

MY FIRST BATTLE

By James Reagin, Bloomfield, Iowa.

When Grant first started with his show, It was a small concern; The monkeys badly trained, you know, The elephant slow to learn...

Leaving St. Louis, Mo., Feb. 10, 1862, the 2d Iowa embarked on board the steamer T. J. Magill, headed down the Mississippi river for— we knew, not where. On arriving at Cairo, Ill., we found other steamers loaded with troops...

In thirty minutes after the gunboats opened fire the enemy hauled down their flag and "skedaddled" to the east fourteen miles to Ft. Donelson.

With the gunboats down the Tennessee, up the Ohio, from thence up the Cumberland, landing on the west bank three miles below Donelson, very early on the morning of the 14th, it was extremely cold, having snowed the night before...

We had covered the river from the woods when the devils opened on us. The first volley sounded like a crash of thunder, and the balls flew round us like hail...

Some fell to the floor, some turned double somersaults out, some rolled around, and some never knew how they got out. We were a confused mass, with teeth chattering, faces white as chalk, hair straight up, eyes bulging out and feet quivering.

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The Right Wing Driven Back. The ball opened early on the morn-

ing of the 15th on the right wing of our army. The enemy tried to cut their way through our lines and make their escape toward Nashville, but were driven back with terrible slaughter on both sides.

These consisted of earthworks constructed with trenches inside and out. On top of this logs were laid, elevated so as to take aim between the logs and top of breastwork. These works were on the summit of a ridge, and in front of them was a cleared space about six yards wide; then for the distance of about 150 yards an abatis was built up of fallen logs, with sharp branches to prevent an advance upon the fortifications.

From the abatis to the bottom of the hill there was a skirt of open woods, and at the bottom of the ravine stood a tall fence. The works were defended by the 2nd Kentucky (rebel) and a Tennessee regiment. They being on the enemy's extreme right, of course, were crack troops. We did not begin the forenoon, but between 12 and 1 o'clock we were ordered to fall in immediately.

When our regiment had formed Gen. Smith and Acting Brig. Gen. Sumner rode along our line, and told us it was their desire that we should take the works which I have tried to describe. Gen. Smith gave us a nice talk, telling us our success depended on our not firing a shot until we got inside the works, and to move steadily until we reached the line of abatis, then every one of us to start double-quick and get inside, fire and use our bayonets would. Six hundred were in line that day. The color guard on duty that day was composed of six soldiers, one sergeant and five corporals.

The march was made in the morning of the 14th. It was extremely cold, having snowed the night before, and we started at once, in company with several other regiments, to make connection with the troops that had come across from the north two days before. An hour's march brought us to the other forces, and we joined on to the preceding day the 15th Iowa and 25th Indiana had engaged the enemy, and were stopped in with considerable loss. We stopped in a small ravine, filled our canteens, and then took a position on the extreme left, on a gentle slope, covered with heavy timber, 500 yards from the right of the enemy's outworks.

There were his last words. Capt. Cloutman was shot dead. The color guard, with their bayonets fixed to their rifles, were ordered to march up and kill. As he falls Corporal Churcher snatches the colors, and his arm is shot off. Corporal Grant, Sherman, McPherson and Logan, fighting great battles, and winning brilliant victories in every battle. An army that in all its marching and fighting from Donelson to Vicksburg, in 1862, never was driven from a battle field in defeat.

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side him, the lock of hair, a brown lock, tinged with gray, was in his hand. As he lifted the tress of hair to his lips, as his eyes looked feebly out across the misty sea that binds the shores of life and death, as if he saw his mother reaching out toward him with arms that had nursed him in infancy, to die, alas, fighting against his country, and against the counsels of her whose memory lived latest in his departing soul.

The Jewish Sabbath and the Christian Lord's. "Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holiday, or of the new moon, or of the Sabbath day."

Our Saviour certainly was not a doctor of theology with metaphysical dogmas in his head; much less was he a lawyer like Moses, with a book of Leviticus, full of ceremonial, judicial, sanitary and political regulations, affecting the external conduct of individuals and the material framework of society.

Christianity is not a religion of ordinances, so when we turn up that most valuable record of the earlier doings of the church, the acts of the apostles, we find that when St. Paul, in the course of his missionary work, was at Thessalonica, on the first day of the week assembled there to break bread, and took advantage of the occasion to deliver to them an epistolary discourse.

That they should not forget the assembling of themselves together as the manner of some is. These passages interpreted by the nature of the circumstances and by the universal practice through long centuries, simply prove that the day of the week called by the Romans Sunday, so called by the Jews the first day of the week, was afterward called by the Christians "The Lord's Day," (the dies Dominica of the Western Calendar) and if not by direct apostolic institution, certainly with apostolic approval and sanction, fixed by them for their weekly meetings as a church, for the sake of religious worship and exhortation.

After the reading, the president of the meeting gives an address, exhorting to the excellent things that have been read. Then all rise and pray. And when the prayer is finished, bread and wine and water are brought around, and the president prays and gives thanks according to his power, and the distribution is then made, and the participants in the elements, which have been blessed, also are sent around to the deacons to those who may be absent. Then the meeting among us is every one according to his power, gives a contribution, and the sum when collected, is deposited with the president and he out of these contributions gives help to orphans and widows, to sick persons or those who are in prison, to strangers and equally to all in want, and the reason why we come together on the day of the Sun is because it is the first day of the week, the day in which God, scattering the darkness, brought light out of chaos, and the day also in which Christ our Saviour rose from the dead, for on the day before the day of Saturday he was crucified, and on the day after Saturday (which is the day of the Sun) he appeared unto his disciples and taught them these things which we have delivered unto you.

The author in his dialogue with Trypho, the Jew (8) introduces his adversary, saying "If therefore you will hear me, first be circumcised, then keep according to our custom, the Sabbath day, and the feasts and the new moons and generally do all that is written in the law, then God will have mercy on you."

This is distinct enough; and his own, the Christian point of view, is no less sharply outlined. (12:18, 43.) "You pride yourself on circumcision in the flesh, but what you need is a new circumcision of the heart; and the new law enjoins on all men a per-

PEOPLE'S PULPIT

The Courier Will Publish Signed or Unsigned Expression of Its Readers Upon Receipt of Name of Writer Must Be Known to the Publisher, However.

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CHARITON. J. E. Roberts, who has been manager of the Clarinda Poultry Co., plant at this place has been transferred to Leon, and James B. McEndree of that place, comes back to Chariton. Mr. McEndree and family formerly resided here and their many friends will welcome their return, although they regret the departure of Mr. and Mrs. Roberts.

Miss Olive James left yesterday for Spearfish, S. D., where she has accepted a position as saleslady in a large dry goods establishment. Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Graves have gone to Wheatland, Wyo., on an extended trip. S. McKiven has returned from a few days' business trip to Prairie City. C. A. Pettyjohn and family of Lowell Neb., former residents of this place, are moving back to Chariton. Miss Ella Arrivison has gone to Perry, where she will trim in a millinery establishment the coming season.

Mrs. Mary Bowers has returned from Burlington, where she had been spending three weeks with her brother, W. Badger, and family. Mrs. J. W. Vickory of Everist, who has been visiting in this city with her sister Mrs. Clarence Homsher, left yesterday for a visit in Palsdale, Neb., with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Beadle, who formerly resided here. G. J. Stewart has returned from Chicago, where he had been spending a few days with his son, H. B. Stewart and family, and transacting business. Mrs. E. H. Perry, of the Depot hotel left yesterday for a visit in Princeton, Ill., with her mother. Miss Laura Buck of Davenport came yesterday for a visit with her sister, Mrs. G. W. Pfaff. Mrs. S. S. Arnold left yesterday for a brief visit with friends in Ottumwa and will then go to Chicago to spend a few weeks with her grandchildren, the sons and daughters of the late Mrs. Rose Shannon.

Mrs. J. P. Hardin visited in Osceola yesterday with her parents. Fred Dunshee has been in Des Moines the past few days, attending the meeting of the Iowa State Retail Hardware Dealers' association.

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Ottumwa Optical Co. Upstairs Over New 5 and 10c Store. Ask for Dr. Hansell.

KIRKVILLE PIONEER DEAD Kirkville, March 5.—(Special).—Mrs. Helen M. Randall, aged 60, a Kirkville pioneer, died at the home of her brother, W. S. McLean, yesterday, of apoplexy. She was sick but one hour and a half. Mrs. Randall was brought to Kirkville with her parents fifty-nine years ago when she was but one year old. Her husband preceded her in death. An adopted son, Artie Randall, lives in California. The funeral will be held Sunday at 11 o'clock in the Methodist Episcopal church. Rev. J. C. Becker will conduct the services, interment in Kirkville cemetery.

CASTORIA For Infants and Children. The Kind You Have Always Bought. Bears the Signature of J. C. Watson.