

## NEWTON COUNTY

### NINETY-NINTH INDIANA VOLUNTEERS

Company E, of this regiment, was organized in August, 1862, and rendezvoused South Bend, with Daniel Ash, as captain, commissioned August 22, 1862. Samuel Moc was first lieutenant. The members from Newton county were as follows:

|                     |                    |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| William W. Downes   | John Brown         |
| George W. Smith     | James Burns        |
| James W. Graves     | Allen Catt         |
| Stephen D. Kerns    | Jacob Housheldt    |
| John Barker         | William Holloway   |
| William Rinker      | A. B. Hosier       |
| B. T. Roadrucker    | E. L. Humphries    |
| Solomon Ash         | F. B. Jones        |
| William Airhart     | Hiram W. Kelly     |
| Charles Bartholomew | Paul LaForce       |
| Sylvester Board     | D. W. Lowe         |
| William Brown       | Thomas C. Moore    |
| Cyrus Brunton       | William A. Patrick |
| Christian Enfield   | Solomon Shriver    |
| John Holloway       | A. J. Saunderson   |
| Joseph Hooks        | S. M. Skeggs       |
| Jonas L. Horner     | David F. Dunham    |
| John Johnston       | John C. Sarver     |
| Joseph Kennedy      | Thomas Starkey     |
| Henry S. Kramer     | Young Thompson     |
| Joseph L. Lafoon    | J. Webber          |
| Benjamin Martin     | Levi White         |
| Andrew Murphey      | Asa Yeoman         |
| John Reynolds       | John W. Moore      |
| E. J. Shideler      | John Grenfeldt     |
| Joseph Shafer       | William Wilson     |
| Elias W. Shaner     | George O. Pumphre  |
| Carroll L. Shideler | John Starkey       |
| Abraham W. Bebout   | Thomas L. Thorntor |
| Austin M. Darroch   | G. C. VanNatta     |
| Clark A. Wood       | John D. Wyatt      |
| William F. Board    | Andrew S. Young    |
| J. E. Longwell      | James Atkinson     |
| W. H. Alexander     | James Anderson     |
| G. C. Bartholomew   | James Griffith     |
| Abner Bartholomew   |                    |

Of the seventy-one named above, twenty died from disease, and two were killed while in the service—nearly one-third of the whole number.

The 99th regiment was mustered into the service October 21, 1862, with Alexander Fowler as colonel. The regiment moved in November to Memphis and was assigned to the 3d brigade, first division, 16th army corps. During the winter of 1862-63, this regiment was placed on duty guarding the Memphis & Charleston Railroad. On May 6, 1863, it embarked on steamers and went down the river, joining the forces of General Grant, besieging Vicksburg on the 4th day of July, 1863. The same day Grant took possession of Vicksburg. This regiment marched with Sherman's command for Jackson, Mississippi, and had a severe skirmish on Big Black River, reaching Jackson on July 9th. On July 16th the rebels evacuated Jackson, and Sherman's command took possession of the place. The regiment then returned to Big Black river, where it remained in camp until the latter part of September. It was ordered to Chattanooga, arriving there on the 24th of November, 1863. On the following day it took part in the Battle of Missionary Ridge. Immediately after this battle it was ordered to Knoxville to relieve General Burnside, then besieged at that place. From Chattanooga to Knoxville there was fighting nearly all the time. Many of the men were barefooted, destitute of blankets, and were without regular rations or supplies. Arriving at Knoxville the Union forces compelled Longstreet to retreat, relieving General Burnside. A short time after the regiment was ordered to Scottsboro, Alabama, reaching that point on December 26, 1863.

The regiment remained in camp at Scottsboro until the 1st of May, 1864, when it took part in what was known as the Atlanta campaign. It was in the engagement at Resaca on May 14th; at Dallas on the 28th; and on the 15th of June it participated in a charge at Big Shanty. There was continuous skirmishing every day. It also took part in the battle in

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front of Atlanta, which lasted from July 20th to the 28th, on different parts of the line. On October 3d, it joined in the pursuit of General Hood, and had a fight at Little River, Georgia, on the 26th, and after a march of two hundred miles it again reached Atlanta.

On the 15th of November the regiment started with Sherman on his great march to the sea. On the 15th of December it took part in the charge upon Fort McAllister which, after a desperate struggle with its garrison, surrendered, and thus opened Sherman's communication with the sea. After several skirmishes at different points, the regiment finally reached Washington City on June 5, 1865, and was mustered out of the service.

The 99th regiment left for the field with 900 men, and returned from its campaign with 425 officers and men. It marched, during its terms of service, over four thousand miles.

Upon arriving at Indianapolis this regiment was present at a reception for returned soldiers given in the state house grounds, on June 11th, and was welcomed home by Governor Morton and others.

### FIFTY-FIRST INDIANA VOLUNTEERS

The 51st Regiment was organized at Indianapolis on the 11th of October, 1861, and mustered in on the 14th of December, 1861, with A. D. Streight as colonel, Benjamin J. Spooner, lieutenant-colonel; William H. Colescott, major, and Erasmus B. Collins, surgeon.

Company B of this regiment was made up entirely in Newton county, and composed almost exclusively of citizens from this county:

|  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| David A. McHolland, captain.           |                 |
| Albert Light, first lieutenant.        |                 |
| Adolphus H. Wonder, second lieutenant. |                 |
| William A. Lewis                       | J. F. Shaffer   |
| Edwin R. Arnold                        | G. E. Tiffeny   |
| Jeremiah Sailor                        | William Deweese |
| Aaron Kenoyer                          | D. Doty         |
| J. S. Hurst                            | John Bramble    |
| Alvin Arnold                           | Isaac N. Bush   |
| Samuel Yeoman                          | William Collins |
| Robert Barr                            | Thomas Crown    |
| Samuel Clark                           | Alexander Ekey  |

|                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| John Coshow       | George Haney       |
| Reese Denny       | Walter Hawkins     |
| Patrick Griffin   | Jacob Hosier       |
| William Haney     | Ezra G. Handley    |
| George W. Heshner | Henry Howery       |
| J. H. Harrington  | Ephraim T. Ham     |
| James Helms       | James Kenoyer      |
| John T. Harris    | James Kerhan       |
| Lemuel Johnson    | Abel Lyons         |
| Leroy Kelly       | Cyrus Louthain     |
| Samuel Lyons      | Dennis Morris      |
| Jira Skinner      | Alexander A. Myers |
| John D. Morgan    | Stark Olmstead     |
| Charles Mallatt   | George W. Smith    |
| Jonathan Staton   | Jonathan Pruett    |
| John Sherman      | David G. Smith     |
| Barton B. West    | Edward Sherman     |
| Henry Bishopp     | Harry Troup        |
| J. S. Christopher | Ira Yeoman         |
| Isaac C. Denny    | James Corn         |
| John J. Horn      | Charles W. Clifton |
| Charles B. Davis  | Jesse Dodson       |
| Levi Haney        | John A. Gwinn      |
| Hiram H. McClain  | Ephraim Haney      |
| Albert Myers      | Charles W. Lynch   |
| W. W. Thoroughman | Warren Maist       |
| John Lowe         | W. E. Roney        |
| Henry Meredith    | John Bridgeman     |
|                   | James Nottingham   |

Albert Light died at Lebanon, Kentucky, February 24, 1862, and Adolphus Wonder was promoted to first lieutenant March 15, 1862; promoted to captain June 30, 1863; died in prison at Charleston, South Carolina, September, 1864. He was recognized as an able officer and had the respect of all the company.

Jeremiah Sailor was promoted to second lieutenant March 15, 1862.

William R. Lewis was promoted to second lieutenant June 30, 1863; to captain November 23, 1864; resigned June 11, 1865.

John D. Morgan was promoted to first lieutenant February 6, 1865; to captain June 12, 1865; mustered out December 13, 1865.

The Fifty-first left Indianapolis for the front December 16, 1861, passing through Louisville on the 18th of the same month; through Bardstown and Lebanon, Kentucky, and in the latter part of January, 1862, took part in the battle of Hall's Gap, near Somerset. At this point, the confederate general,

Zollicoffer, was killed, the enemy routed, and a large amount of guns and cannon captured.

On February 12, 1862, they returned to Lebanon, Kentucky, and there they left a large number of sick. It was at this point Lieutenant Albert Light died, also William Board. John Lowe and several others were left here. Many of them were sick with measles and because of exposure took severe colds which proved fatal in many cases.

In this early stage of the war the government was unable to provide proper care for the sick and wounded men. In Lebanon, the latter part of February, 1862, at which time I was there. there were fifteen hundred sick soldiers. Stores, churches and all public buildings were filled with the sick, all lying on the floors. A few had blankets but a large majority had not, and lay in rows on the floor as closely together as they could be placed. In fact, it was about as sad a sight as I met at any time during the war. The object of my trip to Lebanon was to bring back the body of Lieutenant Albert Light, and at the same time I assisted John Lowe in procuring a furlough to come back home.

The 51st took part in the battle of Stone River on the 31st of December, 1862, and January 1st and 2d, 1863, losing forty-nine men in killed and wounded. After this engagement the regiment remained in the vicinity of Murfreesboro until the month of April, 1863, when the 51st and the 73d Indiana, 3d Ohio and 80th Illinois, all under the command of Colonel Streight, headed for Rome, Georgia, for the purpose of making a raid in the rear of Bragg's army. On the 29th and 30th of April, 1863, they were overtaken by the rebel cavalry under General Forrest. What is known as the Battle of Day's Gap ensued, resulting in the defeat of Forrest and his forces. The 51st lost thirty-one killed and wounded, among the number being Lieutenant-Colonel Sheets.

On the 1st of May another battle took place, and the enemy was again defeated. On the following day another engagement was fought near Gadsden, Alabama. In this fight Colonel Hathaway, of the 73d Indiana, was killed.

On the 3d of May, it was again overtaken by the forces of General Forrest, and compelled to surrender. After being kept prisoners for some time, the enlisted men were paroled for exchange, and went into camp at Indianapolis in the early part of June, 1863. On the 9th of February, 1864, part of the Union officers, one hundred and nine in all—Colonel Streight among them—made their escape from Libby Prison by digging a tunnel under the prison walls. This tunnel was about sixty feet long. Of the one hundred and nine who crawled through, fifty-five were recaptured and taken back. The fifty-four, after suffering severely, finally reached the Union lines, after ten month's confinement in rebel prisons. The balance of the officers were not released until nearly the close of the war.

In November, 1863, the regiment was exchanged, and joined the army at Nashville. In February, 1864, the regiment reënlisted as veterans, and during the campaign of 1864 did duty at Chattanooga. On the 15th of December this regiment participated in the battle of Nashville, and afterward joined in the pursuit of the retreating rebels. Going as far as Huntsville, Alabama, they remained there until March, 1865. About the first of May, 1865, they returned to Nashville. In June, 1865, the 51st was ordered to Texas, and was stationed near San Antonio until November, 1865. It was subsequently ordered north and was mustered out December 13, 1865.

The principal battles in which the 51st regiment engaged were Shiloh, Corinth, Perrysville, Stone River, Columbia, Franklin, Nashville and Overton's Hill.

*Newton County: ... a collection of historical facts and personal ... By John Ade*