North Carolina in the American Civil War

40th NC Regiment (3rd Artillery)				
Date Regiment Organized	**Mustered In**	**Date Regiment Ended**	**Mustered Out**	**Comments**
December 1, 1863	Fort Holmes on Smith's Island (now Bald Head Island)	April 26, 1865	Near Greensborough, NC	-
Field Officers				
Colonel	**Lt. Colonel**	**Major**	**Adjutant**	**Chaplain**
John Jackson Hedrick	George Tait	William A. Holland	James B. Hancock	-
Commissary	**Surgeon**	**Assistant Surgeon**	**Assistant Surgeon**	**Assistant QM**
-	Thomas Hill	Charles A. Mitchell, Charles Lesesne	Jason F. Norman	John G. Blount
FORTIETH REGIMENT. 1. John J. Hedrick, Colonel. 2. George Tait, Lieut.-Colonel. 3. William Blount Rodman, Capt., Co. C. 4. T. C. Davis, Sergeant, Co. G.				
Companies / Captains				
Company A - Lenoir County Lenoir Braves	**Company B - Beaufort County McMillan Artillery**	**Company C - Beaufort County Bridger's Artillery**	**Company D - Craven County Gatlin Artillery, then Bay River Artillery**	**Company E - Richmond County and Robeson County Scotch Greys**
Capt. William Sutton, Capt. Ancram W. Ezzell	Capt. William H. Tripp	Capt. William B. Rodman, Capt. John E. Leggett	Capt. James S. Lane	Capt. Malcom McNair, Capt. Malcom H. McBryde
Companies / Captains (Continued)				
Company F - Craven County, Wilson County, Greene County, Edgecombe County Lawrence's Battery, Blount's Battery, Tillery's Battery, Robertson's Battery	**1st Company G - Edgecombe County Lloyd's Company**	**2nd Company G - Orange County Orange Light Artillery**	**3rd Company G - Duplin County, Wayne County, Lenoir County, Craven County Herring Artillery**	**1st Company H - Craven County Branch Artillery**
Capt. Joseph J. Lawrence, Capt. Richard H. Blount, Capt. Richard C. Tillery, Capt. John C. Robertson	Capt. Whitnel P. Lloyd	Capt. William Cameron, Capt. Henry Dickson	Capt. William A. Holland, Capt. George C. Buchan	Capt. Alexander C. Latham, Capt. John R. Potts
Companies / Captains (Continued)				
2nd Company H - New Hanover County and Wilson County Barnes' Battery	**Company I - Beaufort County Whitehurst's Artillery**	**-**	**1st Company K - Craven County Robinson Artillery**	**2nd Company K - Bladen County Bladen Artillery Guards**
Capt. Calvin Barnes	Capt. Charles C. Whitehurst	-	Capt. Edward Mallett	Capt. George Tait, Capt. Daniel James Clark

Brief History of Regiment*

"Go warrior go, thy country calls thee
Now unto the embattled plain
Where gorgeous plumes and glittering crests
Are waving o'er the noble slain."

This regiment was organized at Bald Head Island (formerly Smith's Island), NC at the mouth of the south of the Cape Fear River, on December, 1 1863, from independent heavy artillery companies organized the first year of the war, which had long been in active service, building forts, batteries, and other defenses of North Carolina coast and rivers, at Hatteras Island, the Pamlico River, the Neuse River, and the Cape Fear River, by the appointment of John J. Hedrick (Major of Engineers and first Commandant of Fort Fisher) as its only Colonel; George Tait (Captain of 2nd Company K, formerly Major of the 8th NC Volunteers) as its only Lieutenant Colonel; and William A. Holland (Captain of 3rd Company G) as its only Major.

The staff and company officers and their successors by promotion from time to time in the order named as gathered from memoranda of participants in the operations of the regiment, were:

James B. Hancock, Adjutant.
Thomas Hill, Surgeon.
Charles A. Mitchell, Assistant Surgeon.
John G. Blount, Assistant Quartermaster (AQM).
William H. DeNeale, Sergeant Major.

CAPTAINS

Company A, from Lenoir County, William Sutton, Ancram W. Ezzell. Enlisted men, 124.
Company B, from Beaufort County, William H. Tripp. Enlisted men, 126.
Company C, from Beaufort County, William B. Rodman, John E. Leggett. Enlisted men, 120.
Company D, from Pamlico County and Craven County. James S. Lane. Enlisted men, 121.
Company E, from Richmond County and Robeson County, Malcom McNair, Malcom H. McBryde. Enlisted men, 127.
Company F, from Craven, Wilson, Edgecombe, and Greene Counties, Joseph J. Lawrence, Richard H. Blount, Richard C. Tillery, John C. Robertson. Enlisted men, 125.
1st Company G, from Edgecombe County, Whitnel P. Lloyd. Re-assigned before 40th NC Regiment was established.
2nd Company G, from Orange County, William Cameron, Henry Dickson. Re-assigned before 40th NC Regiment was established.
3rd Company G, from Carteret, Lenoir, Wayne, Duplin, Anson, Chatham, and other Counties, William A. Herring, William A. Holland, George C. Buchan. Enlisted men, 135.
1st Company H, from Craven County, Alexander C. Latham, John R. Potts. Re-assigned before 40th NC Regiment was established.
2nd Company H, from New Hanover County, Calvin Barnes. Enlisted men, 105.
Company I, from Beaufort County, Charles C. Whitehurst. Enlisted men, 128.
1st Company K, from Craven County, Edward Mallett. Re-assigned before 40th NC Regiment was established.
2nd Company K, from Bladen County, George Tait, Daniel James Clark. Enlisted men, 132.

FIRST LIEUTENANTS

Company A: Ancram W. Ezzell, James W. Kinsey, John Williams, John Z. Davis.
Company B: Macon Bonner, Selby Hardenbergh.
Company C: John E. Leggett, Ashley Congleton, John G. Blount, James B. Hancock.
Company D: Adam Barrington, Henry H. Hooker.
Company E: John M. McKinnon, John S. McArthur, Archibald J. McNair.
Company F: Richard C. Tillery, John C. Robertson, Walter Dunn, Jr., Byrd Lancaster, John L. Pool.
1st Company G: Thomas J. Stewart, Kenneth Thigpen.
2nd Company G: Henry Dickson, James F. Cain, Halcott P. Jones, Alexander M. Kirkland.
3rd Company G: George C. Buchan, William Hassell, William F. Stanly.
1st Company H: John R. Potts, Henry G. Flanner, Samuel W. Latham, John M. Perry, Woodbury Wheeler.
2nd Company H: Joseph F. Hellen, Joseph Price, James R. Sterling.
Company I: Alexander McC. Jones, Thomas H. Satterthwaite.
1st Company K: Samuel S. Biddle, Jr.
2nd Company K: Daniel James Clark, Charles L. Bryan, James W. Dickson.

SECOND LIEUTENANTS

Company A: John Z. Davis, Ancram W. Ezzell, John Williams, Robert B. Vanse.
Company B: Noah B. Hodges, William H. Harrison.
Company C: Ashley Congleton, James B. Hancock, Edward Long, John W. Whitley.
Company D: John J. Brabble.
Company E: John N. McKinnon, Archibald J. McNair.
Company F: Richard H. Blount, Byrd Lancaster, William F. Edwards.
1st Company G: Joseph H. Payne.
2nd Company G: Alexander M. Kirkland, John Malone, John Cox Webb.
3rd Company G: None identified. (All were in 36th NC Regiment earlier, and had resigned prior to 40th NC Regiment being established.)
1st Company H: Charles H. Brown, Henry G. Flanner, Samuel W. Latham.
2nd Company H: Joseph F. Hellen, John H. Hill, John McEvoy, James A. Price, James R. Sterling.
Company I: Seth Bridgman, Thomas A.E. Tuten.
1st Company K: John F. Guthrie.
2nd Company K: James W. Dickson, James E. Kelly, Edward W. Wooten.

COMPANY A

This Independent Company was organized in Lenoir County, NC, in June of 1861, and ordered to Fort Hatteras, NC, where it remained and participated in the engagement at that fort on August 28-29, 1861, when it was captured, with the loss of several men killed and wounded. This company, with the other prisoners, was transported by steamer to New York and put on Governor's Island, where it remained about two months, then transported to Fort Warren, in Boston Harbor, where it remained until exchanged. (It was here that 1st Lt. James W. Kinsey and several of the men died from sickness). One-half of the company was exchanged and arrived home on Christmas Day of 1861—the remaining half was exchanged shortly afterwards in February of 1862; and again entered the service, (John Z. Davis was elected to fill the vacancy caused by the death of 1st. Lt. James W. Kinsey) and was ordered to Fort Lane, below New Bern, on the Neuse River, where it remained until New Bern was captured, on March 14, 1862. Then it fell back to Kinston, where it received orders to go to Virginia as infantry, but through the efforts of 1st Lt. Ancram W. Ezzell, the order was countermanded by order of Brig. Gen. William H.C. Whiting, and the company sent to Wilmington in April of 1862, and did provost guard duty. During this time Capt. William Sutton resigned, and 1st Lt. Ancram W. Ezzell was commissioned Captain of the company on October 15, 1862, and Robert B. Vanse was commissioned 2nd Lieutenant to fill the vacancy caused by the promotion of Lieutenant Ezzell. The company was then ordered to Fort Fisher, where it occasionally skirmished with the enemy's gunboats, and did picket and garrison duty and aided in constructing Fort Fisher, until the 40th NC Regiment (State Troops - aka 3rd Artillery) was organized on December 1, 1863, at which time it was ordered to Bald Head Island (was Smith's Island) NC as Company A and remained at Fort Holmes.

COMPANY B

This Independent Company was organized on October 1, 1861, in Beaufort County, NC, and went in camp at Chocowinity, where it remained a short time, from there it was sent to Fort Hill, on the Pamlico River, eight (8) miles below Washington, where it became a part of the command of the 31st NC Regiment (Infantry), Col. John V. Jordan commanding. But as that regiment was infantry, this company was separated from it, and remained at Fort Hill until March 14, 1862, when, at the attack on New Bern, it was ordered to re-inforce that city; but having to remove the artillery to Tarborough, was delayed, and arrived at Kinston, where it met the Confederates falling back from New Bern. From Kinston it went into camp at Falling Creek, near Goldsborough, and there remained until ordered to Fort Fisher, where it arrived in April of 1862, and found one casemated battery of four or five (4-5) Columbiad guns of short range, and a square Sand Fort, armed with 32-pounder, smooth-bore guns, and from this humble beginning, it grew to become the strongest fortification in the whole South.

On March 13, 1863, a detachment of seven (7) men under 1st Lt. Selby Hardenbergh was detailed to proceed to the vicinity of Washington, NC to assist in the siege of that town. They were engaged during the siege in trying to prevent the passage of boats to and from the town. This small group returned to Fort Fisher on April 15, 1863.

On Sunday morning, July 12, 1863, Capt. William H. Tripp (Company B) and Capt. Charles C. Whitehurst (Independent Company, which later became Company I), with their companies, were ordered from Fort Fisher to cross the inlet and land on the point of beach opposite Zeke's Island and march up the beach to the steamer *Kate*, a blockade runner then ashore on the east side of Smith's Island and in the possession of the enemy, about six (6) miles from Fort Fisher. The order was promptly obeyed and they marched up the beach under a constant fire from the blockading fleet, and with a Whitworth cannon and rifles drove the enemy off, and recaptured the steamer, saved her cargo and machinery and sent it across the island to Wilmington, for which labor they received the munificent sum of $12, in Confederate money, each. This company remained at Fort Fisher, doing garrison and picket duty, and aiding in its construction until the 40th NC Regiment (State Troops - aka 3rd Artillery) was organized on December 1, 1863, at which time it was ordered to Bald Head Island for duty as Company B.

COMPANY C

This Independent Company was organized on October 24, 1861, at Washington, NC, and was stationed at Swan Point, on the Pamlico River, where it remained until the attack of New Bern, on March 14, 1862, when it was ordered to re-inforce that town, but on arriving at Kinston, met the Confederates falling back from New Bern. From Kinston it went in camp at Falling Creek, where it remained until about the first of April of 1862, when it was ordered to Fort St. Philip (later renamed to Fort Anderson), on the west side of the Cape Fear River at Old Brunswick Town, where it remained and did garrison and picket duty until the 40th NC Regiment (State Troops - aka 3rd Artillery) was organized on December 1, 1863, at which time it was ordered to Bald Head Island for duty as Company C.

COMPANY D

This Independent Company was raised in Pamlico County on October 28, 1861, and went in camp on the north side of the Neuse River, where it did duty at different points until the fall of New Bern, on March 14, 1862, when it withdrew and fell back to Kinston, and thence to Goldsborough. From there it was ordered to Wilmington, where it arrived about the last of March, and the next day (1 April) it was sent down the Cape Fear River, with other Artillery companies from the Pamlico and Neuse rivers. This company with 3rd Company G, was sent to Fort Johnston at Smithville (now Southport), where it remained some time doing garrison duty and sharing in the duties of that command, until ordered to Fort Fisher where it remained and participated in the building of Fort Fisher, and on the formation of the 40th NC Regiment (State Troops - aka 3rd Artillery), was assigned to it, and ordered to Bald Head Island for duty as Company D.

COMPANY E

This Independent Company was raised in Richmond and Robeson Counties, in September of 1861, and ordered to Raleigh. On arrival at Wilmington the order was countermanded, and the company remained at Wilmington about three (3) weeks, when it was ordered to Fort Caswell, near the mouth of the Cape Fear River on Oak Island, for heavy artillery service.

On February 23, 1863, the Federal warships *Monticello* and *Dacotah* opened fire on Fort Caswell, which would return fire. This was continued for some time, when the ships withdrew, leaving the fort uninjured.

On July 12th, the company was ordered to Smith's (now Bald Head) Island to protect the blockade-running steamer *Kate*, then ashore back of Smith's Island, and in possession of the enemy. While marching up the beach with a Whitworth gun, the Federal fleet opened fire on the company, disabling the carriage of the gun so it had to take a position among the sandhills, until Company B, from Fort Fisher, with a Whitworth gun, came to its relief and drove the Federal fleet off, and took possession of the steamer.

This company remained at Fort Caswell and did garrison and picket duty, and shared in all the duties of that command until the formation of the 40th NC Regiment (State Troops - aka 3rd Artillery), when it was assigned to it and ordered to Bald Head Island for duty as Company E.

This was one of the best companies in the service, and had in it many descendants of Highlanders who fought under Lochiel at the fatal battle of Culloden, and who displayed on the sands of Carolina the war-like spirit of their ancestors.

COMPANY F

This Independent Company was organized in the Fair Grounds at New Bern, NC, on September 4, 1861. After remaining there a few days, was ordered to Fort Macon, NC, where it remained until November 1st, when it was ordered to Shell Point on Harker's Island, where it remained doing picket duty until about March 1, 1862, and was then ordered back to Fort Macon, where it remained and did garrison duty, and participated in the bombardment and was captured at Fort Macon, on April 26, 1862, (with two men killed) when it was paroled and sent to New Inlet on the gunboat *Chippewa*, and landed at Fort Fisher under a flag of truce; from there to their respective homes, where they remained until September 4, 1862, when they were exchanged and re-organized at Goldsborough, NC; from there the company went to Kinston and guarded the different fortifications on the Neuse River, during Federal Maj. Gen. John G. Foster's raid on Goldsborough. This company participated in the fight at Kinston on December 14th, White Hall on December 16th, and Goldsborough Bridge on December 17th, 1862. The enemy being defeated fell back to New Bern.

It also participated in Maj. Gen. George E. Pickett's (VA) and Brig. Gen. Robert F. Hoke's (NC) campaigns in the winter and spring of 1862-1863; engaged in the fight at Washington, NC, and Fort Anderson (aka Deep Gully - in Craven County) and skirmished with the enemy at various points between Kinston and New Bern. On December 1, 1863, this company was assigned as Company F in the 40th NC Regiment (3rd Artillery). On March 16, 1864, this company was ordered to Fort Caswell near the mouth of the Cape Fear River on Oak Island, where it remained about a month and was then ordered to Fort Campbell, on Oak Island beach, where it remained until Fort Fisher was captured on January 15, 1865. Then it evacuated Fort Campbell and fell back to Fort Anderson (aka Fort St. Philip) in Brunswick County, where it joined the remnants of the regiment for the first time.

1ST COMPANY G

This Independent Company was organized in Edgecombe County on March 1, 1862 and ordered to Richmond, VA. Originally designated to be Company G in the 40th NC Regiment (3rd Artillery), this unit was disbanded on October 4, 1862, long before the 40th NC Regiment was formally organized.

2ND COMPANY G

This Independent Company was organized at Hillsborough in Orange County on March 15, 1862, then re-organized on April 1, 1863 to be designated 2nd Company G of the 40th NC Regiment (3rd Artillery). However, this company was re-designated as Company E of the 13th NC Battalion - Light Artillery on November 4, 1863, and therefore was never officially part of the 40th NC Regiment (3rd Artilleery) except on paper while the regiment formation was in flux 1862-1863.

3RD COMPANY G

This Independent Company was organized at Morehead City, NC, on October 16, 1861, and went into camp at Camp Canal, where it remained until January, 1862, when it was ordered to Fort Thompson, on the Neuse River, five (5) miles below New Bern, where it remained and built batteries, did garrison and picket duty, and participated in the skirmishes on March 13th, and battle on March 14, 1862. It was the heavy discharges of shot and shell from the guns on Fort Thompson that repulsed a heavy column of the enemy while charging on our line of works (defended by our infantry), and caused them to fall back under cover of the woods, with a heavy loss. The fight on March 14th continued about five (5) hours, when the enemy concentrated their land forces to the right, out of our sight, and flanked our infantry, and we fell back to New Bern, thence to Kinston.

There the company was in the general review, and on March 18th was ordered to Goldsborough, where it did provost guard duty, which was necessary at that time, but nevertheless irksome. On March 28th, it was ordered to Wilmington, where it remained until April 1st, at which time it was transported with six (6) other heavy artillery companies from the Pamlico and Neuse rivers, and landed at the different fortifications on the Cape Fear River. This company was sent to Fort Johnston, at Smithville, where it built Fort Pender, and fortified the town in the rear by a line of breastworks and redoubts from Elizabeth Creek to the Cape Fear River, below deep water point, at the same time drilled and did garrison and picket duty. On May 14, 1862, this Independent Company was assigned as 1st Company I in the 36th NC Regiment (2nd Artillery).

While there the company suffered the scourge of Yellow Fever and Smallpox, from which quite a large number died. During the winter and spring of 1862-1863, the company recruited to 130 men. In addition to other services, this company kept guard at the signal stations on the coast and river, to report signals displayed, in order that blockade runners might make a safe entrance in the Cape Fear River, which was a very important service to the State and Confederate governments.

It was while the company was at Fort Johnson that the steamer *Kate*, in running the blockade, struck one of the obstructions (or Yankee catchers, as we called them), in the inlet at Fort Caswell, and punched a hole in her bottom, from which she sank at Smithville. From her this company took about ten thousand (10,000) blankets, besides arms and merchandise. A short time afterwards the steamer *Scotia*, while trying to run in port, got aground, and was set on fire, and burned down to the water. The next day this company took out her five thousand (5,000 pounds of meat and other stores. This company being raised on the coast and accustomed to the sea, quite a number of them were detached to go on an expedition with five hundred (500) men to take one of the fast blockade running steamers and run the blockade at New Inlet, and run in at Cape Henry and pass Fortress Monroe to Point Lookout, release our prisoners there (which were said to be about 22,000), arm those for duty and march out through Maryland and join General Robert E. Lee's army somewhere in the vicinity of Washington, DC. This movement was in agitation in the latter part of June of 1863, just before the battle of Gettysburg, PA. This matter becoming known to the enemy through deserters, it was abandoned.

On July 12, 1863, 1st Company I of the 36th NC Regiment (which later became 3rd Company G of the 40th NC Regiment) was ordered to Bald Head Island, and was subject to a severe shelling from the fleet, all day (on Sunday) trying to recapture a blockade runner ashore on the beach, back of the island (this steamer was also named *Kate*). We did succeed after a detachment of Company E, from Fort Caswell, and a detachment of Company B, from Fort Fisher, with Whitworth cannon came to our assistance, in driving away the enemy and saving a portion of the cargo. There were several of the Federal blockade fleets in action on both sides of the island, and the firing was severe, those on the west side being the greatest sufferers, having their gun carriage and wheels shot away and several men wounded. We also rescued the blockade-running steamer *Pungo* from capture after being run ashore on Bald Head Island beach, and saved a portion of her cargo, also several other steamers whose names I cannot now recall.

On November 4, 1863, this company was officially transferred from the 36th NC Regiment (2nd Artillery) to become the 3rd Company G of the 40th NC Regiment (3rd Artillery).

1ST COMPANY H

This Independent Company was organized in Craven County on January 30, 1862, and saw action at Fort Thompson during the battle of New Bern on March 14, 1862. Here it lost all its guns, ten (10) men killed, eleven (11) men wounded, and twenty-two (22) men captured. Originally designated to be Company H of the 40th NC Regiment (3rd Artillery), this unit was re-assigned as Company F in the 13th NC Battalion - Light Artillery on November 4, 1863, and therefore was never officially part of the 40th NC Regiment (3rd Artillery) except on paper while the regiment formation was in flux 1862-1863.

2ND COMPANY H

This Independent Company was organized as Hall's Battery at Wilmington, NC, on April 16, 1861, where it remained for a few days, and was sent to Fort Caswell near the entrance of the Cape Fear River on Oak Island. When Captain Hall was promoted on August 17, 1861, Capt. Calvin Barnes took over and the unit was thereafter known as Barnes's Battery. There it remained for some time, and was ordered to Camp Advance, near Weldon, where it was attached to Col. Charles C. Tew's 2nd NC Regiment (Infantry), and ordered to Richmond, VA; from there to Fredericksburg, where it remained and did service on the Potomac River and other points in that State, until the spring of 1862, when it returned to North Carolina, with Maj. Gen. Theophilus H. Holmes' (NC) Division, and was afterwards detached and sent to the Cape Fear River, and was stationed at several fortifications on that river. It was at Fort Pender, at the organization of the 40th NC Regiment (3rd Artillery), and assigned to it as 2nd Company H on December 1, 1863, and ordered to Smith (now Bald Head) Island for duty. This company was composed principally of Irishmen, and no better or more loyal men, or better soldiers could be found in any company. When work or fighting was to be done, they were always ready, and would go wherever ordered.

COMPANY I

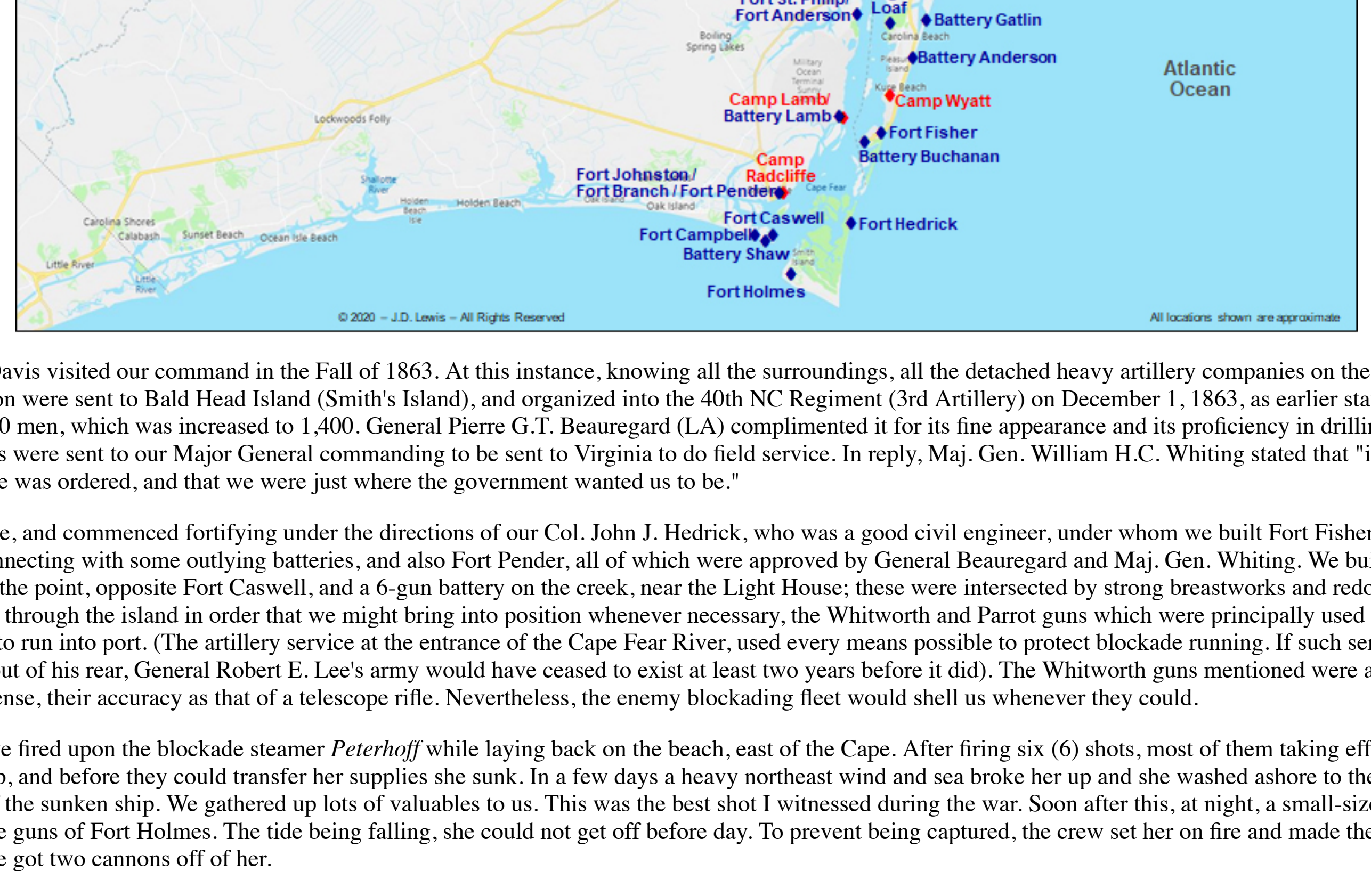
This Independent Company was organized on January 23, 1862, at Washington, NC, was stationed at Fort Hill, on the Pamlico River, where it remained until New Bern was attacked on March 14, 1862, when it was ordered to reinforce that town. It did not reach there in time, so it went in camp at Kinston, where it remained until ordered to Fort Fisher, where it arrived about April 1, 1862, and became a part of its garrison. It assisted in building Fort Fisher and shared in all the duties of that command until the 40th NC Regiment (3rd Artillery) was organized on December 1, 1863, when it was ordered to Smith (now Bald Head) Island to serve as Company I.

1ST COMPANY K

This Independent Company was organized in Craven County on March 5, 1862, and stationed in New Bern. It saw action in defense of that town on March 14, 1862, then retreated to Kinston as New Bern was taken by Federals. It was originally designated Company K of the 40th NC Regiment (3rd Artillery) when the regiment formation was in flux 1862-1863. However, In November of 1862, this company was changed from artillery to infantry and was assigned as Company C in the 61st NC Regiment (Infantry), therefore never officially added to the rolls of the 40th NC Regiment (3rd Artillery).

2ND COMPANY K

This Independent Company was organized in Bladen County on May 6, 1862, mustered in service at Wilmington, NC, and ordered to duty at Fort St. Philip (afterwards known as Fort Anderson), where it remained a short time, and was ordered to Camp Wyatt, about two (2) miles above Fort Fisher, where it remained four or five (4-5) weeks; afterwards ordered to, and became a part of the garrison of Fort Fisher, where it did garrison and picket duty, protected blockade running as much as possible, and also assisted in building Fort Fisher and outlying batteries, in common with other companies of the 40th NC Regiment (3rd Artillery) and 36th NC Regiment (2nd Artillery). This company remained at Fort Fisher and shared in all the duties of that command until the 40th NC Regiment (3rd Artillery) was formally organized on December 1, 1863, when it was ordered to Bald Head Island for duty as 2nd Company K.



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All locations shown are approximate

President Jefferson Davis visited our command in the Fall of 1863. At this instance, knowing all the surroundings, all the detached heavy artillery companies on the Cape Fear River and vicinity of Wilmington were sent to Bald Head Island (Smith's Island), and organized into the 40th NC Regiment (3rd Artillery) on December 1, 1863, as earlier stated. The regiment numbered about 1,200 men, which was increased to 1,400. General Pierre G.T. Beauregard (LA) complimented it for its fine appearance and its proficiency in drilling, both as artillery and infantry. Petitions were sent to our Major General commanding to be sent to Virginia to do field service. In reply, Maj. Gen. William H.C. Whiting stated that "it was a soldier's duty to stay or go where he was ordered, and that we were just where the government wanted us to be."

So we took the rebuke, and commenced fortifying under the directions of our Col. John J. Hedrick, who was a good civil engineer, under whom we built Fort Fisher with seventeen (17) guns and curtains connecting with some outlying batteries, and also Fort Pender, all of which were approved by General Beauregard and Maj. Gen. Whiting. We built Fort Holmes, with twelve (12) guns, on the point, opposite Fort Caswell, and a 6-gun battery on the creek, near the Light House; these were intersected by strong breastworks and redoubts, and we also cleared two (2) roads through the island in order that we might bring into position whenever necessary, the Whitworth and Parrot guns which were principally used to protect blockade-runners while trying to run into port. (The artillery service at the entrance of the Cape Fear River, used every means possible to protect blockade running. If such service had not existed, and kept the enemy out of his rear, General Robert E. Lee's army would have ceased to exist at least two years before it did). The Whitworth guns mentioned were a terror to the enemy; their range was immense, their accuracy as that of a telescope rifle. Nevertheless, the enemy blockading fleet would shell us whenever they could.

On March 6, 1864, we fired upon the blockade steamer *Peterhoff* while laying back on the beach, east of the Cape. After firing six (6) shots, most of them taking effect, she ran out to another blockade ship, and before they could transfer her supplies she sunk. In a few days a heavy northeast wind and sea broke her up and she washed ashore to the beach, which was strewn with debris of the sunken ship. We gathered up lots of valuables to us. This was the best ship I witnessed during the war. Soon after this, at night, a small-sized blockade steamer ran aground under the guns of Fort Holmes. The tide being falling, she could not get off before day. To prevent being captured, the crew set her on fire and made their escape to another ship. The next day we got two cannons off of her.

On March 1st, while the regiment was at Fort Holmes, with only a small detail at Smithville, Federal Lt. Cushing, with a boat's crew from the fleet, made a raid at Smithville. He landed at the salt works wharf about 1 o'clock a.m., taking with him a negro pilot. He went to Brig. Gen. Paul O. Hebert's (LA) quarters, he being at Wilmington. They captured Captain Kelly, of his staff, and made their escape, taking with them their prisoner and the negro pilot, on board the blockade. After this a river picket, in boats, was kept between Bald Head Island and Fort Caswell, with rocket signals to be displayed at the discovery of any movements of the enemy. We also kept a picket station on the beach at the head of Buzzard Bay, (where Corn Cake Inlet now is), this being a low, narrow, flat beach, where escapes and deserters from the army would escape to the enemy, by hauling boats over this beach, then launching them into the sea and go off to the Federal blockade ships. This was done until there could not be a boat found unless it had been kept under guard at night, anywhere in that section.

Governor Zebulon B. Vance, who was a candidate for re-election against William Woods Holden, visited our command in July of 1864. The regiment went on review in honor of the great "War Governor." The election was held in August following, the result of which was that Zebulon B. Vance received almost the entire vote of the regiment; that was this writer's first vote. On October 29, 1864, Company A, led by Capt. Ancram W. Ezzell, was ordered to Fort Anderson, about ten miles above Smithville at Old Brunswick, on the Cape Fear River, where it remained until the fort was evacuated on February 19, 1865.

On November 24, 1864, Company B, led by Capt. William H. Tripp; Company C, led by Capt. John E. Leggett; Company D, led by Capt. James S. Lane; 3rd Company G, led by Capt. George C. Buchan; and Company I, led by Capt. Charles C. Whitehurst, of the 40th NC Regiment (3rd Artillery), under the command of Maj. William A. Holland, with five (5) companies (2nd Company A, 2nd Company C, 2nd Company D, 3rd Company G, and 2nd Company I) of the 36th NC Regiment (2nd Artillery) under the command of Maj. James M. Stevenson, were ordered to Georgia to reinforce Lt. Gen. William J. Hardee (GA), who was then falling back from Atlanta to Savannah, Georgia. On reaching Augusta, November 27th, we went forward in the direction of Waynesboro. That night, about 12 o'clock, a citizen of that town drove up to our picket, en route for Augusta, with information that the enemy, under the command of Maj. Gen. William T. Sherman, had torn up the railroad between Augusta and Millen, which cut us off from Lt. Gen. Hardee's command.

The next day we returned to Augusta and took the train for Savannah. Then reaching Charleston, SC, November 29th, we found the city under bombardment from the batteries on Morris Island, which had been going on over five hundred (500) days, with great damage to that city. The next day (November 30th) we arrived at Coosawhatchie, SC, where we were ordered to leave knapsacks and make a forced march to reinforce Maj. Gen. Gustavus W. Smith (GA) at Honey Hill, near Grahamville, SC, where Federal Maj. Gen. John G. Foster had concentrated a large force of negro troops from Hilton Head to destroy the railroad and cut off reinforcements from Lt. Gen. Hardee, who was then falling back towards Savannah, GA, but before we had proceeded far we were ordered back. The enemy having been defeated, fell back to the Tulifinny River, with a heavy loss in killed and wounded. Thinking that they would make a move against the railroad at Coosawhatchie Bridge, under cover of their gunboats, we sent out a picket down the river banks that night, and the next day we saw no movements of an advance of the enemy.

We were ordered to proceed on to Savannah, GA, where we arrived on December 2nd, and took the train on the Georgia Central Railroad and arrived at Rocky Ford, about fifty (50) miles from Savannah, about night, where we joined Lt. Gen. William J. Hardee's (GA) Corps, which was composed largely of senior and junior reserves. Col. Washington M. Hardy, of the 60th NC Regiment, was assigned to the command of the regiment, which was rear guard. Through the negligence of Wheeler's Cavalry, which were deployed as scouts, we were entirely cut off, and would have been captured had not Maj. Wilton L. Young's 10th NC Battalion (Artillery) come to our assistance when we had a skirmish with the enemy, driving them back, with some loss on both sides. Federal Maj. Gen. William T. Sherman's army numbered about 80,000 men of the great Northwest. Their ancestors, for the larger part, were of the emigrants from North Carolina and Virginia. He had a fine command, which lay between the Savannah and Ogeechee rivers, which effectually protected his flanks from any movements that we could make to flank him.

We skirmished with his advanced picket every day, but would have to fall back as soon as his main army would push forward its flanks in order to surround us. At the junction of the Charleston & Savannah Railroad about ten (10) miles from Savannah, the skirmish became a general engagement, which lasted for some time, with some loss on both sides. On December 8th, we fell back inside of a line of works, about five (5) miles above Savannah, which extended from the Savannah River to the Ogeechee River, which we strengthened by filling up culverts, flooding the water in our front, also running telegraph wire, fastening it to stumps and trees, besides palisades and *cheveaux de frise* in front of the regiment to prevent an assault on our works. In this position we kept up a fire from our artillery and sharpshooters from the entrenchments every day, and picketing at night. This was continued until December 20th about 12 o'clock at night, at which time our supplies having been exhausted, we evacuated the works and falling back to the city crossed the river on a pontoon bridge, and made a halt at Hardeeville, SC.

Our picket that night formed the rear guard, who policed the city, burned the government warehouse, said to contain five hundred (500) bales of cotton, and crossed the river about 4 o'clock a.m., then cut the pontoon bridge adrift and joined our command at Hardeeville, where we remained until December 25th (Christmas Day) when the regiment was ordered to Pocotaligo, SC. We moved off at early dawn, and marched all day in a cold, drenching rain, bivouacking that night at Grahamville. The march was resumed the next morning about 5 o'clock and we marched all day through swamps and mud. The enemy was shelling the Coosawhatchie Bridge, so we crossed the Tulifinny Bridge, and arrived at Pocotaligo about dark. About midnight we took the cars for Charleston, where we arrived the next day, and were held as reinforcements, in case the enemy who had withdrawn from the first attack on Fort Fisher, should attack that city.

Among the various forts and batteries at Charleston, was the White Point battery at the junction of the Ashley and Cooper rivers on which were mounted two (2) large Blakely guns which carried six hundred (600) pound rifle shot. These guns were brought in at Wilmington on a blockade runner, the *Sumpter*, and shipped to Charleston by railroad. After remaining at Charleston for a few days, we learned that the enemy had returned to Fortress Monroe. On December 30th, we were ordered to Wilmington, NC, where we arrived about 10 o'clock p.m., on January 1, 1865, and crossed the ferry in a snow storm and bivouacked at Camp Lamb. The next day we were transported by steamer down the Cape Fear River, the five (5) companies of the 36th NC Regiment (2nd Artillery) to Fort Fisher and the five (5) companies of the 40th NC Regiment (3rd Artillery) to Fort Holmes on Bald Head Island.

Permit me to say, right here, that I realized during that Southern Campaign what I always believed, that the great popular heart was not then, and never had been, in the war. It was a revolution of the politicians, not the people; and was fought at first by the natural enthusiasm of young men, and kept going by the bitterness of feeling produced by the cruelties and brutalities of the enemy.

During that Southern Campaign, the five (5) companies of the 40th NC Regiment (3rd Artillery) that had remained at their respective commands, performed their duties as usual.

At the first attack on Fort Fisher, and during the bombardment, on December 24-25, 1864, Company E and 2nd Company K, of this regiment, reinforced that command, after which the enemy's land force re-embarked, and withdrew, leaving Fort Fisher slightly injured.

Lt. Col. George Tait resigned his commission on January 11, 1865, to take a commission as Colonel of the 79th NC Regiment (8th Cavalry). Lt. Col. Tait was a good disciplinarian; he remained detached from the 40th NC Regiment (3rd Artillery) after it had formed, to train, drill and discipline the officers and men of the 36th NC Regiment (2nd Artillery) and afterwards drilled and disciplined the 40th NC Regiment (3rd Artillery). Colonel Tansell, the Inspector General, pronounced the 40th NC Regiment the best drilled regiment of Confederate soldiers that he had ever seen. Lt. Col. Tait was a good and brave officer, and in his rank had no superior in the service.

On January 13, 1865, we were ordered to reinforce Fort Fisher, (the second attack). Companies D, E, 3rd G, and 2nd K, of the 40th NC Regiment (3rd Artillery), embarked on the steamer *Pettaway*, and arrived at Confederate Point about dark, where we landed by wading waist deep in water to reach the beach, under fire from the fleet, and took our position at the guns and palisades on the land face of the fort, where firing was kept up at short intervals, until daylight, when the whole fleet drew up in line and opened fire on the fort which returned the fire. This was kept up all day; at night we formed a picket line on the beach, where we kept up a fire with the enemy until about 4 o'clock a.m. A most furious enfilading fire of shot and shell from the fleet caused us to fall back inside the fort. The bombardment continued to increase, and about 8 o'clock Sunday morning, January 15th, the whole fleet opened a more terrific fire upon the fort. From about 11 a.m. until 3 p.m. the booming of cannon and bursting of shells was like the roar of heavy peals of thunder.

All the guns on the land face of the fort were disabled, but two (2), and the palisades were demolished, which left our garrison, of about 1,500 men, almost helpless when the assault was made upon the fort. This occurred about 3 o'clock Sunday evening on the right and left both, at the same time. We were on the right where the marines and sailors, 2,000 strong, charged, who were repulsed with heavy loss, after which we were ordered to the left to drive back the enemy, who had made lodgment on the fort. We rushed in that direction, led by Maj. Gen. William H.C. Whiting, who commanded the troops in person, and drove the enemy from the traverse and parapet in front and recaptured one gun chamber with great loss, and on the parapet and traverse of the next gun chamber, the contestants were firing into each other's faces, and in some cases clubbing their guns, being too near to load and fire. It was in this charge that Maj. Gen. Whiting was wounded. The fight continued after the enemy entered the fort until about 10 o'clock p.m., when the last traverse was taken and firing ceased.

Thus ended the greatest bombardment ever known in modern warfare. It was the largest hand-to-hand fight during our Civil War, and the struggle inside the fort was unsurpassed in stubbornness. Our casualties were not known as the roll was never again called. Capt. George C. Buchan, of 3rd Company G, was seriously wounded and captured at Battery Buchanan at the point of beach, and was carried to Point Lookout, thence to Johnson's Island, OH, where he remained a prisoner until the close of the war. Maj. Gen. William H. C. Whiting was mortally wounded, fell into the hands of the enemy and died soon afterwards in prison on Governor's Island, NY. Col. William Lamb, of the 36th NC Regiment (2nd Artillery), was also wounded and captured.

The enemy's killed and wounded lay thick upon the battlefield, especially in the front of the 40th NC Regiment (3rd Artillery), which was in the hardest of the fight. Surely the valor displayed by North Carolinians in that effort to hold the last gateway of the South against such overwhelming numbers, both on land and sea, is glory enough to perpetuate their names in the annals of this State for all time. After the battle was over, seeing so many of our comrades alive and able for duty, was a cause of deep gratitude to Almighty God. The next morning (January 16th) the magazine in the fort exploded and killed about two hundred (200) of the enemy, which was a scene of inexpressible horror. That evening we were put on board the steamships *De Mollay* and *General Lyon*, and carried to Northern prisons, the sick and wounded to Point Lookout, MD, and those able for duty to New York City thence transported by railroad to Elmira, NY, where they remained until after the war, when they were paroled and sent home. The officers were carried to Governor's Island, NY, and released on parole there. During our stay in prison many of our men died from starvation and exposure.

On January 16, 1865, Companies B, C, 2nd H, and I, of the 40th NC Regiment (3rd Artillery), evacuated Fort Holmes and Fort Hedrick, on Bald Head Island, and Company F evacuated Fort Campbell, on Oak Island Beach, above Fort Caswell, and were transported by steamer to Smithville (now Southport), which was reached about daylight, remained in the town that day and went out about two (2) miles from town at night. The next day (January 17th) they joined Company A, of the regiment, at Fort Anderson, about ten (10) miles above Smithville, on the Cape Fear River. The garrison was then composed of six (6) companies of the 40th NC Regiment (3rd Artillery) and the command from Fort Caswell, numbering in all about 900 men, under the immediate command of Col. John J. Hedrick. This fort was a weak affair, mounting only small, short-range guns. We had several skirmishes with the fleet at this place. On February 17th, the enemy, about 10,000 in number, appeared on our right flank, where hard picket skirmishing was had. The next day a general engagement ensued. The enemy attacked the fort in the rear with about 10,000 infantry, while Federal Admiral David D.Porter with a fleet of sixteen (16) gunboats and ironclads, lying within a few hundred yards of the fort, quickly demolished our guns. In the land attack we held our own against great odds. In this fight 2nd Lt. Robert B. Vause, of Company A, was killed, and 1st Lt. John Z. Davis, of the same company, was mortally wounded and died the same day. 1st Lt. Macon Bonner, of Company B, was captured with his skirmish line. This fight was continued until the next morning, (February 19th).

Finding the command in danger of being cut off by a heavy column of infantry in the rear, they evacuated the fort, carrying off all the light guns, including the Whitworth cannon, and fell back towards Wilmington. We took a stand at Town Creek, where we had quite a little fight, but our casualties were slight. Col. Charles H. Simonton's 25th SC Regiment was captured. From Town Creek we went through Wilmington towards Masonboro Sound, formed a skirmish line, and fell back through Wilmington (February 22nd) to the Northeast Station on the Northeast River, where we had a skirmish with the enemy; from there, fell back to Duplin Cross Roads; went into camp at Rockfish Creek, remaining there about a week, and took the train (Wilmington & Weldon Railroad) at Teachey's Depot to Kinston to meet the enemy advancing from New Bern, where we arrived on March 5th, and engaged the enemy the next day, March 6th, at Jackson's Mills, between New Bern and Kinston. We charged the enemy in front and rear and drove them several miles, and killed, wounded and captured about 2,000 prisoners. Our loss was heavy. Among the wounded was the gallant Col. John J. Hedrick, who was wounded in the thigh while gallantly leading his regiment in a charge upon the enemy, and retired from the field, and Maj. William A. Holland assumed command of the regiment.

On March 8th we attacked the enemy again in a fortified position at Wyse's Forks, where we charged them, but were repulsed with a heavy loss. At this time the 40th NC Regiment (3rd Artillery) was attached to Brig. Gen. Johnson Hagood's (SC) Brigade. On March 12th we withdrew from Kinston and marched to Goldsborough, passing through that town just as the advance of the enemy from Wilmington was entering; then to Smithfield, where we went in camp. Troops from every quarter began gathering, and very soon we had quite an army to what we before had. Went on to Bentonville, where the regiment covered itself with glory as a part of the Red Infantry, where on a quiet Sunday morning, March 19th, the booming of cannon was heard, and very soon the sharp crack of the rifles and the vengeful singing of the deadly minie balls. The fight very soon became general, and we rapidly threw up works and in a few hours were pretty well prepared to defend ourselves.

As the day grew on, the fight became desperate, the Confederates generally successful. Late in the afternoon we attacked the enemy from right to left, swinging into line and charging over our works on the enemy's fortified line. Then it was that while struggling forward in that pine thicket we lost many of our officers and men, killed and wounded. But at length Brig. Gen. Alfred H. Colquitt's (GA) Brigade on our right gave way, and the enemy massing on our front, we fell back to our old line, where we checked their advance. Now as to this charge, before it was made, 2nd Lt. John H. Hill, of 2nd Company H, advanced with the skirmish line to the front. The regiment with the brigade, was moved by the left flank before charging which threw it to the left of the skirmish line, and instead of being in front of our own command, they were in front of Brig. Gen. Colquitt's Brigade, leaving our front exposed to the enemy, and when the regiment had charged up to within a few paces of the enemy's breastworks, they were halted and dressed to the right, under a heavy fire from the enemy. The command was obeyed with as much coolness, apparently, as if on dress parade.

If they had not been halted they would have turned the enemy's right flank and captured many of their men, but they were so badly cut up that some of the companies lost all their officers and had so few men left that companies were consolidated (B and I together, C and 2nd H together). This was a blunder and sacrifice of the lives of brave men, which either Maj. Gen. Robert F. Hoke (NC), Brig. Gen. Johnson Hagood (SC), or our Maj. William A. Holland is responsible for. The 40th NC Regiment (3rd Artillery) was attached to Brig. Gen. Johnson Hagood's (SC) Brigade until after the fight at Bentonville when it was transferred to Brig. Gen. Thomas L. Clingman's (NC) Brigade, both of Maj. Gen. Robert F. Hoke's (NC) Division.

Brig. Gen. Johnson Hagood (SC), in parting with the regiment, issued an address to it, which was read on dress parade, in which he enumerated its services and expressed regrets at parting with so efficient and gallant a command. The 40th NC Regiment (3rd Artillery) lost heavily and did its full duty in this great fight, the history of which has never been fully written, it being at the close of the war. The enemy was reinforced and had a united command of 110,000 men, while our army of only 20,000 could not remain longer in position; and on March 21st fell back to Smithfield, where it remained until April 10th, when it fell back to Raleigh, Durham, and Greensborough. The retreat across the State was the only hope to make a junction with General Robert E. Lee's army. That hope was not realized.

Manifesting under defeat the same spirit of fidelity and endurance which had characterized them in success, the remnant of about 100 officers and men composing this regiment accepted the fate of war, and awaited the final arrangements for capitulation; and on April 26, 1865, surrendered with General Joseph E. Johnston near Greensborough, NC. About May 1st, they were paroled and dispersed on foot to their far distant and desolate homes, through a devastated country, made so by the ravages of the enemy, until it was so poor that a "jaybird would starve flying over it, unless he carried his rations."

But there went not back that long roll of

"Brave men who perished by their guns
Though they conquered not."

Although there were 470,000 Southern men (Buffaloes) in the Northern army, it took 3,000,000 of men with the largest navy on the continent, and the world from which to draw their supplies, four (4) years to conquer an army of only 600,000 Southern men, shut in from all communication from the outside world. The recollections of such heroism should ever continue to live in the hearts and minds of our people.

The preparation of this sketch, giving the organization and outlining the movements of the 40th NC Regiment (3rd Artillery) State Troops, is due to the assistance of John R. Ross, William W. N. Hunter, A. W. Whitfield, A. J. Brown, Daniel J. Clark, John H. Hill, M. H. McBryde, members of the regiment.

The material employed was gathered from memoranda, and such official documents as were accessible.

T.C. Davis
Morehead City, N.C.
9 April, 1901

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* The above was written by former Sergeant Thaddeus C. Davis on April 9, 1901, and provided as Pages 745-765, in the compilation known as "Histories of the Several Regiments and Battalions from North Carolina in the Great War 1861-'65 - Volume II," edited by Walter Clark, and published by E. M. Uzzell, Printer and Binder, in 1901. Minor edits, additions, and deletions were provided by this Author for clarity and consistency.

Known Battles / Skirmishes

Date(s)	Battle / Skirmish
The following battles/skirmishes were fought by some of the Independent Companies prior to officially becoming assigned to the 40th NC Regiment (3rd Artillery):	
August 28-29, 1861	Hatteras Inlet Batteries, NC
March 14, 1862 (Company A only)	1st New Bern, NC
March 23 - April 26, 1862 (Company F - Independent Company at time of Siege)	Siege of Fort Macon, NC
November 11, 1862 (Company F - Independent Company at time of Skirmish)	Skirmish Near Deep Gully, NC
December 13-14, 1862	1st Kinston, NC
December 16, 1862	White Hall, NC
December 17, 1862	Goldsborough Bridge, NC
February 23, 1863 (Company E - Independent Company on this Date)	Fort Caswell, NC
March 13-14, 1863 (Company F - Independent Company on this date)	Deep Gully, NC
March 30 - April 19, 1863 (Company F - Independent Company on this date)	2nd Washington, NC
July 12, 1863 (Company B and Company E) (Company I - Independent Company on this date)	Blockade Runner *Kate* Salvaged at Bald Head Island, NC
The following battles/skirmishes were fought by companies now designated truly as the 40th NC Regiment (3rd Artillery)	
December 1864	Harrison's Old Field, GA
December 24-27, 1864 (Company E and 2nd Company K only)	1st Fort Fisher, NC
January 13-15, 1865 (Company D, Company E , 3rd Company G, and 2nd Company K only)	2nd Fort Fisher, NC
January 16, 1865 (Company B, Company C, Company F, 2nd Company H, Company I only)	CSA Forces Blow Up Fort Caswell & Fort Campbell, NC
February 17-19, 1865 (Companies A, B, C, F, 2nd H, and I only)	Fort Anderson, NC
February 19-21, 1865 (Companies A, B, C, F, 2nd H, and I only)	Town Creek, NC
February 22, 1865 (Companies A, B, C, F, 2nd H, and I only)	Smith's Creek, NC
February 22, 1865 (Companies A, B, C, F, 2nd H, and I only)	Northeast Station, NC
March 6-10, 1865 (Companies A, B, C, F, 2nd H, and I only)	2nd Kinston, NC
March 19-21, 1865 (Companies A, B, C, F, 2nd H, and I only)	Bentonville, NC

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