



George Henry Gordon

Sergeant

Company I, 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 13<sup>th</sup> Maine Volunteer Infantry

My ancestor, George Henry Gordon, at 26 years of age, a seaman by occupation was enrolled (enlisted) in Company I, 13<sup>th</sup> Maine Volunteer Infantry Regiment at Franklin, Hancock County, Maine on 14 November 1861 for three years. He was described as having black eyes and brown hair with a dark complexion. He was 5 feet 10 inches in height. Company I was mustered in at Augusta, Kennebec County, Maine on 12 and 13 December 1861. Between 31 December 1861 and sometime before 8 February 1862, he was hospitalized for an undetermined illness.

On 8 February 1862, the Regiment was moved to Boston, MA until 20 February. At that time, Company I, along with Companies A, B and E embarked on the steamer *Mississippi* for Ship Island, Mississippi, arriving there on 2 March. The remainder of the regiment moved to New York on 21 February and embarked on the steamer *Fulton* for Ship Island, arriving there on 8 March. Upon arriving at Ship Island, Mississippi, the regiment was attached to Butler's New Orleans Expeditionary Corps.

On 8 July, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion (Companies G, H & I) moved to Ft. Jackson, LA and was transferred to the Independent Command, Department of The Gulf until December. While at Ft. Jackson, on 19 August 1862, Private Gordon probably contracted malaria. He was diagnosed as suffering from "chills, fever and diarrhea of severe type. " Meanwhile Private Gordon was reported sick in quarters for the Company's September/October muster.

Private Gordon was promoted to Corporal on 20 August 1862. On 24 August, the battalion moved to Ft. St. Phillip, LA and remained there until August 1863. In September 1862, the regiment was relieved from Butler's Corps, assigned to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade, Department of The Gulf and operated independently until December. In December, it was reassigned to the Defenses of New Orleans, Department of The Gulf. Corporal Gordon received his Sergeant's

stripes on 1 July 1863, In August 1863, the regiment moved to New Orleans and remained there on Region Duty with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade, 4<sup>th</sup> Division, 19<sup>th</sup> Army Corps until 6 October 1863.

The regiments was then transferred to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade, 2<sup>nd</sup> Division, 13<sup>th</sup> Army Corps for the Rio Grande Expedition, The 13<sup>th</sup> Maine was involved in the Expedition to the Rio Grande between 27 October and 2 December. Between 3 and 6 November, the regiment advanced on and helped capture Brownsville, TX. They occupied Ft. Brown on 6 November. They participated in the captures of Arsanas and Mustang Island, Arsanas Pass, TX on 17 November. The regiment's next operation was helping capture Ft. Esperanza between 27 and 30 November. The regiment was at Matagorda Bay, TX on 29 and 30 December 1863. Sergeant Gordon reenlisted for three years as a Veteran Volunteer on 1 February 1864 at Pleasant Hill, TX. At the conclusion of the Rio Grande operations in December, the regiment moved to Franklin, LA between 12 and 16 February 1864 and became part of the 13<sup>th</sup> Corps' 3d Brigade 2nd Division. At that time the 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade was discontinued and the regiment was reassigned to the 13<sup>th</sup> Corps' 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade, 4<sup>th</sup> Division.

The regiment saw combat again in Banks' Red River Campaign as part of the 13<sup>th</sup> Army Corps between 10 March and 22 May 1864.. The regiment advanced from Franklin to Alexandria 15-26 March, thence to Natchitoches 26 March -2 April. It took part in the Battle of Sabine Cross Roads on 8 April, and Pleasant Hill 9 April. Sergeant Gordon was wounded in action at Pleasant Hill on 9 April. He was transferred to the U.S. General Hospital, New Orleans where he remained as a patient from 23 May to 21 July. After discharge from the hospital, Sergeant Gordon returned to Maine for veteran's furlough in August and September 1864. At the conclusion of operations at the Red River, the 13<sup>th</sup> Maine was reassigned to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade , 1<sup>st</sup> Division, 19<sup>th</sup> Army Corps.

In August 1864, the 19<sup>th</sup> Army Corps was transferred from the Department of the Gulf to the Department of the Shenandoah and the 13<sup>th</sup> Maine moved to Martinsburg, WV where it remained until mustered out on 25 December 1864. Sergeant Gordon rejoined his regiment in Martinsburg at the conclusion of his veteran's furlough in September. Veterans and Recruits of the 13<sup>th</sup> Maine were consolidated to a Battalion and transferred to 30th Maine Infantry December 25, 1864. Sergeant George Henry Gordon was finally mustered out of service on 5 January 1865.