wounded at Atlanta, sent word to Sam. Edwards's father that Sam. was mortally wounded; but he survived and remained in prison at Camp Chase, Ohio, until released in the summer of 1865. J. D. Smith Livingston lives at Newberry.

JOHN A. CROUDER.

John A. Crouder helped to raise and organize Company D of the Nineteenth Regiment. He first belonged to a company commanded by Robert Meriwether, which went against Fort Sumter and then to Virginia. When the time of his enlistment expired he returned home and assisted Ira Cromley to raise Company D. Cromley was elected Captain; Crouder, 1st Lieutenant; E. B. Forrest, 2nd; and Isaac Edwards, 3rd. After a few months, Cromley, Forrest, and Edwards, who were too old for service, resigned and retired, and Crouder was promoted to be Captain. When the regiment was reorganized at Corinth, Miss., Crouder was elected Major, which position he held until his death, March 12th, 1863, from the effects of a wound received at the battle of Murfreesboro, Tennessee. His sword is now in the possession of his kinsman, John Crouder Edwards, who also bears his name—"and these," says Mr. Edwards, "are about all the evidence that any such man ever existed." I understand that John Crouder Edwards is a bachelor—not personally acquainted with him. He ought to marry and transmit the sword of his dead kinsman, who was a brave and honorable man, to his son, and son's son of coming generations, as a precious relic of the heroic, though dark days of the War of Secession.

Thomas G. Clemson, son-in-law of John C. Calhoun, once

In that war with Mexico, which was brought about by the annexation of Texas to the United States, Mexico never having acknowledged the independence of that State, but instead, had always claimed it as an integral portion of the territory of itself, the company from Edgefield, known as the Ninety-Six Boys, was commanded by Preston S. Brooks as Captain, having for Lieutenants W. C. Moragne and Joseph Abney; and was Joseph Culbreath also one, or was he First Sergeant? Milledge L. Bonham was a Colonel in this war, but in another regiment. Joseph Culbreath went as a private in Captain Williams' Company from Newberry—returned as Lieutenant.

→ Giles Chapman, the elder brother of the writer, was living in Indiana when the war with Mexico came on, and in that State he volunteered and was a member of the Second Indiana Regiment, under General Zachary Taylor. He was killed in the battle of Buena Vista, where General Taylor gained his great victory which made him President of the United States. In some movements of that part of the army, the retreat of the Second Regiment from the field, a wounded comrade of my brother, unable to keep up with his company, had been left behind. The Mexican lancers were scouring the field, killing all the wounded and stragglers, though at the time they were at some distance from that part of the field. Giles and another soldier determined to return and bring off their wounded comrade, if possible. They were warned against making the attempt, that it would be going to meet almost certain death without accomplishing their purpose. Their reply was that they would make the attempt even if they lost their own lives—that they could not see a comrade butchered before their own eyes without, at least, trying to save him; and if they could not save him, they would die with him. They went; they tried to save their friend, but failed, and all three were killed. ← Giles Chapman was a native of Edgefield. His name does not appear on the roll of the Palmetto Regiment, nor has it ever appeared in the Records of Edgefield County. It appears in the History of the Mexican War as a member of a regiment of another State, but he was of Edgefield, S. C., and as brave and fearless on the field of battle, and everywhere else, as ever human nature grows to be.

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