THE FALLING FLAG: EVACUATION OF RICHMOND, RETREAT AND SURRENDER AT APPOMATTOX, PP. 7-65

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EDWARD M. BOYKIN

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THE

FALLING FLAG.

EVACUATION OF RICHMOND,

RETREAT AND SURRENDER

AT

APPOMATTOX.

By EDWARD M. BOYKIN,

LP, COL, Th RESPY S. C. SAVALRY,

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DEDICATION.

TO THE OFFICERS AND MEN OF THE

7th South Carolina Cavalry,

21118

SHORT ACCOUNT OF AN INTERESTING PERIOD IN THEIR
MILITARY HISTORY,

AND THAT OF

THE CAUSE THRY LOYED SO WELL, AND FOR WHICH THEY
FOUGHT SO FAITHFULLY,

18 Dediented,

BY ONE WHO CONSIDERS HAVING BEEN THEIR COMRADE THE PROUDEST RECOLLECTION OF HIS LIFE.

PREFACE.

The writer only attempts to give some account of what occurred within his own observation; he would have esteemed it a privilege to enter into all the detail that lights up the last desperate struggle, made by that glorious remnant of the Army of Northern Virginia, with its skeleton battalions from every Southern State; illustrating their own fame and that of their noble leader, mile by mile, on that weary march from Richmond to Appomattox.

But he has confined himself to his own experiences, and in a great measure to what happened to his own Brigade, because it was written out, immediately after the war, from that standpoint. And if there be any merit in it, it is simply as a journal—what one man saw, and the impression produced thereby. This, even within a limited range, if truly put, represents at least a phase of the last act in the bloody drama that had been enacting for four years. More than this he could not hope to do, but leaves to abler hands the greater task that swells the current of events into the full tide of history.

CAMDEN, SOUTH CAROLINA, June 15th, 1874.