

Hood's Texas Brigade

CALCASIEU

ALAMO,
March 6, 1836.

MIER,
Dec. 25, 1842*

The 1st, 4th, 5th Texas, 18th Georgia, Hampton Legion, and 3rd Arkansas.

A Compliment to the Texas Volunteers.

The distinguished Gen. Gustavus W. Smith, in a letter to Col. Horace Randal, (which through the courtesy of Col. R. we have had the pleasure of perusing,) pays the subjoined compliment to the Texas troops in Virginia:

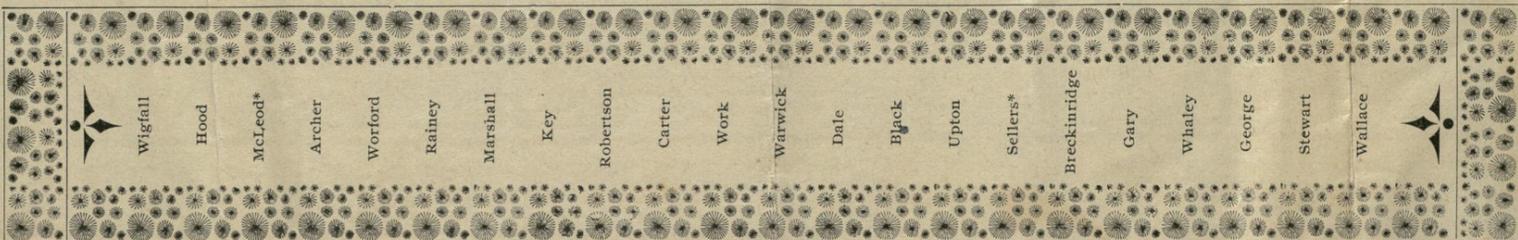
"The Texans won in mortal honor for themselves, their State, and for their commander, General Hood, at the battle of Eltham Landing, near West Point. With 40,000 such men, I would not hesitate to invade the North, and would, before winter, make them sue for peace upon our terms, or destroy their whole country. But in praise of the Texas Brigade of my division I could talk a week and then not say half they deserve. If the regiments now organized in Texas could be transported here and armed to-morrow, properly led, they would end the war in three months."

WEST POINT,
May 7, 1862.

GAINES'S MILL,
June 27, 1862.

SEVEN PINES,
May 31, 1862.

MALVERN HILL,
July 1, 1862.



Rappahannock, Thoroughfare Gap, Manassas, Boonsboro, Md., Sharpsburg, Md.,

August 22,

August 28,

(Zouaves,) August 29, 30,

September 14,

September 17.

Gen. R. E. Lee's Letter.

Headquarters Army N. Va., Near Martinsburg, }
September 21, 1862. }

General Louis T. Wigfall:

General—I have not yet heard from you with regard to the new Tex Regiments which you promised to endeavor to raise for this Army. I need them much. I rely upon those we have in all tight places, and fear I have to call upon them too often. They have fought grandly, nobly, and we must have more of them. Please make every possible exertion to get them in and send them on to me. You must help us in this matter. With a few more such regiments as those which Hood now has, as an example of daring and bravery, I could feel much more confidence of the results of the campaign.

[Official.]

Very respectfully,

A. VENABLE,
Major and A. D. C.

R. E. LEE,
General.

McCULLOCH, Elk Horn, Mo.

March 6th and 7th, 1862.

TERRY, Woodsonville, Ky.

December 17th, 1861.

Delegates to Confederate States Congress:

Wigfall, Oldham, Gray, Herbert, Graham, Wilcox, Sexton, Wright,—J. H. Reagan, P. M. G.

SONG—HOOD'S TEXAS BRIGADE.

Down by the valley 'mid thunder and lightning,
Down by the valley 'mid shadows of night,
Down by the deep crimsoned valley of Richmond,
Twenty-five hundred moved on to the fight;
Onward, still onward to the portals of glory,
To the sepulchral chambers yet never dismayed;
Down by the deep crimsoned valley of Richmond,
Marched the bold warriors of Hood's Texas Brigade.

See ye the fires and flashings still leaping?
See ye the tempest and jettings of storm?
See ye the banners of proud Texan heroes,
In front of her columns move steadily on?
Hear ye the music that gladdens each comrade,
Riding on wings through torrents of sounds?

Hear ye the booming adown the red valley,
Rainey, unbuckles his swarthy bid hounds.

Valiant "Fifth Texas" I saw your brave column
Rush through the channels of living and dead;
Sturdy "Fifth Texas" why weep your old war horse?
He died as he wished, in the gear' at your head?
West Point ye will tell on the pages of glory,
How the blood of the South ebbed away neath your shade,
And how sons of Texas fought in the red valley,
And fell in the columns of Hood's Texas Brigade.

Fathers and mothers weep for your jewels,
Sisters ye weep for your brothers in vain,
Maidens ye weep for your sunny-eyed lovers,

Weep, for you'll never behold them again,
But know ye that victory, the shrine of the noble,
Encircles the house of death, newly made?
And know ye that freedom, the shrine of the mighty,
Shines forth on the banners of Hood's Texas Brigade.

Daughters of Southland, come bring ye bright flowers,
Weave you a chaplet for the brow of the brave;
Bring ye the emblems of freedom and victory,
Bring ye the emblems of death and the grave,
Bring ye some motto befitting a hero,
Bring ye exotics' that never will fade,
Come to the deep crimsoned valley of Richmond,
And crown our young chief of the Texas Brigade.

HOOD'S TEXAS BRIGADE—1862—May 7, West Point, Va.; May 31, Seven Pines, Va.; June 27, Gaines's Mill, Va.; June 30, White Oak Swamp, Va.; July 1, Malvern Hill.; August 26, Hazel Run, Va.; August 28, Thoroughfare Gap, Va.; August 29 and 30, 2nd Manassas, Va.; September 13, Booneboro Mountain, Md.; September 16 and 17, Sharpsburg, Md.; December 11, Fredericksburg, Va.
1863—April siege of Suffolk, Va.; July 2 and 3, Gettysburg, Pa.; Sept. 19 and 20, Chickamauga, Ga.; Nov. 29, Knoxville, Tenn.
1864—May 6, The Wilderness, Va.; May 9 to 13, Spottsylvania Court-house, Va.; June 2 to 12, Cold Harbor, Va.; June 16, Bermuda Hundred, Va.; July 17 to 29, Siege of Petersburg, Va.; August 16, White Oak Swamp, Va.; September 29, New Market Heights, Va.; September 29, Fort Harrison, Va.; September 29, Fort Johnson, Va.; September 29, Fort Gilmer, Va.; October 7, Darbytown Road, Va.; October 28, Williamsburg, Va.
1865—April 2, Retreat from Petersburg, Va.; April 7, Farmville, Va.; April 9, Appomattox Court-house, Va.

RICHMOND, VA., October 1, 1862.

GENTLEMEN: Accept the above Testimonial as an humble offering to the History of the Brigade

ARTHUR H. EDEY,

Agent Fifth Texas Volunteers.

A. S. Johnston,
Shiloh, April 6, 7, '62

Sam Houston,
San Jacinto, April 21, '36.