

Corporal Samuel Pickens
Co. D – 5th Alabama Infantry

Samuel enlisted on September 3, 1862 in Gainesville, Alabama. Records show he was of dark complexion, dark brown hair, brown eyes, and stood 5' 7 1/2".

Captured on May 3, 1863 west of Fredericksburg, Virginia. May 4, 1863 sent from Washington D.C. to City Point, Virginia for exchange. Exchanged on May 10, 1863.

On June 19, 1863 as the army moved north to invade Maryland and Pennsylvania Samuel noted, *"This morning our Brigade waded the Potomac at Williamsport. Almost all the men were denuded of pants & drawers, & cut rather odd figures. The river was about 200 yds. or probably wider. The water was just above the knees – swift & beautifully clear."*

From camp near Orange Court House, Virginia on August 1, 1863, Samuel penned, *"After lying down & taking a good rest, Davy, Matt & I went out & got a bait of fine large black berries. Va abounds in black & dew berries & the largest I ever saw. They are a great treat to the soldiers &, as they make a change in diet, are beneficial to our health. We eat all the green apples we can get, too, & it is astonishing they don't make us sick. . . ."*

Shown as 2nd Corporal on the March 30, 1864 muster report.

May 26, 1864 transferred to Howard's Grove Hospital from General Hospital #9. At Howard's Grove in Richmond from May 26 to June 23, 1864.

Shown as 1st Corporal on the June 30, 1864 muster report.

September 29, 1864 admitted to Howard's Grove Hospital, Richmond, Virginia.

On December 22, 1864 from Swift Run, Petersburg, Virginia he wrote, *"Rations are rather scant now for men with as good appetites as we have . . . for breakfast yest. morning we had simply a biscuit & cup of coffee & today after waiting in vain for rations to be issued till 12 m. baked some meal we had bot & boiled some peas without a particle of grease or meat of any kind . . ."*

Captured at Petersburg, Virginia on April 2, 1865. Received at Point Lookout Prison in Maryland on April 4, 1865. Paroled and released from prison on June 16, 1865.

(Compiled Service Records – Confederate, United Daughters of the Confederacy, Richmond, VA., Micro Copy 311, Roll 146; G. Ward Hubbs, editor, *Voices from Company D*, Athens, 2003, by date.