

Regimental History in the Civil War

Regimental History

ILLINOIS

122ND INFANTRY

(Three Years)

One Hundred and Twenty-second Infantry.-Col., John I. Rinaker; Lieut.-Col., James F. Drish; Maj., James F. Chapman. This regiment was organized at Camp Palmer, Carlinville, in Aug., 1862, and was mustered into the U.S. service on Sept. 4, with 960 enlisted men. It remained in camp and was drilled until Oct. 8, and was then ordered to Columbus, Ky. In December, with other troops, it moved from Jackson, Tenn., where it was then stationed, had a skirmish with the enemy on the 19th, then moved on out to Lexington, and returned to Jackson on Dec. 21. On Dec. 30, a skirmish occurred with the enemy, in which the regiment participated, and on the following day it was engaged in a battle with the enemy under Forrest, in which the regiment lost 23 killed, 58 wounded and 1 missing. In April, 1863, the regiment took part in an expedition to Town creek, Ala., and was engaged with a Confederate force at that place. It was then assigned to railroad guard duty and during the ensuing months till Oct. 30, the men were constantly on duty and often engaged in skirmishes with cavalry forces of the enemy threatening the railroad. In Jan. 1864, the regiment was moved to Cairo, Ill. While there, in the following: March, a considerable Confederate force under Forrest attacked Paducah, Ky. Three companies of the regiment, E, H and K, took part in the defense and aided in repelling the enemy in the three several assaults he made on Fort Anderson at that place. In June, the regiment was ordered to Tennessee and in July, participated in the battle of Tupelo, Miss., losing 10 killed and 33 wounded. Near Abbeville it had a skirmish with the enemy in August. It was at Nashville in December and took part in the battle, capturing 4 pieces of artillery and a battleflag from the enemy, and losing in killed and wounded 26 men. In the early part of 1865, it was transferred to the Department of the Gulf, assisted in the investment of the Confederate fortifications at Fort Blakely and Spanish Fort, and materially aiding in capturing the latter place, the loss of the regiment being 20 men in killed and wounded. On June 5, the regiment moved to Mobile, Ala., where it was mustered out July 15, 1865.

Source: The Union Army, vol. 3