Ancestor Profile – Chaplain Josiah Ingraham Brown

Chaplain Josiah Ingraham Brown was mustered into service on January 23, 1862 in the 15th Regiment Infantry Maine and discharged 30 May 1863. Doctor Brown was born in Thomaston, Maine. His father was Reverend Joab Brown, a Free Baptist clergyman, a native of Concord, MA, and his mother was Elizabeth Ingraham.

In consequence of Dr. Brown being at the same time a physician and surgeon as well as chaplain, his services among the sick and wounded were particularly valuable. He was also to be found usually where his skill and experience could be the most available, which was at the front or wherever the line of battle was forming, and in consequence of his daring adventures in such circumstance he acquired the title of "*The Fighting Chaplain*".

The following lines are from *Quotations from the Biography of Dr. Josiah I. Brown* published in Lowell, MA, 1887. They are only a few comments from this 42 page biography regarding the Doctor's many activities during the battles of the Civil War in Louisiana with the 15th and 14th Maine.



Chaplain Josiah Brown

In the expedition to New Orleans, he served under Gen B. F. Butler and was in the battle and surrender of New Orleans and in the taking of Forts Jackson and St. Philips.

While on his way to St. James Hospital to visit the sick one afternoon not long after the capture of the city of New Orleans, Dr. Brown, on turning a corner suddenly observed a Confederate soldier in the act of stabbing a Union soldier who was, with the exception of his fists, without means of defence. Quick as thought the Doctor brought his revolver to bear on the assassin and fired.

On the fifth of August 1862, shortly after the event just narrated, occurred the battle of Baton Rouge. During this battle, Dr. Brown was detailed as surgeon. Among the many who were wounded, not fatally was Lt. Cookson of that regiment. Dr. Brown attended to his case and found on examination that to save his life his leg must be amputated. This Dr Brown proceeded to do and with adequate skill, as can be observed by any parties interested by now calling on the former Lt. at either his law office or home in the city of Bangor, Maine.

....Submitted by Brother Lawrence K. Casey, Jr. - hereditary descendant