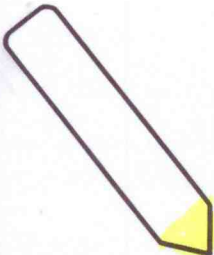


History of the  
Second  
connecticut  
volunteer heavy  
artillery.  
Originally the  
Nineteenth  
Connecticut vols

Vaill, Theodore  
Frelinghuysen





in the vicinity of Fort Lyon, on the Mount Vernon road, and commanding the land and water approaches to Alexandria on the South. About this time General Tyler was relieved in command by General De Russy, and all the fortifications from Alexandria to Georgetown received the name of the "Defences of Washington South of the Potomac,"—and the troops stationed therein constituted the Twenty-second Army Corps. During the entire season the Nineteenth was called upon for nothing more laborious than drilling, target practice, stockade building in Alexandria, picking blackberries, drinking a quarter of a gill of whiskey and quinine at Reveille and Retreat, and drawing pay from Major Ladd every two months. Yet a good many seemed to be in all sorts of affliction, and were constantly complaining because they could not *go to the front*. A year later, when the soldiers of the Nineteenth were staggering along the Pamunkey, with heavy loads and blistered feet, or throwing up breastworks with their coffee pots all night under fire in front of Petersburg, they looked back to the Defences of Washington as to a lost Elysium, and fervently longed to regain those blissful seats. Oh Happiness! why is it that men never recognize thy features until thou art far away?

Colonel Wessells resigned, on account of ill health, on the 16th of September. In October the regiment was withdrawn from the rebovts, and brigaded with the First Connecticut Heavy Artillery, under the command of Colonel Henry L. Abbott. The regimental headquarters were established at "Oak Grove House," and the companies distributed at three forts,—Ellsworth, Williams, and Worth,—where they remained until the following May.

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