FIGHTING THEM OVER.

What Our Veterans Have to Say About Their Old Campaigns.

SABINE PASS.

The Reasons Why that Medal was Given Miss Dowling.

EDITOR NATIONAL TRIBUNE: Referring to the article now going the rounds of the press giving an account of the presentation of a diamond-set medal to Miss Annie E. Dowling, of Austin, Tex., in honor of the exploit of her father, "Dick" Dowling, who with 42 men repulsed the Union forces at Sabine Pass Sept. 8, 1863, also an inquiry from Comrade Marinder, of Bismarck, Dak., which appeared in your issue of March 21, it has occurred to me that an article on the subject from one who was there might possibly be interesting to the readers of THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE, and especially to Comrade Marinder, who seems to "thirst after knowledge."

I first quote from history, as follows: "Early in September an expedition was fitted out under Gen. Franklin to occupy this pass, which was then in possession of the rebels. It was understood to be defended by a battery of field-pieces with two 32-pounders, en-barbette, and two gunboats, which were also rams. The attacking force consisted of 4,000 men, under Gen. Franklin, with Gen. Godfrey Weitzel as division commander." So much for history. Now for my personal recollections. But first let me say, that Gens. Franklin and Weitzel were of the Regular Army, both tried and true, and had already won national reputation and renown.

In looking over my diary and old papers pertaining to those stirring times, I find the following regarding the movements of my regiment: "Sept. 2 the regiment embarked for New Orleans, and became a part of Banks's expedition to Sabine Pass, Tex. Our rendezvous was Berwick Bay, from which place we embarked on transports. We were convoyed by the Gunboat Arizona." In addition to the transports carrying the land forces there was a fleet of gunboats, besides one of the blockading fleet was stationed off the pass. (My regiment was the 161st N. Y.) Four companies were detailed as sharpshooters on the gunboats, Cos. A and B on the Arizona, E on the Granite City, and D on the Sachem. Cos. C, F, G and I, under command of Capt. W. E. Craig, with a like number from other regiments, all under command of one Capt. Fitch, of the 75th N.Y., comprised the storming party, and were on the transport Gen. Banks. Cos. H and K, under command of Lieut.-Col. Kinsey, were in reserve on the transport N. H. Thomas.

We expected to locate the pass by the gunboat on duty there, but unfortunately for us it was off on a short cruise, and we found early in the morning that we had run by quite a distance, and were obliged to turn back. The coast was low and marshy, and the black smoke from the fleet must have been visible for a great distance inland. This, together with delay in finding the pass, gave Dowling ample time to concentrate his magnificent army of 42 men and put them where they could do the most good, as the sequel shows he did. The fleet lay outside the bar till late in the afternoon, but during the morning the Clifton passed inside and gave them a few shots, which were not responded to, and led many of the boys to think there was nothing there. The Clifton was formerly a double-ender ferryboat, and most of the fleet were flat-bottoms and coasting steamers, and drew light, but the Clifton had a magnificent armament, and carried a 9-inch rifled pivot gun fore and aft.

Finally, between 3 and 4 o'clock everything seemed to be in order; the Clifton passed inside, closely followed by the Granite City and the Gen. Banks carrying the storming party. The Clifton in a few moments opened the ball by a shot from one of her 9-inch guns, and we could see that it fell inside the enemy's works. The Sachem now moved rapidly to the front and passed us, followed by the Arizona, both steaming to our right. The Sachem soon opened with a full broadside, the Arizona following suit, and still there was no response—no sign of Dick Dowling or any other man on shore. We were still moving, and the Sachem was now opposite the works, not over 300 yards away, when in a moment we saw the ominous white puff above the works, a dull boom came over the waves, and at the same moment a solid shot whizzed over the Arizona and struck the water beyond. This was quickly followed by one for the Clifton, which went wide, passed over our convoy, the Granite City, and struck so close to the Gen. Banks that the water splashed the decks. The Sachem was still moving, giving them broadside after broadside, and the Arizona still keeping up to her work, but not in such close quarters. In a moment more the Sachem would be beyond the works, and we were watching her with intense interest and solicitude, for we all felt that her passing meant victory; but just at this critical moment a shot struck her midship, penetrating her boilers. Instantly she was enveloped in steam; she ceased firing, and when the white mist lifted we saw her lying upon the water a helpless thing, with the white flag flying from her masthead. The Arizona and Clifton now doubled their fire, but the Arizona drew too much water to get to close quarters, and the Confederates seemed to pay but little attention to her, but concentrated their fire on the Clifton, and the brave Crocker responded with redoubled energy. Crocker fought the Clifton on the arc of a half circle, backward and forward, each movement bringing her nearer the Confederate works. Her firing was terrific, and she swept the enemy's works with a perfect hail. The Banks now passed her convoy and steamed in behind the Clifton, every man grasped his musket with a firmer grip, belts were tightened, and each looked himself over to be sure he was all right, for we felt that we would soon be in jumping distance. All eyes were on the Clifton, for everything now depended on her, when at this moment she ran her bow into the soft bottom with such force that she was unable to extricate herself. She churned the water into a white foam in her vain efforts to get free. We held our breath, and it seemed as though our hearts ceased beating, when just at this critical moment a couple of guns heretofore silent opened on her, and a shot from one of them penetrated her boilers, and she was also a helpless wreck. Still the brave Crocker fought on, but seeing defeat now inevitable trailed one of his 9-inch guns along the deck, sent a solid shot through her from stem to stern, destroying her machinery, spiked his guns and ran up the white flag. The fight was over.

For the first and only time in our three years' service we saw the white flag run up and the Stars and Stripes hauled down. No troops were landed, except those of our unfortunate comrades of Co. D, who landed in the prison at Tyler, the survivors being exchanged July 22, 1864. I never saw any report of our losses, but the 161st for the time being suffered the loss of Co. D, who had two men killed outright, 10 badly scalded (six fatally), and Lieut. Lindsey with 17 men taken prisoners. The Confederate gunboats, after the fight was over, put in an appearance and secured the fruits of Dowling's victory. They came into view very leisurely, and why they did not proceed to capture the whole force is a mystery I have never been able to fathom, except on the ground that they were satisfied with what they had already done, and well they might be.

In the confusion of retreat, which was ordered after the Clifton ran up the white flag, the Arizona, in turning, ran aground, and with the transports, the Banks and Thomas, were still within easy range of the Confederate guns, with only one gunboat, the Granite City, afloat. They had the whole expedition at their mercy, but they seemed to take it easy; did not seem to care very much about us any way, for which we were truly thankful. As for Dowling and his men, they did good work; and yet I don't see how they could have done otherwise. The range was close, especially for the Sachem. Even a raw recruit could not very well miss, under all ordinary circumstances, and with veteran artillerymen the Sachem would have been sent under; as it was, a chance shot crippled her in such a way that her further progress was stopped; the same with the Clifton. It may not be out of place to say, as regards Dowling's numerical force, he had all he needed to work his guns effectively. It was simply a fight between a trio of wooden gunboats fully exposed, at short range, to the concentrated fire of a well-protected battery, whose work was made effective only by two chance shots.—JOHN W. MERWIN, Co. C, 161st N. Y., Elmira, N. Y.

Hood's Sarsaparilla is a peculiar medicine, entirely different from any other. Try it.

CRITICIZING CAPEHART.

The Troops that Captured the Stone Wall at Kernstown.

EDITOR NATIONAL TRIBUNE: In your issue of March 14 I have read the sketch of the "Battle of Kernstown" (or more properly Winchester) written by Dr. Henry Capehart, and I desire to make some corrections as to what I know and saw. Regarding the march up the Valley: We left Winchester on the morning of March 19, 1862, on the turnpike, by way of Kernstown, as far as Strasburg, and there we camped for the night; (but we were not engaged with the rebels that day.) The next day—March 20—we advanced to Woodstock, where we camped until next morning—the 21st, then proceeded up to the top of the hill and exchanged a few shots with the rebel pickets, who soon withdrew from our front. We were then ordered to retreat back to Winchester. Our regiment was the rear-guard, and we all got back to our old quarters during the night of the 21st.

On March 22, about 3 p. m., the rebels attacked our pickets and drove them in, and opened with their artillery; then we had orders to fall in in heavy marching order, with 40 rounds of cartridge, in 15 minutes. We then passed through the town and marched about one and a half miles from Winchester to the right of the turnpike, and supported Daum's battery all night in the rain and mud. Sunday morning—March 23—at daylight we were relieved and were marched back perhaps half a mile, and pitched our tents on the opposite side of the turnpike.

At about 9:30 o'clock a. m. the firing commenced at Kernstown with musketry and artillery, and our regiment was ordered to fall in in light marching order, and we remained there as a reserve until further orders. It was but a short time that we had to wait until the order came, and very soon we marched across the pike to the right, and on the hill, into a cornfield, where we could see the manuvers of the rebel troops beyond Kernstown. We lay there until about 2:30 or 3 p. m., when we were ordered by our Colonel (Wm. G. Murray, commanding the brigade) to again come to the support of Daum's battery, that was in position on the hill just to the right of Kernstown. The rebels were massing their troops, and made a charge on the battery, but were repulsed and fell back to the woods beyond Kernstown; but the rebel Col. Ashby rallied his troops and came up en masse four or five columns deep to make the second charge on the battery, and when they got fairly under headway, Daum's men got scared and left their guns; but Col. Daum saw the movement, and, drawing his sword, ordered every man back to his place, saying he would cut every man's head off who deserted his piece. He then ordered his men to fire two rounds of chain-shot from each gun, and to reserve the fire until he gave the order, which was promptly obeyed. Col. Murray said to Col. Daum that he should not fire the chain-shot, as it was against Army regulations; but Daum (to use his own words) said to Col. Murray, he didn't care a tam, as the Government didn't furnish dem, and before his battery should be taken he would fire dem. And fire them he did, and they cut a road as they went and saved the battery. They were 18-inch chain, and the two black balls flying through the air looked to be about four inches in diameter. Immediately afterward the rebels over on the hill on our right flank fired a shell and it lit about 15 or 20 feet in front of my company (D), and all the execution it did was that a piece of it struck Corp'l James Price on the ankle and disabled him. Soon after Col. Murray came riding up and gave the command "Attention!" and every man in our regiment sprang to his feet, and the Colonel said: "We have orders to charge that battery on the top of the hill to our right, and, boys, I want every man of you to stand firm. Remember the ladies of Harrisburg who presented to us our beautiful flag, and do not disgrace it. If you die you die in a good cause, and on the Sabbath; and I am not going to say go, boys, but come, boys! And, boys, I never expect to come out alive; but here goes, for God and our country." He then gave the command: Right face—right shoulder shift arms—file left—double-quick—march! And we went down the ravine into a meadow, and while passing through this meadow the rebel battery on the hill gave us a charge of grape and canister, which wounded some of the regiment.

When we got to the base of the hill and formed in line of battle we received orders to charge bayonet, right oblique, and hold our fire until we got orders. Passing up the brow of the hill through a slip of woods, we struck a cornfield, which was about 40 or 50 yards wide, the Johnny rebs being at the other side, in the woods. When we got from one-half to two-thirds of the way across the field the Colonel gave the command "Fire!" when the rebels called out to us not to fire, as we were firing on our own troops. But the gray uniform told us better, and we let them have the "lead pills" as fast as we could work our Belgian rifles. We had fired but three or four rounds when I was wounded in the left shoulder, and then I turned my head to the flag, and at that moment I saw Col. Murray fall from his horse. He sprang to his feet and said, "My regiment is all cut to pieces," and gave the order three different times to fall back. At the last yell he stepped behind the colors and a ball drove the figures "84" right through his head. Capt. Gallager, of Co. G, and Adj't Craig drew their swords, in the absence of the Lieutenant-Colonel and Major, and gave the command for the 84th to hold their ground until the 14th Ind. could come to our support, as their heads could just be seen coming up. When the 14th arrived within hearing distance of the rebels they shouted again, "Don't fire; you are firing on the 84th Pa.," and then our boys called for the 14th Ind. to come on; that the 84th was right there, and to let the rebels have it over our heads.

The 14th Ind. then poured in the lead at a lively rate, and was helped by the 84th Pa., or what was left of them. The 13th Ind. then charged upon the battery on the hill and took two pieces. The 110th Pa. was also engaged.

The 84th Pa. was not a city regiment. It had no companies from a city, but was composed entirely of men from the different towns and Counties of the State. Nor did it "fall back" at any time in battle, as Dr. Henry Capehart states. I talk now from experience; our regiment was not made out of that kind of material. With our gallant Col. Murray to lead us to victory or death, his noble example gave us nerve and courage to go forward in the thickest of any engagement.

If this meets the eye of any of Co. D, let them speak and let our dead Colonel (Murray) have his due with all the rest of the commanders. Further, I want to state that our brigade commander on that day, up to the time of his death, was Col. William G. Murray, an old soldier of the 4th Pa., who had fought in Mexico. After Col. Murray fell, Col. Kimball took command. Our brigade consisted of the following regiments: 84th Pa., 14th and 13th Ind., and 110th Pa. The place or ridge Dr. Capehart speaks of may be a different place, for I know that our regiment and the 14th Ind. were engaged on our extreme left, which was the rebels' extreme right, and the stone fence was on our right flank, the woods and piles of cord-wood, with a heavy force of rebels in our front. Our company lost one man killed on the field (Wm. R. Fowler), and John L. Prosser died the ninth day after the battle from the effects of his wounds; the rest of us were ready for duty again. As to our flags, the Stars and Stripes got 32 bullet-holes through them, and not one star was touched, while our State banner had 28 bullet-holes and the staff shot off. Let the 84th Pa. boys speak up if I am not correct in my statement.—THOMAS C. FOWLER, Corporal, Co. D, 84th Pa., 2227 Cleveland avenue N. W., Washington, D. C.

Consumption Surely Cured.

To the Editor:—Please inform your readers that I have a positive remedy for Consumption. By its timely use thousands of hopeless cases have been permanently cured. I shall be glad to send two bottles of my remedy FREE to any of your readers who have consumption if they will send me their Express and P. O. Address. Respectfully, T. A. SLOCUM, M. C., 181 Pearl St., N. Y.

Write to E. A. Armstrong, Detroit, Mich., for his G.A.R. or S. of V. Price List. Sent free.

This Threshing-machine received the highest award of any at the Centennial Exhibition; the two last Gold Medals given by the New York State Agricultural Society; and has been selected from all others, and illustrated and described in that great work "Appleton's Cyclopedia of Applied Mechanics." Catalogue sent free. Address, MINARD HARDER, Cobleskill, Schoharie Co., N. Y.

Also straw-preserving Rye-threshers, Clover-hullers, Fodder-cutters, Feed-mills, Fanning-mills and Saw-machines; all of the best in market.

The Fearless Horse-powers are the most economical and best Powers built for the running of Feed, Ensilage-cutters and Cotton-gins, and for general farm and Plantation use.

SHENANDOAH VALLEY.

The Experience of a 29th Ohio Soldier.

EDITOR NATIONAL TRIBUNE: I have been deeply interested in Gen. Capehart's description of the 1862 campaign in the Shenandoah Valley, especially of the first battle of Winchester, and think it a masterly piece of information (Comrade Young's criticisms notwithstanding). Taking it from a general view, I think it is in the main correct, and feel very grateful to the Doctor for the information and instruction I find in it; as I was there as a high private in Co. I, 29th Ohio. I was under the impression that we were brigaded with Tyler, but I see Comrade Young says nay, and would like to know from someone officially about it. After driving Jackson beyond Mt. Jackson and the Valley, I was taken with measles and left at the Strasburg field hospital, our division (Gen. Shields's) leaving the Valley in the meantime. From that time on I know nothing of the movements of the division.

I had been at the hospital about a week, and asked the Surgeon in charge for permission to go to my regiment, which was granted. I was told we would have to go via Harper's Ferry; that a wagon was to leave in the morning, and to get ready to go with it, which I did, with six convalescents, one of which belonged to the 7th Ind. We had gone as far as Newtown, on the Winchester pike, when we were captured by Ashby's cavalry, and I think we can therefore claim the honor of being the first prisoners captured on that famous retreat of Gen. Banks.

After unhitching and cutting the mules loose from the wagons, which were left, we were hustled off to the mountains. Being still weak from the effects of the measles, and the others in no better condition than myself for such a race, we were all used up. Finally, through the guards' great kindness, we were ordered to mount the mules; and such a mule as fell to my lot! Well, talk about the wild razor-back hogs—they were no comparison. The boys wondered why I didn't sit down for two days; I wondered if I would ever be able to sit down. Our numbers increased daily. The 1st Md., after making a bitter fight, and being surrounded, were nearly all captured.

After a four or five days' famine we were taken to Winchester, passing over the ground where the 1st Md. had made their gallant stand, the sight of which is engraven on my memory. Those men lay as they had fallen, partly stripped, and so swollen as to be hardly recognized. If done purposely I cannot tell, but if done to inflame those Marylanders they succeeded. A band that came out from Winchester to escort us into the town had its music completely drowned by them singing "Yankee Doodle" and the "Star Spangled Banner," which our guards tried again and again to stop, until the band was called off.

On arriving at Winchester we were put into the depot building, and confined there until, the enemy fearful of being hemmed in, we were all ordered to fall in to march to Richmond. We had some sick and wounded who were unable to walk. An officer rode along the line, ordering those who were unable to walk to step out of the line. Thinking that if there was a chance to ride to Richmond I would take advantage of it, I stepped out. We were taken back to the building and remained there until Fremont's cavalry (I think it was) dashed in and captured our guards and several of their wounded and stragglers. We were then sent to Washington, and after a visit from President Lincoln and Surg.-Gen. Barnes were discharged by orders from the War Department.

After bracing up I enlisted again in the Fall of the same year in Co. M, 6th Ohio Cav., and did no hospital duty afterward, with the exception of a few weeks from wound in arm received at Malvern Hill in a cavalry skirmish, and carried our colors from Petersburg to Appomattox, and was again discharged by orders from the War Department on account of close of war. The 6th Ohio Cav. was a gallant regiment and did some fine work, of which I should like to hear through the pens of Adj't A. W. Fenton, Cleveland, O., or Maj. M. H. Cryer, Philadelphia, Pa.—E. M. SUPPLEE, Co. I, 29th Ohio, and Co. M, 6th Ohio Cav., Camden, N. J.

A QUEER COMPANY.

Ohio Boys who Followed Washington's Example.

EDITOR NATIONAL TRIBUNE: Although not a story writer, I will endeavor to relate an incident which happened in connection with my army experience. In 1865 I was stationed with my company at Danville, Ky., and I prided myself on having one of the best-drilled and most moral companies in Gen. Hobson's Department. The boys were always regular in their attendance at church and Sabbath-school, and I would have been willing to make affidavit that not one of them would take anything that did not belong to him. The citizens of Danville all said that it was the first company of soldiers they had ever seen who would not steal. In fact, a brood of chickens belonging to Mr. Hackney, who lived beside the camp, were hatched and grew to full-sized crowers, and not one of them disappeared.

But after having been stationed there about six months, the complaint reached my ears that my boys were stealing milk from an old rebel lady living two miles from camp, known in that neighborhood as "The Blue Goose." She first complained to the Provost-Marshal of the city. He called my attention to the matter, but admitted that it was certainly a mistake, as he did not believe that any of the boys of my company would be guilty of anything of the kind. "The Blue Goose" next called at my quarters, and, in great wrath, demanded that I make my boys quit milking her cows. I told her I did not believe that I had a man in the company who would be guilty of such an act; that they had been reared by Christian parents, and that now, while out in defense of their country, they were regular in attendance at church, and that a number of them had been appointed teachers in the M. E. Sabbath-school. She insisted that the boys were guilty, and that she had seen every one of them milking her cows. Gen. Frye, whose home was in Danville, was at that time in command at Camp Nelson, and to him the old lady made her complaint.

The General came to my camp and informed me that an old rebel lady had complained to him that my boys were milking her cows. I told him that I was very confident there was not a word of truth in the complaint, and to prove it to him invited him to come to inspection at my quarters the next morning (Sabbath) at 10 o'clock, and that I would ask the boys, in his presence, whether they were guilty. I informed the boys that Gen. Frye would be present at inspection in the morning, and that I would expect everything to be in the best of order, but said nothing to them about "The Blue Goose" matter.

Promptly at 10 o'clock the next morning the General was on hand. I called the company out, feeling proud of their soldierly appearance and still prouder that they, by their denial, would vindicate themselves from the unjust charge of stealing. After the inspection the General, in a neat little speech, complimented the boys on their fine soldierly appearance, and said that he was glad to hear of their regular attendance at church. It spoke volumes for their early training and good morals. After the General's talk, I called the company's attention to the complaint of their stealing "The Blue Goose's" milk, and then said: "Every man who is guilty of the charge, step three paces to the front!" Every darned man stepped out except one! Corp'l White remained in his place, looking as innocent as a babe. I looked at the General and thought I could detect a smile on his countenance, and then turned to the Corporal and asked him why he did not step forward with the rest of the company. He replied that he had not milked any of "The Blue Goose's" cows. I asked him how in the world he resisted the temptation, when all the others were guilty. He replied, "Well, Captain, I had all that I could do to hold the cows." Still proud of my company, I turned to the General and asked him what he thought of that company. He replied, smiling, "That is the first company of George Washingtons I ever saw." The company was then dismissed, and instructed by the Captain to not forget to attend church at 11 o'clock and Sabbath-school at 3 p. m.—M. D. RODOCKER, Captain, Co. D, 185th Ohio, Fairview, O.

FOR NERVOUS DISEASES
Use Horsford's Acid Phosphate.

Dr. F. G. KELLY, Alderton, W. T., says: "I have prescribed it in a large number of cases of restlessness at night, and nervous diseases generally, and also in cases of indigestion caused by lack of sufficient gastric juice of the stomach, with marked success, and consider it one of the best remedies known to the professional world."

"A $2 Washing Machine Free."—To introduce them we will give away 1,000 self-operating washing machines. No washboard or rubbing required. If you want one send your name to The Monarch Laundry Works, 420 Wabash Ave., Chicago, Ill.

GETTYSBURG.

What Regiment Supported Berdan's Sharpshooters?

EDITOR NATIONAL TRIBUNE: An article appeared in the New York *World* July 3, 1888, which purported to contain interviews with Gen. Longstreet, of the rebel army, and Gen. Berdan, commanding the U. S. Sharpshooters at the battle of Gettysburg July 1, 2, 3, 1863. The accounts given are so unjust and inaccurate that I think they were not given by the men who took such a prominent part in this particular action; therefore, I wish to give another version of the affair, and, as I was a participant and was captured at the time, think I can rectify the mistakes which were made either by the reporter or the two Generals.

The point of difference is as to who supported the Sharpshooters. Gen. Berdan being made to say that it was a Michigan regiment, while I testify to the fact that it was the 3d Me., which fact I can prove by the testimony of both Union and Confederates, regarding this reconnoissance. Gen. Berdan is also made to say that his Sharpshooters were supported by a Michigan regiment, when it is a well-known fact that we had no such regiment in our brigade. My regiment entered the woods, as described in the article above-referred to, far in advance of the line of battle of our corps, and acted as supports to the Sharpshooters as long as such support was necessary. As soon as the skirmish-line, which was composed of the Sharpshooters, became engaged, our regiment advanced to their support, and from this time on until we were compelled to retire, because of the fearful odds against us (but not until we had accomplished the work for which we had been sent, which was the location of the enemy's position and strength), we were one compact line, neither regiment being in advance of the other, and all are entitled to equal credit for what was accomplished.

I think I am correct in stating that the entire force was under command of Col. M. B. Lakeman, 3d Me., but cannot assert this positively. Yet Col. L. seemed to be the master spirit, and on account of his reputation as a fighting Colonel he should have had command if he did not, which I do not admit. For years it has been a part of the written history of the battle of Gettysburg that the 3d Me. was the supports of the Sharpshooters, no one ever having before questioned or disputed their claim to having assisted for a time in holding in check a portion of Hill's (not Longstreet's) Corps.

I take up the cudgels for my regiment and its Colonel, as he was absent from the Reunion last year at Gettysburg, and because it is a matter which concerns every member of our command who were present on the battlefield in July, 1863. I claim, therefore, and can prove by Gen. J. H. Hobert Ward, our brigade, Gen. David B. Birney, our division, and Gen. Daniel E. Sickles, our corps commanders, that the 3d Me., with 197 rifles present for duty on July 2, and the 100 Sharpshooters were the only soldiers who met this Confederate force in the woods that morning; and that the work done by our unmentioned regiment can best be told by comparing the losses of our command with that of the Sharpshooters and see which numbers the most. This can easily be done, as the official records are available and anyone can examine them as to losses on this and the other days of the battle.

If Gen. Berdan places a monument on this advanced line to get the credit for his command of being the farthest advanced and most exposed body of troops at Gettysburg July 2, then the 3d Me., with equal right, should place its monument there; for the Sharpshooters cannot claim precedence by a single foot of God's green earth that we soaked with our blood that day.

All we want is justice, and as a command do not claim that we were all heroes, but that we simply did our duty, as did all on those three days of battle; and we are not more deserving of special recognition than thousands of soldiers who gave up their lives for the cause on this bloody battlefield.

The following letters from ex-Confederates who took part in the engagement alluded to explain themselves and bear me out in my statements:

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19, 1889.

Mr. H. A. JOHNSON.

DEAR SIR: In reply to your letter of the 18th inst., referring to a small collision between Confederate and Union troops in the morning of July 2, 1863, at Gettysburg, and which you say was, as to the latter force, misrepresented in the newspapers, and also personally by Gen. Longstreet, I will state as follows:

The collision referred to was between the 10th Ala., (Col. W. H. Forney,) of Wilcox's Brigade, Anderson's Division, Hill's Corps, and the 3d Me. and Berdan's Sharpshooters of the Union army, or of a detachment made up of details from those two commands; the fact as to the last-mentioned troops was ascertained as soon as the firing ceased, by conversations with prisoners and the wounded left on the field.

It was quite a spirited little fight of 20 or more minutes, and brought to the front several staff officers, who inquired if we needed reinforcements. Although a small affair it may be not without interest to know how it was brought about, at least on the side of the Confederates.

Maj.-Gen. R. H. Anderson, my immediate commander, and myself, rode to the front towards the then right of the Confederate line, to determine where the right of his command should rest, and which I was to hold. From the crest of the ridge we looked to the front and beyond the Confederate right across a field, and it was decided that his right should rest against a woods to the right, or in lookout of the field.

Upon the arrival of my command it was marched toward the point indicated, and the 10th Ala. was thrown forward to explore the woods as an act of precaution, and the 11th Ala. (Col. Saunders) was ordered to advance in the open field on the left and slightly in the rear of the 10th. The latter regiment had moved into the woods but a short distance when a few shots were heard, followed quickly by a brisk fire. While the fight on the Confederate side was made by the 10th, a few men of the 11th Ala. were wounded, including Maj. Fletcher, who lost a leg.

In the same woods from which this small Union force was driven about 9 o'clock a. m. the division of Gen. McLaws, of Longstreet's Corps, formed about 10 p. m.

Very respectfully and truly,
C. M. WILCOX.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, U. S.,
WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 18, 1889.

To Lieut. H. A. JOHNSON.

DEAR SIR: I am in receipt of your favor of the 16th inst., desiring to know what Federal troops made a reconnoissance on the morning of the 2d of July at Gettysburg in the thick woods on the Confederate right. In reply I have the honor to state that early in the morning of the 2d of July my regiment (10th Ala., Wilcox's Brigade, Anderson's Division, A. P. Hill's Corps) was ordered to make a reconnoissance of the woods on the Confederate right and rear, what is known as the Peach Orchard. We had an engagement in the woods, and we took some prisoners. The prisoners taken said they belonged to the 3d Me. and to two companies of Berdan's U. S. Sharpshooters. About the same time we were engaged the 11th Ala., of our brigade, was also engaged on my left with some troops who were behind a rock fence. I do not know with what troops the 11th Ala. were engaged.

I take this occasion to bear testimony to the bravery and gallantry of the 3d Me. and the two companies of Berdan's Sharpshooters. The affair lasted about 20 minutes. My loss was 37 killed and wounded—about one-tenth of my command.

I am, dear sir, your obedient servant,
W. H. FORNEY.

—H. A. JOHNSON, Lieutenant, Co. B, 3d Me., Worcester, Mass.

A Curious Puzzle.

[*Boston Saturday Evening Gazette.*]

The following is a very curious puzzle: Open a book at random and select a word within the first 10 lines, and within the 10th word from the end of the line. Mark the word. Now double the number of the page and multiply the sum by 5; then add 20; then add the number of the line you have selected; then add 5. Multiply the sum by 10; add the number of the word in the line. From this sum subtract 250, and the remainder will indicate in the unit column the number of the word; in the 10 column the number of the line, and the remaining figures the number of the page.

Listen Now.

It is on the principle we are eventually induced to accept an oft-repeated song that we present to your attention these modest little bulletins of Compound Oxygen.

DECATUR, GA., July 29, 1888.

My son is now in good health. He has had no attack of bronchitis since taking Compound Oxygen. MRS. A. A. CONN.

MAPLE VALLEY, WIS., May 14, 1887.

Compound Oxygen has saved me again, with God's blessing, and I feel very thankful to Him, and to you, of course. MRS. G. M. JUDD.

GREENFIELD, O., April 23, 1887.

My complicated disease is evidently giving way to Compound Oxygen. Am better in every respect. MRS. B. T. GRISWOLD.

We publish a brochure of 200 pages, regarding the effect of Compound Oxygen on invalids suffering from consumption, asthma, bronchitis, dyspepsia, catarrh, hay fever, headache, debility, rheumatism, neuralgia; all chronic and nervous disorders. It will be sent, free of charge, to any one addressing DRS. STARKEY & PALEN, 1529 Arch St., Phila., Pa.; or 120 Sutter street, San Francisco, Cal.

PICKET SHOTS.

From Alert Comrades All Along the Line.

Information Asked and Given.

W. R. Carter, Sergeant, Co. C, 1st Tenn. Cav., Knoxville, Tenn., says that Comrade John T. Chiles, of Post No. 14, who was a Captain of Co. H, 1st Tenn. Inf., on the raid to Knoxville in June, 1863, while crossing the Clinch River, several of the 45th Ohio M't'd Inf. were drowned. If any of the regiment know anything of the facts they will please address him. This information is wanted; the remains are to be placed in the National Cemetery; they are now buried on the bank of the river. He refers to the Bird and Saunders raid, just before Burnside came to Knoxville, in August, 1863.

Charles D. Hillman, Sergeant, Co. H, 7th Iowa Cav., Severy, Kan., wants to know the whereabouts of John H. Brooks and John H. Allen, of his company; also of Mrs. Malisa Rawley, whose husband was killed by the Indians in the Winter of 1866.

Joseph Weber, Hampton, Va., wishes the address of Mat C. Weber, 1st U. S. Art., who witnessed the destruction of his house and other property in Virginia. The writer is a Frenchman, who was neutral, but living under the Federal flag near Fort Monroe at the time.

George W. Owens, Co. G, 33d Ind., Columbus, Ind., wants the address of the man who was shot in the wrist and had the ball cut out at the hospital in Columbia, Tenn., about the 7th of April, 1863. He has a curiosity to hear from him, as he assisted in holding his arm during the operation.

John J. Walter, Co. A, 8th Mo., Millsboro, Pa., would like the name and address of the comrade who in 1865 assisted him near Little Rock, Ark., to the tent of the Surgeon of an Ohio regiment in the city. He would also like to hear from any of his regiment.

H. Peasiee, Box 40, Aniwa, Wis., desires the address of William Burch, Co. K, 19th Iowa.

Lon Poyser, Co. B, 35th Ind., Ligonier, Ind., would like to know the whereabouts of Willis B. Keith, who was the Orderly Sergeant of his company; also the address of Col. Augustus G. Tassin, 35th Ind. [The address of Col. Tassin is Fort Sully. He is First Lieutenant in the 12th Inf.—EDITOR.]

Henry S. Blaisdell, Oakdale, Fla., says that Oliver Patten, Hampden, Me., enlisted in a Maine regiment at Bangor and went into the battle of the Wilderness, but has never been heard from since. Any information of him will be thankfully received.

C. W. Adams, Co. K, 11th Ohio Cav., Greenfield, O., says that at Fort Halleck, Nev., in the Winter of 1864, '65, he saw the hide of a negro nailed to the end of the hospital, as he had before seen coon skins stretched to dry. He desires to know what this skinning meant and all about it.

Mrs. F. A. Sampson, Grinnell, Iowa, wishes to know if any comrade remembers in the hospital at Washington, D. C., in the years 1862 and 1863, Martha A. Harris, better known as "Aunt Martha," and the girl Lizzie.

Jacob Fisher, Co. K, 111th Mo., Henker, Mo., wishes the addresses of Capt. Wm. S. Stewart, Co. K, 111th Mo., formerly of St. Louis; when last heard from he was in Colorado. He belonged to Ransom Post, St. Louis; also of Dennis E. Coogan, First Sergeant, Co. K, 111th Mo.; last heard from in Pulaski County, Mo.

Anyone knowing anything about Edward Ousey, Co. D, 20th Ohio, having his hand injured will greatly aid his aged widow by writing to her at Westerville, O.

Judge H. S. Harmon, 805 N. Market street, St. Louis, Mo., says: "Capt. Thomas James, jr., late of Co. I, 82d C. T., died one year ago, and his widow is applying for a pension. She has two little children, is a perfect lady, and deserving. She must have an affidavit of some comrade or brother officer. Any information will be appreciated by her."

Mrs. M. Bausman, Pendleton, Ind., says there has been a soldier living in their town since the close of the war, who was badly hurt on the head, and knows nothing but that his name is Owen, and that he had a red-headed wife. When he came to the town he had on an Arkansas uniform. He has lived with the Dayhuff sisters at their hotel since he came to the town. The writer's husband was a soldier, and saw this man somewhere in the South. He is quite tall, has sandy hair, fair complexion and blue eyes. She thinks that with proper treatment his reason might be restored.

W. H. Jeffrey, of Newburyport, Mass., desires the address of all prisoners who were confined in Richmond, Va., in 1861 and up to April, 1862, with company, regiment and State; also, to know where confined, where taken, and who was in charge of the prison during time of capture.

Frank B. Fobes, President of the 5th Minn. organization, Albert Lea, Minn., says that any member of the 5th Minn. who has a diary or letters that will give any information of the movements of the regiment during the war, will confer a favor by forwarding a copy of the same to Hon. L. F. Hubbard, Red Wing, Minn., who is one of the commission appointed by an act of the Legislature to prepare and publish a history of Minnesota organizations during the war of 1861-'5, and the Indian war of 1862.

C. O. Gardner, Byron, Neb., says: "I wish to ask why there used to be so much said by the Western army men about the Army of the Potomac? From the reading of their account of it, one would think each man of the Army of the Potomac had a cow and a feather bed. At the Reunions now I hear them dubbed feather-bed soldiers, and some will ask of them: 'What have you done with your cows, and have you any soft bread,' etc. Now I wish some of the boys of the Western army would tell me why the Eastern army was not just as good, man for man, as the former. I had relatives in both, and I thought they were all equal."

Thomas Scurrah, Oxbow, N. Y., a private of Capt. S. R. Bingham's 3d Mass. H. A., desires the address of George Wallace, a First Sergeant in his regiment, and of George Button, or any other soldier of that regiment, as he wishes to complete his application for pension.

Adeline Silvester, Trinidad, Colo., would like the address of W. F. Silvester, and to know if he is a pensioner and to what regiment he belonged during the war.

E. S. Hotham, 622 Walnut street, Allentown, Pa., was on the U. S. Frigate Savannah from 1854 to 1859. Should this meet the eye of any of his mates, he would be pleased to have them write to him. He would especially like to know the whereabouts of Bolton, of Bandsman's mess.

H. H. White, Sergeant, Co. F, 15th N. Y. Cav., corner Eighth and Walnut streets, Des Moines, Iowa, would like to know if there has ever been a history of the 23d N. Y. or of the 15th N. Y. Cav. written; if so, where he can obtain it.

Basil Taylor, Holiday, Ill., would like the addresses of Daniel Riley, William Kennedy, and P. P. F. Chacey, all of Co. I, 7th V. R. C., who may remember the writer's sickness while in Cincinnati, O., during the war.

Emil Ninas, 17 W. Fifth street, Kansas City, Mo., desires the name of the hospital which was located in the new hotel in St. Louis in the Winter of 1861, '62, and the name of the Surgeon in charge of the said hospital. Some of the wounded of Fremont's Bodyguard, who participated in that famous charge under Maj. Zagonyi at Springfield, Mo., were in this hospital.

D. F. White, Reasnor, Iowa, thinks THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE the best medium in the United States for finding old soldiers. His father, H. C. White, was a member of Co. C, 25th Ohio, and was wounded while charging at Ball's Bluff. He would like to hear from any member of his father's regiment regarding him. He would also like to know where he can obtain a history of the 25th Ohio.

Geo. Brentlinger, Co. G, 20th Ohio, Mt. Vernon, O., a comrade of Joe Hooker Post, No. 21, Department of Ohio, has first-class photos of the battleflags of the following regiments: 3d, 4th, 15th, 20th, 24th, 27th, 32d, 39th, 43d, 63d, 64th, 65th, 68th, 76th, 78th, 82d, 96th, 102d, 121st, 142d and 176th Ohio. Each set separate. Cabinet size, 25 cents (stamps or silver); size 14 x 17, for framing, $1.15, by express, prepaid.

H. W. Phelps, Westerville, O., says: "Anyone knowing anything about McKendree Sebring, Co. H, 95th Ohio, getting sunstruck at Tupelo, Miss., July 13, 1864; also of John B. Daniels, same company and regiment, getting injured in the back at Richmond, Ky., Aug. 30, 1862; or of Henry F. Sisco getting injured in back at same place and time; or anyone who can give evidence of John Brennie, same company and regiment, being sick at any time, will please address me also; wanted—the address of Isaac S. T. England, Co. H, 95th Ohio; Marcus L. Stansbury, Captain, 95th Ohio, and Wm. Ward, Lieutenant