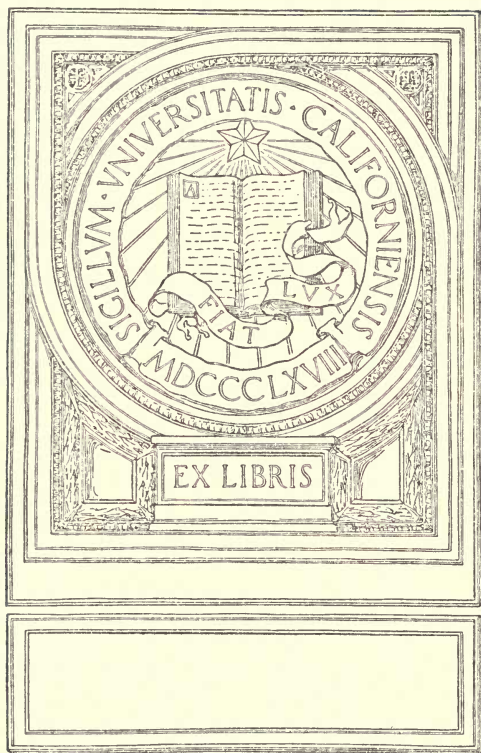


HISTORY <sup>OF</sup>             
THIRD OHIO  
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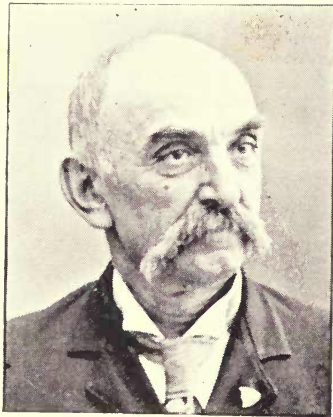








OUR OLD COMMANDER



COL. CHARLES B. SEIDEL  
MEMBER OF THE HISTORY COMMITTEE



HISTORY OF THE SERVICE  
OF  
THE THIRD OHIO VETERAN  
VOLUNTEER CAVALRY

IN THE  
WAR FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE UNION  
FROM 1861-1865

COMPILED FROM THE OFFICIAL RECORDS AND FROM  
DIARIES OF MEMBERS OF THE REGIMENT BY  
SERG'T. THOS. CROFTS, COMPANY C,  
REGIMENTAL HISTORIAN

Univ. of  
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TOLEDO, OHIO  
1910

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## Contents

	PAGE
CHAPTER I—CAMP WORCESTER . . . . .	7
CHAPTER II—CAMP DENNISON . . . . .	18
CHAPTER III—DOWN THE OHIO . . . . .	20
CHAPTER IV—SHILOH . . . . .	23
Marching Across Kentucky—Bardstown—Mumfordsville— Nashville—Assigned to General Wood's Division—On the March—Franklin—Columbia—Lawrenceburg—Scenes at Sa- vannah.	
CHAPTER V—THE SIEGE OF CORINTH . . . . .	26
Crossing the Tennessee—Skirmishing—Scouting—Picket- ing—Patrolling—Marking Time—An Exhibition of the Grand Strategy of War.	
CHAPTER VI—NORTHERN ALABAMA . . . . .	32
Iuka — Tuscomb — Russelville — Courtland — Decatur— Mooresville — Woodville — Gunter's Landing — Fighting Guerrillas.	
CHAPTER VII—BACK INTO KENTUCKY . . . . .	46
General Bragg Crosses the Tennessee—General Buell Marches by the Way of Murfreesboro—Nashville—Bowling Green and Mumfordsville—Guarding Wagon Train—Frank- fort—Lexington.	
CHAPTER VIII—MOVEMENTS OF FIRST BATTALION IN 1862 . . . . .	54
With General Wood's Division—Scouting—Foraging— Picketing—Patrolling—Marching after Bragg—In the Ad- vance—Bowling Green—Mumfordsville—Bardstown Pike— Perryville—Danville—Stanford.	
CHAPTER IX—BATTLE OF STONE RIVER . . . . .	59
General Rosecrans in Command—General Stanley Com- manding Cavalry—Army Concentrates at Nashville—Second Division Cavalry on Right Flank—Franklin—Wilkinsons Cross Roads—Overalls Creek—LaVergne—Shelbyville Pike—Cox's Hill—Reports of Battle.	
CHAPTER X—SIX MONTHS AT MURFREESBORO . . . . .	74
Skirmishes at Woodbury — Liberty—Bradyville—Union- ville—Snow Hill—Franklin — Middleton—LaVergne—Mil- ton—Smithville.	
CHAPTER XI—THE TULLAHOMA CAMPAIGN . . . . .	102
On the Left Flank—Decherd—Manchester—Hillsboro—Elk River — Pulaski— Huntsville— Fayetteville—Winchester— Second Battalion at Cowan and Decherd.	
CHAPTER XII—THE CHICKAMAUGA CAMPAIGN . . . . .	110
Fording the Tennessee—Crossing Sand and Lookout Moun- tain—Roads Blockaded—Skirmish in Chattanooga Valley— Fight at Alpine—Advance to Lafayette—Dougherty's Gap— McLemore's Cove—Glass's Mill—Crawfish Springs—Chase After Wheeler—McMinnville—Murfreesboro—Farmington.	

# Contents.

3

	PAGE
CHAPTER XIII—FIGHTING FOR CHATTANOOGA . . . . .	118
Battles of Lookout Mountain—Chattanooga—Missionary Ridge.	
CHAPTER XIV—THE EAST TENNESSEE CAMPAIGN . . . . .	122
In the Rear of Bragg's Army—Burning Wagon Trains—Cleveland—Calhoun—Loudon—Knoxville—North Carolina—Picketing the Hiawassee—Re-enlishment and Furlough—Attack on Dalton—Move on to Ringold, Ga.—Reports.	
CHAPTER XV—VETERANS IN 1864 . . . . .	144
Columbia—On the March to Join Sherman—Courtland Road—Moulton—Cartersville—On the Left of Sherman's Army—Noonday Creek—Kenesaw—Marietta—Roswell.	
CHAPTER XVI—IN FRONT OF ATLANTA . . . . .	152
Decatur—Covington Raid—Battles of Peach Tree Creek and Atlanta—Stoneman Raid—Flat Rock Shoal—Cross Keys—Buckhead.	
CHAPTER XVII—KILPATRICK'S RAID . . . . .	160
Flint River—Jonesboro—Lovejoy's Station—Swimming Cotton Indian River—By the Right Flank—Battle of Jonesboro—The Fall of Atlanta—Congratulatory Orders—Losses of the Army of the Cumberland.	
CHAPTER XVIII—HOOD MARCHES NORTHWARD . . . . .	175
We Follow—Railroad Torn Up—Telegraph Cut—Battle of Allatoona—Ballots and Bullets—Northern Alabama Again.	
CHAPTER XIX—SHERMAN GOES TO THE SEA . . . . .	179
Regiment Dismounted—Louisville—Raiding for Horses—The Law of Military Necessity.	
CHAPTER XX—MARCHING SOUTH AGAIN . . . . .	184
The Same Old Road—Bardstown Pike—Bowling Green—Nashville—Franklin—Columbia—Lawrenceburg—Gravelly Springs.	
CHAPTER XXI—THE WILSON RAID . . . . .	188
Waterloo—Chickasaw—Buzzard Roost—Russellville—Jasper—Elyton—Randolph—Ebenezer Church—Selma—Montgomery—Columbus—Macon—Results—Reports.	
CHAPTER XXII—OCCUPATION OF MACON . . . . .	199
Searching for Stolen Goods—Chase and Capture of Jefferson Davis—End of the War—Farewell Orders—Mustered Out—Homeward Bound.	
CHAPTER XXIII—MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION . . . . .	211
CHAPTER XXIV—ROSTER OF SURVIVORS . . . . .	225
CHAPTER XXV—ROSTER OF REGIMENT . . . . .	239

*To the Members of the Third Ohio Veteran Volunteer Cavalry Memorial Association:*

COMRADES—Three years ago at your annual reunion in Toledo, Ohio, you selected me to write a history of the service of our grand old regiment.

It was with many misgivings on the part of your historian that he accepted the trust and undertook the work. Knowing something of the many difficulties in the way that must be overcome before the work could be completed in anything like a satisfactory manner.

Many incidents and details are from necessity left out of the history that would have tended to make it both cumbersome and monotonous.

Your historian having an earnest desire to serve you to the best of his ability, has tried in all things to be entirely fair and impartial. He now submits to you the result of his labors, hoping for your kindly approval. To all those comrades who have so kindly encouraged and assisted me in the work I tender my most grateful thanks, and in an especial manner are these due to Colonel Seidel, Captain Howland, Lieutenant Skillman, Sergeant D. J. Prickitt, Philip Henley, William Smith and Dr. G. B. Spencer, for diaries and papers furnished.

Very sincerely your comrade,

THOMAS CROFTS, Regimental Historian.



[INDORSEMENT]

BOODY HOUSE

TOLEDO, OHIO, March 8, 1910.

The History Committee of the Third Ohio Cavalry, in all-day session with the Historian, Comrade Thomas Crofts, held at the Boody House, has this day completed its work, which has been mainly to listen, as at previous sessions, to the reading and approve of the thrilling story which tells in faithful detail the marches and battles of our noble regiment.

Our Historian has done his work with painstaking fidelity. We doubt if there exists elsewhere a regimental history which so completely covers the ground.

As the reading progressed we lived again amid the stirring scenes of that greatest epoch of our history. The story moved on and the hours passed almost unnoticed. Sometimes we laughed and sometimes the tears came, but all the time it was as if we were once more in camp or field, marching "by fours," or lined up for the charge, every nerve quivering at the order to be off and with sabres flashing in the southern sun.

Old Kenesaw loomed fortress-like and threatening and the campaign was as real as though "Uncle Billy" were again the inspiration of his mighty army and Atlanta our goal. Gravelly Springs—ah! We starved again at the mention. Selma—we heard again the shout of the battle and "bombs bursting in air." Macon—we wept again for joy as the flag of truce from the Confederate commander brought the news to our battle front that the war was over.

The clank of sabre, the click of carbine, the incidents of foraging squads, the riotous shout and joy of victory, the remembered music of bugle and regimental band, the hearty comradeship of voices, long silenced in the grave, that came back to us through the mists and vapors of half a century; the glory of great days when heroic decoration was the dust of the march and the grime of the battle with old glory over all, when liberty and the nation were coming to their new birth, these are items in the inventory of heroic wealth, not told "on charge" or balanced by the clearing house, but perpetuated for us by this history of the old Third.

You will read it, comrades, and forget that you are grandfathers. You will say, "I, too, was there," and 'mid the glow of such memories you will not care that you are old or that you may be poor. You will say: "The memories of these deeds are my riches and Old Glory is worth all that it cost,"

A younger generation, enjoying to the full the heritage that our sufferings purchased, may pass the story with little note and short remembrance; but could they hear as we hear the undying voices of the past,

could they see as we see the glory of deeds that saved the Union, they, too, would forget the clamor of commerce and the jargon of political strife and heed the story that illustrates an epoch that made present greatness possible.

For the Committee,

CHARLES O. BROWN,  
Formerly Regimental Bugler.

COL. C. B. SEIDEL,  
DR. CHARLES O. BROWN,  
SERGT. DE WILTON WOOD,  
Committee.

# The History of the Third Ohio Veteran Volunteer Cavalry

BY THOMAS CROFTS

## CHAPTER I.

### CAMP WORCESTER

On the 6th day of August, 1861, Lewis Zahm of Norwalk, was commissioned by the Governor of the State of Ohio to raise a regiment of volunteer cavalry for the United States service, for three years or during the war. The campaign of 1861 had demonstrated that the war was to be no small affair; that the leaders of the South had determined to divide the country, and would exhaust every resource in their mad efforts to do so. The terms of the first volunteers called out for three months had expired, they had been discharged, and President Lincoln had issued a proclamation calling for 500,000 volunteers for three years' service, and the response rang back from factory and farm, from store and school house, "We are coming, Father Abraham, 500,000 more." The whole North became one vast recruiting camp, and in every town and city and village the sound of fife and drum was heard, banners were everywhere flung out and in the midst of it all were bodies of marching men, forming by companies and regiments, getting ready to go to the front to fight for the Union. As soon as Colonel Zahm had received his commission he set men to work recruiting in all the towns of northwestern Ohio, and before the end of August a goodly number of volunteers had signed the muster rolls and were ready to go into camp for instruction. Monroeville, a prosperous town on the Lake Shore Railroad, fifty-three miles east of Toledo, had been selected as the point where the camp should be located. August 28 the first detachment of recruits for the new regiment arrived from Toledo. It consisted of some sixty men under command of Horace N. Howland. As neither tents, camp equipage nor cooking utensils had arrived, we were assigned to quarters in an old warehouse. It stood a little back from the main street with a vacant lot in front, in the center of which stood a flagstaff from the top of which waved our "Star Spangled Banner"—we had not learned to call it "Old Glory" yet—that came later, after we had seen it waving in the smoke of battle. We had no blankets, although some of the boys had foresight enough to bring along bed quilts from home, but the weather was warm, and we had plenty of clean straw, so that we considered ourselves very comfortably situated. It was late in the afternoon when we arrived,

and soon after we were ordered to fall in and march to supper. We found our commissary department established in a building near the center of the town with the dining hall on the second floor, and here we ate our first army meal, and this continued to be our boarding place as long as we were quartered in Monroeville.

There was considerable dissatisfaction manifested at various times in regard to the manner of cooking and serving the meals. There was an abundance, but not much variety; and it was not always well cooked and seasoned or served in a cleanly manner. The coffee was not always "like mother used to make." The beans and soup were frequently scorched; the pork was fat, the beef was tough, and the pie, and pudding and cake, and sauce that we had been used to were conspicuous by their absence. But what the men grumbled about was the dirty, slovenly manner in which the cooking and serving was done. The dissatisfaction of the men finally culminated in a riot during the latter half of September. One morning at breakfast the tables were turned over and wrecked and dishes and food tramped under the feet of the angry men in an indiscriminate mess. The quartermaster was appealed to, but after examining the kitchen and cooking utensils, he discharged the cooks and waiters. A detail of two men from each company was made to serve in their places. The tables were set up, new dishes bought, kettles and cooking utensils cleaned, and everything put in first class shape. It was 4 o'clock in the afternoon before dinner was ready, but it was clean and appetizing, and the men showed their appreciation by giving three cheers for the cooks. Occasionally one of the boys who happened not to be giving strict attention to the matter in hand would find on taking a drink of coffee that some obliging comrade had seasoned it with salt, just for a joke; and it was generally taken in good part, which was by far the best way to take jokes in the army. After the arrival of the first detachment there were fresh arrivals of recruits almost daily—the men being quartered in different buildings about town. The days were spent in drilling on foot, learning different evolutions—keeping step, forming and marching in line, etc. The evenings were passed in singing songs, telling stories and playing various games. There were many good singers among the men, and it was very enjoyable to sit outside the quarters in the quiet evenings and listen to the songs—patriotic or sentimental. Sometimes a foot race would create some excitement among the men. The writer recalls one race in which James H. Zedicher of Company C was one of the contestants. Zedicher did not look like much of a sprinter, but some of the men who knew him said he could run. He had all confidence in himself, and after he had prepared himself he told the boys they need not be afraid to bet their nickels on him. When the men toed the scratch no one would have picked Zedicher for the winner—but the way he shot



forward when the word was given was a revelation. The other fellow never finished—Zedicher got so far ahead he gave it up. After that everybody conceded that Zedicher was in a class by himself. "You can't always tell from the looks of a toad just how far he'll jump." By the tenth of September the regiment had been designated as the Third Ohio Volunteer Cavalry to consist of twelve companies of 100 men each. While we were still quartered in the town an incident occurred that made a deep impression on the men. Two men belonging to the Marine Corps visited Monroeville and succeeded in getting a member of Company C intoxicated, and persuaded him that the navy was the only place for a man to be, with the result that he went with them to Sandusky. The orderly sergeant of his company was sent after him to put him under arrest and bring him back. The sergeant succeeded in locating him and brought him back to camp. He was court martialed for desertion, found guilty, and sentenced to be confined in the guard house for three days on bread and water and to stand on a barrel six hours each day bearing a placard containing the word "Deserter." There was considerable difference of opinion in the regiment regarding the punishment in this case, most of the men thinking it was entirely too severe under the circumstances. But no doubt the officers composing the court believed it best to make an example in this case that would deter any others from a like offense. The writer was well acquainted with this comrade and there is no doubt but that he felt his disgrace keenly, although we do not think that any of his comrades ever reminded him of it. He continued to do his duty as a soldier until he was taken prisoner at Lexington, in October, 1862. He did not return to the regiment after he was exchanged and as far as we know was never afterwards heard from.

About the last of September a lot of axes, hatchets, spades, shovels, and pickaxes arrived and were distributed among the different companies, and the next day details were sent out to the place selected for our camp, and commenced clearing the ground of logs, underbrush and rubbish, and putting it in shape for our tents. On the fourth of October we pitched our tents, and the next day moved with our traps and calamities out to camp. Our first camp was named "Worcester," and was located about half a mile south of Monroeville. The ground was admirably adapted for the purpose on a piece of high, well drained land on the east side of the road—parade ground in front next to the road backed by woods, where our tents were pitched. The Huron river furnished an abundance of good water. The camp was laid out with the streets running east and west, officers tents next to the parade ground. The officers had wall tents, while those of the men were known as Bell tents. Whether they were so named after the man that designed them or because of their resemblance to an old cow bell we were never able to determine. Each

tent was supposed to accommodate twelve men. The only place where a man could stand upright was near the center. We slept on the ground, feet toward the center of the tent, no room for table or chairs, a low box for a seat or table was all that could be utilized. There were no stoves nor fires in the tents, and here we were destined to remain until the middle of January. For more than three months this was our only shelter from rain and snow, storm and sleet, and cold, and all the rigor of a winter in Northern Ohio. Our cooking was all done over open fires built outside the tents. There was no shelter whatever for our cooking arrangements. Each mess was provided with two iron camp kettles, one for making coffee, and the other for meat and vegetables. They also had a skillet for frying meat. Each mess made arrangements for its own cooking, either by changing off or by hiring one of their number to cook all the time. Cooks were excused from most duties in camp. Each company had a strong picket rope stretched the length of the company street, to which the horses were tied when we were in camp. But after we got into active service we had no use for a picket rope. Our horses were tied to the first thing that came handy—fences, trees or buildings. When we moved to camp each man received a knife, fork, spoon, tin plate and cup, canteen and haversack. The day we moved it rained and everything was damp, chilly and disagreeable in the tents, and wet outside.

In addition to the articles mentioned relating to his commissary or subsistence department, the cavalryman when fully equipped had a uniform consisting of change of underclothing, socks and shirts, one pair of trousers, jacket, blouse, overcoat, hat, boots and spurs and double blanket, arms consisting of carbine and sling, saber and belt, revolver and holster, cartridge and cap boxes and screw drivers. Horse and equipments consisting of saddle and saddle blanket, bridle, halter and watering bit, saddlebags, nosebag, lariat rope, and pin, surcingle, currycomb and brush. So, taking it all together, we had many things to look after, some of which we found in the latter years of the war we could dispense with to advantage. The boys that went out in 1861 were the pioneers of the service, and had to learn many things in the bitter school of experience—an experience by which the volunteers who came after were enabled in a large measure to profit. After we moved to Camp Worcester the boundaries of the camp were established, guards posted, and neither officers nor men allowed outside without passes. When our camp equipage came there was a bunch of muskets and bayonets for the camp guard. They came down to us from the Revolution or some other remote period, but they went to the scrap pile when we were through with them, for as the weather grew cold the guards were allowed to have fires on their beats, and the bayonets and gun barrels came handy to poke the burning embers together.

Camp life now commenced in earnest. The bugles sounded the reveille at 5:30 and in a short time the assembly for roll call, when each man must fall in and answer to his name. Then came stable call, when horses must be fed and groomed, then breakfast call. After breakfast the water call would blow and all horses must be taken to water; then came sick call, guard mounting, and then drill, either on foot or mounted. If it was mounted drill, boots and saddles would sound, followed by the assembly—and thus the days passed from reveille in the morning until taps sounded at night. That bugle was constantly calling the men to duty, and we thought its notes seemed to echo with fiendish joy as they broke in on our pleasure and comfort. A story is told of one old trooper who after he had come home from the war paid a bugler \$5 to come and blow the reveille under his bedroom window every morning for a week at 3 o'clock. A friend said to him, "You must think a great deal of those bugle calls." "No," he said, "it's not that, but I just want to have the satisfaction of telling the d—d bugler to go to the d—l and then turning over and going to sleep again." We know that most of the boys will think that he got a lot of satisfaction for a little money. And now a word about the drill: It was the one thing that we always had plenty of. It commenced when we first went to Monroeville and ended with the close of the war. And while we shall have very little, if anything, to say about drilling, after we cross the Ohio into Dixie, yet we wish the reader to understand that it did not stop there, for we never laid in camp at any time during the war for any length of time but the drill was taken up. And this was necessary, not only for our own efficiency, but after the first year in service we were constantly receiving fresh recruits in the regiment, and it was absolutely necessary on their account. The efficiency of a regiment hinges on its drill and discipline. The great majority of the men realized this, and submitted gracefully and cheerfully to the officers placed over them, and the rules governing camp life. And yet it was not always easy to get along without friction. There were some officers that were not always tactful, and there were some men that were difficult to restrain, but we have no doubt that matters progressed as smoothly in the Third Ohio as they did in any other regiment. It was not an easy lesson for the Union volunteers to learn—that obedience to orders is the first duty of a soldier; that it was

"Their's not to make reply,  
Their's not to reason why,  
Their's but to do, and die,"

and that they learned their lesson well was attested on hundreds of battlefields, where they fought and died to uphold the integrity of our nation.

October 8th Captain Flanagan, who had had some experience in the army, drilled the non-commissioned officers of the regiment in cavalry tactics, which we found were entirely different from infantry. On the tenth our first installment of horses was received and from that time forth they continued to arrive almost daily. As they were unbroken and we had no bridles, and in many cases no halters, simply a rope around the horse's neck, they were sometimes rather difficult to control by the rider, but they did not stay in camp very long until they were ridden. The men made bits out of pieces of wood, or rope, and after fixing a sort of bridle would mount the most unruly of them. Sometimes the horse would bolt with his rider and after a wild run come to a sudden stop in front of some ditch or mud hole, pitching his rider head first into it. The boys got no end of fun out of breaking colts. By the middle of October many of the men were badly in need of clothing. The regiment was very much in the same condition as was the army of Washington at Valley Forge. Some were almost barefooted, and taken all together, it presented a rather dilapidated appearance; but on the fifteenth the first installment of clothing arrived and was issued. It consisted of drawers, shirts, boots, caps, and one blanket to each two men. We at once commenced to put on airs, and the next day held our first dress parade, orders being for the men to parade in their shirt sleeves. So we were in uniform, and made a very creditable appearance. The music for the parade was furnished by the Monroeville band. The next Sabbath, October 20, we had dress parade at 10 a. m. and preaching in camp by Chaplain Warner. October 22 our lieutenant colonel, Douglas A. Murray, joined the regiment, promoted from the Second United States Cavalry. A man of fine appearance, he was to be our authority on cavalry tactics. As his name indicates, he was a Scotchman and had a very peculiar brogue, rolling his r's in a wonderful fashion. He gave his commands in a sharp, crisp way, and while it was difficult to understand his words, the men soon learned to know what he meant, although that singular accent afforded us infinite amusement. He conducted our dress parade at 4 p. m., the music being furnished by a drum corps composed of three drummer boys and two Mexican veterans as fifers. The latter part of October the Norwalk band in fine new uniforms visited our camp and gave us an excellent concert which was very much appreciated by the men. It furnished a very agreeable change to the ordinary routine of camp life. Early in November the men began to manifest a great deal of impatience because our uniforms did not come, many of them were suffering from the lack of clothing and were wishing they had gone into the infantry.

On November 6th the good ladies of the surrounding country visited our camp and gladdened our hearts with their presence and with the abundance of good things they had brought with them to give us



a picnic dinner. Our cooks prepared coffee, and each company erected tables. We had dress parade at 2:30 and marched from the parade ground to the tables. And what we did to that dinner was plenty. In a case of that kind the Third Ohio was always equal to the occasion. We expressed our thanks to the ladies by giving them three rousing cheers. A few days after the picnic our uniforms commenced coming and we received jackets, pants and blouses, halters, watering bits, saddle blankets, surcingles, currycombs and brushes.

November 12th horses were assigned, each company receiving horses of the same color. The horses were already branded "U. S." on the left shoulder, and the company blacksmiths branded them with the letter of the company above the "U. S." The horses were assigned to the men by the company officers. Our saddles were being made in Monroeville, and very naturally the men were taking a lively interest in that part of the work and in watching its progress, and we began to realize something in regard to the immense amount of material required to fit out a cavalry regiment.

On November 15th a consignment of overcoats came, and as there were not enough to go around, they were issued to the men who had no blankets.

November 20th another picnic dinner was given by the ladies of the near-by towns and we had an enjoyable time. A number of the officers made patriotic speeches, and music, sweet music, was furnished by the Monroeville band. There were many visitors in camp. We showed our appreciation by eating the dinner and giving three cheers for the ladies, and also for the band.

Yet, notwithstanding these variations, camp life was getting to be very irksome and monotonous. Our drilling was simply the dismounted drill. Until we got our saddles we could make no headway with mounted drill. We were simply learning to keep step, to march in column, and from column into line and from line into column, learning the facings, etc., day after day and week after week, until many of the men became impatient, saying we did not enlist to do this; we enlisted to put down the rebellion. The 1200 men who composed the Third Ohio Cavalry were just a plain average lot of American citizens, who had enlisted from patriotic motives to put down the rebellion, and they wanted to get at it, to get it done and get home again. They could not see the necessity of so much drilling—but they saw it later.

December 16th we marched to Monroeville, one company at a time, to get our saddles—and it began to look as if we would get there after a while. And the next day we had our first mounted inspection and review, at which orders were read notifying the regiment to be ready to march on the morrow at 9 a. m. to Norwalk and receive our regimental colors.

December 18th we marched out at 9 a. m. in column of fours and went through Monroeville. When near Camp McClellan we were joined by the Fifty-fifth Infantry Regiment, and escorted by the Norwalk and Fifty-fifth bands, we marched to the grounds where the presentation exercises were to be held. The Third formed on three sides of a hollow square, in four ranks open order, the infantry occupying the fourth side. Speeches of presentation were made, Colonel Zahm responding for the Third, thanking the ladies and citizens of Norwalk for the beautiful flag and banner and pledging the regiment to guard and protect them with their life's blood and bring them back with honor. The color sergeant and guards then marched to the center and received the colors from Colonel Zahm. Company F was selected for the color company. The presentation exercises lasted about two hours, during which time we sat on our horses, after which we formed columns of platoons, with the infantry in advance, and passed in review, saluting the colors, and after some further evolutions we broke into column of fours and marched through Norwalk, after which we returned to our camp just at dark. The next day we drew our spurs. The cavalry drill in 1861 and 1862 was a double rank drill, and it was a cumbersome and unwieldy affair. In forming the company the men led their horses into ranks, and standing holding the reins of their horses in the right hand near the bit, counted off by fours, and at the command, "Prepare to mount," numbers one and three in the front rank led forward a horse's length, and in the rear rank numbers two and four reined back, and all grasping the reins in the left hand near the pommel of the saddle and placing the left foot in the stirrup, with the left hand on the pommel and the right on the rear of the saddle. At the command, "Mount!" all sprang into the saddle as one man, numbers two and four in both ranks riding forward into place at once without further orders. In dismounting the same maneuvers had to be gone through. In 1863 the drill was changed to single rank, which simplified matters. Mounted drill in sections of four or in platoons of eight was simple and easily learned and executed, but when it came to marching and wheeling in sections of twenty-four or in company front it was different. Then if the men on the wheeling flank did not allow proper distance as they came around on a trot the men in the center would get the legs almost crushed off them between the horses, and we soon learned why it was necessary for cavalymen to wear boots—we thought sometimes that we needed castiron ones.

The citizens of Bellevue had extended an invitation to the regiment to pay them a visit, and December 20th we started out at 9 a. m. It was a fine day, and the people of Bellevue gave us a most cordial welcome. The town was decorated with flags, and everybody was out on the streets to greet the cavalry. Tables had been spread and they were loaded down

with good things. We did ample justice to the dinner, after which the assembly sounded. We fell in line, and after an hour's drill, marched back to camp, where we arrived just at dusk, everybody in excellent spirits, having enjoyed the day. We had not yet received our cavalry bridles, but mounted drill was now the order of the day. Mounted drill by companies, by battalions and regimental, besides mounted inspection and dress parade.

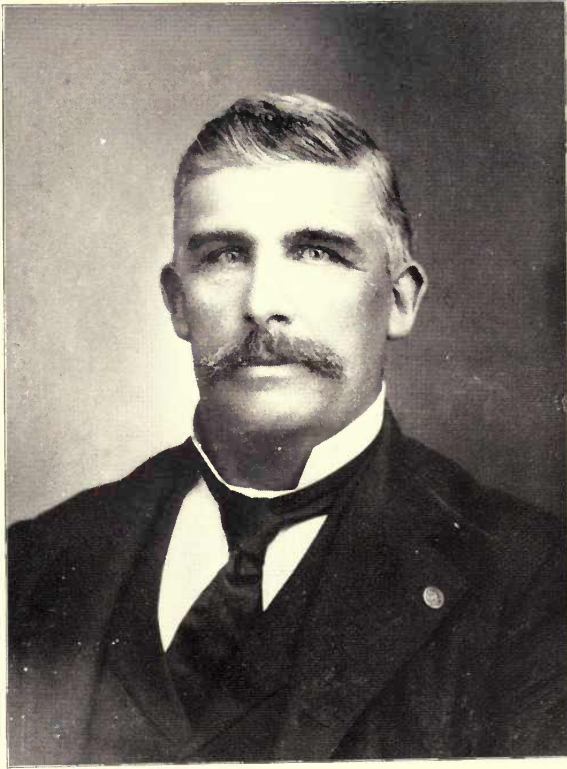
On January 3d we received our cavalry bridles, and on the 5th at dress parade marching orders were read. The regiment was ordered to Camp Dennison, and the movement was to commence on the 13th—two companies to go each day. We were to march to Shelby and there load our horses on the cars. On the 8th we went to a new drill ground near Cook's Corners, north of Monroeville, drilling from 10 a. m. until 3 p. m., making charges and evolutions, by companies, squadrons, battalions, and by the entire regiment. There was some wild riding. One horse was killed, one man's leg broken, one officer's horse bolted with him and ran wildly all the way back to camp, his rider hatless, coat tails streaming out behind, and bounding in the saddle like a rubber ball at every jump of the horse. The next day we went to the same ground and for five hours practiced the same evolutions, with no mishaps. We returned to camp, men and horses covered with mud. The regiment was organized into three battalions—the First, composed of Companies B, H, L and M, under Major Foster; the Second, Companies A, D, E and F, under Major Parmore; the Third, Companies C, G, I and K, under Major Seidel.

In the latter part of the war the battalions were composed of companies arranged in regular alphabetical order. While we lay at Monroeville some of the men began to develop a fine ability as foragers, mainly in the chicken line, and it has been charged that the country was so thoroughly cleaned up that the people had to import new stock the next spring. Colonel Zahm had a fine flock of turkeys, and he made the boast that the boys would not be able to get them—they roosted too high. Some of the boys heard of the boast, which just put them on their mettle, and after spying out the roosting place, they determined to make an attempt to get the turkeys. It is needless to say they captured the flock, and invited the Colonel to dinner. After dinner the cigars were passed and everybody was in a first rate humor. The Colonel praised the dinner and thanked the boys for the good time he had had. One of the boys replied that he need not feel under any great obligations, as they were his own turkeys. The Colonel enjoyed the joke immensely, and never tired of telling it to his friends.

After the regiment got into active service there were many times when foraging was absolutely necessary to its existence. When men and

horses were compelled to live off the country, and while individual foraging was disapproved of by the commanding officers, yet there were always daring spirits who were willing to take any risk when rations were short. Organized foraging parties were sent out through the country both between the lines and on the flanks and rear of the army, gathering up horses, cattle, hogs, and provisions and forage of every kind. Sometimes these foraging parties were compelled to go long distances and under strong escort, and many skirmishes were the result.

January 13th the advance guard of the regiment, Companies B and H, struck their tents and took up the line of march Southward. So we moved out from Camp Worcester, two companies each day during the week. There were several small towns between Monroeville and Shelby, and each squadron as it passed through was entertained at dinner at one or another of them. That day's march was long remembered by the boys. It was Wednesday, the 15th, when our squadron made the trip. The day was clear and cold, the ground was covered with a thin coat of snow which flashed and sparkled in the sunlight—an ideal winter day. We were to eat dinner at Plymouth, but the entire population of the country were out to cheer us on and bid us God speed. Houses were decorated with flags and bunting, and all along that line of march, at every farm house and every cross-road, men, women and children were waiting for us with hot coffee, sandwiches, doughnuts, apples, etc., etc. We ate all we could, and then filled our haversacks—but there is a limit to the amount of stuff that even a cavalryman can stow away. At Plymouth tables were set down the center of the main street loaded down with a splendid dinner, to which we were made welcome by the people of the town, who treated us with the most cordial hospitality and bade us good-bye with best wishes for the success of our cause. As we resumed our journey Southward, at one of the little red school houses that we passed the teacher had his pupils in line by the roadside and they were singing "Dixie for the Union," and just as the writer was passing, these words caught his ear: "And should your courage falter, boys, remember Bunker Hill, hurrah!" In the months and years that followed, in the camp, on the march, on the lonely picket, in the skirmish, or fierce conflict, when opposing armies were put in battle array, or in the wild charge, where squadrons met, mid rifle shot and bursting shell, how often did memory recur to the school children by the wayside singing "Remember Bunker Hill"! Yes, we often needed to remember everything that would inspire courage, patriotism, endurance. We reached Shelby just at nightfall, and after unsaddling and feeding our horses, we lay down to rest by the roadside under the shining stars. The night was clear and cold. In the morning we made coffee and ate of the luxuries left over from yesterday for breakfast. During the forenoon we loaded our horses on the cars and continued our journey toward



SERGEANT THOMAS CROFTS  
REGIMENTAL HISTORIAN





the Sunny South, passed through Columbus in the evening and arrived at Camp Dennison on the 17th about 10 a. m. The last squadron of the regiment arrived on the 20th, it having taken the largest and best equipped railroad in Ohio just one week to transport the regiment across the state. There were a number of boys who came out with the regiment as servants for the officers. The writer wishes he knew something of the history of those boys so that he could record it. There are only two, however, that he can give any account of. One of these was known as Little Johnny Mitch. When we lay at Monroeville Johnny came to Captain Howland of Company C and wanted to enlist in the cavalry. The Captain looked the lad over, then shook his head and said, "No, my boy, you are too young to go into the army." But Johnny was persistent, and it resulted in the Captain hiring him to take care of his horse for six months. Everybody that knew Johnny learned to like him. He was short in stature, but a blocky little fellow—a good natured, obliging little Dutch boy. Well, when Johnny's six months expired we were at Jeffersonville, Ind., and he wanted Captain Howland to enlist him. But the Captain thought him too young and small for the service, so Johnny went across the river to Louisville and enlisted in the Fourth Kentucky Infantry, and when he came back to bid us good-bye he was dressed in the army blue, and oh, so proud to be a soldier! We of Company C always took a great interest in Johnny, and he visited us whenever we were near each other. Johnny looked more of a boy than ever when in the ranks of those tall Kentuckians; and yet what he lacked in stature he made up in pluck and endurance. His Lieutenant said of him, on that forced march to Shiloh: "Some nights when we stacked arms there would not be more than fifteen or twenty men in the ranks; the rest of them were played out by the wayside; but Johnny was always up with the company." Well, Johnny soon came under the notice of his Colonel, who took him for his orderly. The Colonel afterwards got command of the brigade, but he kept Johnny with him, and thus things went on until the autumn of 1863. In the terrific Battle of Chickamauga, Johnny, finding that the sore need was for men in the ranks, picked up the rifle that had fallen from the grasp of a dying comrade, got some cartridges, and moving up to the firing line, went to work loading and firing steady as a clock. It was while thus engaged that he was struck with a spent ball. Entering his mouth it lodged in his neck, inflicting a dangerous and painful wound. Our men were driven back, and Johnny was left on the field—dead, it was supposed. He lay on the battlefield for four days, when he was picked up by the enemy and exchanged. He finally recovered, but his speech was somewhat impaired. The latest reports we had in regard to him were to the effect that his Colonel sent him North to school.



One other of the boys that were with us when we left Monroeville was the son of Lieutenant Brown of Company C. He went with the regiment as his father's servant—he was then thirteen years old. Charley learned to blow the bugle, and when the regiment veteranized he was enlisted as a bugler, and in August, 1864, was appointed regimental bugler by Colonel Seidel and served in that capacity until the close of the war. He then went to school and afterwards entered the ministry, becoming famous as a platform speaker, and at our annual reunions the eloquent addresses of Dr. Charles O. Brown of Chicago are the feature of the occasion.

## CHAPTER II.

### CAMP DENNISON

Camp Dennison was located on the west bank of the Little Miami River about twelve miles north of Cincinnati. It was specially fitted up for a permanent camp, with barracks for the men and stables for the horses, and during all our service the only time when shelter and protection were provided for our horses was during the few weeks we remained at Camp Dennison. In the heat of summer or the cold blasts of winter, in snow and hail and rain and sleet, our faithful horses had no shelter whatever. The service was hard on the men, but on the horses it was simply terrific. Often they were ridden to the utmost point of endurance for days and nights together with very little food and less care. It is not to be wondered at that they succumbed to hardship and privation and were left by the wayside by scores and by hundreds. Each one of the barrack buildings at Dennison was fitted up to accommodate 100 men—three tiers of bunks on each side and tables down the center—cooking facilities in one end. While here we had company cooking and company mess. Our recollections of Camp Dennison were not pleasant. The season was just changing from winter to spring—consequently we had a great amount of rain, and the parade ground was a perfect sea of mud, in which we paraded, marching and countermarching and charging day after day.

January 20th we received our sabers and belts, cap and cartridge boxes, and commenced to learn the saber drill—drilling in barracks when it was too stormy for drill outside. Our first saber drill was something to be remembered. Methinks that could the hosts of rebeldom have seen the way in which we cut great gashes in the atmosphere they would have realized that their cause was hopeless, and would at once have given up the conflict. The saber drill was by far the hardest to master, and the real value of the saber as an arm of the cavalry service has always been a mooted question, and while there is no disputing the fact that in a hand

to hand conflict it is a very effective weapon, is always loaded and never misses fire, yet during the latter years of the war when much of the fighting was done on foot, we often found it very much in the way. In advancing at a double quick it had a most disagreeable habit of getting entangled in a fellow's legs and sending him forward on his nose in a very undignified manner; and an observant person would have noted that it was the cause of a vast amount of profanity. While at Dennison we also received our revolvers and a part of our carbines. The carbines were of three different makes, the Sharps, Burnside and Remington, all single shot breech-loaders. With the Burnside and Remington there was more or less difficulty in extracting the empty shell after firing, and while the Sharps was a good single-shot gun, yet it was not to be compared with the Spencer, with which we were armed in the latter years of the war. Notwithstanding the fact that everything was being done to get us ready for the front as rapidly as possible, yet many of the men were impatient of delay, and the fear was frequently expressed that the war would be over before we got to the field. The camp was always full of rumors, either that we were to be disbanded or that the end of the war was close at hand. and in any case we would never get to see any fighting. Colonel Zahm heard of the rumors, and one day at dress parade he made a brief speech to the regiment, saying in substance: "Poys, I hear that some of you pe afraid that the war will pe over pefore we get to the front, and that we won't see any fighting. I tells you don't pe afraid! You get your pellites full of fighting yet!" Future events proved that the Colonel was a true prophet. General Wright and Attorney General Wade inspected and reviewed the regiment while we were at Dennison, and commended us for our fine military appearance.

The recreations in the barracks in the evenings were manifold. There were songs and stories. Company B organized a literary society, with Lieutenant Culver at its head. They had a number of lectures, debates, etc., that were largely attended and enjoyed by the men. Company L organized a minstrel troupe and gave some performances which drew crowded houses and furnished a lot of amusement. There were games of different kinds—cards, checkers, chess. On the Sabbath there was preaching in some of the company barracks, to which all might go who wished, and there were prayer meetings held in some of the officers quarters. While there was not much difference between the Sabbath and other days in the duties of the soldier in the field, yet when in camp there was no drill on the Sabbath day. We would generally clean up and have inspection about 9 o'clock, then preaching in the open air if the weather was fair, and sometimes dress parade in the afternoon.

February 9th three days rations were issued and we were ordered to be ready to move. The next morning the general call sounded, and after

breakfast boots and saddles, and forming into line at 8 a. m., we marched out of Camp Dennison and, headed by the Fifth Regiment band, started for Cincinnati.

### CHAPTER III.

#### DOWN THE OHIO

The Third Ohio Cavalry never made a finer appearance than it did on the morning of February 10, 1862, when it marched out of Camp Dennison and took up its line of march for Cincinnati to embark on steamers for a journey down the Ohio River. A regiment 1200 strong, well mounted, with bright, new uniforms and arms, with banners flying and with martial music, it took its way, the silvery notes of the bugles echoing and re-echoing among the hills and valleys. We left Dennison at 8 o'clock in the morning, but it was 3 o'clock in the afternoon before we were in line on the levee in Cincinnati, and it was midnight before all our horses and baggage were loaded on the boats. It took six large steamers to carry the regiment.

February 11th, when morning dawned, we were steaming down the river, which was at its flood, and was a grand sight to many of us, who were looking on it for the first time. The current was very strong, and the boats made rapid progress. There was a great amount of driftwood, and on some of the logs mud turtles had taken passage. Some of the boys tried their revolvers on them and sometimes they would drop off into the river. Our destination was Jeffersonville, Ind., which place we reached at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, and went into camp in the mud. Our stopping place was named Camp Wright, and was on the farm of Jessie D. Bright, an opposition senator from Indiana. The river was in full view from our camp, and very soon after our arrival an almost continuous procession of steamboats loaded with our gallant boys in blue passed on down the river with banners waving, bands playing and men cheering. It was an inspiring sight and there was no doubt in our minds but that the war would soon be over and we would be marching home again.

Fort Henry had surrendered to General Grant while we were at Camp Dennison, and on the sixteenth of February the news came that the forces at Fort Donelson had surrendered, opening up the Cumberland River, and forcing the rebels to leave Bowling Green and Nashville and take a line of defense further south. There was much rejoicing in the Union camps over the news. Battery G of the First Ohio Light Artillery celebrated the event by firing 100 guns in honor of the victory. While we lay at Camp Wright we received Sibley tents in exchange for the old Bell tents we had used at Camp Worcester. They were a great improvement

when we were in camp, but of little use in active field service. It was necessary to haul them in wagons, which very often did not get to camp in time, and were altogether too cumbersome to use when on the march, (as we very soon found out). We also received another installment of carbines and revolvers. On the twenty-fourth of February the prisoners taken at Fort Donelson passed through on their way North. They were the first rebel soldiers we had seen. On the 27th the United States paymaster visited us and we received two months pay—\$26—in greenbacks. Many of us had been in the service six months, yet there were no complaints at the small amount received. We knew the government was doing the best it could for us. Forage for our horses was very short at Camp Wright. In fact, very many times during the war our horses were on short rations of musty corn. On Saturday, March 1st, marching orders came, rations were issued, also ammunition for carbines and revolvers. Sunday, March 2d, general call sounded at 8 a. m. It was a disagreeable, cold, rainy morning, but we were all elated at the thought of getting into service. Our tents and baggage were soon packed and loaded into wagons, but it was slow business ferrying the regiment over the river, and it was the middle of the afternoon before we stood in line in the City of Louisville, soaked to the skin and chilled to the marrow. We took up the march southward, going into camp in a low piece of meadow land about four miles from the city.

Our camp was soon converted into a mud hole under the tramping feet of men and horses, and by the time we had our Sibley tents pitched the ground was in such a condition that we were compelled to carry in rails for floors to keep our bodies out of the mud; and there, lying on the sharp edges of those rails in our wet clothing and blankets, we passed one of the most miserably disagreeable nights of our lives.

During the night the rain changed to snow and in the morning a sharp, frosty wind was blowing, but we got our fires started and made coffee. The sun came out clear and bright, and as we took up the line of march southward our surroundings appeared much more bright and cheerful. We marched about twenty-five miles and camped near Salt River. March 4th we resumed the march at 8 a. m. and camped about three miles south of Bardstown. The scenery along the way was very fine—high hills, deep ravines and fine springs of clear water. We remained in camp on the 5th. (No forage for our horses, weather very cold; snowed during the night.) We were compelled to use fence rails for our fires. The orders were that we should take only the top rail, and it is needless to say that the order was obeyed to the letter—when a man wanted a rail he invariably took the top one.

During the next three days we continued our march southward. The roads were very bad, the country rough. The wagons were unable to

keep up with the column, so we had no tents or cooking utensils. March 9th we crossed Green river on the railroad bridge at Mumfordsville.

Here we saw the first signs of conflict. There had been a skirmish, and some of the horses killed in the fight were still unburied. Some of the houses in the town showed marks of shot and shell. Upon a hill were a number of graves, each marked with a wooden headboard with name, regiment and company carved by the hand of a comrade. They were soldiers of the Union who had fallen in the fight; with their blankets tenderly wrapped about them, they had been laid to rest; taps had sounded, a volley had been fired over their graves, and their comrades had marched on at duty's call. No sadder duty than this falls to the lot of a soldier. We remained at Mumfordsville one day. The weather was wet and disagreeable. Thus far on our march we had had very little pleasant weather.

On the 11th we resumed the march over a rough, broken country, camped about half a mile from Mammoth Cave, and many of the boys spent most of the night in exploring that famous cavern.

The next morning we continued our march southward, arriving at Bowling Green on the 13th. We remained in camp one day and then moved on toward Nashville.

On the 17th we camped about nine miles from Nashville, and on the 18th we arrived at the Cumberland river about noon. The bridges had been destroyed. Crossing on ferryboats, we marched through Nashville and camped about two miles south of the city, near General Buell's headquarters. Here we were assigned to General T. J. Wood's, Sixth Division, Army of the Ohio. The next day the regiment was inspected by the inspector of General Wood's division. March 20th, about noon, general call sounded, and we packed up and moved out about one mile south on the Nolensville pike. The camp was laid out and tents put up as if we were going to stay awhile. The next day we had inspection of arms by the company officers, after which the regiment was formed and inspected by Colonel Zahm. At retreat orders were read for three roll calls each day, at reveille, retreat and tattoo, the men to fall in with their arms at each roll call. Dress parade and inspection each day at 3 p. m.

March 26th the regiment was inspected by General Wood, who complimented it highly on its appearance and drill.



## CHAPTER IV.

## SHILOH

March 29th—Drew three days rations, broke camp and started southward at 6 a. m. on the Franklin pike, the regiment at the head of the division. Camped at 3 p. m. in a piece of woods near a stream of good water.

March 30th—Started at 6 o'clock, passed through Franklin and went into camp. The day was hot, the roads dusty, and many men in the infantry were overcome and compelled to fall out by the wayside. Oh, how they did envy the cavalymen!

March 31st—Started at 5:30; weather hot and roads dusty. Crossed Rutherford Creek and camped.

April 1st—Did not move until 10 a. m. Passed the division of General Thomas; forded Duck River at Columbia and went into camp about three miles south of the town, near the plantation of General Pillow.

April 2d and 3d—Still on the march. Nothing out of the ordinary occurred. On the 2d we passed through Mt. Pleasant. On the evening of the 3d we camped near General Buell's headquarters. On the morning of April 4th, six companies of the regiment, under command of Lieutenant Colonel Murray, left the main column and started for Lawrenceburg, the county seat of Lawrence County, about fifteen miles to the southeast, where it was reported that a small force of rebel cavalry was stationed. We were accompanied by two regiments of infantry, General Milo S. Hascall commanding the expedition. After marching about half the distance the infantry halted while we went on to the town. There had been a small force of cavalry at the place, but nearly all had gone before we got there. Our advance got sight of a few of them as they charged into the town, and fired a few shots at long range as they ran; but as their horses were fresh, our men were unable to overtake them. We camped near the town. The rain came down in torrents, and the night was very dark. We found a lot of pork in the place, to which we helped ourselves, as we were on short rations of meat at the time. The following is Brigadier General Hascall's report of the expedition:

HDQRS. FIFTEENTH BRIGADE, ARMY OF THE OHIO,

FIELD OF SHILOH, April 12, 1862.

Agreeably to the order of General Wood, I proceeded on the morning of the 4th instant from our camp, 23 miles beyond Waynesborough and about 60 miles from this place, with two regiments of my brigade, to wit: the Twenty-sixth Ohio and the Seventeenth Indiana, together with a detachment of about 600 of the Third Ohio Cavalry, under Lieutenant-Colonel Murray, of that regiment, and marched for Lawrenceburg.

The general had been informed that about 500 of the enemy's cavalry were at that point, with the intention of making a descent upon our train after the troops had passed. My instructions were to proceed cautiously to Lawrenceburg, a distance of about 14 miles from our camp, and capture the enemy, if possible and to disperse him at all events. It happened that the day was very rainy and exceedingly bad for the infantry to make the march, on account of the swollen streams and mud. I proceeded very cautiously, leaving a couple of cavalry at every house we passed, to prevent any one taking information to Lawrenceburg of our approach, but when getting about two miles from there we had to pass over a succession of hills, in full view of the town, so that further precaution in this respect was useless.

By this time I had learned that there were not more than from 50 to 100 cavalry there at furthest, and being desirous of saving the infantry as much as possible for the forced march that was still before them, before reaching this point I ordered the infantry to halt, and after getting their dinner, to return to the camp they left in the morning and join the other two regiments of my brigade. I then proceeded with the cavalry as fast as the roads would permit, and when getting within about one-fourth of a mile from town, ordered a charge upon the town, which was splendidly executed by Lieutenant-Colonel Murray at the head of his men. I learned that there were 50 to 75 cavalry in town, but as soon as they observed our approach put themselves in readiness to leave. They left principally in the direction of Florence and Mount Pleasant, and, their horses being fresh, but few could be overtaken, though they were pursued some eight miles in both directions by our cavalry. Two of the enemy were severely wounded, as evidenced by the blood upon their horses which fell into our hands. The result of the expedition was the breaking up of the secession rendezvous at that point, the capture of six cavalry horses and saddles, about 4000 pounds of fine bacon, a dozen or two shotguns and squirrel rifles, and two drums.

I take great pleasure in reporting that a strong Union sentiment seemed to pervade the whole country through which we passed going and returning, my command being everywhere received (except at Lawrenceburg) with every demonstration of joy and treated with the utmost kindness and consideration.

Fearing that that portion of the rebel cavalry that fled toward Mount Pleasant might be part of a larger band in that direction, and might seriously embarrass, if not capture, portions of our train, I dispatched Major Foster, of the cavalry, with two companies, to scout the country as far as Mount Pleasant, and then to join his regiment at Savannah; since which time I have received no tidings from him, but presume he has joined his regiment some time since.



The remainder of the cavalry, with myself and staff, bivouacked near Lawrenceburg the night of the 4th, and having procured wagons in the neighborhood with which to transport the captured bacon, started early the next morning, and about noon overtook the infantry of my brigade, who were *en route* for this place.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

MILO S. HASCALL, Brig. Gen.,

Commanding Fifteenth Brigade.

April 5th—We Started early to rejoin the column. Marched by the way of Waynesboro; camped in a piece of woods. The day was wet and very disagreeable.

April 6th—We were on the march early. We had not gone far, however, before rumors of a battle in progress reached us. The roads were in terrible condition—ammunition wagons and artillery struggling through the heavy mud; infantry and cavalry marching along the sides. We received an order to leave our baggage and wagons and hurry up all troops as fast as possible. And so we marched through the rain and mud all that fateful Sunday, our hearts filled with forebodings of impending disaster, all the rumors indicating that our comrades on the banks of the Tennessee were sore pressed and badly in need of reinforcements. Toward night we halted and fed our horses and took a few hours rest.

April 7th—Bugles sounded just after midnight, and we moved out at 1:30. What a night it was! No one who passed through that experience will ever forget it. The rain poured down in torrents. So intense was the darkness that it was impossible even to see our hands held before our faces. The thunder was terrific, the lightning flashes blinding in their intensity, revealing for an instant the whole scene of struggling men and horses, and followed by darkness that could be felt, and through it all the constant, steady boom! boom! boom! of the cannon on the gunboats, telling us that the battle was not yet over; that the struggle would be renewed when morning came. Our progress during the night was necessarily slow, but when day dawned we went forward more rapidly. As we neared Savannah the sounds of battle could be heard more distinctly. To the booming of the cannon was added the rattle of musketry, which could be plainly heard. We reached Savannah about noon, where we found the remainder of the regiment halted by the roadside awaiting orders. Our infantry was embarking on boats going to the battlefield, while at the landing was a sight never to be forgotten. Wounded men by scores and hundreds lay side by side on the wet, blood-stained ground, waiting until they could be cared for in the buildings and tents that were being converted into hospitals. Many had died during the brief passage down the river, and were laid in rows and covered with blankets until

they could be buried. All day long each boat coming down the river brought its load of wounded, and as soon as they were landed the command, "Forward!" would be given and a regiment of boys in blue, with steady step, marched on board and were off for the battlefield. What a picture of war in all its aspects was presented that day at Savannah! Men pressing forward with banners flying and drums beating in all the pomp and pride of military display, coming back bearing all the signs of conflict—bruised and bleeding, dying and dead. We knew then that Sherman's definition was right when he said, "War is hell." We remained at Savannah helping care for the wounded until the 9th, when the regiment was stationed by companies about three miles apart along the road between Waynesboro and Savannah, to protect the wagon trains and guard the telegraph line. We were engaged in this work and in picket patrol and scouting duty until April 23d, when the regiment was united at Savannah.

April 25th—Moved up the river to a point opposite Pittsburg; crossed on ferryboats and camped on the battlefield near the landing.

April 26th—Moved out about four miles and joined the division camping near General Wood's headquarters. Orders for drill every day that we lay in camp. Hot weather and poor water caused much sickness among the men. Camp diarrhoea, fevers, etc., incident to change of climate became very prevalent and continued until after the capture of Corinth.

## CHAPTER V.

### THE SIEGE OF CORINTH

April 28th—A general movement of the whole army toward Corinth commenced. It was an immense army. General Halleck was on the field in person, commanding the entire force.

April 29th—Moved forward five or six miles in the direction of Corinth.

April 30th—The paymaster visited us and distributed a few greenbacks among the men. His visits were always welcome. There was some cannonading in the direction of Corinth. The general advance appeared to us to be very slow.

May 2d—A part of the regiment went out four or five miles in the direction of Monterey. We had a little skirmish at long range with no apparent results.

May 6th—Went as escort for Colonel Innes looking up roads at the front.

May 9th—Two squadrons of the regiment under command of Major Foster and Major Paramore, while on outpost picket in front of Corinth,

had a skirmish with the enemy. As there was some criticism of the manner in which the officers handled their men, we publish their official reports in full:

*Report of Major John H. Foster, Third Ohio Cavalry, of Skirmish Near Corinth, Miss., May 9th.*

HDQRS. THIRD REGT. OHIO VOLUNTEER CAVALRY,  
CAMP NEAR CORINTH, May 9, 1862.

SIR: In compliance with your orders of May 8th, 1862, I proceeded with two companies (L and M) of the Third Regiment Ohio Volunteer Cavalry to relieve two companies of the same regiment on picket duty on the Corinth road, about five miles from Corinth. On coming up to the companies on duty I inquired of Captain D. C. Doane, the officer in command, for instructions where to place my pickets. He said he was instructed to place them across the mud-hole, as he called it, the other side or south side of the woods, but had not done so, not considering it safe to do so. I then went across the branch and mud-hole, and discovered four men in an open field near the house. I rode up, and found two men of General Buell's staff and two of General Nelson's staff. I went on to a Mr. Lee's, half a mile beyond there, and ascertained from Mr. and Mrs. Lee where the enemy's pickets had been, and that they had drawn them in that day. I returned to the Shoeff house, where I first saw the officers of General Nelson's staff. They requested me to accompany them to General Nelson. I did so. He informed me he should occupy the Farmington road with a regiment of infantry, which road was in my front, and left of the Shoeff house and part of the farm, which I was told was the place where Captain Doane was ordered to place his pickets. General Nelson also said he should place his pickets from the Farmington road to the left side of the Corinth road, half a mile in advance of the Shoeff farm, where, I was informed, was my place to put out my pickets. He suggested that I continue on his right my line of pickets to the Purdy road across the Lee farm, which I did.

At 1 o'clock next morning I was informed that General Nelson was drawing in his pickets. I sent out and drew in mine from the Purdy road and placed them on the Farmington and Corinth roads, and they remained there until driven in by the enemy.

About 9 o'clock on the 9th instant two companies of the Third Ohio Volunteer Cavalry came up to relieve us, under the command of Major James W. Paramore, and before I gave him orders in regard to placing his pickets that I had received, our pickets were fired on. I sent a squad of men to ascertain the position and strength of the enemy. They reported about 350 men near Lee's house, across the branch and mud-hole, firing at our pickets. We were then four companies strong (or parts of com-

panies) of cavalry, and at that moment Colonel Innes, of the Mechanics and Engineers, came up and a company of his men. He sent them on the Corinth road toward Mr. Lee's house, and I sent one company of cavalry, (Company L, Third Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Cavalry) and soon the skirmishing commenced. Three companies of infantry came up, and in the meantime Major Paramore had ordered his two companies across the mud-hole, half a mile in the rear. I ordered them back to Shoeff's farm, formed a line, and prepared to sustain the men who had gone forward. Colonel Innes took his men (three companies) to the right and toward the Purdy road, to prevent the enemy from flanking us and to get in their rear if possible. I was to remain on the Shoeff field, and to give support to the two companies fighting. If they fell back, I was to fall back to the lower side of the field to draw out the enemy from the woods and then charge on them in open field, allowing Colonel Innes to come in their rear. Such was our position and arrangement when Major Paramore ordered his two companies to retreat. I ordered them to halt. At this I sent 25 men to sustain Colonel Innes on the right and guard a road that led through the woods on my right.

At this time Captain William M. Flanagan, of Company L, came out of the woods, and said the bushes were so thick his men could not fight to advantage, and asked to dismount his men. I ordered his men to dismount and lead their horses to the rear; also ten men of each company to dismount and act as infantry, under the command of Captain Flanagan. At this moment Major Paramore ordered the men to retreat, and our men fell back to the lower part of the field before I was aware of their intentions. I rode in front, and ordered them to halt and rightabout wheel and form line. Major Paramore again ordered his men to retreat, saying he would command his own men and I might mine. His men commenced a left wheel to move off, and I deeming it imprudent to hold my two companies, consisting of 70 men, after he had ordered his to retreat, saying he would command his own men, there could be no concert of action between us, and I ordered my men across the branch and mud-hole.

I have the honor to be your obedient servant,

JOHN H. FOSTER,

*Major Third Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Cavalry.*

COLONEL L. ZAHM.

*Report of Major James W. Paramore, Third Ohio Cavalry, of Skirmish  
Near Corinth, Miss., May 9th.*

CAMP THIRD OHIO VOLUNTEER CAVALRY,  
May 10, 1862.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by my command in the skirmish in front of General Wood's division on Friday, May 9, 1862:

I left camp at 7 o'clock of said day, in command of the Third Squadron of the Third Ohio Volunteer Cavalry, composed of Companies E, Captain T. D. McClelland, and F, Captain O. G. Smith, with orders to report to General Wood. I did so, and received verbal instructions from him to proceed to the outpost of his division and relieve the two companies sent out on the 8th instant, in command of Major J. H. Foster, also of our regiment, and station my vedettes the same as his, and await further orders. I proceeded accordingly to the outpost, and found the reserve of the squadron, under Major Foster, stationed at an old deserted house on the left of the road, through the open space shown in the diagram. I halted my command, and was informed by Captain Flanagan that Major Foster, with a detachment of his command, had gone down the Corinth road to take a reconnaissance. I waited until he returned, when I informed him that I had come with my command to relieve him, and asked him where his vedettes were stationed and for instructions, etc. He informed me that he had just been down within two miles of Corinth, and had "waked up the gentlemen in force, and thought we would see some fun, and that he would not return till he saw the result." He then sent back a small patrol on the road to watch their movements. They had not been gone long before they were fired upon and returned the fire, and sent back for reinforcements. Major Foster then assumed command of all the forces, and sent out Company L and a part of Company M and five or six of Company E, in command of Captain Flanagan, as skirmishers, to reinforce the patrol. I then asked him for permission to station the two companies under my command in the edge of the woods on the north side of the open field, in a position to command that in case our men should be driven back and the enemy follow them. "No," he replied, "that would not do, for, in case they were obliged to retreat, they could not cross the marsh below," but for me to fall back with them to some point on the road and station them as a reserve. Accordingly I took them back across the bridge where the slough crossed the road, and stationed them in line of battle at the side of the road, in a position to command it.

About this time a sharp fire was opened up in the woods along our whole line of skirmishers with the enemy, who appeared to be in force, with infantry. Major Foster, who was then stationed near the barn in the



open field with a small reserve of Company M, Captain Marvin, sent down and ordered my command forward into the open field, and stationed it to the right and front of his reserve, on the high ground, and within twenty or twenty-five rods of the upper edge of the woods, with a small detachment of Company E on another rise of ground at the farther end of the field. We remained in that position without any command to forward or retreat, until a small party of infantry (which had come up from a working party in General McCook's division, and deployed in the woods to assist our cavalry) had all retreated and left the woods, some in the direction from which they came and others to the woods in rear of us; and the cavalry skirmishers, under Captain Flanagan also, with great coolness and good order, were compelled to retire from the woods before a superior force of infantry, which, with all the advantage of thick woods, had fallen back to our right and rear, thus leaving no force whatever between us and the enemy, who were rapidly advancing to the end of the woods and sending their leaden messengers thickly around and among us, and reported by our skirmishers to be a much superior force. Then seeing the danger of our position, where the enemy could advance, under cover of thick woods, within twenty or twenty-five rods of us without our being able to see them and they could us, I took the responsibility of ordering my squadron to about wheel and retreat down to the lower side of the field, which they did on a walk. I then ordered them to halt and about wheel again in line of battle. Captain Flanagan, with his company, had formed on my right, and also brought his men down to the woods, and at the same time faced about in line on my right, which brought us in position to command the open field. Almost simultaneously Major Foster came down with his reserve of Company M and ordered us to retreat across the swale or slough, which order was obeyed, and he led the column across the swale to the rising ground, where he formed his squadron in line on the left of the road and I formed mine on the right.

General Wagner, who was in command of a reserve of infantry and section of artillery, a short distance to the rear of us, then came up and inquired who was in command of that cavalry. I told him that I had been sent to relieve Major Foster, which I was ready to do. He then ordered me to station vedettes to connect with those of General McCook, and extend across to the Purdy road. Accordingly I immediately took Company F and went back across the swale to the north side of that open field, and there stationed them as vedettes in the edge of the woods, where they could view the field, and extended them across to the Purdy road, which position I held till regularly relieved today, the 10th instant. This skirmish occurred between 10:30 and 11:30 o'clock of the 9th instant. The enemy did not advance farther than the edge of the woods on the

south side of the field, where they remained a short time, and then fell back to their old position.

The casualties were one man of Company L slightly wounded. All the officers and men of the command behaved with uncommon coolness and bravery, executing and obeying every order given with promptness and good order.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. W. PARAMORE,  
*Major Third Ohio Volunteer Cavalry.*

COLONEL L. ZAHM,

During the entire month of May in the advance on Corinth, we were constantly engaged in picket and scout duty. Skirmishes with the enemy were of almost daily occurrence, but the casualties were light, as both sides were very cautious about exposing themselves when in range. Sometimes the picket lines were in close proximity, but were cautioned not to expose themselves. May 21st moved camp within about six miles of Corinth. On May 27th we went with a force of cavalry and infantry to the left and rear of the Rebel lines—did not find the enemy in much force.

May 29th, during the night, we heard many explosions in the direction of Corinth, and the illumination of the sky was more than ordinarily bright, indicating that something unusual was going on. We were early in the saddle and moving toward the town. We came to the outer line of works and found them abandoned. The works were very strong. At every point where artillery could be advantageously posted forts had been constructed. The woods in front of their fortifications had been cut down, and all the branches trimmed so that they pointed toward the front. In places where there was no timber they had constructed abatis, using for that purpose everything available—telegraph poles, sharpened stakes, small trees, fastened together with telegraph wire, and a net-work of wire woven through the fallen timber, so that it would have been almost impossible for the infantry to get through. But they had concluded not to risk a battle.

We marched into Corinth and found the town practically abandoned by the white population. Only the old men, the women and the children were left. Most of the people we saw were negroes. Not an armed foe was in sight anywhere. They had not stopped to tell us why—they had not stopped to say good-bye. They evidently thought the country was getting too thickly settled and they moved out. A large amount of army supplies had been destroyed, the fires being still burning when we entered the town. Among the relics was a large pile of home-made butcher knives, the handles having been burned off. They had started out with the intention



of using them to carve up the "Yanks," but after their experience at Pittsburg Landing, they came to the conclusion that they didn't want to get near enough to the Yanks to use knives. It did not take our leaders long to find out that Beauregard had shown them a clean pair of heels and it was no use to give chase. We were sent on picket to the south of the town and remained until the evening of the 31st, when we returned to our camp north of Corinth. Beauregard had retreated to Tupelo, about fifty miles south, on the Mobile and Ohio Railroad. We held Corinth. It was an important point, but somehow we were not greatly impressed with the fruits of the victory. We had had a great lesson in the strategy and the art of war, but we didn't think much of that kind of strategy. The Union commander had more than one hundred thousand men marking time for thirty days, between Pittsburg Landing and Corinth. With that kind of strategy the war would not have been ended yet. If the same conditions that existed at Pittsburg Landing on the morning of April 8th, 1862, had existed in 1864, and General Sherman had been in command, his army would have been in battle array in front of Corinth the next day, and there would have been another battle fought, and Corinth would have been won by the Union arms.

During the three months that had elapsed since we crossed the Ohio river our regiment had suffered the loss of a large number of men, mainly through diseases incident to camp life, change of water and climate. The water between Pittsburg Landing and Corinth was generally very bad, so that during the month of May our ranks had thinned rapidly.

## CHAPTER VI.

### NORTHERN ALABAMA

June 2d the regiment went on a scout out on the Memphis & Charleston Railroad. On the 3d we returned to camp and joined General Wood's division near Bear Creek.

June 4th the Third Battalion, under Major Seidel, was attached temporarily to General Nelson's division as he had no cavalry, the balance of the regiment remaining with Wood's division, the Army of the Ohio were moving east on the Memphis & Charleston Railroad, with orders to repair it. Chattanooga was the next objective at which the army under General Buel was directed.

June 5th Wood's division moved to Iuka and the First and Second Battalions camped about a mile east of the town, where they remained until the 11th of the month.

June 11th, Companies A and D went on a scout and captured some rebel officers. Nelson's Division came up and Major Seidel reported to

Colonel Zahm that during the seven days the Third Battalion had been with General Nelson's Division they had been on scout or picket every day and on picket six nights out of the seven. That he (Seidel) had reported to Nelson and asked to have his men relieved by some of the infantry.

Nelson cursed him and told him he could take his men off as he had three of them under arrest and was going to have them shot for sleeping on post. When the matter was reported to General Wood he ordered the Third Battalion back to the regiment and the three men were not shot, either.

June 12th, 13th and 14th—On the march going east along the railroad. On the 14th reveille at 3 a. m. Started at 4 o'clock. Camped in a piece of woods northwest of Tuscumbia. The wagons did not come up until next morning. Tuscumbia is noted for its famous spring of splendid water large enough to supply an army. It gushes from the rock by the roadside. Our camp was located on the east bank of a large creek, of which the great spring is the head and from thence flowing in a northwest direction, it empties into the Tennessee river below Florence. The health of the men was much improved since leaving Corinth. We had found an abundance of good water after coming into Alabama, which added materially to the health and comfort of the men while here. A ripple of excitement was caused by a slave escaping and coming into our camp, closely pursued by his master, armed with an order from headquarters giving him authority to take his property. Meanwhile Lieutenant Brown of Company C, who, by the way was an ardent abolitionist and earnest defender of the rights of the colored race, having been a conductor on the underground railroad at East Toledo, Ohio, during the days of the "Fugitive Slave Law," guiding many a hunted slave on his way to Canada, had taken this one under his protection and hidden him in his tent.

When the slave master came to claim his man, Brown stood defiantly in front of his tent and refused to allow a search to be made, or to recognize the order from headquarters. During the altercation that was going on in front of the tent, the slave inside was an eager and anxious listener. Becoming satisfied that eventually he would be given up to his master, he sprang out of the tent, made a dash for the creek, and at one bound leaped almost to the middle of the stream, then struck out boldly and swam to the opposite shore, climbed up the bank and was lost to our sight in the woods, going like a streak of lightning. He was a magnificent specimen of physical manhood. We had stood in silent admiration watching the fugitive make his dash for liberty. He was greeted with a cheer as he ascended the bank and disappeared into the woods. An officer turning to the slave hunter said, "There's your man, catch him." With a look of disgust he replied, "Catch the devil; the fleetest horse you

have got couldn't catch that d—d nigger." And as far as most of the men were concerned, the fugitive had their sympathy and they hoped he never would be caught. Lieutenant Brown was ordered under arrest, but nothing more ever came of it.

June 16th—A report was brought in that a wagon train had been attacked and the regiment went out to the rescue, but it proved to be a false alarm.

June 17th—Orders came for us to pack all extra clothing and send it to Florence. We turned over all except one suit, a change of under-clothing and a single blanket for each man.

It was reported that it was loaded on an old barge which afterwards sank in the Ohio river. At least we never saw it again, and were never reimbursed by the government for its loss.

June 18th—Six companies of the regiment went on a scout to Russellville and Frankfort, but found no rebels. We camped at Frankfort and the next day returned to Tuscumbia .

June 20th—Company C was sent to Russellville to remain as an outpost watching the movements of the enemy in that direction. It was eighteen miles south of Tuscumbia, which was our nearest support in case of attack. It was after dark when we arrived at Russellville. Company I came out to reinforce us about midnight. We remained at Russellville ten days, during which time we sent in a large number of prisoners—most of them deserters from the rebel army who were tired of the war.

All the time we were at Russellville we were constantly on scout and picket. It took one company to picket the roads leading to our camp, the companies taking alternate nights on picket, and when not on picket we were engaged patrolling the roads leading out from the town. We never felt very secure while at this place. It was certain that sooner or later the enemy would attack the post, and when they did it was sure to result disastrously to the few men holding it. We were too far from our supports for such a small force.

June 29th—We were relieved by two companies from the First Ohio Cavalry, and returning to Tuscumbia found it occupied by General Thomas' division, our division and regiment having gone on east to Decatur.

June 30th—Companies C and I left Tuscumbia at daylight and marched to Courtland, about twenty-five miles east. We arrived about noon. The day was very hot and eight of our horses died from the effects of the march in the hot sun.

July 1st—Companies C and I left Courtland early in the morning. Marched to Decatur; arrived about 11 a. m., where we rejoined the regiment.

The men of the First Ohio, who had relieved Companies C and I, were attacked July 1st and in the fight which ensued they lost two men killed and the Captain of Company G mortally wounded.

We now resume the movements of the balance of the regiment during the time Companies C and I were at Russellville. We left them encamped at Tuscumbia.

June 20th—The regiment started on a scout at 5 a. m.; camped near Courtland, and the next day marched to Decatur and camped, returning to Courtland on the 22d.

June 24th—Part of the regiment went to Moulton, arriving at 10 a. m. Captured a lot of tents belonging to "secesh" cavalry; burned them and returned to camp at Courtland.

June 26th—Started early. Marched to Elliot Place, about eight miles from Decatur, and went into camp. A terrific wind and rainstorm came on in the evening, lasting for several hours.

June 27th—The regiment on the march early, arriving at Decatur during the forenoon.

June 28th—Part of the regiment crossed the Tennessee river and Company H went to Mooresville. Saw some rebs on the south side of the river.

July 3d—Corporal Jacob Bauman of Company A was killed by guerillas and stripped of all his clothing as he was returning to camp. Late in the afternoon Companies C and G ferried over the river and bivouacked on the north bank.

July 4th—Marched to Mooresville, eleven miles by wagon road. Had a celebration in the afternoon—patrotic speeches and a national salute of thirty-four guns—the last a volley from the entire battery.

July 5th—The rest of the regiment arrived from Decatur. For the next four days we were engaged foraging and guarding wagon trains.

July 9th—The Second and Third Battalions left the division. Camped at night eleven miles west of Huntsville.

July 10th—We passed through Huntsville and camped on Flint river, eight miles east of the town. Huntsville was by far the prettiest town we had seen thus far in the entire South—finely located, many handsome residences, the homes of wealthy people before the war. It has a very large spring of good, pure, cold water from which the town is supplied.

July 11th—Marched to Woodville and pitched our tents. We were to remain here for some time, guarding the railroad, foraging, scouting among the hills and chasing guerrillas. Woodville, Alabama, was an insignificant town on the railroad some thirty-five miles southwest of Stevenson. It was situated in a rough, mountainous country. The hills and mountains were infested by a gang of guerrillas headed by a man

named Frank Gurley. These men knew every road and bridle path through all that region, and it was the most difficult thing in the world to locate them and convict them of any crime. There was no doubt in our minds that the people living throughout that region acted as spies on our men, furnishing the enemy with information in regard to our movements, and as they very seldom traveled on the main roads, but used bridle paths across the mountains, it was impossible to follow them. They took no chances in an open fight, no matter what their numbers. They would lay in ambush for our men and it was very seldom that they missed their aim. For a while our pickets were fired on almost every night, until we were compelled to change their location after dark, to prevent their being ambushed. Our duties at Woodville were most arduous. When not on camp guard or picket we were scouting, foraging, or patrolling the roads. We had very little time for recreation in camp. We were compelled to get all our forage for the horses in the country.

July 14th—Companies C and I started on a scout at 8 a. m. with three days rations. Marched all day over the rough mountain roads; camped at night on the mountains about twenty-five miles out.

July 15th—Passed through New Market. Camped at night at Maysville. Plenty of rumors of rebels, but none to be found.

July 16th—Returned to Woodville, having marched about 100 miles in the three days.

July 21st—Companies C and I started out at 3 a. m. with the wagon train for Stevenson. Camped at Larkinsville, and the next day started at 4 a. m. Camped on Crow creek, four miles from Stevenson.

July 23d—Marched to Stevenson, left the wagon train and started back for Woodville. Camped at Larkinsville. Heard rumor that a force of rebels had crossed the river to make an attack on Woodville, but as there were so many rumors always in the air we did not place much confidence in them.

July 24th—Left Larkinsville at 3:30. Arrived at Woodville at 8 a. m. Found that an attack on the place was expected. Moved camp to the bridge at Paint Rock. Strong pickets sent out. Orders to keep the horses saddled and ready to fall in at a moment's notice, but as usual our friends the enemy did not call on us.

July 25th—Moved camp back to Woodville, but changed the location to one that could be more easily defended in case of attack.

July 27th—A regiment of infantry and a section of artillery came up from Huntsville and, accompanied by the Third Battalion, started for Gunter's Landing on the Tennessee river, some twenty miles south of Woodville. It was reported that there was a force of rebel cavalry in the town of Guntersville on the south side of the river, and the object of the expedition was to capture and destroy the ferry-boats on the river



in that locality. We left Woodville in the afternoon and arrived in the vicinity of the landing about midnight. We dismounted in a piece of woods about half a mile from the river, and leaving our horses, moved up to the river above and below the landing. The orders were to keep under cover and not make any noise, as we hoped to remain undiscovered until they came over with one of the boats, when we were to charge down to the landing and capture it. As the day dawned and it became light enough for us to see across the river from our hiding places in the bushes on the north side, we saw a number of rebels come down to the river on the opposite side, and it was very evident that they were suspicious. They stood in groups talking and looking across toward our hiding place. Just then a darkey came down the road in plain view from the opposite bank and went to a spring near the landing for a pail of water. As soon as the rebs saw him they hailed him from the opposite shore, "Hello, Sam, are there any Yanks over there?" and Sam answered, "Lawd, yes; heaps on 'em," and our sneak game wasn't worth the candle. Our cake was dough, and as we came out from our hiding we could hear them say, "Oh, yes, I see 'em"—and then they opened fire on us, but their shots fell short, most of them dropping in the river. We raised the sights on our Sharps carbines and commenced firing, when they quickly ran for cover and did not expose themselves again during the day. There was an island in the river opposite the town. It was covered with a heavy growth of timber and underbrush so that it was impossible to see anything behind or on the island. We could see nothing of the boats. The artillery was brought up and commenced shelling the town, setting fire to a number of buildings. A raft was constructed and an attempt made to land men on the island under cover of the fire from the artillery. But the rebs had possession of the island, and as our raft neared the shore and the artillery had to cease firing for fear of hitting our own men, the rebs opened on them from the woods, and our officers seeing that they could not make a landing, the recall was sounded and the party came back. In attempting to cross the men placed their guns on the raft and, swimming beside it, pushed it over. It was now late in the afternoon, and we got orders to return to our horses, when we moved back two miles and went into camp.

July 29th—Got up early, fed our horses, and a number of squads were sent up and down the river to different landings and succeeded in destroying three flat boats. While we were on the march James Weldon of Company K was shot and instantly killed by some one in ambush. He and Corporal Frank Allen of Company C had gone ahead of the advance guard, and the shot was fired from a piece of woods some distance from the road. We were unable to get any trace of the party who fired the shot. The records of our regiment are very incomplete. No record of the



wounded was ever kept. And in this case the Ohio Roster says that James Weldon died August 15th, 1862, in hospital at Woodville, Alabama. The writer has a very vivid recollection of the incident. He was with the advance guard at the time, and saw Comrade Weldon a few moments after he was killed. Major Paramore in his report of the expedition says the man was instantly killed, which report is here published in full.

We returned to our camp at Woodville and the infantry and artillery left us at Vienna and returned to Huntsville by another road.

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**JULY 27-30, 1862.—Expedition from Woodville to Guntersville, Ala., and skirmishes (28th) at Guntersville and Law's Landing, and (29th) at Old Deposit Ferry.**

*Report of Major James W. Paramore, Third Ohio Cavalry.*

WOODVILLE, ALA., July 31, 1862.

SIR: I have the honor to report the entire success of the expedition sent out under my command on the 27th instant for the purpose of destroying the ferries on the Tennessee river from Law's Landing down to Whitesburg.

In accordance with instructions, the expedition—consisting of the Fifteenth Kentucky Infantry, commanded by Major Campbell, and a section of Loomis' battery, commanded by Lieutenant Chandler—left Huntsville on the morning of the 27th and proceeded by rail to Woodville, where we were joined by the Third Battalion of the Third Ohio Cavalry, in command of Major Charles B. Seidel, from which place I proceeded with the whole command, as above stated, for the Tennessee River, which we reached about 8 o'clock the same day, and encamped opposite Matthew's Landing, a distance of about twenty miles from Woodville, and over a rough, mountainous road. This was the first point on the route where we could get forage and water for our animals, and although it was a fatiguing march, it was accomplished without a murmur, so eager were the officers and men for the accomplishment of the purpose for which they were sent. I sent out the same evening of our arrival a strong picket, consisting of infantry and cavalry, to each of the ferries at Law's and Matthews' Landings, and also a squadron of cavalry, in command of Major Seidel, down to Guntersville, to watch the movements of the enemy, guard the boats, and prevent any one from crossing to give information of our approach. A courier from Major Seidel informed me that he was apprehensive that they would move their boats from Guntersville unless prevented by our artillery.

Accordingly I left the guards at Matthews' and Law's Ferries and proceeded with the command by daylight the next morning to Guntersville. I found the town strongly garrisoned by Forrest's cavalry and

some independent companies of guerrillas and bushwhackers raised in the vicinity, with a heavy picket guard down at the landing guarding their boats and a warehouse filled with forage and commissary stores. I concealed most of my forces and artillery in a wood a short distance back from the landing, and deployed two companies of infantry as skirmishers to reconnoiter the position and ascertain the whereabouts of the enemy at the landing. True to their bushwhacking mode of warfare, the enemy soon fired on them from their concealed positions behind trees and the old buildings on the opposite side of the river. The fire was returned by our skirmishers and cavalry pickets and continued for a short time sharply on both sides, when I ordered one piece of artillery to be placed on the high bluff above the landing in a position to command their camp and the town and the other so as to command the landing and buildings opposite.

At about 7 a. m. we commenced a simultaneous shelling of their camp and the woods on the island above the landing with an occasional round of canister, which soon scattered the astonished rebels in every direction and set them to riding and running in the utmost confusion, and with the assistance of our carbines and long-range rifles soon cleared the opposite shore. The enemy having taken all their boats and skiffs to the opposite shore and concealed them in the creek between the town and the island (as shown in the accompanying diagram\*) it was necessary that we should cross the river to destroy them.

Accordingly I set some men to work constructing a raft with such material as we had at our command for the purpose of crossing the river to destroy their boats. The enemy, perceiving our object, gathered in the old buildings opposite and commenced firing on the workmen. I then directed Lieutenant Chandler to shell those buildings, which he did, and they were soon discovered to be on fire, and the flames spread rapidly and consumed that part of the town.

As soon as the raft was completed Captain Allen of the Fifteenth Kentucky and ten men volunteered for the daring feat of crossing the river in search of the boats, and the raft not being large enough to carry more, one brave fellow swam the river to assist them. The party crossed safely to the island, and proceeded under cover of our guns up along the bank of the creek, and found that their boats had just been destroyed and sunk in the creek, all except one large one, which laid near the mouth of the creek partially sunk, but not destroyed. This they tried to raise and bring across, but the fire of the enemy's sharpshooters rendered it too hazardous, and Captain Allen abandoned it, and returned safely with his men to the command. I then ordered one of the guns down to a position below the landing, where the boat could be seen, and a few well-directed shells totally destroyed it. A vigorous fire was kept up on both

sides from about 7 a. m. till 12 m., when the well-directed fire of our artillery had driven them from their camp and town to the mountains for safety, and the firing gradually subsided into an irregular skirmish of sharpshooters with long-range guns from concealed positions. This was continued until about 6 o'clock in the evening, when, having completed the destruction of their boats, and having no sufficient means of crossing my command to pursue the enemy further, I withdrew all the command except one company of cavalry and one of infantry (which I left on picket at that place to hold and watch the movements of the enemy) back to our old camp near Matthews' Landing.

All this was accomplished without any loss on our side except one man of the artillery slightly wounded in the foot. The loss of the enemy we could not ascertain definitely, but learned from a citizen who crossed the river the next day that their loss was about thirty killed and wounded, besides their camp and town badly damaged by our shells and about ten buildings, including the warehouse, filled with forage and commissary stores, burned.

Their force at that point and Law's and Matthews' Landings was variously estimated at from 600 to 1200, all mounted, with no artillery, and is said to consist of a battalion of Forrest's cavalry, a battalion of Adams' cavalry and two or three companies of guerillas and bush-whackers raised in that vicinity.

During that night (Monday, 28th) the boat from Matthews' Ferry was moved up to Law's Landing and an attempt was made to cross under cover of night and get in our rear, but by the vigilance of Captain Spaulding, of the Fifteenth Kentucky, and his company, who were on picket guard at that place, they were prevented from crossing, and compelled to leave their boat, with a loss of two killed and several wounded.

The next morning I took a part of my forces, consisting of one company of cavalry and one of infantry and one gun, and went to that point and destroyed their boat, also giving them a farewell salute of a few shells in their camp, about a mile distant, but with what effect we could not ascertain. Having previously sent out scouting parties and thoroughly canvassed the shore for boats and ascertained that there were none, at least that could be found between that point and Guntersville, we returned to camp and collected our forces and proceeded down the river toward Whitesburg and encamped at Cottonville, near the Old Deposit Ferry. Then I sent a small force, consisting of one company of cavalry and one gun, under command of Major Seidel, down to the ferry to destroy the boat at that point. On their approach the rebel pickets cut the boat loose and it floated down the stream over a mile before it was discovered, when the first shot from the artillery struck and sunk it. Having accomplished their object they returned to camp.

The next morning I sent Major Seidel with a detachment of cavalry on a scout to Ferrin's Landing, about four miles below Deposit, to ascertain if there were any boats at that place, and report if necessary to destroy them. I then left one piece of artillery and one company of cavalry and one of infantry at the road leading to this point to assist in destroying the boats, if necessary, and proceeded with the balance of the command to Vienna, and there awaited their arrival. When they came up Major Seidel reported that he found one large boat on this side of the river at that point and another on the opposite side. He dismounted a part of his cavalry and crossed in the boat lying on this side, and procured the other and brought them both to this shore, and totally destroyed and sunk them without the aid of the other forces. They then pushed on and joined us at Vienna, where our command separated, Major Campbell, with the infantry and artillery, proceeding toward Whitesburg, and I returned with the cavalry the same evening (Wednesday, 30th) to our camp at Woodville.

I regret to record that while proceeding with the command near Vienna one of my men—James Weldon, of Company K, Third Ohio Volunteer Cavalry—was shot and instantly killed by a villain concealed in the thick woods near the road. I immediately sent out scouting parties in all directions, with instructions to shoot down all persons found in arms and arrest all male citizens found in the vicinity. Only one was found and arrested—McDonald, living in sight of where the man was shot. He denies all connection with or knowledge of the murder, but I think it almost impossible that he could not know something about it, if he was not actually engaged in it. I therefore send him to your headquarters for such punishment as you may think proper, fully satisfied that to put down bushwhacking vigorous and severe measures must be used, and all the citizens in the vicinity where these outrages are committed must be held responsible for them.

It would be injustice to close this report without speaking more particularly of the bravery and gallant conduct of all the officers and men composing the expedition. Without mentioning their names, I would say that all are entitled to great credit for the promptness with which they obeyed and executed all orders given and the energy they evinced in accomplishing the object for which they were sent; and I would particularly mention the names of Major Campbell, commanding the infantry; Lieutenant Chandler, commanding the artillery, and Major Seidel, commanding cavalry; also Captains Spaulding and Allen, of the Fifteenth Kentucky, and Lieutenant Heflebower, of Company G, Third Ohio Volunteer Cavalry, for their co-operation and valuable services rendered in the expedition.

During the route we destroyed seven boats, viz: one at Law's Landing, three at Guntersville, one at Deposit, and two at Ferrin's Landing; but I was hardly satisfied with our operations at Guntersville. I think that nest of treason and rendezvous of guerrillas and bushwhackers should be entirely destroyed and purified by fire, for as long as it is permitted to remain their facilities for reconstructing their boats and its proximity to the railroad will make it a dangerous place for the safety of our trains and railroad bridges and require it to be closely watched.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. W. PARAMORE,

*Major, Third Ohio Volunteer Cavalry, Comdg. Expedition.*

Lieutenant-Colonel MURRAY,

*Commanding Third Ohio Cavalry.*

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August 4th—Sergeant Patrick and four men of Company G while returning from a little scouting expedition and only a short distance from the pickets were fired on by bushwhackers from ambush. Sergeant Patrick and one man were killed and two of the men were wounded. One man escaped. The shots were plainly heard in camp. Company C was already mounted ready to go on picket. Captain Howland gave the command, "Forward!" and the company was off at a gallop. We met the man who had escaped, coming in, and a short distance beyond the picket post, found his companions lying on the rocks dead and wounded, but no trace of the men who had so cruelly murdered them. It was an ideal spot for such an ambush—a wild, lonely place. On one side the mountain rose abruptly from the roadside. The thick undergrowth afforded a complete shelter, so that the men in hiding might almost touch those riding by with their guns, and still remain undiscovered. If a small party was seen by these people going out, the bushwhackers would lie in ambush until they came back, and without any warning fire their shots at close range, and they very seldom missed their man. They would then betake themselves to their hiding places in the mountains, and it was the next thing to impossible to find them. The people living in the vicinity were either friendly to them or afraid to give information against them. There was a family living in a house near where these men were ambushed. We could get no information from any of them, and believing that it was a nest for spies, the house was burned. We scoured the country for miles in every direction and gathered up and brought in five men on suspicion. They were sent to headquarters at Huntsville and I believe were let go, as it was claimed there was no evidence that they were bushwhackers. The following is Lieutenant Colonel Murray's official report of the affair:



**AUGUST 4-7, 1862.—Attack on Union pickets near Woodville, Ala (4th), and reconnaissance from Woodville to Guntersville, Ala. (5th-7th).**

*Reports of Lieut. Col. Douglas A. Murray, Third Ohio Cavalry.*

COLONEL: I have the honor to inform you that between the hours of 3 and 4 our outward pickets on the Guntersville road were fired at from the bushes by a party of ten guerrillas or bushwhackers. One of the men was shot dead—the sergeant, a most worthy, good man, mortally wounded through the head, who died shortly afterward; the two other men were both dangerously wounded, only one of five escaping uninjured, who, being driven by the murderers, was forced to fall back. He describes the scene above as follows:

“The party, consisting of a sergeant and four privates, belonging to Company G, Third Ohio Cavalry, who were in the advance of the rest of the company at the outpost of the line of pickets on the road, about a mile and one-fourth distant from the camp, between the hours of 3 and 4 o'clock p. m., were fired on by a party of ten or twelve armed men. The first intimation they had of their approach was a volley of ball and buck-shot. He, being the only one of the party who escaped its fatal effects, fired his carbine and revolver upon the party, but being so hardly pressed by the entire number had to retire. All this was so quickly done that the other pickets had not time to come to the assistance of the unfortunate men. The murderers turned into the bushes, which just at that place were thick, the mountain steep and rocky. Lieutenant Heflebower, the officer in charge of the picket, dismounted some of the men and searched all over for them without success.”

Hearing the firing in camp from the line of pickets I immediately sent out a squadron to scour the country in the neighborhood of the scene. After much trouble, found the tracks of the murderers up and across the mountain; taking a circuitous route to some houses about one and one-half miles from where the firing took place, finding four men who could not account for themselves and from their contradictory statements were arrested. Finding any further efforts to make discoveries fruitless the command returned to camp. I brought each of the prisoners separately before the wounded men, then in the regimental hospital, one of whom, N. J. Fletcher, was identified immediately by Private Lewis H. Palmer, who is positive that he is the man that fired on him. Private Steckel, the only one of the party uninjured, also identified him, Fletcher, and one other, John Peters, jr., as being two of the men of the party of ten. The other two state that they were in company with Fletcher and Peters all day, and further their statements are both contradictory and changeable, and I have no doubt that each and all of them are guilty of the murders committed.



I had to use, assisted by the other officers of the regiment, the most strenuous efforts to prevent the men from lynching them, their guilt being so palpable. I hear from good authority that three of the ten men that are now in this vicinity bushwhacking are of those I have sent down to headquarters and who have been recently released, and are now boasting of being Union men.

Very respectfully, I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

D. A. MURRAY,

*Lieutenant-Colonel Third Ohio Cavalry, Commanding.*

P. S.—Since writing the above Private Steckel has recognized Lewis Turner, another of the prisoners, also John Peters, as being two that were of the party. Private William Smith, Company C, recognizes one of the prisoners, Fletcher, as being one that fired upon him a few days since; Private Smith is now lying in hospital from wounds received, he states, by his hands.

Respectfully, yours,

D. A. MURRAY,

*Lieutenant-Colonel Third Ohio Cavalry, Commanding.*

COL. J. B. FRY, *Chief of Staff, Army of the Ohio.*

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HEADQUARTERS THIRD OHIO CAVALRY,  
IN CAMP, WOODVILLE, ALA., *August 7, 1862.*

COLONEL: I have the honor to report for your information that the squadron of the Third Ohio Cavalry that left these headquarters on the morning of the 5th instant on a reconnaissance to the river opposite to Guntersville returned this day at noon.

The officer in command of the squadron reports that the encampment of the enemy has been moved back from the river about two miles, and there appears to be a larger force there now than when our troops, accompanied by artillery and infantry, were there. The enemy have dug rifle pits, and have also mounted two pieces of artillery to command the old ferries at that point. The ferry-boats destroyed by our troops are being repaired, and I have heard from good authority will be ready for use this day or tomorrow. It is rumored that they, the enemy, will cross with the intention of destroying the bridges on the railroad as soon as they possibly can. If not too great a liberty, might I suggest that two pieces of artillery may be sent to this point or the bridge near by. I have no doubt if artillery were here and could be spared they would render good service. The country being so miserably adapted for cavalry being as effectual as they otherwise would be on more suitable ground might be obviated by having the assistance of artillery. If artillery cannot be

spared, two companies of infantry would, I have no doubt, prevent any damage being done to railroad in our vicinity.

The squadron arrested Mr. Hornbuckle, a noted bushwhacker, who attempted after his arrest to escape, and did succeed in getting off some distance; would have made good his escape but for the steps taken to prevent it.

Very respectfully, I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

D. A. MURRAY,

*Lieutenant-Colonel Third Ohio Cavalry, Commanding.*

COL. J. B. FRY, *Chief of Staff.*

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August 5th—Albert D. Noble of Company F was killed and John Cannon of Company C wounded by guerrillas. Companies C and K went in pursuit of the marauders but found nothing of them. Three houses were burned in obedience to orders to burn all houses near the scene of these outrages.

August 6th—Pickets fired on at midnight, and the command turned out. A patrol was sent out, but found no enemy. It was no doubt guerrillas.

August 9th—A report was brought to camp that General Robert McCook had been murdered by guerrillas while sick and riding in an ambulance near New Market.

August 10th—We started out with three days rations and a guide on a hunt for Gurley and his band of bushwhackers, the murderers of General McCook. We went in the direction of New Market. Camped at night at Paint Rock river. Arrested a number of men on suspicion that they might be implicated or might be able to give some information.

August 11th—Arrived at New Market about midnight after a rough march over the mountains. The rebs had been there but had left before we arrived.

August 12th—Started south from New Market; found where the guerrillas had camped the night before. We took up the trail and followed all day over the mountain roads, camping on the trail at nightfall when it became too dark to follow.

August 13th—We were in the saddle as soon as it was light. The trail led us into a narrow defile in the mountains, which ended in a pocket with no outlet, and here we came upon the band which we had been pursuing.

They were compelled to abandon their horses and take to the mountains on foot, where they fired upon us from the shelter of the rocks and trees, as they retreated up the mountain sides. We captured eighteen horses, one of them a splendid gray which had belonged to General McCook. We also wounded one of their men. We found a number of

very good horses at a place a few miles away. The same night we marched to Huntsville and camped.

August 14th—Officers and men from the different companies started North to recruit men to fill up our ranks. The command started back to Woodville at 1 p. m. Camped at Flint river.

August 15th—Started on the march at 6 a. m. We heard that Gurley had gone to his plantation, and a detachment was sent back to catch him if possible, but a thorough search failed to reveal any trace of him. Reached camp at Woodville in the evening.

August 20th—The dismounted men started at 5 a. m. for Decherd for horses, going by the way of Stevenson, arriving at Decherd on the 21st, where they remained until the balance of the Second and Third Battalions came up.

August 26th—The Second and Third Battalions having marched through from Woodville, arrived at Decherd and camped near the station. Rumors that Bragg had crossed the river at Chattanooga, and there was a general movement of our army to be ready to check his advance as soon as his plans could be discovered.

## CHAPTER VII.

### BACK INTO KENTUCKY

After the evacuation of Corinth and the withdrawal of the rebel army to Tupelo, General Beauregard was removed and General Bragg placed in command. His army moving east, parallel to that of General Buell, occupied Chattanooga, which was well known to be the objective of the Union army. By the latter part of July it became evident to our leaders that General Bragg had planned a campaign of his own and for a time at least we should dance to his music. On August 19th Bragg commenced to cross the Tennessee river at Chattanooga and points above, and by the 22d his army was all on the north side; but for several days our leaders were in doubt as to his intentions. Was it northern Alabama? Was it Nashville, or was it East Tennessee and Kentucky? It proved to be the last. General Bragg had conceived the bold plan of a concentrated movement of all the troops he could control in a rapid movement into Kentucky. General Kirby Smith was sent from Knoxville by the way of Cumberland Gap to join General Morgan. Forrest was to move on our communications in middle Tennessee, and then northward into Kentucky. Generals Price and VanDorn were to keep Generals Grant and Rosecrans busy, or follow them if they undertook to reinforce Buell, while Bragg himself, moving rapidly by the way of Sparta, crossed the Cumberland river at Carthage, marched by the way of Scottsboro

and Glasgow, striking the Louisville & Nashville Railroad north of Bowling Green, intended to form a junction with Kirby Smith, Morgan and Forrest and take Louisville before Buell's army could intercept him. It was a bold plan and had a fair prospect of success, his hopes being based largely on the expected recruits that his armies would get as they marched through Kentucky, but the people failed to respond to his appeals.

On the 22d of August General Buell was at Decherd gathering in his army, General Thomas with his division was at McMinnville and General Wood's division was near Manchester. As soon as General Buell learned that Bragg was moving east of McMinnville he put his army in motion for Nashville, by the way of Murfreesboro.

August 28th—The Second and Third Battalions left Decherd guarding Buell's army wagon train on its way north, and as the guarding of this wagon train was a new experience to us, a few words about wagon trains in general, and this one in particular, may not be out of place.

Of all the duties that fell to a cavalryman's lot the one that he disliked above all others was guarding wagon trains. For if you knew where you were going you never knew when you would get there, and when it moved you didn't know how soon it would stop. And if it stopped you didn't know how long it would be before it would start again. And if at a halt you sat on your horse awhile expecting it to move, until both you and your horse were tired and you dismounted for a rest, it would at once move forward, and you could mount and move along at a snail's pace. And so it was halt and move forward, halt and move forward, interspersed with helping the wagons over the mountains, across the streams, over bad places in the roads, from morning until night, and often far into the night, and sometimes all night, before you reached camp and could get your cup of coffee and lie down to rest. Buell's army train when stretched on the road was almost twenty miles long. And when it was on the march the rear of the train never got to camp until after the advance had started out next day. We camped that night at Shelbyville.

August 29th—Moved out at 7 a. m. and camped at Murfreesboro at night. We remained here until Sept. 7th. While at Murfreesboro we were routed out one night soon after midnight and saddled up expecting an attack.

September 7th—We left Murfreesboro for Nashville, Company C as rear guard. About noon some rebels came in sight, but did not attack us. We marched all night. The heavens were bright with fires of burning stores and buildings. Camped in the morning about 4 o'clock, three miles south of Nashville.

September 8th—All sorts of rumors in camp. Reported that Cincinnati had been taken by Kirby Smith. Reported that General Forrest was

near here with 3000 cavalry. We were saddled up ready to move at a moment's notice.

September 10th—We left our camp at 3 a. m. Started north with the wagon train. Went into camp Sept. 11th at 3 a. m., having made eleven miles in twenty-four hours. After four hours rest in camp we moved out at 7 a. m. Camped at Three Springs, twenty-four miles north of Nashville. The advance found some rebs here and had a skirmish.

September 12th—Our regiment was rear guard today. We marched fifteen miles.

September 13th—Passed through Franklin, Ky., and camped.

September 14th—Left camp at 2 a. m. Reached Bowling Green before noon. One man and four mules drowned in Cave river.

September 16th—Ordered to saddle up and be ready to move at 1 p. m. Did not leave camp until 5. Marched sixteen miles; ran onto some rebs and had a little skirmish near where we camped.

September 17th—Drove in the rebel pickets; took some prisoners.

September 18th—Met Mitchell's forces and went back with them to Glasgow. Captured about 200 prisoners and five wagons loaded with flour and meat, and some whisky.

September 20th—Left Glasgow going in a northerly direction. As we were coming in toward Cave City after dark, Company C in the advance, we were fired on by the cavalry pickets of Rousseau's division. They were from the Second Kentucky. They fired one volley and galloped into camp. We followed them right in and gave them the merry ha! ha! as we met them going back to their post. We camped at 11 p. m.

September 22—Marched north, forded Green river at Mumfordsville, the bridge being burned. Camped about two miles north of the town.

September 23d—Marched from Mumfordsville to Elizabethtown, forty miles. Late when we went into camp; the rebels one day's march ahead of us.

September 25th—Started out with the Fourth Ohio and Fifth Kentucky Cavalry Regiments. Marched to Millerstown, some thirty-five miles, and camped.

September 26th—Marched in a southeast direction; roads very bad.

September 27th—Got to Bowling Green turnpike and followed it to Green river and camped.

September 28th—Marched to Brownsville and found our old friends of the wagon train waiting for us to escort them to the Ohio river.

September 29th—We lay at Brownsville waiting until the wagon train crossed Green river. For the next four days and nights we were engaged in escorting the train to the Ohio river at West Point, at which place we arrived in the afternoon of October 3d. In coming through we



had avoided the main pike, keeping to the west, as the wagon train would have been a valuable prize for the enemy, and it was thought best to keep it as much as possible out of his way.

Colonel Zahm's report on bringing General Buell's army train from Brownsville to the Ohio river:

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY BRIGADE,  
*Salt River, October 3, 1862—9 a. m.*

COL. J. B. FRY,  
*Chief of Staff, Army of the Ohio:*

I have the honor to report the arrival of the head of the train at this place at 7:30 this a. m. I found your instructions here. In accordance therewith I immediately had the train move forward for Louisville. They are proceeding finely; some 150 teams have crossed the river at this time. I had divided the train into three sections. The first section will arrive at Louisville tonight; the second section will reach half way to Louisville; the third section will perhaps cross the river yet tonight.

This morning everything was in order throughout the train; we had not lost a dollar's worth of property, with the exception of a few broken-down wagons, which we had to abandon.

I reached Hancher's Ferry on the morning of the 27th; found no wagons there. My courier arrived in the evening; reported that the wagons would cross at Brownsville. On the 28th I proceeded to Mooresville. On arrival there I found the head of the train in the act of crossing; some 100 teams had crossed. I found the coming up on the bank of the river very bad and very slow getting up.

We crossed some 500 teams yet on the 28th. On the 29th worked with a will; kept repairing the roads; kept two gangs of men ready with a long rope and hook to help the teams up. By 6 o'clock we had the teams all across, some 1700 in number, all told. On the morning of the 30th I set the train in motion in three different sections, with escort properly distributed. We continued our march without any interruption worth mentioning up to this time, over very rough, some places rocky and hilly, roads. It was not possible to have made twenty-five miles per day over the roads we had to come without breaking down one-half the teams. We worked busily all the while; kept going as far as the mules could stand it to go. We managed to find plenty of feed and water at our camping places for our stock; in fact everything appeared to move off as well as could be wished for. I shall feel very thankful when the rear of the train gets up, of which I think there will not be much doubt. I do not ask it as a favor to shoulder such a responsibility very soon again. I have never heard of a train moving of this large proportion. At 50



feet to the team, which is a small space for them to travel, it made a column of over seventeen miles in length, besides the brigade of cavalry occupying nearly another mile. On the pike I could have made twenty-five miles per day easier than fifteen miles per day the way I came. Up to this point I averaged a daily march of twenty miles and over.

On my arrival here I received your instructions to move to Shepherdsville with my brigade, and to let the train proceed on to Louisville without an escort. As the rear of the train will not be up before night, I shall not be able to move to Shepherdsville before tomorrow morning. I was in hopes that we would be allowed to move on to Louisville to give us a little rest, as both men and horses are very much worked down from hard labor performed for four weeks back, and to give us an opportunity to fit out the command in good shape again. As we are now we are in a poor condition to move against the enemy.

At least one-third of my men (Third Ohio) are dismounted, the horses having sore backs and given out otherwise on these long, hard trips of late. The horses we have on hand are very much jaded and fatigued. Then the command is without haversacks and canteens; in a great measure many out of clothing. We likewise need more horse equipments of all kinds and arms, as owing to the want of transportation we had to turn over these articles, as fast as they accumulated, at Savannah, Pittsburg Landing, Tuscumbia, etc., having a good many more sick in Nashville, Savannah, before Corinth who had entered the hospitals or were sent home on sick leave who had to leave their arms with the command. A large number of these convalescents have returned and are without arms, horses, or horse equipments. With the other two regiments, the Fourth Ohio and Fifth Kentucky, it is about the same thing. On the whole, as stated above, we are rather in a bad shape to make a forced march. Another thing which I hoped to have brought about: My regiment has now seven months' pay due them; both officers and men need money very much, which I had hoped would be paid them on arrival at Louisville, where they would have forwarded it to their families.

As for myself I am about worn-out and nearly down sick from the hard labors and exposures subjected to for the past month. Our transportation needs repairing very much before going on again with it. The same is scattered. One part of it, which was left at Nashville, is now moving with this train to Louisville; one part of it, which we left at Elizabethtown before going southward, I am not aware of its whereabouts; each part of the same has men and horses with it. Our property is scattered throughout the three parts of our transportation. Then again my men ought to have their overcoats, which they had to pack up at Tuscumbia; where they were sent to I know not. Nights are getting wet and cool, and men doing picket duty need their overcoats.

I wish you would consider these matters. Send any further instructions by my courier that you may have for me. He will return tonight.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

LEWIS ZAHM,  
*Colonel, Commanding Second Cavalry Brigade.*

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October 4th—We moved up Salt river to Shepherdsville and remained one day resting in camp.

October 6th—Moved to Taylorsville, and the next day we marched to Shelbyville.

October 8th—Marched to Frankfort, the state capital, where we found a small force of the enemy. Had a skirmish; one man of the Fourth Ohio killed and several wounded; lay on our arms in line of battle all night. We remained at Frankfort until the 11th, when we moved to Lawrenceburg, and on the 13th to Harrodsburg.

October 14th—We marched to Danville.

#### LEXINGTON

October 16th—The Third Battalion, under Major Seidel, and a detachment of the Fourth Ohio, under Captain Robie, started out in the afternoon with orders to go to camp Dick Robinson to guard some commissary stores that had been abandoned by the rebels in their retreat. Arriving at the camp we found a regiment of Union troops in charge of the stores. We went into camp and Major Seidel sent out a patrol. When they returned they brought in two men mounted and in Federal uniform, who claimed to be Federal officers, but their answers to questions put to them were not entirely satisfactory, and so they were placed under guard. The next morning we started for Lexington, arriving early in the afternoon. The Union people gave us an ovation as we entered the town. Their houses were decorated with the Stars and Stripes, and they were in their door yards and on the sidewalks waving handkerchiefs and flags and cheering us as we passed. We had not seen such a demonstration since leaving Ohio. When we reached Lexington we found another detachment of the Fourth Ohio camped in Court House square, and Major Seidel marched his command out on the Richmond pike about two miles and went into camp at Ashland, the homestead of Henry Clay.

The two prisoners captured at Camp Dick Robinson were left in charge of the men camped at the court house.

Our camp was in a fine grove of native forest trees on the south side of the road, and a short distance east of the Clay mansion. A strong post and rail fence was between the road and the camp ground, and the only entrance, a gateway through which we marched by two's. Our pickets were posted about half a mile from camp, and in the evening Major Seidel

sent Lieutenant Hall with Company K out to patrol the road in the direction of Richmond. Soon after midnight Lieutenant Hall sent in under guard two white men and a negro. The men were officers in Morgan's command and for disclosing their identity the negro was shot after we had been captured. As the night passed, Major Seidel became uneasy and anxious, not hearing anything further from his patrol. He realized that we ought to get out, but disliked to abandon his men. Towards morning he sent word to Major Robie to saddle and be ready to move out at a moment's notice. Just as the dawn of day appeared in the east the firing of our pickets alarmed the camp, and as the firing continued we knew that it meant an attack. Major Seidel believed we ought to mount and retreat to Lexington or beyond, but Captain Robie, without consultation, marched his men, dismounted to the east end of the park, formed into line of battle and commenced firing. Major Seidel coming into position with the Third, we opened with our carbines on the enemy who could now be plainly seen just coming over a ridge within easy rifle range, firing as they advanced. It was now plainly evident that we had overwhelming odds to contend with. That long line coming down the slope would soon envelop us and we fell back to our horses, intending to retreat toward Lexington. We had only just reached our horses, however, when we were confronted by another force of Confederate cavalry advancing upon us from the direction of Lexington, and to complete our discomfiture, a regiment came charging down the road from the direction of Richmond, in column of fours. As they came opposite to our position, they fired a volley into our confused and broken ranks, Morgan's battery at the same time coming into position and sending a few shells in our direction. Morgan was there with the goods, and like Davy Crocket's coon, we concluded it was best to come down, so we surrendered. We were marched to the Clay mansion and paroled, Morgan taking our horses, arms and most of our personal belongings. We marched down through Lexington, but there were no Stars and Stripes floating. A few Confederate flags were displayed, however. We marched to Frankfort and there took the cars for Columbus, by the way of Louisville and Indianapolis. We remained at Columbus until we were exchanged, when we returned to the regiment early in 1863.

In regard to the number of men in the engagement at Lexington, the Third had in the fight six officers and 78 men; total, 84. They had four killed and 80 wounded and prisoners.

The Fourth had four officers and 206 men; total, 210—wounded and prisoners. As a part of the Fourth was in Lexington and took no part in the fight, we had not to exceed 250 officers and men in the fight. The Confederates say their force was 1800. It probably exceeded 3000. We do not know what their loss was. Among their killed was Major

Morgan, a cousin of the general. As no record of our wounded was kept in either the Third or Fourth Regiments we have no means of knowing the number of wounded.

On the night of the 18th Major Seidel returned to Danville and reported what he had learned while held a prisoner in Morgan's house, in regard to Morgan's contemplated movements, after which he went to Camp Chase and remained until exchanged.

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*Report of Major Charles B. Seidel, Third Ohio Cavalry, of Skirmish Near Lexington.*

DANVILLE, October 19, 1862.

SIR: In compliance to orders I received from your headquarters to go to Camp Dick Robinson and take charge of the provisions left there by the rebel forces I left camp on the 16th of October at 2 p. m., and arrived at Camp Dick Robinson at 5 p. m., finding Colonel Hoskins in charge of those stores, consisting of 2600 barrels of pork and 2000 bushels of wheat. Went into camp at Dick Robinson with intention to return the following morning to Danville. At 11 o'clock of same night I received a message from Colonel Hoskins of the approach of General Morgan with 500 men strong toward Hickman Bridge with intention to burn said bridge, and recommending one battalion of my forces to be immediately dispatched to Hickman Bridge to prevent it from being burned by General Morgan's forces. This I complied with, by sending one battalion of the Fourth Ohio Volunteer Cavalry under command of Captain Robie.

The next morning (October 17th) at 5 o'clock I started with the balance of my command, consisting of one battalion Third Ohio Volunteer Cavalry, to join Captain Robie at said bridge. On my arrival here I learned that Captain Gotwald, commanding four companies of Fourth Ohio Volunteer Cavalry, had left Nicholasville for Lexington to drive a portion of Morgan's cavalry forces from that vicinity to prevent their pilage and burning of bridges. I then, knowing that Captain Gotwald could not accomplish his object with the force under his command, went with all the force under my command, numbering in all 260 men, to reinforce him, which I accomplished by 3 o'clock of same day. Finding Captain Gotwald with his force stationed in town, I then went into camp one and one-half miles from Lexington on the Richmond pike.

At 1 o'clock the same night two citizens living about seven miles from Lexington came in with the following statement, viz.: Morgan's forces of about 500 or 600 men were advancing on the Richmond pike. I immediately sent out a scouting party of 22 men, under command of Lieutenant Hall, Company K. Third Ohio Volunteer Cavalry, to procure all possible information. At about 3 o'clock one corporal and two privates

returned with two rebel prisoners in charge, captured about five miles from Lexington on the Richmond pike. The balance of the scouting party marched on. On questioning said prisoners I became satisfied that a heavy force was coming upon us. I therefore called out my command immediately and formed in line, when we were attacked by General Morgan's forces of about 3000 strong and six pieces of artillery pouring in most deadly volleys of musketry and grape on all sides. My command most manfully and gallantly returned their fire and fought them hand to hand until overpowered by an overwhelming force, when we were compelled to surrender. Our loss was four killed and 24 wounded.

The loss of the enemy I was unable to ascertain, but saw three wagons of killed and wounded leave the battle ground. Major Morgan, of General Morgan's cavalry, was mortally wounded. The scouting party have not been heard from. As a large rebel force left the scene of action in pursuit of them fears are entertained that all have been captured.

Much credit is due to Captain Robie, of the Fourth Ohio Volunteer Cavalry, for his cool and gallant behavior during the fight. Captain P. H. Warner, Company D; Lieutenant H. Hamilton, Company A, and Lieutenant W. E. Crane, Company C, (Fourth) Ohio Volunteer Cavalry, having left the command on the evening previous without permission and remained in town all night, and have not reported themselves yet.

The greatest credit is due to all officers and men.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHARLES B. SEIDEL,

*Major, Commanding Third Ohio Volunteer Cavalry.*

COLONEL ZAHM.

[Indorsement.]

Respectfully forwarded, with the addition that the four companies of the Fourth Ohio Volunteer Cavalry stationed at Lexington, under command of Captain Gotwald, have surrendered likewise. Have had no official reports from him.

LEWIS ZAHM,

*Colonel, Commanding Second Cavalry Brigade.*

## CHAPTER VIII.

### MOVEMENTS OF THE FIRST BATTALION 1862

On July 9th, when the Second and Third Battalions left Mooresville, Alabama, to go to Woodville, the First Battalion, in command of Major Foster, moved with Wood's Division northward into Tennessee. Passing through Fayetteville, they arrived at Shelbyville with the wagon train July 15th. On the 16th they escorted the wagon train out on the Mur-



freesboro pike, and left at 10 p. m. for Fayetteville. On the 18th they marched to Wartrace. From there they moved to Winchester, where they went into camp. They were kept busy doing picket duty, scouting and foraging. On July 28th a foraging party captured 87 head of beef cattle that were being driven to Chattanooga for the rebel army.

August 14th they broke camp at Winchester and marched to within six miles of Manchester and camped.

August 15th—Reveille at 4 a. m.; moved out at 5. Marched to Manchester and camped in a piece of woods south of the town.

August 16th—A detachment went out on a scout; went to Beach Grove; returned to camp at 1 a. m.

August 17th—Reveille sounded at 3 a. m. Moved out at 5. Marched about 12 miles towards Verville. Camped at noon near some fine springs of water on campmeeting grounds.

August 20th—Moved to Verville and camped.

August 21st—A detachment of the Third and Eighth companies of the Fifteenth Indiana Infantry went out in the mountains after guerrillas. They went to Altamont and captured about 20 doubtful citizens. Returning they camped at the foot of the mountain. Company M went with the wagon train to Beech Grove after forage.

August 22d—Returned to camp.

August 24th—Started out at 1 a. m. Marched to McMinnville. Stopped to feed and rest our horses and then started toward Decherd. Camped after dark.

August 26th—Wood's Division moved to Verville. Companies B and H went as rear guard.

August 27th—Started out at 5 a. m. Marched to Hickory Creek, two and one-fourth miles south of McMinnville, and camped.

August 29th—Started at 5 a. m. Passed through McMinnville, and left the infantry at the foot of the mountain. The cavalry, under Major Foster, went up and to within five miles of Dunlap. He drove in the rebel pickets, captured five prisoners and five horses, returned to the foot of the mountain and camped with the infantry.

August 30th—On the march early; passed through McMinnville. We went into camp about 5 p. m.

September 2d—Division moved out at 5:30 a. m. Cavalry rear guard camped at Young's tannery.

September 3d—Foraging.

September 4th—Started soon after sunrise. Passed through Bradyville; captured three prisoners; arrived at Readyville at 10 p. m. and went into camp.

September 5th—We were late in getting started, the road being blockaded with wagons. Our column, delayed on that account, arrived at



Murfreesboro a little before noon. We camped near a spring and found the Second and Third Battalions were also there.

September 6th—Started early and passed through Lavergne. Drew up in line and waited for General Wood to come up. Marched to Nashville and camped at the fair grounds.

September 7th—Started at 11 a. m. Crossed the Cumberland river on the railroad bridge, marched out six miles and camped.

September 8th—Moved out at sunrise, passed through Saundersville and camped about four miles from Gallatin. The battalion went about two miles beyond Gallatin on the Lebanon pike; returned to camp late.

September 9th—On the march early, Company L in advance, Company H rear guard for the Division. Found the stockade at Gallatin evacuated. Country rough and water scarce; men and horses suffered from thirst. Camped on a stream of water about twelve miles south of Franklin, Kentucky.

September 10th—Started at 4 a. m. Came up with the wagon train at Mitchelville. We left the pike and got past the train before we reached Franklin. Stopped at Franklin to rest. Camped at Nichols. Company H ordered to Bowling Green; marched at 7 p. m.; passed through Woodburn; arrived at Bowling Green at 10 p. m. and camped on the old camp ground of the spring before.

September 11th—Moved up and camped west of town.

September 17th—Started soon after sunrise, formed in line of battle five miles north of Bowling Green, moved forward, struck the rebel cavalry and commenced driving them before us. At 3 p. m. we camped. Water was very scarce; it commenced to rain about 5 o'clock. The wagons did not come up and we had no supper.

September 18th—The Division marched at sunrise. The First Battalion in advance of the column found the rebels in our front and commenced driving them; drove them a mile north of Cave City, skirmishing constantly as we advanced. We found some seventy wounded in the town and captured 400 prisoners, a number of horses, some arms and equipments.

September 19th—Formed in line of battle the First Battalion on the right of a section of artillery, the cavalry in front sheltered by woods; the woods in our rear occupied by our infantry. The prisoners taken at Mumfordsville passed through our lines on their way to Buell's headquarters. After they had passed through our skirmishers were called in and pickets posted and the troops fell back to draw rations and rest.

September 21st—In the saddle before daylight. General Thomas sent the First Battalion in the advance. We came up with the rebel cavalry a short distance beyond our pickets, and commenced skirmishing with them and drove them before us for about nine miles until they reached

Mumfordsville. Here they took a strong position behind some buildings on a rise of ground south of the river. We dismounted and attempted to dislodge them, but after fighting for an hour, we concluded their position was too strong for us and we waited for the infantry to come up. As soon as they arrived they formed in line and charged, driving the enemy from their position and out of Mumfordsville. The enemy lost three officers and eighteen men killed, and fifty wounded and prisoners. One of the officers killed was Lieutenant Colonel Brown, of the First Alabama Cavalry. We encamped south of the town.

September 22d—Started early, Wolford's cavalry in the advance, crossed Green river and before noon crossed Bacon creek, driving the enemy before us and taking a number of prisoners. Some artillery skirmishing in front. Two of our men killed. Pushed on to Elizabethtown, where we halted and fed our horses then marched about eight miles, towards Louisville, and camped.

September 23d—Marched to West Point and camped at the mouth of Salt river. The enemy had left our front.

September 24th—Moved out in the rear of Crittenden's wagon train. Camped on the bank of the Ohio river. Late in the evening a rumor came that Louisville was attacked and we saddled up and were ready to move in five minutes, but had to wait for Crittenden's Division to pass. Stopped south of the city and lay down to rest.

September 25th—Moved late in the afternoon; camped west of the city.

September 26th—Went out on a reconnaissance seven miles toward Shepherdsville; returned and camped about two miles south of the city.

September 29th—We received some recruits, just arrived from Ohio.

October 1st—Moved out at 8 a. m.; marched southward about ten miles.

October 2d—Advanced five or six miles further south. Skirmishing in front.

October 3d—Companies B and H went off to the left to reconnoiter; found no enemy. Camped on Salt river; found the bridge burned; skirmishing in front.

October 4th—Started out early, without breakfast. Wood's division of infantry and about 350 cavalry, the First Battalion of the Third Ohio, six companies of the First Ohio, and two companies of the Second Kentucky. The cavalry in the advance. We marched through Fairfield, struck the pike near the fair grounds north of Bardstown. Captain Flannagan, in a linen duster and armed with a double barreled shotgun, had command of the advance guard. As we were moving toward the pike the advance came to some rebel pickets and commenced skirmishing with them, capturing two Texan rangers. The command formed into

line, advancing toward the pike and opposite to the fair grounds. As we moved forward about 3 p. m. a squad of rebels appeared to the left, moving toward Bardstown. Captain Flannagan and the advance guard gave chase, following them down the pike. As our line moved forward General Wharton's division of cavalry (which was entirely concealed from our view by the high board fence of the fair grounds), moving in column by the left flank, came around north of the fair grounds at a gallop, and charged, overwhelming our small force, breaking our line and throwing it into confusion. Captain Flannagan came charging back much faster than he went, the tails of his linen duster streaming in the air. In the mixup and getaway we lost forty-two of our men, who were captured, while we took thirty-nine of the enemy prisoners. Our infantry was only about half a mile in the rear, but could not assist us in the scrimmage. Our men who were captured were taken to Springfield and paroled about 3 a. m. of the 5th, returning to our lines the same day and going on to the paroled camp at Columbus, Ohio, to await exchange. The division moved on through Bardstown, Springfield and Lebanon, to Perryville, where it was engaged in the battle of the 8th on the right wing of the army. After the battle it moved to Danville. On the night of the 14th it moved out at midnight, and engaged the enemy at Stanford at daylight on the morning of the 15th, following to Crab Orchard. The latter part of October the cavalry was ordered to Lebanon to refit and the infantry was ordered to concentrate at Bowling Green.

October 30th—General Buell was superseded by General Rosecrans, who took command of the army, which was designated by the government as the Fourteenth Army Corps. This designation very soon gave place to the more popular and appropriate one—The Army of the Cumberland.

November 3d—The cavalry arrived at Bowling Green and the next day the infantry was ordered to move to Nashville. The Confederate army concentrated at Murfreesboro. Immediately on assuming command General Rosecrans proceeded to reorganize the army. All the cavalry was placed under the command of General D. S. Stanley, who organized it into brigades. Ours was the Second Brigade, Second Division. It was composed of the First, Third and Fourth Ohio Cavalry Regiments, and was commanded by Colonel Zahm.

November 8th—Zahm's brigade moved on Gallatin, and driving out Morgan's division, captured some twenty prisoners. The cavalry remained in position north of the Cumberland river, occupying Hartsville, Gallatin, Fountain Head, and Franklin, until Nov. 17th, when Colonel Kennett, commanding the division, moved from Hartsville, crossed the Cumberland river and took position south of Nashville.

November 27th—The division under Colonel Kennett went out on the Franklin pike, encountered a force of the enemy and routed them, driving them fifteen miles. He captured a number of prisoners and horses.

December 11th—General Stanley with a strong force of cavalry went out on the Franklin pike, the First division in the advance; marched within four miles of Franklin and bivouacked for the night.

December 12th—Moved forward at daylight, attacked the enemy, driving them. Killed one officer and four men, captured twelve prisoners and a large number of horses, wagons and supplies. Returned to camp at night. The regiment camped on the Nolensville pike about three miles from Nashville.

December 14th—The division reviewed by General Stanley. During the month of December the regiment was constantly engaged scouting, doing picket duty and foraging. We were compelled to get forage for our animals from the country most of the time. While at Nashville we were obliged to go long distances, and take strong guards with the trains. Very frequently the foraging parties were attacked and our men had a number of skirmishes on these occasions.

## CHAPTER IX.

### THE BATTLE OF STONE RIVER

December 25th—We had received orders to pack up and after we were all ready to move the orders were countermanded, and the brigade wagon train with a strong guard was sent out after forage. The train was attacked by the enemy's cavalry, who captured two wagons and eight men of the Fourth Ohio. The remainder of the wagons were brought in safely, loaded with forage.

December 26th—Orders to send all camp equipage to the city; to take no wagons only such as were necessary to carry rations and ammunition. Zahm's brigade moved out on the Franklin pike. It was a rainy, disagreeable day; skirmishing in front most of the afternoon. The enemy made a stand about half a mile from Franklin. Colonel Zahm formed his lines, threw out skirmishers, and moved forward, driving the enemy, when the Third Ohio was ordered forward, charging through the town and driving the enemy several miles beyond, when darkness stopped the pursuit. A number of the enemy were killed and wounded. We captured some prisoners, also a number of arms, horses and mules. We returned to camp late at night.

December 27th—The brigade advanced toward Triune. One battalion of the Third Ohio sent to Franklin found the enemy in the town;

attacked them, but were unable to drive them out; rejoined command in the evening.

December 28th—The brigade moved forward to Triune; met with no opposition.

December 29th—Moved forward toward Murfreesboro. Found the enemy's pickets; they fell back as we approached. Encountered the rebel cavalry, driving them several miles to the protection of their infantry and artillery supports. At night we fell back some distance and camped.

December 30th—Advanced toward Murfreesboro, skirmishing with the enemy's cavalry all day. Lay on our arms in line of battle all night. Everything indicated that we were in the immediate presence of the main rebel army and that a great battle was imminent, and could not be delayed much longer.

December 31st—We were early astir and in line, waiting for reports from the patrol sent out in our front. It was scarcely daylight when the sound of artillery and infantry firing off to our left and front brought the tidings that the battle had commenced. The roar of cannon and the rattle of musketry was terrific, showing that on one side or the other a desperate assault was being made, and we soon learned that it was the enemy that had commenced the attack, and that the troops on the right of the Union lines were being driven from their position, closely pursued by their victorious enemy. We were compelled to fall back to prevent being cut off by the enemy. At this point the ammunition train of General McCook was in great danger of being captured, when the Third Ohio was rallied for its protection, and repelling the repeated assaults of the enemy, held them at bay until the wagons moved out to a place of safety.

As we came up to the Murfreesboro pike we found the rebels had attacked another of our wagon trains, the regiment driving off the enemy and saving the train. The fighting on this part of the line continued until nightfall, but the enemy was unable to drive us any further, although they made frequent attempts to do so. The day's battle closed with the right of the Union army occupying a position parallel to the railroad and Nashville pike and at right angles to that held when the battle commenced.

January 1st—The brigade started with a large train of wagons for Nashville. A short distance west of La Vergne we were attacked by General Wheeler's division of cavalry, who made several desperate attempts to stampede and capture the train, but were finally driven off with considerable loss. We arrived in Nashville late at night, remaining at Nashville one day, and on the 3d started for Murfreesboro in charge of the train. We were again attacked by Wheeler near La Vergne, who was again repulsed with loss. Arrived at Murfreesboro soon after midnight, Jan. 4th. While we had been absent at Nashville the undecisive



battle of the 31st had been renewed. On Jan. 1st, 1863, neither commander was desirous of renewing the conflict. Each was in hopes that the other would retreat. January 2d the conflict was renewed in the afternoon, but this time it was between the left wing of the Union army and the right of the Confederates—the advantage being on the side of the Union army. Bragg thought it prudent to withdraw. This was the first battlefield, in the West at least, where the Union cavalry had been used in large bodies. The Confederates had had the advantage of us in that they had consolidated their cavalry so that they were able to use it with effect, while the Union cavalry had been scattered in small bodies, and never were strong enough to accomplish any great results heretofore. But under the new order of things they proved themselves the equals of the Confederates in this arm of the service. The losses of the brigade, the First, Third and Fourth Ohio Regiments, at Stone's River were killed, 18; wounded, 44; missing, 59; total, 121. Among the killed were Colonel Milliken and Major Moore of the First Ohio.

When General Bragg was forced back out of Kentucky he knew that the Union army would in all probability be concentrated at Nashville, which had been successfully held by the Union troops against the Confederate forces under General Breckenridge during Bragg's invasion. He had therefore selected Murfreesboro as the most available point for the concentration of his army from which to threaten Nashville, and block the way of the advance of the Union army toward Chattanooga. The Battle of Murfreesboro had been the result, and General Bragg had been forced to retire, leaving the Union army in possession of the field. The annals of the war do not record a more stubbornly contested battle, the contesting armies being of nearly equal strength. General Rosecrans marched out from Nashville to give battle. General Bragg selected the ground upon which to fight. Each commander had his own plan of battle, and singularly enough the two plans were entirely similar. The plans involved the massing of troops on the left flank of the battle line of each army; an attack by the left, followed up along the line from left to right, the right holding its position as a pivot while the army made its right wheel, forcing its opponent back and getting possession of his line of communications. On the morning of the 31st of December General Bragg took the initiative and made a fierce attack on the right wing of our army, and it was soon evident that here was the point where Bragg was going to force the fighting. The Confederate left extended far beyond our right, which was compelled to fall back to prevent the enemy from getting in their rear. Slowly and stubbornly contesting every foot of ground, the right wing was driven back until they reached the Nashville pike and railroad, occupying a position at right angles with the one they held in the morning when the battle commenced. The left and center had held their ground.



Two assaults were made by the enemy on our right wing in their new position along the Nashville pike, but they were repulsed. January 1st, 1863, was spent by the Union army in strengthening their position. On the 2d Bragg determined to drive back our left, but his attempt only resulted in the loss of about 2000 of his best troops, therefore he determined it was best to retreat. He fell back to Tullahoma, his right occupying Manchester, and his left strongly posted at Shelbyville with cavalry on his right at McMinnville and on his left at Franklin and Columbia.

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*Reports of Col. Lewis Zahm, Third Ohio Cavalry, commanding Second Brigade, including skirmishes at Franklin, December 26-27, Wilkinson's Cross-Roads, December 29, Overall's Creek, December 31, La Vergne, January 1, Cox's Hill, January 3, and on Shelbyville Pike, January 5.*

HDQRS. 2D CAV. BRIG., IN CAMP ON WILSON'S PIKE,

NEAR NOLENSVILLE CROSSING, *December 27, 1862.*

GENERAL: In compliance with orders received, I moved from our old camp at Nashville yesterday morning at 8 o'clock with the First, Third, and Fourth Ohio Cavalry Regiments, 950 strong in all. I crossed over on the Franklin pike, south of General Thomas' headquarters, as I afterward learned. I passed the immense trains and troops on the Franklin pike, beyond Brentwood. I halted my command, as I had not seen General Thomas yet. I supposed he was on the move with the troops in front. I kept inquiring along the column, and was told that he was in the advance. I proceeded myself on the Wilson Creek pike some two miles, almost to the head of the column, but then learning from General Rousseau that General Thomas was in the rear, I immediately started back some six miles; there ascertaining that General Thomas had cut across the country to the Nolensville pike, I thought further pursuit would be useless. I started back to join my command and to carry out the remainder of my instructions. I proceeded to Franklin; encountered the enemy's pickets two and a half miles out; drove them in. Skirmishing continued until within half a mile of Franklin, when a sharp skirmish ensued, we driving the rebels. They then made another halt in town. I dismounted some six companies to act as skirmishers on foot; came round on both flanks with mounted skirmishers, and their reserves finally charged through the river into town, where some considerable firing ensued; drove the rebels out; drove them some two miles beyond town; the lateness of the day prevented further pursuit, for by this time it began to be dark. The enemy was taken by surprise; could not get their forces together before we were upon them; therefore made it rather an easy task

to drive them, as they were in several directions, formed several lines, but as we advanced and fired they invariably fled. We took ten prisoners, one of them a lieutenant of General Bragg's escort, who was there on business with sixteen men. We captured a private of the same escort. We captured that number of horses, several mules, some shotguns, from the best information received, I made out the force to have been about 900, consisting of Colonel Smith's regiment and an independent battalion. I shall send the prisoners to Nashville this morning.

I learned that quite a force of infantry and artillery were nine miles out of Franklin, on the road leading to Murfreesboro. I arrived in camp here at nearly 9 o'clock last evening; reported to General Rousseau, in the absence of General Thomas. We learned that the enemy had quite a force at Triune, some ten miles south of this. General Rousseau and myself came to the conclusion to use my brigade today in reconnoitering the front and right, until further orders could be received from you. I shall therefore send some 500 men toward Petersburg and Triune to reconnoiter; shall likewise send a smaller force over toward Franklin, to ascertain whether the enemy has come back again or not. My force will be back in camp toward evening; will remain here and picket Wilson's Creek pike, as instructed, until your further orders are received.

I forgot to mention that we killed three of the enemy; could not ascertain the number of wounded; must have wounded some in proportion to the killed. My command behaved nobly, both officers and men.

The Third Ohio Cavalry had the advance, and did the principal part of the fighting; there was no flinch to them; they moved steadily onward, and finally made the charge through town.

I am, General, your obedient servant,

LEWIS ZAHM,

*Colonel, Commanding Second Cavalry Brigade.*

GENERAL STANLEY,

*Commanding Cavalry.*

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HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY BRIGADE,  
NASHVILLE, TENN., *January 2, 1863—11 o'clock.*

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that, at 9 a. m. yesterday, I proceeded with the Third Ohio Cavalry and the Anderson Troop, as directed, forward to guard the trains in motion on the road to Nashville. I took up every train in front of me which was in motion. At Stewart's Creek I found the Third Division train just putting out. It detained me about one hour; at the same time I learned that a heavy cavalry force was to the left of me. I ordered the train to proceed at a brisk walk. We moved on until we arrived at La Vergne; the train had passed the flats at La Vergne, myself and command resting on the flat, when my flankers

discovered the enemy to our left and engaged him. I immediately turned into the field, formed line of battle, and dispatched orderlies to the front to move the train on a trot.

The enemy formed; then ensued skirmishing with the skirmishers. The enemy formed a new line, which I counteracted; kept him at bay ready to receive their charge; they, however, declined to charge—wheeled in column of fours, moved to the left of our train and forward around a hill in front and to the left of the road, with the intention of heading off the train. By this time the rear of the train was half a mile ahead of us. I immediately followed the train; sent flankers at a rapid pace toward the front to watch and engage the enemy if approaching. The enemy did not succeed in heading the train.

After proceeding about two miles further, discovered the enemy charging up the pike on our rear. I met them and repulsed them. They charged again. I repulsed them again, charged them back for two miles, scattered them, killed nine, wounded eleven, and took two prisoners. I had a few men slightly wounded. After this they troubled my train no more. Not a wagon fell into their hands ahead of the escort. Some four or five wagons broke down, which we left and destroyed. The enemy's forces were Wheeler's brigade, with two pieces of artillery, which they played upon us pretty lively. A short time before we were attacked a large number of the Second Tennessee came running by my column, running away from the front, stating that our forces were in full retreat. I placed a company in the road, halted every one of them, but at the breaking out of the skirmish they ran again like sheep. I am sorry to say that the Anderson Troop, with very few exceptions, as the enemy charged us in the rear, scampered off in most every direction; did not stand up to the work at all; the contrary, caused, together with the negroes, Second Tennessee, all running, somewhat of a stampede among the wagons, which caused the few break-downs above mentioned.

I arrived here at 9 p. m. Found no forage for horses. Sent out a train after forage this morning, so it will be 5 o'clock this p. m. before our horses will get a mouthful to eat. Since 3 o'clock yesterday morning they have labored very hard, and consequently are not fit for any service today. Both horses and men are very much used up.

I am awaiting further orders. I have ordered the Anderson Troop to report to me early this morning, but they have not done so up to this time. They are very much demoralized. In any work for me to do, I ask you to please not to count them as being any help to me. I would sooner do without them.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

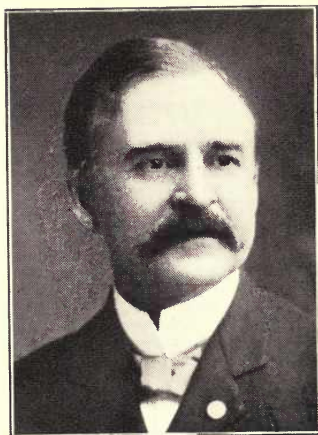
LEWIS ZAHM,

*Colonel, Commanding Second Cavalry Brigade.*

GENERAL STANLEY,  
*Commanding Cavalry.*



MAJOR OLIVER M. BROWN



DR. CHAS. O. BROWN  
MEMBER OF THE HISTORY COMMITTEE





HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY BRIGADE,  
IN CAMP NEAR MURFREESBORO, TENN., *January 6, 1863.*

LIEUTENANT: I herewith have the honor to report the part taken and the work performed by my brigade since our departure from Nashville until the close of the battle before Murfreesboro.

I left Nashville on the morning of the 26th ultimo, with three regiments of my brigade, viz: the First, Third, and Fourth Ohio Cavalry, the Fifth Kentucky remaining at Nashville. My force numbered 950 men. We marched out on the Franklin pike, the Third Ohio having the advance. When within two miles of Franklin, drove in the rebel pickets, skirmished all the way down to Franklin, drove the enemy out, and pursued him some two miles. From the best information received, the enemy were 900 strong (all cavalry), part of Wharton's brigade. We killed four, wounded several, and took ten prisoners, among them a lieutenant of General Bragg's escort, several horses and mules, and destroyed their camps, with some tents standing thereon. We retired from Franklin, moved over to the Wilson Creek pike, and picketed said pike.

On the 27th, sent the First Ohio and most of the Fourth Ohio, under command of Colonel Milliken, on the Wilson Creek pike, toward Triune, to reconnoiter. They proceeded within two miles of Triune, captured six of the rebel pickets, when the enemy opened on them with shells; threw some fifty without damaging us any; then my force retired to camp. I likewise had sent a battalion of the Third to Franklin to reconnoiter, which drove in the rebel pickets, who had returned in force after my command had left the evening previous. Quite a skirmish ensued, in which three of the rebels were killed and several wounded. After skirmishing some two hours, and the enemy being too strong to drive, the battalion returned to camp in good order without any loss.

On the 28th, moved with the command to Triune without anything occurring worth mentioning.

On the 29th, proceeded toward Murfreesboro, moving between the Franklin road and the road called Bole Jack road, which General McCook's corps moved on. I divided my brigade into three columns, marching parallel with one another and with the main force, the right, (the Fourth Ohio) moving on the Franklin road, the Third in the center, and the First on the left, the columns being from one to one and one-half miles apart, throwing out skirmishers, connecting one column with the other, and connecting on the left with the main column. We thus proceeded for five miles, when the center column encountered the enemy's pickets, which they drove in, the different columns steadily advancing.

Shortly after, both the right and the left encountered pickets, driving them in before them. After proceeding about one mile farther, we came upon the enemy's cavalry (Wharton's brigade), engaged them for three

hours, sometimes the right wing, then the left, then the center, receiving several charges, which were repulsed, driving the enemy some two miles, when the brigade concentrated, repelling a heavy charge from the enemy, driving him back under his guns, which were only a short distance from us. We then retired some two miles and went into camp.

Some few casualties occurred this day. The officers and men behaved admirably during the whole day. The Fourth had proceeded until the enemy threw shells into them pretty rapidly, when they retired. We were within four miles of Murfreesboro.

On the morning of the 30th was ordered to proceed on the Franklin road toward Murfreesboro, to push the enemy hard. We had encamped that night near the brick church, on the road leading from General McCook's headquarters to the Franklin road. I proceeded that morning with my command and the Second East Tennessee, (which reported to me that morning), via. that road to the Franklin road, at which crossing we encountered the enemy's pickets and drove them in. Sent a party of the Fourth to reconnoiter on the road leading south to Salem, where they soon came upon a stronger force, and a brisk skirmish ensued. I increased the number of skirmishers, especially to the left, skirmished with the enemy for an hour or more, when a courier arrived, saying that the enemy was approaching with a heavy cavalry force and some artillery.

In the meantime I had ascertained, likewise, that a heavy force of the enemy was encamped some little distance south of the Franklin road, and east of where my column halted. I did not think it prudent to advance, and, owing to the bad grounds (being all timber) where my force halted, I retired to my camping-ground, near which were large open fields, well adapted for cavalry movements. I soon formed a line of battle. The enemy made his appearance. Skirmishers engaged him pretty quickly. The enemy maneuvered with the design to outflank us, but did not succeed. I forestalled him every time. With the exception of severe skirmishing, nothing transpired. The enemy retired, when I concluded to join the main body of our army.

After marching about a mile, met General Stanley, with a brigade of infantry and a battery of artillery, to reinforce me. The General marched the whole command toward the enemy's camp. On reaching its vicinity the enemy drew up in line of battle. Skirmishing ensued. Remained there about half an hour, when the General withdrew, with the remark that we were not ready yet to fight the whole of Hardee's army corps. That night we encamped one and one-half miles from the enemy's camp, and laid on our arms all night.

At daybreak on the morning of the 31st, I had my command drawn up in line of battle in the rear of my camp; sent out two squadrons to the front and to the right to reconnoiter. Had been in the line about half

an hour, when I heard heavy firing—cannon and musketry—to my left and a little to the front. Soon after I beheld our infantry scattered all over the fields, running toward my line, when I learned that General Johnson's division was repulsed. At about the same time my skirmishers engaged the enemy, when they were driven in, reporting that the enemy were approaching in heavy force. Sure enough, I soon discovered heavy lines of infantry coming toward my front and on the left, where General Johnson's division had been posted; also to my right the enemy's cavalry were coming round in long columns, with the evident design to outflank us.

I concluded to retire slowly toward the main body of our army, the enemy pressing hard on me; kept him at bay with my skirmishers. I retired in this wise for a mile, when I formed a line of battle with the First and Third, when the enemy charged on them with their cavalry, but were repulsed by my men. About this time the enemy began to throw shells into my lines pretty lively. The first shell that landed mortally wounded Major Moore of the First Ohio. I now fell back, formed a new line, received the enemy's charge, repulsed them, and made many of the rebels bite the dust. Shells coming pretty thick again, I retired farther, when I made another stand, supported by Willich's regiment of infantry; received the enemy's charge, and repulsed him again. I then withdrew my whole command through a large strip of wood to another open lot—shells of the enemy helping us along—passing by a line of rebel infantry, marching parallel with my column, not over 200 yards from us, so that we were nearly surrounded, as the enemy's cavalry were working round our right all the time, and the infantry and artillery following us closely on our rear and to our left. They had cavalry enough to spare to strike, or to take position, whenever required.

When we arrived on the open ground, General McCook's aide told me the whole of General McCook's ammunition train was close by, on a dirt road running by that point, and that I must try to save it. I soon formed my command in line, when the enemy made his appearance in a position occupying two-thirds of a circle. They prepared to charge upon us; likewise commenced throwing shells, at which the Second East Tennessee broke and ran like sheep. The Fourth, after receiving several shells, which killed some of their men and horses, likewise retired from their line, as it became untenable. The First had been ordered to proceed farther on into another lot, to form and to receive a charge from another line of the enemy's cavalry. The Third moved to the left, in the vicinity of a white house. About the time the First was formed, the enemy charged upon the Fourth, which, being on the retreat, owing to the shells coming pretty freely, moved off at a pretty lively gait. The Third moved farther

to the left, and, somewhat sheltered by the house and barns, the First charged upon the enemy; did not succeed in driving them back.

On returning from said charge the gallant Colonel Milliken and a lieutenant were killed, and another lieutenant severely wounded.

At this juncture the First and Fourth retired pretty fast, the enemy in close pursuit after them, the Second East Tennessee having the lead of them all. Matters looked pretty blue now; the ammunition train was supposed to be gone up, when the Third charged upon the enemy, driving him back, capturing several prisoners, and recapturing a good many of our men, and saved the train. I was with the three regiments that skedaddled, and among the last to leave the field. Tried hard to rally them, but the panic was so great that I could not do it. I could not get the command together again until I arrived at the north side of the creek; then I found that only about one-third of the First and Fourth Regiments were there, and nearly all of the Second East Tennessee. These I marched back across the creek, when, joined by the Third, we had several skirmishes with the enemy's cavalry all day long; received several charges, and repulsed them.

All the officers and men behaved well through all the fighting up to the stampede, which was not very creditable. All of them that I brought back into action again behaved well during the rest of the day. I must say the Third deserves great credit for this day's fighting—for the coolness and bravery of its officers and men, and for its determination to save the train, which they accomplished. I do not wish to take any credit away from the other regiments, as they all fought nobly and did first-rate, with the exception of the stampede.

On January 1st, after being in line of battle since 3 a. m., I was ordered to take the Third Ohio and the Anderson Troop, proceed to Nashville, and escort the army wagon train through to Nashville. I left about 9 o'clock. A little below La Vergne was attacked by General Wheeler's cavalry brigade; repulsed him twice; killed nine, wounded several, and took two prisoners; saved all the train but two or three wagons, which broke down in the excitement; saved several cannon belonging to a Wisconsin battery going along with the train, which were abandoned by the drivers, horses still hitched to the cannon. Some of my men mounted the horses and took the cannon into Nashville. The enemy threw shells at us, but did not succeed in hurting any of the men. The Anderson Troop, I am sorry to say, were of very little benefit to me, as the majority of them ran as soon as we were attacked. Arrived at Nashville at 9 p. m.; found no forage for my horses.

Next day, January 2d, had to send out a foraging party. They returned at 5 p. m., when my horses were fed for the first time since leaving the front, the day previous at 3 a. m.

At 1 o'clock on the 3d was ordered to leave at 3 o'clock to escort a hospital store train and an ammunition train through to the front. When two miles out, had to wait for Colonel McCook to come up with two and a half regiments of infantry and some 150 of the Third Tennessee Cavalry. Two companies of the Fourth Ohio, under command of Lieutenant White, were with me likewise. It was 11 o'clock before we got started. All of this force combined formed the escort of the train. We proceeded about eight miles, when we were attacked by Wheeler's brigade. We repulsed them, taking twelve prisoners, among them two lieutenants; killed fifteen, and wounded many. They did but little damage to the train, which was done through the cowardice of the teamsters. I had one man killed and one wounded. The enemy tried to attack us the second time, but retired before our forces met. We brought the train through safely, and arrived with it at 1 o'clock the next morning. During my three days' absence the First and Fourth were busily employed reconnoitering, doing picket duty, and skirmishing with the enemy's cavalry.

On the 4th, marched my command to the front, near Murfreesboro, to reconnoiter, the enemy having withdrawn their forces.

On the 5th, marched to the front, some four and one-half miles beyond Murfreesboro, on the Shelbyville road, on a reconnaissance, capturing quite a number of rebel stragglers; pushed a squadron of the Fourth some three miles farther, to a point where they could overlook the pike for five miles ahead, when they discovered that the enemy had entirely disappeared. The skirmishers of the Fourth had some skirmishing with some of the rebel cavalry. By 7 o'clock was back to camp again. You will observe that my command had fought nearly every day from the time we left Nashville up to this time. They worked very hard, and deserve a great deal of credit for what they have done, as both officers and men fought bravely.

Herewith find list of casualties, which are not large, considering the number of engagements we were in.

All respectfully submitted.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

LEWIS ZAHM,

*Colonel, Commanding Second Cavalry Brigade.*

LIEUTENANT M. B. CHAMBERLIN,

*Actg. Asst. Adj. Gen., First Cav. Div., Army of the Cumberland.*



*Return of Casualties in the Second Cavalry Brigade (Zahn's) December 26, 1862—January 6, 1863 (Stone's River).*

Command	Killed		Wounded		Missing		Remarks
	Officers	Enlisted men	Officers	Enlisted men	Officers	Enlisted men	
1st Ohio Cavalry	3	2	1	10	1	14	3 enlisted men prisoners. 15 enlisted men prisoners.
3d Ohio Cavalry	.....	6	.....	15	.....	10	
4th Ohio Cavalry	.....	7	.....	18	.....	16	
Total.....	3	15	1	43	1	40	

*Report of Lieut. Col. Douglas A. Murray, Third Ohio Cavalry, including skirmishes at Franklin, December 26-27, and Overall's Creek, December 31.*

IN CAMP NEAR MURFREESBORO, TENN., *January 6, 1863.*

COLONEL: In compliance with instructions received from your headquarters, I have the honor to report, for your information, the part taken by the Third Ohio Cavalry in the several engagements in which the regiment was engaged since leaving Nashville, Tenn., on December 26th last, on which day we proceeded to Franklin, driving the enemy therefrom and taking possession of the town; took some ten prisoners. Remaining in town some time, we recrossed the river, and marched across the country to Wilson Creek pike, about fourteen miles from Nashville, and encamped, arriving in camp at about 10 p. m.

On the 27th, the Third Battalion of the regiment moved toward Franklin, and found that the enemy had in strong force again taken possession of the town; the battalion drove in their pickets under a heavy fire, killing three of them. Seeing that the enemy were in such force, the commander deemed it prudent to retire, and rejoined the regiment, which picketed the roads, etc., in the vicinity of its camp.

On the 28th ultimo, proceeded to Triune and encamped, leaving early next morning across the country toward Murfreesboro, proceeding about five miles in that direction, when attacked by the enemy's pickets in force, which we drove, skirmishing, they frequently making a stand, which we each time broke, and still drove them about five miles.

The 30th ultimo, ordered to proceed to Stone's River; proceeded but a short distance when attacked by the enemy's pickets; the enemy were in force in our front with artillery. We therefore retired, forming on the high ground in our rear to receive them, their pickets, or patrol, advancing, which we repulsed. In the evening our brigade was reinforced by one

battery of artillery and three regiments of infantry, and proceeded in reconnoissance to the left of the enemy's lines, where we found General Hardee's *corps d'armee* ready, in line of battle, to receive us. We retired, and encamped in the woods, about two miles in front of the enemy's lines.

On the morning of the 31st we formed; shortly after the enemy appeared in large force, both on our left, center, and right, evidently endeavoring to cut us off. The brigade of infantry to our left gave way, retreating in confusion through our lines, letting the whole force of the enemy's artillery, cavalry, and infantry fall upon us, which compelled us gradually to retire toward the main body of our army. The regiment covering the entire rear of the brigade, supporting one infantry regiment on our right, drove back, with heavy loss, a large force of cavalry which charged upon us, under cover of a piece of artillery, firing well-directed shells, which passed over us. The enemy being in such force, we had to retire about three-fourths of a mile, when an aid-de-camp of General McCook rode up, informing us that the train close by was General McCook's entire ammunition train, which must be saved at all hazards; on intimation of which the regiment was immediately formed for its protection, holding the enemy in check until the entire train, with the exception of a few disabled wagons that could not be moved, was safely withdrawn. The regiment then moved between the enemy and train as far as the Murfreesboro pike, where we found the enemy making a fierce attack upon General Thomas' train, when we again repulsed them at several points, taking many prisoners and saving that entire portion of the train. The attack of the enemy was furious and desperate, which required the greatest firmness and bravery to resist. Colonel Kennett was an eye-witness to the determined bravery of a portion of the regiment rescuing the train from the enemy, which were in force at the hospital on the Murfreesboro pike. The regiment then formed in the field near the hospital, where the brigade soon assembled and reformed, and advanced toward the enemy's left. Soon came up to the enemy's cavalry, supported by artillery, when several other skirmishes ensued during the evening, the enemy's entire object seeming to be to take the train.

On the 1st instant, received orders to proceed to Nashville in charge of train, consisting of some 200 or 300 wagons. When about two miles on the Nashville side of La Vergne, we were attacked by General Wheeler's brigade of cavalry, which made several dashes on the train, and were repulsed. They then attacked our rear in force. After a well-contested fight, our regiment put them to flight in disorder, killing nine of them and wounding several, and arrived in Nashville at 9 p. m. and encamped.

The 2d instant, remained in Nashville and procured forage for our horses, furnishing working party and escort to forage train.

The 3d instant, left Nashville for Murfreesboro in charge of hospital and ammunition trains. Attacked again in force by Wheeler's brigade of cavalry on the Nashville side of La Vergne, which was repulsed with a loss of fifteen on their side and some eight or nine prisoners taken; among the latter the adjutant of the Third Alabama Cavalry. Two of our non-commissioned officers, I regret to inform you, were severely and dangerously wounded, whom we had to leave in a house on the roadside.

Arrived at camp, near Murfreesboro, at 1 a. m., 4th instant, with the train all safe, with the exception of one wagon of the regiment that was cut off by the enemy, and is now supposed to have returned to Nashville.

On the evening of the 4th, proceeded with brigade to Murfreesboro as far as Stone's River, and returned to camp.

On the 5th instant, proceeded again with brigade to Murfreesboro, and beyond it about four and one-half miles, where we halted, taking several prisoners, and returning to camp about 7 p. m.

I have much pleasure in informing you that the conduct and behavior of both officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates of the regiment have been highly creditable, with not a single instance to the contrary in the regiment.

Inclosed please find list of casualties that have occurred since December 26, 1862, to January 5, 1863.\*

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. A. MURRAY,

*Lieutenant-Colonel Third Ohio Cavalry, Comdg. Regiment.*

COL. L. ZAHM,

*Comdg. Second Cavalry Brigade, First Cavalry Division.*

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No. 179.

*Report of Maj. James W. Paramore, Third Ohio Cavalry, including skirmishes at Overall's Creek, December 31, and at La Vergne, January 1.*

HEADQUARTERS THIRD OHIO CAVALRY,

*January 8, 1863.*

SIR: There are a few incidents in the recent series of battles in which we were engaged which, not having fallen immediately under your observation or of the regimental commander, have escaped notice; and

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\* Embodied in revised statement.

being under my immediate command, in justice to the brave officers and men engaged, I deem it my duty to make this special report.

In the severe fighting of Wednesday, the 31st ultimo, which fell so heavily upon your brigade, you will recollect, when we had been forced back as far as General McCook's ammunition train, and were drawn up in front of it for its protection, the furious charge of the enemy's cavalry. At that juncture an aide of General McCook came up to me, and informed me that "that was their entire ammunition train, and must be held at all hazards." I gave orders accordingly to the left wing of the Third Ohio Cavalry, under my command, and I am happy to report that they held their position and received the galling fire of the enemy with the firmness of heroes, and maintained their ground till all the wagons, except a few that were disabled or deserted by the teamsters, had safely reached the lines of our infantry.

The enemy, seeing our determination and bold resistance, turned and left us. We pursued them over to the Murfreesboro pike, Captain McClelland commanding Companies E and F, taking the right of the pike, and the balance of the command, with myself, taking the left.

When within a short distance of the hospital we again encountered a large force of the enemy coming back to take possession of the train. We at once engaged them, although at least double our numbers, and after a severe struggle put them to flight, with a loss of several killed, wounded, and prisoners. The bravery and daring of Captains Wood and Colver, and their respective commands on this occasion, challenged my admiration. I also learned that Captain McClelland, with his squadron, engaged the enemy farther up the pike, beyond the hospital, with Colonel Kennett and a portion of the Third Kentucky Cavalry, and, after a fierce contest, repulsed them.

This result is greatly attributable to the coolness and bravery of Captains McClelland, Wood, and Colver, and their lieutenants. It was also this portion of the regiment that repulsed the attack of the enemy on the rear of our train the next day near La Vergne as we were proceeding to Nashville, and brought safely into Nashville two pieces of cannon, three cassions full of ammunition, and a wagon loaded with new carbines and ammunition, which had been abandoned by their teamsters.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

J. W. PARAMORE,

*Major, Commanding Left Wing, Third Ohio Cavalry.*

COL. L. ZAHM,

*Commanding Second Cavalry Brigade.*

## CHAPTER X.

## SIX MONTHS AT MURFREESBORO

Immediately after the Army of the Cumberland took possession of Murfreesboro it commenced to fortify and put it in shape for defense. The troops went into winter quarters and made themselves as comfortable as possible. We were destined to remain at Murfreesboro six months. It seemed a long time to the people of the North, who wanted to see the army move—it seemed long to us, who wanted to see the war ended—but there are so many things to be provided for and looked after in connection with a large army that the average person does not think of—transportation, subsistence, clothing, arms, ammunition, etc. Really the needs of a large army are never completely supplied. It was necessary first of all to open up our line of communication. The enemy had played havoc with the railroad between Louisville and Nashville. It was not opened until February, and it was the middle of the month before the cars got to Stone's River, and March before the bridge was completed and the cars were running into Murfreesboro, when the army was put on full rations, and then before an advance movement could be made it was necessary to accumulate sufficient surplus rations and ammunition for the movement.

Then comes the animals necessary—horses for the cavalry and artillery, and horses or mules for the wagon train. The army is hard on men, but it is terrible on horses. The waste and losses were fearful. We always wanted horses and were always on the lookout for them. The government was buying horses all the time, yet we were always calling for more. To show the difficulty of obtaining horses while we were at Murfreesboro, on April 19th Lieutenant Brown and a detail from the regiment took a lot of worn-out, unserviceable horses to Nashville and put them in a corral there and as there were no horses to be had at Nashville, they got on the cars and went to Louisville. Arrived at Louisville April 21st. On May 27th they got a bunch of horses, loaded them on the cars, and arrived in Murfreesboro May 29th, only to have their horses taken from them and given to a Tennessee Regiment, while they carried their saddles back to camp, having been gone just forty days. The weather was very cold, wet and disagreeable a great part of the time we lay at Murfreesboro, but we were not idle. That is the cavalry were not. We were kept busy scouting, picketing and patrolling the roads, gathering forage, drilling, etc. The Second Battalion was stationed at Readyville with Hazen's Brigade of Infantry, the left of the Union Army, while the First and Third Battalions were in Camp Stanley, near Murfreesboro. The Second Kentucky Cavalry was added to our (Second) Brigade; the Chicago Board of Trade Battery to the division. Colonel Zahm resigned,



Lieutenant-Colonel Murray taking command of the regiment, and Colonel Paramore being placed in command of the brigade.

February 3d—The brigade, under command of Lieutenant-Colonel Murray, went out on a scout with five days rations; passed through Auburn, going as far as Prosperity Church; coming back to Auburn to camp.

February 4th—Marched at daylight in the direction of Liberty; found a few small bodies of the enemy. Camped near Alexandria. The next morning went in the direction of Rome; brought in some prisoners; passed through Lebanon and camped at Baird's Mills. The next day forded Stone's river and returned to camp.

February 22d—Preparations were made to celebrate Washington's birthday, but for some reason there was delay in the arrival of some of the supplies, and the festivities were not held until the 24th. There were speeches by Generals Stanley, Garfield, and others, and then there was a feast of roast ox, chickens, ducks, and pigs, followed by beer and cigars. The band of the Fourth United States Cavalry furnished the music. The regiment went on picket at night.

February 28th—The always welcome paymaster visited us.

March 1st—Went on a scout with three days rations. Found the enemy in the afternoon at Bradyville, attacking them. They held their ground for about fifteen minutes, when we charged, driving them several miles and capturing about 100 prisoners and a lot of horses. Three men of the regiment were wounded. Camped near Bradyville, returning to Murfreesboro the next day.

March 4th—Cavalry went out with five days rations. Came onto the enemy's pickets near Unionville; charged them, driving them and following them so closely that the enemy did not have time to form, but got right out, leaving all their camp and garrison equipage, which we destroyed. We captured about fifty prisoners. Marching to Eagleville, we halted for the night. We did not unsaddle our horses, but lay on arms in line of battle to guard against surprise. We remained at Eagleville until afternoon of the 5th, when we marched to Chapel Hill, but finding no enemy we returned to our camp at Eagleville. The next morning we started for Murfreesboro, but after marching a few miles we received orders to go to Franklin, marching by way of Triune. We camped about nine miles from Franklin, which place we reached about noon of the 8th and went into camp.

March 9th—We took up the march southward, the Third Ohio in the advance. Found the enemy strongly posted covering the fords at Spring creek; after some skirmishing, fell back to our camp. The next morning we advanced to the creek and attacked the enemy; dismounted, drove them from the ford, but did not cross at that point. Crossing at another

ford, we followed the retreating rebels as far as Columbia, where they crossed to the south side of Duck river. We returned to Spring creek and camped about midnight. The next day we marched to Franklin. On the 13th, marched to Triune and camped.

March 14th—The command returned to Murfreesboro, arriving in the afternoon, having been in the saddle for ten days. The men of the Third Battalion captured at Lexington returned to the regiment after an absence of more than four months. On March 17th, grand review by General Rosecrans.

March 20th—A courier came into Murfreesboro bringing a message from Colonel Hall, commanding a brigade of infantry at Milton, saying that he was attacked and likely to be surrounded by General Morgan with a large force of cavalry, and asking for a reinforcement of cavalry to come at once to his assistance. The First and Second Brigades, under Colonel Minty, left Murfreesboro about 2:30 p. m. and arrived at Milton about 6 o'clock and found that the infantry had repulsed Morgan, who had lost heavily in the fight. We remained at Milton for the night, guarding the infantry camp with a strong line of pickets. The next morning the cavalry went out on the different roads, endeavoring to locate the enemy. The Third Ohio, under Lieutenant-Colonel Murray, went to Auburn, found a small body of the enemy, and chased them for two miles, capturing two prisoners. In the afternoon we started back to Murfreesboro, where we arrived about 8 o'clock p. m. The loss in the infantry was twelve killed and thirty-eight wounded.

March 26th—Delos Ashley of Company I wounded at Bradyville on the 2d, died yesterday, and it was decided to send his body home. The regiment, led by the Fifteenth United States Infantry band, escorted the remains to the train and sent them to his friends at home, his brother Augustus accompanying them.

April 2d—The cavalry started out with five days rations and sixty rounds of cartridges on a scout after Morgan in the direction of Liberty. Came up with the enemy in the afternoon, driving them about two miles. We lay on our arms in line of battle. The next morning we moved forward and found the enemy in position near Liberty. We attacked them, driving them back. The next stand was at Snow Hill, where they had a strong position, their battery being posted at a point where it commanded the pike for half a mile in its ascent up the mountain. After a futile attempt to silence this battery, General Stanley sent the Third and Fourth Ohio Cavalry to their left and rear. After climbing the hill, we formed under cover of the woods on the summit, the Fourth Ohio in front, dismounted, the Third mounted. Our skirmishers found the enemy drawn up in line, and the attack by the dismounted men was made with spirit. In a short time the enemy commenced to give way, and the Third

was ordered forward, charging the enemy's line, it gave way and broke. Thus far the fighting had all been under cover of the woods, but we soon came out of the woods and in sight of the pike, which was filled with the demoralized troops of Morgan, rushing madly toward Smithville. As far as we could see the road was packed with horsemen, intent on nothing but getting away. We charged them for about two miles, when the recall was sounded and we returned to the brow of the hill. The enemy's loss was heavy in killed, wounded and prisoners, although many of our prisoners escaped in the woods during the charge. Our loss in the brigade was three wounded.

Mosgrove, one of Morgan's officers, winds up his account of the fight at Snow Hill as follows: "Morgan's command was worse demoralized by the affair at Snow Hill than upon other occasions where it had fought hard battles and sustained serious defeat. Some weeks elapsed before the fugitives returned and reported for duty, none of them being able to satisfactorily explain why they rode away from the battlefield and 'kept a-goin'.'"

We returned to a point about four miles northwest of Liberty and went into camp. The next morning we took up the line of march, passed through Alexandria and camped about twelve miles from Lebanon.

April 5th—Passed through Lebanon and camped at Baird's Mills, returning to camp at Murfreesboro the afternoon of the 6th.

April 10th—Drew five days rations and started out on a scout. The next day we found the enemy in force at Franklin. After we had crossed the river we received orders to fall back. Just then the enemy charged our line of skirmishers and they were driven back through our lines. We fell back to the ford, which we were ordered to hold. We camped near the river and the next day returned to Murfreesboro.

During the latter part of April the division was formed in a hollow square for the purpose of seeing the sentence of a court martial for desertion carried into effect. The man was marched by his guards into the center of the square and in the presence of the division stripped of his uniform, dressed in citizens clothes, branded on the cheek with the letter "D," and then between two guards and followed by the drum corps playing the "Rogue's March," he was paraded in front of the lines all around the square and then drummed out of camp.

To us the punishment seemed terrible. General Rosecrans no doubt thought the example was needed and would have a tendency to check desertions.

April 20th—We started out with six days rations by the way of Readyville and Woodbury for a raid on the McMinnville & Tullahoma Railroad. After leaving Woodbury, we took cross-country roads, striking the railroad early in the forenoon of the 21st, capturing two trains of cars

and a lot of supplies, which were burned, tearing up the railroad and destroying bridges as we moved toward McMinnville, where we formed a junction with the troops under General Reynolds, capturing many prisoners. General Morgan escaped, but it was a close call for him. We started back by the way of Smithville and along the pike where Morgan's troopers went in their wild flight from Snow's Hill. Passing through Alexandria and Milton, we returned to our camp on the 26th. During the raid we had had numerous skirmishes with the enemy and captured a large number of prisoners and suffered no serious loss.

May 3d—We started out with sixty rounds of ammunition and one day's rations. Comparing our ammunition with our rations, we concluded that we were expected to do more fighting than eating. But after marching all day over the highways and by-ways, we returned to camp at night with our ammunition intact, but out of rations. We had one lone prisoner to show for our day's hunt.

About the 10th of May, our leaders believing that Wheeler was about to make another raid on the railroad, the regiment was stationed near La Vergne, from which point we patrolled and guarded all the fords and crossings of Stone's river. We remained about a week, but all was quiet—no enemy came, and we were ordered back to Murfreesboro.

May 19th—We moved camp about four miles out on the Lebanon pike, where we had plenty of good water near camp. Our new camp was called "Turchin," in honor of our division commander.

May 21st—We organized a little surprise party, planning to make an early call on the Johnnies encamped at Middleton. We marched nearly all night to get there, for we did not want to be late. We got there in time to catch them before they were up. They did not seem to enjoy our visit, for they lit out without saying good-bye. We captured and destroyed all their camp equipage, took seventy-nine prisoners and a large number of horses. Returning to Murfreesboro the next day, we were followed by the enemy, who attacked the rear guard a number of times, but were repulsed by the Third and Fourth Cavalry. Our regiment lost two men wounded, one man captured.

About the last of May, C. L. Valandigham was sent through our lines. He had been arrested by General Burnside for making speeches, encouraging resistance to the government, in its efforts to raise troops to put down the rebellion, inciting treason, etc. He had been tried by court martial and sentenced to be sent through the lines. President Lincoln approved the sentence, although he would have preferred that no notice had been taken of Mr. Valandigham's treasonable utterances. He was taken through the lines in a carriage. From Tullahoma he was sent to Richmond and wine and dined and feted and hailed everywhere as the friend of the South. He was put on a blockade runner at Wilmington,

went around through Canada to Windsor, opposite Detroit. He was nominated by the Democratic party for governor and received over two hundred thousand votes from the Copperheads of Ohio.

June 3d—We started out on a scout over in the direction of Morgan's bailiwick. On the 4th we passed through Liberty and over Snow's Hill. Striking the rebels about three miles from Smithville, driving them for five miles, we returned and went into camp near Liberty. In the afternoon of the 6th ten rebels apparently thinking that we had all gone (as part of the command camped outside of us had moved and our pickets were not posted) came trotting down the pike and almost to our camp before they saw us. They fired their guns, wheeled their horses and started back at a gallop, but some of our men were quickly in the saddle and after them and in an exciting chase of seven miles succeeded in capturing six of them, the remainder leaving their horses and taking to the woods. The next day we returned to Murfreesboro by the way of Milton.

June 10th—Colonel Paramore was superseded by Colonel Eli Long as commander of the brigade. Lieutenant Colonel Murray left the regiment. His farewell address was read at dress parade. Most of the boys were sorry to see him go. The men liked him in spite of his fondness for old Scotch—but he would allow it to get the best of him sometimes.

June 23d—Orders to break camp and be ready to move at a moment's notice. All excess baggage to be sent inside the fortifications. Three days rations in the haversacks and nine in the wagons; it looks like business—guess we are going after Bragg.

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**OFFICIAL REPORTS OF SCOUTS AND SKIRMISHES OF THE THIRD OHIO  
CAVALRY DURING THE TIME THAT THE ARMY  
OCCUPIED MURFREESBORO**

**JANUARY 19, 1863.—Skirmish near Woodbury, Tenn.**

*Report of Captain Thomas D. McClelland, Third Ohio Cavalry.*

HDQRS. SECOND BATTALION, THIRD OHIO CAVALRY,

CAMP NEAR READYVILLE, TENN., *January 20, 1863.*

SIR: In accordance with instructions, the Second Battalion, consisting of Companies E, F, A, and D, reported to Colonel W. B. Hazen, commanding Second Brigade (January 10, 1863), and were marched to this place, a distance of twelve miles. Our time since has been fully occupied in patrolling and scouting, with an occasional skirmish with the enemy's pickets and scouting parties, until yesterday we had quite a brilliant little affair with a portion of Morgan's command, under Colonel Hutcheson. About noon, picket firing was heard to the front. The colonel commanding ordered me to send out and see what it meant. I



made a detail from Companies E. F., and A, consisting of 44 men, under command of Lieutenant Hansey, of Company F, and Lieutenant Clark, of Company E. They found it to be our vedettes firing on some rebel cavalry, who had come within range, and upon receiving their fire retreated. Our party followed them, and, after proceeding within two miles of Woodbury, came upon the enemy's pickets, driving them in. At this time they discovered a party of the enemy charging on them in the rear. Lieutenant Clark, who was in command of the rear, immediately wheeled his men, and poured into them from his carbines, a galling fire, and then drew sabers and charged them in fine style, scattering them in all directions, killing two, wounding one and taking ten prisoners, with no loss on our side except two horses wounded. The enemy was now in force in front and on the flanks. A retreat was ordered, the prisoners being sent forward under a guard; the party was divided equally, each lieutenant taking command of a party. One formed a line and held the enemy in check, while the other fell back, and vice versa, by which means they succeeded in bringing their prisoners in without loss. The enemy followed to the pickets, and quite a skirmish ensued, without loss on our side.

Permit me to offer a suggestion. Morgan's brigade is scattered from McMinnville to Woodbury, one and two regiments in a place. Now, in my opinion, with an adequate force of cavalry, and probably some artillery, his command could be taken in detail and routed completely.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. D. McCLELLAND,

*Captain, Commanding Second Battalion, Third Ohio Cavalry.*

LIEUTENANT COLONEL D. A. MURRAY,

*Commanding Third Ohio Cavalry.*

#### MARCH 27, 1863. Skirmish on the Woodbury Pike, Tenn.

##### REPORTS.

No. 1.—Colonel William B. Hazen, Forty-first Ohio Infantry, commanding brigade.

No. 2.—Major Charles B. Seidel, Third Ohio Cavalry.

##### No. 1.

*Report of Colonel William B. Hazen, Forty-first Ohio Infantry, Commanding Brigade.*

HEADQUARTERS SECOND BRIGADE,

*March 27, 1863.*

GENERAL: The cavalry you sent out today have had a fight with

two regiments of cavalry near Burton's, on the Woodbury pike. Lost one officer and ten men. Considerable loss to the enemy.

W. B. HAZEN,

*Colonel, Commanding Second Brigade.*

BRIGADIER GENERAL JAMES A. GARFIELD,

*Chief of Staff.*

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No. 2.

*Report of Major Charles B. Seidel, Third Ohio Cavalry.*

HDQRS. SECOND BATTALION, THIRD OHIO VOL. CAV.,

READYVILLE, *March 28, 1863.*

DEAR SIR: On the evening of March 27th, I was ordered to take my battalion and advance on the Woodbury Pike, to observe the enemy's movements, who was reported advancing on to our lines, and, if possible, to check his advance. I had advanced but a short distance on the above-named pike when I ran against a squad of rebel cavalry, numbering about fifty men. I at once attacked them, and in a short time had them fleeing before me. I had driven them about one and one-half miles, when they were re-enforced. My advance had already engaged them, when I saw a force advancing on my left. I immediately gave orders to fall back. We had retired but a short distance when my advance gave me intelligence I was cut off. I immediately brought my men in line of battle, and at the same time was vigorously attacked by Colonel [Baxter] Smith, who commanded in person. We returned their fire, and, knowing that I had no time to lose whatever, gave the command to draw saber and charge, which was bravely done by my men. The enemy received our charge with their pistols, but being too vigorously attacked, fled in every direction. I then having accomplished my object, rallied my men and pursued the fleeing foe, when I saw the enemy's reserve charging down the pike on me; but, taking the offensive with a small number of men, I repulsed his charges three times, and, by falling back carefully, took all my men safely into camp, with the exception of ten enlisted men and Lieutenant [S. J.] Hansey, of Company F, whom, I suppose, were captured by the enemy's reserve. We took about the same number of prisoners, including a major, but being too far from camp and not able to get re-enforcements, were obliged to give them up again.

The enemy's loss must have been very heavy, for I saw as many as twenty horses without riders. The rebel force, to the best of my judg-

ment, numbered about 400 men, while I had only sixty-five men. My men deserve much praise for their bravery.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. B. SEIDEL,

*Major, Comdg. Second Battalion Third Ohio Volunteer Cavalry.*

COL. J. W. PARAMORE,

*Commanding Second Cavalry Brigade.*

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY,

*April 1, 1863.*

Respectfully forwarded.

The gallant conduct of the Major and his little command is commended. The attention of the General commanding is called to it. The question is raised whether these cavalrymen are altogether treated fairly. Could not an infantry support have saved us the loss of a lieutenant and ten good men? It appears to me that cavalry patrols in a country of cope and thicket should be used with more discretion than they have been at the post of Readyville.

D. S. STANLEY,

*Major-General.*

..... HDQRS. 2D BRIGADE, 2D DIVISION, 21ST ARMY CORPS,  
READYVILLE, TENN., *April 4, 1863.*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to make the following report of the expedition made on the 2d instant, under my command, to Woodbury:

The expedition was to have consisted of Cruft's brigade, which should report to me at this post by 10 p. m. of the 1st, and my own. That would enable me to put two columns in motion at 11 p. m., for the purpose of flanking and getting in the rear of Woodbury by daylight.

The brigade of Cruft's did not report till something after midnight, enabling me to start one column, composed of the Forty-first Ohio Volunteers and Sixth Kentucky, under Lieutenant-Colonel Wilson of the former regiment, at 1 a. m., which went to the right of Woodbury, and a column composed of the Ninth Indiana Volunteers and First Kentucky, under command of Lieutenant-Colonel Suman, of the former regiment, at 1:30 a. m., to proceed to the left of Woodbury. The One Hundred and Tenth Illinois, under Colonel Casey, accompanied this column as far as the point on the map accompanying, marked A, where they were to turn to the right, and proceed cautiously to the Woodbury pike, in rear of the picket post of the enemy, marked B, where sixty men were on picket, and remain concealed till the main column, composed of the

Second Kentucky and Ninetieth Ohio, with Standart's battery and the Second Battalion of Third Ohio Cavalry, all commanded by Colonel Enyart, First Kentucky, which started at 3 a. m., should have driven them on to this regiment, that would capture them. The delay of two hours in this brigade to report made it nearly that length of day before the different columns arrived at the points intended. The One Hundred and Tenth Illinois, in consequence, did not reach the pike in time to be of service. I, however, directed the cavalry to charge this post, which they did in fine style, sabering and capturing a dozen of this picket. We pushed on through the town, and came upon the main body of the enemy. Keeping my main column concealed, I permitted the advance to parry with him for about an hour, giving more time for the columns to get in position. I then pressed him forward, and about four miles from town, upon Wiley's column. Upon seeing troops at this point, they at once scattered through the hills in all directions. The columns all gained their positions promptly, correctly, and unknown to the enemy, marching about sixteen miles to do so. Had I not been delayed two hours, the results of the day would probably have been much more satisfactory, as then my original plan, which was to capture entire their main picket and regulate the speed of all the columns so as to have gathered upon the camp at dawn, would have probably succeeded perfectly. As it is, I have to report three of the enemy killed (his wounded is not known), twenty-five prisoners, fifty horses, four wagons, eight mules, with all their baggage and provisions. Colonel Suman captured one picket post almost entire, as did also Colonel Casey.

I have to speak in the highest terms of the battalion of the Third Ohio Cavalry, commanded by Major Seidel. A brigade of such cavalry, well mounted, armed with revolvers and sabers, would be invaluable. Colonel Suman reports to me that the First Kentucky, in command of Major ———, straggled in going out, so as at one time to be a mile long, and detaining him nearly an hour. We returned to our camp at 12 m. See inclosed map, with routes of the columns.\*

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. B. HAZEN,  
*Colonel, Commanding Second Brigade.*

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*Report of Lieut. Col. Douglas A. Murray, Third Ohio Cavalry, commanding Second Cavalry Brigade.*

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY BRIGADE,  
CAMP STANLEY, TENN., *February 8, 1863.*

GENERAL: I have the honor to report, for your information, the part taken by a portion of the Second Cavalry Brigade, consisting of

the Third and Fourth Ohio Cavalry, with detachments of the Third and Fourth Indiana Cavalry, from the 3d to the 7th of February, 1863, while attached to the command of Brigadier-General [J. J.] Reynolds.

Joined the command of the General on the morning of the 3d, and proceeded in rear of the command till about four miles to the front of our pickets on the Liberty pike, when the cavalry, with the exception of the Fourth Indiana, were ordered to the front as advance guard, and to push on to Auburn, and, if possible, to Prosperity Church, about three and one-half miles beyond it. The General learning that the enemy were there in strong force, we moved carefully, with a strong advance and flank guard, without any interruption, as far as ordered. Hearing that about thirty rebel cavalymen had moved at a rapid pace along the road toward the church half an hour ahead of us, we did not succeed in coming up with them. Therefore, in compliance with instructions, returned to Auburn and encamped one-half mile in front of the command, throwing out pickets on the Liberty pike, both front and rear, Woodbury dirt road, and both flanks, taking almost the entire command to furnish the requisite number. Nothing occurred during the night worthy of mentioning. Next morning, at daylight, moved on in advance toward Liberty, driving in a picket of the enemy, consisting of about fifty or sixty men. About two and one-half miles this side of Liberty, we passed over on the road that led to Alexandria, where also a small body of the enemy were seen, and a report that the enemy were in force to our right, which was without foundation. Passed through Alexandria, and encamped about three miles from it on the Lebanon pike, throwing out strong pickets front and rear. The pickets reported hearing that small bands of rebel cavalry were in the country, consisting of from five to ten in number, plundering and stealing all they could lay their hands on, and committing all manner of depredations. Moved early next morning in the advance. Received orders to send scouting parties both on Rome and Gallatin pikes, to proceed about eight miles on both these roads. The Third Ohio Cavalry, consisting of 100 men, took the former, under command of Major J. W. Paramore, and made several important arrests, viz: General R. Anderson, senator; Colonel W. L. Martin, representative; W. B. Pursley and John Cox, conscript agents, and G. A. Pursley, lieutenant so-called C. S. Army, besides three enlisted men. The Fourth Ohio Cavalry, under command of Major [C. G.] Megrue, consisting of 100 men, took the Gallatin pike, and made several arrests. The entire command, with the balance of the cavalry in advance, proceeded through Lebanon, and took the Murfreesboro pike as far as Baird's Mills, and encamped, throwing out pickets to the front on the road and roads leading from the main road as soon as we arrived in camp. About one-half hour after the arrival of the command, reported currently there that Morgan



with his command would to a certainty make a strong attack upon us at Stone's river next day, which turned out to be, like the majority of such reports, without foundation. Received orders from General Reynolds to send fifty men as an escort to an officer and five men, who were to carry a dispatch to General Thomas. The escort had orders to proceed to the river and see the dispatch party across and then return. They met with no interruption, neither saw anything to indicate that any forces were in that vicinity, and arrived at camp about 8 p. m. Left camp next morning in advance, and proceeded to Stone's river without the least interruption of any kind; crossed the river, which was fordable; the water about three or three and one-half feet deep, with a very strong current. Received orders to return to the command, and recrossed the river, the rear portion of the train being fired into by a party of rebels, supposed to number about 120 or 130 men, who, after firing, retreated and fled in every direction, I was told. When we recrossed the river, and met the command advancing, ordered again by the General to proceed in the advance to the river, and not cross over until the entire command did so. I threw out strong pickets to the rear and flanks, which I did not withdraw until the entire command had passed over the river, which they did by means of a bridge formed by wagons. We had two small pieces of mountain howitzers with our brigade, which the lieutenant in charge informed me that General Reynolds said to him might with his sanction remain with us. It appears from all I heard that Colonel Wilder will not allow it, as he claims them as his, and wishes them to accompany his brigade (infantry) when they are mounted, which is the intention, I believe. They would be a great acquisition to us, and, if possible, if I cannot obtain those, I hear that there are several such pieces in Nashville, Tenn. Could I not, on your recommendation, procure a section of such guns? I could easily man them, having a number of old artillerymen in the command.

Our horses had ample forage during the scout; worked very hard, and traveled over a large section of country. The country passed through was principally hilly, the roads good, and, with the exception of the bridge over Stone's river, the different bridges on the road were in good order. Our command returned last evening about 8:30 o'clock.

Our casualties were six enlisted men, one of the Third Ohio Cavalry, five of the Fourth Ohio Cavalry, supposed to be captured by the enemy.

The command picked up some fine-looking horses and mules, ninety-one of the former and nineteen of the latter.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. A. MURRAY,

*Lieut. Col. Third Ohio Cavalry, Comdg. Second Cav. Brigade.*

BRIG. GEN. D. S. STANLEY,

*Commanding Cavalry.*

**MARCH 1, 1863.—Skirmish at Bradyville, Tenn.**

## REPORTS.

No. 1.—Maj. Gen. William S. Rosecrans, U. S. Army.

No. 3.—Col. James W. Paramore, Third Ohio Cavalry, commanding Second Cavalry Brigade.

No. 4.—Capt. William M. Flanagan, Third Ohio Cavalry.

*Report of Maj. Gen. William S. Rosecrans, U. S. Army.*

MURFREESBORO, TENN.,

March 2, 1863—2 p. m.

General Stanley reports from his expedition to Bradyville: We fared badly for forage. The rebels of Morgan's and Wharton's commands made a stand in Bradyville. Colonels Paramore and Long went in with sabers drawn, and whipped them in about three minutes. Stokes' cavalry advanced bravely with carbines. We took seventy prisoners, including eight officers, their camp equipage, tents, saddles, and some seventy horses, and Basil [W.] Duke's regimental papers. Major [James] Murphy did good service. We lost one man killed and one captain and seven men wounded. We found four of their dead.

W. S. ROSECRANS,  
*Major-General.*

MAJ. GEN. H. W. HALLECK,  
*General-in-Chief.*

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*Report of Col. James W. Paramore, Third Ohio Cavalry, commanding Second Cavalry Brigade.*

CAMP STANLEY, NEAR MURFREESBORO,

March 3, 1863.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the engagement at Bradyville, Tenn., on the 1st instant, between the cavalry under my command, consisting of a portion of the First [Middle] Tennessee, and a detachment of the Second Brigade, consisting of about 100 men from the Third Ohio Volunteer Cavalry, under command of Captain W. M. Flanagan, and 150 men of the Fourth Ohio, under command of Colonel Eli Long, and the rebel force at that place, consisting of Colonel Duke's Second Kentucky Cavalry, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel [James W.] Bowles, and the Fourteenth Alabama [Battalion], belonging to Wharton's brigade, and commanded by Major James C. Malone, jr.:

About two miles this side of Bradyville, the First [Middle] Tennessee, under command of Major Murphy, being in advance, encountered

the rebel pickets and drove them in. When near the village, they found the enemy strongly posted behind the houses in the village and a high piece of ground. After a short skirmish, they (the First Tennessee) were driven back in some confusion. I then brought up the Third and Fourth Ohio, and formed them in line, the Fourth occupying the right and the Third the left. I also sent a squadron of the Fourth Ohio, under command of Major [P.] Mathews, around to the extreme left of the rebel line, and a portion of the Third around to their right. I then stationed the First [Middle] Tennessee as a reserve, and advanced the remainder of the Third and Fourth Ohio to engage the enemy in front, when we found them strongly posted in a piece of woods, about one-fourth of a mile beyond the village, where they were dismounted and sheltered behind rocks and trees, and gave us stubborn resistance for about fifteen or twenty minutes, when the detachments I had sent around to their right and left flanks arrived in position and opened an enfilading fire on both flanks. The enemy gave way in confusion, when a charge was ordered with sabers and pistols. We pursued them for about three miles, during which we took about 100 prisoners, with their horses, arms, and equipments; wounded from twenty to thirty, and found five dead bodies on the field; also a large quantity of commissary and quartermaster's stores fell into our hands. Their rout was complete, and they fled in great consternation, throwing away their guns, overcoats, blankets, and everything that would impede their progress.

Among the prisoners were eight commissioned officers, including the adjutant of the Second Kentucky Cavalry, with all his books, papers, reports, etc., of the regiment. The enemy's force has been variously estimated at from 600 to 1000, while our force, actually engaged, did not exceed 250, and, considering the disparity of numbers and the advantage of the rebel forces in position, I think it may be considered one of the most daring and brilliant feats of the war.

When all, both officers and men, behaved with such determined bravery, it would be almost an act of injustice to mention any names in particular. I will, therefore, send you the names of all the commissioned officers of the Third and Fourth Ohio Volunteer Cavalry. I do not know the officers of the First [Middle] Tennessee, except Major Murphy. Captains C. W. Skinner and H. H. Hamilton, of my staff, were very vigilant and efficient.

Officers of the Fourth Ohio were Colonel Eli Long, commanding regiment; Major P. Matthews; Captains G. A. Boss, commanding Company F; R. E. Rogers, commanding Company G; R. P. Rifenberrick, commanding Company I; C. A. G. Adae, commanding Company K, and Lieutenants [E. S.] Wood, commanding Company L, and [A. R.] Megrue, commanding Company M.

Officers of the Third Ohio: Captains William M. Flanagan, commanding regiment; H. C. Miner, commanding First Battalion; J. B. Luckey, commanding Squadrons I and K, Third Battalion; Lieutenants E. A. Haines, commanding Company H; Norman Brewster, commanding Company L; [J. W.] Likens, commanding Company M; F. Brainard, commanding Company I, and J. R. Hall, commanding Company K.

Casualties as follows:\*

We bivouacked for the night about one mile beyond the village. Nothing occurred during the night worthy of record.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. W. PARAMORE,

*Colonel, Commanding Second Cavalry Brigade.*

CAPT. W. H. SINCLAIR,

*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

*Report of Captain William M. Flanagan, Third Ohio Cavalry.*

HEADQUARTERS THIRD OHIO CAVALRY,

*March 3, 1863.*

SIR: I have the honor to report the part sustained by the Third Ohio Cavalry in the recent skirmish of March 1, at Bradyville.

Pursuant to orders from brigade headquarters, the Third Cavalry marched at daylight on the 1st instant. On arriving at the Bradyville pike, which lies but a short distance from our camp, I was ordered by the colonel commanding to place my command in the rear of the Second Brigade. I marched in this order until near the village of Bradyville, and in sight of the enemy, who were in large force and strongly posted in the woods, on advantageous ground, on the south side of town. On forming a line of battle, the colonel commanding the brigade, with promptness and energy, ordered me with my command to take the left of the line. I objected somewhat as to the possibility of forming at that juncture at the left, as it would throw my command upon an impracticable, steep, stony side-hill. The Colonel told me it must be accomplished. The enemy commenced about this time to send showers of leaden hail upon us, doing us, however, but little injury.

As the officers and men of the Third seemed anxious for the affray, I ordered them to ascend the hill, which they did as promptly and quickly as the nature of the ground would admit. After getting my command in line, I noticed at this time that I could gain a strong position on the opposite side of a deep ravine that lay between my command and the

\* Nominal list, omitted, shows 1 killed and 6 wounded.

edge of town; but to gain this position I would have to pass through an open field about 150 yards wide, and which would have exposed my command more to the enemy's fire. The Colonel about this time ordered me forward. I commanded the "Forward!" and with a yell, as if the infernal regions had broken loose, we gained the desired position. We then opened a brisk and active fire upon the enemy, who returned it with a stubborn and determined spirit, holding us in check some ten minutes; but under our regular fire they were compelled to fall back a short distance to the top of a hill and in the woods, where they dismounted and secreted themselves behind rocks, trees, logs, and every place that would afford them shelter. In this position they awaited our approach. We then left our position in the village, and marched in line of battle to the woods on the south side of town, to the point the enemy had recently occupied. We had hardly reached their former position before we were greeted by a galling fire from the secreted enemy, wounding three men and killing seven horses. This was the trying moment; but the gallant Buckeye boys of the Third never flinched. The enemy held us in check some twenty minutes, but their fire was kept up with spirit and energy. The Colonel commanding brigade was present and in the front rank; ordered us to charge, and charge we did, though a little promiscuously, driving the enemy in utter confusion through the woods, capturing fifteen men before they could mount their horses. The pursuit was continued some time, the enemy flying at breakneck speed over hills, rocks, and hollows, throwing away their arms and every incumbrance that impeded their flight. We were finally ordered to cease pursuit, which we did reluctantly. Bivouacked one and one-half miles south of Bradyville for the night. At 4 o'clock on the following morning we took up the line of march for camp, where we arrived about 4 o'clock p. m. of the 2d instant.

I am highly gratified and pleased with the conduct of both officers and men during the skirmish.

The following is a list of the casualties among men and horses, captures, etc.:

Captured eighteen men and horses fully armed and equipped.

The wounded were at once conveyed to camp, and properly cared for by Surgeon M. C. Cuykendall.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. M. FLANAGAN,  
*Captain, Commanding Regiment.*

LIEUT. A. M. HEFLEBOWER,  
*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*



*Report of Captain William M. Flanagan, Third Ohio Cavalry.*

HEADQUARTERS THIRD OHIO VOLUNTEER CAVALRY,  
CAMP STANLEY, March 15, 1863.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the recent scout of the Third Ohio Volunteer Cavalry:

Pursuant to orders, we marched on the morning of the 4th instant, at daylight, under command of Colonel Eli Long, of the Fourth Ohio Volunteer Cavalry, commanding Second Cavalry Brigade. Taking the Salem pike, we marched about ten miles in the direction of Unionville, a small village located on the Nashville and Shelbyville turnpike. On arriving within two miles of the village, we encountered the enemy's pickets, driving them in and following close upon their rear.

The enemy, occupying that place in force, fled in haste on hearing of our approach. They did not escape in time, however, to prevent a loss of fifty prisoners and their camp and garrison equipage, consisting of tents, cooking utensils, wagons, etc. Not being prepared to carry any of our captured property with us, we remained in camp just long enough to destroy the same. Thence we were ordered toward Eagleville, on the Nashville and Shelbyville pike, where we bivouacked for the night, our horses under saddle, as we anticipated the enemy might follow in our rear; but they were judicious enough to approach and reconnoiter in small squads, which sufficed, however, to keep us on the alert, with our arms by our side, during the night.

We were called up quietly the next morning at 4 o'clock, and went as silently as possible about our respective duties. After we had breakfasted we fell in line, and, learning the enemy were occupying Chapel Hill, we marched for that point at 12 m.

We reached Chapel Hill about 4 p. m., but only to find vacant camps, as General Steedman, with his brave and hardy soldiers, had routed the enemy, killing and capturing a large number. Weary and disappointed, we then fell back to our encampment at Eagleville.

On the following morning we took up our line of march for Camp Stanley, but when four miles out were ordered to countermarch and proceed to Triune. From Triune we marched in the direction of Franklin, and, notwithstanding the roads were in bad condition from recent rains, we made a very expeditious march, encamping at night about nine miles from Franklin. Resuming our march early next day, we reached Franklin about 12 m., where we encamped and remained over night.

Early next morning, with the First Brigade, we took the Maury County pike, and, traveling about six miles, turned to the left on a road leading up a narrow valley to Thompson's Station, expecting there to find the enemy in force; but, being disappointed in this, we marched five

miles farther on, making a junction at Columbia pike with a heavy column of troops under command of General Granger. Taking the advance of the whole column, with the First Cavalry Brigade immediately in our rear, we started for Columbia, passing through Spring Hill, a point which the enemy's cavalry had just left, retiring toward Columbia. We pressed them closely, skirmishing with them along the way without any casualties on our part. On arriving near Spring creek we found the enemy strongly posted, guarding every ford and disputing with spirit and energy our passage. After skirmishing for several hours with the enemy across the stream, we returned to camp for the night, the enemy still holding his position.

On the following day we were ordered to drive the enemy from his position on the opposite side of the stream. The Third Ohio Volunteer Cavalry, by order of the Colonel commanding, was dismounted and ordered to dislodge the enemy at the upper ford. I proceeded with my command to a point within 600 or 700 yards of the ford. I divided my command into three parts. I sent one-third, under Lieutenant [N.] Brewster, to the right of the road; one-third, under Captain [J. B.] Luckey, to the left, and the remaining one-third I placed under command of Lieutenant [E. A.] Haines near the road, under protection of a fence and a piece of woods, to cover the retreat of the right and left flanks in case a retreat should be necessary. I then ordered both flanks to advance cautiously, taking advantage of any natural cover that might be presented them.

On arriving within 100 yards of the ford, my right and left flanks were greeted with a brisk fire from the enemy, posted strongly on the opposite side of the stream, but the brave men of the Third did not falter, but returned the fire with energy and spirit, and finally drove him from his position and gained complete possession of the ford. Finding the ford impracticable, we returned and reported accordingly.

On learning that the enemy had been forced from his position, we were ordered to seek a more practicable fording, which we found a short distance below, and, crossing over, we consolidated with the remounted cavalry under General Granger's command, numbering about 3500, and, being placed in the advance, we marched toward Columbia over a dirt road leading from our place of fording to the Columbia pike. After reaching the pike, one company, under command of Sergeant [James M.] Hipkins, was sent to ascertain the practicability of fording Spring creek in our rear, at the pike crossing, which he reported practicable.

When within one and one-half miles of Columbia the main column was halted, and the Third Ohio was ordered to proceed cautiously forward under cover of nightfall and ascertain, if possible, whether the enemy still remained in force this side of Duck river. We found the

enemy had withdrawn his whole force across Duck river, taking the ferry-boats and his pontoons with him, and had planted his artillery on the opposite side of the stream. After waiting in silence to discover, if possible, any movements the enemy might be making, and finding all within his camp quiet, we returned and joined the main column. We then led, in the advance of the column, in countermarch to a point this side of Spring creek, where we went into camp about midnight.

At dawn on the following day we took up line of march for Franklin, where we arrived at 2 p. m., and encamped for the night, and prepared ourselves with rations for [a march] to Camp Stanley.

On the morning of the 13th, we left camp and marched to a point within two miles of Triune, a distance of about eleven miles, and again encamped for the night.

We resumed our march next morning before daylight, taking in our course the Nashville and Shelbyville turnpike until we reached Eagleville, when we turned to the left, following a dirt road until we reached the Salem and Eagleville pike, leading to Murfreesboro.

We arrived at Camp Stanley about 4 p. m. on the 14th instant, without any casualties or disasters of any character.

I am proud to say that the officers and men of the Third bravely and heroically endured the toils, fatigues, and dangers of the expedition without the least murmur or complaint.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. M. FLANAGAN,

*Captain, Commanding Regiment.*

LIEUT. HEFLEBOWER, *Act. Asst. Adj. Gen.*

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#### SNOW HILL, APRIL 3rd, 1863

*Report of Colonel James W. Paramore, Third Ohio Cavalry, commanding  
Second Cavalry Brigade.*

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY BRIGADE,

CAMP STANLEY, April 7, 1863.

SIR: I have the honor to forward, for the information of the General commanding cavalry, the following report of the part taken by the Second Cavalry Brigade in the recent scout through Auburn, Liberty, Alexandria, and Lebanon:

We left camp on the morning of the 2d instant, at 6 o'clock, with about 400 men, 150 of the Third Ohio and 250 of the Fourth Ohio, the balance of the brigade being on detached and picket duty or dismounted. The portion of the Third Ohio was under the immediate command of

Lieutenant-Colonel D. A. Murray, and the Fourth was commanded by Colonel Long.

We marched on the Liberty pike, in rear of the First Brigade, till we came to Prosperity Church, three and one-half miles beyond Auburn. There a body of Confederate cavalry was encountered by the First Brigade, and, after a short skirmish, the rebel cavalry moved over to the left of the position occupied by the First Brigade, and crossed the river toward their flank. I was then ordered by Colonel Minty to take my brigade across the river and dislodge them from that position, which I did after a short skirmish, in which we killed one and wounded two or three others. We drove them about one and one-half miles, when darkness closed the pursuit, and we foraged for our horses, and, returning to the vicinity of the church, encamped for the night; furnished three companies for picket.

On the morning of the 3d instant, in accordance with instructions received, I moved on a by-road about one and one-half miles to the left of the Murfreesboro and Liberty pike, and parallel with it (with a line of skirmishers covering the front of my column and connecting with those of the First Brigade), until I reached the Lebanon and McMinnville pike. I then moved down that pike, toward Liberty, coming in the rear of the First Brigade. When we arrived at Liberty, I received orders to cross the river to the right and dislodge the enemy's sharpshooters, that were occupying a high hill to the east of the town, and opposing the advance of the First Brigade. I did so, by dismounting a squadron of my command and sending them up the hill as skirmishers, who soon gained its summit and dispersed the rebels. It was accomplished with difficulty, however, as it was a rough, rugged hill, and almost impassable even for footmen. I moved the column over through a kind of gap through the mountain till I struck a cove leading down to the pike. I followed that down to the pike, where I met the First Brigade moving up, and there I received orders to again move to the right across another mountain and occupy a ravine to the right of Snow hill, where we expected the rebels would make a stand. I accomplished that also in safety by climbing the mountain in single file (there being no road), and leading our horses. After we had gained that position and closed up in line of battle, the First Brigade moved up along the pike and formed in the ravine to our left. During this time skirmishing was going on between the rebels and our infantry and artillery moving up the pike, but with what success I could not learn, as they were then concealed from my view. About this time I learned from Lieutenant [W. L.] Hathaway, of the First Middle Tennessee, that there was a path accessible for horsemen, by which we could gain the summit of the hill and get around to the rear of the rebels and cut off their retreat. Thinking that another dose of flank movements

might do them good, I determined to make the trial, and started, which, I am happy to state, proved an entire success. "Bonaparte crossing the Alps" was an insignificant affair to our passage over that mountain. But we gained the summit in safety, and shortly met the advance of the enemy coming to drive us back, as it appears they had observed us ascending the mountain. We drove them steadily before us till we came within about one mile of the pike, where they had concentrated their whole force, consisting of seven regiments, numbering between 2500 and 3000 men, commanded by Colonel Duke, who had just arrived from McMinnville. Colonels Gano and Breckinridge were also present.

Here was a place that required nerve, as well as plenty of ammunition. To have retreated down that mountain would have been exceedingly disastrous, and almost an impossibility. After canvassing the ground, and observing that it was a narrow passage or backbone, with a deep ravine on each side, thus preventing them from getting around to our rear, I determined to attack them vigorously, making as much show of force as I could; also feeling confident that we could whip any force that could get in our front. Accordingly, after consultation with Colonel Long and other officers, we opened the attack by dismounting the Fourth Ohio, and sending them on under shelter of logs, trees, etc., to within easy carbine range, when they opened the most terrific fire upon the enemy for so small a number of men that I ever heard. I then placed the lead horses in rear, and brought up the Third Ohio, and kept them mounted in rear of the dismounted men, ready for pursuit in case they should retreat.

Inch by inch the foe gave ground, stubbornly striving to resist our progress, but our men fought with determined spirit, and never once faltered. So rapid was their firing that in twenty minutes I found many of the Fourth were out of ammunition, having fired some sixty shots in that time. But the rebels had now begun to retreat more rapidly, and many of them dropping their guns and cartridge-boxes, I gave orders to fill the exhausted boxes from these. A concentration of force soon became apparent on the enemy's right, and I extended my left and strengthened it from the center and right. The firing again became fierce on both sides, but the advantage was with us, and after slowly pressing them some 600 yards farther through dense timber and thick chaparral, an exultant shout of victory was carried along our lines, and the enemy wheeled and fled precipitately. I immediately ordered the Third to charge, and they rapidly followed the retreating column, pressing close upon its rear and pouring in rapid volleys from their carbines. The Fourth Ohio was well-nigh exhausted from the severe work they had had, dismounted, but mounted their horses as soon as they were brought up, and followed. The enemy's cavalry had meantime reached the Liberty



and McMinnville pike, which runs over Snow hill, and struck to the right toward Smithville. A few hundred yards from where we gained the pike, the latter inclines to the left, and here the rear guard of the pursued party attempted to hold the Third in check, firing one volley and wounding two men, a sergeant and private of the Third Ohio, but they were quickly driven from their position and were then pursued for about one mile. Our horses were much worn or the chase would have been continued farther. As it was, we overtook and captured some twelve of the enemy, belonging to the Second and Third Kentucky Regiments. During the fight and the chase we lost none killed and had but three wounded, the two above referred to and one man of the Fourth, while the rebels lost, in killed and wounded, at least twenty, and my opinion is that the number was greater, though it was almost impossible to obtain accurate information. Several of their wounded were picked up in the road and in the thicket, and carried to neighboring houses by the Tenth Ohio, which had now come up and reported to me through the commanding officer. The consternation of the enemy must have been as great as his flight was rapid, for the route was strewn with arms, and accouterments, and clothing, and I am the more convinced that a large number was wounded from the quantity of saddles we found scattered in every direction.

After halting on the hill for an hour, to rest my horses, and also in expectation of further orders from the General commanding, I returned toward Liberty to join the command, and went into camp this side the intersection of the Auburn road. Picketed my front and left flank with two companies.

On the 4th, I moved forward with the column, passing through Alexandria, where I found and seized a government wagon, which had been captured from the Union forces some time since. From Alexandria, having the right of the column, I moved out the Carthage road, according to orders received, a distance of about three or four miles, when a portion of Colonel Wilder's command was met, coming from Carthage, and orders then reached me to countermarch and return to Alexandria. From the latter place I moved in rear of the First Cavalry Brigade, on the Lebanon pike, and camped, about 5 p. m., one and one-half miles from the village of Cherry Valley, where was found an abundance of forage, belonging to a rebel family. Threw out two companies to my front at the village, and one company on the bluff to my left, as picket.

On the morning of the 5th, I moved my command shortly after daylight, and prepared to scout the country between this pike and the Lebanon and Murfreesboro pike, with the consent and approval of the General commanding, who added to my command for this purpose the Fourth Michigan and Seventh Pennsylvania Regiments. The Seventh

Pennsylvania was then sent across the country to the left to move through Statesville and Painesville [Cainsville?]. They were ordered to throw out a line of skirmishers to their front, to arrest all guerrillas and suspicious parties, and to take serviceable horses and mules wherever found. The Fourth Michigan was ordered to move to the right of the Seventh Pennsylvania, with similar instructions, their line of skirmishers to connect on the left with those on the right of the Seventh Pennsylvania. After moving down the pike about one mile farther, I sent out the Third Ohio, their skirmishers connecting with the Fourth Michigan on the left, and their right to move on a line with the left of the Fourth Ohio, whose column was to move in parallel line about two miles nearer Lebanon. By this disposition of forces my line of skirmishers took in some twelve miles of country, and each column was in supporting distance of the others, in case of trouble. I myself, with staff, accompanied the Third Ohio Regiment, Lieutenant-Colonel Murray commanding. All were instructed to regulate their movements so as to be able to report in the evening at Baird's Mills, nine miles from Lebanon. Not having the official reports of commanding officers of the two regiments of the First Brigade, I am unable to give the result of their expedition. The Third and Fourth Ohio Regiments, of my brigade, succeeded in capturing and seizing 110 horses, most of them known to have belonged to guerrillas or other parties in the Confederate service, thirty-three mules, and twenty-two prisoners. Some of the latter were afterward released, nothing appearing against them, and the remainder were, by the brigade provost-marshal, turned over to the infantry. Encamped near Baird's Mills.

On the 6th instant, we moved with the entire command toward Murfreesboro, crossing Stone's river by easy ford. Arrived at camp at 2 o'clock p. m.

Respectfully submitting the above, I am, Captain, your obedient servant,

J. W. PARAMORE,  
*Colonel, Commanding Second Cavalry Brigade,*  
Per WM. E. CRANE,  
*Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

CAPT. W. H. SINCLAIR,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General and Chief of Staff.*

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*Report of Lieutenant-Colonel Douglas A. Murray, Third Ohio Cavalry.*

HEADQUARTERS THIRD OHIO CAVALRY,  
CAMP STANLEY, TENN., April 7, 1863.

SIR: I have the honor to report, for the information of the Colonel commanding, that, in compliance with instructions received, the regiment left camp on the morning of the 2d instant, with five days rations, and

proceeded with the brigade on the Liberty pike as far as Prosperity Church, the advance of the First Brigade driving in the enemy's pickets. When the Third Ohio arrived at the church, they were ordered to the left, throwing out a line of skirmishers the enemy being supposed endeavoring to come around on that flank. I formed the line with the left thrown back advancing obliquely to the front pushing the enemy's pickets on their reserve about a mile distant, drawn up in line of battle to receive us. I ordered the left of my line of skirmishers forward, thereby advancing our entire line and reserve direct upon the enemy, who, I should judge, numbered from 100 to 150. As we advanced they fell back, not attempting to offer fight. The regiment still advancing, I received orders to halt and keep my position, if possible, which we did, till ordered to forage and return to camp.

April 3d, left camp, scouring the country to the left of the pike for about four miles, when we turned to the left, getting upon the Alexandria and Lebanon pike leading into the Liberty pike, on which we proceeded some distance; then turned to the right, and scoured the country on the right of Liberty to within two or three miles of Snow hill. From this point we kept still more to the right, availing ourselves of a bridle-path to the summit of a high hill, which, after descending, brought us on a flat to the left and front of Snow hill, where we halted and formed, the enemy firing a few shots from the top of the hill opposite.

From this point we crossed the McMinnville road, mounted another high and steep hill, which really was achieved with difficulty. Now being in rear of Snow hill, we advanced toward Liberty pike to the rear of the enemy, proceeding but a short distance, when our advance was attacked in force. The Fourth Ohio Cavalry, being in advance, was immediately ordered to fight on foot and advance, which it did well. The Third Ohio was ordered to the front as a reserve, mounted. The enemy retiring, we were ordered to the front, charging and pursuing them fully a mile, killing some (number unknown) and taking twelve prisoners.

During the pursuit the enemy made two stands, but of no effect; we drove them as before. They getting behind a very thick cover, in which they were entirely concealed from view, and there being a large field between ourselves and them, with fences between at each end of it, and they, from ambush, keeping up a heavy fire upon us, I withdrew, hoping it would draw them out, which, however, did not succeed as I expected. I left a small rear guard, on which a few of them advanced, who, when they turned upon them, fell back to their former position. The balance of our command then coming up, we formed with them.

During the pursuit two of our men were wounded, one severely, Sergeant [William] Van Wormer, Company C, and Private Saltzgaber, Company I, slightly.

We fell back to Liberty, and encamped about four miles this side of it.

April 4, left camp and proceeded to Alexandria, and from there about one mile on the Carthage road, when we countermarched and returned to Alexandria, and took the Lebanon pike and encamped. Remaining there about three hours, again resumed the line of march, about five miles farther on, where we encamped.

From this place I set out, in compliance with instructions, in pursuit of some guerrillas who had fired at the advance guard and fled. The officer commanding the squadron sent Captain [J. B.] Luckey, who made every search possible for them, but without success, and returned to camp, after four hours hard riding.

April 5, left camp and proceeded on the Lebanon pike but a short distance, when we were ordered to the left, to scour across the country in search of guerrillas, meat, provisions, horses, mules, etc., toward Baird's Mills. I deployed three companies as skirmishers to the right and left, connecting with the Fourth Ohio on their right and the Fourth Michigan on their left. We made several captures; in all twenty-nine prisoners, fifty-three horses, and seventeen mules. The prisoners, on our arrival at camp, I turned over to the brigade provost-marshal, several of whom have been released, whom no charges could be brought against. Encamped on the night of the 5th at Baird's Mills.

April 6, returned to camp. Stone's river fordable, with not over two feet of water at the deepest part of the ford.

During the scout our horses had ample forage, and I am happy to state that the conduct of both officers and men of the regiment was highly creditable to them.

Respectfully submitted,

D. A. MURRAY,

*Lieutenant-Colonel Third Ohio Cavalry, Comdg. Regiment.*

CAPTAIN W. H. SINCLAIR,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant General, Second Cavalry Brigade,  
Camp Stanley, Tenn.*

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*Report of Lieut. Col. Oliver P. Robie, Fourth Ohio Cavalry, commanding  
Second Cavalry Brigade.*

CAMP STANLEY, April 16, 1863.

SIR: In obedience to your order, received this morning, I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by the Second Brigade in the late engagement at Franklin, Tenn.:

I was ordered on Friday, April 10, to assume command of this brigade, consisting of 190 officers and men of the Third Ohio, 257 of the Fourth Ohio, and also a detachment of the Third Indiana Cavalry.

We left camp at 6 o'clock a. m., and marched to within four miles of Franklin, at which point I received orders from the General commanding to move with my command across the Harpeth Fork at a ford three miles to the left of the Murfreesboro pike, and proceed to Franklin, on the Lewisburg pike. Having crossed the ford, and while moving in the direction of the Lewisburg pike, my advance guard captured a surgeon and quartermaster belonging to the Confederate Army; also two negroes, who reported a force of the enemy between us and Franklin, 2000 strong. A company which had been sent down the Lewisburg pike also reported the enemy in force in that direction. At this moment heavy firing was heard on the Lewisburg pike. Knowing that the Fourth Regulars had been sent in that direction, and were probably engaged with the enemy, I immediately prepared my command to move to their support. While advancing in line, and when within a few hundred yards of the enemy, who were plainly visible in strong force, I received orders from the commanding General to fall back and recross the stream. My command returned in good [order] to within a short distance of the ford. The enemy observing our movements, advanced rapidly and opened fire upon our right. I ordered my men to return the fire, which was promptly done, with good effect, repulsing them twice.

At this time I ordered the left to hold the enemy in check while I could retire the right of my line. While endeavoring to execute this movement, the enemy charged in strong force, driving in my skirmishers and causing my line to fall back in confusion. I succeeded in rallying my men and formed another line. The enemy having dismounted, advanced rapidly through the open field, and opened fire upon us, at about 300 yards distance. We returned their fire, and drove them back in confusion. I then withdrew my command across the stream, and took position commanding the ford, which I was ordered to hold. My loss was two killed and six wounded. The enemy undoubtedly [lost] more heavily, but they having possession of the ground, were enabled to remove their killed and wounded.

That night we remained in camp at this point. The next morning I surrendered command of this brigade to Lieutenant-Colonel Murray, who is my superior officer, and took command of my regiment, the Fourth Ohio Volunteer Cavalry.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. P. ROBIE,

*Lieutenant-Colonel Fourth Ohio Volunteer Cavalry.*

CAPT. W. H. SINCLAIR,

*Assistant Adjutant-General.*



MAY 12, 1863.—Reconnaissance from La Vergne, Tenn.

*Report of Colonel Eli Long, Fourth Ohio Cavalry.*

HDQRS. DETACHMENT SECOND CAVALRY BRIGADE,  
CAMP NEAR LA VERGNE, TENN, May 12, 1863.

SIR: Pursuant to instructions, I have the honor to report as follows:

I left camp with my command as soon as the Third Ohio Cavalry joined, about 2:20 a. m. today, arriving at the camp of the First Ohio Cavalry at 5:45 a. m. On arriving there, I placed Colonel Eggleston in command of his regiment, 240 men, as he reported, and seventy of the Third Ohio, with the following instructions: To divide his command into three columns; the right-hand column going to Jefferson, and leaving a guard of forty men in the vicinity of Street's Ford, just south of Jefferson, a point where a major of the First Ohio Cavalry, who is better posted in a knowledge of this country than any one I can find, told me the rebels were most likely to cross. The right-hand column was then to come down Stone's River to the Upper Charlton's Ford, leaving guards at all the fords en route. The center column was to move directly east to Charlton's Ford, and remain there until joined by the other two columns. The left-hand column was to move to Steward's Ferry, communicating with Colonel McCook, and then move up Stone's River to Charlton's Ford, leaving guards at the fords, as in the other case. When the three columns had joined at Charlton's Ford, they were to move together to Rural Hill, under Colonel Eggleston, and from that point throw out small scouting parties in different directions, and, if he encountered the enemy, to resist him sufficiently to make him develop his force. Inclosed please find dispatch from Colonel Eggleston, First Ohio Volunteer Cavalry. As the country is very rough, and his command has quite a long march to make, I doubt if he will be able to accomplish it today. I will relieve him tomorrow at noon with a portion of my command; but as it is impossible to place a force sufficient to offer any resistance at all of the various crossing of the stream, some twenty miles, I will only leave a small picket to give warning at suitable places, and keep the rest of my command as well concentrated as I can consistently with patrolling the river, and sending small parties across the river to find out which road the rebels contemplate coming. There are 263 men of my regiment here, and 105 of the Third Ohio. There are quite a number of both regiments remaining in camp who should be made to join their commands. It was impossible for me to get them all out in the dark.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ELI LONG,

*Col. Fourth Ohio Vol. Cav., Comdg. Detachment Second Cav. Brig.*  
CAPTAIN W. B. CURTIS,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General, First Cavalry Division.*

MAY 21-22, 1863.—Expedition from Murfreesborough to Middleton, Tenn., and Skirmish.

*Report of Major Horace N. Howland, Third Ohio Cavalry.*

HEADQUARTERS THIRD OHIO CAVALRY,  
*Camp Turchin, Tenn., May 25, 1863.*

COLONEL: I have the honor to report, for your information, that, in compliance with instructions received from brigade headquarters, I, with a part of the Third Ohio Cavalry, consisting of 127 enlisted men and nine commissioned officers, reported on the 21st instant, at 7 p. m., at the headquarters of the Fourth Ohio Cavalry, whence we proceeded, pursuant to instructions, to join the First Cavalry Brigade, which was to form on the Salem pike, with the right resting on the bridge across Stone's River, about two miles from Murfreesborough. From this point my command moved with the column out on the Salem pike until we struck the old dirt road leading to Shelbyville through the town of Middleton. The column moved out on this road, and after marching all night, arrived at and surprised the camps of the Eighth Confederate Cavalry and First Alabama Cavalry, in the vicinity of Middleton.

During the skirmishing, and until the camps were destroyed, my command was held in reserve and took no part in either. When the column moved out on the return to Murfreesborough, my command was in the rear of the column. I was ordered to throw out a strong rear guard, which I did, sending out two companies, viz, G and C.

Our rear guard was attacked by small parties of the enemy, and skirmishing was kept up for a distance of two to three miles on our return march, the enemy being checked alternately by the Third and Fourth Ohio Cavalry falling back and securing position. Other regiments also took part in the skirmish, but I am not informed what regiments they were.

My command returned to camp at 2:30 p. m. of the 22d, having sustained a loss of two wounded and one missing.

Wounded: Sergt. John Reynolds, Company K, arm shattered by musket-ball, and Private Casper Smith, Company K, leg shattered by musket-ball.

Missing: Private Thomas H. Horobin, Company G.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HORACE HOWLAND,  
*Major Third Ohio Cavalry, Commanding Detachment.*

COLONEL ELI LONG,

*Comdg. Detachment Second Cav. Brig., Camp Turchin, Tenn.*

**JUNE 4-5, 1863.—Scout to Smithville, Tenn.\***

*Extract from "Records of Events," Second Brigade, Second Cavalry Division, Department of the Cumberland, Commanded by Colonel Eli Long.†*

June 4th, Colonel Paramore, with the Third, Fourth, and Tenth Ohio Regiments, went on a scout, accompanying Colonel Wilder's brigade of mounted infantry. Skirmished with rebel cavalry at Snow Hill, twenty-five miles from Murfreesborough. Drove them from their position and encamped near Liberty.

June 5th, Colonel Paramore moved with his brigade and two regiments of mounted infantry toward Smithville, twelve miles from Liberty. Just below Liberty, encountered rebel skirmishers. Met no heavy resistance until reaching Smithville, where (Thomas) Harrison's brigade of rebel cavalry was encountered and fought for some hours. Drove them back a mile, when they again formed in the woods and resisted stoutly, but were again defeated and fell back in confusion. Colonel Paramore lost two men of the Third Ohio, wounded. Rebel loss unknown, they carrying off their wounded.

## CHAPTER XI.

### THE TULLAHOMA CAMPAIGN

June 24th—We left camp at 5:30 a. m. and marched to Readyville, twelve miles east of Murfreesboro. Here we were joined by the Second Battalion under Major Seidel. It had been stationed here with Hazen's Brigade of Infantry since January 10th, covering the left flank of the Union Army, while it lay at Murfreesboro. During that time the battalion had been kept busy picketing, patrolling, scouting and foraging, and when not otherwise engaged, there was always drill to keep the men busy. During their stay they had a number of encounters with the enemy, three of which we find reports of in the official records. The first was on January 18th, near Woodbury, the battalion being under the command of Captain McClelland, Major Seidel not having returned to the regiment yet after his capture at Lexington. See Major McClelland's report, which with those of Major Seidel of March 27th and April 2d, we reproduce in full, together with the complimentary reports of General Hazen and General Stanley. We were all glad to have the regiment reunited again, and to know that a general movement of the army was being made and we have no doubt but that Bragg and his army would soon be forced out of Tullahoma and across the Tennessee river. General Turchin commanding, the division marched with the Second Brigade under command of

Colonel Long. Wilder's Third Brigade is also on the left of the army. Colonel Minty's First Brigade is on the right flank and is marching by the way of Shelbyville. There was heavy cannonading off to the right and in our front all day. We camped at Bradyville.

June 25th—Rained hard all night. On the march at 7 a. m. in the direction of Manchester. Passed through Hawes Gap. Heavy cannonading on the right. We passed the artillery and Palmer's Division of Infantry. Heavy work for the artillery climbing the mountains. Stopped early in the afternoon in a piece of woods. Captured some prisoners. Very little forage to be had. Rained all day.

June 26th—Still raining. Saddled up at noon, moved forward about three miles. The brigade went into position in a piece of woodland and waited for the wagons to come up. We were in a wild rough country. Cannonading in the direction of Beech Grove, Hoover and Guy's Gaps.

June 27th—Wagons came up in the afternoon; three days rations issued. Moved up to Pochahontas and camped. Our troops had taken Shelbyville, Beech Grove and Manchester; most of the regiment on picket. Some one stole General Turchin's coffee pot. It was of enough importance to send a staff officer in search of it, but he did not find it; rained.

June 28th—Rained in the morning but cleared up in the afternoon. In from picket early. No time for breakfast. Moved out toward Manchester. Roads blocked with wagons, infantry and artillery. Pioneers repairing roads; camped about one mile north of Manchester; wagons came up late in the afternoon; plenty of good water. We spent the afternoon cleaning arms and drying clothes. Inspection of arms. Bragg's army in Tullahoma.

June 29th—Did not move. Forage very scarce. Companies C and G went out foraging and got some corn which Colonel Long, who was in command of the brigade, took from us and gave to the Fourth Ohio. There had been considerable friction between Colonels Paramore and Long ever since the latter was placed in command of the brigade, and when Long took the corn Paramore told him what he thought of him, and Long ordered him under arrest, but Paramore refused to recognize his authority. The next morning Long sent over to the regiment for a horse that Company K had captured. Colonel Paramore sent word to Lieutenant Brown not to let them have the horse. Then Long came himself with his provost guard. Brown got his Company under arms, and Paramore ordered out Companies C and G to support Company K if it was necessary, and as Long came up Lieutenant Brown ordered him to halt and his company to a "ready," and told Long if he advanced another step he would fire on him. Colonel Long retired from the field and reported the matter to General Rosecrans. Both Paramore and Brown were placed under arrest. Paramore was discharged from the

service, but there was nothing further done in Lieutenant Brown's case. Colonel Seidel was now in command of the regiment. The third battalion was ordered out in the evening, marched about eight miles, reported to General Brannan and camped about midnight.

July 1st—Third battalion went out on the Winchester road on picket. Relieved at noon and went out with Negeley's Division on the Decherd road. Considerable fighting all afternoon. Went into camp at 9 p. m., eight miles from Decherd. The first and second battalions remained at Manchester until 10 p. m., and after a march of about ten miles, camped one mile from Hillsboro.

July 2d—Started at sunrise, marched to Morrison's ford on Elk river. The banks were high and the rebels had a strong position defended by artillery. We lost two killed and nine wounded. A crossing was effected by some of our troops, some miles below, and the enemy abandoned the ford, when we crossed, putting our carbines in a dugout and fording the river. In some places the horses had to swim. The Third Battalion moved up to Elk river near Decherd, found the bridge burned and the rebels entrenched on the opposite bank. The artillery was brought up and drove them off. The Pioneers came up and went to work on the bridge and the next morning we crossed and moved up within two miles of Decherd and camped.

July 4th—The Third Battalion moved out about noon, passed to the east of Decherd and went up the mountains about six miles. The rebels had abandoned all their positions. We returned to the foot of the mountain, where the infantry were in camp. About 3 a. m. July 5th a terrific storm just before daylight flooded our camp.

July 6th—Brigade left camp about 8 a. m., passed through Decherd and camped about six miles out on the Huntsville road, where the Third Battalion joined us.

July 8th Salutes were fired from all the batteries in honor of the capture of Vicksburg.

July 9th—Regimental inspection in the afternoon.

July 10th—Ordered out on a scout with two days rations. Marched to Fayetteville and went into camp.

July 11th—Boots and saddles at 4 a. m., but we lay at Fayetteville all day.

July 12th—Boots and saddles at 4 a. m. Moved at 10 a. m. in the direction of Pulaski; camped in the evening about thirteen miles from Pulaski.

July 13th—Reveille at 4, moved out at 8, got to Pulaski about noon; ran a lot of rebels out, captured quite a number of prisoners.

July 15th—Reveille at 4 a. m. Moved at 7, got to Elkton about noon. Could not cross because of high water. Camped about twelve



miles from Fayetteville, went out foraging, captured two prisoners, two horses and a mule, got a lot of provisions; we lost two men, captured.

During the remainder of July the brigade was scouting over the country, around Pulaski, Tenn., Huntsville, Ala., and Fayetteville, Tenn., gathering all kinds of army supplies—forage, horses, cattle, mules, negroes—several hundred negroes were brought in. We had a number of skirmishes, but all the bodies of rebel troops were either scattered or were driven south across the Tennessee river.

On the 21st we moved to Salem, where we remained for a week, and on the 27th the paymaster visited us and we received four months pay.

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*Report of Colonel Eli Long, Fourth Ohio Cavalry, commanding Second Brigade.*

HDQRS. SECOND BRIGADE, SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,

IN THE FIELD, FIVE MILES FROM WINCHESTER, TENN., July 8, 1863.

CAPTAIN: In pursuance of instructions received, I have the honor to forward the following as a report of the proceedings of the Second Brigade, Second Cavalry Division, in the forward movement from Murfreesboro, from the time of leaving there until present date. Accompanying the same are submitted the regimental reports and reports of detachments detailed from my command at different times.

The brigade marched out of its camp, on the Lebanon pike, at 6 o'clock, June 24, 1863. Moved out the Woodbury pike, in conjunction with the Chicago Board of Trade Battery and the First Brigade, Second Cavalry Division, the latter being subsequently countermarched and separated from Brigadier-General Turchin's command, of which my brigade formed a part. At Readyville, twelve miles from Murfreesboro, I left the Woodbury pike, taking the Bradyville and Manchester road, having at Readyville joined to my command the Second Battalion of the Third Ohio Volunteer Cavalry. Camped near Bradyville that night, in close proximity to General Palmer's infantry division. Hard rain all day, and road heavy.

On the 25th, I marched out at 6 a. m., going by easy motion toward Manchester. Passed Hollow Springs and halted at Lumley's Stand, junction of Bradyville, of Manchester and Shelbyville, and of McMinnville roads. Three suspicious appearing persons were here taken, one of whom proved a notorious character, and I then sent parties to reconnoiter as far as Noah's Fork, three miles to the west, and Pocahontas, lying six miles eastward. Courier stations were found at each of these points, and one rebel courier captured at each, together with three other prisoners near the latter point. Left the Second Kentucky Cavalry on

picket, and retired two and one-half miles to camp. Wet weather all day, and my train not up in consequence of difficult traveling.

Moved at 9 o'clock on the morning of the 26th, having previously sent back to Bradyville nine companies of my command to assist in bringing forward the wagons. Made a halt again at Lumley's Stand, and bivouacked, remaining till 2 p. m. of the 27th, when I received orders to move to Pocahontas and camp.

Early on the morning of the 28th, moved my command, by order, toward Manchester, via. Lumley's, and thence southwardly, over roads made by continued wet weather almost impassable even for cavalry. Arrived at Manchester at 10 a. m. From here sent one company of the Fourth Ohio Volunteer Cavalry back to Murfreesboro for train left there. Subsequently had orders to send two battalions to report to Major-General Thomas for outpost duty. Detail was made from Second Kentucky Regiment, and sent under charge of Colonel Nicholas, this leaving but one company of his regiment with me. On the same day two battalions of the Fourth Ohio were detached for outpost duty on General Brannan's front, Major Mathews commanding.

June 29th, two battalions were detailed from the First Ohio to report to General Brannan for picket duty.

On June 30th, one battalion was detached from the Third Ohio, also for picket duty with General Brannan, this making seven battalions detached from the brigade.

Remained in camp at Manchester till 10 p. m. July 1st, when I marched toward Hillsboro, reaching there at 2 the following morning. Moved on the Pelham road and bivouacked.

In the saddle again at 5 a. m. July 2d. Returned to Hillsboro, and thence taking the Winchester road. When within a mile of Morris' ford of Elk river, my advance discovered a squad of rebel cavalry and gave chase, the remainder of their regiment (Fourth Ohio Volunteer Cavalry) moving up briskly. Pursued them to the river, and drove them into the stream, when sharp musketry firing was opened on the advance from the woods on the opposite shore, and replied to by my men, who found the water too deep to ford readily. The enemy proved to be in considerable force, and additional companies were moved up to support the advance. One officer (Captain Adae) and one man of the Fourth were here wounded, and the firing becoming more heavy, I dismounted the remaining company of the Fourth, and sent them forward as skirmishers on the front and left. I then dismounted a part of the Third Ohio and deployed them in the woods on our right. The numbers of the enemy were augmented by reinforcements from their rear, and they occupied a quite strong position, so that it was found difficult to dislodge them till two pieces of Captain Stokes' battery were brought forward, by

order of General Turchin, and opened upon them. This silenced their fire for a while, but meantime they were reinforced by a brigade of infantry and two pieces of artillery, the latter of which opened upon us a fierce fire with six and twelve-pounder shells and canister. My main command (twelve companies altogether) was now forced back from the woods. Sharp firing was now kept up on both sides for some time, the rebel infantry retiring toward Decherd, with the two pieces of artillery. At about 2 p. m. a large force of our cavalry arrived, with Major-General Stanley, and I then, by order, moved forward across the river, the enemy having fallen back from the ford. Soon came up with his skirmishers, however, and immediately engaged them, the force proving to be one brigade of Wheeler's cavalry, under direct command of General [W. T.] Martin. I pressed them back slowly, having a heavy line of skirmishers thrown forward and extending some 300 yards to right and left of the road. My progress was stubbornly resisted till toward sundown, when the enemy were put in full retreat, and we had full possession of the ground for the night.

My entire loss during the day was one officer and ten men wounded. Two of the latter were mortally wounded, and died during the afternoon. The loss of the enemy could not be ascertained, their wounded being mostly carried off. A number of dead bodies were found on the field, and Colonel [James D.] Webb, of the Fifty-first Alabama, was found at a farm-house, mortally wounded.

July 3, I moved at 8:30 a. m., following the brigade of Colonel Minty. Passed through Decherd and went into camp near the town. In the evening, pursuant to orders, sent Colonel Eggleston, First Ohio, with the fragments of the First and Fourth Ohio and Second Kentucky, back to Manchester to bring forward the train of the Second Division.

July 4, two battalions of the First Ohio and one battalion of the Second Kentucky were returned to the command, and on the 5th two battalions of the Fourth Ohio returned.

On the 6th of July, I marched out from camp about 9 a. m., following the First Division, General Mitchell. Passed through Winchester, and proceeded on the Winchester and Huntsville road to a point six miles northeast of Salem, and went into camp.

The battalion of the Third Ohio returned to this camp and rejoined the brigade, this leaving my command short one battalion, Second Kentucky.

Remained at same camp during the 7th, the command being mostly employed in foraging during the day.

Respectfully submitted.

ELI LONG,

*Colonel, Comdg. Second Brigade, Second Cavalry Division.*

CAPT. W. B. CURTIS,

*Asst. Adjt. Gen., Second Cav. Div., Dept. of the Cumberland.*

*Report of Major Charles B. Seidel, Third Ohio Cavalry.*

HEADQUARTERS THIRD OHIO VOLUNTEER CAVALRY,  
CAMP NEAR SALEM, TENN., July 8, 1863.

SIR: I have the honor to report to you the part taken by the Third Ohio Cavalry Regiment during the scout of the last ten days.

Colonel [J. W.] Paramore, commanding the First and Third Battalions, left camp at Murfreesboro the 24th of June, passing through Readyville, where the regiment was joined by the Second Battalion, under my command. From here the whole brigade advanced into the Barren country, and after a tedious march of four days the regiment arrived at Manchester, where the brigade encamped until July 1. At Manchester Colonel Paramore was put under arrest, and I was ordered to take charge of the regiment. From here the regiment and a few companies of the Fourth Ohio, Second Kentucky, and First Ohio Cavalry, and two pieces of artillery, started for Elk River ford, on the Hillsboro and Winchester [road], where we encountered the enemy for the first time on our march. Here I was ordered by Colonel Long, commanding Second Brigade, Second Division, to dismount the greater part of my men and fight on foot, the balance of the regiment to support the battery during the fight. Finding the enemy too strong, and my command too much exposed, I was ordered to fall back with the regiment until reinforcement had arrived. At 1 p. m. Major-General Stanley arrived with reinforcements, and, finding that the enemy had abandoned his strong position, my regiment was ordered to cross the river, which was immediately complied with, and encountered the enemy's pickets after a short advance. My regiment, marching on the right, up the road, encountered the Fifty-first Alabama Cavalry. I immediately sent two companies, under command of Major Howland, on the left, and one company, under command of Captain Gates, on the right, to outflank the enemy, which was so successfully done that the enemy, after a fight of ten minutes, fled in confusion, leaving his dead and wounded behind. Colonel Webb, commanding the Fifty-first Alabama, was severely wounded, and has since died. My regiment lost one killed and four severely wounded. I pursued the enemy about one mile farther, when, being very much fatigued, I was ordered to go into camp near the battlefield. The next day the regiment marched to Decherd, where we encamped until the 5th instant. Leaving camp on the 5th instant, we moved near Salem, where the regiment is encamped at the present time.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. B. SEIDEL,  
*Major Third Ohio Cavalry.*

COL. ELI LONG,  
*Commanding Second Brigade, Second Cavalry Division.*

*Report of Lieutenant Chauncey L. Cook, Third Ohio Cavalry.*

CAMP NEAR MANCHESTER, July 1, 1863.

SIR: In pursuance to your orders to me, I beg leave to report the following:

Started out on the road leading to Hillsboro. Found the country mostly wooded and quite level. Found only five houses on the road, but found a number of roads leading off; think they are plantation roads. Found one wheat-field of ten or more acres cut and in the shock. Found an old picket post three-fourths of a mile from town. Was informed the rebels had three or four men on post last night. Left two men at picket post; advanced with company to the town; formed men in line, and sent out one sergeant and three men. Found in one building, I should think, 100 bushels of corn, some old guns, some army clothing—Southern. Did not search thoroughly. There is a reported force of rebels below town, but did not learn the number; think not much of a force.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. L. COOK,  
*Lieutenant.*

COL. ELI LONG,

*Commanding Second Brigade, Second Cavalry Division.*

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July 28th—We marched to Fayetteville and camped, and on the 30th we had a very heavy thunderstorm, and our camp was flooded, the water in many places being a foot deep.

August 2d—Reveille at 3 a. m. On the march at 6. Returned to Salem and went into camp early in the afternoon.

August 3d—Reveille at 4 a. m. Started out at 6; reached Winchester and went into camp about 2 in the afternoon.

August 5th—Orders to be ready to move at a moment's notice. Dress parade and inspection every day; orders very strict against individual foraging.

August 9th—General Crook, who took command of the division, relieving General Turchin, on the 30th ult., inspected the brigade.

August 10th—Captain Luckey of Company C received an order dated August 9th dismissing him from the service for refusing to give up two men of his company who had been out foraging contrary to orders. The officers and men of the regiment regretted very much to see the Captain go, for he was a universal favorite. The Captain was reinstated, and later returned, and was heartily welcomed to our ranks again.



August 13th—Reveille at 1 a. m., marched out at 3 with three days rations. The Third Battalion went to Fayetteville, Company H to Salem, and the remainder of the regiment to Gum Springs, and during the next three days we were guarding railroad, doing scout and picket duty, etc.

August 15th—Regiment marched to Winchester and went into camp, where we remained until the 19th, when the regiment was again divided, the Second Battalion, under Major Howland, going to Cowan to guard railroad, and the First and Third Battalions starting out on the Chickamauga campaign. On the 22d the Second Battalion moved its camp to Decherd, where Major Howland selected a strong position for his camp and fortified it by building breastworks, and took every precaution to guard against surprise. The battalion was kept busy, on picket and scout; had a number of skirmishes with small bodies of the enemy; took some prisoners, and while rumors of forces that were on their way to attack the camp were numerous, yet they were unmolested until September 24th, when the rebels attempted a surprise, driving in the pickets and charging on the fortifications, where they met with a repulse, losing two officers and eight men killed, our loss being one man wounded.

On October 5th the battalion left Decherd for Shelbyville, joined the Fifth Iowa Cavalry and camped at 10 p. m.

October 6th—Started early, moved up to Elk river; found the bridges burned and a force of the enemy on the opposite bank to dispute our crossing; drove them off. Crossing the river, we pushed on toward Shelbyville. Went into camp late at night.

October 7th—Marched to Shelbyville and rejoined the regiment, which with the division was then in pursuit of and close upon the heels of Wheeler, who was headed for the Tennessee river at Muscle shoals. We will now take up the movement of the First and Third Battalions, under Colonel Seidel, in the Chickamauga campaign.

## CHAPTER XII.

### THE CHICKAMAUGA CAMPAIGN

In August, 1863, the two armies occupied practically the same positions that they had held in 1862, before Bragg crossed the Tennessee and invaded Kentucky. In the Tullahoma campaign, he chose to abandon the country north of the river without a fight. Fearing to risk a battle with the Tennessee in his rear, he fell back to Chattanooga and awaited the next move of General Rosecrans.

The proposition was a difficult one. Chattanooga was protected on the north and west by mountain ranges in such a manner as to make it almost inaccessible, the railroad and wagon bridges across the Tennessee

River were destroyed, the mountain roads were extremely difficult for wagons and artillery, so that the movement of the army and its necessary supplies was a perplexing problem. The plan of General Rosecrans was to move the left of his army across the mountains north of the river to a point opposite the town, threatening it from that direction, then crossing the river with the main part of his army at Bridgeport, strike for Bragg's communications to the south and compel him to abandon his position.

August 19th—Reveille at 4 a. m., left our camp at Winchester at 7 o'clock, marched in the direction of Stevenson and camped at the foot of the mountains.

August 20th—Started soon after sunrise, crossed the mountains and went into camp at Crow creek early in the afternoon.

August 22d—Wagons came up; they had a hard time getting over the mountains. We started out in the forenoon, passed through Stevenson and camped about a mile from the river and five miles from the town. On the 23d we moved up within three miles of Bridgeport and went into camp late in the evening. August 25th—Inspection of horses in the forenoon, and in the afternoon inspection of arms.

August 28th—A detail of men worked clearing a road to the river in the afternoon. Volunteers were called for, men who could swim, to cross the river at the ford.

August 29th—Three officers and fifty-two non-commissioned officers and men, with a guide, started out about 1 a. m. to cross the river at Island Creek ford. The crossing was a dangerous one, as the ford was crooked, and one and one-fourth miles long, and in many places the water reached to the men's armpits. The object was to surprise and capture the rebel pickets posted on the opposite bank. The men had succeeded in getting safely across, when the revolver of one of the officers was accidentally discharged, wounding one of our own men and giving the alarm to the enemy, so that all except one escaped. Soon after daylight the First and Third Ohio and Second Kentucky Cavalry Regiments crossed at the ford and marched in a southeasterly direction, crossing Sand mountain and Lookout valley, and camped on Lookout range, about two miles from the Georgia line.

August 30th—Reveille at 4 o'clock. Started at sunrise, crossed the state line into Georgia, passed through Trenton and marched within about twelve miles of Chattanooga, but found no force of the enemy. Returned by the way of Trenton and camped about sunset on the mountains. The next day we recrossed the river at the ford and got into camp about noon. Brought a few groceries and some tobacco from Trenton. Pontoon bridge was built across the river at Bridgeport and infantry, artillery and wagons crossed.

September 1st—General muster and inspection in the afternoon.

September 2d—Reveille at 4 o'clock. The brigade received orders to march with twelve days rations. Crossed the river at the ford, marched about four miles and camped. Our wagon train went up to Bridgeport to cross on the pontoon bridge.

September 3d—Crossed Sand mountain and went into camp about 8 o'clock p. m. in Wills valley.

September 4th—Moved about four miles and went into camp in Lookout valley. Inspection in the evening.

September 5th—Started out on a reconnaissance early in the morning. Crossed Lookout mountain; found the enemy in Chattanooga valley, but after a little skirmishing returned to camp; captured a few prisoners.

September 6th—Moved our camp about five miles up the valley.

September 7th—Wagon train came up and the next day we got orders to march at 5 p. m. with three days rations. Camped at 10 p. m. on Lookout mountain.

September 9th—Crossed the mountain and descended into Broomtown valley. Found the roads blockaded with fallen timber. It was a difficult matter to get the artillery over the mountains. Found the enemy in the valley near Alpine. We got the roads cleared and down into the valley about noon. After a sharp fight with the rebels in the afternoon, we drove them, and camped on the field. Our regiment lost one man killed, one officer and three men wounded, and a number of horses killed. The enemy retreated toward Rome.

September 10th—Reveille at 3 o'clock. Started out at sunrise. Went within three miles of Summerville, but found no enemy, and we returned to our camp of the night before.

September 13th—Detachments of the regiment out patrolling the roads from 3 a. m. until daylight. At 8 a. m. got orders to move. Went out on the Summerville road in the direction of Lafayette, with General McCook; found the enemy in force; went within four miles of Lafayette; captured a number of pickets, returning at night. The next day we ascended Lookout mountain and marched to Dougherty's gap, camping on the mountain on the 15th, in the afternoon.

September 16th—We moved up the mountain toward Chattanooga about fifteen miles, and descending into McLemore's cove, camped on the mountain side at night.

September 17th—The Third Battalion went on a reconnaissance to another pass, but found no enemy. Returned to McLemore's; remained guarding the pass at McLemore's until the 19th. The view from Lookout mountain was very fine. On the 19th we advanced by way of Catlett gap and took position covering the ford of the Chickamauga at Glass's mill, the extreme right of the Union Army. The Confederates held the



OUR MONUMENT AT CHICKAMAUGA





ford with infantry, cavalry and artillery. We held our position until about noon of the 20th, when General Crook was ordered to move to Crawfish Springs, where we were attacked by a heavy force of cavalry, infantry and artillery, and forced back about two miles. The ground that we occupied at Crawfish Springs was rough and rocky, covered with logs and underbrush, making it difficult to maneuver cavalry. We held our new position until nightfall, when we fell back and took position covering the Dry Valley road about six miles from Chattanooga, at midnight. We held this position until the afternoon of the 21st, when we moved forward until we came against the line of the enemy's skirmishers. We formed a battle line, threw out skirmishers, and remained in position all night.

September 22d—We fell back toward Chattanooga, our advance regiments taking position in front of the gaps in Mission ridge to hold them and prevent the enemy from coming into Chattanooga valley and cutting off a part of our force. Reaching Chattanooga, we crossed the river and went into camp. We lost twenty-five men killed and wounded in the regiment. From September 23d until October 2d the regiment was on duty at the different fords of the Tennessee above Chattanooga.

September 30th—General Wheeler with a large force of cavalry crossed the Tennessee river at Cottonport, after shelling the pickets, a detachment of the First Ohio, guarding the ford at that point. It was Wheeler's evident purpose to destroy the railroad in our rear.

October 2d—The regiment concentrated on the river some twenty-five miles above Chattanooga, for a chase after the divisions of Wheeler and Wharton, both of whom were reported north of the river.

October 3d—Started at sunrise to go after the brigade. Crossed Walden's ridge and the Sequatchie valley; climbed the Cumberland mountains, and camped on the Cumberland plateau, about fifteen miles from McMinnville; neither forage nor water to be had.

October 4th—Started at daylight, overtook the brigade in the forenoon, passed through McMinnville. The town had been captured by Wharton's Division and a large amount of government stores captured and destroyed. General Crook, with a part of the division, had overtaken Wharton's rear guards at the foot of the Cumberland mountains and defeated them in a sharp engagement. Crook lost in this engagement forty-six men killed and wounded. When we left McMinnville Long's Brigade had the advance. We found the rear guard of the enemy in position about two miles out on the Woodbury pike. The divisions of Wheeler and Wharton had formed a junction and the entire force was headed for Murfreesboro, and in order to hold us back until their columns could get out of the way the rear guard made a stubborn fight, but Wilder's Brigade dismounted and came into line on the right and left

of the road, while Long's Brigade charged down the pike, and the enemy were driven from their position. We pursued rapidly, driving them from one position to another for six miles, when Wheeler was compelled to face about and fight. After a sharp engagement, lasting until dark, the enemy were driven from their position and we camped on the field.

October 5th—We were in the saddle early. Passed through Woodbury. At Readyville we found the rebel camp fires still burning. Here we crossed over to the Liberty pike, so as to come into Murfreesboro from the north. Arriving at Murfreesboro, we found that Wheeler had passed to the left, going toward Shelbyville. We halted for the night at Murfreesboro, lying in line of battle near the fortifications. No forage for the horses.

October 6th—General Mitchell came up and assumed command, and after drawing rations and ammunition we started out after Wheeler; passed through Guy's gap at sundown and halted for the night seven miles from Shelbyville.

October 7th—Started early, Wilder's Brigade in the advance, Long's Brigade following Wilder. Halted for a short time at Shelbyville. The Second Battalion rejoined the regiment from Decherd. We moved out from Shelbyville on the Lewisburg pike. A few miles from the town we came upon the enemy in a piece of woods to the right of the road, and after driving them a short distance, Wilder's men dismounted and Colonel Long ordered his brigade, the Third Ohio, in the advance, to draw saber and charge, and himself leading, drove the enemy four or five miles. The rebel loss in this charge was about 300 killed, wounded and prisoners. Colonel Seidel's horse was killed in the charge, and falling on him, pinned him to the ground, holding him fast until extricated by some of his men. As we neared Farmington the country became more rough and broken, and taking advantage of a place where he thought cavalry could not operate, the enemy took position in a dense cedar thicket, built barricades and posted their artillery. Here Long was forced to await the mounted infantry and artillery. Wilder's men dismounted, went into line, the battery came into position and opened on the enemy. Wilder's men charged and carried the enemy's position, capturing the battery of four guns and a large number of prisoners. Night came on and stopped pursuit. In the fight at this point Colonel Monroe of the One Hundred and Twenty-third Illinois was killed while leading his regiment.

October 8th—In the saddle early; passed through Lewisburg and Connersville, taking the Pulaski road and pushing forward rapidly, driving the rear guard of the enemy before us. We reached Pulaski, where we found the rebels had taken position to dispute our further progress, but retreated as our advance came in sight, and we were again stopped by darkness. We camped south of the town.