

Timothy Readus Military Service Record

Name	Timothy Redis
Enlistment Date	1 Mar 1864
Enlistment Place	Pulaski, Tennessee
Enlistment Rank	Private
Muster Date	1 Mar 1864
Muster Company	A
Muster Regiment	U.S. Colored Troops 111th Infantry
Muster Regiment Type	Infantry
Muster Information	Enlisted
Side of War	Union

The 111th USCI was originally named the 3rd Alabama Colored Infantry. The Regiment was reorganized and renamed the 111th United States Colored Infantry on June 25, 1864, and was assigned to garrison duty in Pulaski, Tennessee. In September, the 111th was sent into northern Alabama. Most of the regiment was garrisoned at Athens, but a detachment, including Company I, was sent to the blockhouse guarding the strategic trestle bridge on the Alabama and Tennessee Railroad at Sulphur Branch. On September 23, 1864, near the town of Elkmont, Alabama, about 10 miles from Athens, Confederate Nathan Bedford Forrest's men reached Sulphur Branch Creek. The trestle bridge was 72 feet high, 300 feet long, and had defenses to match its imposing size. Double casemated blockhouses with walls 40 inches thick guarded each end and a large fortress stockade held a garrison of 1,000 men and two field pieces.

About 200 men were part of the 9th Indiana Cavalry; 300 more were from the 3rd Tennessee Cavalry (Union). The rest were men of the 111th USCT, including Company I along with Moore and McKay. Forrest heavily bombed the fortification, and captured the Federal soldiers. He paroled the white officers and sent the Black soldiers to Mobile as prisoners of war.

The remainder of the 111th USCI stayed on duty at Pulaski through January, 1865 when they were sent to provide guard duty on the Nashville & Northwestern Railroad and provided burial duty at Stones River National Battlefield through April, 1866. The Regiment mustered out on April 30, 1866.