The Louisiana Guard Artillery were one of four companies organized under the name of the Louisiana Guard, the first of which went to the front about the middle of April 1861 under Dr. W. The second and third companies went to Virginia with the 1st Reg. La. Vols., commanded by Col. Blanchard. The fourth company served with the Army of the West.

The Louisiana Guard Artillery, Co. A. of the 1st, La. Vols., were mustered into service on April 27th, and started for Virginia, with the regiment on April 28th, 1861, an earlier muster and departure having been prevented by reason of the company having been detailed to guard vessels in the port. This company like many others sprang into existence because of the war of our youth, who once ran ahead the delay in preparing the organized militia for active service, and inspection of the dilatory proceedings, the hastiness to the front, leaving the drafted troops to follow. The 1st Reg. of La. Vols. in fact to have been the first regiment from any state which reported in Virginia for the direct service of the Confederacy.

After remaining a few days at Richmond, the regiment was sent to Norfolk, where it was expected to be the first field of possible contest. Their services awaited for many months in marching and counter-marching, at any false alarm that came of the enemy's landing, from any one of the two. In August of the same year, the company was taken from the regiment, was furnished with field guns and horses, and went thereafter called the Louisiana Guard Artillery.

They were for the first time under fire at Surprise Bay, in September 6th, whether they fired guns or shot a fortiﬁcation behind.
Making an attempt to land troops, the company was compelled to return before the heavy fire of one of the enemy's gunboats, and take shelter in the
beach. The gunboat and the transport promptly retired, whatever may have
been the purpose of their enterprise; the services of the company were for the
rest of the year, limited to outposts along the James and among the swamps
of the Chickahominy in Virginia and North Carolina.

The enlistment had been for one year; but at the expiration of that
time, there was a unanimous re-enlistment for the period of the war.

On the evacuation of Norfolk, the company followed Longstreet's division
to Richmond, and was in the Shenandoah Valley. This division was ordered
at Buchanan Hill. They were then detailed for service with Stonewall Jackson,
and took active part in the battle of Cedar Mountain, when their
loss in killed and wounded was severe, and when they lost many
horses and had a piece directed. From this engagement to their
capture at Appomattox Bridge, their service was very active, as
was the expected of those who served with Jackson. From Cedar
Mountain the march was to the Appomattox, and to Manassas. The
enemy's pickets were driven in, and being relieved by Longstreet, the
march was resumed to Jefferson, crossing the river on the night

The company maintained an artillery duel of several hours duration,
suffering considerable loss in killed and wounded. Then the
movement was to Bristow Station and to Manassas, where the
fight lasted three days, and where the boys of the brigade fought the
enemy with storm, when their ammunition was gone. In this battle
the company suffered considerable loss in wounded, one many of their
horses were killed. In the pursuit of the enemy they went into Maryland, at Harpers Ferry, moving on to Frederick City and thence to the Monocacy, where the bridge was destroyed, then back again to Virginia, by a forced march to McLean's Ferry, where the enemy capitulated. They then began to move on, the plan at 4 o'clock in the afternoon, the company and the brigade recrossed the Potomac and came to Shepherdstown. The next morning, supported by Capt. McCollum's sharpshooters, in this action the boys could see the whites of the enemy's eyes—there was a bold charge, but it was a brave repulse. In the afternoon, the company by a proceeding the down in the programme, captured a Parrott gun, afterwards known as "d'Aquin's gun." On the retreat the battery was with them who held the front of honor and brought up the rear. They occupied the heights at Shepherdstown, and forbade the enemy's passage of the ford. Here again their loss in killed and wounded was severe.

On November 27th, 1863, the company following the traditions of Jackson's corps, started in the early morning from Winchell to Madison City, marching a distance of one hundred miles in four days. On reaching Frederick City, the battery took position on the front of honor, with the gallant Soldier, on the extreme right, when their repelling fire moved down the enemy on the plain. Here, Capt. d'Aquin fell.

In the next campaign, that of 1863, after having been in winter quarters at Bowling Green, active service commenced with Chancellorville, where they suffered their most severe loss in enfilade. The enemy...
a forced march and the battle at Winchester, in the Valley, in the month of June. Then Capt. Thompson fell. In this battle the company charged against the breastworks in line with the brave infantry of the Louisiana Brigade, and when the outer works were carried by assault, turned the guns upon the enemy who had retreated to the central fort or citadel, where they were promptly driven by a well-directed fire.

In the night advance beyond the Potomac, the march was made to Shepherdstown, through Sharpsburg and forward to Greencastle, Hancock, and beyond Hagerstown to Funkstown, and back again to Gettysburg, having previous charge away the cavalry in Hagerstown. The company was on active service engaged in the first day, and throughout the whole engagement. The section of the battery operated with the cavalry on the extreme left, in Hagerstown on the third day, where they chased the opposing cavalry, and when they made in the enemy's wagon trains, capturing away, who could do nothing towards their capture, for the braves in hand was of a more cruel-like nature. The loss in killed and wounded was great. In the retreat the company was again with those who held the ports of lines. Being with the extreme rear guard, fighting back the enemy's cavalry, when they approached too near or became too bold.

The batteries were on the 20th near Gordonville on August 9th, and on the 20th were on Summerville Road. They crossed the Rapidan on Acme's Ford, and followed the flank movement to Maddin B. Tho. on October 8th, consisting in the destruction of twenty-five miles of the Orange and Alexandria R.R., near Braddock. They were in the
battle at Rappahannock Bridge in November 72, having taken part
meanwhile in the fights at Fredericksburg and Mine Run. The
battle at the bridge was the most disastrous event in the history
of the battery. The Louisiana Brigade and the Louisiana General
Artillery were the only troops left north of the river, for which purpose
the generals put all their hope. Their heroic efforts doubtless saved some and
they were offered to Sedgwick's Corps, of one thousand men and
eighteen pieces of artillery. The battle lasted from 2 O'clock P.M.
the date. The enemy's advance might have been checked a while
longer had the day been extended, but the5:17 afternoon, the heavy fog
forced the repeated assaults. The loss of the company in killed and
wounded was great, and a very few of the boys were captured. The
brigade numbered only six hundred men, and the company had forty-five
rebels, and a hundred gallant Mississippians. North Carolinians of
Vicksburg came to their support near the end, but their brave
efforts were in vain. This was the last battle fought by Louisiana's
troops.

After their exchange in May 1864, the company were formed into
a mounted battery, and were detailed to act with the cavalry.
They were employed chiefly in raiding the enemy's outposts and in
surprising their communications. The service was arduous and
finally when the horses could not be replaced for the service, the
company took their place in the trenches near Richmond,
and were in the retreat on Appomattox. Meanwhile they held
Engaged in the fights at Fort Gilmer, Williamsburg, Yorktown, and the Wilderness, Opecky, Cold Harbor, Charles City Roads. On surrender at Appomattox, where they were entirely engaged and fired their last gun.

At Fort Gilmer, the enemy's troops reached the trenches and were made to surrender by the battery and their naval support, with hand grenades hurled upon them till they cried for quarter.

While the loss experienced by the Louisiana 3rd Artillery, in killed and wounded, and by other Casualties, was much greater in the ratio of numbers, than that of other batteries from Louisiana, serving in Virginia, it cannot be ascribed to any great share in the risks of battle, but rather to the more active continued service necessitated by their connection with Stonewall Jackson's Corps, and the great number of engagements in which circumstances involved them.

The following is a list of the battles and engagements in which the Company took part, without including the numerous little skirmishes had while they served with the Cavalry, and which it is impossible to designate by name: Lynnhaven Bay; Fair Bank; Draper's Farm; Helaman Hill; Cedar Mountain; Middle Ford; Hanby River; Moseota; Ararat Station; Manassas (8 days); Harper's Ferry; Gettysburg; Shepherdstown; Fredericksburg; Chancellorsville; Middletown; Hanover; Gettysburg (3 days); Manassas; Fairfax C. H.; Mine Run; Apsahamuck Bridge; Fort Gilmer; Williamsburg; Yorktown; Cold Harbor; Charles City Roads; Wilderness; Opecky, Cold Harbor; Charles City Roads; Appomattox.
It is sufficient to say that this Company endured the toils of long campaign with unfaltering faithfulness and unmeasured resolution, as became the brave and the true.