

Jacob L. Eisele Military Records

32nd Regiment Indiana Volunteers

Background Information

Jacob Eisele volunteered to serve in the Thirty-Second Regiment of the Indiana Volunteer Infantry on August 24, 1861. Jacob entered service as a private assigned to company "H". On April 17, 1863 Jacob was promoted to Sergeant while stationed at Camp Drake Tennessee. His order of promotion was signed by Lieut. Col. Frank Erdelmeyer, Commanding officer and C. Tarvitz, Adjutant of the Regiments. Camp Drake was located somewhere in the vicinity of Murfreesboro, Tennessee. The Thirty-Second was on bivouac at that location following the battle of Stones River until June of 1863. Jacob remained with the Thirty-Second until he was mustered out of service on September 7, 1864. Jacob served as a three year volunteer. During the Civil War, Union Soldiers served terms of enlistment from ninety-days to three years. Some signed up for the duration or reenlisted as veterans for extra furlough and bounty money

[Note: Following is a regimental history of the Thirty-Second Regiment, Indiana Volunteers, taken from Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Indiana, Volume II, 1861-1865, Indianapolis, W.R. Holloway, State Printer 1865.]

Thirty-Second Regiment Indiana Volunteers.

The Thirty-Second (or First German) Regiment was organized at Indianapolis, through the exertions of August Willich, (a distinguished officer of the German Revolution of 1848,) who was mustered in with the regiment as its Colonel on the 24th of August, 1861. In the latter part of September it proceeded to Madison, Indiana, and from thence to Louisville, Kentucky. Early in October it marched to New Haven, Kentucky, where it remained in camp a short time and then moved to Camp Nevin, where it remained until the 9th of December 1861. As part of Gen. R. W. Johnson's brigade of McCook's division, the regiment moved forward to Munfordsville [sic], Kentucky, and there encamped. The duty of picketing the south side of Green river and protecting the working parties engaged in repairing the railroad bridge, was assigned to the Thirty-Second. While engaged in this duty on the 17th of December 1861, four companies were attacked near Rowlett's Station by Gen. Hindman, with a force of eleven hundred infantry, four pieces of artillery and a battalion of Texan Rangers., under Col. Terry. One advanced and drove back the attacking party until the infantry supports were discovered, when it fell back slowly, the enemy's lines advancing upon it. Another company to the left was attacked at the same time, but more feebly. In the meantime the two other companies hastened up, and the remainder of the regiment crossed the south side of the river on a bridge constructed the day before by the pontoniers of the Thirty-Second. Lieut. Col. Von Trebra assuming the command, advanced this portion of the regiment on the run to the scene of the conflict, and soon joined the other

companies. Forming the regiment in line of battle, he advanced it steadily and drove the enemy back. The cavalry then charged first the skirmish line and next the protecting companies, and again on the right wing. At this juncture the regiment formed a hollow square, upon which the Rangers threw themselves, to be driven severely punished, losing their leader. An infantry charge was then made against the invincible square, which was also repulsed. After this the whole force of the army retired, leaving the regiment in possession of the field. The enemy's loss was thirty-three killed, fifty wounded, while of the regiment was ten killed, twenty-two wounded and eight missing. For its gallantry on this occasion the regiment was highly complimented in special orders by Gen. Buell and Gov. Morton, and the name "Rowlett's Station" directed to by [sic] placed on the regimental colors.

In February, 1862, the regiment moved forward to Bowling Green, and thence to Nashville, where it rested a brief period, and then marched to the field of Shiloh, where it participated in the battle on the 7th of April. In this engagement its loss was six killed, ninety-three wounded and four missing. In the siege of Corinth which followed, the regiment was engaged for many days, and had eight wounded. The Thirty-Second, after the evacuation of Corinth moved eastward with Buell's army as far as Stevenson, Alabama, and then proceeded to Nashville, Tennessee. On the 17th of July 1862, Col. Willich was appointed to Brigadier General, and soon after Lieut. Col. Henry Von Trebra was commissioned Colonel. In September 1862 the regiment marched with Buell's army in its retreat to Louisville, and took part in the pursuit of Bragg through Kentucky. Returning to Nashville in November 1862 and 1st and 2nd of January, 1863 it was engaged in the battle of Stones River, losing twelve killed, forty wounded and one hundred and fifteen missing. After this engagement the Thirty-Second remained at Murfreesboro until June, when it forward with Rosecrans's army toward Chattanooga, engaging on the march, in a severe skirmish at Liberty Gap, on the 24th of June 1863. On the 19th and 20th of September 1863 it participated in the battle of Chicamauga [sic], losing twenty-one killed, seventy-eight wounded and seventeen missing. After the battle it fell back to Chattanooga, where it remained until the battle of Mission Ridge was fought, on the 25th of November 1863, in which it bore an honorable part.

The Thirty-Second then marched to the relief of Bumside at Knoxville, and remained in East Tennessee until just before the commencement of the Atlanta campaign in 1864. It then joined Sherman's army and marched with it to Atlanta, engaging in the battles and skirmishes: At Resacca [sic] May 15th; Allatoona Hills and Dallas, May 27th; Peach Tree Creek, June 19th; Paid Springs, June 22d; before Atlanta, June 21st, and many other minor skirmishes on the route. The non-veterans, immediately after the capture of Atlanta, proceeded to Indianapolis, where they were mustered out on the 7th of September, 1864. On the 6th of October, 1864, in pursuance of the order of Gen. Thomas, the remaining recruits were organized into a residuary battalion of four companies, and placed in command of Lieut. Col. Hans Blune. Upon the return of the 4th Corps to Tennessee the battalion was left at Chattanooga, where it remained on duty until early June, 1865. It was then transferred to New Orleans, joining the 4th

Corps at that place, and soon after moved with Sheirdan's [sic] Army of Observation into Texas, where it was still on duty (at Salado Creek) at the close of this sketch--October, 1865.

After the War

After the war, Jacob Eisele returned to New Albany (or Clarksville), Indiana. The 1870 census records the following information. In 1870 Jacob Eisele was thirty years old, born in Baden, Germany. He was married to Francis (Stark) Eisele, age twenty-nine, born in Prussia. Jacob and Francis had four children in 1870, Francis, age four, Jacob, age three, Charles, age two, and Emma, age seven months. All the children are listed as being born in Indiana. Jacob's occupation is listed as a Tailor and Repairer, Francis' occupation is listed as Retail Grocer. Their real estate value was listed at \$1500 and their personal property value was listed as \$1500. The Indiana census records no information on the Eisele family for 1850, 1860, and 1880. Jacob immigrated to the United States in 1853 and moved with his family to Sterling, Illinois in August of 1873.

Jacob L. Eisele's Obituary

Sterling Evening Gazette, October 5, 1910

"Jacob Eisele is Dead"

"Venerable Citizen Long Prominent in Business Gone - Funeral Will be held on Saturday"

Jacob Eisele, a resident of Sterling for many years, died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Henry Cruse, Oct. 5, 1910 at 11:30 after an illness of several weeks.

He was born November 11, 1840 at Stine, Baden, Germany and came with his parents to America, in 1853 at the age of twelve years and settled at New Albany Indiana. He enlisted in the war of the Rebellion in 1861, in Company H, Thirty-second Indiana volunteers, and served three years, and received an honorable discharge.

He was married to Francis Stark September 30, 1862. To this union were born eleven children, seven now surviving. Jacob of Decatur, Charles and Edward of Chicago, Robert of Wyoming, Ill., George of Lincoln, Ill., Mrs. Charles Getz of Los Angeles Cal., and Mrs. Henry Cruse of this city. He also leaves two brothers and one sister, Christian of Sterling, Frederick of Chicago, and Mrs. Minnie Ulmer of New Albany, Ind. He also leaves five grandchildren.

He moved to Sterling in 1873, and engaged in the merchant tailoring business, in which he continued until 1903. His wife died in June 4, 1884. In 1893 he was married again to Mrs. Doris Miller, of Louisville, Kentucky. She died Dec. 8, 1907. He was a member of the Will Robinson post 274, G. A. R. and of the Rock River Lodge A. F. and A. M. and of Sterling Commandery, K.T.

The Funeral will be held Saturday Afternoon at 2:30 o'clock at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Henry Cruse, 309 Eighth avenue. The services will be conducted by Rev. Schmidt

of Dixon, with the G. A. R. in charge. Jacob Eisele is buried in Sterling Illinois at Riverside Cemetery in the Eisele family plot.

Pension Deposition February 7, 1891

State of Illinois

Whiteside County

Being sworn on his oath says that his address is Sterling Illinois, that he is Jacob Eisele who was Sergeant Co. H. of the 32nd Indiana Infantry Vol. and has filed an application for pension for disability received in such. That at the time he enlisted in said company he had lived at New Albany Indiana and was 20 years of age and was a healthy, strong, sound, single young man. That at the battle of Stone [sic] River from Dec. 30, 1862 to Jan. 1, 1863, his regiment was engaged the first and last day and were in line of battle the 3 days, had no tents and no fire was allowed, the weather was cold with some snow on the ground, and the exposure of this battle and its subsequent wetness of the camp brought on to him about Jan. 15, 1863 a typhoid malaria fever. He was taken to regimental hospital and remained there over two months during this time he was delirious at times and very sick. When he rejoined his company he was very weak. Afterwards during his service at different times and places it would come back on him in a milder form but he never went to the regimental hospital again and was never in any other hospital. He was always with his regiment except when he was detached from duty while on recruiting service and was in every battle that his regiment was in, over 14 regular battles in the east Tennessee Campaign from Nov. 1863, to April 1864. During that time they were on short rations and could not get clothing, or blankets and had no tents. The winter was cold with snow and the troops suffered with cold and hunger. It was here the bronchitis attacked him and he has had it ever since.

When he was discharged he was still subject to the fever for about 2 or 3 months after he returned to New Albany Ind. (where he came directly after his discharge). He was taken back again with said fever and confined to bed for over a month and was so weakened that it was about a year before he was able to do any work or work at his trade, that of tailor. In this sickness he was treated by Dr. Miller (now dead). He had no other doctors. He continued to reside at New Albany Ind. until Aug. 1873 when he relocated to Sterling Ill. where he has resided ever since. Since he came to Sterling he was treated first by Dr. Eckles (now dead) and by Dr. Everett he thinks now resides in Grinnell Iowa, and last by Dr. Crandell of Sterling, Ill. He was working at his trade of tailor when he enlisted and that has been his occupation ever since. Since he came to Sterling the rheumatism came upon him and he has suffered from it ever since. The bronchitis he has had ever since the said East Tennessee Campaign. He has had attacks of said fever at different times ever since his discharge and he thinks "it is in his system". The only treatment he had in the service was by Dr. Frostmeier (now dead) and Dr. Josse, whose whereabouts [sic] is unknown to claimant.

Jacob Eisele [signature]

Signed Jacob Eisele

Promotion Papers

[image of his promotion certificate from corporal to sergeant]