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GADSDEN, ALA.,

Dec. 9-1921.

Dr. F. A. Boswell,  
Speigner, Ala.

Dear Dr. Boswell:

Your letter received and was glad to hear from you and it is with pleasure that I give you the information asked for

James Asbury Boswell joined our Regiment November 1917 as a first Lieutenant assigned to Company D. 371 Infantry which was attached to the 81st, division at that time at Camp Jackson South Carolina? Captain Thomas H. Moffett was his captain, Major Joseph B. Pate his Battalion Commander and Col. Perry L. Miles in command of the Regiment.

We left Camp Jackson on April 5th, 1918 for Newport News, Virginia, sailed for France on the 7th, on the President Grant ran aground on a sand bar out a little ways from Newport News was tied up for two days, landed in Brest France April 23, 1918 was there until the 26 of April and went by rail to Givry en Argonne in the department of the Marne from there to Voubecourt and Marat La Grande the department of the Meuse on the 28, April 1918.

The regiment trained at this place until the 6th, of June, off to the front we marched for two days into the ~~front~~ of Verdun expecting to go in the trenches orders were changed, back over part of the same road that we had gone over into the left of Verdun into the Argonne Forest in the front lines at a shot up village called Avacourt on the night of 22 of June 1918. We remained up in this vicinity until the 13th of September and was transferred by truck to the department of the Marne called the Champagne front and into battle on the morning of Sept. 26, 1918.

Asbury was mortally wounded on Sept. 28 ~~xxx~~ on Hill 188 between two small villiages Fontaine en Dormois and Grateuil the advance of his company in which he was in charge had been held up on the ~~stiff~~ resistance of the enemy machine guns. He had crawled out in front trying to locate the machine gun emplacements of the enemy and while out there he was wounded, he was carried back to the hospital at Aube France and died two days later.

He had been in command of Company D. since the early part of July, he was liked by his men and officers of his company and regiment, he was a man of strong personality, character and a soldier in every respect, clean in his habits and a christian gentleman. He stood ready and willing to share the hardships and burdens of his men and officers at any and all times.

He volunteered on one occasion while on the Argonne front to go out and stay out in no-mans land for over two days with a few picked men observing and gathering information which was of materiel assistance to us, he stayed in an old abandoned dugout.

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#2. Boswell

While on the Argonne front he was always ready to volunteer when any hard work or when volunteers were called for to go out on some dangerous mission he always showed that he was willing and ready cheerful and it inspired his officers and men to do their best.

If there is any other information that I can give I will be only too glad to do so.

Hoping you all have a happy xmas and that any time that I can be of any service in any way command me.

Respectfully Yours,

*Walter M. Thompson.*