

## Battle of Jones Farm

### THE 42ND MISSISSIPPI INFANTRY

42nd Mississippi Infantry  
Co. B, Senatobia Invincibles  
Co. C., Nelson's Avengers  
Co. D, Capt. Locke's Company

On August 18, 19, 1864 the Forty-second took part in the attack of the Federals at Reams' Station, on the Weldon Railroad. The other brigades were at night ordered back inside the lines, and Davis and Walker left to hold the advantage gained. **They were next involved in the battle of Jones' Farm, October 2, 3, and at Hatcher's Run late in October, 1864.** Most of the Forty-second regiment was captured when the Petersburg line was broken April 2, 1865. On that day the colors of the Forty-second were captured by the Eleventh Vermont, of Getty's Division. Only a handful of men from the regiment were present at the surrender at Appomattox Court House on April 9, 1865

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~msdesoto/42MInfCoBCD.html>

August 18, 1864, A. P. Hill attacked the Federals at Reams' Station, on the Weldon Railroad, with the brigades of Davis and Walker under Heth, the brigades of Colquitt, Clingman and Mahone, under Mahone, and three batteries, under Colonel Pegram, and captured 2,500 prisoners, 52 flags, 9 cannon. The other brigades were at night ordered back inside the lines, and Davis and Walker left to hold the advantage gained. In this battle the regiment served with honor and lost in killed and wounded. **In the battle of Jones' Farm, October 2, 3, the loss was 8 wounded and missing, and they were again engaged at Hatcher's Run late in October, 1864.** In the latter part of February, 1865, Col. A. M. Nelson was in command of the brigade and General Davis of the division. Colonel Nelson was yet in command of the brigade when the Petersburg line was broken April 2, 1865, and he was captured, with most of his command. The colors of the Forty-second were captured by Corporal Charles W. Dolloff, Eleventh Vermont, of Getty's Division. The Vermont Brigade claimed the honor of being the first to break the line of gray. Captain Tilden was credited with the capture of 2 cannon, is officers and 62 men of the Forty-second.

(from Dunbar Rowland's "Military History of Mississippi, 1803-1898")

[http://www.mississippi.gov/MS\\_Units/42nd\\_MS\\_INF.htm](http://www.mississippi.gov/MS_Units/42nd_MS_INF.htm)

**In the battle of Jones' Farm, October 2, 3, the loss was 8 wounded and missing, and they were again engaged at Hatcher's Run late in October, 1864.**

\*\*\*\*\*

### 37<sup>th</sup> NCT

16, 1864 Battle of Fussell's Mill Aug. 25, 1864 Battle of Reams Station Sep.  
30, 1864 Battle of Jones Farm Nov. 1864 – Apr. 1865 Winter Quarters Dec. ...

<http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/Cliffs/9681/page11.html>  
Aug. 25, 1864 Battle of Reams Station  
**Sep. 30, 1864 Battle of Jones Farm**  
Recollections of the 13th Regiment  
<http://hometown.aol.com/adj61/page3i.htm>

Pvt. James E. Rawl Tells of the Fighting

Private James E. Rawl belonged to Company K of the 13th Regiment. "At Knowles Station we drove Grant's Army back into the woods. He flanked our armies. We fell back to the railroad. As I was coming over the fence I was wounded in the left shoulder. I was carried to the field hospital, where I stayed thirty days. I carried water for the wounded while there."

" We haad a day's march from Hawe's Shop down the James River below Chapins Bluff. We fought the negro troops under General Grant. In this battle I was wounded in the left ankle. We drove them back and John Anderson killed a Yankee Colonel with his sword. From there we crossed the James River and marched to Petersburg. On the 30th of September we had the battle of Jones' Farm, during the two days of fighting here, Captain C.C. Caughman was killed."

"After seven days at Richmond we went by rail to Jordansville and marched all day and night until we got to Manassas. Then we were in the rear of General Polk's Army, and General Longstreet was driving Polk's Army back. Stonewall Jackson held the rear, here we had some hard fighting and bloody scenes. I was wounded in the left thigh, and carried to Warrenton, Virginia, from there to Lynchburg, where I stayed three months, and from there to Jackson's Hospital in Richmond, Virginia, where I obtained a furlough for 75 days."

"I belonged to Major Meetz's Company. General Lee was driving Meade back from Richmond. We had a hard fight and succeeded in driving them back to Malvern Hill. If McGrunder (McGruder) had been on time with reinforcements, we would have captured Meade's Army. Maxey Gregg was killed at this time."

\*\*\*\*\*

## **28th NCT / Brigade History**

<http://www.28thnct.com/28thNCTBriHistory.html>

**August 25, 1864- Battle of Reams Station, Va.:** The brigade took part in a minor victory over the Federals. The regiment had to crawl through an almost impenetrable abatis under heavy fire of musketry and artillery and carried the enemy's works with steady courage.. Colonel Speer of the regiment was wounded in the head and died August 29 1864 of wounds. Gen. Lee, in speaking of this fight to Gen. Lane, said that the three North Carolina brigades, Cook's, MacRae's and Lane's, which made the second assault, after the failure of the first by other troops, had by their gallantry not only placed North Carolina, but the whole Confederacy under a depth of gratitude which could never be repaid.

**September 30, 1864- Jones Farm, Va.:** The regiment was second to none in bravery. Both lines were advancing when they met. Some of the knapsacks, judging from their appearance of the straps, were cut from the shoulders of their owners in their hasty retreat under a murderous fire, accompanied with that well known "rebel yell." The next morning the regiment advanced with other troops and helped to drive the enemy from the works at Pegram House, which were held in the rain, until dark, when it returned to the works near the Jones House.

**Casualties Report, Battle of Jones's Farm, Sept 30th, 1864**

**Casualties Report, Action at Pegram's Farm, Oct. 1st, 1864**

\*\*\*\*\*

AUBURN UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES & MANUSCRIPTS DEPARTMENT  
TRANSCRIPTION

---

Battle Reports - Lane's Brigade - Petersburg (Sept. 20-Oct. 1, 1864)

Jump Station to Regimental Reports 7th Regiment  
18th Regiment  
28th Regiment  
33rd Regiment  
37th Regiment  
Sharpshooters

---

**Hd Qrs 7th Regt N.C. Troops**

In the field Oct 6th 1864  
Capt E.A.T. Nicholson  
A.A.A. Gen'l

Captain

**I have the honor very respectfully to submit the following as the operations of the regiment in the engagements of the 30th September and 1st of October 1864. (30th September) About two oclock on the afternoon of the 30th of September we left Battery 45 near Petersburg, moving west by the road a distance of about three miles from Petersburg where we left the road and formed line of battle on Jones' Farm.**

Soon after the line being formed we received orders to advance which we did rapidly, driving the enemy before us through fields and woods about a mile and a quarter to the Pegram House capturing a number of prisoners.

Here our line having been considerably scattered and the enemy having a strong position at the Pegram House we fell back about two hundred yards to a fence at the edge of the woods, and remained untill ordered to the rear for the night.

1st October. About an hour after sunrise we moved forward and reoccupied the ground we [left] the night previous. After remaining in this position about an hour we moved forward and occupied the enemy's works from which our Skirmishers had dislodged them and which were about six hundred yards from Fort McRae.

Here we remained the entire day exposed to the fire of the enemys Sharpshooters and of the guns of Fort McRae, [the] shot from which frequently penetrated this breastworks wounding several men behind them.

About seven oclock pm we received orders to return to our former position in the fortifications around Petersburg.

It is a source of gratification to be able to state that the entire command behaved with unusual gallantry.

I am Capt. Very Respectfully &  
Wm. Lee Davison Lt. Col Comdg 7th NCT

Having already sent in a list of casualties I only add a recaputation  
Killed 1 officer and One Enlisted man  
Wounded 5 officers [ditto] 49 [ditto] men  
Missing 1 Enlisted man

---

**Hd Qrs 18th N.C.T.**

Oct 6th 1864  
Capt,

I have the honor to submit for your information the following account of the part taken by the 18th NC Regiment in the engagement near Jone's Farm [ ] on the 30th September 1864 together with the part taken in the action on the 1st October. Presuming that you are aware of the preliminary arrangements for the attack, I will confine my account to the part taken by the Regiment while actually engaged. **The Regiment with the rest of the Brigade and connecting with McGowan's on the left advanced and drove the enemy from Jones House capturing and carrying off the field over one hundred and twenty (120) prisoners.** The enemy being completely routed in its front the Regiment [ ] to advance until the line halted in a field near the Pegram House. With the hopes that the line would follow I moved forward, with the colors of the 18th and such of the Regiment as I could collect moved then to a point about one hundred yards in front of the line, but being unsupported and too weak to accomplish any good and seeing that the line in my rear was falling back I ordered that portion of the Regiment and a few men from other Regiments under my command to fall back to. and unite with the remainder of the Brigade.

When I had reached a fence running nearly parallel with the Pine woods, I halted, and by order of Gen Lane, formed near this fence. Afterwards by order of Col Cowan I united with the Brigade and remained in line until sometime after dark where I received orders to with draw moving by the left flank. Having halted near the Jone's House the troops were ordered to bivouac for the night. About 7 O'clock the next morning (Oct the 1st) I received orders to follow the 7th NC Regiment and arriving in the vicinity of the Pegram House, a line was formed and a temporary breast work erected. About 10 o'clock the order to advance was given and the Regiment with the Brigade moved upto and occupied a line of the enemy's works running near the Pegram House. Here it remained until night when orders were received to withdraw, and march back to Battery No 45 on the fortifications around Petersburg.

The Officers and men behaved well generally but owing to the want of commissioned officers and the distance over which they passed became somewhat scattered. I beg leave to mention the good conduct of 1st Seargt Jesse F Bloodworth of Co K who was severely wounded while trying to induce the line to advance to the colors of the 18th at that time some distance in front of the other troops. I would also respectfully mention Corp James A [Cromiantee] of Co K [ ] [MJ] Ward of Co C and color Seargt H Hickman as men who discharged their whole duty in a very praise worthy and gallant manner.

Among the wounded was 2nd Lieut J.P. Stringfield of Co E an officer of high standing in the Regiment both as a soldier and a gentleman.

The following statement will show the casualties in both engagements

	Killed	Wounded	Missing	Total
Sept 30th 1864	2	1	17	-- 19
Oct 1st 1864	1	2	---	3
Aggregate		1	22	

I have the honor to be Capt very Respectfully  
Your Obdt Servt  
[M.] McGill  
Lt Col Comdg 18th N.C.T.  
Capt E A T Nicholson  
A A & I Gen

---

**Hd Otrs 28th N.C.T.**

Oct 2nd 1864

Capt E.A.T. Nicholson

A.I.G.

I acknowledge the receipt of an order from Brig Gen'l J.H. Lane calling upon the Comd'g officer of the 28th N.C. for a report of the part born by this Reg't in the engagements of 30th Sept and 1st Oct 64[.] Early in the afternoon of the 30th Sept, we rec'd orders, and marched from the vicinity of Petersburg along the Boydton Plank Road some three (3) miles and formed line of battle in a line of works on "Jones' farm" six hundred (600) yds S.W. of "Jones' House" with a small ravine intervening[.] In a short time the enemies skirmisher's were seen advancing near the house, but were met by the [??] corps of Wooten's and driven back[.] The 28th with the other regiments of the Brig were soon moved forward across the rivine and formed a line of battle with our right resting on the 37th N.C. and the left on the 7th N.C. [S]oon we were ordered forward (supported by McRae's Brig) and met the enemy near "Jone's House" and drove them "full well," to Pegram's House a distance of one and a fourth (1 1/4) miles, killing a great many of them. [I]n the mean time Capt Lovill (comd'g) was severely wounded, and the Adj't came to me and told me that I would have to take com'd I did so, and found the right considerably scattered from the fact of McRae's men coming up and mixing with ours. Night had now closed the [scenes] of the day. we were then ordered to fall back near "Jone's House" where we slept upon our, victors of the field[.] On the morning of the 1st inst we were marched back near "Pegram's House" where we formed, our Reg't occupying the position of the day previous, in the line. [H]ere we threw up temporary works and remained thus for a short time. [I]n the course of [11 am] hour a battery from our right opened upon the enemy at and around "Pegram's House" simultaneously by the Sharp Shooters charged and carried the works in Pegram's yard. Immediately the Brig was moved forward and occupied the works. [T]he remainder of the day was spent in Sharp Shooting and carrying off the spoils. [N]ear the close of the day we received orders to move which we did and drew off to the works around the City of Petersburg. I must say that the Officers and men did their part nobly. In this engagement the Reg't captured 28 prisoners for which receipts were given, besides a large number of which no receipts were given[.] T]he losses sustained by the Reg't were 2 men killed and 26 wounded, and 2 Officers wounded

All of which is Respectfully submitted  
G.G. Holland Cap't  
Comd'g Reg't

---

**Hd Or's 33rd N.C.T.**

Oct. 3rd 1864

Capt:

I have the honor to Submit the following report of the engagements on the 30th of Sept and 1st October 1864. Before arriving at the place (near the Jones house) where the Brigade was formed in line, my Regiment was following the 18th which was the front one of the Brigade. The 18th was put into line & I was moved on throwing me on the right of the Brigade. On my right I Saw nothing but our Cavalry videttes. After the Skirmishers had advanced Some distance in front, I was ordered to move forward and form on a hill near Some rifle pits, which was done. My Regt still being on the right. Soon after forming here the enemy charged immediately on my left with two lines, Seeing a good opportunity to Strike the flank of these charging lines I moved forward to the top of hill, without awaiting orders, The 37th on my left also moved on with me. On reaching the top of the hill I halted and delivered Several volleys into their flank. With my fire and that of the 37th they were Soon driven back in confusion. The remainder of the brigade came up and we advanced as rapidly as possible upon their position in the wood. The enemy was Soon driven from this position and we continued to follow into a piece of woods. Before getting entirely through the woods I discovered that there was a force of the enemy on my right in a large open field. Having been orderd by Brig. Gen'l Lane to look out for my right flank I wheeled a part of my Regt to the right & attacked this party of the enemy and drove them from the field. My line being very much Scattered I then formed along the fence at the edge of the field. Afterwards I moved to the left and connected with McGowan's Brigade, and remained there until ordered back to the road near the

Jones house. There was no more fighting it being quite dark. My Regt was not engaged on the next day Oct 1st. So far as I was able to observe all my Officers & men acted well.

No account was taken of the number of prisoners captured.

I am Capt.  
Very Respectfully Your Obt Serv't

Robt. G. Cowan  
Col. 33rd N.C.T.

Capt E.A.T. Nicholson  
A.A. & I. Gen'l

Return to the TOP of the Page

---

### Hd Qrs 37th N.C.T.

Oct 6th 1864  
Capt. E.T. Nickelson  
I & A A. General

As to the engagement of 30th Sept & 1st October I respectfully submit the following report. In a short time after the line of battle was formed in front of the breast works the 33rd Regt on the right and 28th Regt on the left of the 37th Col Wm M. Barbour was wounded & carried off of the field, after which I took command, and was ordered to move the Regt on the right of a ravine which was executed. After getting in position on the right of the ravine I received no further orders, but advanced the regt. and changed direction to the left, and directed my firing obliquely to the left in order to drive the enemy back, who were advancing in the Sugar Cane and around the Jones' House which lodgments having been cleared, and the left of the Brigade coming up the line joined again just beyond the cane field near a hedge row, and a line of battle about which a good many prisoners were taken. The direction was then changed to the right along a certain road driving the enemy before us until we reached the crest of a corn field, and another house. My first forward movement was owing to the 33rd advancing, and the enemy upon us. The Regt towards the latter part of the fight about dusk was considerably scattered and mixed up with the Brigade and Gen. McRae's Brigade and formed after falling back a short distance without being pressed under cover of a hill along a corn field fence.

The regt was under at times both from right and left pretty severe oblique firing besides the front. The Officers & men behaved well. My men were receipted for Twenty four prisoners, and claim Eighty for whom the Officers [in] rear would not receipt. Casualties 30th Sept. Four men killed,

Fifteen wounded & one missing. Col. Wm. M. Barbour wounded & died 3rd Oct.

On 1st Oct. the Regt was not engaged but lost one man killed and Two wounded. One officer slightly wounded.

J.L. Bost Maj  
Comdg Regt

Bottom of Page Capt. Nickelson

A.A. & I General

Return to the TOP of the Page

---

### Head Quarters Laners Sharpshooting Corps

October 7th 1864

Capt

I beg leave to submit the following report of the operations of this corps in the engagements of Sept 30th and Oct 1st 1864. On the evening of the 30th Sept the head of the column having reached the works which crossed the road near the Jones House, I was ordered to report with my command to Gen Wilcox; and was instructed by him to march the corps beyond the Jones house and deploy on the right of the road, my left resting on the road. In obedience to these instructions I moved as rapidly as possible in the direction indicated but had not reached the house by two hundred yards when I saw the yankees entering the yard. I immediately deployed the Corps on the right of the road at a double quick and under fire from the enemy at the house. As soon as the deployment was completed I advanced my line and the enemy, who up to this time, were driving the Cavalry Skirmishers before them in confusion, were now, in turn, forced back several hundred yards on the right with a loss of twelve prisoners and several killed and wounded. Seeing that the left of my line could not dislodge the yankees from the house both on account of the obstructions intervening and the advantage of position gained by the enemy in possession of the house, I moved my line by the right flank a distance sufficient for my left to pass the house in moving forward, thus isolating the enemy who had taken possession of the house, from their line which had been driven across the field to the edge of a pine thicket. In a short time Capt Dunlap Comdg McGowans Sharp Shooters moved up and took possession of the Jones house capturing forty prisoners. The enemy by this time had advanced in line of battle to the edge of the field, and soon forced my line back about one hundred and fifty yards, when we met our Brigade advancing in line of battle. The detachments of the 7th and 18th Regts advanced on the right of the brigade till a portion of McRae's Brigade came up on the right. In this last advance, Lieut Pearson Comdg detachment of 7th NC Troops, a most gallant and skillful officer fell mortally wounded. On the night of the 30th the Corps picketed three hundred yards in front of the brigade, and at day on the morning of the 1st of Oct, I was ordered by Gen Wilcox to advance my Skirmishers to the edge of Pegram's field avoiding an engagement if possible. I moved the line to the edge of the field without the slightest difficulty. A Short time afterwards the brigade was advanced up to this line and the enemy held a line of works at the Pegram house. Near nine O clock in the morning I was instructed by Gen Wilcox to form line in front of brigade and advance upon the enemy when the artillery opened. In obedience to these instructions I advanced my line and with the assistance of the artillery drove them from their works capturing one hundred and fifty prisoners including some Commissioned Officers.

As soon as we had possession of the works I pushed forward my men in the direction of a redoubt in front of and to the left of the Pegram house. The advance of my line got within two hundred yards of this work and it must have fallen into our possession had not my line been forced to fall back to the works just taken for protection from our artillery. Previous to this time I had sent four men to the battery with the request that it cease firing but from some mis-understanding it continued to fire till three of my men were severely wounded and a few prisoners killed, besides confusing my whole line. Before the Battery was silenced I left the line and hurried back to the brigade to ascertain the reason why the firing still continued but I did not get to the brigade before it was hushed, and when I returned to my command I was ordered by Gen Wilcox to advance my skirmishers in the direction the enemy had retreated. I advanced about one fourth of a mile, when I came upon the enemy heavily entrenched. I reported the position and recieved instructions to advance no further but hold my position. During the evening I recieved orders from Gen Lane to withdraw my Skirmishers at dark and join the brigade In obeying this last order a portion of my Skirmishers on the right through some misunderstanding withdrew before I intended they should, the remaining portion

withdrew at the prescribed time. For my loss in these engagements I respectfully refer you to the Enclosed tabular list of Casualties In these engagements both Officers and men behaved with their usual gallantry.

[Editor's Note: List of casualties missing.]

Very Respectfully [&c]

T J Wooten  
Maj Comdg Corps

Capt E.T. Nicholson  
A A & I G

Return to the TOP of the Page

---

--Transcriptions made by Terri Stout-Stevens, Pfafftown, NC, in 1997 and 1998. Edited by Marty Olliff, Assistant Archivist, Auburn University, who takes all responsibility for any errors.

---

Return to the Lane Papers Inventory

Go to the AU Archives and Manuscripts Department Homepage

\*\*\*\*\*

### **SOUTH CAROLINA 14th INFANTRY REGIMENT**

Company K  
C. S. A.

<http://216.239.51.104/search?q=cache:xUiKU9wuvrMJ:www.researchonline.net/sccw/history/14thhisk.htm+%22Battle+of+Jones+Farm%22&hl=en&ie=UTF-8>

R. H. MRS. LUCINDA HORNE.

The History of Edgefield cannot be complete without some notice of Mrs. Lucinda Horne, and I feel that I could never forgive myself were I to send this book into the world without her name in it.

In 1861 Cornelius Horne and his wife Lucinda were living in Edgefield County near Kirksey's. They had only one child, William F. Horne, who was grown up. Husband and son both enlisted in Company "K," Fourteenth South Carolina Volunteers, and as they had no home or other children, and her whole life being wrapped up in the lives of her husband and son, she also volunteered and went to the front with them. She remained with them until the close of the war, undergoing all the hardships incident to a soldier's life. She was loved and respected by every member of McGowan's Brigade. She was with her husband and son in all of General Jackson's hard marches always on hand when the regiment went into camp and prepared their scanty meals. When in winterquarters she took in washing besides her own, thus making some money, which added to their supplies. Her husband and son wore cleaner clothes and which were nicely patched by her industry through her love for them. Always just before a battle she would find out where the field hospital would be and she was always there to minister to the wounded and dying. "I remember," writes



**Mr. Rufus Harling to me, "while we were in line of battle near Petersburg in September, 1864, we had a fight at a place called Jones' Farm, and in this battle her son William was wounded, and then the kind hearted mother was ready to wait on her only son. She went with him to the hospital in Richmond and nursed him so as to be able to return home with him. Her son lived, I think, about 12 years after the war and then died of the wound received at the battle of Jones' Farm. After the son's death she travelled with her husband in a small covered wagon, peddling until just before her death, which was early in March, 1896.**

Mrs. Horne met with a reunion of the old Fourteenth Regiment at Greenwood, S. C., in August, 1891, and she was unanimously elected an honorary member of the same (the Veterans Association) and was carried to dinner by our old surviving Colonel J. N. Brown. I have often thought that had it not been for this good woman I might have been numbered with the many whose bones have been left in Virginia, as she gave me some good soup when I was sick, which seemed to revive me after a spell of sickness."

\*\*\*\*\*

**Watauga County, NC**  
**Sketches of Prominent Families, 5**

<http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/Estates/8473/Arthur/sketches5.html>

Col. Edward F. Lovill.-- He was born in Surry County February 10, 1842, married Miss Josephine Marion, of the same county, February 15, 1866, and moved to Boone in 1874. He was admitted to the bar in February, 1885, and was commissioner to the Chippewa Indians from 1893 to 1897. He was captain of Company A of the 28th North Carolina Infantry, and on the second day of Chancellorsville commanded that regiment in the absence of Col. Samuel D. Low. Of this incident Colonel Lowe reported: "While absent, General Stuart again commanded the line forward, and my regiment charged through the same terrible artillery firing the third time, led by Captain (Edward F. Lovill, of Company A, to the support of our batteries which I had just got into position on the hill from which those of the enemy had been driven." Captain Lovill had commanded the same regiment during the midnight attack of the night before. **Upon the death of Col. Asbury Speer at Reems Station and the resignation of Major Samuel Stowe, Captain Lovill was senior officer of the 28th till the surrender at Appomattox, and commanded the regiment of the battle of Jones; farm near Petersburg in the fall of 1864, where he was severely wounded.** He returned to duty in March, 1865, and was recommended for promotion to the colonelcy of his regiment at the time that James Lineberger was recommended for the lieutenant-colonelcy and George McCauley for the majority, but the end came before these appointments were published. He was wounded in the right arm at Gettysburg.

\*\*\*\*\*

**ROBESON COUNTY, NC - MILITARY - Brief War Record of Major Thomas**  
**Jones Wooten**

<http://ftp.rootsweb.com/pub/usgenweb/nc/robesson/military/wooten01.txt>

After your brother was thus wounded, I put Major Thomas J. Wooten, of the 18th North Carolina-another brave hero, but as modest as a blushing girl in charge of our corps of sharpshooters, and he continued in command until the surrender at Appomattox Court House. **Under him the corps continued to add to its already splendid reputation, especially in its first dash at the enemy's picket line at the Davis House in front of Petersburg, which called forth complimentary official communications from superior headquarters; in its double-quick deployment, advance and captures in the battle of Jones Farm in the presence of a large number of general officers; in its sudden dash into the works at the Pegram House, after Brander's Artillery had thrown the enemy**

into confusion, and where its captures exceeded its own strength; and in the part it bore in the recapture of the hill in front of our quarters which had been taken from us on the day of Gordon's attack on Fort Stedman. It also behaved with conspicuous gallantry when Grant broke our lines at Petersburg, and on the retreat to Appomattox Court House, as it was frequently thrown forward and fought the enemy when the brigade was not engaged.

On the 20th of May General Earley, (who was in command of A.P. Hill's Corps) General Lane and Wilcox and a number of staff officers were standing talking in the field near the brick kiln and not far from the right of the corps of sharpshooters. The enemy espied them through the opening in front of the salient, and honored them with a short but rapid artillery salute. The group was scattered but no one was struck. Nicholson, however, who was on the right of his line was badly wounded and was borne from the field.

Major Thomas J. Wooten, of the Eighteenth Regiment was then ordered to take charge of the corps, and he continued in command until the surrender at Appomattox Court House. Young, cool, brave, but modest as a girl, Wooten was worthy to succeed two such dashing, fearless and efficient commanders as Knox and Nicholson. He soon won the confidence and affection of those brave sharpshooters.

This corps rendered splendid service from Spottsylvania to Petersburg. It began its brilliant career around Petersburg by surprising and capturing the enemy's videttes and reserves at the Davis House without losing a man. In recognition of its gallantry on this occasion, the following complimentary letters addressed to Wooten, were embodied in a general order and read on parade to all the regiments in the brigade:

Headquarters Lane's Brigade  
September 9, 1864

General Order No. 21

The following communications are published to the brigade, not only as an act due the distinguished merit of this gallant recipient, but with the hope that it may encourage officers and men to emulate this noble example:

Headquarters Wilcox's Light Div.  
September 7, 1864

Major:-The major-general commanding desires me to express his gratitude in transmitting the enclosed letter from Maj. Starke, A.A. G. Third Army Corps, conveying the congratulations of Lieutenant General Hill to you upon your handsome capture of the enemy's videttes at the Davis Home, and also to acknowledge his own appreciation, not only of this affair, but of the valuable service rendered by you and the gallant officers and men under your command during the arduous campaign of the last four months.

I am, Major, yours respectfully,

Jos. A. Englehard, A.A. G.

Headquarters Cane's Brigade  
September 9, 1864

Major Thomas J. Wooten, Commander Sharpshooters

Major: The Brigadier General commanding feels a proud pleasure in transmitting to you the congratulatory notes of Lieutenant General Hill and Major General Wilcox. And while he added to these well-earned compliments his own hearty congratulations upon the brilliant accomplishment of your well-conceived purpose, he rejoices that you have furnished him this fitting opportunity of formally thanking you and your gallant command for the steady

performance of every duty- whether of dangerous enterprise or laborious watching-which has distinguished your actions since the campaign began.

With great respect, your obedient servant, E.J. Hale, Jr., A.A.T.

Wooten adopted a tactics of his own which was known as "Wooten's Seine Hauling." With the whole or a part of his command, he would move by the flank in double ranks toward the enemy's line, taking advantage of all natural features; and sometimes the command would crawl until within running distance. Then they would quietly rush forward. Wooten would halt on the lines of pits, and when the rear of his command reached him, he would order both ranks to fact outward and wheel. Wheeling on Wooten as the pivot they would return at a run in single rank, empty every pit before them, and never fire a gun. The major was never so happy as when engaged in "seine hauling." After prowling around the enemy's line, he would repair to brigade headquarters for permission to make another "catch." Whenever the general reminded him that nothing definite was to be accomplished by such attacks, that he was endangering the lives of his men, and that he (the general) would not give one of those noble fellows for a hundred Yankees. Wooten would assure him that no one could love his men more than he did, and he would promise not to let any of them get hurt. It was always on this condition that permission was granted, with the further understanding that his exploits would cease just as soon as he lost a man, killed, wounded or captured. Not a man was ever lost.

On the morning of the 30th of September, troops were ordered from the right of Petersburg by General Lee to the south side of the James to re-enforce those already engaged there, and the new works at the Pegram House were left to be defended by a weak skirmish line of dismounted cavalry. After crossing the Appomattox and marching beyond Ettricks the order was countermanded as the right was threatened. That afternoon Lane's Brigade was ordered to form line on right of the road leading to the Jones House. The enemy was forcing the cavalry skirmishers back so rapidly that Wooten was compelled to deploy his sharpshooters at double quick and push hurriedly forward. He did it so dexterously- so quickly, and with the capture of so many prisoners, it elicited the out shaken administration of a group of general officers who witnessed the movements and brilliant dash. One of the group remarked to General Lee that it was the handsomest thing of the kind he had seen during the war.

Next day, the first of October, Brander's Artillery infiladed the works at the Pegram House while a demoralizing and destructive fire, and as the enemy sought shelter in a depression, the Watchful Wooten rushed over the works with his brave sharpshooters and captured twice as many prisoners as he had men. Brander's Artillery, seeing dimly through the smoke, to many prisoners going to the rear, thought the enemy were advancing and turning their guns on them fired several times before they discovered their mistake. Some of the prisoners were wounded, and a few were killed, but strange to say all the

sharpshooters escaped. General Wilcox, who was near, also made a narrow escape.

After Gordon's attack on Fort Stedman, the enemy swept the whole Confederate picket line from Hatcher's Run to Lieutenant Run, and got possession of a hill from which they could fire into the winter quarters of Lane's Brigade.

General Wilcox was sick at the time and Lane was in command of the division.

Early next day General Lee, sent for General Lane to inquire whether he had re-established that part of the line. When he told that he had, except the hill, the old Confederate asked if he could take that. "Yes sir! I will take it tonight if you say so," was the reply. General Lee then ordered him to reconnoiter the line and determine when and how to make the attack.

As General Land and Major Wooten inspected the line that beautiful Sunday morning, and were pointing out and discussing how best to accomplish the work before them, some of the observant men were heard to remark: "Look yonder, fellows, at the General and the Major \_\_\_\_\_."

The hill was taken next morning without losing a single man. Later in the day a squad of Yankees were seen pulling something through the bushes, and when one of the men yelled to them to know what they were doing, he received the ready answer: "Your Major Hooten is so fond of running up the hollows and breaking our lines, we are putting a gun here to give him warmer welcome next time he comes." The major had used that ravine or hollow in making the attack. This brave officer was generally known on the enemy's skirmish line as "Major Hooten." On two or more occasions when there was a real flag of truce between the contending armies, some of the Federal officers asked for "Major Hooten." And requested an introduction to him.

During that winter General Lane received a note from General Wilcox asking if he would "catch a Yankee" that night for General Lee, as some of the enemy were in motion, and General Lee had not been able to get the desired information through his scouts. Wooten was sent for at his hands. After sitting in silence for sometime, with his eyes upon the floor, he looked up with a bright face and said: "I can get him." The whole corps wanted to go "seine hauling" that night but it was thought best to take only part of the command. It was a moonlight night, the woods proved to be further from the enemy's line than was expected, and the men had to crawl some distance through the grass and weeds.

When Wooten, at the head of the small crawling column, sprang to his feet, he excitedly uttered a questionable ejaculation, a most unusual thing for him. The men laughed and said: "Listen at our Major." And away they all rushed for that promised Yankee. Early next morning Wooten, followed by a crowd of laughing ragged rebels, marched seven prisoners to the brigade headquarters. With a merry good morning he remarked: "I couldn't get that promised Yankee, General Lee, but I caught seven Dutchmen." Not one of the seven could speak a word of English. They were at once sent to division headquarters with a note from the brigade giving the credit of the capture to Wooten and his men, and stating that if General Lee could make anything out of their "foreign gibberish" it was more than he could.

**After the line had been broken by Grant in the spring of 1865, and the Brigade driven from the works, this corps fought in the regular line, and helped clear the works as far as the Jones Farm road where the brigade was confronted by**

two lines of battle, and a strong line of skirmishers. To escape destruction or capture, the brigade retired under order to Battery Gregg and Howard's Dam.

In the retreat to Appomattox court House the crew was necessarily kept very busy, and on several occasions it bravely encountered the enemy when not a single shot was fired by any of the regiments.

Where is Major Wooten for whom his old commander has the greatest admiration? He ought to let North Carolina in peace know what he and his brave and well-drilled corps of sharpshooters did for her in war. As already stated, a finer body of soldiers the world never saw.

James H. Lane

\*\*\*\*\*

## Western North Carolina: A History

### CHAPTER XXVII

<http://www.ls.net/~newriver/nc/wnc27.htm>

COLONEL EDWARD F. LOVILL. He was born in Surry county, February 10, 1842, married Miss Josephine Marion of the same county February 15, 1866, and moved to Boone in 1874. He was admitted to the bar in February 1885, and was commissioner to the Chippewa Indians from 1893 to 1897. He was captain of Company- A of the 28th North Carolina Infantry, and on the second day of Chancellorsville commanded that regiment in the absence of Col. Samuel D. Low. Of this incident Col. Lowe reported: "While absent, Gen. Stuart again commanded the line forward, and my regiment charged through the same terrible artillery firing the third time, led by Captain (Edward F.) Lovill of Company A, to the support of our batteries which I had just got into position on the hill from which those of the enemy had been driven." 29 Captain Lovill had commanded the same regiment during the midnight attack of the night before. Upon the death of Col. Asbury Speer at Reems Station and the resignation of Major Samuel Stowe, Captain Lovill was senior officer of the 28th till the surrender at Appomattox; and commanded the regiment at the battle of Jones' farm near Petersburg in the fall of 1864, where he was severely wounded. He returned to duty in March, 1865, and was recommended for promotion to the colonelcy of his regiment at the time that James Lineberger was recommended for the lieutenant -colonelcy and George McCauley for the majority, but the end came before these appointments were published. He was wounded in the right arm at Gettysburg. At Fredericksburg "Captain Lovill, of Company A, the right company of the regiment, stood on the railroad track all the time, waving his hat and cheering his men; and neither he nor Martin (who had just shot down the Federal color bearer) was struck." 29 Soon after the battle of Jericho Ford, in September, 1864, Natt Nixon, a seventeen-year-old boy of Mitchell's river, Surry, was desperately wounded, and at night Captain Lovill and Private A. H. Freeman, a cobbler of Dobson, went to get him, as he had been left within the enemy's lines. They called him and he answered, saying the Federals were between him and them, but had been to him and given him water. Freeman put down his gun and accoutrements and shouting in a loud voice "Natt, I'm coming after you. I am coming unarmed, and any man who shoots me is a damned coward," started. It was night, but no one fired at him, and he brought his stricken comrade back to Captain Lovill; but the poor boy died near a farm house to which he had been borne before daylight. Colonel Lovill is a director of the Oxford Orphanage, having been appointed by Gov. Aycock. He is chairman of board of trustees of the Appalachian Training School and a lawyer of ability.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Maj. Samuel Nye TITUS

MAJOR SAMUEL N. TITUS DIES AT EIGHTY-THREE. Grand Old Man of Marion Taken Early Today. Colonel, but prefers to be called Major. Funeral at the Epworth M.E. Church Monday at 1:30 P.M. with Masons in Charge

<http://genealogy.hollymillrun.com/Default.asp?Page=FGS&Individual=2365>

**Major Titus had quite an interesting war record. He arose from the ranks as a private to the position of major and had conferred upon him the honor of a colonel for his deeds of bravery in one of the battles of the civil war known as the battle of Jones' farm, located within eight miles of Richmond, Virginia. It was there that he was wounded and taken prisoner. Mr. Titus never wished to be known by the title of "Colonel" and his is probably the only instance of the kind in the history of the Grand Army where a man chose to be known by the lesser title than the one to which he was entitled.**

**At Outbreak of War.** At the outbreak of the civil war Major Titus, then a young man of about twenty-four, volunteered for service from Meigs county, of which he is a native, and enlisted in Columbus as a private in M company, Eleventh regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteer cavalry. He became a member of the Pennsylvania regiment owing to the lack of men in that state to make up this division and it being necessary to secure some from Ohio to fill in, he happened to be one of those chosen. He was soon sent to the camp at Washington and thence marched to Fortress Monroe, where he was stationed at Camp Hamilton. He was with General McClellan in his campaigns and although he did not take part in, he witnessed the battle between the Monitor and the Merrimac and saw the Cumberland – the most formidable vessel of her class – sunk off Hampton Roads.

**The same year of his enlistment Major Titus was promoted to sergeant and then to a lieutenancy. He was subsequently stationed at Suffolk, Virginia, and participated in many of the cavalry raids around Richmond. In the summer of 1862, he was promoted to the rank of captain and a short time after that of major. He took part in many of the engagements of the valley of the Potomac and the Peninsular campaigns. He was at the siege of Suffolk and with General Butler in his operations around Richmond and with Grant's army at Petersburg.**

**Major Titus received a gunshot wound in his right elbow October 8, 1864, which crippled him for life. This was the only time he was seriously wounded in the war. He was a senior officer in command of a brigade and was in sight of Richmond when his brigade was ordered to fall back and he was shot through the right arm. After his arm was shattered he crawled three or four miles in an attempt to escape capture. He no doubt owes his life to his capture and the operation performed on him on the battlefield by a Rebel surgeon. It was necessary for the surgeon to remove the shattered elbow joint and Mr. Titus has never had much use of his arm since.**

**In Libby Prison.** The major was confined about two weeks in the hospital department of Libby prison, but fortunately being acquainted with Colonel Moulton, commissioner of exchange, he secured a parole through him. Mr. Titus was a major at this time and it was on account of his brave deeds in this battle in which he was wounded that he was honored with the title of colonel.

**After he was paroled, Major Titus was sent to Annapolis, where, after being in a hospital a short time, he was sent home on a furlough, arriving there the evening before Christmas, 1864. He remained at home three months, then went back and reported. Shortly afterward – in the spring of 1865 – he was mustered out of service.**

**After being mustered out of service, Major Titus returned to Meigs county, where he had been reared on a farm, and in 1868 was elected to the Ohio legislature as a representative of Meigs county. He was reelected in 1879. After serving his term, he came to Marion from Columbus and engaged in farming near Brush Ridge, in Grand Prairie township.**