F. A. BOSWELL. M. D.

Copy

ELMORE. ALA.,_____191__

"Dr. and Mrs. F. A. Boswell
Eufaula, Ala.
My dear Friends:

"I must inform you of something that gives me the most profound regret. your son, James A. Boswell, 1st Lieut. Co. "D" 371st Infantry, has made the supreme sacrifice.

"He was mortally wounded by a machine gun bullet at about 1:00 o'clock on Sept. 28, 1918 while out in front trying to locate a German machine gun that was firing upon his company; this point was about 30 miles N. 77° W. of the city of Verdun on the North

slope of a small hill some 650 yards East of the village of Gratreuil in the Champagne sector.

"Jim joined my battalion at Camp Jackson, S. C. during the first week of last December and was first attached to Co. "A", as there was a very large surplus of officers in the regiment at that time; it was only a very short time however before I became convinced that Jim belonged to the class of officers that I wished to retain permanently in my battalion so I had him assigned to Company "D". Quoting from one of my efficiency reports, just before this regiment embarked for overseas service, I said, "Lieut. Boswell is one

I the most ELMORE. ALA._____191__
conscientious and highly
dependable officers of my
battalion and I consider
him qualified to command
a company"; this extract from
my report will serve to give
you some idea of the opinion
I formed of Jim before we
came to France, but it was
not until we had landed
over here and gotten settled
down to the real thing that
I had an opportunity to meas-
ure his efficiency with precision and I can
assure you that no officer in
my battalion was rated
higher than your son Jim;
during the first week of last

August Captain T. H. Moffat was detached from Company "H" and Jim was put in command of the company and continued to command it until he fell in the Champaigne offensive.

"Jim led an absolutely clean life, he had a most pleasant disposition and there was no more popular officer in the battalion than he was. Personally I have lost a very dear friend and comrade, and officially the services of one of my best officers.

"The enlisted men of Co. "H." and the officers of the entire regiment sympathize with you in your bereavement, but we think of your loss as we do of many others of the regiment - it has been well avenged and it was only with such

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sacrifices as this that we were able to punish the enemy so severely.

"You should feel proud in this sad hour that you were able to make such a fine offering to your country when it is engaged in so worthy a cause.

"Lt. Marcus B. Boulware succeeded to the command of Company "H" and will write you a letter giving additional details of what took place during the last day your son was with us.

"Jim died in a French military hospital in the town of Ave on Sept. 29th and his remains were laid to rest

in the cemetery at that place; I have visited his grave and it numbered 345. I shall be pleased to furnish you any further information that you desire.

"With the deepest sympathy in your bereavement, I am,

Sincerely yours,

J. B. Pate

Major 371st Infantry,

Comdg. 1st Bn

Present address -

Secteur Postal 229, France

Home address -

1718 Peachtree St.,

Chattanooga, Tenn. U.S.A."

Property of

Mary L. Boswell

Scottsboro

Ala.