

LT. JOHN THOMAS WALKER, CO. K PALMETTO SHARPSHOOTERS



John Walker was born July 4, 1840. While he was attending the University of South Carolina, the war broke out and John Walker enlisted in Spartanburg, SC on July 24, 1861, in Co K of the 5th South Carolina, which became Jenkins' Regiment, Palmetto Sharpshooters, South Carolina Volunteers, Bratton's Brigade, Field's Division, Longstreet's Corps, Army of Northern Virginia. He was on duty at the bombardment of Ft. Sumter in Charleston Harbor.

He was in the Seven Days fight around Richmond, VA, and was wounded in the right lung June 30, 1862, during the Battle for Frayser's Farm. He was admitted to Chimborazo Hospital No 3. His military record shows a "gunshot wound breast" - July 3, 1862, furloughed 30 days. Still suffering from a wound listed as "abdominal" he was furloughed Sep. 1, 1862 - Feb. 28, 1863, and back on duty March 1, 1863 through December 31, 1863.

He was elected 1st Lt. November 11, 1863. He fought in the Battles of the Wilderness,

Spotsylvania Court House, North Anna River, Cold Harbor, Petersburg, 2nd Fort Harrison, and the Williamsburg Road.

He was wounded in the right leg on September 30, 1864, on the outer lines near Charles City Road. He was admitted to General Hospital No. 4. Oct. 3, 1864. He was admitted to Chimborazo Hospital No. 5 on October 5, 1864. He was furloughed from Nov. 1, 1864 to December 31, 1864.

No medical facility anywhere on the continent during the Civil War equaled the fame and notoriety of Chimborazo Hospital. It quickly emerged early in the war as one of the largest, best organized, and most sophisticated hospitals in the Confederacy. Approximately 75,000 patients passed through its doors over the course of three and a half years.

John was back for active military service from January 1, 1865 – February 28, 1865, and surrendered at Appomattox Court House April 9, 1865.

John walker moved to Gainesville, TX in 1871, where he entered upon the practice of law and acquired distinction, success and a competence. He attained the office of Judge. He was a member of the Joseph E. Johnston Camp UCV of Gainesville, TX. He was the highest officer in the state of Texas of the popular order of the Knights of Pythias. On account of impaired health, he sought this climate, where he bought a house on Lookout Mountain, where he made many new friends, and where he died February 23, 1896.

(From the Sifakis book, Compendium of the Confederate Armies - South Carolina & Georgia, pages 110 & 111), we find the following:

The Palmetto Sharpshooters were organized in April of 1862, Surrendered at Appomattox Court House on April 9, 1865.

Battles:

Yorktown Siege, April-May, 1862 Williamsburg, May 4, 1862 Seven Pines, May 31 - June 1, 1862 Gaines Mills, June 27, 1862 Frayser's Farm, June 30, 1862 2nd Bull Run, August 28-30, 1862 South Mountain, Sept. 14, 1862 Antietam, Sept. 17, 1862 Fredericksburg, December 13, 1862 Wauhatchie, October 28-29, 1863 Knoxville Siege, November-December, 1863 The Wilderness, May 5-6, 1863 Spotsylvania Court House, May 8-21, 1864 North Anna River, May 23-26, 1864 Cold Harbor, June 1-3, 1864 Petersburg, June, 1864-April, 1865 2nd Fort Harrison, Sept. 30, 1864 Williamsburg Road, Oct. 27, 1864 Appomattox Court House, April 9, 1865

Further Reading: Richard Lewis - CAMP LIFE OF A CONFEDERATE BOY OF BRATTON'S BRIGADE, LONGSTREET'S CORPS, CSA
