FIGHTING THEM OVER.

What Our Veterans Have to Say About Their Old Campaigns.

KNOXVILLE.

A Member of the Signal Corps Relates How the Siege Ended.

TO THE EDITOR: With your permission I will throw my log on the campfire by relating my experience during the siege of Knoxville by Longstreet in November, 1863. The movements that resulted in our being cooped up in Knoxville extended over a couple of months. We had been chasing up the rebs and they chasing us alternately day about, in the neighborhood of Loudon, about 30 miles below Knoxville, since the middle of October. We had numerous skirmishes with them, notably at Lenoir's Station and Campbell's Station, on the East Tennessee & Virginia Railroad, and while we invariably beat them in the fighting, yet we just as invariably fell back during the night toward Knoxville, so that we reached our last ditch in that direction about the 18th of November. It was during the last fight just outside of Knoxville that the gallant Gen. Sanders was killed. On the morning of the 18th I was ordered to duty in a large fort on the right of the Kingston road, then without a name, but in a day or so afterward named Fort Sanders, after the brave soldier killed in front of it, and occupied by Buckley's 2d R. I. battery and Lieut. Benjamin's battery, 2d Regulars, supported by the 79th N. Y. There may have been some more infantry, but if so, I have forgotten it. When we took possession of the fort it was only partially finished. The center of the inclosure was higher than the parapet, the bombproof was only about half done, and the side nearest the town was entirely open. We soon set to work to remedy this, and for several nights we had between 300 and 400 negroes digging and shoveling. It was hard work to keep them at it, for the rebs kept up a pretty lively shelling, and at the first alarm they would all lie down or run and hide. I recollect very clearly seeing one of them hiding behind an empty flour barrel, and I have been sorry a hundred times that I did not hit that barrel with a lump of dirt. While the inside of the fort was being strengthened we also were attending to the outside. We had with our detachment several miles of insulated telegraph wire, which was intended to be used in putting up a portable telegraph line, but had never yet been taken off the reel. This wire we wound around the stumps of the trees on the slope of the hill in front of us in two lines, about 100 yards apart, forming a fence that was almost invisible, but, as it proved, a very serious obstacle to an advancing column. About this time Gen. Ferrero, commanding the First Division, Ninth Corps, made his headquarters in the fort. We still kept on strengthening the fort where it was thought necessary, and the rebs, with the most commendable patience, waited till we had everything in the very best order, and then tried to do what they should have done at the start, before we had time to fortify—namely, carry the place by assault. The attack was made just about daybreak on Sunday morning, Nov. 29. They came up the hill in close column, and, though they received a terrific fire, never halted or even wavered until they came to our first wire fence, which many of them fell over, throwing their line into confusion. They had hardly got straightened out again before they reached the second fence, which again disorganized their ranks, and they could not recover themselves. They advanced to the foot of the parapet, fired a few shots, stood irresolute a few moments, and then fled down the hill again. Some few of them managed to get up on the fort, among them a color-bearer of a Georgia regiment, I think. He planted his flag in the earth and called on us to surrender, but fell backward into the ditch pierced by a dozen bullets, leaving his flag standing, which was soon dragged into the fort. It was a terrible slaughter. I went out over the field during the day and saw more than 100 dead scattered on the hill, to say nothing of the wounded. A truce was declared from about 9 till 5 o'clock to carry off the wounded, though many of them must have frozen to death, for it was intensely cold and they were very thinly clad. On the evening of Dec. 4 the rebs left for good, and so ended the siege of Knoxville.

I have said nothing so far about our sufferings during the siege, but if it were not for making my story too long, I could tell you about the corncob-and-sawdust bread, and the cattle that were so nearly starved that they had to be killed lying down; of the killing of all the extra horses and mules so as to have more feed for those that were left; of the fight with butcher knives in the dark between some of our boys and the rebs over the carcass of a cow accidentally shot between the lines; of how anxiously we used to listen during the night for the guns of Sherman, who, it was rumored, was coming to our relief.—JOHN H. MANSUR, Signal Corps, U. S. A., Philadelphia.

The 4th Me. at Gettysburg.

TO THE EDITOR: Reading your excellent paper of Jan. 21, I was amused at the account given by Comrade A. W. Tucker of the part his company and regiment took in the battle at Gettysburg, July 2, 1863; and, although his account is not in all respects as I understand the movements to have been, he is as nearly correct as could be expected at this late date. I make no doubt that he was there and that he took an active part. Those noble field officers of the 124th N. Y. who fell on that bloody hill, were my acquaintances and friends. Since that time I have had the pleasure of meeting Col. Cummings and 11 others of the 124th on the grounds where we fought. Right good fellows they are, and we were perfectly agreed as to our respective locations in the battle.

The story of Maj. Thos. W. Bradley is not so correct an account as might be given, and creates doubts in my mind about his being there. The Major, if he ever knew us, must have forgotten that we took a very active part in that engagement; for he does not even give us a place on his chart, which is also very incorrect in other respects. The 4th Me. established the the corps picket-line on our arrival near Gettysburg, July 1, and were not relieved until 2:30 p. m. the next day. The line of battle was being formed when we rejoined the corps at 3 o'clock. We took position on the left, our right connecting with or near to the 124th N. Y. A part of my command was to the right and a part to the left of Smith's battery, and it was the left of the army at that time. I was ordered farther to the left, into the Devil's Den, leaving Smith's battery exposed, against which I remonstrated; but Capt. Smith said he could take care of his guns and did not want my help. I moved to the left, across the Den, to the woods, with my right forming a skirmish-line near the largest works, and my left in line of battle near the woods, or bushes, at the foot of Round Top. We were attacked by a skirmish-line in the Den, and on our left flank by a force from the woods. To meet these latter, the left of my line was refused and their attack was repulsed. I then found that the enemy was coming over Smith's guns in the rear of my right. Here was a desperate struggle. We fell back, fixed bayonets, charged, retook Smith's guns and established our line in rear of them, with my right near the 124th N. Y. My line thus formed, my left was exposed, and for a few minutes we had a hot time there, but the 99th Pa. Reserves came up in our rear and formed on our left, swinging back and facing the Den; but they did not go beyond the high ground, and the 4th Me. was the only regiment that had a line of men in the Devil's Den, July 2, 1863, between the hours of 3 and 6 o'clock p. m., all stories that have been told to the contrary notwithstanding. We held the line until the entire brigade fell back, when I was led to the rear by two of my men. My horse had been killed, and I had lost the use of one leg.—ELIJAH WALKER, Colonel, 4th Me., Somerville, Mass.

The 53d Ill. at the Hatchie.

TO THE EDITOR: I desire to correct a misstatement in the published account of the battle of the Hatchie, Miss., Oct. 5, 1862, which gives the 53d Ind. credit for participating in that bloody engagement. It was not the 53d Ind. at all, but the 53d Ill., the regiment to which I belonged. I was there, and know whereof I speak; and under the orders of Gen. E. O. C. Ord we were massed to the right of the bridge, and suffered terribly for want of room to deploy into line of battle. Had Gen. Hurlbut, who knew every foot of that ground, been permitted to retain command in that battle, no such blunder would have occurred. Fortunately for us, Gen. Ord was wounded, and Hurlbut again took command, and in 20 minutes the rebel hosts were routed completely.—GEO. I. MOSHER, Orderly Sergeant, Co. F, 53d Ill., Oskaloosa, Kan.

THE FIRST SKIRMISH.

How Some Loyal Boys Kept the Johnnies from Capturing the Boat.

TO THE EDITOR: I think I can give you the history of the very first skirmish on the Potomac, which I don't think has ever been in print before. Very shortly after the firing on Fort Sumter, and quite a while before Patterson's army reached the border, the rebels had several military organizations on their northern border in Virginia, one of which was raised principally in and around Martinsburg, W. Va., and they had been sent to guard the river to keep the Yankees out and the negroes in. They were stationed between Faulkwell's Ferry and McCoy's Ferry, and had been there for several days. Finally they called to the old ferryman at McCoy's Ferry on the Maryland shore to bring them the ferryboat and skiff to the Virginia side. This he refused to do, and then they told him they would come over after them. This put the old gent on his mettle, and he came to Clearspring, several miles away from the ferry, and told some of the boys what had passed, and also of his fears that they would put their threats into execution. We on the Maryland shore did not want the boats out of our hands, and 18 or 20 of us boys concluded that we would go out and give them a stand off, anyhow. We got there after dark and took up quarters in the ferry house, which stood on a bank 15 or 20 feet above the river and about 75 feet from the edge of the bank. Just on the edge of the bank, next to the river, was a picket fence, surrounding the house and yard. The ferryboat and two skiffs were tied 50 yards up the river from the house, and on the far side of a stream running into the river.

The boats were in plain sight from the picket fence, and until about 2 a. m. we kept a pretty close watch over them. After that time many of the boys were sound asleep on the floor of the kitchen in the house, and only at intervals did anyone go out to see if the boats were there. We had an odd character with us (Chapman by name), who had been with Gen. Fremont's exploring expedition in 1846–'47, and he had fallen asleep at my feet, and had on a good snore, with mouth wide open, when I was tempted to let a handful of cracker crumbs pass gently into that yawning chasm. Soon we heard considerable of a racket in that kitchen, and the writer thought cool air would suit his health, and he got out as quickly as he could and did not venture in again until he heard the same old blast again, and was hardly in before he heard an unusual noise and ran out to the fence, where he could see the river, and to his very great surprise saw the boats floating down the river nearly past the house, manned by a crew of five Johnnies. Soon the sleeping would-be soldiers were aroused, and there was quite a scramble in the darkness for our old Harper's Ferry flint-locks, shotguns, squirrel rifles and Chapman's saber, and we made a valiant charge for the fence on the bank, shouting, "Bring back the boats! Surrender!" etc. Well, strange to say, they did nothing of the kind. But the first thing we knew was, whiz! whiz! as they opened on us with their carbines and revolvers. We gave them the best we had with the arms in our hands, but most of our guns were short range, and to get at them better we jumped down the bank just on the edge of the river and opened quite a fusillade on them, and soon had the pleasure of seeing them leap from the boats into the river and strike for the Virginia shore. The moon had not yet set, and we began to use the old squirrel rifles on them, as we could see a head here and there above the water; but they soon got in the shade made by the trees on the Virginia shore, and we could not see them any longer, and shortly after we heard them breaking for the rear. Then the boys began to yell, "Come on with those Sharp's rifles!" (we had none, of course,) and it seemed to us that from the way things sounded in Dixie some one was making good time. By this time the boats had floated a considerable distance past us, and we ran down on the Maryland shore, got a skiff, and went and caught them, and got for all our trouble one cavalryman's belt and a few cartridges. Thus ended the very first skirmish, I believe, of the whole war.

We started for home, but the news had gone before us, as many had heard the firing, and the whole neighborhood was aroused when we got to town. We were met with cheers from some and jeers from others. Some of those great Constitution-loving citizens of "My Maryland" talked of having us arrested, as they claimed, under the riot act. And let me say to you here that that was a pretty long day to some of the boys, as things got pretty warm before night, and we were not sure of our status under the law at that time.

Almost every man who was in that little band went into the army, and quite a number gave their lives for their country, and I have learned that three of our opponents did likewise for what they considered was their duty. The writer has met two of them since the war, and had a good laugh with them over that night's adventure.—

He Knows the Rebels Had Lances.

TO THE EDITOR: I think I can settle the question as to whether the rebels were at any place armed with lances, or spears; and if a certain soldier, whose name I never knew, is living, he can attest the fact by a scar on his right leg as the result of a wound received by one of those weapons. When we captured Little Rock, Ark., the rebel army retreated without a battle, leaving thousands of those spears, which were simply iron pikes, about 18 inches long, fastened into the end of paw-paw poles about eight feet long. One day soon after the rebel retreat two soldiers came through our camp with a semi-wild cow, which they were taking to headquarters for the use of Gen. Kimball. She was very fat and hot, and had become vicious. Each soldier had a rope and walked a respectful distance from the animal, and held her off each other when she undertook to fight them. She was very mad and trembling, and paid no attention to anything unless it appeared immediately in front of her. The condition of the cow raised the commiseration of a large soldier, who volunteered to take her to the General with kind treatment. She was turned over to him, and he began treatment by rubbing and patting her from tail to head. The cow appeared to be unconscious of his presence till he went immediately in front of her, when she attacked him with great fury. Luckily he caught her by the horns and was stout enough to hold himself in between them, and in this condition she ran him backward about 40 yards, when he fell, and she undertook to pin him to the ground, but he succeeded in keeping himself between her horns. One of his comrades, seeing the condition of things, undertook to kill the cow with a spear, or at least to help the soldier out of his scrape, and he pitched the spear at the cow's head, but it missed his aim and went through the soldier's thigh. If that soldier is living he knows that the rebels had lances.—JOHN A. COLEMAN, Lieutenant, Co. C, 18th Ill., Frankfort, Ill.

Correcting the Record.

TO THE EDITOR: I have been waiting some time for some more able writer to take up the cudgel in defense of the old 25th Ill., but it seems that they don't take much interest in the regiment, or don't understand our record.

According to the Adjutant General's report for the State of Illinois, the 25th, 125th and the 2d Ill. Cav. were never out of the State during the late unpleasantness. There is no record to show that we were ever in a fight. All the record shows is our organization and election of officers. Now, to think that a regiment with as splendid a record as ours should lose all the honors in the history that is to be handed down to our posterity.

I think we had a hand in the first good victory that the North gained; that was the battle of Pea Ridge, Ark. I think that was a great victory, considering the odds against us. We only had about 12,000 men, while the South had over 30,000, counting rag-tag and bobtail, which they had; for they had old men, boys, and Indians. But they did not know what a live Yank could do when he was cornered.

We were in several other fights and great battles; among the most noted were the siege of Corinth, Miss.; Perryville, Stone River, Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge, and the entire Atlanta campaign. So we have a good fighting record, besides marching over 3,000 miles.—H. W. SADORUS, Co. G, 25th Ill., Sadorus, Ill.

All "Played Out."

"Don't know what ails me lately. Can't eat well,—can't sleep well. Can't work, and don't enjoy doing anything. Ain't really sick, and I really ain't well. Feel all kind o' played out, someway." That is what scores of men say every day. If they would take Dr. Pierce's "Golden Medical Discovery" they would soon have no occasion to say it. It purifies the blood, tones up the system and fortifies it against disease. It is a great anti-bilious remedy as well.

COLD HARBOR.

The Gallant Part Taken in the Fight by Gen. Drake's Brigade.

TO THE EDITOR: The morning of the 1st of June, 1864, opened beautifully. Having halted so late the previous night, the command was allowed to rest. About 10 o'clock they were again in motion and in the direction of Cold Harbor. At noon they halted for an hour near an ancient stone church. A tavern standing opposite was called Old Church Tavern. The Sixth Corps was now passing on the same road toward the scene of conflict. The mud of the last night had entirely disappeared and in its place a fine, impalpable dust, several inches deep, ground up by thousands of wheels and the tramping of tens of thousands of horses and armed men. This dust as the column moved rolled over it, completely enveloping it as a cloud. Everything was of one color. The men were almost suffocated before the next halt was reached, and could hardly be recognized. Added to this there had been a cavalry fight in the region a few days before, and the effluvia of dead animals tainted the air. After a brief halt the column moved on, and about 3 o'clock passed the headquarters of the Fifth Corps, and soon after those of the Sixth. About a mile farther the road bent to the right, and along it was a skirt of woods. Here the brigade was formed, the 112th N. Y. on the right and connecting with the left of the Sixth Corps. Col. Drake's Brigade constituted the first line of the division; Col. Barton's the second. Scarcely were they formed in the edge of the woods when the silence was broken by the artillery opening on both sides. Gen. Devens now rode up to Col. Drake and said to him: "Colonel, put your brigade in immediately." The order was obeyed with alacrity, and they moved steadily forward to the awful conflict. The mounted officers left their horses and marched on foot with the men. The ground here was very uneven with ridges and ravines. The woods in some places were unbroken to the enemy's works. At other points there were wide open spaces. In front of the 112th, on passing out of the woods, there was an open field 600 yards in width to be crossed, before reaching the enemy's advance-line of skirmishers. This was successfully accomplished with few casualties, and the enemy driven back to their rifle-pits. The regiment was now under cover of the woods. After some ineffective firing, Col. Drake gave the order to cease firing and fix bayonets. The order was instantly obeyed, and at the command forward the line of battle pressed on steadily.

The works were very irregular, and the men were exposed to a galling fire. The brave commander was at all points where his presence was needed, and the line was well kept, though the loss was severe. At length the works were reached and gallantly carried. Mounting the parapet among the first, brave Col. Drake waved his sword, hurrahed, and fairly danced with exultation as he saw the rebels running back. "There, boys," said he; "see those devils run! Did I not tell you you would drive them out?"

This line of works was carried, but with considerable loss, and the ranks were now quite broken; but the men, flushed with victory, were pressing on toward the second line. Unfortunately, the regiment on the left of the Sixth Corps was a raw regiment, enlisted but six weeks before, and this was their first fight. The distance to the enemy's works in their front was less by a hundred rods than in front of Drake's Brigade, but they quailed before the fire and could not be pushed up. This left Col. Drake's command in a very unfortunate position. The enemy, holding their rifle-pits on our flank, were able to pour in a very severe enfilading fire, while we were also exposed to the front fire of the advanced line of works. At this point the carnage was terrible, the 112th N. Y., from its position, suffering most severely, its casualties nearly equaling the sum of those in the rest of the entire brigade. Here Col. Drake, while attempting to rectify the line, was shot through the body and borne from the field.

After the ineffectual attempt to carry the second line of works the brigade fell back behind the earthworks already carried, which they held until drawn off. The wounded were conveyed to a secure position, about a mile in the rear of the scene of conflict.

The next day they took position a little to the right of the scene of the previous day's conflict, a position held until drawn off to reembark for the James River. Forty men of the regiment were killed upon the field. The total casualties in the brigade were: 112th N. Y., 153; 169th N. Y., 94; 9th Me., 62; 13th Ind., 11. Col. McConihe, of the 169th N. Y., was killed, and Lieut.-Col. Alden was severely wounded. The Eighteenth Corps moved back to the Army of the James by the same route over which it had been transported 10 weeks before.—E. BARBER, Captain, Co. G, 112th N. Y., Salamanca, N. Y.

Who Was the Old Captain?

TO THE EDITOR: I served in Battery K, 1st L. A., in the late war. We fought hard all day on the 6th of April at Shiloh, and fell back with the rest of the army late in the afternoon. When we formed the last line of batteries for the day, near the river landing, just before the last charge of the enemy, the remnant of an infantry regiment (from Illinois, I believe) formed on the left of our guns. There were about 75 men left. A patriotic address was made to them by one of their Captains, an old, venerable looking man, who said that he had been chosen by the remaining officers to take command. He stated that their Colonel, Lieutenant-Colonel, Major, and Adjutant were all killed or wounded, and made a patriotic talk, which, under the circumstances, was very impressive, as we knew we were to be charged on in a few moments. Just before the charge came, a regiment of Nelson's Division, Buell's army, took post on their left. Who was the old Captain, what were the names of the disabled officers, and what regiment was it? An answer to this will be appreciated.—JOHN HEINZELMAN, Co. K, 1st Mo. L. A., Belleville, Ill.

He Didn't Like Ship Island, Anyhow.

TO THE EDITOR: I notice in THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE of Feb. 4 that Comrade D. Leahy, of the 9th Conn., takes exceptions to some points in my article of Dec. 24 upon Ship Island. As to his statement that the first two regiments that landed on Ship Island were not known as the Middlesex Brigade, I shall simply step aside and let the disagreement stand between him and Gen. Phelps. The day before the troops landed from the steamer Constitution Gen. Phelps issued a proclamation addressed to the loyal citizens of the Southwest, dated as follows, viz.: "Headquarters Middlesex Brigade, Ship Island, Miss., Dec. 4, 1861." I suppose that the General knew the military designation of the body of troops which he commanded; if not, it seems unfortunate that some one who was better informed, like Comrade Leahy, had not shown him his mistake before he left the service.

As to the Commissary department and the life upon the island, there is merely a difference of opinion. If the comrade found the rations good and the life not monotonous, so much the better for him; he could enjoy the continual feast of a contented mind. In my case, distance, as yet, has failed to lend sufficient enchantment to the view to enable me to look back with pleasure upon the months I spent there. If, as the comrade says, the 9th Conn. lived there as well, if not better, than at any other time during the war, the experience of his regiment was diametrically opposite to ours.

I was much interested in reading the comrade's account of the raid upon Biloxi and Pass Christian. I think, however, in placing it in the Winter of 1861 he has given it rather too early a date. History records it as occurring in April, 1862, while Commodore Farragut was getting his fleet over the bar at the mouth of the Mississippi.—E. B. LUFKIN, Co. E, 13th Me., Weld, Me.

A Phonographic Relic.

TO THE EDITOR: In looking over some old papers I find a Manual of Phonography, the property of a member of the 15th U. S. Inf., on the front page of which appears the following: "Corp. Wm. H. Harriman, Co. A, 1st battalion, 15th U. S. Inf., captured at Chickamauga, Ga., Sept. 20, 1863." The last date given by him was "July 4, 1864, Andersonville, Sumter Co., Ga.'" Following this is "Corp. W. H. Harriman, Co. A, 1st battalion, 15th U. S. Inf., died Aug. 26, 1864, in Andersonville Hospital, from the effects of scurvy." Having been captured in company with him and remained with him to the end, he gave me the book (what remains of it). This may come under the eye of some comrade who would like to hear of this soldier. I also see in it the name of Anna E. Harriman, Mudsock, Logan Co., O. Should his relatives want this book it can be had by addressing JOSEPH WARE, Patmos, O.

Summer colds are the worst; they are out of season. Take Red Star Cough Cure.

A REBEL STAMPEDE.

How the Johnnies were Driven from Frederick, Md

TO THE EDITOR: The incidents I wish to relate here occurred at the time of one of those rebel invasions or predatory incursions into Maryland and Pennsylvania, although this one was more ostensibly a *ruse* to divert the attention of the Government at Washington from the pending siege at Petersburg.

Gen. Wright's command had been ordered to follow in the wake of the Confederate Gen. Early, in his threatening movements. On the evening of the 10th of July, 1864, as the advance of the moving column on the road leading from Harper's Ferry—comprising 16 mounted men, under Morgan F. McDonald, Captain, Co. M, 12th Pa. Cav.—was entering Frederick, Md., on the west, they found that the place was apparently in possession of the enemy, who, we subsequently learned, had been living sumptuously there on the forced hospitality of the town for several days, and had demanded and obtained a ransom of $100,000. From the busy bustle and swarm-like uneasiness exhibited by a number of rebs, it appeared that hurried preliminary steps were being taken by them for "pulling up stakes." Acting on this intuition, Mac and his boys made a bold dash down the street to the center of the town, thinking to assist in and expedite any further arrangements needed to complete the good resolutions of the rebels to leave the town. But here their reception was anticipated. Near the intersection of the two streets at this point, on the one running north and south, but far enough inward to be unperceived by the chargers until too late, 200 Confederate cavalrymen, formed in ambuscade, welcomed the boys with blunt and unkindly greetings, judging from the reckless manner in which they handled their Winchesters. Although causing a momentary check to the advance of the little loyal band in blue, it was quickly responded to by lively manipulations of carbine and revolver.

When the crash of shot and shriek had died away and the sulphurous fumes of the contest were disappearing, Capt. McDonald, dismounted—his horse lying dead on the streets of Frederick, riddled with bullets, and himself seriously wounded in the right breast and right leg—ordered a charge. With drawn sabers the boys unhesitatingly waded in upon the solid phalanx of horsemen, who, dismayed at the unflinching and daring bravery displayed by their antagonists, wheeled and fled towards the outskirts of the town.

We will say here that Capt. McDonald was carried to the residence, near by, of a prominent gentleman and well cared for.

Elated by the favorable turn the second act in the lively shifting scenes of the drama had assumed, and, moreover, urged forward by the unmistakable friendly bearing of the natives, who had hitherto wisely preserved themselves from exposure to the flying bullets, but now, taking in the situation, manifested their appreciation of the transpiring panoramic events—both old men and young men unfurling the Stars and Stripes from doors, windows, and the housetops, and the fair ladies waving their snow-white kerchiefs—had instinctively the desired cheering effects on the now Captainless pursuers, to drive the enemy two miles out on the road leading southward.—SCOTT W. JONES, Co. M, 12th Pa. Cav., Ebensburg, Pa.

He Says the 10th Ill. "Did Sling Gore."

TO THE EDITOR: My attention was called to a communication in your paper of Jan. 7, 1886, under the above captious caption, signed C. G., which means Charley Grundy. The comrades of the old 10th are very indignant at "Bricktop's" aspersions on a body of men who were amongst the first to answer their country's call, and we with charity look upon C. G.'s effusion as a cranky exuberance, born in passion and fulminating from a pen dipped in gall. Now, Mr. Editor, it is true at this day that even the 100-days' men, who never smelt powder, are glad to elaborate on their services to their country; but here is a man who served three years and 11 months in a regiment that slung no gore. We, too, served our country acceptably in the same mess with C. G., and were with the old pious 10th as far as before Atlanta, Ga., getting discharged on the 31st day of August, 1864, subsequently serving in Co. H, 5th U. S. V. V., Hancock's First Corps.

The history of this regiment that "never slung gore" is a proud one, and, as we will show hereafter, its services were of the highest order. This regiment was sworn into the service on Aug. 13, 1861, for three years. In Gen. Grant's first reconnoissance in the rear of Columbus, Ky., January, 1862, we led the advance; in February, 1862, we drove Jeff Thompson to the wall, and on March 12, 1862, after several attempts to capture New Madrid, we (with the aid of the 16th Ill.) captured that strong fortress. The War Department issued a complimentary order. On the 6th of April, 1862, with the 16th Ill., we captured Gen. McCall's force of 5,500 men at Tiptonville, Tenn. On May 3, 1862, we captured Farmington, Miss., charging the Louisiana Tigers, for which our old Colonel (J. D. Morgan) received a star. We were the first to plant our colors on Fort Beauregard, Corinth, and in the pursuit of the Johnnies we were on the advance, engaging them at Tuscumbia River, when we did have a "stand-up-and-shoot" fight. I pass over numerous other minor exploits. Oct. 5, 1862, we repulsed a large body of rebels under command of Morgan and Anderson before Nashville, your correspondent drawing the first head, and for our good resistance Gen. Negley complimented our Gen. Morgan.—M. J. CLERIHAN, Co. B, 10th Ill., Jacksonville, Ill.

Fort Blakely, Ala.

TO THE EDITOR: In your issue of Jan. 28 Lieut.-Col. John B. Gandolfo, commanding 178th N. Y., undertakes to correct a statement of John W. Fry in the issue of Oct. 29, in regard to the forces operating in front of Fort Blakely, Ala.

It seems to me that the Colonel, in correcting the comrade for seeming to forget that Gen. A. J. Smith's Corps formed part of the besieging and assaulting force at Fort Blakely, falls into the same kind of an error, assuming that Gen. Garrard's Division of the Sixteenth Corps did all the fighting and captured the works alone in the assault of April 9, 1865. The Colonel says that Gen. Garrard's Division made the final assault on Blakely, which resulted in its capture April 9, 1865.

The fact is that the fort was invested by Gen. Steele's forces on the right, which consisted of Gen. Hawkins's Division of colored troops on the extreme right, next Gen. Andrews's Division, to which I belonged; on the left of Gen. Ardrews was another division—the name of the commander I have forgotten, and on the extreme left was Gen. Garrard's Division of the Sixteenth Corps.

The assault of April 9 was a general charge all along the lines. I presume Gen. Garrard's men did their share of the work, and should have their share of the honor, but while they were fighting on the left the troops of the right and center were not idle. Our regiment, the 76th Ill., lost 100 men in the assault. And I will here state that Gen. Hawkins's Division of colored troops did splendid fighting during the siege and final assault. Honor to whom honor is due.—J. E. BISHOP, Co. I, 76th Ill., Plainfield, Ill.

Loss of the 24th Mich. at Gettysburg.

TO THE EDITOR: I read with interest the article in THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE of Jan. 21, entitled "The Iron Brigade." In the list of killed is the 24th Mich., which, according to that table, gives the total number of killed as 130. In a letter in THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE of March 12, 1885, signed "24th Mich.," in speaking of the loss that regiment received at Gettysburg, this statement appears: "It lost in killed, eight company officers, 122 non-commissioned officers and 49 privates, total 179; in wounded it lost three field officers, one staff officer, 10 company officers, 41 non-commissioned officers and 182 privates, total, 237; grand total of killed and wounded, 316 out of 496, or nearly 65 per cent. Now I would like to know how "24th Mich." reconciles these two statements—in one of which the number killed exceeds by 49 that of the total given in the article giving the casualities of the Iron Brigade? I will submit the loss of the 147th N. Y. in that battle, and I think our percentage of loss in that fight was as great or greater than any regiment in the division. We lost in killed and those who died of wounds, 66; wounded, 165; missing, 30, out of 310 men which reported for duty the morning of the 1st.—GROVE H. DUTTON, Sergeant, Co. D, 147th N. Y., Fulton, N. Y.

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PISO'S CURE FOR CONSUMPTION. CURES WHERE ALL ELSE FAILS. Best Cough Syrup. Tastes good. Use in time. Sold by druggists.

CONDENSED LETTERS.

Jacob Davison, 33d Ohio, Bloomingburg, O., was wounded on the first line at the battle of Perryville, and retired to the rear.

John Norris, Co. H, 34th Ind., St. John, Kan., tells how he, together with a number of his companions, got a little hilarious from the effects of some whisky they managed to secure while doing picket duty during the Vicksburg campaign. The Colonel came down to inspect the picket-line and found the boys in a very unsoldierly condition, being minus boots, hats and muskets. They were promptly marched to the guard-house, but managed to carry some whisky in with them, where they made a jolly night of it.

George M. Williams, Co. B, 44th Mo., Crab Orchard, Mo., tells how, while on his way to Andersonville, he struck a rebel guard who insulted him, and how the rebel threatened to drive his musket through him.

W. E. Brown, Co. H, 4th Iowa, Guss, Iowa, was wounded at Chickasaw Bayou, and had to carry his arm in a sling a long time after that skirmish.

M. W. Buck, Co. K, 50th Pa., Soldiers' Home, Erie, Pa., writes of the very pleasant way in which the veterans live at the Home. He says there are at present 45 inmates.

Charles Edwards, Co. G, 14th Iowa, Stone's Crossing, Ind., tells of the part his regiment took in the battle of Shiloh.

S. A. McNeil, 31st Ohio, Richwood, O., indorses Comrade Shellenberg's correction of Comrade Fry's account of "Garfield at Chickamauga."

W. N. Morelan, Serg't, Co. G, 18th Mo., Allenton, Iowa, thinks some one ought to write up the part his regiment took at the battle of Shiloh.

E. Beller, Co. A, 8th Ohio, Ponco, Neb., says that his regiment had as fine a record as any in the service. It took a conspicuous part at Vicksburg, Duvall's Bluffs, Winchester, Va., and many other battles. He also relates how, in May, 1865, at Hamburg, S. C., he, with several comrades, killed a lot of blood hounds, which had been used before the war to capture runaway slaves and during the war to act in a similar manner toward escaped Union soldiers.

Joe Browning, Sergeant, Co. H, 11th Mo., Robinson, Ill., sends some interesting recollections of the fight at Corinth in October, 1862, for which we would be glad to find space were it possible for us to do so.

D. C. Rankin, Co. E, 24th Ohio, Lafayette, Ind., wants to wake up his old regiment and have a Reunion. He hopes there will be a stirring up of the matter.

Thomas Trunnel, Co. B, 18th Mo., Santiago, Iowa, says a good word for the faithful service of his regiment, and wonders that its exploits have not been written up in THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE.

John Fort, Co. D, 93d Ohio, Gays, Moultrie Co., Ill., thinks Hazen's Brigade was first on Mission Ridge. He says he is the man who rammed the shell into the first rebel cannon captured on the Ridge, when it was turned on the fleeing enemy.

A. Brombley, 23d Ky., Cherry Vale, Kan., claims highest honors for Hazen's Brigade at Mission Ridge, and says the flags of the 1st Ohio and 23d Ky., were planted on the crest before any others.

Francis L. Clarke, Co. G, 11th Mass., Salem, Mass., has a good word to say for "Jack" Warner, who was Quartermaster of the prisons in Richmond. Comrade Clarke says he was captured at the first Bull Run, and while a prisoner received many kindnesses from Warner. He thinks the latter was not so black as some have painted him.

Fred. Eberle, Co. I, 1st U. S. Art., Bellaire, O., says his company was the first to enter Washington, D. C., Jan. 29, 1861.

Wm. S. Newman, Co. K, 22d Wis., Juda, Wis., says the first troops to enter Atlanta, Ga., were details from the 22d Wis., 33d and 85th Ind. and 19th Mich.

Geo. Brill, Co. B, 14th Wis., Cheboygan, Mich., thinks that something ought to be written in THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE about his regiment. It did good service in the field, but has had very little recognition.

H. J. Beville, 23d Mo., Topeka, Kan., thinks, with Comrade B. T. Beville, that "one who was at the battle of Shiloh and participated in that struggle, might reasonably infer that either Col. Jackson was not there at all, or else he was entirely ignorant of the actual condition of affairs."

G. L. Baldwin, Co. K, 7th Pa., Shickshinny, Pa., thinks the practice of spending all the praise upon officers of the army is a great mistake, and that more ought to be said in regard to the achievements of the privates.

Thomas Hale, Sergeant, Co. B, 60th Ohio, thinks Peter C. Hine, Co. I, 60th Ohio, who wrote a communication in THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE of Feb. 11 in regard to being at the battle of the Wilderness, is somewhat mistaken, as Co. I did not come up to the regiment until about the 3d of June, at Cold Harbor.

J. C. Faris, Co. B, 47th Ill., Mt. Ayr, Iowa, corroborates Comrade Gibson's account in regard to the first troops entering Spanish Fort.

W. H. Davis, 10th Mich., says Charles Van Wye, in his recent article in THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE, does gross injustice to the 17th N. Y. Zouaves as to their conduct at the battle of Jonesboro, Ga.

Geo. L. Hoyt, Co. I, 12th N. Y., Lafayette, N. Y., pays his compliments to that "Angel of Merey," Jack Warner, of Libby Prison notoriety.

Esley Patch, Co. I, 124th Ohio, Plain City, O., contradicts Chas. Van Wye, Co. K, 23d Mo., in the statement that at the battle of Jonesboro the 17th N. Y. fell back in confusion.

P. Dugan, Co. E, 24th Mass., Detroit, Minn., would like to know what regiment made the charge on the rifle-pits before Fort Wagner, Aug. 26, 1863.

L. J. Baker, Co. B, 13th Mich., Wellington, Kan., tells how, when encamped near Nashville in 1864, they were ordered by their Colonel not to take the fence-rails with which to make their fires, but only use broken pieces of fences. He says it was astonishing how rapidly the fences in the neighborhood disappeared, and they all came into camp in the form of "pieces."

James F. Walker, Co. F, 101st Ill., Columbus, Kan., claims his regiment was the first to enter the city of Atlanta after the rebel evacuation.

Hiram Loomis, 37th Iowa, Elberon, Iowa, claims that he was born Dec. 25, 1800, and enlisted in Co. D, 37th Ohio, in September, 1862, where he served two and a half years, and was discharged on account of rheumatism and other disabilities contracted in the service.

Wm. Biss, Corporal, Co. G, 16th Wis., Knapp, Wis., claims to have fired the shot which killed Gen. Albert Sidney Johnston at Shiloh.

Chas. A. French, 10th Conn., St. Albans, Vt., is anxious to know what light battery it was that opened fire on Fort Gregg, just south of Petersburg, on the 2d of April, 1865.

Hugh Brady, Co. I, 84th Ill., Yates Center, Kan., is one of the stragglers in paying his compliments to Comrade Vail and Geo. Smith, Fair Haven, O.; also, gives a lash to the writer of "Brag is a good dog."

J. R. Shelton, Co. B, 130th Ill., Atwood, Ill., says the only part of the career of his regiment of which he is not proud was the part it took in the Red River expedition.

T. Hale Somers, Co. E, 14th Ill., Franklin, Pa., wishes to say that Col. Jackson is correct in placing the 46th Ill. in Hurlbut's Division, a recent writer in THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE to the contrary notwithstanding.

Henry Roback, Co. E, 152d N. Y., Little Falls, N. Y., pays a handsome tribute to the courage of Gen. W. S. Hancock at the battle of Ream's Station, Va.

Wm. A. Joy, Co. H, 48th Ohio, Joyfield, Mich., contends that the Union troops were not surprised at Shiloh.

Nathan Kelly, Co. B, 10th Kan., Emporia, Kan., writing in regard to the capture of Mobile, contradicts T. W. Gibson in regard to the Second Brigade being at Spanish Fort.

A. L. Abbott, Co. A, 12th Mich., Millbank, Dak., agrees in the main with B. T. Beville, Co. G, 23d Mo., who criticizes Col. Jackson's Shiloh article.

Lewis Blundin, Co. C, 28th Pa., Hulmeville, Pa., takes issue with Charles Matthews, of Washington, D. C., in THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE of Jan. 21, in regard to the statement that Harris H. Davis, Sergeant, Co. E, 8th Ky., was the first to plant the colors of his regiment upon the peak of Lookout Mountain, Nov. 24, 1863, and says no 8th Ky. was there.

Geo. Graham, Stickleville, Mo., thinks Sullivan County, in that State, a most excellent settling place for soldiers, and thiuks those possessed of a little means can do decidedly better there than by going to a new country and taking up a homestead.

Miles Bristow, Second Lieutenant, Co. B, 42d Mo., Hamilton, Mo., sends an interesting article in regard to Spanish Fort and Ft. Blakely.

D. Somerville, Adrian, Ill., who was a prisoner at Libby, says he would like to have experienced some of the angelic acts of Jack Warner in that delightful Southern retreat.

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