Morrison-Talbott Library gets copy of

By Marvin Cortner Editor

The Waterloo Heritage Foundation on behalf of the Ludwig and Gauen families recently donated to the city for placement in the Morrison-Talbott Library a copy of a 19th century document relating to the Civil War.

Called a United States Military Record and printed by authorization of an 1864 Act of Congress, the document, which was presented to the city by Heritage Foundation member Barb Markham, includes the names of those men who served in Company H of the 49th Illinois Volunteers which was mustered in Waterloo. The document lists men killed in battle, deserters, those receiving promotions, those discharged due to disability and expiration of service, and those who died from disease.

Jacob Ludwig was a private in the Company and was wounded in the Battle of Pleasant Hill, La., on April 9, 1864. Jacob E. Gauen was promoted from a captain to a major of the Company on April 13, 1864, shortly after the battle at Pleasant Hill.

According to the document, eight members of Company H were killed in battle, three deserted, 10 received promotions, 14 died of disease, 11 were discharged on disability and 31 were discharged for expired service once the war ended.

Company H was only a small contingent of Monroe County residents who served in the war. Residents were not only mustered in Waterloo but in surrounding counties and towns as well. In the book Arrowheads to Aerojets, as many as 525 men from Monroe County are listed as having served for the "defense of the Union."

According to the document, Company H was "enrolled" by Jacob E. Gauen at Waterloo on Sept. 16, 1861 and "mustered into the U.S. Service" at Camp Butler, Ill., on Oct. 23, 1861 by Captain Pitcher.

The Company was reorganized at Memphis, Tenn., on Jan. 15, 1864, and re-mustered on Jan. 16, 1864, at Memphis, Tenn., by Lt. Fetterman. The Company was mustered out (discharged) at Paducah, Ky., on Sept. 9,

1865, by Capt. Shaw.

The document also lists the battles in which the Company fought. The group's first battle was at Fort Donelson, Tenn., on Feb. 13-15, 1862. and its second battle was at Shiloh, Tenn., on April 6-7, 1862.

The final battle for the Company was the Battle of Nashville, Tenn., fought on Dec. 15-16, 1864. The Company saw action in the states of Tennessee, Mississippi, Louisiana and Missouri

Company officers, according to the document, included the following: Capt. Jacob Fischer (incorrectly listed as Jaob Fischer on the document); First Lieutenant Servias Sondag; and Second Lieutenant Edward Latsch. Both Sondag and Latsch were wounded in battle in the winter of 1862—Sondag at Ft. Donelson and Latsch at Shiloh.

Veteran sergeants listed include: Daniel Stein, First Sergeant; Frederick Long, Second Sergeant; Frederick Dustmann, Third Sergeant; and Conrad Herrmann, Fourth Sergeant. Veteran corporals were: John Jatto, First Corporal; Julius Just, S poral; and Daniel Zimmer, poral.

Regimental officers in following: Lieutenant Colo P. Moore; Major Jacob Surgeon Stephen F.F. Metant Frank W. Burrow Heinzelman, R.O.W.; an Lockwood, Chaplain.

Non-commissioned regir cers were: Sergeant Major Elder; Quartermaster Serg J. Willis; Commissary Serg mas Sowman; Hospital Ste liam E. Farrow; and Princ cians, Jacob Hairr and Chrising.

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Regimental officers included the following: Lieutenant Colonel William P. Moore; Major Jacob E. Gauen; Surgeon Stephen F.F. Mercer; Adjutant Frank W. Burrows; William Heinzelman, R.O.W.; and John H. Lockwood, Chaplain.

Non-commissioned regimental officers were: Sergeant Major Joseph A. Elder; Quartermaster Sergeant John J. Willis; Commissary Sergeant Thomas Sowman; Hospital Steward, William E. Farrow; and Principal Musicians, Jacob Hairr and Christian Rohlfing.

According to Markham, Jacob Ludwig was the grandfather of William Ludwig, who is now 84 years old and a resident of the Monroe County Nursing Home. It was William who gave permission for the military record to be copied and distributed.

Jacob Ludwig, Markham said, had three children, the result of two marriages. Peter and Lena were from the first marriage while Margaret was the daughter of the second marriage. Peter was William's father. Peter had another son, Fred, who is now deceased but was married to Gladys Ludwig, who is currently also living in the Monroe County Nursing Home.

While family members aren't sure of their history, they told Markham that Jacob Gauen was possibly the brother of Gladys Ludwig's grandfather, who used to own and operate a mill in Waterloo.

The original Civil War military record document from which the copies were made is in the possession of Fred Ludwig Jr., who lives in Florida.



Pictured is a portion of a copy of a Civil War era document recently presented to the city of Waterloo to be hung in the Morrison-Talbott Library. (Photo by Marvin Cortner)