

THE YOUNGEST COLONEL.

James R. Hagood of South Carolina Commanded a Regiment at 19.

South Carolina had the distinction of having the youngest regimental commander in the Confederate States' army. This was James R. Hagood, commanding the First South Carolina regiment of Micah Jenkins' dauntless brigade. He was less than 19 years of age when he was commissioned colonel.

There are just from the press two books in which the two Hagoods are discussed. One is Johnson Hagood's Memoirs, edited by U. R. Brooks and the other is "The Recollection of a Private Soldier, C. S. A.," written by F. M. Mixon and edited and compiled by John W. Holmes of Barnwell.

The accompanying likeness of Col. "Jim" Hagood has been used in Col. Mixon's book. It shows the old-fashioned daguerrotype, plush frame and all. Col. Hagood led his men in many a charge and was never



COL. JAS. R. HAGOOD.

scratched, but four years after the war, when en route to attend a reunion at Greenville, he was fatally injured in a railroad wreck. The old soldierly qualities were dominant then, for realizing that he was injured beyond hope of recovery, he directed the surgeons to go to the aid of others less seriously injured.

Col. Hagood is declared to have been a remarkable soldier. He succeeded two such men as Johnson Hagood and Thos. J. Glover, and, on account of notable ability as well as the most conspicuous courage, was promoted over the heads of all the field officers and several ranking captains, and so pronounced were his characteristics as a great soldier that there was no dissention among those over whom he was promoted.

Of him Gen. Lee wrote as follows: "It gives me pleasure to state that Col. J. R. Hagood, during the whole term of his connection with the army of Northern Virginia, was conspicuous for gallantry, efficiency and good conduct. By his merit constantly exhibited, he rose from a private in his regiment to its command, and showed

by his actions that he was worthy of the position."

J. R. Hagood volunteered as a private in the above named regiment, just before its departure to Virginia. In the summer of 1862, under the command of Col. Thomas Glover, who had succeeded Johnson Hagood to the colonelcy of the regiment upon the latter's promotion to brigadier general.

J. R. Hagood was promoted sergeant-major of the regiment August, 1862. He was promoted adjutant of the regiment November 16, 1862. He was promoted captain of Company K, January, 1863. He was promoted colonel of the regiment on the 16th of November, 1863. His commission being dated within ten days of his 19th birthday, he was doubtless the youngest colonel commanding a regiment in the Confederate army.

This rapid promotion came to him while serving in and forming a part of "that incomparable infantry which bore upon its bayonets the falling fortunes of the Confederacy for four long