

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE "SIXTIES"

IN CHARITON COUNTY, MO.

BY CAPTAIN LOUIS BENECKE
BRUNSWICK, MISSOURI

(CONTINUED.)

Notwithstanding my care to prevent lawlessness by soldiers, I learned of many shameful acts by soldiers or men wearing union uniforms, whose identity could not be established, yet whose transgression was attributed first to "Benecke's men," and in course of time to "Benecke." Their presence annoyed me because in several instances I had to detail men of my own company to guard the persons and property of citizens, hence I wrote a special request to Gen'l Fisk asking him to relieve me of the command of the 62nd regiment of enrolled militia of Missouri, of which the following is a copy:

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
BRUNSWICK, MO.,
Nov. 27, 1864.

GENERAL CLINTON B. FISK,
Commanding Dept. North Missouri,
Macon, Mo.

GENERAL:—I beg to submit the suggestion that you order the 62nd E. M. M., now here under my command, to return to their counties, because the discipline of these troops is bad and I have been compelled to use a part of my company to guard persons and property from depredation threatened by some of them, and hence would be glad to be relieved.

I beg to submit my order No. 3 and 4 for your information and trust that each may meet your approval.

I have the honor to be, sir,
Very Respectfully,
LOUIS BENECKE,
Capt. Co. I, 49th Reg. Mo. Vol. Com. Post.

The general granted my request and transferred the 62nd regiment to upper counties.

This left me free to devote my time to look after the enemy, and also to relieve many families whose husbands or sons were either in the army or did not feel safe in Chariton county.

I applied for advice to Gen'l Fisk, of which the following is a copy of one of my letters:

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
BRUNSWICK, MO.,
Dec. 1, 1864.

BRIG. GENERAL CLINTON B. FISK,
Commanding District of North Missouri.

GENERAL:—There are a number of families residing in this place whose husbands are soldiers in the federal army, (the most of which belong to the ninth regiment M. S. M.) that are almost destitute of food. All of them have suffered greatly by the late raiders and guerrillas that have been through this place. Their husbands have not drawn pay for five or six months, and in consequence of it their means of subsistence is very small. I have for some time supplied those families with some articles of food, such as beef and flour. I will be much

pleased if you will inform me as to what course would be most proper to pursue in regard to those families—as to the alleviation of their wants and as to the manner in which they are to be supplied with the necessities of life.

L. BENECKE,
Capt. Co. I, 49th Mo.
HEADQUARTERS DIST. OF NORTH MO.,
MACON, MO., Dec. 7th, 1864.

CAPTAIN:—The general commanding directs me to say that yours of December 1st received and contents noted.

The ninth cavalry, M. S. M., has just been paid all arrearages; most of them six and some eight months pay, and should send a portion at least of their earnings to their families.

The rich rebels about Brunswick should be advised to furnish occasionally an animal for beef, to be distributed among sufferers, and in other ways to contribute to their comfort and support.

I have the honor to be, captain,
Very respectfully,
Your obedient,
W. T. CLARKE,
First Lieut. and A. D. C.,
Capt. Louis Benecke, Commanding,
Brunswick, Mo.

Some of the old citizens still living here, including families of confederate or sympathizers of the South, but who were in distress and unable to purchase necessities of life, will undoubtedly remember that provisions were made for their sustenance, until law and order was re-established so that stores were re-opened and supplies were made available to them.

It is now a source of gratification to me to know that I had the opportunity of securing relief to many, the political opinions of whose fathers, husbands or brothers were opposed to those of my own.

At that time we had no assurance that the war would end during the next year.

To fortify several places became advisable. As Keytesville courthouse was burned by rebel forces, and the town had no fortification, I ordered a substantial stockade to be erected, and when it was completed one company could have resisted a whole regiment, unless attacked by artillery, for an indefinite time by the protection the stockade gave.

I placed Lieut. Wrockloff in command of the Keytesville post till the stockade was completed. While at work on it he wrote me a letter which I consider of sufficient interest to reproduce here as it throws additional light upon the affairs as they existed at that time. So here it is:

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
POST, KEYTESVILLE, MO.,
November 23, 1864.

CAPT. LOUIS BENECKE:

DEAR SIR:—Your favor of the 22nd came to hand last night at 9 o'clock. I am sorry to hear of your being unwell, but hope it is not serious. The messenger I dispatched this morning to your headquarters returned here with your orders at 1 o'clock. I gave the orders to Capt. Holland, who is perfectly reconciled in staying here. We had started out a scout to-day of twenty-six men, mainly composed of Capt. Holland's men, in search of a union man, who had gone in the direction of Salisbury, yesterday morning, but had not yet returned, and his brother-in-law, "Kerr," firmly believed that he was murdered by Jackson's gang, which, I am truly sorry to inform you, has actually been done yesterday evening. The body has not yet been found on account of darkness coming on before they could get to the place, where the man had been foully murdered by Jackson's gang. There are now only eight of Jackson's men heard of. We intend to start out another scout early to-morrow morning—thirty men in all, partly to recover the body and partly to strike the trail of these devils. The scout will be commanded by Lieutenant Backer, who seems to be an energetic man. Kerr and Hurt

will act as guides, and it is understood that if this scout should strike the trail of the bushwhackers that they will follow it, till they run them down or fight them. If I had you only here, I would then feel satisfied, that we would run into them, but I suppose, from what you say in your letter, that you have your hands full. If I might judge your business by mine here, then I know that you have got more than you can attend to easily.

The fortress is progressing finely—three sides of the trenches are completed. We will commence setting in the palisades in the morning, and I think we will get all the timbers on the ground by to-morrow evening. The rebels curse me nicely—that tickles me. I love to see them sweat. But how much more will they love me before another month?

I intend keeping most of the teams here after they are done hauling posts, for hauling up forage and firewood, also the darkies for gathering the contraband corn that is in the neighborhood, and have it cribbed in a good place.

Capt. Buckhardt started from here this morning with twenty-two men and four mule teams, at 9 o'clock. But my dear sir, that company is in an abominable lawless condition. It needs a hard hand to keep them in order. I shall try my very best to make these men fit for service, cost what it may. If you will let me know if I shall recruit for our company, then I shall go to work at once.

The rebel women here are just like those you got—every half hour there comes a squad of them to get passes for St. Louis or Illinois. Of course I give them with great pleasure after scaring them first.

Mrs. Salisbury was here to-day to claim protection against federal soldiers, for she says that Capt. Rausch stole nearly everything in her house that he or his men could lay their hands on. I told her that her husband was to blame for not being at home, but that I would grant her every possible protection in my power against bushwhackers and thieves, but as to federal soldiers, that I knew she must be mistaken. She left me in great wrath and I hope will not return.

Sergeant Slister is here; he came in this evening, and says he will stay here till he hears from you, and begs of you to let him know what he shall do.

I received another contraband horse to-day, he is in very bad condition, but I shall keep him subject to your orders.

I have established a good hospital here in the house of Mr. Hershey. There are five patients in it at present.

I have forbidden all sale of liquors, to prevent disorder. It creates a good deal of dissatisfaction among the E. M. M., but I don't care for that.

I have talked myself nearly hoarse standing out on the fortifications, and have besides a dreadful cough, but I feel a great satisfaction in seeing those devils wear.

Let me hear from you by the messenger how you are progressing in cleaning out Chariton county.

I write this at 1 o'clock at night. I shall start the messenger by daybreak. Accept my kindest regards and believe me to be

Always yours truly,
F. B. WROCKLOFF.

N. B.—Interrogate the messenger.

I find that restraint in the disposition of intoxicating liquors became advisable as a military necessity. I caused notice to be served on all beer or liquor dealers, and required them to acknowledge receipt of notice by endorsing their names on my circular letter. I still have the original with their autographs on it, which reads as follows:

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
BRUNSWICK, MO.,
Jan. 7, 1865.

(Circular.)

All dealers in spirits, liquors or intoxicating drinks will strictly comply with the following regulations:

I. A permit to buy whiskey, &c., to a limited quantity must be signed by Capt. Benecke, provost marshal of this county, or his deputy.

II. All such passes must be retained by persons selling on the permits.

III. Liquors mixed with medicines in drug stores on prescriptions of physicians are allowed to be sold without the approval

of the A. A. P. M.
By order of
LOUIS BENECKE,
Capt. 49th Inf. Mo. Vol. Com'dg.
Post & A. A. P. M.

A. MACKAY, Clerk.
SERVICE HEREOF ACKNOWLEDG-

ED BY.
John F. Cunningham, James M. Douglas,
John Hartman, Samuel Helman,
Mrs. X. Witzner, J. B. Norman,
Fred Sasse, John Strub,
J. T. Meyer.

The Andrew Mackay signed as clerk is Mr. Andrew Mackay, now in St. Louis, and is the son of the late Senator Mackay.

A very unpleasant duty placed upon me was the execution of orders notifying women that they were ordered to be sent within the confederate lines; in other words, they were banished from the union to the so-called confederacy.

I made a strong effort to rescind the orders as to several ladies and children whom I had known prior to the war, and whom I held in high regard, notwithstanding their sympathies and activities for the South, but I failed to secure the release of anyone.

One of the orders I found in my scrap-book and copy it here, as it is a scrap of history worth knowing.

OFFICE ASST. PROVOST MARCHAL,
FIRST SUB. DISTRICT, NORTH MO.,
MACON, Jan. 17, 1865.

Special Orders,
No. 8.

In accordance with instructions from Brig. General Fisk, commanding district, North Mo., Mrs. Francis Owens and children residing in Chariton county, Mo., will on the 10th day of March, 1865, report to the provost marshal general, department of the Mo., at St. Louis, Mo., for banishment, beyond the lines of the United States forces, during the existing rebellion in the United States.

D. C. M. KAY, Maj and Asst. Pro. Marshal.
L. BENECKE, Capt. and A. A. P. M.

LIST OF PERSONS TO BE REPORTED FOR BANISHMENT:

Mrs. Rosaline McCord and children.
" Elizabeth McCord and children.
" Elizabeth Scott and children.
" Gemma Thomas.
" Elizabeth Brockman and children
" Flora Moseley and children.
" Mahaley Drew and children.
" Elizabeth Chapman and children.
" Mary Bivens and children.
" Mary Shoemaker and children.
" Marilla Collett and children.
" Elizabeth Owens and children.
" Elizabeth Moseley and children.
" Elizabeth Fuller.
" Elizabeth Triplett and children.
" Elizabeth Haines and children.
" Ann Noble.
" Francis Owens and children.
Miss Sarah Case.

I learned that the order for banishment was almost entirely based upon the report of the secret service man, who freely intermingled with the bushwhackers, and who was supposed to be one of them.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

Can't Work

When you feel that you can hardly drag through your daily work, and are tired, discouraged and miserable, take Cardui, the woman's tonic. Cardui is prepared for the purpose of helping women to regain their strength and health. Not by doping with strong drugs, but by the gentle, tonic action, of pure vegetable herbs.

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Mrs. L. N. Nicholson, of Shook, Mo., writes: "Before I began to take Cardui, I was unable to do any work. I have taken 5 bottles and have improved very much. I can do the most of my housework now."

"I can't say too much for Cardui, it has done so much for me."

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COURIER POINTS.

When a man is stingy he tells you he is "looking after the corners."

No matter how pretty a girl is she looks prettier if she has some sense.

A man who will abuse a child or a dog is going to live in a warm country by and by.

The sanctity of marriage is desecrated when it is bartered for wealth and foreign titles.

None of us are so good that we have a license to sit around and talk of other people's faults.

The man with a sleigh is tickled when it snows, but the man with an auto car looks down his nose.

For a fellow that uses the old-fashioned bow and arrow, Cupid makes a great many big killings.

Many men act as if they were "so many" that we should think their wives would feel as if they had committed bigamy.

The Tennessee orator who gets intoxicated with his own voice wouldn't make much of a temperance talker.

It does not sound reasonable to say that matches are made in heaven when all the sulphur is in the other place.

An eastern man who was down and out went insane and started to bark and bite. It might be said that he went to the dogs.

There is a Texas woman who claims to be 132 years of age. She probably thought it was no use trying to conceal it any longer.

A monkey was operated upon at Omaha for appendicitis not long ago. This is one patient that the doctors didn't have to make a monkey of anyway.

Down in Florida a creamery inspector recently found a baby's shoe in a can of milk. They may have to give a little boot with milk down in that country.

A Marquette man, who thought that he had given his heart to a girl who did not return his affections, plunged a knife into his body and found that he was mistaken.

Carnegie says millionaires have an awful load to carry. He will find plenty of people willing to obey the scriptural injunction: "Bear ye one another's burdens."

The Maryland board of health says it is necessary to keep your mouth shut if you would be healthy. Still, the American woman seems to be in pretty fair physical condition.

An instrument to foretell earthquakes is being perfected by

scientists. That ought to be an invaluable first aid to the married man who stays out a little late with the boys.

When you see a man who is fool enough to try to show off and make a display that is unwarranted by his circumstances you can put him down as the wrong sort to tie to.

While Carnegie is passing around libraries to whomsoever may ask for them; why don't someone ask him for a library of check books with his autograph on each check.

An Indiana cigarette fiend is not sensitive to the pricking of needles or pins. Needles and pins have no terrors to the person who does not recoil from the coffin nails.

Roosevelt's enemies say he is crazy. If this is the case, many people would suggest that it would be a good plan to look through the insane asylums for the next president.

Some delvers into the mysteries of the evolution of man now claim that the human race originally began life in the form of trees. There are a few "sticks" left to bear out the theory.

The Missouri young lady who has succeeded in trisecting an angle, and says she can solve the perpetual motion problem, probably couldn't divide up \$40 a month so as to supply a multiplying family and leave a remainder.

Three billion dollars worth of eggs are laid annually by the hens of the nation. If by their fruit ye shall know them, the hen should be the national bird. Wouldn't biddy look fine on the back of our coins holding a lay in one upraised foot and hanging onto the national debt with the other.

Without Alcohol

| | |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| A Strong Tonic | Without Alcohol |
| A Body Builder | Without Alcohol |
| A Blood Purifier | Without Alcohol |
| A Great Alternative | Without Alcohol |
| A Doctor's Medicine | Without Alcohol |
| Ayer's Sarsaparilla | Without Alcohol |

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from our medicines
We urge you to
consult your
doctor

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