HUNTER'S RAID.

Some Comments on Comrade Dry's Sketch.

TO THE EDITOR: Having waited with almost hopeless patience, I am at last rewarded by seeing that long-looked-for history of Hunter's raid to Lynchburg, in June and part of July, 1864, written, as seen, by our Comrade Josiah P. Dry, M. S., Co. F, 123d Ohio. (These two initials I cannot explain.) And now, since the comrade invites honest criticism, I, for one, shall watch him closely, and may, perhaps, in a friendly way, give my side of the story as seen on the stage.

I would rather have seen it headed "Up the Kanawha," as our part of the army (cavalry), after being unloaded at Parkersburg, W. Va., went overland to Charleston, on the Big Kanawha River, up the valley, through dales and over mountains, until we all met from the Shenandoah and Kanawha Valleys at Staunton. After our concentration and resting, we filled our haversacks anew with rations and our saddle-bags with that celebrated Lynchburg Killikinick smoking tobacco and that fine honey-seasoned twist and other flavored chewing tobacco.

Here let me mention that your humble servant well remembers what short work we made of the stock of tobacco we found in this noted city of Staunton; how we took bags of smoking and caddies of chewing tobacco into our camp near town, took our sabers, camp hatchets, knives—anything that we could cut with, and divided with those who used tobacco, but were not so fortunate as to be in town at the time some of us were making a raid on the factories unknown to our commanders. We really had so much tobacco in Co. M that some of the boys would practice with it in target throwing. I know that I had some of this same tobacco left yet when we went into Pennsylvania after Early, when he burned Chambersburg.

After a few days' rest we all took up our march for one point by different routes, but skirmishing and fighting, to get to Lynchburg. This was an every-day occurrence, we being always in the front, if not on the skirmish-line and flanks, as cavalry. I know I was one of a few of my company who kept note of our every-day occurrences as we could see them, and, therefore, many of us expressed our ideas of the management of this or that movement. I presume many of us have not to this day changed our opinion, for there were surely some of the greatest blunders made that ever were made in war, whereby man and beast suffered most terribly and hundreds of noble lives were lost recklessly and carelessly. Now, comrades, do not be afraid to speak your opinion as you saw things, especially of the foraging parties. How the chickens cackled, the ducks squawked or the bees stung; how the last flap-jack was baked, the last sowbelly eaten; then how we resorted to roots, bark, leaves, anything that would keep us alive until we got back to God's country once more. Our Comrade Dry especially invites honest criticism. Attention, 1st W. Va. Cav.! Fall in!—HENRY BRUNNER, Co. M, 1st W. Va. Cav., Newton, Kan.

The "Star" Badge.

TO THE EDITOR: Comrade Dry, in his interesting description of the operations of the Army of West Virginia, states that Gen. Crook "marched past our lines with his Star Division of infantry, wearing a five-pointed star, each brigade being designated by the red, white and blue," etc. I think the comrade must be mistaken in regard to the above, as the five-pointed star was the badge of the old Twelfth Corps, and when we were transferred to the Western army, and under the new organization numbered the Twentieth Corps, we still retained the honored star as our corps badge. When we met Longstreet's troops in Georgia they recognized the same men of the star that they had met at Antietam, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, and many another Eastern battlefields. We are proud of the star as our corps badge, and don't want troops to claim it to whom it don't belong.—THOMAS GILMORE, Co. I, 107th N. Y.

MORE ABOUT THE STAR.

TO THE EDITOR: I read Comrade Dry's article in THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE of Sept. 10 with much interest. The writer joined the Nineteenth Corps in March, 1864, in Louisiana, and was with it to the end; but he has no recollection of any 110th N. Y. in it. We were brigaded with the 114th, 116th, 153d, and 161st N. Y., in Louisiana, and royal good men they were. But I write in relation to Comrade Dry's statement that "the Nineteenth Corps * * * was ordered to report to Maj. Gen. P. H. Sheridan at Harper's Ferry." A part of the corps reached Washington, from New Orleans, July 13, 1864, and we, with the Sixth Corps, started after Early as soon as we got off from the boat; chased after him to Snicker's Gap, and then back to Chain Bridge, where we arrived July 23; rested three days and then went after him again. A part of our First Division and all of the Second Division were at Deep Bottom, near Petersburg, awhile, and joined us at Monocacy Junction and Harper's Ferry, about Aug. 1, before Sheridan came up, or we knew he was to assume command.

Again, Comrade Dry speaks of the "five-pointed star" of Crook's Eighth Corps; which is a mistake on his part, I think, as the five-pointed star was the badge of the Twelfth Corps, Army of the Potomac, and when that corps went West and was reorganized as the Twentieth Corps, the five-pointed star was the badge of the Twentieth Corps. The badge of the Eighth Corps was, I think, a six-pointed star.—H. A. TRIPP, Co. F, 29th Me., Blue Hill, Me.

Chickasaw Bayou.

TO THE EDITOR: I have been a reader of your paper for several years, and for all this time have been patiently waiting for just such a communication as appeared in "Fighting Them Over" in No. 214, entitled "Chickasaw Bayou," from one of Blair's Brigade. I think we can now settle a long controverted question. We will first say that there was quite bad feeling between both De Courcy, Blair, and their entire commands concerning that battle and its results, even to the extent of a challenge for a duel between the commanders, caused by a report in certain St. Louis papers giving Blair the advance in that charge, we of De Courcy's command, the support, and that we, as support, failed. The fact is, we were the advance, in five solid columns, our regiment—16th Ohio—in front, and De Courcy still in our front; Blair our support. And Comrade Tisdale hits the nail square on the head when he says they melted away in the bayou; but, indeed, I cannot see where they lost their men in such large numbers, for the bayou was considerably back from the outer edge of that seething hell. Yes, the rebel first line, and even their second line gave way, and from breastworks, too, and several hundred yards beyond the bayou, where, after passing the abatis of fallen timber, which we worked through, was a dead level plain, or rather mud cornfield, in which we sank knee-deep; yet we, with our support, almost got in the second rifle-pits. Capt. Mills, of my company, was taken prisoner within a few feet of said second line. He was stunned by a shell. I was very near him, and undertook to crawl to him, supposing him dead, to save his sword, watch, etc., as per his request a few minutes before if anything should happen him. Then it was I discovered we were whipped, and the enemy gathering prisoners, not with cavalry, but infantry, and only a few steps from their works to take them in. I myself was ordered to surrender, but refused, and was by a kind Providence permitted to escape, but how, and alive, too, I cannot now explain. Will say though, that a few of us did get off, but without an officer to command our company. Now, in conclusion, will say, we have no doubt Blair was a good man, and commanded a good brigade, but they always did (the officers, at least) try to place themselves in that battle where they were not; and the fighting up to the bayou was only the slightest kind of skirmishing in comparison to the fight beyond it. How anyone ever escaped is a wonder, for it seemed as if all the troops, of every description, of the Confeds were drawn up on that semi-circle to pour out their missiles of death, not by the platoon, but by the bushel and ton. From the landing up to the charge our regiment was continually on the front as skirmishers, covering our division, and had quite a lively time, and lost quite a number; but we did not consider it anything in the shape of a battle until we passed beyond the bayou.—J. R. NORRIS, Co. D, 16th Ohio, Newton, Kan.

Nervous, Debilitated Men,

You are allowed *a free trial of thirty days* of the use of Dr. Dye's Celebrated Voltaic Belt with Electric Suspensory Appliances, for the speedy relief and permanent cure of Nervous Debility, loss of Vitality and Manhood, and all kindred troubles. Also, for many other diseases. Complete restoration to health, vigor and manhood guaranteed. No risk is incurred. Illustrated pamphlet, with full information, terms, etc., mailed free my addressing Voltaic Belt Co., Marshall, Mich.

Wagner's Brigade.

TO THE EDITOR: I am sorry to so often ask space in your columns, but Comrade Dewies, Co. D, 97th Ohio, Barnesville, O., has taken exception, as also have several comrades that have written to me, to my formation of the Second Brigade, Second Division, Fourth Corps. This brigade organization was really intended to include all the regiments that served in Gen. Geo. D. Wagner's Brigade during the war. It seems that I did not make this as plain as I should have done in my first communication. I accidentally left out two commands,—the 100th Ill. and 10th Ind. battery,—which I corrected in my last.

I will say for Comrade Dewies's especial benefit that the 24th Ky. was taken out of Wagner's Brigade, and the 97th Ohio given us in its stead. What do you think of the trade?

Many of the comrades of the 26th Ohio who have written to me have taken exception to my placing the 15th Ind. in this brigade. One comrade wants to bet some money that it was not. Keep your money, brother; I don't want it. The 15th Ind. went into the service with Geo. D. Wagner as its first Colonel, and was with the brigade until while at Loudon, Tenn., about Feb. 1, 1864, it was sent to Chattanooga to do guard duty, and was mustered out of the service in May or June. Col. Wood, 15th Ind., commanded the front line of the assaulting column of Wagner's Brigade on Missionary Ridge. The 57th Ind. was deployed as skirmishers, and at the first line of works rallied on the 40th Ind. The 40th Ind. was on the right of the brigade, directly in front of the fort at Bragg's headquarters, the 15th Ind. was next on the left, and the 26th Ohio to the left of the 15th and joining the right of Willich's Brigade of Wood's Division. I suppose the 26th could have heard the yell the gallant old 15th Ind. sent up when Serg't Banks planted their flag on the enemy's rifle-pits; but perhaps the brave boys of the 26th Ohio kept up such a racket themselves they did not know anyone else was near. The 26th was famous for racket, fun and fight, as well as locating a hen roost and raising sweet potatoes. Comrades, let us rally once again.—P. S. MOORE, Co. K, 40th Ind.

Survivors of the Battle of Belmont.

TO THE EDITOR: After reading in the columns of the best friend the veterans have these days (THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE) about the various regiments all over the country holding Reunions and anniversaries, I desire to start the ball rolling for a Reunion of the survivors of the first engagement commanded by our beloved hero, Gen. U. S. Grant, which battle was fought with one-third the number of that of the enemy, on the 7th day of November, 1861, at Belmont, Mo. Gens. John A. Logan and John A. McClernand are the only two commanding field officers now living, to the writer's knowledge, who were with us in the above engagement. We desire to ask for a correspondence through the columns of THE TRIBUNE, or otherwise, from the survivors of the following regiments, which, on the 7th day of November, 1861, composed Gen. Grant's heroic little army and fought his first battle: The 22d, 29th, 30th, and 31st Ill.; the 7th Iowa, Capt. O'Harnet's Cav., and Capt. Taylor's battery.

Now, comrades, there is over one month yet till the 24th anniversary of Belmont, and why could we not agree to meet somewhere and commemorate the deeds of our old commander and his first battle? I have a letter from Gen. Logan, saying that if such a Reunion is held he will undoubtedly be present if in his power. Comrades, let us hear from you soon, and say where we shall meet. We can select any place south of Chicago at a very small expense. I suggest Springfield, Ill., where we held up our right hands and pledged our lives and our sacred honor to our Government only two months before the engagement. Comrades, let us hear from you all along the line.—LINDSAY STEELE, Captain, Co. E, 30th Ill., Chester, Ill.

Random Shots.

TO THE EDITOR: It is amusing to read the accounts of some of the Western boys about their experience in the war. A stranger to this country reading your paper would think that the Western army did all the fighting, and that the Eastern did nothing. Every regiment in the Western army claims to have done the best fighting. Now why do not some of them come out and claim to have done the fastest running on a retreat; for there is nothing dishonorable in a retreat, and the faster the better. Now about the rebels being armed with lances; what of it? I do not see anything wrong about it, for we had a regiment armed with lances, the 6th Pa. Cav., commonly called Rush's Lancers. I think it was the largest regiment in the service when mustered in.

Now about the rebels shooting railroad iron. I do not doubt it, for at Winchester they shot railroad iron and pieces of old pots and horse shoes and stones, and it was said that they shot one chain there. But the rebels used things worse than all of them. In a skirmish at Huttonville, W. Va., they used the explosive ball. When it would strike anything it would explode, and if it would strike a person it would cause a very bad wound to be made. They also used a ball made in two parts, and when it would strike a person one part would go through and the other part would stay in the body.

Now, comrades, I know of what I speak, as I was there and saw all this for myself.—JOSHUA GROFT, Sergeant, Co. M, 14th Pa. Cav., Wakeeney, Kan.

They All Helped To Do It.

TO THE EDITOR: In the controversy over the capture of Iverson's Brigade of North Carolinians at the first day's battle of Gettysburg, one might think there were only two fighting regiments in Baxter's Brigade, viz., the 12th Mass. and the 97th N. Y. I give the whole brigade the credit for the capture of those prisoners. I claim that the 83d N. Y. captured as many as any other regiment in the brigade, and deserves as much credit as any of them.

My opinion is there was no general order for a charge, but the whole left and center of the brigade charged simultaneously, and, as Adj't Wehrum says, the prisoners outnumbered their captors. The prisoners were simply ordered to the rear, and I can tell you they needed no second order, but "got up and got." I was wounded on our return with prisoners by a flank movement of the enemy's skirmish-line, as near as I can tell, which caused the loss of my left arm, and I still carry a bullet in my left side as a memento of Gettysburg. I distinctly recollect the 12th Mass. being in that charge, as one of their officers captured a battle-flag which I was about to take myself. He being an officer I let him have it and turned my attention to the capture of prisoners, of which I took a number. If that officer is still living he will no doubt remember me, as we met by chance once after that in a Philadelphia horse-car. We compared notes and I found he had just ordered a set of teeth, in place of a set shot away at Gettysburg, and I had just left my measure for an artificial arm, in place of one left on the same field.

I like to read your very interesting paper and I would be lost without it. Long may it wave! I would be pleased to hear from others of the 83d, through your paper or otherwise, on this subject.—WM. H. MILLER, Corp'l, Co. C, 83d N. Y., Elizabeth, N. J.

Col. Rodgers at Corinth.

TO THE EDITOR: IN THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE of June 11, in reviewing Gen. Maury's account of the fight at Corinth, Oct. 3 and 4, 1862, you say: "Corinth was not stormed, * * and Col. Rodgers did not fall within our lines, but some distance in front of them," which is corroborated by Comrade James E. Graham, Co. C, 43d Ohio, who states that "Col. Rodgers fell fully 100 yards from them," in THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE of July 2, 1885.

Was not our first line in the old rebel works about three miles from Corinth? Maj. Chamberlain, correspondent of the Cincinnati *Gazette*, says: "In five minutes from the time the rebels emerged from the woods they had pierced our lines, captured several pieces of artillery, and driven us from our works." [Davies's Division.] The balance of the fighting of the 3d and 4th was within this outer line of works. Again, in speaking of the fight of the 4th, after the lines had been withdrawn to Corinth and the attack on the right had been repulsed (Col. Rodgers led that on the left), he writes: "They broke no portion of our line, although piles of their dead lay under the very guns of Battery Robinet. It was here that the recklessly-gallant Col. Rodgers, of the 2d Texas, fell while attempting to scale the parapet. He was buried in a separate grave, * * a magnanimous tribute to the bravery of an enemy."

Now, while I was not on that portion of the line, yet shortly afterwards—my diary shows—in conversation with some of the artillerists that were in Robinet during the fight, they stated that Col. Rodgers and some five or six men attempted to cross the parapet, but were driven back by them.—"PRIVATE," 51st Ohio, Box 1207, Emporia, Kan.

Gen. Alex. Hays at Gettysburg.

TO THE EDITOR: Gen. Alex. Hays was in command of the Third Division, Second Corps, at the Gettysburg battle. He had command of the Third Brigade, Third Division, Second Corps, on the march to Gettysburg, and succeeded to the command of the division prior to the battle. I know he previously commanded a brigade, viz., 39th, 111th, 125th and 126th N. Y., as they were in camp at Centerville, Va., from Winter to June, 1863, when the brigade was attached to the Third Division of the Second Corps, and that the General had command of one brigade on the march to Gettysburg, and while in camp near Uniontown, Md., June 30, 1863, the day we were mustered for pay. He may have been given command of the division July 1, the day we marched north to Gettysburg.

July 2 Gen. Hays, with the Third Brigade, Third Division, and, I believe, our brigade, supported by either the First or Second Brigade, made a charge on our left, forcing the rebels back and taking a battery and many prisoners. It was the first fight for the Third Brigade in the Second Corps, and we all felt proud of the result. The Second Corps comrades will remember the brigade on the Gettysburg march that was called the "White Glove Brigade." When the Army of the Potomac retreated from Chancellorsville we were on duty at Centerville, and with white gloves, blacked boots, etc., were taunted by the old soldiers of the grand and brave Army of the Potomac, and reminded that we would yet have a chance to smell powder.

It seems that only the 39th N. Y. of our brigade had seen active service other than some skirmishing on Maryland and Bolivar Hights in September, 1862, at the time of the disgraceful surrender of Miles to Stonewall Jackson. However, the brigade did prove itself worthy of a place in the old Second Corps. When the army was reorganized in 1864 Gen. Hays was transferred to another command.

Will some comrade tell us what his command was, and when he was killed? I well remember the news being passed through our regiment after either the Wilderness or Spottsylvania fight, that our old brigade commander was killed.—MYRON FAILING, Co. E, 111th N. Y., Anita, Cass Co., Iowa.

The Tenth and Eighteenth Corps at Cold Harbor.

TO THE EDITOR: In all descriptions of the battle of Cold Harbor that have fallen under my notice, the Eighteenth Corps is mentioned as holding the center of the line of battle. I hold that this statement is not in accordance with the facts; that the Tenth Corps should have the honor, if any is to be named, as I shall endeavor to prove. On the 25th of May, 1864, Gen. Grant ordered Gen. Butler, then at Bermuda Hundred, to send him all the troops he could spare, under command of Gen. Smith, this force to land at White House, on the Pamunkey River. In accordance with this order, Gen. Smith, with Brooks's Division of the Eighteenth, and the Second and third Divisions of the Tenth Corps, commanded by Gens. Devens and Ames, embarked at City Point and landed at White House on the 30th, and reached Cold Harbor in time to be engaged on June 1, occupying position between the Fifth and Sixth Corps. Gen. Smith's command lost in the three days' fight 2,400, and it is reasonable to suppose that two-thirds of this loss fell on the Tenth Corps. Therefore, as Smith's command consisted of two divisions of the Tenth and one of the Eighteenth Corps, I hold that if any corps is to be designated, it should be the old Tenth. Anyone reading an account of this great battle would not suppose that the Tenth Corps was engaged at all. History should give to each organization credit for the work it performed. Giving the Tenth Corps its proper place in the bloody battle of Cold Harbor will not in the least tarnish the fair fame of the division of the Eighteenth that fought so gallantly at our side.—THEO. A. WORRALL, Co. B, 97th Pa.

Sergeant Ferguson's Exploit.

TO THE EDITOR: In "Fighting Them Over," of Sept. 3, I find an article by George D. Moore, 8th Tenn., that was of interest to many, to myself especially, in which he related the incident of the dispatches from Kingston to Knoxville. We were at Kingston during Sherman's fight at Mission Ridge, and Burnside was besieged at Knoxville. The dispatches were sent to Byrd to get captured, so that Longstreet would raise the siege; Sherman promising to be at Knoxville on the 6th, when he did not get there until the 9th or 10th. The messenger was not from Byrd's own regiment, but was from Co. D, 118th Ohio. He answered at roll-call as Serg't Ferguson. Col. Byrd commanded the forces at Kingston, consisting of 118th and 111th Ohio, 80th Ind., 25th Mich., a Kentucky regiment, some Tennessee troops, an Elgin battery, and one section of 15th Ind. battery. Serg't Ferguson was captured, got away from the rebels, was retaken within a few miles of our lines and hung northeast of Knoxville, on the south side of the road running east. A woman found him while looking for her cows the next morning. She had him cut down and taken to her house, and reported facts to Knoxville. The Sergeant had a brother at Knoxville who, with others, went out and buried him.—E. PRICE, 118th Ohio, Plymouth, Ind.

The 12th Mich.

TO THE EDITOR: I have read with great interest your most valuable paper and soldiers' friend for the past two years, and have watched its pages anxiously expecting to hear from some comrade of the old 12th Mich., but in vain. No mention of it has been made by its members or any of the officers under whose command it was. Said regiment, organized in Fall of 1861, and in Spring of 1862 went direct to Pittsburg Landing, Tenn.; was in Gen. Prentiss's Brigade, and on that memorable Sunday, April 6, with a Missouri regiment on our right and an Iowa regiment on our left, marched about 60 rods to the brow a hill in front of our camp, where the first attack was made by the enemy about 6 o'clock a. m. By the way, we were eating breakfast when the long-roll beat. Our regiment went through the two days' fight, and found that the long-roll was not the only kind of music we had to dance to. The 12th Mich. was also in the battle of Middleburg, Tenn., where it received the compliments of Gen. Grant for its gallant defense of that place against Gen. Van Dorn's force of many times its number; also the battle of Antietam and Little Rock.—A. L. ABBOTT, First Lieutenant, Co. A, 12th Mich., Millbank, Dak.

Big Bethel and Fort Steadman.

TO THE EDITOR: As there seem to be different opinions between Comrades Conard and Ebhardt as to the manner of drawing guns from Newport News and Fortress Monroe to the field of Big Bethel, I would say the guns taken from the fort were drawn by hand, and I was one of a number detailed for that duty until relieved by Regulars well on towards the battlefield. With one exception, this was the only time I was called to do the work of a horse, the other being at Strawberry Plains, East Tennessee, when a corps deserted one battery of six guns, 12-pound brass pieces, to the enemy, but men of the 29th and 36th Mass. crossed the Holston River, seized the guns, drew them across the burning bridge and for miles to our lines at Knoxville. Comrade McClintick speaks of the garrison at Fort Steadman as the 14th N. Y. H. A.; he should also have added 29th Mass. Many of our bravest men fell there.—S. C. WRIGHT, 29th Mass., Boston, Mass.

Good Words from California.

TO THE EDITOR: I like THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE and "Uncle Daniel." I am anxious to hear when "Black Jack" will begin to write. If he will only write as he fought and talks, we will have a treat. I see quite a number of comrades favor August for the Encampment. Comrade Black, of Butler, Pa., is right. Come when you can get something in the shape of good fruit. I will not mention the quality or size, for fear he cannot wait.—D. S. BRANT, Riverside, Cal.

Appreciated.

TO THE EDITOR: I wish to acknowledge my appreciation of the "Sunday Meditations" in THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE. I find them of much assistance in the study of the Sunday-school lesson, and hope they will be continued. We need some spiritual ammunition.—R. CHURCHILL, Chaplain, Post 124, Department Massachusetts, Matfield, Mass.

"It Knocks the Spots,"

and everything in the nature of eruptions, blotches, pimples, ulcers, scrofulous humors, and incipient consumption, which is nothing more nor less than scrofula of the lungs, completely out of the system. It stimulates and invigorates the liver, tones up the stomach, regulates the bowels, purifies the blood, and builds up the weak places of the body. It is a purely vegetable compound, and will do more than is claimed for it. We refer to *Dr. Pierce's "Golden Medical Discovery."*

Sherman's March to the Sea.

TO THE EDITOR: Comrade George A. Manning, of Lewiston, Idaho, by his article in your excellent paper of the 24th ult., regarding the authorship of "Sherman's March to the Sea," brings the writer of this to the front. I desire to pass in my experience regarding that famous song above alluded to. The second night after leaving Columbia, S. C., en route to Goldsboro, after the day's march, and having just finished our hardtack and coffee, an Aid from Sherman's headquarters entered our rude tent, and, asking for Kimberly, placed in my hand a small roll, which, upon opening, I found to be a musical manuscript—a song entitled "Sherman's March to the Sea." The Aid, or Orderly, as he might have been, informed me that it was the work of two Union officers while incarcerated at the place named, and that the officers, liberated by our forces, were then at Sherman's headquarters. I was requested to sing the song for the first time to "Uncle Billy." About two weeks after we reached Goldsboro it was my pleasure then, one beautiful evening, accompanied by Prof. E. G. Kneeland, on the violin (a band member, and now living at Monroe, this County), to sing the song. Before returning the music, as requested, I copied it and subsequently lost the same. The words of the song were witten by Adj't Byers, and the music by Lieut. Rockwell, as stated by Comrade Manning. There is no guesswork about this, and the facts entire, as stated above, can be verified by every surviving member of the First Brigade Band, Third Division, Fifteenth Corps.—E. O. KIMBERLY, Brodhead, Wis.

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The most charming, popular song is "Sweet Baby Nell." Send 25 cents in stamps to S. Brainard's Sons, publishers, Chicago, Ill.

CONDENSED LETTERS.

D. C. Cameron, La Crescent, Minn., tells of meeting Gen. Sherman, who, he says, bears his years jauntily, and the same merry twinkle sparkles from his eyes as in the days of old, when he seemed to be a not disinterested spectator of the race between the lank Hoosier and the lengthy fowl, while the comrade was taking the "top rail" wherewith to cook the object of pursuit.

"Kai Gar," Fort Wayne, Ind., correcting "Carleton's" account of the second day's fight at Chickamauga, says that the repulse of Breckinridge from the lodgment he had gained on the Rossville road was accomplished alone by Vanderveer's Brigade of Brannan's Division, consisting of the 2d Minn., 9th and 35th Ohio, and 87th Ind. The charge was made obliquely across the Rossville road through an open field, driving the Confederates into a wood beyond. The writer denies that Vanderveer's Brigade fired the last shots that day.

J. H. Smith, First Lieutenant, 140th Ind., Sterling, Kan., thinks "Carleton" did not give the Twenty-third Corps sufficient credit for the capture of Fort Anderson at Wilmington. He says the 140th Ind. of that corps was first in the works, and pulled down the rebel flag.

Jas. Hane, Co. C, 81st N. Y., Ohio, Herkimer Co., N. Y., says good words for Col. J. J. Bowen, author of a recent article in THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE on the Quartermaster's Department, and tells of a raid upon the sutler, resulting in a loss to the latter of several bottles of champagne.

William Bond, Co. F, 9th Pa. Reserves, Smicksburg, Pa., writes of what he saw at the battle of Mechanicsville in the Peninsular campaign. We should be glad to print it in full if our space would permit.

Medad V. Miller, Co. E, 33d U. S. Inf., Wessington, Dak., says the War Department is off in declaring that Herbert Fay, Columbus, O., was the youngest Union soldier. Miller says he was born at Port Washington, O., Jan. 16, 1850, enlisted Oct. 3, 1861, and was discharged Feb. 13, 1867, after serving five years, four months.

Wm. Prouty, Co. B, 31st Iowa, Peace Dale, R. I., rises to remark that he never said the Seventeenth Corps did not enter Columbia, S. C. He was only quoting from Gen. Sherman's Memoirs.

N. A. Tallman, Co. A, 31st Wis., Third Brigade, First Division, Twentieth Corps, avers that Gen. Carlin was wrong in saying the 31st Wis. fell back at Bentonville "because they had rails in their hands instead of muskets." He says his regiment fought with its guns through the whole engagement, repulsing five successive charges of the enemy.

E. D. Keirsey, First Lieutenant, 80th Ill., Oswego, Kan., speaks strongly against the repeal of the Arrears of Pension Act, and urges soldiers to support no man for public office who is not pledged to do all in his power to secure justice to the veterans of the war.

R. C. Rankin, Sergeant, 4th Ohio Indp't Cav. Co., and afterward Captain, Co. E, 7th Ohio Cav., Ripley, O., avers the entire truth of Comrade A. G. Thompson's statement relative to the death of Gen. McPherson, W. W. Allen, of Knoxville, Tenn., to the contrary notwithstanding. He says Thompson was the General's Orderly; was captured with him, and was by his side when he died. Capt. Rankin thinks it was Thompson's horse that was subsequently ridden by a Confederate Colonel, and not Gen. McPherson's, as stated by Capt. Richard Beard, who commanded the soldiers who fired the fatal shots. McPherson's horse ran into the Union lines, and was taken to Ohio with the General's body.

Thomas C. Davis, Co. E, 38th Ill., Weloka, Fla., says it was his regiment that captured the battery at Nolinsville Gap, and suffered nearly all the casualties in that engagement.

C. B. Thacker, Co. C, 124th Ill., Bonanza, Colo., says that they captured in the arsenal at Meridian, Miss., in 1864, a large number of lances, mostly new, which he thinks goes to show that these weapons were used in the Confederate army.

"Co. H," 92d Ohio, Chicago, Ill., objects to Baird's (Third) Division, Fo rteenth Corps, being left out in the cold at Bentonville. He says the Third Brigade of that division was actively engaged and did valuable service. It lost many men, among them being the brigade commander, Gen. Fearing, who was very badly wounded.

Geo. S. Myers, Co. F, 101st Ohio, Carey, O., says, in regard to the guns captured by the 101st Ohio at Nolinsville, or Knob Gap: "It is certainly absurd for comrades of the 21st Ill. and 15th Wis. to lay claim to their capture. We were no braver than they, but in advancing our part of the line struck the guns, and our claim to them was never questioned until 1885. The writer of this was within a rod of the gun farthest west when Adj't Smith, of our regiment, sprang from his horse upon it."

W. E. Loring, Co. E, 141st Pa., Santa Rosa, Cal., tells of a recruit, early in the war, who, having been enjoined, while on guard, to "allow nothing to cross his beat," bayoneted a toad in the strict execution of his orders.

S. E. Gilbert, Co. F, 44th Ill., Villard, Minn.: P. S. Carver, 36th Ill., brigades the 36th, 44th, 74th and 88th Ill. and the 24th and 125th Ohio together at the battle of Franklin. In Missouri, in '61, at Pea Ridge, and later, until our arrival at Louisville, Ky., in the Fall of '62, the 2d and 15th Mo., 44th and 36th Ill. were brigaded together. After that time, when so many new regiments came in, the old brigade organization was broken up; the 73d Ill. taking the place of the 36th Ill., which regiment was with the 88th Ill.

Geo. L. Peeler, First Lieutenant, 36th Ill., Crystal Lake, Ill., says his meaning was misconstrued by Comrade Overley, 16th Ky., in regard to stragglers from Spring Hill to Franklin. He did not claim that Gen. Cox's troops generally were stragglers, only those who detached themselves, without leave, to get a little much-needed rest.

Geo. Wetmore, First Lieutenant, 22d N. Y., New Haven, Oswego Co., N. Y., would like to know if the 147th N. Y. ever belonged to the First Brigade, First Division, First Corps; and if so, at what date it was assigned thereto.

Wm. H. Weir, Co. A, 78th Ill., Birmingham, Ill., correcting Comrade W. H. Seaman's article on the battle of Bentonville, says the Second Brigade, Second Division, Fourteenth Corps, was composed of the 98th, 108th, 113th and 121st Ohio, 34th and 78th Ill., and was commanded by Gen. Mitchell.

"A. M.," Flora, Ill., complains of the delay in the forwarding of pension checks. Although the vouchers are executed on the 4th or 5th of the month, the checks are often not received till the 20th. Our correspondent thinks that if the old soldiers had been as slow in getting in their work in suppressing the rebellion they would have been in the field yet.

M. B. Rupe, Co. G, 11th Ill., Canton, Ill., remembers very well the incident mentioned by W. W. Allen in a recent issue of THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE in regard to the Confederate, Miller, drawing the fatal slip of paper, but he states positively that Miller was shot, as he saw his body afterwards.

Henry Barrow, Co. F, 3d Iowa Cav., claims for his regiment the honor of being the first to enter Little Rock.

D. Homer Jennings, Co. D, 5th N. J. Zouaves, Denver, Col., emphatically denies the story that his regiment was drugged with whisky and gunpowder previous to its charge at Gaines's Mills.

N. D. Bates, Serg't, Co. G, 67th Ind., gives an interesting sketch of the siege and capture of Forts Gains and Morgan, in which he participated.

A. D. Meade, Serg't, Co. E, 6th Ind., Washington, Ind., claims that his regiment planted the first flag on Mission Ridge, and not the 86th Ind., as claimed by Capt. Gregory in a recent issue of THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE.

Writing of the recapture of De Grasse's battery, R. J. Sharp, 11th Iowa, Damascus, Ore., thinks the 75th Ohio was the first to reach the guns.

E. A. Yontz, Peabody, Kan., thinks too much space is taken up in THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE by comrades claiming particular feats for their respective commands. He says that where the troops were properly officered they did their share of the work cheerfully and well, and no particular credit is due to one regiment to enter a city at the head of the column unless they are given that privilege on account of meritorious action.

O. A. Moser, Emporia, Kan., wants the name, address, company and regiment of every Iowa soldier in the State of Kansas who was not in attendance at the recent Topeka Reunion. He is compiling a roster, and wants to make it as complete as possible.

W. G. Putney, Prairie Center, Ill., witnessed Gen. Grant ascend Lookout Mountain on horseback, and relates how he procured a powerful telescope to enable the famous General to view the rebel works.

Jerome Reese, Co. A, 91st Ind., Epsom, Ind., corrects C. H. Taylor in his statement that the First Brigade, Second Division, Third Corps, was composed of the 25th Mich., 6th and 3d Tenn., 80th Ind., 13th Ky. and 90th Ohio, and contends that after the battle of Resaca the brigade was composed of but four regiments—the 3d and 6th Tenn., 25th Mich. and 91st Ind.

Jacob Sloniger, Co. A, 10th Kan., Mendon, Ill., sends an interesting account of scouting operations in Missouri in the Fall of 1861.

C. Chalmer, Co. C, 12th Ind., Lebo, Kan., was one of Sherman's bummers, and writes that he was always well able to take care of himself, and also to see that his mess had something to keep soul and body together.

S. A. Young, Co. K, 1st Pa. R. C., Panora, Iowa, has heard that the persons acting as guides to visitors on the battlefield of Gettysburg have in many instances stated that the Pennsylvania Reserves did not participate in the great battle. He thinks a stop ought to be put to such erroneous and malicious representations.

John B. Carrin, Co. E, 130th Ill., thinks that Florida is a far more suitable settling place for soldiers than the West and Northwest, where so many veterans are flocking. The climate, he says, is mild and healthy.

Geo. Borden, Co. F, 90th Ohio, Galena, O., writes that C. H. Taylor, Chadron, Neb., in "Condensed Letters" in THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE of Sept. 24, is mistaken in saying that the 90th Ohio belonged to the Twenty-third Corps, as in reality that regiment was a part of the Fourth Corps.

Geo. M. Butterfield, Co. K, 31st Me., Springfield, Me., has been much interested in reading in THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE the various accounts of the fight at Fort Steadman, as he was there.

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