

“Somewhere Over There.”

THE BATTLE IN WHICH THOS F PETTY WAS KILLEFC

The many friends of Thomas F Petty of Stratford will be interested is the following extracts from a letter in the Union Republican furnished The Star by Mrs. Carrie Sanders

“Some days ago a terrible battle was fought in France at Belincourt about halfway between St Quinten and Cambrin. We can give only such accounts as the dispatches thus far contain. Practically every unit of the 30th Division from North Carolina was engaged in the fight. In those companies suffering heavy casualties it is given out that Durham company lost 150 men killed and wounded and Reidsville and Asheville fared little better.”

Eugene Chisholm brother of John H. Chisholm of Asheboro writes a very interesting letter as follows:

“I am feeling well considering what I have been through with for the past two weeks, to tell the truth I feel lucky to be living. Lots of the home boys have given their lives. In the last big battle but all died for a good cause. The United States ought to be proud of them perhaps our greatest loss was Captain Dixon, he was a father to us boys. I never expect to find another man who will take the interest in the boys that he took; the place we took was the strongest place on the Hindenburg line. The English, French, and Scotch and Canadians had tried different times to take this place and failed. The place where we were was over one hundred miles off and we expected to stay there, but Gen. Pershing sent us there to take this strong point. He said he felt sure we could do it and we did it. That Hindenburg line was some line; I wish you could see it. Just before going into battle Capt. Dixon lined his men up and talked to them for almost an hour and said “we are going to take this place if there is only one man left when we get there.” He said had no hopes of coming out alive and he had made his will and left a note to be sent to his mother. He only got half way and was wounded three times before he was killed, but kept right on until a bullet went through his head, causing his death; his last words were “go on boys I am with you.” Sergts. Forrest and McDonald and others were killed.”

In the death roll was Capt. A Dixon, Kaleigh, Thos F Petty, Stratford, and a long list which we do not know and I will not copy them.

Originally published in the Alleghany Star. Reprinted with permission from the Alleghany News.