

William Childress Martin
Private Company A, 1st Regiment Tennessee Infantry
Corporal Company H, Consolidated Regiment
Tennessee Volunteer Infantry

Born; February 19,1841

Died: December 4,1911 at The Tennessee Confederate Soldiers Home, Hermitage TN.

Buried: December 5,1911 at the Nashville City Cemetery, section 11 EP Lot 1

W. C. Martin enlisted May 10,1861 at Camp Harris, Allisonia, Franklin County TN for 12 month service as a Private, in Captain Joseph Vauix jr. company of "The Rock City Guards" which became company A of the 1st (Field's) Regiment Tennessee Infantry. Soon afterwards the regiment moved to Camp Cheatham in Robertson County for drill and training.

The Regiment was sent to Virginia arriving at Valley Mountain July 10, 1861. In September they participated in the Cheat Mountain Campaign September 10-15, 1861. However Private Martin was absent sick in the Hot Springs VA hospital. December 8,1861 the Regiment was ordered to Winchester VA and participated in an expedition to Bath VA afterwards returning to Winchester.

On February 17,1862 the Regiment was ordered to return to Tennessee. Company A with several other companies was sent to Cumberland Gap on the border of TN, KY, VA. The other companies were sent to Shiloh TN. During March and April Private Martin was reported absent sick in the General Hospital. Probably in Knoxville TN. On April 7,1862 the detached companies were sent to Corinth Mississippi to reunite the Regiment. Once again Private Martin was reported sick, although this time he was in camp. The Regiment moved from Corinth to Tupelo MS then Chattanooga TN via Mobile, Montgomery, AL and Atlanta GA. They arrived in Chattanooga on July 11, 1862.

General Bragg began his Kentucky Campaign August 19,1862. The Regiment reached Harrodsburg KY, October 6, 1862. On October 8, 1862 The 1st Tennessee Regiment suffered 50% casualties killed, wounded and missing. Private Martin was captured, possibly wounded. Captured men were paroled to a camp in Chattanooga TN to be held there until exchanged. While in this camp Private Martin was issued clothing and was paid \$54.50 for his service from May 1, 1862- August 31, 1862.

He was not declared exchanged until January 11, 1863 thus missing the Battle of Stones River in Murfreesboro TN. He was released January 23, 1863 and allowed to rejoin his Regiment then at Shelbyville TN. The 1st and 27th Regiments were consolidated by order of General Bragg. Private Martin re-enlisted for two years or the war .In July of 1863 the Regiment moved to Chattanooga TN.

The Consolidated Regiment fought in the Battle of Chickamauga GA September 19 & 20 1863.

In October the Regiment participated in a brief expedition to East TN. Returning in time to fight at Missionary Ridge in November of 1863. By November 27, 1863 the Regiment went into winter camp at Dalton GA.

Briefly in February of 1864 the Regiment was marched to Demopolis AL then returned to Dalton GA. Then in May of 1864 the Battles of the Atlanta Campaign began.

5/5-11/64- Rocky Face Ridge

5/14-15/64- Resaca

5/ 17- Adairsville

5/26/64- New Hope Church

6/22/64- Zion Church

6/27/64- "Dead Angle" Kennesaw Mountain

7/20/64- Peach Tree Creek

7/22-9/64-Atlanta

8/31-9/1/64- Jonesboro

Afterwards the Regiment accompanied General Hood on his Tennessee Campaign. The Battle of Franklin TN was fought November 30, 1864. Remnants of the Army of Tennessee fought at Nashville December 15-16, 1864. Defeated they retreated towards Alabama.

Private Martin was captured at Columbia TN December 22, 1864. He was forwarded to Nashville as a P. O. W. December 31, 1864. He was forwarded to Louisville KY January 2, 1865. On January 4, 1865 he was sent to Camp Chase Ohio, arriving there on January 6th. He was sent to Point Lookout Maryland for exchange February 17, 1865.

Meanwhile the Regiment fought in the Battle of Bentonville North Carolina March 19-21, 1865.

After being declared exchanged he was promoted to Corporal of Company H Consolidated Regiment Tennessee Volunteers in April of 1865. This organization included remnants of the 1st, 6th, 8th, 9th, 16th, 27th, 28th, and 34th Regiments as well as the 24th Battalion of Sharp Shooters.

The Army of Tennessee surrendered April 26, 1865. Survivors were paroled at Greensboro NC May 1, 1865. Martin reached Nashville TN May 21, 1865.

After the war William C. Martin was employed as a clerk in Nashville TN.

On December 1, 1908 he entered the Confederate Soldiers Home as inmate # 532.

He died there in 1911.

Researched by

Stewart Cruickshank

SCV Camp #1293