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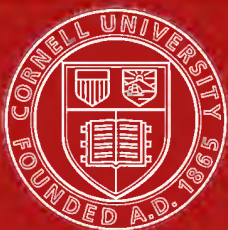


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Col. George E. Randolph at 40.

THE HISTORY  
OF  
BATTERY E,  
First Regiment Rhode Island  
Light Artillery,

IN THE WAR OF 1861 AND 1865,  
TO PRESERVE THE UNION.

BY  
GEORGE LEWIS.

---

ILLUSTRATED WITH PORTRAITS AND MAP.

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To the Living

OFFICERS AND MEN

OF

BATTERY E,

AND TO THE TENDER MEMORY

OF THE

Brave and Loyal Dead

THE AUTHOR DEDICATES THIS BOOK.







The Author at 60.

## AUTHOR'S PREFACE.

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**A**T a reunion of the FIRST REGIMENT RHODE ISLAND LIGHT ARTILLERY VETERAN ASSOCIATION held at Rocky Point August 9, 1888, a historian was appointed from each battery to prepare material for a history of the regiment. It becoming evident that the plan of a regimental history would prove a failure, the author of this volume was requested by his comrades to write the history of Battery E. When the work was nearly completed a petition was presented to the legislature for an appropriation to publish the work. Before this was acted upon by the General Assembly the executive committee of the regiment appointed a special committee to ask the legislature to so amend the petition of Battery E as to include the other batteries of the regiment. A resolution to that effect was passed March 20, 1891, which authorized the purchase of two hundred copies of each battery history by the state at two dollars and fifty cents (\$2.50) per copy whenever approved by the Secretary of State.

The author of this volume makes no claim to possess special qualifications for the work assigned him. Being engaged in daily labor in the employ of a business firm he had only his spare hours to devote to his task. This necessarily delayed the progress of the work. Every precaution has been taken to assure the trustworthiness of the history. Yet some errors must be expected in this as in all histories covering the details of so many important events. Doubtless a few dates in the roster will be found incorrect as the records from which they were taken have not always agreed.

The work has been prepared with a view of meeting the wants of those not in possession of a large number of war histories.

The writer has endeavored not to bring the honorable part borne by Battery E in the Army of the Potomac so much to the front as to make its claims appear egotistical. Neither is it claimed that the battery was superior to the other excellent Rhode Island batteries that served the state so honorably during the war. Many volumes of standard authors have been read, and no expense has been spared in order to substantiate every statement made. A large number of diaries kept by the men belonging to the battery have been kindly loaned to the writer. These daily records have invariably agreed upon every important event. Besides these and other sources of information the *Official Rebellion Records* have been consulted so far as they have been published. As a rule in all cases of variance preference has been given to the *Official Records*.

After three years of labor performed as stated above the author presents this volume to the surviving members of the battery and to the friends of its fallen heroes.

I desire to express my obligations to Adjutant-General Dyer and his assistants and to Colonel Randolph, Major Rhodes, Captain Bucklyn, Lieutenants Jastram and Humphrey, Dr. Hill, Sergeants Remington, Millen, Slocum and Hargraves, Corporal Butts and Comrade William H. Phinney, for valuable aid and material. I am also indebted to Mrs. Mary H. Clarke, sister of Lieutenant Gardiner, also to Mrs. James A. Tanner, Charles H. Williams, son of First Sergeant Williams, and to the widow and son of Comrade George F. Lord for the loan of diaries left in their possession. To many others whose names are not given my obligations are due.

I am especially indebted to Rev. Augustus Woodbury, Lieutenants Jastram and Humphrey, Colonel Bliss and M. S. Lewis for assistance in revising the work.

GEORGE LEWIS.

JANUARY 1, 1892.

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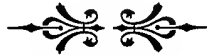
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# HISTORY OF BATTERY E.

## CHAPTER I.

September—October, 1861.

### ORGANIZATION AND DEPARTURE.

THE great struggle between the admirers of the barbarous system of American slavery and the believers in a higher civilization commenced at Charleston, S. C., when the secessionists opened fire from Sullivan's Island upon the feeble but brave garrison at Fort Sumter, April 12, 1861.

Three days later President Lincoln issued his first proclamation for seventy-five thousand three months troops. On the following day, Governor Sprague, of Rhode Island, responded to the call by offering, in addition to her quota of one regiment of infantry, one battery of light artillery, which was promptly accepted by the War Department.

Such was the energy displayed by Governor Sprague and his assistants that the Marine Artillery, of Providence, was organized in three days for three months' active service, and on the 18th the battery, under command of Capt. Charles H. Tompkins, embarked on board the *Empire State* for Jersey City. Thence it proceeded, by way of Elizabeth, to Easton, Pa., for a week or two of drill. It arrived at Washington on the 2d of May, and, on the 7th, it was mustered into the service of the United States. Lieut.-Gov.-elect Samuel G. Arnold accompanied Captain Tompkins. The battery was followed on the 20th by the first detachment of the First Regiment, under Col. Ambrose E. Burnside, and four days after by the second detachment, under Lieut.-Col. Joseph S. Pitman. The regiment and battery were temporarily quartered at the Patent Office. In the meantime, Camp Sprague was being built for the headquarters of the Rhode Island troops, and on the 18th of May the battery moved into this new camp.

The President, on the 3d of May, issued another call for additional troops. This call was for 42,034 volunteers to serve for three years, unless sooner discharged; 22,714 regulars, to serve for five years; and 18,000 seamen.

In anticipation that a call for another regiment from Rhode Island would soon be made, recruiting had been going on ever since the First Regiment left for the front. On the 7th, Governor Sprague authorized the organization of another battery, to be known as Battery A. Their camp was located on Dexter Training Ground, in Providence, and bore the honored name of Camp Burnside.

The regiment being rapidly completed, was mustered into the United States service June 6th, and on the 19th took passage on the *State of Maine*, at Fox Point, for Washington, where it arrived on the 22d, encamping in Gales's Woods, near Camp Sprague. Battery A was recruited at the same time and place as the Second Regiment, and accompanied it on the *Kill von Kull*. It went into camp, after arriving in Washington, at Camp Sprague, and was assigned to General McDowell's command.

Aug. 1, 1861, the Secretary of War authorized Governor Sprague to equip a battalion of artillery, to consist of three batteries, one of which, Battery A, was then in the field, and Capt. Charles H. Tompkins was promoted to major to command the battalion.

Battery B was rapidly recruited under Col. William H. Parkhurst, who was appointed its captain, but he declining the appointment, First Lieut. Thomas F. Vaughan, of Battery A, was given the command. The battery left Providence for the seat of war on the 13th of August.

Governor Sprague issued an order on the 12th of August, for the organization of the Third Regiment Rhode Island Heavy Artillery. Its camp was on the Spring Green Farm, on the Old Warwick road, in Warwick, and was called Camp Ames. The regiment was recruited and drilled here until September 7th, when it left for Providence, sailing from there on the *Commodore* for Long Island, N. Y. From that place it was sent, in October, to Fortress Monroe, and encamped near Hampton, Va., where it remained until the 23d, when it embarked with the expedition under General Sherman and Admiral Dupont, for Port Royal, S. C.

The recruiting for Battery C followed rapidly, and on August 25th was mustered into service, under command of Capt. William B. Weeden, who had been promoted from second lieutenant of Battery A. The battery left for Washington on the 31st, and during the month of September its headquarters were at Camp Sprague. Early in October it crossed the Potomac River, encamping near Fort Lyon, Va., at Camp Randolph, so called in honor of Lieut. George E. Randolph, who a few days after assumed command of Battery E.

While Battery C was being recruited, Governor Sprague asked permission of the War Department to add two more batteries to the battalion, which request was granted, and in less than one week after Battery C left for the seat of war, Battery D was mustered into service under the command of Capt. J. Albert Monroe, who had been promoted from first lieutenant from Battery A. It reached Washington on September 15th, remaining in Camp Sprague, perfecting its drill, until October 8th, on which date it crossed Long Bridge into Virginia and became a part of the division under the command of Gen. Fitz John Porter. It remained in camp at Upton's Hill until March, 1862.

Two days before Battery D reached Washington the War Department granted Governor Sprague the privilege of increasing the number of Rhode Island batteries to eight, the whole to be known as the First Regiment Rhode Island Light Artillery.

Before proceeding further with the artillery companies, I will refer briefly to the Fourth Rhode Island Infantry, whose first squad of recruits was sent into camp Sept. 5, 1861. It was organized under the command of Col. Justus I. McCarty, of the regular army, who was soon after superseded by Col. Isaac P. Rodman, and by the last of the month was reported full. No regiment that preceded it had been better drilled, and the expectations of its friends were never disappointed.

The next in order of the Rhode Island troops was Battery E. The battery was recruited at the armory of the Marine Corps of Artillery, on Benefit Street, Providence.

The camp selected for the headquarters of the battery during its enlistment was the same as that occupied by the Fourth Regiment, Camp Greene, named in honor of Gen.

Nathanael Greene, of Revolutionary fame. The camp was situated about eight miles from Providence, a short distance from what is now known as Hill's Grove, the Stonington railroad running just east of the camp. It was a level piece of land and well suited for the object for which it was used. It was a healthy and pleasant locality, well situated for the transportation of troops, and easy of access for the friends of the soldiers, whose daily visits were a great pleasure to those who were about to leave home, perhaps never to return.

The first squad was sent to camp September 5th, and consisted of four persons, namely: Francis B. Butts, Charles A. Brown, Silas A. Brown, and Charles E. White. For several days, according to the statement of Francis B. Butts, they had no duties to perform except to prepare for the reception of additional recruits. They made themselves comfortable, and sought amusement in any way they pleased.

In a few days additional recruits were forwarded from Providence, also guns, horses, and equipments, for the purpose of drilling the men. Capt. Henry B. Brastow was in command of the artillery part of the camp.

Soon after the camp was instituted, William A. Arnold, who had asked for a commission in the artillery, was ordered to report to Captain Brastow. Other men, who had expected to receive commissions, were occasionally present, among them being Walter O. Bartlett and John A. Perry.

The battery was rapidly being filled and daily drilled in field and foot movements. William Millen, Amasa A. Darling, Joseph S. Milne, Jacob H. Lamb, and others, who were expecting warrants as non-commissioned officers, assisted in drilling the recruits in the various artillery movements.

After the battery was nearly full, Lieut. William A. Arnold was put in command of the men, and Captain Brastow commenced the formation of another battery. John K. Bucklyn was appointed acting quartermaster-sergeant by Lieutenant Arnold, which appointment was afterwards confirmed.

On Tuesday, September 24th, Lieutenant Arnold received orders to move the battery near the city. The place selected was on the west side of Mashapaug Pond, near its northern termination, and was christened Camp Perry, in honor of Rev. John A. Perry, who was active in recruiting men for the



battery and who was soon after commissioned as one of its first lieutenants.

The daily drills were continued as before, and the battery had now nearly completed its organization. It was at this camp that the writer dates the birth of his military experience. The rations which were supplied to the men consisted principally of potatoes, corn beef, bread and coffee, and they were not always prepared with that regard to personal taste that many would desire. It was, doubtless, one of the first home sacrifices that they realized. The regard for cleanliness in its preparation, which we had seen at home, was too plainly omitted to suit us.

As the time approached for the departure, permission to pay the last visits to their homes and friends was often asked by the men, which was seldom refused. Many of those who had families near by went home every night and returned to camp the next morning. The dear mother, and loving wife accompanied by her little ones, were daily seen in camp, expecting every visit to be the last, and possibly the final "good bye" to a dear husband or son would be spoken. Only those who have experienced the soldier's parting "good bye" can realize the emotions of such a separation, and the members of Battery E were not long to remain without the experience, for September 30th, the day set for their being mustered into the United States service for three years, if not sooner discharged, had arrived.

Previous to being sworn in, the men drew their uniforms from the quartermaster, and many of them realized that but little regard had been given to the size or form of its occupant, and no doubt many were not well pleased with their appearance. But there was no remedy, and they bore the dissatisfaction with as much grace as possible.

On September 30th Col. Justus I. McCarty reported at the camp to muster in the battery. The men were formed into line, and the oath of fidelity to our superior officers and the demands of the service, was administered. After the regular muster, orders to leave for the seat of war were hourly expected.

The fifteen dollars bounty promised by the State was paid us on the 4th of October, and not a few turned the small pittance over to their families, who doubtless were in need of

it, and, although we had disposed of it well, we soon learned that it would have been of great service to ourselves.

In anticipation of future needs we began to supply ourselves with every conceivable article thought to be necessary during our service; our knapsacks, of course, were not neglected, and their contents, if all were placed together, would have made quite an inventory for starting a small junk shop. To the supplies received from the quartermaster were added several pairs of socks, handkerchiefs by the half-dozen, needles, scissors, thread, buttons, bottle of ink, pens, envelopes, portfolio, filled with paper, brushes and shaving material. Some had Bibles from anxious friends, others carried a small photograph album filled with *visites* of dear and loving friends, and those who were smokers did not forget pipes, tobacco, etc.

Add to these the necessary haversack filled with rations, supplemented with cakes, pies and cookies, obtained from home; knife and fork, tin plate and cup, water filter and other supposed needed supplies for our new life, and the canteen filled to suit the owner. Doubtless many thought that other articles should have been taken. What a contrast when compared with our stock on hand ten months later, when we were minus knapsack and contents, with nothing left but the suit of clothes on our back.

Saturday, October 5th, came and with it the order to pack up and start for the seat of war. The "assembly" was sounded for the last time at Camp Perry, and, mounted upon our limber chests, we started, with the exception of the camp guard and a few others, on our journey.

When we reached the city we were joined by the Fourth Regiment, who had previously arrived from Camp Greene, and with them marched through High, Westminster and South Main streets to Fox Point, where we embarked, the Fourth Regiment on the *Commodore*, and the battery on the *Kill von Kull*.\* At the wharf the battery was joined by the guard, who had left the camp shortly after the battery. During the march through the city the men were loudly cheered by their friends and citizens, and by them many a hearty wish was given for their safe return to friends and home. At five o'clock P. M. the lines were cast off, the boat swung slowly away from the wharf, and, amid the thundering

\* The *Kill von Kull* was totally destroyed by fire at Elizabethport, N. J., on the night of March 3, 1889. It then belonged to the New Jersey Central Railroad.

of cannon, mingled with the cheers and tears of our friends and relatives, we took our departure.

That night will never be forgotten, at least by sons who had left behind them aged parents, or by fathers who left wife and children, who were dependent upon them for support and protection.

We passed the night as best we could under the gloom of separation from home, and the morning found us well on our way to New York.

On our way up the sound, we were delayed by a hot shaft, and consequently did not reach New York until about noon, but we did not stop, going directly to Elizabethport, N. J., arriving there about the middle of Sunday afternoon.

Boarding the cars on the Central Railroad, we slowly crossed the State of New Jersey, followed by the Fourth Regiment, and reached the Delaware River about sunset. Continuing our journey on the East Pennsylvania Railroad, we passed Allenton, thence to Reading on the Schuylkill River, reaching Harrisburg, Pa., at sunrise on Monday, the 7th instant. We could see but little of the enterprising country through which we passed, except when the lightning revealed a glimpse of its grandeur.

Taking the Susquehanna and Baltimore Railroad we followed the banks of the Susquehanna River for fifteen or twenty miles, then branching off we passed the town of York, and reached Baltimore about ten o'clock that night.

Previous to reaching the city we were advised to put out our lights in the cars, and if any demonstrations of disloyalty were shown by the Baltimoreans in our passing through the city, to pay no attention to them, but to keep quiet and allow no insults to disturb us. No occasion to swallow our wrath occurred, for during our march in company with the Fourth Regiment, headed by their band with the venerable Joe Greene as leader, we were cheered on our way by as much apparent loyalty as we had received at any point on our way since leaving Providence. When we reached the Baltimore and Washington depot, we were again charged to be cautious and not buy any food from the venders at the depot. No doubt some of us saved what little change we had by listening to the advice of our officers, but the greater part of the men concluded to practice their courage and attacked the much feared weapon of assassination.

The assault was vigorous and persistent, with no loss to us except a portion of pocket ammunition; but it was uncalled for, as plenty of coffee and sandwiches were provided for us at the depot by the loyal citizens of that city.

Remaining at the depot all night till five o'clock A. M. on the 8th instant, we were then allowed to load ourselves into coaches and cattle cars, the latter being provided with temporary seats, and, after a long delay, we slowly moved on towards Washington, which place, although but forty miles distant, was not reached until three o'clock in the afternoon..

Immediately after leaving our coaches and cattle stalls, we were formed into line and marched to the well-known "Soldier's Rest," where we were not long in introducing ourselves to soap and water, the first acquaintance with those articles since leaving Rhode Island, seventy-two hours before.

After cleansing ourselves from the coal dust of a three days' journey, we hastened to the tables well loaded with cold ham, bread, cheese and hot coffee, and, although they were not of the best quality, we did not fail to satisfy, for a few hours at least, a demanding appetite; neither did we forget that our haversacks were not too well filled. Certainly we did not suffer for rations the next day.

Our first glimpse of Washington was a great surprise, as we expected to see a city worthy of the great nation of which it was the capital. The condition of Washington was forcibly expressed in a sarcastic manner by one of our comrades, George W. H. Allen, in a paper written by him years after, from which I will quote:

"Great Scott! Mud and hogs seemed to be the principal products, and it looked as though it would be a public benefit for some one to carry it away, instead of sacrificing lives and money to save it."

We expected to see more large buildings and mansions built upon wide and cleanly kept streets, more to the credit of this enterprising nation; but, instead, we found the city full of filth and mud, and the streets stocked with hogs, goats, ducks, and geese, giving it the appearance of a country farm-yard.

After our repast and disappointment with the view of the city, we were again ordered into line, and marched to Camp Sprague, the headquarters of the Rhode Island troops.

## CHAPTER II.

October, 1861.

## CAMP SPRAGUE.

WE found Camp Sprague to be partly located in a beautiful grove nearly a mile north of the city and about two from the capitol, with ample space adjoining it for parade ground. The encampment was planned by Lieut. Henry A. De Witt, of the Engineers, the huts being built under the superintendence of Maj. William Goddard and Lieut. William R. Walker, all of the First Rhode Island Infantry, by which troops it was first occupied.

The barracks for the men were built of boards in regular order, each company in line, and facing a street, at the head of which was a hut, with a quaint little porch, overlooking the camp, being the quarters of the company officers. In the grove, sheltered from the scorching summer sun, were erected rough cottages for the field and staff officers and a headquarters. These were the quarters of the First Rhode Island Regiment. At the south and closely adjacent to the above camp, was where the Second Rhode Island Infantry first went into camp. This part was called Camp Clark, so named after Bishop Clark, of Rhode Island.

At the west, and in front of the whole, was a large level space used for company and regimental drills. Battery E occupied a row of barracks at the south of the camp, which previously had been the shelter of the First Battery.

This camp was of the greatest interest to the members of Battery E, on account of the many anecdotes related of it by the members of the First Regiment, who returned home July 28th, having served out their term of enlistment.\*

\* The above description of Camp Sprague is largely copied, by permission, from a paper read Jan. 2, 1885, by Corp. Francis B. Butts, before the Soldiers' and Sailors' Historical Society, of Rhode Island.

When the battery arrived at the camp it was occupied by Battery D, but their stay was only until the twelfth of the month. During that time Battery E was what would be termed in civil life temporary boarders, but after Battery D left they became proprietors of the vacated barracks.

During the passage from Rhode Island to Washington, the battery was under the temporary command of First Lieut. Walter O. Bartlett, the acting non-commissioned officers having been previously designated before leaving Providence, by Lieutenants Bartlett and Arnold. The commissioned officers held commissions dated Sept. 28, 1861, and all the lieutenants were commissioned as first lieutenants on the same date, as the following order will show :

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, }  
PROVIDENCE, Sept. 28, 1861. }

*General Order No. 67.*

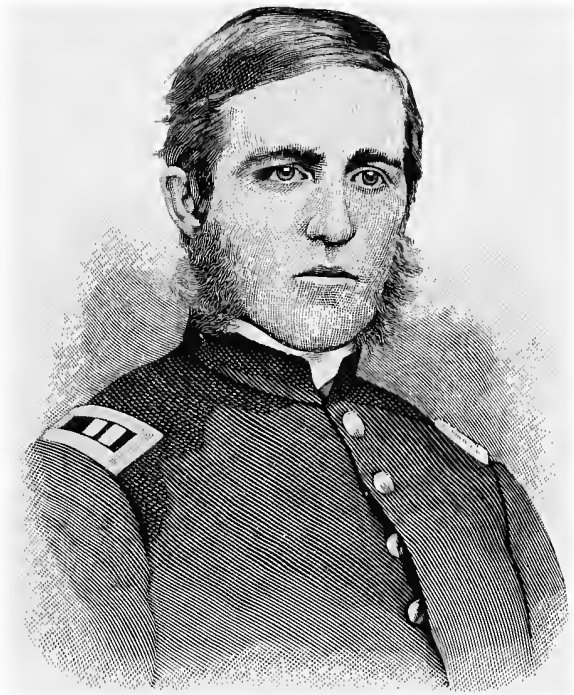
George E. Randolph having been appointed captain, Walter O. Bartlett, John A. Perry, William A. Arnold and George C. DeKay, first lieutenants in Battery E, 1st Regiment R. I. Lt. Artillery, will report at once to Lieutenant-Colonel Reynolds for orders.

By order of the Commander-in-Chief. :

EDWARD C. MAURAN,

*Adjutant-General.*

Captain Randolph, who had been promoted from first lieutenant of Battery C, arrived in camp October 10th, and assumed command on the 11th. At the hour for drill, the company was formed in line and our new captain was introduced by Lieutenant Bartlett, in a few appropriate and well chosen words. During the time when the words of introduction were being spoken, every eye and ear waited with anxious hope or fear, to learn from the responding words of our youthful captain, something of what our future as a battery would probably be. We had but a moment to wait, when Captain Randolph, raising his hat, spoke in a very modest way, such words as were appropriate for the occasion, and in conclusion made the remark : " I am proud to command such a body of men, and hope that you will always be proud of



Capt. Geo. E. Randolph.





me." How well his hopes were realized, no member of Battery E who served under him, need be told, for there is not a man whose love and respect are desirable, but will say that not a word spoken, nor an act done by him during his command, failed to meet the approval of the officers and men under his charge.

At the time of taking command, Captain Randolph was only twenty-one years of age, and having had but four months' experience as first sergeant and second lieutenant in Battery A, and two weeks as first lieutenant in Battery C, he had reason to be proud of his success. The admiration of the men for him as a commander was no more than their love for him as a man, for he possessed all the qualities required to make a noble man and a good citizen.

The day after our arrival at Camp Sprague (October 9th) the battery was divided into seven detachments, the seventh being made up of artificers and spare men. A gun detachment is composed of two corporals and seven privates, commanded by the gunner. "When the cannoneers and drivers attached to a piece are assembled in rank and file formation, they constitute a platoon, which is commanded by a sergeant." Including the drivers and extra cannoneers there were usually about twenty men attached to each gun, which, for general purposes, was also called a detachment.

Before the men were selected to form the several detachments, the sergeants had an understanding between themselves as to the composition in part, at least, of their respective commands. The method of selecting the members was similar to that used at country spelling schools, the first sergeant choosing the first, the second sergeant the next, and so on, until the detachments were completed; the result being that the sixth detachment was composed entirely of men who had enlisted from the town of Scituate.

The roster of the battery, after being completed, was as follows:

*Captain*—GEORGE E. RANDOLPH.

*First Lieutenants*—WALTER O. BARTLETT, right section.

JOHN A. PERRY, centre section.

WILLIAM A. ARNOLD, left section.

PARDON S. JASTRAM, chief of caissons.

*First Sergeant*—WILLIAM E BOWEN.

*Quartermaster-Sergeant*—JOHN K. BUCKLYN.

George C. DeKay declined the commission as first lieutenant, and Pardon S. Jastram was commissioned October 16th, to fill the vacancy.

The descriptive lists of the first and second detachments are missing, but the names given are copied from First Sergt. William E. Bowen's detachment book. The sergeants were mustered as such Sept. 30, 1861. Corporals Butts, Brown, Trescott, Tanner, Mathewson, Gardiner, and C. P. Williams, were mustered as corporals on the same date. Corporals Darling, Hargraves, Lord, Burlingham, and Hale, were not promoted until November 1st, but all were acting as such except Hale from October 11th.

### *First Detachment.*

*Sergeant*—JACOB H. LAMB.

*Corporals*—FRANCIS B. BUTTS, SETH B. DARLING.

### *Privates.*

SILAS A. BROWN,  
MARTIN BROWN,  
JOHN CARR,  
RICHARD CONLEY,  
JOHN CROTHERS,  
ADELBERT A. FAIRBANKS,  
JOHN HOLLY,  
WILLIAM J. KELLERS,

JAMES MULLIGAN,  
RICHARD POYNTON,  
RICHARD RUSSELL,  
ADOLPHUS STRAUSMAN,  
ROBERT SUTCLIFFE,  
THOMAS WATERHOUSE,  
CHARLES E. WHITE.

*Second Detachment.**Sergeant*—JAMES F. ALLEN.*Corporals*—ALBERT H. TRECOTT, GEORGE F. LORD.*Privates.*

HERBERT F. BENNETT,	EMORY W. MARBLE,
WILLIAM S. BLAIR,	RICHARD ROSE,
WILLIAM H. CARTWRIGHT,	WILLIAM SMITH,
JERAHMEEL DEXTER,	PALMER B. TAYLOR,
GAMALIEL B. GOFF,	WILLIAM TORPY,
WILLIAM E. HOOPER,	CHARLES S. WINSLOW.
THOMAS LEVER,	HENRY BINNS.

*Third Detachment.**Sergeant*—AMASA A. DARLING.*Corporals*—JAMES A. TANNER, HALLITON P. HALE.*Privates.*

SYLVESTER CANAVAN,	CHARLES A. MULICK,
GEORGE W. COVILLE,	THOMAS NOLAN,
WILLIAM CROTHERS,	THOMAS H. POTTER,
JOSEPH F. DEVENS,	JOHN RILEY,
GEORGE HUMPHREY,	WILLIAM H. STEERE,
MICHAEL C. HUGHES,	EDSON WALCOTT,
JOHN MARTIN,	HENRY WILLIAMS,
MICHAEL MCKENNA,	ALBERT B. WILSON.

*Fourth Detachment.**Sergeant*—WILLIAM MILLEN.*Corporals*—CHARLES A. BROWN, ARTHUR W. HARGRAVES.*Privates.*

THOMAS T. BEARD,	JOHN MCALEES,
ALMY M. BROWNELL,	JOHN J. MULHALL,
JAMES DONNELLY,	ISRAEL RILEY,
BARTHOLOMEW FITZGERALD,	JOHN RYAN.

*Privates.*

JOSEPH HARROP,	ERNEST SIMPSON,
JOHN W. HOLLAHAN,	LOWRY STRAIT,
ALBA HOPKINS,	JAMES H. WALSH.
THOMAS KEENAN,	

*Fifth Detachment.**Sergeant*—JOSEPH S. MILNE.*Corporals*—JOHN B. MATHEWSON, GEORGE H. BURLINGHAM.*Privates.*

WILLIAM H. BAILEY,	NELSON LOVELL,
EDWARD A. CHANDLER,	DAVID H. MACOMBER,
PHILIP A. DEXTER,	ELIAS H. MATHEWSON,
GEORGE W. FISK,	GEORGE H. PIERCE,
LESTER S. HILL,	WILLIAM H. POLK,
HENRY S. HOLLOWAY,	BENJAMIN N. REMINGTON,
THOMAS JOSLIN,	JAMES STERLING.
GEORGE LEWIS,	

*Sixth Detachment.**Sergeant*—GEORGE E. WILLIAMS.*Corporals*—ALLEN GARDINER, CHARLES P. WILLIAMS.*Privates.*

GEORGE W. H. ALLEN,	ALBERT A. HOPKINS,
EDWARD AUSTIN,	ELISHA POTTER,
JOHN M. BATTEY,	JEREMIAH POTTER,
FREDERICK L. BURDEN,	ALFRED B. RAMSDELL,
JOHN COLVIN,	JOHN F. SIMMONS,
ALBERT N. COLWELL,	THOMAS W. SIMMONS,
LEMUEL A. GREENE,	SQUIRE B. TUCKER,
SAMUEL HANNEY, JR.,	GILBERT A. WEAVER.

*Seventh Detachment.**Artificers.*

DAVID H. COLVIN and OTIS	JOHN H. CARNEY, Carriage-
B. JENCKS, Blacksmiths,	maker,
ASA WILSON and NATHAN C.	JOSEPH D. HANEY, Farrier.
LAZELLE, Harness-makers,	

*Spare Men.*

JEREMIAH BENNETT,  
JOHN R. BRAYTON,  
CHARLES DURFEE,  
JOHN F. KEEGAN,  
GEORGE MAXFIELD,

JOHN MCKENNA, Bugler,  
WILLIAM H. MULICK,  
WILLIAM M. STRAIGHT,  
HENRY C. WIGHTMAN,  
afterwards Carriage-maker.

*Officers' Cooks.*

ISAAC COOK,

JOHN HILTON.

After the detachments had been fully organized, the men were drilled at the various foot movements belonging to the artillery service. We received our horses on Saturday, the 12th. The next day we changed our temporary quarters to those left the day before by Battery D, which had been ordered to cross the Potomac.

Our new quarters were an improvement on our former ones, the bunks being arranged in four tiers around the sides of the barracks, there being twenty-five in each. It was well that nature designed us to sleep with our eyes closed, for the dust falling from the bunks over our heads would have made it very annoying had it been otherwise.

October 14th the harnesses were fitted to our horses, and on the 17th we received four ten-pounder Parrott guns, and drew our dress jackets and hats. The latter were made of felt, somewhat after the Kossuth pattern, one side of the rim being rolled up and fastened to the side of the crown. While they were useful in protecting us from the sun, they were not convenient to carry on the march, and they were soon discarded.

The 18th of October opened with showers, but it was a day which gave us the pleasure of visiting the Second Rhode Island Regiment at Camp Brightwood, where a beautiful flag was presented them by the Rhode Island citizens of California. President Lincoln, Governor Sprague, and Bishop Clark, of Rhode Island, and other distinguished persons, were present, as was also the Fourth Rhode Island Infantry. The President and Bishop Clark made eloquent addresses. The exercises were closed by the singing of the Doxology. We returned to our camp highly pleased with the ceremonies which we had witnessed.

On the 19th we sent to Washington and obtained two twelve-pounder howitzer guns, which completed the equipment of the battery. Maj. Alexander S. Webb, of the First Rhode Island Light Artillery, reviewed us on the 20th; and on the 27th we were again reviewed by Gen. William F. Barry, chief of artillery, assisted by Maj. A. S. Webb.

During the remainder of our stay at Camp Sprague our time was spent in field and manual drills and in perfecting ourselves for active duties.

Passes were given the men, as far as the duties of the service would permit, to visit Washington and other places of interest. The White House, Patent Office, Capitol, Post Office, War and Treasury Departments, Washington Monument, Willard's and National Hotels, and the Smithsonian Institute were among the places visited.

Our amusements in camp were in social pleasures, card playing, and occasionally singing of hymns and songs, the latter not being, perhaps, such as our civil deacons would sanction. However that may be, they were, doubtless, the only ones available.

During the stay at Camp Sprague the men were generally anxious to perfect themselves in all the duties belonging to the soldier's life, not forgetting the art of foraging. In reference to the latter an incident is remembered by the writer. Corp. J. B. Mathewson, of the fifth detachment, having introduced himself to a garden in the absence of the owner, and knowing that his comrades would also like some vegetables, he brought a supply to camp, and buried it under the floor of the barracks. After the morning inspection by the officers it was exhumed, cooked, and duly disposed of by the corporal and his companions.

## CHAPTER III.

October 29, 1861, to March 14, 1862.

## CAMP WEBB AND ARTILLERY CAMP.

AT eight o'clock A. M. on the 29th we hitched up and started for Dixie's land, passing through Washington, over Long Bridge, and through Alexandria, in the latter place passing the Marshall House, where the brave Col. Ephraim Elmer Ellsworth was shot dead by the proprietor for taking down a rebel flag that was floating over the roof. After passing through the uninviting city, we crossed Hunter's Creek, and proceeded about a mile, when we entered a field and encamped. It was in this camp that our first experience with Virginia mud began. We remained here in "Camp Mud," as we called it, four days, waiting until a better place could be selected for a permanent camp. The first night we had no tents pitched, and had to sleep, or, rather, tried to sleep, under tarpaulins spread over the guns; but the next day (30th), we pitched our tents, arranged the grounds around them, and made ourselves as comfortable as possible. On the 31st we were formally mustered into General Heintzelman's division, Governor Sprague being present at the ceremonies.

Our first drill in Virginia was on November 1st, on which day our first accident also occurred, Corp. John B. Mathewson being run over by the piece during the drill. He was, however, but slightly hurt.

November 2d. Raining in torrents. The first blood by our battery was shed to-day. A Confederate pig came around to investigate, but he never returned to make his report. Of course nobody had killed it when the owner, a Mr. Fairfax, made a demand for its value, but it never was seen again as a pig, and the men had fresh pork for rations that night. Lieutenant Arnold, who was officer of the day, gave the battery

a modest lecture for their premature raid. He said that the demand of the owner must be complied with, and to make his word good, the officers very generously paid their share, as, doubtless, they should. The day following (3d) was Sunday, which, as a general rule, gives no rest to a soldier. This was specially true with us, for we were ordered to move our camp a short distance upon higher ground. The new camp was called "Camp Webb," after Major Webb, of the First Regiment Rhode Island Light Artillery, and we were all highly pleased with the change of location.

Another accident occurred to-day, Charles S. Winslow being kicked in the head by a horse and his forehead quite badly cut by the horse's shoe. The battery was honored to-day by a visit from Jabez C. Knight, Mayor of Providence, who was bounty paymaster, with the rank of colonel, for Rhode Island troops. Nothing of special interest occurred during the following week, but the field and manual drills were continued daily. Our camp was completed and made quite pleasant, the officers having floors laid in their tents, but as our stay was not expected to be of long duration, no extra arrangements were attempted. The few days of comparative quiet gave the men an opportunity to visit such other Rhode Island troops as were encamped within visiting distance. Friends at home were not forgotten, as they were all, of course, anxious to learn of our movements, and some of our more lucky comrades received boxes of provisions from home, which were duly appreciated by the receiver and his special friends.

On the 9th quite a large detail of men were sent about three miles, with baggage wagons, after some unhusked corn on a farm belonging to a rebel named Johnston, said to be a brother of Gen. Joseph E. Johnston. The corn had to be husked before returning, but before the task was accomplished it began to rain, and the men had to go back to camp in the storm, getting thoroughly wet through.

Our first Sunday morning review since leaving Camp Sprague, took place on November 10th, the reviewing officer being Capt. James Thompson, of Battery G, Second United States Artillery. Our first Sunday sermon was also preached by Lieutenant Perry.

Previous to this, on October 15th, the Army of the Poto-



mac was organized into divisions and independent commands as follows :

First division, Brig.-Gen. George Stoneman's cavalry command.

Second division, Col. Henry J. Hunt's artillery reserve.

Third division, Brig.-Gen. Andrew Porter's City Guards.

The other divisions of the army were commanded respectively by Generals Banks, McDowell, Heintzelman, Fitz J. Porter, Franklin, Stone, Buell, McCall, Hooker, Blenker, and Smith. Brigadier-General Montgomery commanded the forts about Washington, and Gen. John A. Dix a division at Baltimore. Battery E was assigned to Gen. Samuel P. Heintzelman's division, which was composed of the following commands :

First New Jersey Cavalry, Colonel Halstead ; Battery G, Second United States Artillery, Capt. James Thompson. General Richardson's brigade : Second, Third and Fifth Michigan, and Thirty-seventh New York Volunteers. General Sedgwick's brigade : Third and Fourth Maine and Thirty-eighth and Fortieth New York Volunteers. General Jameson's brigade : Thirty-second, Sixty-third, Sixty-first and Forty-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers, and Wild Cat Reserves (Pennsylvania Volunteers).

On November 11th, Captain Thompson of the regulars, who commanded the division artillery, drilled Battery E, and gave us some regular army styles, but owing to his imperious manner his efforts were not appreciated. The battery was paid to-day for October, partly in silver, the first and last in specie during the war.

On the 12th a new experience was in store for us. About three A. M. "boots and saddles" aroused us from our quiet slumbers. Notwithstanding the unexpected call, any kind of movement was welcome, even if for nothing more than a change. After a hastily prepared breakfast of hard tack and coffee, with one day's rations in our haversacks, we left camp, not knowing where we were going nor for what purpose the move was made. Before starting our captain addressed a few words to the battery, in which he expressed a hope that, should it be necessary to go into action, every man would manifest the quality of a brave and loyal soldier.

Our course was in a southwest direction, and it was not until daylight that we were aware that Richardson's and Jameson's infantry were with us. Companies G and E of the Lincoln Cavalry also joined us. We marched towards the Pohick church in company with Richardson's brigade until within about three miles of the church, when we were detached with the Thirty-seventh New York and the Third Michigan regiments under the command of Colonel Hayman of the Thirty-seventh, and ordered to take the road branching to the left, which led us to Accotink Village. We then took the right hand road, which brought us to Pohick church, arriving there about eleven A. M., where we found the rest of the brigade waiting for us. As soon as we arrived, Colonel Hayman, with his regiment and a company of cavalry, made a reconnoissance to Colchester, about five miles farther on. Colonel Terry, with his Fifth Michigan, four pieces of Thompson's battery and one company of cavalry, went as far as Occoquan Village, a distance of about six miles from Pohick church on the Occoquan River. No enemy was found by Colonel Hayman, but Colonel Terry found a small force of cavalry and infantry, who quickly retired. Our troops were then ordered back to camp. While on our return Captain Thompson filed out into an open field and fired a few blank cartridges, remarking to Captain Randolph, by way of explanation, that "if he could not be seen by the rebels they should hear him." The reason for this movement was owing to General Heintzelman having sent out the day before two small parties of cavalry to reconnoitre. On their return they reported that the rebels with four hundred cavalry and two regiments of infantry were encamped near Pohick church. Having learned this fact he telegraphed to headquarters for authority to disperse them, which was granted. The Union loss was slight. Capt. Henry B. Todd, one sergeant and four privates, all of the First New York Cavalry, were taken prisoners, and two wounded. One of the wounded died soon after. The officers and men were somewhat disappointed in not meeting the enemy, as they desired to test their quality as soldiers.

The next day the men were somewhat tired after their long march, nevertheless a large detail was sent about three miles with teams after corn, which had to be husked before

loading. It was something new to the city boys to become farmers, but the change from the monotony of camp life was quite agreeable. For several days following we had only our regular drills and camp duties to perform, of which oiling and washing harnesses and carriages was a part.

Passes to Alexandria and to Rhode Island regiments near by were given daily to a few, generally to those who had been on guard the day before. Our Reverend Lieutenant Perry preached to us another sermon on the 17th. A temporary choir was improvised for the occasion, consisting of corporals Williams and Gardner, privates Hill and Lewis, and others whose names are not remembered. Doubtless it added slightly to the interest of the service, although the interest in Sunday sermons was not so general as many would have desired.

On the 18th Corporal Hale was reduced to the ranks for drunkenness and pugilistic conduct. He was not a Rhode Islander, but joined the battery soon after our arrival in Washington. He was a man of some capacity, but had an unusual amount of self-conceit, and, when intoxicated, he had, in his own estimation, but few superiors. Private George W. H. Allen was promoted to fill the vacancy.

We were daily receiving luxuries from home, and happy the man who was the special friend of the receiver. The rest of us felt very much as the smaller canines do when the larger mastiff stands guard over his rations.

November 20th we witnessed one of the most imposing military reviews that had ever taken place within the history of the nation. It occurred near Bailey's Cross Roads, which is about eight miles from Washington, at the junction of the Columbia, Alexandria and Leesburg turnpike. About one and half miles beyond the cross road a plain nearly two miles in length had been prepared by filling up the ditches and removing the fences for this display. The review was under the immediate charge of General McDowell.\*

The day before the review, an order was issued to all the regiments to carry forty rounds of cartridges, and to have one ambulance and all the surgical implements necessary for a campaign. This order naturally caused much speculation as to the object of this movement. It was afterwards learned

\* See *Rhode Island in the Rebellion*, by Stone, page 3.

that it was only a precautionary measure against a possible attack by the enemy.

About 6.30 A. M. we left camp accompanied by all the army of the Potomac (except a strong guard left in charge of each camp) and moved forward toward the reviewing ground, which was reached about ten o'clock. Several divisions had arrived before us and were followed by continuous columns until after eleven o'clock, at which time there were present seventy-six regiments of infantry, seventeen batteries, and seven regiments of cavalry. President Lincoln arrived about eleven o'clock accompanied by his Cabinet, also by Mrs. McDowell and two daughters of General Taylor. They were soon joined by General McClellan and his staff. Besides the military officers present, there were from twenty to thirty thousand citizens of all grades, having come by every possible mode of conveyance. Quite conspicuous among those present, were the Prince de Joinville, Mrs. Lincoln and many of the families of the generals and high officials, besides many foreign ministers. There were three Rhode Island batteries present, C, D, and E, and fifty or more bands, the martial music of which was of the best order and added greatly to the enjoyment of the occasion.

Everything being in readiness a salute to the president and general-in-chief was fired by four batteries, of which Battery E was one, after which the column started and passed the reviewing stand in the following order, viz.: General McCall's division, composed of the brigades of Generals Meade, Reynolds, and Ord; General Heintzelman's division composed of Generals Sedgwick's, Jameson's and Richardson's brigades; General Smith's division composed of Generals Hancock's, Brooks' and Benham's brigades; General Franklin's division composed of Generals Slocum's, Newton's and Kearny's brigades; General Blenker's division composed of Generals Stahl's brigade and two brigades commanded by senior colonels; Gen. Fitz John Porter's division composed of the brigades of Generals Merrill, Martindale and Butterfield; General McDowell's division composed of the brigades Generals King and Wadsworth, and a brigade commanded by Colonel Frisbie.

The time in passing was about three hours. The troops were in the best of spirits and manifested much enthusiasm

while the general-in-chief and staff were passing in review. The review ended, the regiments and batteries marched back to their camps having passed one of the most enjoyable days since their enlistment.

The day following, the review it was rumored about camp that we were to move our camp and go into winter quarters, as all hope of any forward movement until spring, had vanished. It was hoped that the rumor would prove to be a fact. We had thus far, since leaving Camp Sprague had only A tents in which only four men could sleep, and the only place where one could stand erect was in the middle of the tent. As our well known and popular physician, Lester S. Hill, who was then only a young man of seventeen, expressed it, "at night when we turned over, one said 'flop' and all turned at once." To the civilian this may seem to be an exaggeration, but to the soldier it was a common experience.

November 22d the order to change camp came and a general house breaking followed. All of our traps were packed and we started eastward and went about one mile and halted at what was known afterwards as Artillery Camp. There were during the following winter three batteries in this camp, Battery E taking the north, Captain Beam's Battery B of New Jersey taking the east, and Capt. James Thompson's Battery G, regulars, taking the centre. The ground was partially covered with small trees and shrubs, which had to be cleared. The camp was on high ground sloping towards the east. A short distance in front of the camp was a small stream at which we watered our horses. On the west the camp was bordered by woodland which gradually disappeared, it being cut for camp uses. A ravine, starting near the north end of the camp and running at right angles to the river, formed a boundary to the grounds in front of the camp on the north. Several springs of water were located in the ravine from which we generally supplied ourselves with water for drinking and cooking purposes. Our horses were picketed for the first two weeks north of the camp, but during the first week in December our picket line was moved to the front of the camp. A short time after a roof was built of poles and covered with pine and cedar boughs, but soon after it was covered with boards. The north side of the stable was hedged with pine and cedar boughs also, which made an excellent

protection for our horses from the cold winds and stormy weather. Our officers were supplied with wall tents, situated in rear of and overlooking the camp. The first sergeant and quartermaster's tent being in line with the officers'.

For several days after changing camp we were kept busy in making our quarters comfortable. We had hoped for better tents than we had previously used but we were for a while disappointed; those who were disposed dug a trench from the inside of the tent to a short distance outside, and covered it over with stones and dirt and built a chimney at the outer end, leaving an opening at the inside end of the trench which was used as a fire-place.

Those of us who had lived in the country saw quite a similarity between our fire apparatus and that used for smoking hams, and, if we could have been supplied with that swinish article, we doubtless would have so employed it.

The guard system was changed after moving to this camp, from a battery to one of camp guard, detailed from the three batteries. This put us more under the command of Captain Thompson, of the regulars, who was not liked by the men of Battery E. His harsh manner and brazen profanity were very repulsive, even to his own officers. It was no uncommon thing to see him on drill so intoxicated that it was with some effort that he could sit upright upon his horse. We were frequently drilled by Captain Thompson in company with his and Captain Beam's battery. Of course this necessarily produced some effort to excel each other, and if good judges were correct, Battery E was found equal, if not superior, in drill and discipline, not excepting the regulars.

November 28th being Thanksgiving, Battery E and other Rhode Island troops were made happy by the practical kindness of friends at home. We received 150 pounds of turkey sent by the good people of Rhode Island. The next day we enjoyed a feast of roast turkey, minus the fixings.

December 1st. The guard commenced the system of grand rounds which we thought quite useless, at least for artillery.

December 6th. Our first practice at target shooting occurred to-day. A pile of rails ten feet wide was erected one mile distant to serve as a target. Lieutenant Perry bore off the honors for the best shot.

December 9th. We were again visited by Col. Jabez C. Knight, mayor of Providence, who expressed himself well pleased with our situation.

December 11th. We were aroused from our slumbers at five A. M. by the bugle sounding "Boots and Saddles," and were soon on our way towards the enemy in company with the Fortieth New York and the Third Michigan regiments of infantry. We went some five or six miles when orders were received to return to camp, where we arrived about eleven A. M. The movement was caused by a demonstration of the enemy on our picket line.

The next day we were ordered to go out on another target practice at the same place as before. We were accompanied by Mrs. Charlotte F. Dailey, wife of Albert Dailey, a well-known lumber dealer of Providence. She was escorted by a lieutenant of some regiment. Mrs. Dailey, who was colonel upon Governor Sprague's staff, and wore the eagles upon her shoulders, was appointed by the governor to visit the hospitals in and around Washington and Alexandria and to look after the welfare of sick Rhode Island soldiers. During her term of service she visited sixty-one hospitals, where her noble influence was highly appreciated and many a sick soldier had his lonesome hours made happier by her presence. The writer had the pleasure of making her acquaintance years after the war ended. A nobler and braver woman is seldom met.

During the following week there being no special work except the usual camp duties, the men were allowed to visit the Fourth Rhode Island Regiment and other places of interest. Alexandria being near by it was often visited for various purposes, usually to purchase rations such as could not be had in camp. The places of interest in Alexandria were few and of such a character as not to invite much interest. The Old Market, Museum, and Liberty Hall, are excepted. We all desired to visit Mount Vernon, the home of Washington, but the distance was so great, being nine miles below Alexandria, that but few could get permits to go. Among the few enlisted men who were lucky enough to get passes were Corporals Gardiner and Williams, Sergeants J. F. Allen and Milne, Privates Hill, Humphrey and Lewis, and a few others. The writer has often thought that it would have been no more

than justice if every regiment desiring to visit the home of the Father of his Country, should have been permitted to visit the place in rotation. No harm could have come from it, but much satisfaction and loyalty inspired by the pilgrimage. To see the tomb and sarcophagus which contained the mortal remains of Washington was a privilege eagerly sought. Many relics were to be seen about the house and yard, among them being an old sofa, chair, and table, and platter, all of which were used by Washington. A musical instrument, not used at the present day, was one of the attractive relics. An old knapsack, used by Washington, was of very great interest to the soldiers. An old iron mortar, which stood in the yard, was not to be overlooked. A drink from the well was not forgotten, although the water was not palatable. Most of the rooms used by Washington were kept empty and always open to visitors.

Fort Washington, on the opposite side of the Potomac River, is 600 rods distant. The river opposite the mansion is 385 rods wide. The Mount Vernon estate contains about thirteen hundred acres. In the entry there hung a chart, giving the names of the different parts and buildings on the estate. The old flour mill, which was the last place Washington visited previous to his death, was three miles distant. This, of course, we did not see. The various epitaphs on the monuments near the tomb were in themselves a history. After spending several hours we started for camp feeling deeply the sacred impressions derived from a visit to this Mecca of America.

December 18th. Many of the boys had a revival of their school days in a game of ball. These amusements had much to do in preventing us from being homesick, and were productive, also, of health and happiness.

December 19th. Another review. This time it was only Heintzelman's division. The review was about three miles from camp. Eleven regiments of infantry, three batteries and one regiment of cavalry were present. Generals Heintzelman, Richardson and Sedgwick were the reviewing officers.

December 24th. Each detachment commenced building their Sibley tents. Logs were drawn from the environments of Fort Lyon, which had been cut down to give the guns better range. The logs were then cut about eight feet long and



split in two parts, then set close together endways, in a ditch, which was dug three feet deep, in a circle about eighteen feet in diameter, and then the dirt was tamped securely around them. The cracks between the logs were plastered up with "Virginia" mud. On the top of these logs the tents were placed and securely fastened by guy ropes fastened to stakes driven into the ground. Seven bunks were arranged around the inside of the tents, the head being wider than the foot. A stove, somewhat like a cone, stood like a ring master in the centre of the tent, whose smoky antics were anything but agreeable. At the end of four days the tents were finished. Our quarters were now very comfortable, although the number in the tent interfered somewhat with the selection of congenial companions.

The general character of the men in Battery E was such that but very few were unwelcome as comrades. A guard-house during our stay here was uncalled for. Seldom was a comrade seen drunk, and all rules and regulations were, in the main, cheerfully obeyed.

December 29th. The writer was excused from duty on account of sickness, which resulted in a regular run of typhoid fever. Comrade Chandler was also sick, and for the next six weeks we were very useless members of the battery. The last day of 1861 the officers celebrated by having new quarters built for themselves. We were now fully equipped for a winter campaign of idleness.

January 2d, 1862. Twenty-one new horses were received in exchange for as many condemned as being unfit for service.

January 9th. The first furlough granted since entering the service was received by Lieut. J. A. Perry.

January 11th. The welcome paymaster arrived on his second official visit, he paying us for November and December. The battle now commenced between the appetite and the pocket, the former winning the honors. Those having families had to fight a different foe. The struggle with them was self or family, and generally the family was the winner.

On January 16th our first recruits arrived. Their names were James Maguire, David P. Riley, Alexander Merchant, Benjamin Nickerson, Thomas Rogers, Thomas Shaw, John Slaver, Charles Moore, Leonard Steamer, Martin Harvey,

and Moses L. Wigglesworth. John Jordan, who should have come with these, arrived a short time after.

January 20th. Governor Sprague called to-day and expressed himself well pleased with the condition of the battery.

January 22d. Corp. John B. Mathewson died of typhoid fever, having been sick only ten days. His body was sent to Alexandria from here. His friends conveyed it to Nayatt, R. I., where he belonged. He was a young man of eighteen years, over six feet tall, possessed of a robust constitution, full of life and ready for any emergency; a cordial and congenial companion, and the last man that we should have selected to die first. He belonged to the fifth detachment.

January 25th. The knapsacks which were given to us at the beginning of the service were condemned. A few days after the regular army knapsack was substituted. Those who first enlisted will remember the first knapsack, which had a patent canteen fastened to the under side of the knapsack, one end of it being connected with a rubber tube which passed under the left arm, with a filtering mouthpiece through which we drew the water from the canteen. A fireman would have called it a suction hose. In theory it was apparently a nice arrangement, but practically it was worthless.

January 26th. Second Corp. George H. Burlingham was promoted gunner, vice Mathewson, deceased. Second Corp. George W. H. Allen, of the third detachment, was transferred to the fifth, in the place of Burlingham. Private Ernest Simpson was promoted to second corporal and assigned to third detachment, vice Allen transferred.

January 31st. First. Lieut. Walter O. Bartlett having received a commission dated January 24th, as captain of Battery B, left us to assume his more responsible duties. His loss to the battery was deeply regretted, especially by the right section, which he commanded. Before taking his departure he was presented with a field glass by the members of the battery as a small token of the respect and esteem in which he was held by them. Lieut. John A. Perry having received a commission dated January 13th, as chaplain of the First Regiment Rhode Island Light Artillery, two vacancies were made in the battery. Lieut. Israel R. Sheldon having received a commission dated January 9th, was assigned to the



Capt. Walter O. Bartlett.



battery. He arrived the same day that Bartlett left. This made a complete change in the section commanders. Lieutenant Arnold, who had command of the centre section, was transferred to the right, Lieutenant Jastram taking the left, and Sheldon the centre section.

During the first three weeks in February nothing of special interest occurred, the regular camp and guard duties being the only service required. This left us plenty of time to amuse ourselves as we thought best.

From the middle of January to the 23d of February there had been only ten clear days, the remaining ones being cloudy and stormy, causing the ground to be unfit for field drill. A supply of boots was received from Rhode Island which we highly appreciated. The mud around our camp was so deep that it was no uncommon affair that in attempting to walk through it our boots would be left standing in the mud. Through this mud we had to go whenever we watered our horses, which greatly increased the labor of grooming.

The springs from which we obtained our supply of water for cooking were overflowed from the constant rain, making it necessary to go a long distance to obtain a supply of pure water. The close proximity of the stables to the spring was another source of trouble to the water. The effect of this could be tasted in our rations of coffee, but this was sometimes partially removed by adding a few drops of peppermint.

On the 20th an order from headquarters compelled all the men to be vaccinated; this caused some grumbling, but its demand was imperative. Several more target practices were had during the month. Our Sunday reviews were seldom neglected, which kept us from getting rusty.

On the 24th another alarm came in from our picket line at Lewis chapel, about a mile beyond Pohick church. Two regiments of infantry from Richardson's brigade and our battery were sent as their support should they need any. Our battery went only as far as Winsor's Hill. From its great height we could overlook the surrounding country for miles. In the distance we could see our infantry seeking to find the enemy, but none were found. In the meantime our guns were masked and trees were cut down to give us a clear range at the enemy should they come to receive the salute prepared

for them. After waiting an hour or two we were ordered to return to camp. When we had nearly reached there an order came for the left section to return, which was promptly obeyed. On reaching the hill, the alarm being over, the section was again ordered to camp. When we left camp in the morning the weather was warm and the roads quite muddy. As the day passed it grew cold and the wind increased almost to a gale, the ground becoming partially frozen and treacherous. The condition of the roads made it exceedingly tiresome to travel. Our ankles became sore by constantly breaking through the half frozen mud and stumbling into holes and ruts which were hidden by the darkness of the night. When we reached camp, which was not until midnight, the men and horses were nearly exhausted. During this march our captain, with his horse fell down an embankment some eight feet, but received no material injury. As he was a strict temperance man, we, of course, had to lay the blame upon the poor beast.

February 20th. Orders to be ready to move at a moment's notice. Our knapsacks were packed and ready to move, but the order was soon countermanded.

February 28th. Chaplain Perry arrived with the following recruits: Richard Alexander, Charles W. Robbins, James M. Durfee, Albert M. Bennett, James Fitzpatrick, William Mason, Sampson Burgess, S. W. Corp, J. M. Davidson, Luther L. Young, J. A. Hopkins, Geo. H. Burgess, C. Chapman, H. O. Collins, D. A. Sweet.

March 8th. Quartermaster John K. Bucklyn having received a commission as second lieutenant, assumed his duties as chief of caissons, vice Jastram, who had been advanced to command the left section; Corporal Charles A. Brown, of the fourth detachment promoted to quartermaster-sergeant, vice J. K. Bucklyn, promoted; Second Corporal Hargraves promoted gunner, vice Brown, promoted; Private Wm. H. Polk\* promoted second corporal of the fourth detachment.

During the first week in March various rumors were in motion. Orders to have rations on hand, shelter tents and rubber ponchos were being issued throughout the army. On the 7th General Franklin ordered his first brigade, commanded by General Kearny, to Burke's Station on the Alexandria & Orange Railroad, for the purpose of guarding a party

\* Formerly spelled Pooke.

of laborers. While there General Kearny was informed by negroes that the rebels were about to leave Manassas. On the 8th he notified Franklin of the rumor, and, without waiting for orders, sent troops in all directions scouring the country and driving in the rebel cavalry and pickets. He continued his movements on the 9th, when he encountered some rebel cavalry, which he soon put to flight. On the 10th Kearny still continued to advance, when, about ten A. M., he entered Centreville and Manassas, and found them deserted. It was subsequently learned that the rebels left on the 8th and 9th. Everything indicated that they left in great haste, as an immense amount of commissary stores, baggage wagons, several locomotives and cars were found, besides a large number of tents and other valuable property. It was not until the 11th that the main forces who were ordered forward to Manassas reached there, fully twenty-four hours after Kearny and his brave Jersey troops entered the vacated forts. I refer to this statement as Battery E was afterwards so closely identified with Kearny's movements that it is of great interest to them. This move of Kearny's was unknown to us at the time.

Let us now return to Battery E, which we left on the 8th waiting for something to turn up. On the 10th orders came to be ready to move the next day at nine A. M. The 11th came but we made no movement, although large bodies of troops were marching towards Centreville, but we, instead of moving went on target practice. We had not heard of the evacuation of Manassas until to-day, which plainly revealed to us the cause of so much activity for the last few days. The next day large numbers of steamers and vessels were constantly arriving at Alexandria. This added greatly to the mystery of the anticipated movement. On the 14th our large Sibley tents were lowered, never again to be used by us. Our sick were sent to the hospital, except First Sergeant Wm. E. Bowen, Privates John Hilton, and James McGuire, who were discharged. Bowen had been subject to epileptic fits for quite a period; were it not for this he would doubtless soon have received a commission. He was a soldier of unusual merit and always performed his duties faithfully.

It was a cold, cloudy day, and having no tents we had to resort to camp-fires to keep comfortable. All the regiments far and near had broken camp and were encamped temporarily

near Alexandria, and, like ourselves, had to build camp-fires, around which they made a pretence of keeping warm. It was a cheerless day, but the anticipation of a real movement dispelled somewhat the disagreeableness of our situation. It was a severe trial for those who were not in good health. Among these was James M. Durfee, a pale-faced boy of fifteen years, whose bloodless face and hacking cough indicated a short career. Nevertheless, although he was several times sent to the hospital, he served out his time and was one of the bravest boys in the battery. The average number on the sick list during our stay at this camp was about fifteen per day. Only three or four were dangerously sick, and only one death occurred. During these days of suspense Sergt. Jacob H. Lamb of the first detachment was promoted first sergeant, vice Bowen, discharged; First Corp. Allen Gardiner, of the sixth detachment, promoted sergeant, vice Lamb promoted; Corp. F. B. Butts, of the first detachment, was transferred to the sixth detachment as second corporal; Second Corp. C. P. Williams was advanced to gunner on the sixth piece; Private Charles S. Winslow was promoted to second corporal and assigned to first detachment.

Here, for future reference, let us give the organization of the army as it existed just before being sent to the Peninsula, by inserting the following order by General McClellan :

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,  
FAIRFAX COURT HOUSE, VA., March 13, 1862.

*General Orders, No. 151.*

In compliance with the President's War Order, No. 2, of March 8th, 1862, the active portion of the Army of the Potomac is formed into army corps, as follows, viz. :

First Corps, Maj.-Gen. Irvin McDowell, to consist for the present of the divisions of Franklin, McCall and King.

Second Corps, Brig.-Gen. E. V. Sumner; divisions Richardson, Blenker and Sedgwick.

Third Corps, Brigadier-General Heintzelman; divisions F. J. Porter, Hooker and Hamilton.

Fourth Corps, Brig.-Gen. E. D. Keyes; divisions Couch, Smith and Casey.

Fifth Corps, Maj.-Gen. N. P. Banks; divisions Williams and Shields.

The cavalry regiments attached to divisions will, for the present, remain so. Subsequent orders will provide for these regiments, as well as for the reserve artillery, regular infantry and regular cavalry. Arrangements will be made to unite the divisions of each army corps as promptly as possible.



The commanders of divisions will at once report in person, or where that is impossible, by letter, to the commander of their army corps.

By command of Major-General McCLELLAN.

A. V. COLBURN, *Assistant Adjutant-General*.

The Third corps after being fully organized consisted of the following divisions and brigades :

First division, Gen. Fitz John Porter, artillery : Griffin's battery (D), Fifth United States, six ten-pounders Parrott guns ; Weedon's battery (C), Rhode Island ; Martin's battery, (C), Massachusetts, six Napoleon guns ; Allen's battery (E), Massachusetts, six three-inch ordnance guns ; infantry : Martindale's brigade ; Second Maine, Eighteenth and Twenty-Second Massachusetts and Twenty-fifth and Thirteenth New York Volunteers ; Morrell's brigade : Fourteenth New York, Fourth Michigan, Ninth Massachusetts, and Sixty-second Pennsylvania Volunteers ; Butterfield's brigade : Seventeenth, Forty-fourth and Twelfth New York, Eighty-third Pennsylvania, and Stockton's (Sixteenth) Michigan Volunteers. First Berdan Sharpshooters were attached to this division, but were independent. Second division, Gen. Joseph Hooker, artillery : Hall's battery (H), First United States four Parrotts and two howitzers ; Smith's battery Fourth New York, ten-pounder Parrotts ; Bramhall's battery, Sixth New York, three-inch ordnance guns ; Osborn's battery, First New York, four three-inch ordnance guns ; infantry : Daniel E. Sickles's brigade ; First, Second, Third, Fourth and Fifth Excelsior, New York ; H. M. Nagle's brigade ; First and Eleventh Massachusetts, Twenty-sixth Pennsylvania, and Second New Hampshire Volunteers ; Col. S. H. Starr's brigade, Fifty-sixth, Seventh and Eighth New Jersey Volunteers ; Third division, Charles S. Hamilton ; artillery : Thompson's battery (G), Second United States, six Napoleon guns ; Beam's battery (B), New Jersey, four Parrotts and two Napoleon guns ; Randolph's battery (E), Rhode Island, six guns four ten-pounders, Parrotts and two twelve-pounder howitzers ; infantry ; Jameson's brigade, One Hundred and Fifth, Sixty-third, and Fifty-seventh Pennsylvania, and Eighty-seventh New York Volunteers ; D. B. Birney's brigade ; Thirty-eighth and Fortieth New York and Third and Fourth Maine Volunteers ; H. G. Berry's brigade ; Second, Third and Fifth Michigan and Thirty-seventh New-York Volunteers.

## CHAPTER IV.

March—April, 1862.

## DEPARTURE FOR THE PENINSULA AND SIEGE OF YORKTOWN.

HAVING given in the previous chapter the general formation of the Army of the Potomac and as Battery E was so long connected with the Third corps, I have given its regimental and battery formation as it existed when we left Alexandria for Fortress Monroe. I will again return to battery E, which we left on the 14th waiting in the rain for orders to move. The next day brought nothing but a heavy rain. On the 17th, orders came to put our battery on board the transports that were lying at Alexandria to convey troops to our then unknown destination; but we soon learned that it was to Fortress Monroe. The guns and ammunition chests of the left section and all the horses of the battery, with men enough to care for them, were put on the barge *St. Nicholas* under the charge of First Sergt. Jacob H. Lamb. The guns and carriages of the right and centre sections, with most of the men and all the commissioned officers, were put on the barge *Walkill*. These barges were a part of a fleet of about thirty crafts of all kinds, that were to carry Hamilton's division of the Third corps, to which we belonged. The fleet started at two p. m. on the 18th. Our battery started at 2.30, the *St. Nicholas* being towed by two propellers, the *Decatur* and *Panthenia*. At six p. m. we were off the Occoquan River and continued down the Potomac to near Sandy Point, when the *St. Nicholas* and the propellers ran aground. It was then ten p. m. Here we remained until ten a. m. next morning, when the *St. Nicholas* got afloat, but the two propellers were unable to extricate themselves. While in this condition we signaled the steamer *E. D. Collins* and one other, but they failed to get the propellers afloat; later the steamer *Herald* came to our relief and took us in tow and went as far as Cedar

Point Neck, where we cast anchor at five P. M. The next morning the steamer left us and returned after the two propellers left behind. She never returned, but the two propellers came up at 2.30 P. M. We did not start, but remained here until the next morning, when we were taken in tow by the steamer *John Brooks*. During our stay of thirty-six hours at Cedar Point our rations were reduced to hard tack and raw bacon, not very palatable to raw troops, but there was no remedy. We continued our journey in company with the barge *California* loaded with forage, which was fastened to the *St. Nicholas*, both being towed by the steamer *John Brooks*. We sailed until 1.30 P. M., when the tow line broke that held us to the steamer, but the delay was only short. Without further trouble we reached Fortress Monroe at three P. M., being one of the first to reach our destination, having been seventy-three hours on the passage. The *Walkill*, which contained the remaining part of the battery, separated from the *St. Nicholas* during the first night when she was aground, and was more unfortunate than her companions. She continued her voyage, being towed by a vessel till the 19th, when, on account of an approaching storm, it was thought unsafe for so small a craft to proceed, and, being near St. Mary's Bay, she entered it and cast anchor to await events. It was not until the 23d that they were relieved from their prison, provisions not being provided for delays. The result was that rations were decidedly short. Every day they were reduced in quantity, and, if relief had not finally come, they would have had to go on shore and call upon rural quartermasters for supplies. The officers were more fortunate, as a small passing gunboat left a small quantity of meat for temporary relief. Signals of distress, finally, on the 23d, brought a propeller with hard tack and beef. Once during the stay the officers went on shore to the residence of a Catholic priest, and were absolved from their hunger at least; but judging from their future some doubts were entertained as to their sins having been absolved; they were certainly no better than before. One relief came to them through a company of slaves who came on board with a violin and banjo and had a regular plantation dance, which was highly enjoyed by all. A collection was taken up for them for the entertainment, and they departed well pleased.

At nine A. M., on the 23d, Captain Thompson, of the regular battery, who was on board with some of his officers, pressed a passing steamer to take them in tow to Fortress Monroe, where they arrived shortly after midnight. The next morning they unloaded and joined the rest of the battery, which had arrived three days before, and had awaited their coming with much anxiety. After the arrival our interest was turned to seeing the sights at the fortress. Only a few who were fortunate enough to get on detail to go after bread, had the pleasure of seeing the inside of the fort. This was a great, and we thought unnecessary, disappointment. The great Union gun, which was mounted on the beach, was of much interest. We had never before seen a gun so large that men could amuse themselves by crawling into it. The famous *Monitor* that lay in the harbor, which only a few days before had driven and disabled that novel craft, the rebel *Merrimac*, was by far the greatest object of interest. Her harmless appearance was such that one could hardly believe that a craft formidable enough to destroy the *Cumberland* and *Congress* could be put to flight by her.

During the next ten days the Army of the Potomac was being concentrated near Hampton, a small village about two miles from the fort, which was burned by the rebel general, Magruder, Aug. 7, 1861. During these days of waiting the men were in good spirits and anxious to move.

On the 28th, Lieutenant Arnold was badly hurt by his horse falling upon him, and a few days after was sent to the hospital. He subsequently received a leave of absence and did not return to his battery for duty until the 24th of June.

On the 3d of April, an order was issued by General McClellan for Porter's and Hamilton's divisions and Averell's cavalry of the Third corps, with Sedgwick's division of the Second corps, and General Keyes, with two divisions of the Fourth corps, to move on the following morning. Agreeable to the above order, we started about eight A. M. with Hamilton's division over the New Bridge road which led directly to Big Bethel, arriving there at two P. M. Big Bethel was the battle ground of General Pierce, June 10, 1861, where he was defeated with a loss of fourteen killed. Why the prefix "Big" was used none of us could understand, as the only building was a small Bethel. Passing on some two miles further we went into camp for the night on the farm of Colonel Russel,

Left camp on the 4th early in the morning, Morrell's brigade of the first division in the advance. On reaching Howard's Bridge over the Poquosin River, where some rebel works were encountered, and, after a slight resistance, the enemy was driven out by the Fourteenth New York and the Fourth Michigan. The march was resumed on the 5th in the same order as before. Battery E reached Howard's Bridge about noon. After a short halt we passed on towards Yorktown and came in sight of the enemy's fortifications at three P. M. General Porter with the first division of the Third corps had arrived about noon, had been attacked by the rebel artillery and promptly responded with infantry and artillery, Battery C of Rhode Island being the first to open fire upon the enemy's works, losing one man (John T. Reynolds) in the attack. Almost immediately after our arrival we were ordered into action near the centre of the line, not far from Wynn's mill.

The right and centre sections, with Parrotts, went into action some distance from the left section, with howitzers. The former, although at longer range, were subjected to a severe fire from the rebel batteries, which had a good range upon the locality. The position was held until night, with a loss of some six or eight horses and one wheel damaged. This place was afterwards called "Randolph's slaughter-pen." The left section, although within five hundred yards of the rebel rifle-pit, received no loss. This was our first experience under fire. Although quite severely shelled by the enemy's artillery, with our limited experience we thought we had experienced quite a severe engagement. About sunset the battery was again united and soon after went into camp in an open field. Owing to previous rains the roads were in a terrible condition, and the trains, with our rations, were stuck in the mud several miles in the rear. On this account, not a few of our comrades had no supper, which was an experience with which we soon became familiar.

The next morning found us hitched up at three A. M., expecting that a forward movement would be attempted, little thinking that we were to have a regular siege of one month's duration. Not seeing any signs of moving, many of the men tried their hand at foraging to supply their rations, one squad

being so successful as to capture a steer.\* Some went among the infantry, and, in some cases, as much as twenty-five cents was offered for a single cracker. Such offers were generally refused with the remark, "If you are hungry enough to offer that amount, I will give you one with pleasure," showing that kind hearts were not strangers in the army. An eighty-four pound percussion shell was fired into our lines to-day, which was viewed with much interest by the men, it being the first shot of the kind that we had seen. We much preferred that they should be kept at home. Owing to the shell not being properly prepared, it did not explode. It was sent to Fortress Monroe.

It was soon evident that a siege had been decided upon, the result being that light artillery was of but little use for the next four weeks. A siege train of over one hundred guns was ordered to the front, and were during the month placed in position as rapidly as possible. Guns of every kind and calibre, from two hundred to twelve-pounders, were placed in position at every available point. The conveying of these heavy guns and mortars made it necessary to build many miles of corduroy roads and a large number of fortifications. To accomplish this large details had to be made daily to do the work, mostly from the infantry, although the light artillery had more or less corduroying to do when such roads were needed near their camp.

Movements of a temporary nature were constant, and many false alarms occurred during the siege, which kept us on the alert.

The battery, on the 12th, moved into the woods and formed a comfortable camp, in which we remained while the siege lasted, although sections of the battery were often sent to the front to assist in some movement, and orders to hitch up and unhitch were almost of daily occurrence, caused mostly by false alarms. Usually the Parrotts were sent to the front, as the howitzer, to be of service, would have to go within musket range.

On the 14th, the right section, under Lieutenant Jastram, was ordered to the front to shell a rifle-pit which was causing

\*Lieutenant Bucklyn, on being asked by the men if they should kill the steer, replied, "If I see you kill that steer I shall certainly report you, but I am going out of camp to remain awhile." It need not be said that the animal was duly dressed and eaten.

us some trouble. They fired fifteen rounds and returned at night.

Comrade E. A. Chandler returned from a furlough, having received it while sick at Artillery Camp near Alexandria.

On the 16th, Sergeants Millen and Darling were sent out on picket to the place where the battery was engaged on the 5th. After having fired all their ammunition, the rebels opened upon them with eight pieces of artillery, causing them to withdraw, as they had no ammunition to continue the fight.

On the 16th, the right section went to the front and into battery behind breastworks, near Battery G (Rhode Island), and fired until one A. M., but the rebels made no reply.

19th. Right section again shelling rifle-pit, and, after silencing them returned to camp.

21st. Right section out again on picket. Chaplain Perry came to the battery with the intention of making it his headquarters for an indefinite length of time.

On the 29th, the left section was sent out on picket duty, remaining until the next morning.

May 1st, Lieutenant Arnold, who was hurt by his horse falling upon him when near Hampton, made a visit to the battery before starting for home on a leave of absence, Chaplain Perry serving as substitute for awhile during his absence.

At three o'clock on the third of May a large fire was discovered inside of the rebel works, and at daylight three prisoners were taken at the rifle trenches, who reported that the town was evacuated. Four companies of the Sixty-second Pennsylvania, and two companies of the Twenty-second Massachusetts were sent forward to ascertain if the report was correct. The two commands entered the fortifications almost together. Colonel Gove, of the Twenty-second Massachusetts, planted the first Union flag upon the rebel works. Thus ended the siege of Yorktown, which was then generally, and now almost universally, thought to have been an unnecessary delay.

During the siege of Yorktown, General Kearny, who commanded a brigade of Jersey troops in Franklin's division of the First corps, had been, with his command, temporarily detached from the Army of the Potomac. On the 17th of April he embarked his troops on board the steamer *Elm City*,

at Alexandria, bound for the Army of the Potomac, which was then at Yorktown. On the 30th, his troops were landed on the shore at Yorktown. On the same day he was assigned to the command of the Third division of the Third corps. On the 2d of May, General Hamilton, who commanded the Third division of the Third corps, having been relieved and ordered further south, General Kearny assumed command on the 3d to fill the vacancy. Once before Kearny had been offered a like command, but he refused to accept for the reason that his Jersey troops could not be allowed to go with him.



## CHAPTER V.

May, 1862.

### BATTLE OF WILLIAMSBURG.

THE 4th of May was one of the most lovely days. In connection with the retreat of the enemy it was a day of great rejoicing. Our hearts were buoyant with hope and faith that we should soon be in possession of Richmond. The army was already in pursuit of the retreating foe. Kearny's division was one of the last to leave Yorktown. It was not until 2.30 P. M. that the Third division left camp to share in the results that were to follow, now that the brave and intrepid Kearny was to be our division commander. We felt sure that the Third division would never fail to do its duty in future battles. Before the rebels evacuated the town they buried torpedoes in the ground over which we were expected to pass. They were soon discovered, but not until a few brave soldiers were slaughtered by this barbarous method. These torpedoes were taken up by rebel prisoners under command of our provost guard. We passed unharmed, and, after reaching a distance of two miles beyond the fortifications, the battery went into camp for the night. The next morning at two A. M. reveille was sounded. At three we were hitched up in the rain, but did not move until near the middle of the forenoon. In the meantime the rain increased so that by the time we started the roads were quite muddy. At a distance in our front the sound of artillery was distinctly heard, revealing to us that the rear guard of the enemy had been overtaken. Already Hooker was showing his fighting qualities, and had forced the rebels to halt a short distance this side of Williamsburg, where they had erected earthworks, the largest of them being Fort Magruder.

The trees in the woods fronting the forts were felled to give range to their guns and to give cover to their sharpshooters. In these woods most of the fighting was done,

which continued all the forenoon with no signs of abating. During these hours of anxiety the army was being hurried forward with all possible haste, but the roads were so muddy it was with the greatest difficulty that troops could make even the slowest advance. Temporary roads were cut through the woods by the pioneers at every available locality through which the troops were hurried, but in spite of these extra roads the baggage trains and artillery were so badly mired that only slow progress could be made. It was a constant halt and start instead of being the rapid movement so much desired. In the meantime aids and orderlies were constantly sent by Hooker and Sumner for assistance, and to Kearny in particular, but the energy of Kearny needed nothing more than this roar of artillery and the rattling of musketry to arouse his utmost efforts to relieve the brave troops who were struggling against odds to hold the ground till assistance could arrive. By the most strenuous exertions Kearny, with Berry's brigade in the lead, followed by General Birney and Jameson's brigades in quick succession, reached the front and immediately went into action. There was considerable controversy as to the time of Kearny's arrival, but nearly all agree that it was about three P. M. Hooker had at the time every available regiment in action, all of which were being hotly engaged by a rebel force which largely outnumbered them, and which was making strenuous and determined efforts to drive in our left and centre and capture our artillery. Three regiments of Kearny's division, the Third and Fourth Maine and the Third Michigan were detached and ordered to support General Emory's cavalry on the left. Berry's and Birney's brigades were rapidly deployed into the woods in front of Fort Magruder. Berry's brigade on the left of the Williamsburg road and Birney's on the right went immediately into action. Hooker's Second division of the Third corps having nearly exhausted its ammunition was withdrawn. Soon the whole line was hotly engaged and was successful in slowly driving the enemy back, but the felled timber and obstructions were so formidable it was not possible to advance further. At this juncture of affairs Col. Hobart Ward, of the Thirty-eighth New York, followed by Colonel Riley, of the Fortieth New York (Mozart), was ordered by General Kearny to charge down the Williamsburg road, which was done with the characteristic bravery they

ever afterwards sustained. This charge was successful and resulted in the silencing of the light artillery of the enemy and gaining their rear. General Jameson's brigade having arrived and the three detached regiments having returned from the left, they were formed into a second line and commanded to await orders. About this time Battery E was ordered down the Williamsburg road and unlimbered on the right of the road where the mud and water was nearly hub deep, from which it was with the greatest difficulty that the pieces could be moved. While thus situated a few shots were fired over our heads and buried harmlessly in the mud. After waiting a short time for the command to fire, orders were given to limber up and return to the open field in rear of the woods, near where we lay before going to the immediate front. After our long and weary march through the mud and slush, we were glad to get a rest. After a supper of hard tack and partly drying ourselves by camp-fires, we spread our blankets on the ground and slept as soundly as we had ever done upon our pillows at home.

At an early hour on the 6th it was learned that the rebels were evacuating the forts in our front. At dawn a squad of twelve men of the One Hundred and Fifth Pennsylvania Regiment advanced and entered the works and found them empty, but rebel cavalry were seen near the town. General Jameson then ordered his brigade forward, deploying four companies of the One Hundred and Fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers as skirmishers, and with one section of Thompson's and the left section of Randolph's battery, commanded by Lieutenant Bucklyn, moved forward towards Williamsburg, the rebel cavalry retreating out of the town just as we entered it. The section of Lieutenant Bucklyn followed the enemy a short distance beyond the town and went into battery upon a knoll, remaining a short time, and then returned to the town and went into park upon the grounds of William and Mary College. On returning Bucklyn brought with him a small Spanish gun, abandoned by the rebels, mounted upon a miniature carriage. The gun, according to Lieutenant Jastram's statement, carried a shot of three pounds, but the diary of Sergt C. P. Williams reads "a two-pounder." On top of the gun was marked "P. Seesta 1778," with monogram A. & V. underneath, and with letters O. & C. endorsed near the vent. The gun before we left was mounted upon

the wall near the camp, where we left it when we left town, but rumor has it that a Massachusetts regiment sent it home soon after as a trophy.

The other sections of the battery came up during the forenoon and joined the left section at the college, except the battery wagon and the caissons of the centre section, which were mired during the battle. One of these in command of Corporal Humphrey, by the assistance of extra horses, was brought up the next day.

The other caisson and the battery wagon were drawn out of the mud by the skillful management of Lieutenant Buckley, with the twenty-four horses of the left section, who in doing so had to use the prolonge, as the muddy ground near the carriages would not admit the near approach of the horses.

Battery E had now passed through two battles, although it had not been called upon to do any very hard fighting. It had nevertheless been tested in its capacity to endure fatigue and to face dangers with that courage which alone can give victory. It was also our first experience of coming in contact with the wounded and dying soldiers, many of whom we passed on our way into Williamsburg. Several negro shanties were occupied by these from both armies, they having reached there after being so severely wounded that they were unable to rejoin their commands. It was a heart-rending experience to hear their imploring calls for water, of which we had none. We could only encourage them to bear their sufferings bravely until the ambulances and assistance arrived. It was a hard duty, but as we were advancing with the skirmish line we had no choice but to leave them to the fortunes of war.

Our stay at Williamsburg was for only three days, but during this period we had quite a pleasant time. Sutlers came up with their wares, but those who could purchase had to pay enormous prices. Butter sold at one dollar per pound and other articles in proportion. Battery E always thought itself equal in good conduct to the general character of the army, but sometimes we were somewhat unchivalrous, which was shown at Williamsburg in our foraging propensities, by not forgetting to milk any Secesh cows that came in our way; but the strict discipline of our captain put a check to this and we were soon restored to order.

## CHAPTER VI.

May—June, 1862.

## IN PURSUIT OF THE ENEMY AND BATTLE OF FAIR OAKS.

ON the 9th of May we started with three days' rations on our way towards Richmond. As the season had now advanced beyond the need of winter supplies, all but two blankets were turned in, which lightened our burdens somewhat, although the weather occasionally called for them. The first day we advanced about six miles over roads strewn with rebel equipage, encamping in an open field. On the 10th we advanced near to Barhamville, a small hamlet eighteen miles from Williamsburg. Here we remained two days, foraging in the meantime forty-five bushels of corn, and some corn-stalks for the use of our horses.

On the 13th, we went to within four miles of New Kent Court House. On the way private Joslin was so sick that we had to hold him on the caisson. He was better the next morning. Remained here all the next day. On the 15th hitched up at four A. M., and marched to Cumberland on the Pamunky River, which is one of the sources of York River. One of the first objects that met our view was the steamer *Canonicus*, of Providence, R. I. We encamped on the ground just vacated by Porter's division, which had quite recently rejoined the Army of the Potomac. Soon after arriving it commenced raining in torrents, almost flooding the ground upon which our tents were pitched. It was a tedious and sleepless night for the many thousands of troops encamped here. We remained here two days. During the stay the men took advantage of the tempting river for bodily ablution, which was very much needed. On the 19th we moved back two miles and encamped over night, and then at an early hour started forward again, and reached Baltimore Cross Roads at 7.30 A. M., where we remained two days. On the first day our knap-

sacks were ordered to be carried in the baggage wagons. This was more to relieve the horses than ourselves, as they had invariably before been carried on the caissons and limbers. The second day will long be remembered by the drivers who had to ride their horses some three or four miles in the sultry heat before finding water for them.

It was here that our first experience from rations of whiskey was tried. Its effect was as usual,—producing more harm than good. The issue was by order from headquarters and against the wish of Captain Randolph, whose well known opinion was against its use. One of its results was that drunkenness followed, making it necessary to reduce one of our best gunners, but he was in a day or two reinstated.

On the 23d we advanced six or seven miles through a most delightful country where fields of over a hundred acres of wheat waved in splendor. What a contrast to the desolation usually left by war.

May 24th found us encamped near a small church about one and a half miles from Bottom's Bridge, on the Chickahominy River. We remained here until the next morning. At six A. M. we broke camp for Bottom's Bridge, where we arrived at nine o'clock, and crossed at eleven A. M., marching about two miles and went into camp. Here we remained for five days, experiencing heavy thunder showers and hot weather. All of our camp equipage, except overcoats and ponchos, was sent back to the baggage wagons beyond the Chickahominy, which showed evidence that a battle was near at hand.

The Fifth and Sixth corps, commanded by General Porter and General Franklin held the lines of communication crossing the Chickahominy to Richmond, from a point north of Richmond to Boatswain Swamp. General Sumner's Second corps joined General Franklin's left and extended to near the York River Railroad. General Keyes's Fourth corps had crossed at Bottom's Bridge on the 23d, and on the 24th had advanced to near Fair Oaks, throwing up a line of rifle-pits near the Seven Pines. General Heintzelman, who had crossed with the Third corps on the 25th, being the senior officer on the south side of the river, was ordered to take command of both corps; the Third corps was to guard the crossing of White Oak Swamp and to hold Seven Pines at all hazards.

Our picket line at this time extended from the lower trestle

bridge on the Chickahominy to White Oak Swamp on our left. Casey's division was stationed three quarters of a mile in front of Seven Pines, Couch's division at Seven Pines, Kearny's division between Savage Station and Bottom's Bridge, Hooker's division on the line of White Oak Swamp. During the afternoon of the 30th and the following night heavy thunder showers caused the river to rise, threatening to carry away the bridge and making the road almost impassable. At an early hour on the morning of the 31st we were ordered forward about three miles to a line of breastworks crossing the Williamsburg road, when Lieutenant Bucklyn's left section and the fourth piece, all under command of Lieutenant Jastram, were ordered behind the breastworks, a short distance from and to the left of the road. The right half of the battery, under Captain Randolph and Lieutenant Sheldon, was ordered a quarter of a mile further forward to the right of the road. The caissons were ordered to the rear under command of First Sergeant Lamb. Chaplain Perry, who was with the battery, was at liberty to be with either half as he should choose.

About one P. M. Casey's division was attacked vigorously by General Hill and General Longstreet's divisions, composed of Rodes, Rains, Garland, G. B. Anderson, Wilcox, Colton, Kemper, and Jenkins' brigades and others. The attack upon Casey was directed upon his front and both flanks with such force that his inexperienced troops fell back in great confusion to the second line of rifle-pits, which were occupied by Couch's division. Generals Berry, Jameson, and Birney's brigades, of Kearny's division, were now ordered into action. Birney's brigade was ordered up the railroad, but owing to some misunderstanding did not reach the scene of action. Berry and Jameson soon became hotly engaged. In the meantime Hooker was ordered to move up from the White Oak Swamp and arrived in the early morning. At the commencement of the firing orders were sent to General Sumner, who was then on the north side of the Chickahominy, to hold his corps ready to move at a moment's notice. There were only two divisions in this corps, General Richardson's and General Sedgwick's, and each had constructed a bridge over the river opposite their command, so that when the order came at 2.30 P. M., the divisions were immediately started for the

battlefield, only one division (Sedgwick's) arriving in time to engage in this day's fight. During the anxious hours awaiting the arrival of the Second corps and Hooker's division, the battle had continued with great stubbornness on both sides, although we had been driven back to the second line of defences by the breaking of Casey's division. The arrival of the Second corps renewed our hope of success in the end.

During the night both sides moved their forces for a renewal of the fight, with a determination to win the battle. Soon after daylight, June 1st, skirmishing began between our skirmish line and some rebel cavalry. Soon after the rebels opened fire along the whole line. The attack upon General French's brigade of Richardson's division, who lay to the left of the railroad, was very persistent. Nearly an hour this brigade held the ground against great odds. The enemy was several times reinforced, and General Howard's brigade was sent to French's assistance, when the enemy fell back in his front. In the meantime General Hooker had advanced on the railroad with the Fifth and Sixth New York regiments, and when approaching the woods he found Colonel Hobart Ward in command of Birney's brigade in line of battle (General Birney being under arrest). He at once attacked the enemy with the two New York regiments, being ably supported by Birney's brigade. Hooker advanced into the woods under heavy fire, which continued for more than an hour. A charge was then made with the Fifth and Sixth New York, Third Maine, and Thirty-eighth and Fortieth New York, and the rebels fled in confusion, leaving many of their arms in their flight.

General Sickles was ordered to advance on the line of the Williamsburg road, when a sharp musketry fire was opened upon him from the woods while he was crossing the open field. The Excelsior brigade with fixed bayonets charged into the woods and drove the enemy out in disorder. On the right the enemy again attacked General Richardson's brigade with great fury, making a determined effort to break his line, but the courage of our troops made it useless. General Richardson then advanced his whole line, firing at close range, causing the rebels to fall back in confusion. General French then made a charge with the Fifty-seventh and Sixty-sixth



New York, supported by the Seventy-first and Seventy-third New York, of General Sickles's brigade, which put the enemy to flight.

Our troops had now retaken the ground lost the day before and the battle was virtually ended. Unexpectedly General McClellan made no effort to follow the defeated enemy. It was the misfortune of Battery E not to have the privilege of being actually engaged in this battle, although we were hourly expecting to be allowed to do so. Our position was such that we could not fire without endangering our own troops. The right half of the battery was stationed near Casey's position and was within rifle-shot during the action of May 31st, and many shots passed through their part of the battery, but no one was hurt.

However one may feel about going into action, there is usually the desire to have the honor of participating with one's comrades in every effort to sustain the cause for which they are fighting. Here, as at Williamsburg, Battery E was an anxious but silent partner in the struggle for victory. Sergt. William Millen was the only man fortunate enough to have any active duty to perform, he being temporarily attached to Kearny's staff as an orderly, a position that his loyal sentiments and undoubted courage would have qualified him to have held permanently.

The battery remained in its position during the rest of the day and through the night. About two a. m., June 2d, quite a panic occurred, caused, it was said, by a loose mule running against a stack of muskets, one of them being discharged by the fall. This caused the pickets to open fire, supposing the report to come from the enemy. In an instant thousands of troops sprang to their feet, and rushed to their arms, which gave a roaring sound through the woods like the approach of a tornado. At the time the left half of the battery were sleeping soundly upon their tarpaulins, and, like the infantry, hurried to their guns to be ready for action if required.

At ten a. m. the left half of the battery was moved to where the right half was stationed during the battle. At two p. m. we were ordered forward about one and a half miles and encamped on the battle ground, near the railroad, and remained all night.

The total loss in this battle was 5,031. Of this number the Second corps lost 1,185; Third corps, 1,246; Fourth corps, 2,600. Kearny's division alone had a loss of 1,091, 207 of them being in Birney's brigade; 419, in Jameson's brigade, and 465 in Berry's brigade. No artillery was engaged in Kearny's or Hooker's divisions. The rebel loss was about 6,134, 980 being killed. The number of Union troops in the three corps engaged was about 51,000. The rebel force present was about 62,000.

June 3d, rumors of an attack. At nine A. M. hitched up in consequence, and, at four P. M., unhitched, the alarm proving false.

June 4th. An order of congratulation from General McClellan was read to the army, thanking them for their former acts and asking them to show the same courage in the battle soon to follow.

June 7th. Our baggage wagons came up with our knapsacks, containing a change of clothing. This was the first time that we found ourselves keeping company with greybacks. As the first to discover them was considered to be a model of cleanliness, we all thought if he was so afflicted we must have the greyback fever in its full force. After an examination of our wearing apparel we found that our supposition was correct. The result was a hasty doffing of our army blue and the substitution of a new suit; but we soon learned that this method was useless and expensive. Personal cleanliness, with plenty of soap and water, with a good selection for a bunk-mate, was the best method to be pursued.

On June 8th another alarm was caused by firing on our right and front. Chaplain Perry, who had made his headquarters with us since the 21st of April, started for Rhode Island, he having been appointed by Governor Sprague recruiting officer for that State.

June 9th. Two sections of the battery went to the front as a support to the Sixty-third Pennsylvania regiment, which was on picket, remaining out all night.

June 11th. The battery changed camp a short distance to the rear. The land in this section of the country was level, mostly woodland, many parts of it being swampy. That part not woodland was covered with shrubbery and briars. Acres of felled trees lay in our front, and, being entwined

with shrubbery and briars, it was with the greatest difficulty that we could pass through, as some of us often did to gather berries. It served as an excellent picket line. On one of these berry excursions two or three of us passed to the right of these felled trees into some woodland, where there were several pools of water caused by the recent rain. Lying beside one of these pools we found five dead rebels. They crawled there, probably after water, and, not being discovered, died of wounds or starvation. The bodies were so badly swollen and black that their friends could not have recognized them. Yet, doubtless they had loving friends, who were ignorant of their sad deaths. Such is the result of the barbarous system of war, yet we boast of our high civilization. Is not such a claim a misnomer? The discovery was reported and a detail at once sent to bury them.

On the 13th the enemy commenced shelling our camp with siege guns, which became a daily practice. Pickets were almost constantly firing night and day. It was one constant hitchup and then unhitch. Cannoneers were almost hourly at their posts, expecting an attack. The left section, under Jastram, had been for nearly two weeks at the left of the line, and shared in the constant strain. The infantry were constantly on the alert, being moved from one point to another as the movements of the enemy made it necessary. The weather was very hot at the time, with occasional showers. The hot weather, with the loss of sleep, and want of more active movements for the last ten days, began to show its effect upon the health of the men; quite a number were on light duty, and several quite sick, George W. Fisk and Robert Sutcliffe dangerously so.

June 24th, Lieutenant Arnold returned to duty, having recovered from his injuries received at Hampton, and took charge of his former section (right) Lieutenant Jastram returning to the left, relieving Bucklyn, who again resumed command of the caissons.

June 25th, the battle of Oak Grove (or Orchard) was fought, the first of the seven days' battles before Richmond. Heintzelman's Third corps, one brigade (Palmer's) of Keyes's Fourth corps, and a part of one division (Richardson's) of Sumner's Second corps, were engaged, making a total of thirty-one regiments and two batteries, one of them being Beam's battery,

of Kearny's division. Although it is usually called a skirmish, the losses exceeded those of many other battles, the killed and wounded being over 500 on our side alone.

The battle grew out of a movement to advance our picket line, to gain a better view and position for our advance movement, which was intended to have been begun the next day. The line which was advanced lay on our front and right. Hooker and Kearny were the leading spirits in the movement. Our battery lay in a redan just south of the railroad, with cannoneers at their posts, waiting for whatever might turn up; but the artillery, owing to the swamps and woodland, was almost useless, and we were allowed to remain at our post, much to our regret. The only satisfaction left us was that our comrades were successful in their efforts, having advanced the picket line as desired, although Gen. A. R. Wright, who commanded the rebels, denies the claim, and affirms that his lines at the close of the action were precisely the same as when the attack began.

## CHAPTER VII.

June, 1862.

IN FRONT OF RICHMOND AND BATTLE OF GLENDALE.

JUNE 26th was an anxious day for McClellan. His hope that General McDowell would join him on the right gave him confidence that he would be able to capture Richmond, which was modified by fears that Jackson would reinforce General Lee from the Shenandoah Valley and attack him on his flank and rear. Rumors that the latter would happen had been rife for several days. Should defeat come McClellan had decided to change his base to the James River; his plan to that effect had been made known to General Porter about the middle of June. General Ingalls, quartermaster at the White House, was notified on the 26th to have everything loaded and ready, and, if defeat should come, to send everything to the James River, and to destroy what he could not take away. Orders were also sent to the Second, Third, Fourth, and Sixth corps, which were now on the south side of the river, to hold themselves ready to send all the troops they could spare to the north bank of the river. All of these orders indicated that a great battle was expected and that there was some apprehension of defeat. Gen. Fitz John Porter's Fifth corps, and McCall's Division of Pennsylvania Reserves, a total force of about 27,000, was all the force on the north bank of the river. About two p. m. the Confederates under Longstreet, D. H. and A. P. Hill, commenced to cross the Chickahominy and moved rapidly to attack our fortified lines along the Beaver Dam Creek. The venerable McCall was in immediate command of the Union forces. The attack was vigorous along the whole line, and especially so against Generals Reynolds and Seymour. Although the Confederates had more than double our number, our position was so strong and ably defended by Reynolds, Seymour, Martin-

dale, Griffin, and Meade, that after a few hours of severe fighting the rebels retired. Only eleven regiments and six batteries were engaged on our side. The Confederates had twenty-one regiments and eight batteries. Our loss was 361. The rebel loss was reported at 1,589. According to Swinton's statement Longstreet admitted their loss to be between three and four thousand.

On the left, in front of the Third corps, the pickets were very active, and kept up a continuous racket all day, doubtless with the intention of deceiving us as to their strength in our front. It was soon after discovered that only about 25,000 troops lay between us and Richmond, the bulk of the army having been sent to attack our right, while the Union forces consisted of four corps, having an aggregate of 60,000 men, a force sufficient to have crushed General Magruder, who was in command of the rebels, in a few hours. In our ignorance of their weakness lay the safety of the Confederate citadel; but the knowledge, or want of knowledge, of an enemy's movements is an essential factor in fighting a battle.

June 27th found Porter's forces about six miles further south in line of battle east of the Powhite Creek. This line was selected to fight the main battle because it could better cover the bridges and more easily communicate with the main army, and in case of defeat it could better protect itself against a flank movement to head off his columns when on retreat to the James River.

During the afternoon of the 26th Slocum's division of the Sixth corps had been sent to Porter, raising his troops to about 35,000, to be pitted against nearly twice that number. The siege guns and all extra wagons had been sent during the night to the south side of the river.

Jackson's corps having now arrived in full force, the rebels advanced with a bold front and by two P. M., were in full line of battle parallel to our own.

#### BATTLE OF GAINES MILLS.

The battle commenced about 2 P. M., by Gen. A. P. Hill, who attacked our right and was stoutly resisted by our troops, although at one time our lines were broken. The enemy

was driven back in great disorder and with heavy loss. A feint was then made on our left by General Longstreet, to cover the main attack for an advance along the whole line, which commenced at six P. M., with all the available troops at hand. The attack was met on the right by Sykes division of regulars and Griffin's brigade and Bartlett's brigade of Slocum's division. The slaughter was terrible on both sides, and the roar of artillery was incessant and could be heard plainly by us in the Third corps, who were anxiously awaiting the result. The left of our line was attacked by Jackson with great impetuosity, and although resisted with a like persistence, its lines were finally broken by Texan troops led by General Hood, who captured fourteen pieces of artillery. During the panic which followed, the confusion was increased by a charge of our cavalry, who were mistaken for the enemy, thereby throwing our lines into disorder. In the meantime our right had maintained its ground against Generals Ewell's and Hill's divisions, but the breaking of the left made defeat certain, and if night had not set in our defeat would in all probability have been a complete rout. During the night the Union troops crossed the Chickahominy, and by early morning the bridges were destroyed. The losses on our side were 894 killed, 3,107 wounded, 2,836 missing, a total of 6,837. The losses of Jackson's, Ewell's, Whiting's, and D. H. Hill's divisions were : killed, 589 ; wounded, 2,671 ; missing, 24 ; a total of 3,284. The losses of Longstreet and A. P. Hill were not reported, but it is estimated it would raise their loss about to ours.

Returning again to Battery E, we find although not in the battle, that death had taken two of our men, Robert Sutcliffe and George W. Fisk, who had been sick several weeks with typhoid fever. Both had been good and faithful soldiers. Sutcliffe belonged to the first detachment, and Fisk was a valuable driver in the fifth detachment. He was the eldest son of Reuben and grandson of Isaac Fisk, well-known farmers at the west end of Coventry, R. I. If the writer had not himself seen with his own eyes the inhuman treatment given Mr. Fisk he would not have believed such brutality possible. He was in the field hospital, about half a mile in rear of the battery, and as the battery was constantly on duty it was not often that a comrade could get away to see his

friends in the hospital. Being anxious to know how my comrade was getting along, I took leave without permit to do so. On approaching the sick tent and being known by the man in charge, he said that Mr. Fisk needed a change of underclothing, which at once excited my fear that all was not as it should be. On reaching the tent I beheld what I never saw before and never wish to see again. He was not only unwashed and dirty, but he lay alone and almost unconscious, with flies encircling his mouth by the hundred. Those who have seen the entrance to a beehive can realize the condition he was in. Although his attendant came to his relief as soon as I came, it did not clear him from the charge of cruel neglect. Let us hope that this case was an exception.

June 28th, we were paid for two months, and during the time of being paid heavy skirmishing was in progress on our front near the railroad and on our right wing, which had now crossed to the south side of the Chickahominy. While active movements were being made to move the army to Harrison's Landing, on the James River, an attack was made upon the Forty-ninth Pennsylvania and the Thirty-third New York by the Seventh and Eighth Georgia, but they were repulsed with a loss of 100, while the two Georgia colonels with fifty men were taken prisoners. On the evening of the 27th the corps commanders received their orders as to the course of retreat, as agreed upon. General Keyes crossed White Oak Swamp Bridge in the forenoon of Sunday, the 28th, and took a strong position to defend the approaches when the enemy should appear. The different commands of the army were now with the army stores to be conveyed to the new base.

Orders were given to leave a large supply of hospital stores and rations for the 2,500 sick who could not be moved. The necessity of such an order was to be deplored, but it was unavoidable, and the poor fellows had to go to Richmond by the aid of those who had for weeks prevented them from going of their own will. A herd of 2,500 cattle was sent safely to James River without loss. Porter's corps also crossed the swamp and was ordered to cover the road leading to Richmond. The Second and Third corps were ordered to a new line about two miles nearer the swamp than the old line. General Slocum's division, which had been sent from the



Fourth corps to assist Porter, was, owing to its exhausted state, sent on over the swamp to join its corps. The Second, Third and Sixth corps were to cover Savage Station on the morning of the 29th, and to hold the enemy in check until the remaining wagons and troops could cross White Oak Swamp. Early on the morning of the 29th orders from the Third corps headquarters arrived, ordering Battery E to be ready to move at a minute's notice. At once we began to obey our summons. Leather washers were put between the hubs and linch-pins of the guns and caissons for the purpose of concealing our movements from the enemy. The guns and caissons were drawn by hand a short distance to the rear, when our horses were attached, and then we waited until daylight when we left camp and returned to near the old ground we occupied at Fair Oaks. The Parrotts were placed in a redoubt on the left of the Williamsburg road, the howitzers on the left of the same line, under Lieutenant Jastram. While here we were made aware of what we were ignorant of before. We learned that the whole army was to change its base of operations, which fact was freely circulated, doubtless to blind the common soldiers to the fact that we had been really defeated. It certainly had that effect with many.

Before leaving the vicinity of our temporary halt the rebels were seen to emerge from the woods near the railroad, west of Savage Station. Soon after we started for Brackett's Ford. The howitzers two or three times unlimbered to the rear and waited until ordered forward. After our final move toward the swamp, in our haste we took the wrong road and had to return towards the enemy and take another road, which led us to Brackett's Ford, where we crossed between five and six P. M. After marching about two miles we encamped for the night. At ten P. M. we unhitched our horses and lay down to rest, which was needed by both men and horses.

During the hours of our crossing the swamp Sumner's corps was fighting the battle of Savage Station, assisted near its close by Brooks' brigade of Third division, Sixth corps. At the close of the battle the enemy was forced to retire. During the night General Smith's division, the last of Franklin's corps, crossed the White Oak Swamp and posted his troops to defend the bridge against the approach of the

enemy. The next morning at ten A. M., the rear of Sumner's corps (Richardson's division), crossed the bridge and took position on Smith's left, to assist him in holding the crossings. Thus ended the fifth day's fighting before Richmond.

The Union army having successfully held the enemy at bay, found itself on the morning of the 30th on the south side of White Oak Swamp, but its safety was not yet assured, for the enemy was in pursuit, one column, in command of Jackson, following on the line of retreat. The other column moved down upon our right flank, with the intention of striking us at Charles City Cross Roads. McClellan having anticipated such a movement, had ordered General Franklin to take charge of the crossing at White Oak Swamp with his own corps (Sixth) to which was added Richardson's division of the Second-corps and Nagle's brigade of the Fourth corps. Smith's division was posted on the right of White Oak Bridge, Richardson's division of the Second corps on the left, Nagle's brigade of the Fourth corps on the left of the road in front of Richardson's division. Hancock's brigade was posted across the Brackett's Ford road; Hazzard's (C, Fourth United States), and Pettit's batteries were posted in front of the crossing. The enemy under Jackson opened fire with about thirty guns, which was at once replied to by Captain Hazzard, and later he was joined by Pettit's battery. Both batteries were severely handled by the enemy's batteries, but they maintained their position until ordered to retire. Captain Hazzard was mortally wounded. Several attempts were made during the afternoon to force a passage, but failed. The artillery continued to fire until dark and then withdrew. The enemy made no further effort until morning, when they found that the Union troops had left.

If we, in this engagement, had been unsuccessful, our chances would have been very much endangered at Charles City Cross Roads, where another engagement was in progress about the same time.

The day before General McClellan had ordered General Slocum, of Franklin's corps, to post his division about one mile from Brackett's Ford, upon the right of, and at right angles to, the Charles City Cross Roads. General Kearny's division was posted on the left of Slocum, at nearly right angles with him. McCall's division joined Kearny's left. Hooker's di-

vision, composed of Sickles's, Carr's, and Grover's brigades, were on the extreme left, his left swinging well to the front. General Sedgwick's division, two brigades of which had been sent in the forenoon on the double quick to Brackett's Ford to reinforce the troops there, had been ordered back in great haste, and was held in reserve in rear of McCall. Our total force in line was fourteen brigades. Opposed to us were twelve brigades under command of General Longstreet, with four brigades under General Huger, within supporting distance. It was expected that Jackson would also be in time to assist, but he failed to arrive on account of obstructions that our troops had placed across the roads. Previous to and during the hours that our lines were being formed, Battery E, after being aroused before daylight, started at sunrise and soon after reported to General Kearny for orders, who at once ordered the battery to Birney's brigade, which was guarding a line extending two miles on the left of Slocum's division. Birney posted the battery well to the right of the Charles City Roads, in an open field, where we went into battery and fired four shots into the woods in our front, through which we could see a column of rebel infantry moving towards our left. About noon we moved with the brigade a short distance to the left into the woods, to cover a ravine. Had we been attacked here we should, doubtless, have been under the necessity of going into Richmond under a rebel escort; but to our great satisfaction we were soon, by the aid of axes, relieved from our entangled position and were ordered to General Kearny's headquarters. In the meantime the enemy had opened with artillery on our right, in front of General Slocum. Anticipating that a heavy assault would be made, our captain, with the Parrotts of our battery, was sent to his support and relieved Porter's Massachusetts battery, which had exhausted its ammunition. These two sections, which were commanded by Lieutenants Arnold and Sheldon, were ably handled, and kept up a constant fire until late in the evening, firing about 460 rounds. The fighting at this point was mainly by artillery, and doubtless was intended to hold our right from reinforcing the left, where they were to make the principal attack. The Confederate record calls this the action at Brackett's Farm. Mahone's

and Armistead's brigade, of Huger's division, were the only rebel troops engaged, their loss being seventy-eight.

While our Parrotts were engaged on the right, the left and centre were engaged in one of the most desperate battles of the war. The attack was commenced about three P. M., upon McCall's division, who was, as before stated, on Kearny's left. His division consisted of the Pennsylvania Reserves, who fought bravely until sunset, although their line wavered at times, and had to fall back a short distance before Longstreet's superior force. They finally, by the aid of reinforcements, succeeded in holding the enemy in check, but their brave and veteran commander, McCall, was taken prisoner, he having ridden by mistake into the Forty-seventh Virginia Regiment. About four P. M. the attack began on our division, (Kearny's) in front of Robinson's brigade, composed of the Twentieth Indiana, Eighty-seventh New York, and the Fifty-seventh, Sixty-third and One Hundred and fifth Pennsylvania. The brigade fought desperately against a superior force for several hours. The Sixty-third Pennsylvania (Colonel Hays) was especially commended for daring charges made to protect Thompson's battery, which was raking the rebel columns with double canister. It was now five P. M. and our line was being hard pressed by the enemy, who seemed to be reinforced. Berry's brigade, composed of the Second and Third Michigan, First and Thirty-seventh New York, now came to the assistance of Robinson, the First New York being placed to assist in supporting Thompson's battery, which was being severely assailed. The contest continued with unremitting severity until seven P. M., when a part of Colwell's and Burns's brigade, from the Second corps, was sent to our relief. The rattle of musketry and the roar of artillery indicated clearly that a desperate effort was being made by the enemy to break our lines and capture our trains. While this desperate struggle was in progress General Kearny sent an orderly (A. Malpus) for our howitzers. I will now let Lieutenant Jastram speak for himself by quoting in full his report to Captain Randolph. [See page 168, 1st Series, Vol. II., Part Second, of Rebellion Records.]

*Report of Pardon S. Jastram, Battery E, First Rhode Island Light Artillery, of the battle of Glendale, or Nelson's Farm (Frazier's Farm).*

CAMP NEAR HARRISON'S LANDING, VA., }  
July 7th, 1862. }

SIR: In accordance with your instructions on Monday, the 30th ult., I remained with the howitzers in position in front of General Kearny's headquarters and awaited his orders. About half an hour after one of the General's aides\* rode in at full speed from the field in front, with orders to bring in the howitzers as soon as possible and save the day. The necessary orders were given, and I started off at a quick trot, the aide continually urging me to "hurry up." Passing through to the main road, and turning one side to allow the passage of Captain Thompson and his battery, I entered the field on the right. On inquiring of the aide what position I was to occupy or where I should go, I could obtain no definite information. The order was to "Fire towards the sun." The dense smoke covering every part of the field in front, prevented me from judging for myself where my presence was most needed. Accordingly, I moved to the front and right, gave the orders, "Action front and fire with spherical case, two seconds' time." But three cannoneers succeeded in accompanying each piece, and the corporal of the sixth piece was acting as Nos. 5, 6 and 7. The lead driver also acted as No. 1, and was obliged to leave the horses as soon as the piece was unlimbered. By some mistake, too, the piece had been loaded with canister which had to be fired into the air, since I knew not the position of our own men in our immediate front. The other charges of spherical case were thrown beyond into the woods.

At this moment our men began to fall back on our left and front, and came between the pieces, so that I could not work them. I then gave the order to limber to the rear, and at the same time some field officer ordered me to get my pieces out as quickly as possible. I saw the fifth piece leave the field safely, but the near wheel horse of the sixth piece had been hit when we first unlimbered, had fallen over the pole, and so entangled the harness that we could not draw the piece out. Accordingly, I gave orders to spike the piece, which was faithfully executed by young Harvey, of the sixth detachment; and, at the same time, Albert A. Hopkins, the lead driver, unfastened the lead horses from the swing team, one horse of which had also been hit, and brought them from the field. Definite orders as to the position I was to take upon the field would undoubtedly have made the howitzers of some service, while the want of such orders could not but make their presence of very little service.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

P. S. JASTRAM,

*First Lieutenant Battery E, First Rhode Island Light Artillery.*

While the howitzers were on the way out we were met by a column of troops, said to be the Meagher Irish Brigade, who were advancing on the double-quick, and went into the action with that vim which was characteristic of the Irish soldiers. Burns' and Dana's brigades of Sumner's corps were

\*It was an orderly, A. Malpus, Fourth New Jersey.

of great value during the evening in holding the enemy in check. Kearny's old brigade from the Sixth corps, the gallant Jerseys, who were now commanded by Gen. Geo. W. Taylor, appeared upon the field in the evening and were ordered to occupy McCall's abandoned position. Although not severely attacked they gave the adjoining troops confidence that no danger would come to them by the breaking of the Jersey brigade. Hooker's First division, although not so severely handled, was, nevertheless, in for their share of glory; each of his brigades, commanded by Grover, Sickles, and Colonel Carr, were conspicuous in daring action during the closing hours of the fight, which, by nine P. M. was virtually over. To the Third corps, and especially to Kearny's division, is due the honor of staying the strong arm of the exultant foe, who, at the commencement of the battle, was confident of crushing McClellan's army and capturing a large part of his immense wagon trains. It is true that the lines remained at the close of the battle nearly where they were at its beginning, and that both armies were in condition to renew the fight had it been necessary. The object sought by the rebels was to capture a large portion of the army and to destroy their wagon trains, in both of which they failed. Our motive was to protect our trains from destruction while *en route* to a new base on the James River, which we succeeded in accomplishing; therefore, by the law of logic, it was a victory for us.

As much has been said relating to the action of Jastram in this engagement, I will again refer to it. Being one of the cannoneers who served on the fifth piece at the time in controversy, I can speak as an eye-witness. When the order came for the howitzers at Kearny's headquarters, the cannoneers were scattered about the ground near the guns. When the order for drivers to mount was given, the cannoneers, of course, started for their posts, but as the section started on the trot and was being constantly hurried forward, it was now going so fast that only three of the cannoneers of each piece could keep up, and they mounted themselves while on the trot at the risk of being run over. The distance was from one-quarter to one-half a mile to the field of action. When we reached the field we beheld what we had never seen before. Our engagements had been hitherto at long

range between artillery; but here was a desperate encounter going on between infantry and artillery combined at close quarters. The ground in the open field into which we were ordered was partially covered with sand, into which the musket balls of the enemy were fast falling, and, as they struck the ground, sprays of sand were scattered in all directions, giving it an uninviting appearance. On entering the field Lieutenant Jastram's horse was seen riderless, and we supposed at first that Jastram had been shot, but instead he had dismounted and gone forward to seek a location for the pieces. Soon emerging from the smoke he took the section forward a short distance and gave the command, "action front," which was accomplished in as quick time as three privates, a sergeant and a corporal could be expected to obey the order. We had only time to fire five shots, two by the fifth piece and three by the sixth, when a field officer rode up and in a hurried manner gave the order to "get out as soon as possible for we were being surrounded." Although it was not so, I venture to say that few even of older and more experienced officers but would have pursued the same course that Jastram did. I think that all of us present supposed that the troops falling back in confusion through our line of artillery were being driven, and that the enemy would soon be upon us in force. The order of the field officer confirmed us in that supposition. Up to the time of the statement that we were being surrounded every man was doing his duty, but when told that we were being surrounded some confusion was manifest by the sergeant of the sixth piece, who gave the order to cut the traces (which was not obeyed) of the unwounded horses, and with drawn pistol pointed over his shoulder towards the enemy hastened the movement of his horses to the rear. Had it not been for the more steady nerve of Gunner C. P. Williams and private Albert A. Hopkins, and Martin Harvey, and some others, whose names I am sorry not to be able to give, the flight would have been of no credit; but the bravery of the cannoneers and drivers saved its honor. Among the last to leave the position was Lieutenant Jastram, who manifested a commendable courage throughout. After the firing had ceased Lieutenant Jastram and Butler, of G (Second United States), attempted to reach the abandoned pieces, but the guard would not allow them to

pass. The non-commissioned officers in this action were on the sixth piece, Sergt. G. E. Williams, Corp. Charles P. Williams, and Francis B. Butts; on the fifth piece, Sergt. Joseph S. Milne, Corporals Geo. H. Burlingham and Geo. W. H. Allen. Burlingham, the gunner, when we started for the field of action, said to Corporal Allen, "You take charge of the piece and I will soon be there," but he never came, although he had ample time to find us as the other men did who were left behind during the night. He was made prisoner and afterwards paroled. But no doubt existed in our minds that he deserted into the rebel hands intentionally. He was a constitutional coward, and how he ever became a corporal was a mystery. John H. Carney, an artificer, and Private Richard Poynton, were also taken prisoners. They returned to the battery Sept. 26, 1862, and Poynton was soon after discharged. Subsequently, while at Harrison's Landing, as Kearny was dissatisfied with the loss of the howitzer, Lieutenant Jastram demanded a court of inquiry, which was granted, and held in August following, Col. Charles H. Tompkins being president. The findings of the court were: first, that Lieutenant Jastram failed in not mounting his cannons before starting his section; second, in unnecessarily abandoning his position; third, in not making proper efforts to withdraw his piece that was lost. The court said in conclusion: "It appears, however, that in moving to the front and in opening fire on the enemy he acted with promptness and spirit; that objects had then become very indistinct to the eye; that confusion prevailed around; that no one gave him sufficient information or any instruction for his guidance, and that his abandonment of the position was an error of judgment."

McClellan approved of the findings, and ordered that no further proceedings be taken against him.

I think the members of the battery at least, will be glad to have Captain Randolph's endorsement of the conduct of his officers and men in this battle. Quoting from his report to Kearny, he said:

Of the general behavior of my officers and men during the foregoing action, I can only say, that in every instance where I could observe it, I was entirely satisfied. My men were cool and persistent, my officers collected and carefully attentive to the efficient working of their sections. Where all did so well it is somewhat unjust to mention any, and yet I can-



not forbear to mention Lieut. W. A. Arnold, my first officer, for the coolness and determination he showed upon every occasion. I regret greatly the loss of one of the pieces of my battery, the more that I was not present and am unable to judge from my own knowledge of the circumstances attending its loss; yet the entire confidence that I repose in Lieutenant Jastram and in the non-commissioned officers of his section, makes me confident that the loss of the piece was a military necessity. I am the more completely convinced of this when I learn that one of Captain Thompson's pieces (an officer of well-known judgment and bravery) was left, although it was away from the field when Lieutenant Jastram entered. I feel confident that as Captain Thompson had personal charge of his battery there must have been good and sufficient cause for the loss of his piece and mine.

• GEORGE E. RANDOLPH,

*Commander Battery E, Rhode Island Light Artillery.*

This act of Captain Thompson's in losing his piece was also censured by Kearny. This grew out of no intended injustice by Kearny, but he was so full of daring and courage that it sometimes overpowered his judgment, and made him seem uncharitable and severe.

## CHAPTER VIII.

July, 1862.

## BATTLE OF MALVERN HILL AND RETREAT.

AT the close of the battle of Glendale, or Charles City Cross Roads, as we usually call it, the Parrotts, which had been sent to reinforce Slocum on the right, started between twelve and one with Kearny's division for Malvern Hill, which they reached at an early hour on July 1st. The howitzer under command of Jastram and the remaining caissons which had been under the charge of Lieut. John K. Bucklyn, left the rear of the battlefield about two A. M. to join the right and centre sections which had preceded them, reaching there at eight A. M. We found our battery comrades anxious to learn the result of our action after they left us the day before. Captain Randolph complimented Sergeant Milne and Second Corporal Allen for saving their piece, and promoted Allen to first corporal in place of Burlingham, missing. After remaining at the centre of the line a short time we were moved further to the right to take our position with Kearny's division. Our troops were now nearly all in position. As no map accompanies this narrative I will state only the general position as it existed on the morning of the 1st of July. A few changes were made in the afternoon to assist Couch, among them were Meagher and Sickles' brigades and two sections of our own battery.

Porter's Fifth corps held the left on Crew's Hill; Couch's division of Keyes's Fourth corps joined Porter's right, Richardson of the Second corps and Sedgwick were still further to the right. Next came Slocum's and Smith's divisions of the Sixth corps, the extreme right being held by Peck's division of Keyes's corps. McCall's division was now under command of Gen. Truman Seymour, and was in reserve at the right front of the Malvern House. Tyler's light siege

artillery was at the left of the Malvern House, on a line with Seymour. The batteries in reserve were on the west slope of Malvern Hill. Hunt's reserve artillery was on Malvern Hill in the rear of the centre of our lines. Battery C of our regiment, with three guns (having lost three at Gaines Mill) under Lieutenant Waterman (Captain Weeden being chief of artillery), were stationed on the extreme left, but later were sent to assist Couch's division. General Warren with his brigade, which had been reduced to less than seven hundred men, was stationed on the lowlands to the west of Malvern Hill. With him was one regiment of regulars and Martin's battery, and a detachment of cavalry. This command was attacked on the 30th by General Holmes' division at Turkey Bridge (or Malvern Cliff), where the rebels were badly handled and made a hasty retreat, with a loss of several hundred.

Heintzelman's Corps, which now consisted of only two divisions (Porter's First division having been taken May 18th to form a part of the Fifth corps), was virtually on the right, resting on Western Run, a small stream running through a low marshy land diagonally across our front on the right of Hooker. The junction of Hooker with this river formed an angle in our line. Beyond this angle Sumner's and Franklin's corps were in position. Although nominally at the right, they were nearly in our rear. Our battery was in position on Kearny's right. Thompson's battery, of our division, and Beam's reserve battery were with Hooker. Birney's brigade held Kearny's front line in rifle-pits except the Fourth Maine and half of the Third, who held the wooded ravine a little to the left of our position. Berry's brigade was held in reserve behind Birney's. Although not engaged, they lost about fifty men from the rebel artillery, whose shots passed over our battery into their ranks. Robinson's brigade was also in support of the same brigade, and especially Thompson's and our own battery remaining so until the attack on our left, when General Robinson led the Fifty-seventh and Sixty-third Pennsylvania and the Eighty-seventh New York to the support of Couch's division. Their loss was only twenty-three during the day. Opposite and beyond the river lay Poindexter farm, upon which there was a range of hills, from the surface of which was developing a promising harvest

of wheat. About eleven A. M. a battery appeared in view upon one of these hills, advancing one of its sections to the summit of the hill, and opened fire upon our battery. We immediately responded to the challenge with such effect as to cause them to limber up and retire in great haste apparently, with one gun dismounted. After a short interval three batteries, W. T. Poague's, Carpenter's, and Balthi's, of Whiting's division, appeared and renewed the attack with great energy for an hour or more. The shots mostly failed to reach us or passed over our heads into the ranks of Robinson's brigade, causing quite a severe loss. After an hour or two of silence (during which we disposed of our rations), the enemy's batteries again renewed the attack, and, being reinforced by two more batteries, the contest became quite lively, and continued until after five P. M. with the exception of a few short intervals. The artillery of Heintzelman's corps was evidently the winners in this artillery duel. The loss reported in Poague's battery was two killed and ten wounded. Carpenter's loss was two killed and five wounded, with the loss of two horses, besides the loss of two wheels. Reilley's battery lost twelve wounded. Courtney's battery became engaged about five P. M. Their loss was slight. Wooding's battery lost one or two. These batteries were all of Whiting's division of Jackson's corps. Battery E, up to this time, had only one man killed. He was acting No. 1 on the fourth piece (Sergeant Millen). He was struck by an exploding shell just as he was ramming down the charge. His name was Joseph Harrop, and belonged in River Point. He was an Englishman, and one of our best men. During the forenoon he seemed to be impressed that he would be killed, so much so that he asked Corporal Hargraves to take his pocket-book and send it home if anything happened to him. No effort of the corporal to convince him that he was as safe as himself could quiet him, and, to satisfy him, the corporal took the money, little thinking that he would have to fulfill the request.

As one howitzer was lost the day before, the two detachments served on the fifth piece, which was fired so rapidly that it required two, and sometimes three, to cut the shells fast enough to supply the demand. It finally became so heated that we had to cease firing and freely use water to cool it. The rapid firing of this piece evidently for a time caused

one of the enemy's batteries to be concentrated upon it. Although the shot and shrapnel fell in showers about us, but few fell near enough to do us any harm. They must have been poorly supplied with good gunners, as our battery was not covered by any protection whatever. They should, with good practice, have caused us very much more damage. Notwithstanding our exposed position, every officer and private stood bravely at his post, none more so than Captain Randolph, whose every movement showed the best qualities of a brave and reliable commander.

The infantry opposite to us upon Poindexter Farm was a part of Gen. T. J. Jackson's corps, composed of Whiting, Ewell, and Jackson's old division proper, which was still under his command. The brigades which composed this division were Winder's, Jones's, Wade Hampton's, and Gen. A. R. Lawton's. Poague's and Carpenter's batteries were in Winder's brigade. Wooding's battery was in Hampton's brigade. Whiting's division contained Hood's and Col. E. M. Law's brigades. Balthi's and Reilley's batteries were in this division. Ewell's division was made up of Early's, Trimble's, and Taylor's brigades. Courtney's battery was attached to Trimble's brigade, which was the battery that attacked us at five p. m. The brigades in our front were engaged only in skirmishing, but their loss from Heintzelman's artillery was several hundred, one brigade losing one hundred and nineteen.

In front of our left lay Magruder's corps and a part of Jackson's, which had not been idle during the contest. On our right its artillery had been feeling for our weak points, with the intention of making an attack where it would be the most successful. They found our forces posted upon an elevated plateau about one and a half miles in length, the approaches sloping gradually towards the north and east. Being woodless it gave us a clear vision of the advancing columns of the enemy. The ground occupied by the enemy was swampy covered mostly by woods. The crossings over the swampy ravines were few and difficult. The woods were a protecting cover from our infantry, but our artillery made sad havoc in their ranks during these preliminary movements. Our army was now so strongly posted that it was content to await the coming assaults of the foe. About the middle of

the afternoon, Anderson's brigade, of D. H. Hill's division, made a rash advance upon Couch's division and were repulsed by the fire of the Tenth Massachusetts Regiment and a charge of the Thirty-sixth New York, who captured the colors of the Fourteenth North Carolina Infantry in a hand-to-hand conflict. Kingsbury's battery also assisted in this repulse. During the preliminary skirmishing Magruder's corps had been massed for a determined assault upon Porter and Couch. The signal for the attack was for Armistead (after the rebel artillery had silenced ours), to advance with a yell and carry the battery in his front. Gen. D. H. Hill, hearing what he supposed to be the signal, ordered his division to advance, but, for some reason, the commands on his right and left did not respond. After repeated assaults, finding himself overpowered by the concentrated fire of our artillery and infantry, he retired with a fearful loss. It was now evident that the battle was to be finished on Porter's and Couch's front.

We were soon made aware of this by the forces of Magruder's corps advancing to the assault under cover of his artillery. Regiments and brigades, without regard to their loss, were advanced against our batteries, whose terrible and accurate fire mowed swaths of death in their ranks. A call for reinforcements brought Meagher's Irish and Caldwell's brigades from Sumner, Sickles's brigade from Hooker's division, and our four Parrotts from Kearny's division, to their support. The Fourth Maine and four companies of the Third Maine, of Birney's brigade, with the Fifty-seventh, Sixty-third and Eighty-seventh New York, of Robinson's brigade, who, in person, led them to the support of one of Couch's and De Russy's batteries. These supports were well timed, as some of our regiments had used up their ammunition. Column after column continued to advance against the destructive fire of our artillery, and, when within range of the infantry, a withering fire greeted them with increased destruction and caused them to retire in confusion. Some of our brigades followed after the retreating foe and captured their colors, in some cases at a severe cost to themselves. The contest was continued with unabated fury until nearly nine p. m., having brought into action the entire Fifth corps, Couch's division of the Fourth corps, Meagher's and Caldwell's brigades and the artillery of Sumner's Second corps,

Sickles's and a part of Birney's and Robinson's brigades, and our battery of Heintzelman's corps. In addition to these, the reserve artillery and Tyler's corps siege guns were active in promoting the success of the day. Opposed to these were twenty-five brigades and eleven batteries of the enemy's.

The action of Battery E in this battle was a credit to the officers and men, they receiving great commendation from the division and corps commanders. In Heintzelman's report he said: "Towards dusk General Porter sent to Sumner for a brigade and a battery of artillery. These were sent. I added another brigade and battery of artillery (Randolph's) to enable him to make the defeat more complete. All the troops under my command were exposed to this artillery fire. In General Kearny's division only the artillery and skirmishers were engaged. Captain Thompson managed his battery with the full genius of that arm, whilst Captain Randolph, with his Parrott guns, persecuted all that attacked him, silencing several times batteries that were sweeping our front or covering their columns of attack on General Couch to our left. The Fourth Maine was particularly distinguished for its coolness in holding a ravine and repulsing the enemy's skirmishers on our right. In General Hooker's division the men behaved with their usual coolness. The batteries were so placed that they were enabled several times to enfilade the enemy's artillery and infantry advance. We have to deplore the loss of Captain Beam, who commanded Battery B, New Jersey Light Artillery."

Beam's battery formerly belonged to our division when it was under the command of Hamilton, and was associated with us at Alexandria. It was now in the artillery reserve. Here let me give an extract from Captain Randolph's report: "After a short rest, enough to water my horses and replenish ammunition boxes, I took position under direction of Captain Thompson, Second Artillery, United States Army, on the left of the house occupied by General Kearny as headquarters on the first of July. Here I almost immediately engaged a battery of the enemy that appeared in the wheat-field opposite, and one thousand or twelve hundred yards distant, receiving in return a hot fire of shell and shrapnel, which, however, was more destructive in front and rear than to us.

Until afternoon I suffered no loss. I kept up a fire at intervals, whenever I saw in the opposite field any enemy to oppose, until towards night, when General Couch engaged the enemy to our left. I was specially ordered to silence a battery of the enemy that was covering their attacking columns and making havoc in our lines. I opened a sharp fire immediately, drawing the fire of the rebel battery from Couch to myself, and succeeded, after a short time, in silencing it altogether. Soon after my attention was called to a column of reinforcements going to the support of the enemy. Here, too, I had opportunity to do good service, as our previous practice had given us the range and elevation of the point at which the enemy's column entered the woods. Our fire ceased about 8.30 P. M., Tuesday, and, at two A. M., I moved, in company with Kearny's division, to Harrison's Landing, arriving there at about nine A. M., July 2d."

No record of the number of shots fired by Battery E in this battle has been kept (so far as I know), but as the ammunition chests were refilled and again exhausted, there must have been two hundred, if not more, fired from each of the four Parrotts. The single howitzer fired about four hundred and fifty rounds. Our loss on the left, by the Parrotts, was three wounded, Henry Binns, Stephen W. Corp, and Charles E. White, the two former severely. Corp died from the effect of his wounds, Dec. 24, 1866. Binns was wounded in the arm, and, if he had not protested, the surgeons would have amputated it. He was first sent to the hospital at Washington. In September he was sent to Portsmouth Grove Hospital, Rhode Island. In November he was ordered to Convalescent Camp, at Alexandria, where he was discharged in March, 1863. He afterwards obtained a pension of four dollars per month. April 5, 1864, he enlisted again, and reached the battery soon after, at Brandy Station. A reporter who visited the hospital reported him to be "one of the most cheerful and courageous little fellows that was ever carried to the rear." He was only thirteen years and eleven months when he first enlisted.

No sooner had this battle ended than the troops began their march to Harrison's Landing. The Third corps received its orders to march at eleven A. M., but before the road was clear of other troops it was near four A. M. when the



leading brigade started. Soon after it began to rain in torrents, causing the only road over which we had to march to become almost impassable. Notwithstanding our great victory, the biographer of Kearny says, after having won such a victory, "The exulting troops looked forward to harvesting the fruits of their bloody toils, orders were given to retreat to Harrison's Landing. Then, and not till then, the bonds of discipline seemed to be unloosed, and a disorderly rush ensued, which justified the remark that 'in the storm and darkness the Union army fled from a victory as though it had been a rout.'"

De Trobiand says, in his *Four Years with the Army of the Potomac*, "It was there (Harrison's Landing) that like a shipwrecked crew this army rallied," etc.

An officer of Hooker's division states that corps, division, brigade and regimental staff officers were stationed at certain points to disentangle the snarled skein and reassemble the men under their proper commanders. Greeley says in his *American Conflict*, that "when the order for retreat was received some refused to obey the command. General Martindale shed tears of shame. General Porter's devotion to his chieftain was temporarily shaken by this order, which elicited his most indignant protest."

From the brave and chivalrous Kearny this order of retreat drew forth the memorable words recorded by more than one historian, "I, Philip Kearny, an old soldier, enter my solemn protest against this order of retreat. We ought, instead of retreating, to follow up the enemy and take Richmond; and, in full view of all responsibility of such a declaration, I say to you all, such an order can only be prompted by cowardice or treason."

Some doubt the truth of the above protest by Kearny, which was attributed to him by Dr. Marks in his *Peninsular Campaign*, but his biographer says that the truth of the statement has been confirmed by an officer of high rank in the regular army, who was present at the time. He says that "Kearny became so excited that he went on like a wild man at the idea of a victorious army abandoning the field to a fleeing foe, and, in spite of every effort to restrain him, he gave vent to his indignation in sentences, of which the one quoted is the most severe."

The saddest order given after this battle was that the dead and wounded were to be left on the field to the care of the enemy. This was the last of the seven days' fighting before Richmond, the first being fought June 25th, and is known as the battle of Oak Grove, King's School House, French's Hill, or the Orchard.

On the 26th occurred the battle of Mechanicsville. On the 27th the severe battle of Gaines' Mill. On the 28th the action at Gannett's and Golding's farms. On the 29th was fought the battle of Savage Station and the skirmishes on the Williamsburg Road, James River Road, and Jordan Ford. On the 30th took place the engagement at Glendale, known also as the battle of Charles City Cross Roads, New Market Road, Frasier's Farm, or Willis Church. An engagement also took place at Turkey Bridge, or Malvern Cliffs, between General Warren and the rebel General Holmes. On July 1st took place the final battle of Malvern Hill or Crew's Hill. The official war records give the following casualties in the army from June 25th to July 2d inclusive: The effective force of the Army of the Potomac, June 20, 1862, consisted of 1,511 engineers, 6,513 cavalry, 6,446 artillery, and 90,975 infantry, in all 105,445. During the seven days' fighting before Richmond the Confederate army consisted of 173 regiments and 12 battalions of infantry, 71 batteries and 12 regiments of cavalry. Their loss was: Killed, 3,286; wounded, 15,909; missing, 940; total, 20,135. The strength of the Confederates is not officially stated, but it probably ranged from 80,000 to 90,000 effectives. The Union army consisted of 150 regiments of infantry, 2 regiments and 1 battalion of engineers, 1 regiment of siege artillery, 58 batteries and 10 regiments of cavalry. The loss was: Killed, 1,734; wounded, 8,062; missing, 6,053; total loss, 15,849. The Second corps' loss was: Killed, 201; wounded, 1,195; missing, 1,024; total, 2,420. Fifth corps' loss was: Killed, 995; wounded, 3,805; missing, 2,801; total, 7,601. The excess of losses in this corps is largely due to its large numbers and its great loss in prisoners. Sixth corps' loss was: Killed, 296; wounded, 1,472; missing, 1,110; total, 2,878; engineers and reserve cavalry loss was 177. The Third corps' loss was: Killed, 158; wounded, 1,021; missing, 794, total, 1,973. The Second division's (Hooker's) loss

was: Killed, 55; wounded, 412. Third division (Kearny's): Killed, 96; wounded, 604; missing, 527; total, 1,227. The losses in the brigades of Kearny's division were: Robinson's First brigade: Killed, 56; wounded, 314; missing, 161; total, 527. Birney's Second brigade: Killed, 10; wounded, 53; missing, 185; total, 248. Berry's Third brigade: Killed, 28; wounded, 225; missing, 176; total, 429. Battery E, Rhode Island Light Artillery: Killed, 1; wounded, 3; missing, 3; total, 7. Second United States Battery G: Killed, 1; wounded, 13; missing, 2; total, 16. Fourth corps' loss was: Killed, 70; wounded, 512; missing, 218; total, 800.

To the Fourth corps was assigned the duty of acting as rear guard, being stationed near Turkey Creek. This corps became really the new front. Before reaching this position the rear guard was under the command of Col. Wm. Averill, of the Third Pennsylvania Cavalry, who had, in addition to his four regiments of regulars under Lieutenant-Colonel Buchanan, Tidball's United States battery. To the vigilance of these commands is due the honor of permitting the Army of the Potomac to reach a harbor of safety.

## CHAPTER IX.

July—August, 1862.

## HARRISON'S LANDING AND BATTLE OF KETTLE RUN.

THE night of July 2d found the troops of the army again united in one camp at Harrison's Landing. Although tired and weary, and sad over the loss of so many comrades, there was still left a brave and loyal army. Battery E had borne the trials and fatigue of the seven days of fighting with commendable courage. The officers of the battery had proved themselves an honor to any command, and they did not propose to surrender the good standing of the battery, which it had so honorably won.

On the morning of the retreat an incident occurred by which our comrade, Lester S. Hill, came near being captured by the enemy. Our battery had been stationed in a wheat-field, from which the wheat had been gathered into shocks, which were utilized the night after the battle to furnish a bed as well as a covering. Comrade Hill laid down with others under an apple-tree, covering himself over with the wheat, and was soon wrapped in slumber. On awaking the following morning, he protruded his head out of the straw and found to his surprise that the battery had gone. He came out of that straw in the twinkling of an eye. He saw the direction the battery had taken by the imprints on the soft soil, and immediately took up the trail. Approaching an old barn, he saw some soldiers lying near clad in blue uniforms. He stopped to arouse them, but they were sleeping the sleep that knows no waking, being stiff in death. Having been wounded in battle they had apparently crept to the old building for shelter.

After going about a mile, running as fast as possible, he met the Union cavalry pickets that had been left to watch

the approach of the enemy. From them he learned the direction the army had gone, and hastened on, joining his battery at Harrison's Landing, where his comrades had been wondering what had become of him, accounting for his absence upon the supposition that there was nothing under the apple-tree but bundles of wheat, and as it was dark when the battery moved off, they supposed he had gone on. Comrade Hill is of the opinion that if his sleep in the wheat-field had lasted half an hour longer the rebel advance would have been upon him. As it was, by making good use of his legs, with which nature had well endowed him, and making quick time in the direction of the Union forces, he was enabled to escape being made a prisoner of war.

Being wet and cold after our march through the rain and mud, we passed the day and night as patiently as circumstances would allow. What the next movement was to be was a standing question, more easily asked than answered. The change of base to which we had listened so often during our retreat had lost its charm. It was a change not from choice but one of necessity, and had cost us over fifteen thousand men, forty pieces of artillery, thousands of arms, stores to the value of millions, to say nothing of the demoralizing effect upon the army and the encouragement it gave to the disloyal element at the North. July 3d, we were aroused from our anticipated quiet by the explosion of shells, which were being thrown into the camp a short distance to our right, and in the rear of the Harrison mansion, it being at that time the headquarters of General McClellan. Captain Randolph with two sections of his battery immediately moved to the point of attack and opened fire upon the untimely intruders. Lieutenant Arnold with the right section was ordered in company with an infantry force to move upon their right flank and disperse them, which was accomplished by the infantry. No action was required by Arnold's section. We fired nearly a hundred rounds, by which time the infantry had put the intruders to flight. The rebel artillery that opened upon us proved to be Captain Pelham with one of General Stuart's howitzers. Our loss was only two or three horses slightly wounded.

When we left camp to go into this action we were ordered to leave our knapsacks behind in camp. For some reason

no guard was left in charge. When we returned we found that every knapsack had been rifled by some thievish comrades, we losing thereby our changes of clothing and some articles which we had brought from home of precious value. Our baggage wagons joined us after being absent several days, bringing a much needed supply of forage.

July 4th, although our Independence Day in name, in reality we had none, for we were the subjects (so far as movements were concerned) of the traitors of our country. Nevertheless several of our batteries fired a national salute and the bands played national airs, which gave it the semblance of such. General McClellan also rode with his staff through the several commands, receiving the cheers of the troops while on his way. The staff officers of the several corps commanders were kept busy in locating their regiments and batteries, ourselves being moved back one mile to join the regiments of Kearny's division.

July 5th all was quiet. The bands played familiar airs to cheer up the weary men.

July 6th. The battery harnessed up all day, but made no move, the bands still continuing their music.

July 7th. Hitched up at 2.30 A. M., so remaining until six A. M. David H. Macomber, who had been absent without leave since July 1st returned to camp, but only remained until the 8th, when he deserted and enlisted in the navy under the name of John Smith.

July 8th. President Lincoln visited the army. A salute was fired in his honor by several batteries, among them was our own. General McClellan and his staff accompanied the President, and they were invariably received with hearty cheers at every point. The bands also added to the enthusiasm of the troops by the playing of patriotic tunes.

July 10th. Three men who had been absent without leave with Macomber returned. They were John F. Keegan, Jeremiah Potter and James H. Walsh. Potter was really a kind-hearted man and quite an expert at juggling, but he was inclined to leave camp as though he was moved by a law of gravitation. Walsh was of more than ordinary ability and was quite an adept at rhyming, as the following extract from a poem entitled "To the Rhode Island Boys of Battery E"

shows. It was probably written just after the battle of Williamsburg, although it is dated April 21, 1862 :

" Now Rhody's sons with guns and howitzer, how they rattle,  
Are here ready night and day to meet our foe in battle.  
Our little state is dearly loved by every son and daughter,  
And well they may, for some books say our fathers dearly bought her.  
With Union hearts, and Union hands, come let us fight for glory,  
And if we die upon the field, our names on pages' story;  
But if Jeff's shot and shell we miss, ah! wont that be his blunder?  
Then we'll advance with double quick and give them Yankee thunder.

" Remember Father Washington who braved the Revolution,  
The patriot Father of our land, by balls he ne'er was frightened,  
And by his glory through that war the stars and stripes were brightened,  
I've stood beside the warrior's tomb, my heart swelled with emotion.  
Then cheer up boys, our land's yet free, just play up Yankee Doodle.  
Our battery's ready any time to march at sound of bugle;  
Commanded by our captain brave, we'll follow you brave Randolph;  
Come, lead us forth through fire and smoke, we'll make the rebels stand  
off.

All Battery E as plain you see, loved you as their brother;  
We'll stand by you through life till death; come, let us pull together."

During the remaining part of July the troops suffered much from the intense heat, the dust and flies, the thermometer ranging for days in succession at nearly 100 degrees, sometimes reaching as high as 105 degrees in the shade. At one time the road over which we rode to water our horses was so dusty that it was with difficulty that we could see the horses next in front. Sickness also prevailed to an alarming degree. Malaria, typhoid fever and diarrhœa were the diseases most common. There were thirty at one time in our battery on the sick list; one-half of the non-commissioned officers being among them. So many being, sick of course, added to the labor of those remaining well. Several were discharged on the surgeon's certificate, among them being David H. Colvin, Isaac Cook, and Alexander Merchant.

On the 14th of July we received about twenty detailed men from the infantry, among them were Henry Allen, John McAllister, Joseph McCarty, Gould E. Utter, John Robinson, Richard Manly, Robert Jost, all from the Fortieth New York, and Jesse Drake from the Fourth Maine.

On the 16th we again moved our camp about half a mile to the west, near some woods, which gave us some protection from the excessive heat. During the evening after moving

there was a tremendous thunder shower, which cooled the heated air from which we had suffered so severely. On the 23d the Third corps was reviewed by General McClellan, who pronounced the corps as being under excellent discipline, although its ranks were much depleted by the losses in the late battles and its absent sick. On the 25th the battery was ordered to relieve a twenty-pounder battery, which was stationed in a fort at the front, while they attended a review. On the 27th two of our Parrotts were turned over to Lieutenant Clark commanding Battery B, First New Jersey. On the 28th we drew a full battery of twelve-pounder brass guns, our old Parrott guns having been condemned. On this day we performed the last rites over the remains of Corporal Albert H. Trescott, who died that morning of typhoid fever in the hospital, where he had been since the 22d. At the time of his death he was company clerk. To say that he was a true and brave soldier would be but a partial truth, for he was a young man of promise, whose character was irreproachable. But few men surrounded as he was would have so firmly lived up to their convictions of duty. He was a religious man, but not given to intruding his thoughts upon others, but rather by example invited others to imitate his life. He was the son of John F. Trescott, who was for many years office clerk for the well known firm of Sackett & Davis, jewelers. At sunset his remains were laid to rest near the camp with military honors, Captain Randolph officiating as chaplain. His body was never taken to Rhode Island.

The following promotions and changes were made Aug. 1, 1862: Private Lester S. Hill was promoted to lance corporal of fifth detachment in place of George W. H. Allen, who was acting gunner in place of Corporal Burlingham, who was supposed to have deserted at Charles City Cross Roads; Second Corporal Charles S. Winslow of first piece, transferred to second piece as gunner, vice Trescott, deceased; private James Donnelly promoted to second corporal of first piece, vice Winslow transferred to second piece; Second Corporal William H. Polk, of fourth piece, reduced by his own request, and transferred to hospital as nurse; Second Corporal Ernest Simpson, of third piece, transferred to fourth piece, vice Polk transferred; private George Humphrey promoted second corporal and assigned to third piece, vice Simpson transferred.



August 5th, Sergt. George E. Williams, of the sixth detachment, who had been sick for several weeks, received his discharge. August 6th, First Corporal Charles P. Williams was promoted sergeant, vice George E. Williams. The day following Lemuel S. Greene was promoted gunner of sixth piece, vice C. P. Williams, advanced to sergeant.

August 8th, soft bread was issued, the first since leaving Alexandria in March. This change was appreciated by us all, and, could we have had this constantly, it would doubtless have prevented much of our sickness.

During the first week in August a slight improvement in the sanitary conditions were discernible, although many were still off duty. Several were in the hospital, among them Corporals Williams and Butts. Williams returned to duty two days before his promotion to sergeant. Butts about the same time was sent with others to the hospitals in the north, finally reaching Philadelphia, where he remained until October 5, 1862, when he entered service in the navy, of which an account can be found in the publications of the Soldiers and Sailors Historical Society of Rhode Island.

A much larger number of the sick remained in camp struggling with malaria in its various forms, the writer being one of these. He preferred the kindness and care of his battery comrades to that of the hospital discipline, notwithstanding its superior facilities.

Our life at Harrison's Landing was generally quiet, we having only occasional attacks upon our camps and lines of communications. The most noted of these was on the night of July 31st, when our camps and shipping opposite Coggins Point were shelled by the enemy, who had successfully placed (unknown to us) forty-one pieces of artillery in position, some of them within eight hundred yards of our shipping. Our first knowledge of their presence was when they opened fire upon our camps causing a great commotion. Their firing continued for nearly an hour. Our batteries and one gunboat soon responded to their challenge, and after a warm contest they gradually ceased firing and withdrew. Our loss was ten killed and twelve wounded. A few horses were killed and some slight damage was done to the shipping. The enemy's loss was only one killed and seven wounded.

The next day McClellan sent a force across the river and took possession of Coggins Point and held it. Our cavalry, supported by infantry, were almost daily sent out on reconnoissances on all the important roads leading from our camps. The most important reconnoissance was made by General Hooker August 5th, with his own and Sedgwick's divisions, when he drove the enemy from Malvern Hill and re-occupied it. Our battery and division were also under orders with two days' rations to support Hooker if necessary, but the division was used only to take the place of Hooker's troops that were on picket. The object for which the movement was made being accomplished, the troops returned to camp, having driven the enemy some miles back towards Richmond and taken about one hundred prisoners. The Union loss was three killed and eleven wounded.

During the remainder of our stay here but little service was required of us, except our usual camp duties and an occasional field drill, which, owing to the excessive heat usually took place at an early hour in the morning. Speculations were rife as to what the next movement would be. The usual conclusion arrived at was that the army would advance upon Richmond along the line of the James River, never supposing that we should so soon have to withdraw from the Peninsula. Later events revealed to us that even then orders had been given by General Halleck (who had on the 11th of July been appointed to command the armies of the United States and assumed command on the 23d) to withdraw the army from the Peninsula to Aquia Creek. This order was dated August 3d. Previous to this, on July 30th, an order had been given to send away the sick (12,500) as soon as possible. This order for sending away the sick was supposed by McClellan to contemplate an offensive movement rather than a retreat, and it was the beginning of a long and somewhat acrimonious correspondence between McClellan and General Halleck, and it was not until the 14th of August that the first troops (Fifth corps) began to evacuate the position. McClellan confessed that it caused him the greatest pain of his life, and said that he was convinced that the order to withdraw the army to Aquia Creek would prove disastrous to our cause, and feared it would be a fatal blow. Previous to receiving these orders General Burnside arrived

on the 8th at Newport News with two divisions from New Berne, N. C., and one division from Port Royal, S. C.

On the 17th of July this command was organized into the Ninth Army Corps, its three divisions being commanded respectively by Generals Stevens, Reno, and Parke. Very early in August it left Newport News on transports, and, on the 3d and 5th, landed at Aquia Creek, at which time the corps numbered about thirteen thousand men. It immediately proceeded to Fredericksburg and relieved King's division of McDowell's corps, which had been ordered to report to Gen. John Pope, who had assumed command of the Army of Virginia June 27th. The Fifth corps started on the 14th for Aquia Creek, marching direct to Williamsburg. When learning that General Pope was being hard pressed, he changed his course for Newport News, arriving there in three days. From here he transported his troops to Aquia Creek, where he arrived August 21st. On the 15th and 16th the remaining troops left the Peninsula, the Second and Sixth corps by way of Fortress Monroe and Newport News. The Fourth corps after leaving Harrison's Landing went to Yorktown, doing garrison duty. The Third corps left the Peninsula on the 15th, General Birney's brigade of Kearny's division taking the lead (the number of this division was changed from the Third to the First on the 13th of August) accompanied by one section of Randolph's battery, under Lieut. Wm. A. Arnold. It went as far as Jones's Bridge on the Chickahominy, guarding it until the remaining portion of the corps arrived at sunset, and encamped on a high hill until the next morning. At sunrise we broke camp and crossed the river and passed through a rugged and hilly country containing some splendid farms, upon which were growing fine crops of grain and a great variety of fruit, to which the troops helped themselves without any invitation. Neither did we forget that pigs and poultry were useful to hungry soldiers. Thus we continued on our pilgrimage of luxury until we reached the vicinity of Liberty and Camerhel churches, on the Diascund Creek, encamping here over night, although most of the infantry went on as far as Barhamville. On the 17th the battery moved on, passing Barhamville at noon, reaching Burnt Ordinary, and remained until the next morning. Only a brick church remained standing, the other

buildings having been burned with a large amount of ordnance stores. From this incident it derived its name. It is ten miles from Williamsburg, where some of the infantry reached before halting. The next morning we started at six A. M. and reached Williamsburg about noon and encamped near the town. On the 9th of May we left here on our way to Richmond with feelings far different from those we had now. We could but ask ourselves if all the blood shed and the millions of money expended, to say nothing of the sufferings borne by the soldiers, the anxious aching hearts at home, had not been worse than wasted.

On the 19th we continued our journey, reaching Yorktown at about six P. M., and went into camp a short distance beyond the town, where we remained until noon of the 20th. During the day the infantry of Kearny's division were being embarked for Aquia Creek, followed later by the rest of the troops, our battery being placed upon the schooners *Memento* and *Village Queen* and the brig *John H. Allen*. The infantry sailed as soon as they were embarked. Our battery remained over night and until noon of the next day, the 21st, sailing then past Fortress Monroe and up the Chesapeake Bay, reaching the mouth of the Potomac River at midnight, where we anchored until the morning of the 22d and started at sunrise, sailing up the Potomac in a light rain, reaching Aquia Creek at three P. M., where we had expected the corps to be landed; but when Heintzelman arrived he received orders to hasten his corps forward to Alexandria. Accordingly, after an hour's delay, we started again and sailed until a very heavy shower in the evening made it necessary to cast anchor until the next morning. At sunrise we resumed our sail, and between ten and eleven A. M., of the 23d, reached Alexandria, where the infantry had arrived the day before. A part of Kearny's division started immediately upon cars for Warrenton Junction, and the remaining infantry followed the next morning. Our guns were loaded upon the cars in the evening of our arrival, our horses not being loaded until the next morning. We slept all night on the depot platform, accompanied by Capt. Drake DeKay, of General Pope's staff, whose mammoth signature was well known to the city soldiers of Washington during the summer of 1861, when he was an adjutant of General Mansfield and signed all papers. He was brother

to George C. DeKay, who had been appointed to the battery as lieutenant, Sept. 28, 1861, but declined commission; but afterwards served on the staff of General Williams, and was mortally wounded May 26, 1862, at Grand Gulf, Mississippi. Twelve buckshot entered his body, causing paralysis and his death a few weeks after.

Our stay was necessarily short as orders to hasten the Third corps to General Pope's assistance had been received by Heintzelman when he first arrived. About noon the "all aboard" was sounded and two long trains of Heintzelman's brave troops started upon the Orange & Alexandria Railroad for Warrenton Junction, passing through Burke and Fairfax stations, Manassas Junction, then through Bristoe and Catlett stations to Warrenton Junction, where we arrived at three P. M. on the 24th, having been three hours in reaching our destination of forty miles. We immediately unloaded and went into camp near the station.

The Third corps was now acting with the Army of Virginia, with which it sustained its reputation as a fighting corps. Whatever may be said of other corps commanders, no suspicion of disloyalty was ever known to exist against any of its generals. The record of the old regiments that were with us at Fair Oaks was never excelled by any other command. Since then a few changes had been made in Kearny's division, in no way to its disadvantage. The additions were the First New York Volunteers, who joined Berry's brigade June 3d. The One Hundred and First New York and Ninety-ninth Pennsylvania joined Birney's brigade; the former June 9th, the latter July 5th. The Twentieth Indiana became a part of Robinson's brigade on the 10th of June. The Fifty-seventh Pennsylvania was transferred from Robinson's first brigade to Birney's second. Thompson's Battery G, Second United States, was relieved July 18th, its place being filled by Graham's Battery K, First United States Artillery. Clark's battery (formerly Bean's) was relieved in June and placed in the artillery reserve.

A brief statement relating to the Army of Virginia may not be out of place here. The Army of Virginia was organized on the 26th of June, 1862, General Pope assuming command, as before stated, on the 27th. It was composed of the departments of the Mountain, Rappahannock, and Shenan-

doah, which had been under the commands of Banks, McDowell, and Fremont. The latter immediately resigned and was succeeded by General Sigel. It was divided into three corps, the first being commanded by Sigel, the second by Banks, the third by McDowell. Stonewall Jackson's forces having gone to reinforce Lee at Richmond, the commands of Sigel and Banks were ordered to concentrate on or near the Rappahannock River, McDowell being already at or near Fredericksburg. In order to assist McClellan to withdraw from the Peninsula, the forces under General Banks had advanced about ten miles south of Culpepper, where he was met by General Jackson's and A. P. Hill's forces, and August 9th the battle of Cedar Mountain was fought. The defeat of Banks made it necessary that Pope's command should fall back beyond the Rappahannock, which was successfully accomplished, although not without several minor engagements by General Sigel, the most important being at Sulphur Springs and Waterloo Bridge, on the 23d and 24th of August.

After the battle of Cedar Mountain Jackson retired to Gordonville and awaited the arrival of General Lee, who had left Richmond with the main portion of his army about the same time that McClellan commenced his retreat. Lee's object was to crush Pope's command before it could be reinforced by the Army of the Potomac. Upon the arrival of the rebel army in his front, General Pope to protect his lines of communication had to fall back to near Warrenton Junction. Pope had not at this time received any reinforcements, except Burnside's command. Such was the situation when the Third corps began to arrive on the 22d, Kearny's division being the first to reach Pope's army. On the 26th, two days after our battery arrived, Heintzelman's whole corps had reached the Junction and the several commands were at once ordered to such points as the situation required. Battery E, having been ordered from the Junction on the 25th, found itself on the morning of the 26th some five miles from its starting point on the railroad in the direction of Rappahannock River in camp near Birney's brigade. In the morning the right section, under the command of Lieutenant Arnold, was ordered to Rappahannock Station where they found the bridge across the river burned. They were to

assist in guarding it against the threatened attack of the enemy. The other two sections remained as they were in the morning, comparatively idle, the only exception being that our quartermaster (C. A. Brown) made a raid upon some Secesh cows, capturing three and bringing them into camp as prisoners of war. No proposition being made for an exchange, we proceeded to confiscate them by the usual methods relating to such captures.

It was supposed at this time that the enemy's entire force was on the south side of the Rappahannock, and not until near night did we realize our mistake. We then learned that a rebel force was in our rear and had already captured Bristoe Station, taking a few prisoners and capturing two trains of supplies. The third train made its escape by dashing against the obstructions which had been placed upon the track, and was soon beyond reach. After destroying our supplies at this station, a force of 500 infantry under General Trimble, supported by a portion of Stuart's cavalry, turned their attention to Manassas Junction where our army had an immense quantity of supplies of all kinds, with but a small force to protect them. Resistance was useless by the small force present, the eight pieces of artillery being taken at the point of the bayonet. General Lee reported the results of this raid to be eight pieces of artillery, with their horses and equipments, more than 300 prisoners, 175 horses, besides those belonging to the artillery, 200 new tents, with an immense quantity of quartermaster and commissary stores; 50,000 pounds of bacon, 1,000 barrels of beef, 2,000 barrels of pork, and 2,000 barrels of flour were burned. The next day General Taylor commanding the First brigade of Slocum's division of the Sixth corps, was sent with his command on a train from Alexandria to drive away the raiders (as they supposed) and recapture the supplies. In attacking the enemy he found them in strong force and was obliged to retire with a loss of two hundred prisoners and the train which had transported them, being himself mortally wounded. Further depredations followed in the destruction of Bull Run Bridge and the tearing up of the track at several points on the Orange and Alexandria Railroad. Fitz Hugh Lee's cavalry went as far as Fairfax Court House on the turnpike and to Burke's Station on the railroad, destroying the telegraph

lines as he advanced, thereby severing communication with Alexandria. It was not supposed while this destruction was in progress that it was any thing more than a strong raiding force of the enemy's cavalry. By the morning of the 27th it was known that something more than a raiding movement was intended. Subsequently it was learned that Stonewall Jackson started on the 25th from the Rappahannock River, making a circuitous route around the right of Pope's army passing through Thoroughfare Gap on the morning of the 26th, then taking a course at right angles with the previous day's march, passing between Pope's army and Washington, striking our line of communication at Bristoe Station, with the result which has been stated. Jackson's forces in this raid consisted of three divisions commanded by Ewell, A. P. Hill, and Jackson's old division commanded by General Taliaferro. Seventeen batteries and two brigades of cavalry accompanied this force.

On the morning of the 27th, being satisfied that Longstreet's corps had left its line on the south side of the Rappahannock, and was *en route* to join Jackson, whose troops were then at Bristoe and Gainesville, General Pope abandoned his own line on the north of the Rappahannock, and ordered his army to concentrate on a line from Gainesville to Manassas Junction. McDowell's corps, which was then near Waterloo Bridge on the Hedgeman River, was ordered to Gainesville. General Reno, of the Ninth corps and Kearny's division, was ordered to move on Greenwich so as to reach there by night and then to report to McDowell. Hooker's division, which lay a few miles below Warrenton Junction, was ordered to move along the line of the railroad towards the Junction. Captain Randolph, with the centre and left sections of his battery, was ordered to move with Hooker's division joining it near Catlett Station, with a part of Robinson's brigade of Kearny's division.

Lieutenant Jastram early in the day had been ordered by Captain Randolph to report to Colonel Poe commanding Berry's brigade, who was absent on sick leave. Soon after reporting, firing being heard in the rear, he was ordered to report to General Hooker, who was on the advance, as soon as possible. He did so, and ascertained that his were the only guns then with Hooker, and also that the rebels were in our



rear near "Broad Run," and that the general was ordered by General Pope to find them. Hooker moved his infantry across Kettle Run and advanced cautiously till meeting the enemy's videttes, driving them from the hills when the attack commenced. Captain Randolph now came up with the centre section under Sheldon. We then advanced a short distance beyond Kettle Run and found a division of the enemy under command of General Ewell in line of battle ready to receive us, with all the daring for which that division was noted. As soon as we were in range of the enemy's batteries they opened upon us a rapid fire, to which Captain Randolph promptly responded with his two sections. In the meantime, Colonel Carr commanding Hooker's Third brigade had deployed and was briskly skirmishing with the enemy in the woods on the right of the railroad, who gradually retired as our line advanced. Further to the left the enemy appeared in force and were met by General Taylor's brigade (Excelsior) when the battle commenced with renewed fury along the entire line. Our battery in the meantime was in position about one thousand yards from the enemy's batteries, whom we were fighting with solid shot, causing them to retire across Broad Run upon a range of hills overlooking our position. We then limbered up, and, after a short rest, advanced and went into battery upon a knoll, again attacking the enemy's artillery across the river, whose shots were well directed and went ricocheting through our battery with a disagreeable familiarity, one of these shots striking Corp. Lemuel S. Greene and private John Brannan of the left section, giving them mortal wounds. The infantry in the meantime were pushing the enemy, who were stubbornly resisting our advance; but they fell back before the veterans of Hooker's division, retreating across Broad Run, and continued their retreat to Manassas Junction, where Jackson still remained with the rest of his corps. Our battery was supported in this action by seven companies of the Sixty-third Pennsylvania Regiment of Robinson's brigade, the other company being deployed as skirmishers on the left, seven companies of the One Hundred and Fifth Pennsylvania and three companies of the Eighty-seventh New York were supporting Durell's battery, which, with our two sections and Capt. J. C. Clark's Battery E, Fourth United States, were the only artillery engaged with the Union forces

in this battle. Ewell's division consisted of twenty-three regiments of infantry and six batteries. Hooker had under his command only eighteen regiments and three batteries. The losses on each side were about three hundred.

During a rest between our actions the enemy's sharpshooters had a range upon our battery, which caused the officers and drivers to dismount in order to be less exposed to their bullets. None were effective, however, except one, which cut in two a halter buckle on Lieutenant Jastram's horse.

Battery E never fought better than in this action, receiving due credit from Kearny, who said in his report: "On the 27th, with two sections and Robinson's First brigade, Captain Randolph, had powerfully contributed to General Hooker's success at Bristoe Station." The short and very modest report of Captain Randolph reads as follows, viz. :

"CAMP NEAR CENTREVILLE, VA., }  
Aug. 31, 1862. }

SIR:—I have the honor respectfully to report that, in accordance with orders from General Kearny, I reported my battery to General Hooker, near Catlett's Station, on the 27th inst., and proceeded, under his direction, along the road to the left of the R. R. towards Bristoe Station. The enemy having been previously discovered on the right of the R. R., was found upon our advance to have its batteries on prominent hills to the front and right of our advance. I occupied a position about one thousand yards from a battery in our front, and opened fire with solid shot from six (4) Napoleon guns. After a very few discharges the enemy withdrew its battery, and, proceeding to a range of hills across Broad Run, re-opened fire. Meanwhile, I threw a few shots into his cavalry as it retired supporting the battery. After changing position to a more commanding hill, a little to the front and right, I engaged two batteries placed on the hills opposite. His fire was severe from two different points, but a well-directed fire of shell and solid shot compelled him to retire hastily. My loss was two men killed. Expenditure of ammunition about one hundred and fifty rounds, mostly of solid shot.

With great respect, I have the honor to be

Your obedient servant,

GEORGE E. RANDOLPH,

*Captain Commanding Battery E, First Rhode Island Artillery.*

After the close of this action the battery crossed Broad Run, and went about one mile, and encamped upon the rebel battlefield, arriving there at dark. Previous to crossing the

Run our brave comrade, Brannan, after a short interval of great agony, during which his entreaties to be given something to shorten his sufferings were agonizing, died, and was buried under the shade of a small tree near where he was shot. He was a good soldier and joined the battery as a recruit June 26, 1862, while we lay before Richmond.\* He enlisted from Seekonk, Mass. Corporal Greene was carried upon a stretcher by his comrades to where we encamped. Although suffering severely, he was heroic to the greatest degree, reaching almost to cheerfulness. He died soon after reaching camp without a struggle, apparently, from loss of blood. As this action was somewhat unexpected, no medical stores were on hand. If there had been it is quite possible that his life could have been saved, although it would have been necessary to have amputated his leg. In the sixth detachment, to which he belonged, the men who had enlisted from the town of Scituate gave to him a brother's care, and tenderly laid away his body under the shadow of a tree, placing a suitable head-board to mark the resting-place of their beloved comrade. Brannan, who was No. 5 on the same piece, was killed by the same shot while they were in the act of moving the piece forward from its recoil.

This battle is officially known as the battle of Kettle Run, but is as often called Broad Run. The action took place between the two rivers. Kettle Run is the middle one of three forks which form the source of the Occoquan Creek. Broad Run (north fork) crosses the Orange & Alexandria Railroad just north of Bristoe Station. Kettle Run crosses about two miles below. Cedar Run (south fork) follows the line of the railroad four miles on the east, until nearly opposite Warrenton Junction, when it turns at right angles and runs north of the junction. Broad and Kettle Run come together and form one stream about two miles east of Bristoe Station, then forming one river for about one mile before reaching Occoquan Creek. It was near this junction of the two rivers that the right of our army fought.

\* With Brannan, on the 26th, came the following recruits: James S. Campbell, George H. Higgins, Benjamin Judd, George H. Kelley, William H. King, Edward McCaffery, Patrick Sullivan, Cornelius Sullivan, John B. Saunders, Edward Teague, Michael Dillon, John Groves, and David Ronan.

## CHAPTER X.

August, 1862.

## SECOND BATTLE OF BULL RUN.

AT nine A. M., on the 28th, our battery left near Bristoe Station for Manassas Junction, which we reached about noon, halting for awhile, and fed our horses. Three burned trains were still smoking when we arrived. While resting here an incident occurred which was not creditable to one of the actors. Not far from our resting-place, a weary cavalryman had hitched his horse, and, lying down near by to rest, had fallen asleep. While in this condition one of our corporals stealthily approached the horse, unhitched and led it away. How the horseless trooper managed after awaking we never knew, but I venture he never repeated that part of the Lord's Prayer which reads, "Forgive those who trespass against us."

While awaiting orders to move, Kearny's and Reno's divisions arrived from near Greenwich. Soon after noon the forces here moved on towards Centreville, where we arrived during the early evening, one gun of our battery being placed in an old fortification and the others outside in battery.

Here we remained through the night. Kearny's infantry encamped just west of the village. Hooker's division halted on the Bull Run about three miles south of Centreville. The right section, which was sent August 26th on picket duty on the Rappahannock, returned and joined the battery in the evening at Centreville, being well supplied with turkeys, which they had obtained by methods well known to every wide-awake soldier. It is needless to add that some of their comrades, the officers in particular, did not sleep on empty stomachs that night. I can learn but little of their duties

while absent. General Ward, in his report relating to the movements of his regiment before the battle of Bull Run, speaks of a section of Randolph's battery which may refer to Lieutenant Arnold's section. He says, having reached Bull Run from Manassas Junction on the 28th: "General Kearny arriving on the ground, directed me to cross the run and to take an advanced position on an eminence to protect a fork of the roads on which General Birney had advanced with the cavalry. After taking position, a section of Randolph's battery arrived, and the regiment took position for its support. Suddenly a portion of the enemy's cavalry appeared in sight under full charge, and, approaching within a sufficient distance to discover the reception awaiting them, suddenly wheeled their horses and retreated amid the dust. . . . My command, about an hour afterwards, advanced to Centreville and encamped for the night." Reno's division, of the Ninth corps, was encamped one mile south of Centreville. Reynolds's division was at Newmarket, five miles southwest from Centreville. Sigel was near Groveton, about the same distance as Reynolds, but about one mile to the north. King's division lay on the Warrenton pike, two miles southwest of Groveton. General Rickett's division was about three miles in front of Thoroughfare Gap, watching Longstreet, whose corps was then coming through the gap. Taylor's brigade was at Fairfax Court House. Stonewall Jackson's corps, which had left Manassas Junction during the night and early in the morning, was now at the old battle ground of July 21, 1861, his left resting on Catherpen Run, near Sudley Mill, his right reaching near to Warrenton pike and in close contact with General King's division of McDowell's corps, with which he had a sharp encounter just at night, darkness closing the contest, both parties holding their ground. Banks's corps lay on the railroad at the crossing of Kettle Run. Porter's corps was stationed just north of Bristoe Station.

Such was the situation in the evening of the 28th of August, 1862. During the night Porter's corps advanced to Manassas Junction. King's division fell back to the same place. General Lee, with Longstreet and his corps, was now east of the Bull Run Mountain with no force between him and Jackson, as Ricketts had retreated towards Bristoe

Station during the night. At daylight on the morning of the 29th General Kearny left Centreville and its vicinity for the battlefield, our battery leaving at sunrise. We took the Gainesville pike, crossing Stone Bridge, reaching the scene of action about the middle of the forenoon, and halted upon the ground near where the First Rhode Island Infantry were engaged at the first Bull Run battle, July 21, 1861. Three hours before our arrival the divisions of Generals Schenck, Steinwehr, and Schurz, of Sigel's First corps, had been hotly engaged with Jackson's forces, and had advanced their line over one mile. The enemy then appeared with heavy reinforcements and made a determined effort to turn his flanks. The struggle was now desperate and extended along the whole line. It was at this crisis that Kearny arrived and was ordered to the right. General Reno with his division of the Ninth corps arrived about the same time and was posted to support Sigel. The contest continued until near noon, neither side having during the last hour made any gain. General Pope arrived about one o'clock P. M., at which time our troops were nearly out of ammunition. A supply was obtained and soon after the fighting was renewed. Two hours before General Pope arrived General Lee had arrived with General Longstreet's corps and took his position on Jackson's left, thereby disarranging the plans of the commanding general, who had previously ordered the corps of McDowell and Porter to advance and attack Jackson on his right flank. These two corps failing to arrive as anticipated, caused much anxiety to Pope. About two P. M. McDowell was reported to be advancing on the Sudley road to a point on Jackson's left, and not hearing from Porter, who should have been at this time in front of the enemy, at 4.30 General Pope sent a peremptory order to General Porter, who was about four miles distant, to push forward at once into action on Jackson's right, and, if possible, on his rear. After waiting until about five P. M., to give Porter time to reach the enemy's front, Heintzelman and Reno were ordered to attack Jackson's right. The infantry of this command had been to the front since their arrival. About four P. M. our battery was ordered to advance and hold itself ready for action. Accordingly we moved slowly forward upon the Manassas and Sudley Spring road, which ran through the woods towards the

extreme right. After passing through the woods we came to an open field which was skirted on the south and east by woodland. The unfinished railroad upon which Jackson's troops were in battle array ran diagonally across our front on the north and west of this open space. A hollow ran through the field parallel with the unfinished railroad. The western part of this hollow field was where we went into battery and immediately commenced firing. This at once drew upon us a rapid fire from a battery on our front, whose shots mostly passed over our heads, more endangering the caisson drivers than it did the cannoneers. After a short time another long range battery of the enemy opened upon us from a point further to our left, their shots passing diagonally across our battery, whose shots, in addition to those from the battery on our front, made it decidedly uncomfortable, notwithstanding every officer and private stood bravely to his work. This engagement lasted about half an hour. Although sharp and severe our loss was only one man killed. Our escape from a serious loss was mainly due to the enemy's too high elevation, but their line shots were excellent. That no more were hurt seems almost a miracle. The fifth piece barely escaped a serious accident. Having placed some solid shot near the muzzle of the gun during the firing, the cartridges by some means ignited and exploded, doing no damage, although for a moment we were somewhat startled. Had this ammunition been shell or shrapnel with cut fuses, the result would have been more serious.

Our action at this time was in support of a movement of Kearny's to drive the enemy out of the woods on the right, and if possible turn Jackson's extreme left. The assault was made by Birney's and Robinson's brigades, the Fortieth New York being on our immediate left. Our battery was supported by six companies of the Third Maine. Robinson's brigade was on the left of Birney, holding the line firmly, while Birney advanced and drove Hill's division back across the railroad and on beyond the Lewis Lane road, doubling his left back at a right angle with his main line. This left Birney's brigade so much exposed that on General Hill's being reinforced by Early's and Lawton's brigades, Birney during the night withdrew his brigade to its original position. After Kearny's success our battery withdrew to where we

halted upon our arrival on the field. In this assault many of these regiments had only from two to four hundred when they entered the fight; after the assault they had only enough to form two companies, the First New York going into the fight with only two officers and eighty-five men, being commanded by Major Burt of the Third Maine. That this assault of Kearny's division was determined and severe is well sustained by the reports of Gen. A. P. Hill, who was in command of the assaulted position. Hill says: "The most persistent and furious onsets were made by column after column of infantry, accompanied by numerous batteries. Soon my reserves were all in, and up to six o'clock my division, assisted by the Louisiana brigade of General Hay's, commanded by Colonel Forno, with a heroic courage and obstinacy almost beyond parallel, had met and repulsed six distinct and separate assaults, a portion of the time a majority of the men being without a cartridge." The two batteries that attacked us were Braxton's of Fredericksburg and Crenshaw's (Virginia) battery. Latham's battery, of North Carolina, with Braxton's were also engaged against our infantry. Hooker's division arrived about ten A. M. His first brigade (Grover's) was at once ordered to General Sigel's support, who was on the left of Heintzelman. About three P. M. the brigade advanced through an open field to the railroad, beyond which lay the enemy. Grover says in his report: "We rapidly and firmly pressed upon the embankment, and here occurred a short, sharp and obstinate hand to hand conflict with bayonets and clubbed muskets. Many of the enemy were bayoneted in their tracks, others struck down with the butts of pieces, and onward pressed our lines. In a few yards more it met a terrible fire from a second line which in its turn broke. The enemy's third line now bore down upon our thinned ranks in close order, and swept back the right centre and a portion of our left. With the gallant Sixteenth Massachusetts on our left I tried to turn his flank, but the breaking of our right and centre and the weight of the enemy's lines caused the necessity of falling back, first to the embankment and then to our first position, behind which we rallied to our colors." In this fierce encounter of not more than twenty minutes' duration, this brigade lost 486 men. General Heintzelman, in his report, says: "It was on this occasion that



General Grover's brigade made the most gallant and determined bayonet charge of the war."

The other brigades of this division were in support of Grover doing excellent service, although with less casualties. Late in the afternoon King's division of McDowell's corps, commanded by General Hatch, made an attack upon Jackson's right which was warmly contested by the enemy, and lasted until late in the evening, both sides claiming to have made successes. It was supposed by General Pope and other officers of high command that the enemy were preparing to retreat during the night. Orders to be ready to pursue them, should the supposition prove correct, were sent at once to the several commands. When the morning of the 30th arrived this was discovered to be one of the many mistakes which characterized this battle. Owing to Jackson's capture of our provisions at Manassas on the 26th, we were on the morning of the 30th very short of rations. On the 28th Pope telegraphed Halleck to send rations and forage as soon as possible, and not until daylight of the 30th was an answer received, asking for an escort of cavalry to protect them while on the way. Pope says: "Such a letter when we were fighting the enemy and Alexandria was full of troops, needs no comment. . . . It was not until I received this letter that I began to be hopeless of any successful issue to our operations, but I felt it to be my duty, notwithstanding the broken condition of the forces under my command, to hold my position."

No more reinforcements were expected by General Pope, who further says: "I accordingly prepared to renew the engagement." Early in the afternoon Porter's corps, which had arrived early in the morning, was ordered to prepare to advance, supported by King's division, under General Hatch, and supported also on their left by Sigel's corps and Reynolds's division, and attack the enemy along the Warrenton turnpike. At the same time our corps and Reno's division were ordered to advance, and, if possible, to turn the enemy's left and attack him on his flank. About two P. M. Porter commenced the attack on Longstreet, and soon became furiously engaged with a resolute and determined foe, who contested every inch of ground. The contest soon extended to the centre and right. It soon became evident that the enemy

was massing on our left, at the same time making a formidable appearance along the whole line. Porter soon gave signs of weakness. Two brigades of Rickett's division were now sent by McDowell to reinforce Porter,—Schenck's brigade of Sigel's corps, and Milroy's Independent brigade. These commands, against which the enemy had hurled their masses with great fury, fought superbly. Porter commenced to retire when Reynolds came to his support, giving him time to reform some of his regiments. In the meantime Hooker's division advanced upon the woods in his front and drove the enemy a short distance back. Kearny's division was, in the meantime, waiting for orders. The contest on the left continued until near six o'clock with unequalled fury, the enemy hurling their concentrated massive column against our troops, who were now slowly falling back, being closely pressed by the elated enemy. From our position we could plainly see that the day was lost. The prediction of General Kearny, who made his quarters with Captain Randoiph the night before, was fulfilled, when he said, while sitting on a limber chest, there would be another Bull Run before night. Our trains now began to retire in haste towards the fords of Bull Run. Reno's corps was now thrown into action on the left, meeting the brave assaults of the foe with unequalled courage. About five p. m. the left centre gave way and retired from before the enemy. When Kearny sent Robinson's and Birney's commands to fill the vacated positions, just before sunset, our battery was sent to join these brigades, taking a position at the foot of a hill, in front of the woods, near to one of the small streams which form the source of Young's Branch. Our right being weakened from sending reinforcements to the left, began also to give way, but held their line unbroken. The left, by sunset, had been driven back three-quarters of a mile, but held the lines intact. By dark the enemy were in possession of the Manassas and Sudley Spring road, thereby endangering our line of retreat. At eight o'clock General Pope sent orders to the different commands for a general retreat, also defining the route and order of movement. To Generals Kearny, Reno, and Gibbon, fell the honor of covering the retreat from the field. As the artillery was of little service after dark it was soon after ordered to cross Bull Run. Our battery left its position just before

dark, slowly retiring, and several times going into battery while *en route* to the river. As we retired we were severely shelled by a long range battery, which, it is said, threw pieces of railroad iron. Whatever they were, they certainly were not welcome guests. No missile had ever before so unnerved us as these unknown shots. On arriving at the river we found ourselves, with many other commands of every description, anxious to cross the bridge. Our battery was soon across safely, except the fifth caisson, which, by some unknown way, had a wheel run off. This caused us some vexation, but by heavy lifting the unruly wheel was replaced, and after a struggle we obtained an opportunity to cross the river and soon rejoined the battery. After crossing the bridge one piece of Lieutenant Sheldon's had trouble, also, by getting stuck. It soon, however, obtained its freedom, and, having taken its place in line, the battery moved on towards Centreville, reaching there about midnight. Birney's and Robinson's brigades did not leave the field until ten P. M., when they quietly withdrew, reaching Centreville about two P. M. It is to be regretted that no report by Captain Randolph, of this battle is on record. General Hooker made no report whatever. Kearny's is very brief. Of the artillery he says: "Randolph's battery of light twelves was worked with boldness and address. Though narrowly watched by three long-reaching enfilading batteries of the enemy, it constantly silenced one of theirs in its front and shelled and ricocheted its shot into the reinforcements moving from the enemy's heights down into the woods." Considering the severe shelling we received, our loss was remarkably small, only one man, by the name of Edward Galvin, being killed. I know nothing of his history, except that he enlisted at Providence, Dec. 26, 1861, and arrived at the battery Jan. 16, 1862. He was in every way an excellent soldier, and, so far as I know, a very worthy man. His leg was shot off on the 29th, and he died on the 30th. At the time he was wounded he was acting as No. 5 on the third piece.

## CHAPTER XI.

September, 1862.

## BATTLE OF CHANTILLY AND DEATH OF KEARNY.

AUGUST 31st our battery lay at Centreville, in a cheerless rain, thinking over the fortunes of another retreat and wondering what next in the line of misfortune was in store for us. As we had not for the last two weeks had time to write to our friends at home, our leisure hours were spent in that agreeable service, although it was but little that we could communicate of a hopeful nature, so far as it related to our military efforts, but it served to relieve the fears of our friends as to our safety in the late battle. During the afternoon we were in battery for a few hours; after that we went into the park just below the forts. During the day a gentleman from Rhode Island, by the name of Nichols arrived at our camp, and very kindly offered to take our mail to Providence for us, which favor we thankfully accepted.

We were all anxious that the rebels would not attempt to follow up our retreat, but by night rumors to the contrary began to be passed about the different camps. In anticipation of such a possibility our troops were posted in a line to the right and left of Centreville, Sumner on the right. On his left were the other corps, in the order named—Porter, Heintzelman, Franklin, Sigel, with Reno on the extreme left. Sumner and Franklin, with their corps, joined the army on this date. Our forces now, with these two corps added, was about 60,000. Had they been with us during the battle the result would doubtless have been very different. Early on the morning of the 31st Jackson was ordered forward with the intention of striking us on our right flank, and by evening had reached the Little River turnpike, which runs

from Aldie to Fairfax Court House, making it necessary to change our position. September 1st Hooker was ordered to take charge of all the troops near Germantown (turning over his division to General Grover) a small village near the junction of the Little River pike and the Fairfax road. Hooker formed the right of the line, which was located upon a range of high land called Ox Hill. On the left of Hooker came McDowell, then Franklin; next Reno, with Kearny in his rear as reserve; next came Porter, then Sumner on the extreme left, making a line of three miles. On the same day General Jackson moved down the turnpike. On reaching the point where the Ox Hill road crosses the turnpike, he was met by Ricketts's division, who opened upon the enemy and held them in check. At the same time General Stevens's division, of Reno's command, attacked the enemy's right flank in his accustomed manner, driving back the enemy quite a distance; the enemy being reinforced, in turn drove back a part of Stevens's division. The general himself, in this attack, "bore aloft the colors of one of his regiments, cheering on his men, and fell, fatally wounded, by a Minié ball through the head." At this time General Birney appeared upon the scene, whose action I will give by quoting a part of his report: "On reaching that point I found the division of General Stevens retiring in some disorder before the enemy, the officers in command of regiments stating that their ammunition had been exhausted. I immediately ordered forward the Fourth Maine Regiment, and it gallantly advanced and was soon in active conflict. I successively took forward the One Hundred and First New York, Third Maine, Fortieth and First New York. These regiments held the enemy and sustained unflinchingly the most murderous fire from a superior force. At this juncture General Kearny reached the field with Randolph's battery, and, placing it in position, aided my brigade by a well-directed fire. I pointed out to the general a gap on my right, caused by the retiring of Stevens's division, and asked for Berry's brigade to fill it. He rode from me to examine the ground, and, dashing past our lines into those of the enemy, fell a victim to his gallant daring. I sent forward the Thirty-eighth New York and Fifty-seventh Pennsylvania to complete our victory. They advanced gallantly, and night closed in, leaving my brigade

in full possession of that portion of the battlefield in which we were engaged.

General Kearny not returning and supposing that he had been taken prisoner, I assumed command of the division and ordered forward Robinson's and Berry's brigades, relieved my tired regiments, and held until three o'clock A. M., September 2d, the battle ground, at which time I followed with the division the corps of General Reno to Fairfax Court House.

The preliminary movements of our battery commenced at four P. M., when we left Centreville in company with our division. We had advanced about three miles when General Kearny with one or two of his staff rode up in haste from the direction of Fairfax and asked whose battery it was. Being told that it was Randolph's he said: "Just the battery I want, follow me." Taking the battery forward a short distance he turned our course at right angles upon a road leading north towards Ox Hill; advancing a short distance he halted the battery, commanding us to remain until further orders. During the suspension a terrible storm broke over us, the thunder being so loud it was said it was utterly impossible to hear artillery at Centreville. The shade of night spread over us even before sunset. The rain fell in such torrents that it was almost impossible to keep ammunition serviceable. During this battle of the elements our troops continued the fight although the rain somewhat slackened its severity. About sunset our battery was ordered forward some half mile or so and went into battery upon a hill sloping to the northwest, at the foot of which was an extended tract of woodland. We immediately went into action, directing our shots into the woods on our front. After firing a short time word was received that we were firing into our own ranks. We then ceased firing. It was at this time that General Kearny, whose headquarters were with the battery, told Sergeant Millen that if any of his aides or orderlies came to find him tell them to wait until he returned. This order to Sergeant Millen was before General Birney pointed out to Kearny the break in our lines on his right, as a later statement will show, but it was the last time that our beloved division commander was seen alive by us. After we had ceased firing, Colonel Poe, of the Second Michigan Regiment, who was in command





Lieut. Israel R. Sheldon.



of the brigade of General Berry (who was on sick leave), arrived in our rear. Kearny being absent and no other proper officers being present, he reported to General Reno, who ordered him to remain where he was, at the same time ordering that one regiment be sent to his left in support of a battery. The Fifth Michigan was sent. Soon after, General Birney, having assumed command of the division, ordered the brigade to relieve the second brigade (Birney's) at the front, where it remained until 2.30 A. M., when it was ordered to leave the Second Michigan Regiment on picket and retire towards Fairfax, the pickets soon following. Our battery left the field several hours before, going back as far as the Centreville and Fairfax road where we halted until the small hours of the next morning, when we moved on to Fairfax Court House, reaching there at sunrise. During the night it cleared off cold, and, being wet through by the heavy shower of the afternoon before, we suffered quite severely with the cold, the drivers especially. Our loss in this short but sharp contest was only the horse of John McKenna, our bugler, and Private Philip A. Dexter, who was hit by a spent Minié ball, but suffered no injury. The valor of Captain Randolph in this, as in all previous engagements, was so obvious that every man felt justly proud of being one of his command. Lieutenants Arnold, Jastram, Bucklyn, and Sheldon, his worthy assistants, were likewise an honor to the battery; all but the latter possessed more than an average degree of executive ability, and what he lacked in that line was more than redeemed by his manly and amiable demeanor.\*

After arriving at Fairfax Court House the sun rose bright and cheerful, its warm rays being of great service in driving away the cold chills afflicting us during our morning march. This, with the apparent victory which we had just achieved, failed to give us any degree of satisfaction, as we had learned on our way that General Kearny was probably killed, or at least was a prisoner. It was anxiously hoped that the latter fate would prove the correct one. It was not long, however, before the real truth became known, as his lifeless body had

\*While our battery was firing, General Kearny, whose staff were all absent, sent Lieutenant Jastram to General Grover (on Kearny's left), to request him to be sure and have his right and Kearny's left join each other. Jastram rode at once to deliver the message meeting on his way one of Kearny's aides telling him where his chief could be found; then after considerable trouble, owing to the darkness, delivered Kearny's order.

been borne into our lines under a flag of truce, accompanied by a note to General Hooker from General Lee, saying that he thought it would be a great consolation to his family to have his body. His horse and equipments were sent in a few weeks after. His biographer gives many interesting facts relating to his death. From these I think a few extracts will not be out of place. The quotations that I make relate more particularly to the manner of his death. There are so many conflicting statements, that I will give those that his biographer considers the most reliable. Brevet Col: W. H. Paine, in a letter to Kearny's biographer, after giving a description of the location of the troops and the break in our lines, says: "On riding from the front I found General Kearny with his command about to march from the rear towards the vacated position and informed him that it was vacated, and that his own left and front was uncovered by the movements of General Reno's troops. He expressed surprise, and said that from instructions he had received he thought there was a force there which he was to support if necessary. After replying to his particular inquiries as to who I was and my means of information, he added that it conflicted both with his instructions and other information received, but if true, was very important for him to know. I then left him. I learned subsequently that he went forward and was shot." His biographer then says Kearny could scarcely have parted from Paine when he encountered Birney. In a letter received years after from Birney, he says: "During the battle of Chantilly, my brigade was actively engaged. I noticed that Stevens's division had retreated leaving a gap of half a mile on my right. I asked General Kearny for Berry's brigade to fill it; he stated that he had ordered the colonel commanding to report to me and was indignant at his delay. But he said it was impossible that General Reno could have permitted such a gap; that I must be mistaken; that there certainly were troops there of ours. I assured him that there was not. At this time it was raining and the smoke from the batteries hung low. I galloped down to send in a regiment to my left. He accompanied me and as we leaped a ditch his horse shied, and he remarked how disagreeable that a horse should behave so in a battle. He then galloped to the right and I saw him no

more." From colonel, now General Mindell, who was then his aide, I fill out the history. General Kearny was on a black horse, covered with an India rubber cloak. It was late in the evening, dark with clouds, the drizzling rain, and the shade of the woods. He determined to see for himself if such a danger existed as such a gap in the Union line. Bidding Colonel Mindell to stay behind, he dashed forward to inspect." Pollard says: "General Kearny met his death in a singular manner. He was out reconnoitering when he suddenly came upon a Georgia regiment. Perceiving danger, he shouted, 'Don't fire, I'm a friend,' but instantly wheeled his horse around, and, lying flat upon the animal, had escaped many bullets, when one struck him at the bottom of the spine, and, ranging upwards, killed him almost instantly." He was seen after leaving Birney by Lieutenant-Colonel Benjamin, of the Second United States Artillery, riding swiftly forward in the direction where he was killed. He shouted to him of his danger, but failed to make him hear. A few shots were heard shortly after, and, no other shots following, he supposed it must have been those that he heard that killed him. Another account gives substantially the same story, only substituting a Louisiana regiment for a Georgia. Another account by a rebel officer who was present gives what he saw with his own eyes. He said: "The gallant Kearny received his death wound from a private soldier under my command, and when he fell from his horse I hastened, with many others, to the point where he lay, not supposing that his wound was a mortal one. Just as we reached his body, however, his limbs gave one convulsive quiver and then all was over. Seeing that he was a major-general, word was sent to headquarters to that effect, and General Jackson coming to the spot, immediately gave one glance at the dead officer's features and exclaimed, "My God, boys, do you know who you have killed? You have shot the most gallant officer in the United States Army. This is Phil Kearny, who lost his arm in the Mexican War." He then involuntarily lifted his hat, every officer of the group following his example, and for a moment a reverential silence was observed by all. Subsequently the body of the dead soldier was placed upon two boards, and, being removed to headquarters, was followed by General Jackson and other officers,

while a regimental band preceded it, playing a dead march." Gen. A. P. Hill said when he saw Kearny dead: "Poor Kearny! He deserved a better fate than this." It was, indeed, a sad fate,—and for his country which he served so long and well it was a great misfortune. He was at the time of his death only forty-seven, having been born in New York city in June, 1815. He frequently made his headquarters at our battery with Captain Randolph, whom he held in the highest esteem. Kearny was by no means austere in his deportment, although at times he seemed to be so. He had no patience with a soldier who during a battle did not forget his temporary infirmities, but when no active service was required no general was more persistent in his care of the sick.

We remained at Fairfax Court House until noon, feasting ourselves upon apples and green corn, which were found in abundance upon the Fairfax farm. Then we moved on towards Alexandria, and, after going about eight miles, passing through Fairfax Station on our way, we camped for the night. The next morning we started at sunrise and marched by way of Pohick Church, reaching our old drill ground near Fort Lyon about noon, Sept. 3, 1862. Just five and one half months before, we left Alexandria to capture Richmond and to crush the Rebellion. History has seldom recorded so many failures as the brave Army of the Potomac had to encounter during this short time. For these failures Battery E was in no way responsible, having done its duty and brought no dishonor upon its history.

The losses in these battles are not given separately, but include all the losses from August 16th to Sept. 2, 1862. The losses in Kearny's division were 1,029; Hooker's division, 1,209. Only two of these were in Battery E. Total in Third corps, 2,238. The losses in Fifth corps were 2,151; Sixth corps, 339. Total losses in the Army of the Potomac, 4,728. The losses in Sigel's First corps were 2,087, Banks's Second corps, 341; McDowell's Third corps, 5,469. Total losses in the Army of Virginia, 8,105. The losses in Reno's (independent) Ninth corps were 1,523; reserve corps, 222. The total losses in the two Union armies were 14,462. The total losses in the Confederate army were 9,474. Four thousand two hundred and sixty-three of the Union losses were captured or missing.

## CHAPTER XII.

September—October—November, 1862.

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS, POOLESVILLE, PURSUIT OF LEE'S  
ARMY TO FREDERICKSBURG.

SEPTEMBER 4th, the battery received fifteen recruits, as follows: William H. Phinney, John Slocum, Samuel Havens, Charles S. Huling, Charles H. James, George I. Cole, Marvin M. Leavens, Edwin A. Matteson, Edson S. White, William C. Winslow, Edward Whiting, James F. Pratt, Edward Bucklin, Jr., Jeremiah Bucklin, Thomas Kinder. While we lay here, a Mr. Johnston, who lived near our camping ground, was doing a good business in providing troops with good dinners at thirty-seven cents per meal, Battery E men being among his best customers. Mr. Johnston was a Northern man, but his wife was a true type of a Southern woman and a genuine rebel in spirit, and did not hesitate to defend on all proper occasions the secession movement. Nevertheless she was kind to the sick soldiers, as many could testify.

On the 6th, the welcome paymaster arrived and paid us for two months. In the afternoon we moved with Berry's brigade one and a half miles to the west and occupied a redan, from which we could overlook Washington and Alexandria, and their surroundings. We arranged our camp in good order, expecting to remain awhile. A supply of clothing was issued, of which we were in need.

On the afternoon of the 10th, the battery moved to near Fort Worth upon a hill, giving us another beautiful view of our surroundings. Near by was the residence of General Cooper, who was the adjutant-general of the rebel army. Here we remained until the 12th, when the battery was ordered to occupy a breastwork about four miles further north, just west

of Fort Albany, our camp being on the south side and joining the Columbia Pike, about one a half miles from Long Bridge. The range of hills upon which we lay was known as Arlington Heights, from which we had a fine view of Washington and its environs. It was a healthy locality and just such a place as we needed to recuperate from the malaria and fatigue of the Peninsular campaign, the effect of which was plainly visible upon a large number of the battery.

During the eleven months of our service our losses from deaths and disability had been about forty, besides those absent sick in the hospitals. Among the latter was Lieutenant Buckley, who was taken sick during the battle of Bull Run, where he temporarily served on General Kearny's staff. He, however, persisted in remaining with the battery until after the battle of Chantilly, during which General Kearny in person complimented him on his bravery. Leaving the field at Chantilly, he took the company's wagon and rode to Alexandria. He was then sent to the hospital at Georgetown.

During the battle of Bull Run General McClellan was in command of the defences of Washington, and when the defeated army arrived within the fortifications it came under the command of McClellan by virtue of his superior rank. General Pope being relieved on the 5th of September, was ordered to report to the Secretary of War for orders. On the 8th General Banks assumed command of the defences of Washington on the north of the Potomac. On the 9th General Heintzelman assumed command of the defences of Washington south of the Potomac, retaining his own corps for that purpose. This took us from the field of active service for a few weeks, and gave us an opportunity for a much needed rest.

During the first week in September, the Army of Virginia was consolidated with the Army of the Potomac, General Hooker being assigned to the command of McDowell's corps, who, at his own request, had been relieved. On the 12th the First corps (Sigel's), Army of Virginia, was changed to the Eleventh corps. The Second corps (Banks's) was changed to the Twelfth corps. The Third corps (McDowell's) was changed to the First corps, of which our gallant Hooker was in command. The vacancy made by Hooker's promotion was

filled by Gen. Daniel E. Sickles. General Birney, soon after his arrival within the defences of Washington, was detailed to act as a member of a court of inquiry. From this duty he made an effort to be relieved, but without success. During this service Gen. George Stoneman was appointed to fill the vacancy caused by Kearny's death. This so irritated Birney that he promptly resigned, but was finally prevailed upon by Secretary Chace to withdraw his resignation. Stoneman assumed command on the 15th of September, and, on the 16th, with Birney's brigade, under the command of Col. Hobart Ward, with two regiments of new troops, moved to Poolesville, Md., the other brigades of the corps remaining at or near the defences of Washington doing picket duty. Sickles's division alone covered a distance of eight miles. This, while so many troops were in this vicinity, would seem unnecessary, for on the 10th of September there were in and around Washington over 70,000 troops, with 120 field-pieces and about 500 heavy guns in position. These forces included the Third, Fifth, and Eleventh army corps, commanded respectively by Heintzelman, Fitz John Porter, and Sigel. Besides these forces, 87,000 men had been put in motion a few days before to meet the rebel forces under General Lee, who had immediately after the defeat of General Pope moved towards the upper Potomac, and by the 6th had crossed into Maryland by the fords near Leesburg, and on the 14th fought the battle of South Mountain. On the 15th Jackson's corps captured Harper's Ferry with the entire garrison. Two days later (17th) was fought the battle of Antietam. Lee, being defeated, retired across the Potomac with a loss of 11,000 men. The strength of the Union army was about 87,000, the number engaged being about 60,000. The Confederates had about 40,000. The Union loss was 12,410. It was not permitted us to participate in these two battles, nevertheless the duties performed were as effective in the desired results as though we had been allowed to move with the army in the field. During the time when the battles were being fought we were still in camp on the Columbia Pike. Our duties were light we having nothing but camp duties to perform. For the previous six weeks we had been almost constantly on the march or in battle, which prevented us from attending to personal cares and duties. Our mails were not regular, and

many letters due us had not been received; but after being settled our back mails arrived, bringing us cheering words from our friends at home. A large number of boxes were also received containing provisions and many useful articles. Many of these boxes had been so long on the way their contents were spoiled. One received by the writer had been delayed since the 31st of July.

On the 16th the Seventh Rhode Island Regiment arrived from Providence, having left there on the 10th. It was assigned to Casey's division. Its camp being near us it soon became an object of daily visits, as many of us had personal friends from whom we received a hearty greeting. Its stay near us ended on the 29th, when it left for Sandy Hook.

But very few passes were granted at this time to Washington or to any place beyond a short distance from camp, which was quite a disappointment; but some of our Rhode Island friends found it convenient to visit us; among them was George B. Jastram, father of our Lieutenant Jastram. He was a genial and social gentleman, who made himself very agreeable during his stay. He left us on the 21st taking with him such articles as the men desired to send home.

Our Sunday morning reviews by our captain were resumed on the 21st, the first since leaving the Peninsula.

John H. Carney and Robert Poynton arrived in camp on the 28th, by an exchange of prisoners, they having been captured at Charles City Cross Roads June 30th. Jeremiah Potter also returned. He left the battery the day we reached Alexandria from the Peninsula. Although he did not intend to desert, as he had before committed the same offence he was court martialed October 4th, and sentenced to forfeit \$10 per month for six months and to be under guard for twenty-five days.

October 1st, a review of nine regiments, five batteries, of which our battery was one, took place at Bailey's Cross Roads. The reviewing officers being Generals Heintzelman, Birney, and Robinson.

October 5th, another Sunday review by our captain, who had been for a few days acting temporarily as chief of artillery.

First Sergt. Jacob H. Lamb received his commission as second lieutenant, dated October 1, 1862, and was assigned to Bat-



tery A. Sergeant Lamb was one of the most faithful officers in the battery and had well earned his promotion. October 6th, Sergt. James F. Allen of the second piece was promoted to first sergeant, vice Lamb promoted. First Corp. Charles S. Winslow, of the second piece was advanced to sergeant of the same piece, vice Allen promoted. October 7th, Sergt. Allen Gardner of the first piece was by his own request reduced to gunner of the second piece, vice Winslow promoted. First Corporal Seth B. Darling of the first piece was promoted sergeant of the same piece, vice Gardner reduced. Second Corp. James Donnelly of the first piece was advanced to gunner of the same piece, vice Darling promoted to sergeant. The reduction of Sergeant Gardner at his own request was because of his inability to ride horseback, and not for any deficiency or inability to perform the duties of a sergeant.

On October 8th, William H. Steere, who had about two weeks before been appointed company clerk, received a sick furlough dated October 6th, for thirty days. After two extensions of furlough he was on the 10th of January, 1863, sent to Portsmouth Grove Hospital. Sept. 1, 1861, he was transferred to the Veteran Reserve corps, and afterwards detailed to the commissary department at the hospital. In the spring of 1864 he was transferred to Providence and acted as clerk in the provost department until Sept. 30, 1864, when by reason of the expiration of his term of service he was mustered out. After he received his furlough he was promoted lance corporal. Had he remained in health he doubtless would have been rapidly promoted.

In the evening of the 8th, the boys had a lively time in front of the officers' tents by way of dancing and singing, which was highly enjoyed by both officers and men. Our camp concerts were of frequent occurrence among the men, but this was the first entertainment they had given in honor of their officers.

October 10th, Captain Randolph received orders to have his battery ready to move at four A. M. the next morning. This order, although anticipated, made us realize more fully the pleasant times that this camp afforded us. No place in which we had tarried was more adapted to enjoyment than this. It was nicely arranged and well provided with every convenience

that the rules of the service would allow. Its proximity to places where we could obtain luxuries, and the magnificent scenery, added much to its enjoyment. Its mail facilities were another source of pleasure, which we knew must be sacrificed when we moved. As this was our last night here it was arranged to have a farewell jubilee, which took place in a barn situated upon our camping ground. It consisted as before, of music and dancing, and lasted until taps. At daylight, October 11th, reveille awoke us for the last time at this place, and at sunrise we bade farewell to a month's camp of unusual pleasure.

Our route lay through Georgetown and Tenallytown to Rockville, about twelve miles from Washington, where we encamped for the night; resumed our march at four A. M. next morning, passed through Darnestown and reached Poolesville at two P. M. From Rockville we had a forced march caused by the rebel cavalry raiding near Poolesville. We were accompanied by Robinson's brigade. Two hours after reaching Poolesville the right and centre sections under Lieutenants Arnold and Sheldon, accompanied by the One Hundred and Fourteenth Pennsylvania (Collis Zouaves), and the Twentieth Indiana regiments, were sent out after the rebel raiders, but before overtaking them they had recrossed the Potomac. The sections went as far as the canal, and then returned to camp, reaching it at midnight. October 14th, the battery in company with Robinson's brigade, was ordered to Conrad Ferry. Berry's brigade under Colonel Poe had previously been sent to Edward's Ferry. This move was on account of a report that 10,000 cavalry were near Leesburg preparing for a raid. No enemy appearing the battery returned to camp in the evening.

October 16th, we hitched up on account of a false alarm, but soon unhitched. The next day we moved camp a short distance. On the 19th, Lieutenant Lamb, who had been promoted to second lieutenant on the 5th, left us to join his command with the best wishes of his comrades. We were also reviewed by our captain. October 21st, we again went to Conrad's Ferry, in company with the Twentieth Indiana and a part of the One Hundred and Fourteenth Pennsylvania regiments. We carried no rations with us as we left in a hurry, but they were sent to us after our arrival. We remained until the next morning when we returned to camp.

A very pleasant affair occurred on the 23d. The Sixty-eighth, One Hundred and Fourteenth, and One Hundred and Forty-first Pennsylvania regiments had each a flag presented them by a citizen of Pennsylvania. General Stoneman and staff with General Robinson were present.

October 24th, our battery and Robinson's brigade were reviewed by our division commander. October 26th, the battery was reviewed with Robinson's brigade by one of Burnside's staff officers, but owing to the severe cold rain we were ordered to camp to be inspected in park. Later in the day orders came to be ready to move in the morning, but the order was soon countermanded. On the 27th, Captain Randolph received a leave of absence for fourteen days and Lieutenant Arnold was left in command. The cold storm of two days subsided at noon, when it cleared away cool, but pleasant. October 28th, reveille at five A. M. Left camp for White's Ford, reaching there at 7.30 A. M. Here we found Birney's brigade encamped under command of Gen. John H. Hobart Ward, whose brigade left Washington September 16th. After reaching the ford we were ordered into battery where we remained two days. In the meantime our division forded the river. The water being from two to three feet deep their progress was slow. The infantry were followed by a long train of wagons. Two men in Livingstone's battery were, by some accident drowned, while fording the stream.

On the 29th our quartermaster arrived bringing a heavy mail and several boxes of provisions from Rhode Island. At three P. M. on the 30th we limbered up and crossed the stream, the water just clearing the ammunition chests. After going a short distance we encamped for the night. The date of Gen. George Stoneman's assignment as commander of the gallant Third corps is the same as that of our crossing at White's Ford. General Heintzelman had, three days before, superseded General Banks in command of the defences of Washington, which gave him the control of both sides of the Potomac. On the 31st, after being mustered for two months' pay, we started for Leesburg, where we arrived at night and encamped just north of the town.

It would require the graphic pen of Bayard Taylor to do justice to the sublime and romantic scenery which greeted our

eyes at this place. Nothing like it had ever before been seen by us.

It was about this time that General Birney was relieved from special service at Washington, and, as ordered, reported to take command of his brigade, but finding that General Stoneman had been assigned to the command of the corps, he by virtue of his senior rank, became commander of the division, Gen. J. H. H. Ward soon after becoming permanent commander of Birney's old brigade.

General Stoneman on crossing the river issued orders to forage on the enemy for such supplies as the battery was in need. The order referred, I presume, to horses and forage, as we were short of both; however that may have been, it was evident that with the men of Battery E it had a more liberal meaning. The great supply of ducks, chickens, and mutton, was certainly an evidence that they thought it covered all the needs of a hungry army.

November 1st. After six weeks of impatient waiting the loyal people of the North were glad to hear that the Army of the Potomac was once more making a forward movement. General Lee was slowly retreating up the Shenandoah Valley, watching sharply the passes through the Blue Ridge. General McClellan was equally vigilant, advancing along the east side. While the mountains were a barrier against a general battle, skirmishing by the cavalry and artillery of the two armies was almost of daily occurrence. While our advance was fighting at Philomont we hitched up, but did not move.

November 2d, the Second corps advanced to Snicker's Gap, meeting a slight resistance. The Ninth corps, on the advance, had reached Bloomington. Our battery hitched up at daylight and moved at one P. M., with Birney's division, along the Winchester turnpike, to the summit of Catoctin Mountain, then moving south until the Mountain House, at Mount Gilead, was reached. Went into camp about ten P. M., upon a high bluff, at the foot of which was a stone mill. Battery E did not fail, during the evening, to throw out its skirmishers. The enemy being usually posted in hen-coops always surrendered, although not without making a noisy protest. The result was, that after waiting some three hours, we dined upon chicken soup, George H. Pierce being master of cere-

monies. Our prisoners, when taken, were placed in bags and carried upon the caissons, but they kept up such a continual squalling that Lieutenant Arnold vetoed the practice.

November 3d, the Sixth corps was in the advance, followed by the Ninth, to which Stoneman's command was temporarily attached, the other corps following in the rear, except the Twelfth corps, which was left to guard Harper's Ferry, under General Slocum. Pleasonton had a sharp fight at Upperville, driving the enemy before him. Battery E halted and encamped at Melville in a cornfield.

November 4th, the Fourth corps took possession of Ashley's Gap and our advance reached Piedmont on the Manassas Gap railroad. Battery E remained at Melville all day and through the night.

November 5th, our cavalry had several sharp skirmishes,—Averill at Manassas Gap, and Pleasonton at Barbee's Cross Roads, while General Bayard had a lively skirmish at Salem. Our battery left Melville about nine p. m. and encamped. Some of the men had plenty of fowls and potatoes, which they foraged on the march.

November 6th, the First corps advanced to Warrenton; the Second to Rectortown; the Fifth on the way to White Plains; the Ninth to Waterloo and vicinity, on the north fork of the Rappahannock. The Eleventh corps had now joined us from the vicinity of Washington and was at New Baltimore and Thoroughfare Gap. General Sickles, with the Second division of the Third corps, was guarding the railroad from Manassas Junction towards Warrenton. Our battery left Salem and passed over a very hilly road, halting at a farm-house owned by a man named Morgan, from whose haystacks our horses were fed. While the horses were feeding there occurred an affair not very creditable to those concerned in it. While our officers were in the house, and were enjoying a good dinner and a social chat with its inmates, some of the men had found or forced an entrance into the cellar, and proceeded to help themselves to a good supply of butter, flour, and other articles of a more liquid nature. Being discovered and reported to their officers, they changed their raid to the milk-room, doubtless thinking that a share of the spoils would prevent any punishment by their superiors. However that may be, the officers certainly had no lack of

butter for the next few days ; furthermore, our limber chests, in which we were not generally allowed to carry articles other than ammunition, were well stocked with butter without any protest from the officers. After this affair we marched to within a few miles of Waterloo and encamped.

November 7th, remained in camp all day and night. It was a day long to be remembered, as it early commenced snowing, accompanied by a cold wind. By night nearly two inches of snow covered the ground. Not having any protection save our shelter tents, we suffered quite severely. In all it was one of the most gloomy days thus far in our military history. This was also an eventful day for the Army of Potomac, as the following extract from McClellan's report, found in Vol. 19, Official Records of the War, Part 1st, will show :

"Late on the night of the 7th I received an order relieving me from the command of the Army of the Potomac, and directing me to turn it over to General Burnside, which I at once did. I had already given the orders for the movements of the 8th and 9th. These orders were carried into effect without change. The position in which I left the army, as the result of the orders I had given, was as follows : The First, Second and Fifth corps, Reserve Artillery, and general headquarters, at Warrenton ; the Ninth corps, on the line of the Rappahannock, in the vicinity of Waterloo ; the Sixth corps, at New Baltimore ; the Eleventh corps at New Baltimore, Gainesville, and Thoroughfare Gap ; Sickles's division of the Third corps, on the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, from Manassas Junction to Warrenton Junction ; Pleasonton, across the Rappahannock at Amissville, Jefferson, etc., with his pickets at Hazel River, facing Longstreet, six miles from Culpepper Court House ; Bayard, near Rappahannock Station. When I gave the command to General Burnside, the best information in our possession indicated that Longstreet was immediately in our front, near Culpepper ; Jackson, with one, perhaps both of the Hills, near Chester and Thomaston Gaps, with the mass of their force west of the Blue Ridge."

The order of President Lincoln, ordering the removal of General McClellan, dates November 5th, and reads as follows, viz.:

EXECUTIVE MANSION,  
WASHINGTON, NOV. 5, 1862. }

By direction of the President it is ordered that Major-General McClellan be relieved from the command of the Army of the Potomac, and that Major-General Burnside take the command of the Army. That Major-General Fitz John Porter be relieved from the command of the corps (the Fifth) he now commands in said army, and that Major-General Hooker take command of said corps.

The General-in Chief is authorized, in his discretion, to issue an order substantially as the above forthwith, or as soon as he may deem proper.

A. LINCOLN.

On the 9th General Burnside issued the following :

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,  
WARRENTON, VA., NOV. 9, 1862. }

*General Orders No. 1.*

In accordance with General Orders No. 132, issued by the President of the United States, I hereby assume command of the Army of the Potomac. Patriotism and the exercise of my every energy, aided by the full and hearty co-operation of its officers and men, will, I hope, under the blessing of God, insure its success. Having been a sharer of the privations, and a witness of the bravery of the old Army of the Potomac in the Maryland campaign, and fully identified with them in their feelings of respect and esteem for General McClellan, entertained through a long and most friendly association with him, I feel that it is not as a stranger that I assume their command.

To the Ninth corps, so long and intimately associated with me, I need say nothing; our histories are identical.

With diffidence for myself, but with a proud confidence in the unswerving loyalty and determination of the gallant army now intrusted to my care, I accept its control with the steadfast assurance that the just cause must prevail.

A. E. BURNSIDE,

*Major-General Commanding.*

November 8th was still cold but more pleasant. We moved about two miles south, and went into camp about two miles east of Waterloo, which is situated at the junction of Carter's Run and the Hedgeman River. Our camp lay some five or six miles southwest of Warrenton, and was quite well protected from the wind by the surrounding hills. Negro Run being near us furnished water for our horses. Some of the men during the day foraged several sheep. One man complained of losing one hundred and fifty. This practice of

foraging had been more in vogue since passing Leesburg than ever before, which may have been owing to Captain Randolph's being on a leave of absence. Amasa A. Darling, sergeant of the third detachment, and one of our best non-commissioned officers, was reduced to the ranks by Lieutenant Arnold. It was an act which I think Arnold always regretted, for he was perhaps more to blame than Sergeant Darling. The trouble grew out of an order that the horses, after encamping, should be fed before the men had their own rations. The sergeant, in order to hasten matters, had given his men permission to fill the nose-bags before reaching camp, and immediately after their arrival the grain was given to them. Lieutenant Arnold, not noticing this, and observing that the men were eating their own rations, demanded to know why the order had not been complied with, and when told by the sergeant that the horses were already fed, seemed to take no notice of what the sergeant had said, but with a great display of temper demanded that he should go and obey the order, and would not listen or believe that the order had already been enforced. Continuing in an impulsive manner, he told the sergeant that he would reduce him to the ranks, which threat he carried out. As the sergeant was a very sensitive man he, doubtless, during the altercation showed considerable temper, but the manner of the lieutenant would have provoked less sensitive men than Sergeant Darling. As the lieutenant himself had lost his temper he should have been more charitable. A more proper course would have been to refer the case to Captain Randolph, who returned four days after. Although the matter was brought to the captain's notice, he said he regretted the occurrence, but as the act had been done he preferred not to interfere in the matter. Although Sergeant Darling lost his rank, he never lost the esteem of his comrades. He continued in the faithful performance of his duties until the battle of Chancellorsville, May 3, 1863, when he was severely wounded, and was discharged by the War Department, Dec. 23, 1863.

On the 9th, we remained quiet in camp, but on the 10th we were reviewed by Captain Livingstone in the morning, and at four P. M. we left camp and crossed the Hedgeman River at Waterloo, going about two miles, and encamped near Glen Mills, passing the Fourth Rhode Island on our way. Here



we remained during the night and through the next day, hitching up once in the meantime on account of firing on our front, but soon unhitched.

On November 12th, the Seventh Rhode Island Regiment passed through Glen Mills, greeting us with Rhode Island cheers. At three P. M. we hitched up and returned to camp at the Spring House, east of Waterloo. We were accompanied back to camp by Birney's division, which encamped near us. Our captain returned from his furlough, bringing with him three recruits, one of whom was George W. Gleason.

On the 14th, Corp. Arthur Hargraves, of the fourth detachment, was promoted sergeant and assigned to the third detachment in place of Darling, reduced. Private Thomas T. Beard was promoted corporal, vice Hargraves promoted.

The camp was unusually well supplied with fresh pork, the result of an evening raid upon a pig pen adjoining our camp, and immediately under the eye of the general, whose headquarters were within a few feet of the pen. The writer must own to being one of the leaders in this affair. The plan, as agreed upon, was that at about ten P. M., after the lights were extinguished, we should silently lay aside the rails of the pen, and then step back to await the outcoming of two fine pigs of about one hundred and fifty pounds weight. After a short time the pigs quietly left the enclosure, when they were driven in the extreme darkness to a distant field, taking with us a dog well trained for the work. While a portion watched one of the pigs, the dog was set upon the other, and held it until seized by the men in pursuit. This, of course, caused a terrible squealing, but a knife carried for the purpose soon silenced the unwelcome noise. The same method was repeated with the other pig. We then, with some effort, carried our prey to a distant field in order to escape possible pursuers. The pigs were then dressed and stealthily taken into camp and as quietly distributed. The day following the general, who was the host of the owner, having a suspicion of the battery men, ordered a search of our camp. Lieutenant Arnold, who was in command, went to each detachment and gave notice that a search was to be made to find the missing pigs, and advised us to hide the pork if we had any. As our tent floor was covered with a good supply of straw, we found no difficulty in doing so. Soon an officer came, accompanied

by Lieutenant Arnold, and searched our quarters, but, of course, found no fresh pork. It is needless to say that Lieutenant Arnold and his brother officers did not go without a good share of the secesh pig.

It was on the 14th that the army organized into three grand divisions, right, centre, and left; the right commanded by Gen. E. V. Sumner, the centre by Hooker, and the left by Gen. W. B. Franklin. The right grand division consisted of the Second and Ninth corps, the left consisted of the First and Sixth corps, and the Third and Fifth corps formed the centre. The Eleventh corps was held in reserve under Sigel. At the time of Burnside's appointment as commander-in-chief he was requested to forward his plan of operations. Within a few days he sent a report of his intended movement. It was in these words: "To concentrate all the forces near this place and impress upon the enemy a belief that we are to attack Culpepper or Gordonsville, and at the same time accumulate a four or five days' supply of men and animals; then make a rapid move of the whole force to Fredericksburg, with a view to a movement upon Richmond from that point." Burnside then proceeds to give at length his reasons for his plan. Upon the reception of this an arrangement was made for a consultation between Halleck and Burnside at Warrenton. They met on the 12th and continued the consultation into the next day. Halleck agreed if the President approved the plan to send the pontoons and supplies promptly. He then returned to Washington and laid the plan before the President, who after a careful study of the movement proposed gave his consent. General Burnside then proceeded to act upon his designs. On the 15th, the right grand division, under General Sumner, began the forward movement, followed on the 16th by the left and centre grand divisions, under Generals Franklin and Hooker. Soon after Sumner's command started an attack was made upon General Sturgis's wagon train, near Sulphur Springs, in consequence of which our battery hitched up and moved to the top of the hill joining our camp, and, after waiting several hours, were ordered to return to camp. On this day, Sergt. Joseph S. Milne received his commission as second lieutenant, dated November 11th, and was assigned to Battery B, of Rhode Island. Sergeant Milne was a young man of fine ability and

had a promising future. His departure from us was regretted by all, especially by the fifth detachment, whose sergeant he had been from the beginning, being then only twenty years old. He belonged in Tiverton, R. I., but was born in Bolton, N. Y. By trade he was a printer. He served faithfully at Fredericksburg, where he had a horse shot under him. At Gettysburg he likewise served with increased credit, but before the battle ended he received his mortal wound, of which more will be said at a later date.

The battery left camp November 16th, at nine A. M., and marched with the corps to Warrenton and encamped on its western hills, which gave us a fine view of the town and its surroundings. November 17th, left Warrenton in the rain about six A. M., and went about ten miles, and halted at Liberty Run, a branch of Marsh River. A shooting affair caused quite an excitement about the time of our arrival. It was said that an officer shot one or two men during a dispute about some straw, which so enraged the regiment that they chased the officer out of camp.

On the 18th, moved at nine A. M., and passed through Bealeton Station, to about one mile beyond Morrisville, a hamlet of three houses. On the 19th left park at nine A. M. and marched some six miles and went into camp, passing on our way the First Rhode Island Cavalry, whose band was playing in a church. Our company teams during the day went to Belle Plain Landing after forage. Elias H. Mathewson, although an excellent driver, overturned his team, doing no special damage. November 20th, we made no forward movement, but a sad affair occurred which resulted in the death of George Higgins. It seems that Quartermaster-Sergt. Charles A. Brown was ordered with a detail of men, of whom Higgins was one, to go after some hay that was stacked some distance from camp. During the loading the men became engaged in a rude frolic, and after it had been unduly prolonged, the quartermaster sought to bring it to an end. This effort Higgins stoutly persisted in defeating, which brought on an encounter with sabres. The sergeant warned him to desist, to which he paid no heed, but continued with his reckless thrusts; when the sergeant, with no intention other than to prick him slightly with the point of the sabre, hit him in the abdomen, penetrating so deep that

it caused his death the next day. It caused quite an excitement in the battery, and threats of revenge were freely hinted at among his friends. In the meantime Sergeant Brown reported the affair to the captain, who reported the case to General Birney, who refused to take any action in the matter. Captain Randolph then had the company formed into line and told them of Birney's decision, and added that if any more threats were made he would severely punish the offenders, or words to that effect. Higgins was not over wise and by no means as vicious as his acts would seem to indicate. Nothing suited him better than a rough and tumble frolic, and when once started he never knew when to stop, and no amount of hard usage would in the least keep him quiet. He was what might be called the clown of the battery, and was more sinned against than sinning. He belonged in Canterbury, Conn., and was from eighteen to twenty years old.

On the 21st, Higgins was buried just in rear of camp. George H. Burlingham, on account of his reported desertion, was reduced to the ranks. The position of Corp. F. B. Butts, who had changed his service to the navy, was declared vacant. Private William H. Steere was promoted corporal and was probably assigned to the sixth detachment. Private James Mulligan promoted corporal and probably assigned to first piece. Steere and Mulligan were both in the hospital, and neither ever served as non-commissioned officers.

Gunner Geo. W. H. Allen, of fifth piece, was promoted sergeant of same piece, vice Milne promoted second lieutenant. Second Corp. Lester S. Hill promoted gunner of fifth piece, vice Allen promoted sergeant. Private Edward A. Chandler promoted second corporal, vice Hill promoted. The new officers of the fifth detachment were in every way worthy of their advancement, as their subsequent history fully proved.

November 22d, we left this unfortunate camp and marched to within about two miles of Fredericksburg and encamped on the south side and near the Richmond, Fredericksburg & Potomac Railroad, near what was afterwards known as Stoneman's Switch. It was about two miles west of Belle Plain Landing. The camp afterwards was known as Camp Pitcher, near Falmouth, Va.

The whole of Burnside's army, 116,000 strong, was now in

front of Fredericksburg, the advance under Sumner having arrived on the 17th. General Burnside arrived at Falmouth on the 19th. Hooker's grand division, to which we belonged, was the last to arrive.

It was the intention of General Burnside to have crossed as soon as his forces arrived, but when he reached Falmouth he was greatly disappointed, as the promised pontoons had not arrived. The result was that the crossing had to be postponed. For three days after the advance had arrived at Falmouth, there was no force that could have prevented our army from crossing the Rappahannock. On the 22d the hills in the rear of the city were bristling with shining bayonets borne by the defiant army under General Lee, whose two massive army corps were commanded by the unsurpassed generals, Jackson and Longstreet. It was not until the 25th that the pontoons arrived at the general headquarters. Of the delay of the pontoons much has been written as to who was responsible, but from the best evidence available it rests upon General Halleck, and General Meigs the quartermaster of the army. Had the engineer officers in charge been informed of the necessity for their prompt delivery the result might have prevented the terrible slaughter at Fredericksburg Heights.

It was now necessary for the army to await the maturing of another plan of procedure. The commanding officers in the meantime had suitable quarters provided for their respective commands. It was not feared that General Lee would take the offensive, as his army had been too much broken and depleted by his Maryland invasion and the battle of Antietam. The natural defensive position the heights of Fredericksburg offered him in which to recruit and strengthen his army, confirmed this conclusion. It was not General Burnside's intention, however, that General Lee should reap any advantage from his inactivity, and he at once proceeded to form a plan to overcome the formidable obstructions thrown in his way. In the meantime our camps were assuming a more comfortable condition.

## CHAPTER XIII.

November—December, 1862.

## CAMP PITCHER AND BATTLE OF FREDERICKSBURG.

NOVEMBER 23d, our battery resumed camp duties by washing carriages and cleaning harnesses, preparatory to an inspection, which occurred on the 24th, by General Stoneman. On the 25th there was a division review in an open field south of our camp, the reviewing officers being Generals Hooker, Stoneman, and Birney. The three following days we had field and manual drills, followed by a Sunday inspection on the 30th.

Several Rhode Island regiments and batteries were encamped in the vicinity, which gave us an opportunity to visit our Rhode Island friends. December 2d, James F. Pratt died from an overdose of morphine, taken by mistake during the night before. Dr. Smith had prescribed for him two kinds of medicine, one being morphine, to be taken alternately. By mistake he repeated the dose of morphine. Every effort was made to restore him from its effect, but, after several hours spent in unsuccessful efforts, the attempt was given up, and he died soon after and was buried the same day. Dr. Smith had been in constant attendance from the discovery of the accident. One month later his father, who belonged to the First Rhode Island Cavalry, came and with the assistance of his son's comrades, had the body exhumed and sent home.

December 3d, Lieutenant Bucklyn returned from Rhode Island, having been absent for three months on sick leave. As before stated he was sent to the hospital at Georgetown, where he remained six weeks, when he received an extension of his leave of absence for six weeks more. The officers and men gave him a hearty welcome, and congratulated him upon

his return to his duties, which he had always so faithfully performed.

The men began to cut logs for tents, which work was continued for several days, little thinking they would soon after being finished have to vacate them. On the 5th, it was cold, rainy, and cheerless, followed the next day by snow, which fell some two inches deep. We continued daily at work upon our tents until the 9th. December 10th, the unwelcome order came to have three days' rations prepared, which was soon followed by an order to pack up.

To leave our comfortable quarters at that season of the year was by no means an agreeable one, but as true soldiers we knew our duty too well to complain. The question as to what the movement was to be and where we were going was upon every man's lips, although from past experience we knew that time and patience alone would answer the question. The next morning at sunrise we broke camp, and started towards Fredericksburg, the sight of which, with the vast army around us in motion, soon revealed the mystery of the movement. It was plainly evident that Burnside had matured a plan of action, and that its execution had now commenced. Whatever it might be, Battery E was determined to perform its duty with credit to itself and to the state it represented. For a better understanding of the very brief description of the battle of Fredericksburg I will state the position of the troops. The general course of the Rappahannock in front of the city runs from the northwest to the southeast. About one mile north of the city lies the little town of Falmouth, opposite of which the river changes its course nearly west, and half a mile west of Falmouth you come to Beck's Island. Just west of this island a range of hills commences and extends down the south side of the river to near the Massaponax River, a small stream about four miles south of the city. The northern portion of this range, where it joins the Rappahannock, is known as Taylor's Hill. Joining this on the southeast comes the now famous Marye's Hill; next comes Telegraph Hill, where Lee had his headquarters, and what is now known as Lee's Hill on that account. On the south side of Lee's Hill is a valley through which flows Deep Run Creek, to the south of which is a gentle elevation extending to Hamilton's crossing, over the railroad.

Upon this elevation was posted Jackson's corps, whose brave troops two divisions of the gallant Third corps unsuccessfully attempted to dislodge. R. H. Anderson's division of Longstreet's corps occupied Taylor's Hill. Ransom's and McLaw's divisions of the same corps, were posted upon Marye's Hill between the unfinished railroad and the plank road. Pickett's division occupied Lee's Hill; Hood's division lay across Deep Run Creek joining the division of A. P. Hill, of Jackson's corps. The divisions of Early and Taliaferro were in rear of A. P. Hill. D. H. Hill's and Stuart's cavalry guarded the right flank of the Confederate army to the west and east of Hamilton's Crossing. On the Union or north side of the river were the Stafford Hills, from whose towering heights our artillery shelled and partly burned the city on the 11th. This was a sad necessity, owing to the fact that 3,000 rebels were sheltering themselves in and behind the houses, and firing upon the engineer brigade laying the pontoon bridges. At three A. M. the bridges were commenced, and, as daylight approached the rebels began to fire on the men constructing them, killing and wounding fifty-seven. These attacks were kept up until three P. M., when troops were sent across in boats, they advancing and driving the rebels from their hiding places. The bridges were then finished without further delay. It was during these constant attacks upon our men who were laying the pontoons, that a portion of the 133 guns posted upon Stafford's Heights opened upon the city. The bridges below the city were laid without much annoyance and were completed during the forenoon. The guns upon the range of Stafford's Heights included the reserve, and all but one battery belonging to each division. After the completion of the bridges and our troops had effected a landing the division batteries rejoined their commands as they passed over the river. Five pontoon bridges were built on the 11th and one later, two above the centre of the town, one opposite the lower end, and three about one and a quarter miles below the town. Over the latter crossed Franklin's two corps (first and sixth), also Birney's and Sickles' divisions of the Third corps. The upper bridges were finished so late in the afternoon that only Howard's division of the Second corps and Hawkins's brigade of the Ninth, crossed that night. During the 12th the Second and Ninth corps







Pardon S. Jastram, 1st Lieut. Commanding.

completed their journey across and took possession of the town. They were immediately followed by Whipple's division of the Third corps, which was ordered to "hold the approaches to the city from the southwest, and, under the orders of General Couch, protect his right flank while moving forward to attack the enemy in front."

Birney's and Sickles's divisions of the Third corps, with our battery, moved forward from the position where we had halted the morning before, to within a short distance of the city, when we again halted to await the movements of other troops. While waiting here we were mustered in and paid for four months' service. Doubtless some of the money was collected by the rebels after the battle. This was the first day's service of Captain Randolph as Birney's division chief of artillery. It was also the day that Lieutenant Arnold took leave of the battery to become captain of Battery A, of which he assumed command the next day while in the streets of Fredericksburg. This necessarily left Lieutenant Jastram in command of the battery, although Captain Randolph still made it his headquarters.

It was about night when the divisions of Sickles and Birney moved forward towards the left, our battery leaving somewhat later and reaching a point about three or four miles below the city, moving by a back road to prevent being seen by the enemy. It was eleven P. M. before we encamped, and, after caring for our horses, we lay down upon the ground to get a few hours of rest, but the thoughts of the approaching battle weighed so heavily upon our minds that our rest was very much broken. Soon the hours of the night were passed, and the morning of the eventful 13th arrived, bringing with it the preparations for the conflict. Franklin's two corps, the First commanded by General Reynolds, and the Sixth under Gen. William F. Smith, had previously crossed the river on the 12th and had posted Smith's corps on a line with the old Richmond road, Brook's division being on the right of Franklin's command and joining Burn's division of the Ninth corps. On the left of Brooks's came Howes's division, whose left was joined by Newton's division. "Reynolds's corps was formed at nearly right angles to Smith's, his right resting on Smith's and his left on the river. In front of Franklin's command lay the heights of Fredericksburg. Between these heights

to be attacked and the plateau on which the First and Sixth corps were posted, there was a hollow of several hundred yards in width through which, and close to the foot of the heights the Richmond railroad ran. The heights along the crest were wooded. The slope to the railroad from the extreme left for the space of about 400 yards was clear. Beyond this it was wooded, the woods extending across the hollow and in front of the railroad. The plateau on our side was level and cultivated ground up to the crest of the hollow, where there was quite a fall to the railroad. The enemy occupied the wooded heights, the line of railroad, and the woods in front. Owing to the woods nothing could be seen of them, while all our movements on the cleared ground were exposed to their view." This description by General Meade gives a clear view of the field of action upon which Franklin's and Hooker's commands met the brave troops of "Stonewall" Jackson. The formation of the line of battle was in the form of an angle, which subjected our troops to a front and flank attack at the pleasure of the enemy.

Between nine and ten A. M. General Meade ordered forward his division in line of battle, when immediately Pelham's rebel battery opened upon our left flank, to which three batteries of Meade's promptly replied and soon caused its withdrawal. No infantry, except the sharpshooters, were engaged on either side at this time. Our lines were forming to attack the heights in front, and hardly had the formation been completed when the enemy opened with a battery posted upon the heights at our extreme left. To this firing Cooper's, Amsden's and Ransom's batteries replied, and, after half an hour of severe shelling, the enemy's battery was silenced, apparently having one or two of his ammunition chests exploded. The infantry now advanced, driving the enemy's skirmishers before them into the woods, through which the railroad ran. Here the enemy was found posted behind defences, out of which the First brigade drove them, following them to the railroad, over which they were driven, they stubbornly fighting as they retreated to beyond the crest of the hill. During the pursuit the First brigade was subjected to a heavy fire upon their right flank by infantry and artillery. After driving the enemy across the road, which runs along the crest of the heights, they held the ground un-

til heavy reinforcements were brought against them in front and on their flanks, when they were obliged to retire to the railroad. The Second brigade followed the First, and, after reaching the railroad they were so hotly attacked on their right that a portion of them had to change front to the right to repel the attack. The rest of the brigade continued to advance and were attacked on the left flank, but continued to fight their way until reaching near the same point as the First brigade, when they in turn were compelled to retire for the same reasons. The Second brigade, before retiring, had captured 200 prisoners and safely brought them to the rear. The Third brigade attempted to advance further to the left, and had not proceeded far before they were attacked by a battery from the left. The brigade then attempted to flank the battery and capture it, and partly succeeded, when Gen. Feger Jackson, its commander, was killed. From the severity of the fire of the infantry and artillery, with the loss of their general, they were compelled to retire.

General Gibbon, who commanded the Second division of Reynolds's corps, had not been idle during the fight of General Meade. Previous to noon the division had been in line in front of the Bowling Green Road, and about noon moved forward and attacked the rebels on the railroad to the right of Meade. Although less successful, his division fought bravely, and had the troops on his right advanced with him, he doubtless would have made a more successful assault. While the contest of Meade and Gibbon was in progress, General Stoneman received orders to send a division to support Reynolds and to hold the other in readiness to cross at a moment's notice. Immediately the First (Birney's) was sent and reached the battlefield in rear of General Meade about noon. At this time the Third corps was stationed, to use the words of General Stoneman, as follows: "Myself and staff at the headquarters of General Franklin; three miles above was Whipple's Third division, detached to the support of Sumner; in front and moving into position to support Reynolds's corps, was the First (Birney's) division; on the other (this) side of the river was the Second (Sickles's) division, from which had been detached a battery of rifled guns and sent to General Smith, four regiments to guard bridges, and one regiment to support batteries, so that my

corps was divided and sub-divided into seven parts or parcels, and scattered and distributed over a space of country six miles long by two or three wide."

Stoneman soon after went to the front with Birney's division. On arriving at the front General Stoneman says: "Gibbon's and Meade's divisions had driven the enemy beyond the railroad and were hotly engaged with him in the woods on the high grounds above. By request of General Reynolds, Birney formed his division to support Meade: Ward's brigade on the right, and Berry's brigade on the left; Robinson's brigade, for some cause, having been delayed on the road. Gibbon's division was without any support whatever. Meeting General Gibbon, by his request I directed General Birney to send two regiments to occupy a suitable position and support his battery, which was in soft ground, without ammunition and considerably crippled. Shortly after Meade's division began to retire, soon followed by Gibbons, and both in no little confusion and disorder. Every effort was made to rally them, but all to no purpose. Regardless of threats and force, and deaf to all entreaties, they sullenly and persistently moved to the rear, and were reformed near the banks of the river by their officers, many of whom used every endeavor in their power to stay their weary and overpowered troops. A portion of Ward's brigade, under its general, was sent by General Birney to the support of Meade, and they in turn were driven back, but immediately reformed in rear of Robinson's brigade, which had arrived and was just then deploying in line of battle in front of the batteries of Livingstone and Randolph. The enemy now advanced in strong force, but the brigades of Berry and Robinson, together with three regiments of Ward's brigade, on the extreme right, by a well-directed fire, first checked the advancing foe, and then drove him back into the woods beyond the railroad, taking a considerable number of prisoners."

While the enemy was being repulsed on Birney's front, the ground previously held by Gibbon had not a man or gun for its protection. A staff officer was hastily sent to hurry up Sickles's division, who soon arrived and promptly formed his division to cover the vacated ground. No sooner had Sickles posted his troops than the rebels under General Hood appeared in full force on his right. The artillery was opened

upon him, causing him to desist in making any further advancement. No more fighting by the infantry occurred during the remainder of the day although sharp skirmishing was kept up until after dark. Just before sunset, however, the enemy opened a battery of fourteen guns from their right upon the batteries to our left, to which the batteries of Livingstone, Randolph, with Cooper's battery, of Meade's division, and Leppien's battery, of Gibbon's division, responded, and after a sharp encounter of about fifteen minutes the enemy's batteries ceased firing. We remained in position until near midnight, when we moved back across the Bowling Green Road. Being now comparatively out of immediate danger we made an attempt to get a few hours' rest. Our loss during the day was four, two killed and two wounded. Cornelius Sullivan was instantly killed by the explosion of a rebel shell, inflicting a terrible wound in the head. Only a short time before he said, jestingly, to a group of comrades, that "the shot is not yet cast that will kill me." He was a bright and brave fellow, about eighteen years of age, and was a lead driver in the fifth detachment. He enlisted at Providence, R. I., and joined the battery when in front of Richmond, on the 26th of June, 1862. William Mason belonged to the centre section and was severely wounded, and died the next day. Of his history nothing is known except that he enlisted from Warwick, R. I., and joined the battery as a recruit Feb. 28, 1862, while at Artillery Camp, near Alexandria, Va. He, too, was a brave and useful soldier. The wounded were Martin Brown and Adelbert A. Fairbanks, slightly. Sergt. C. P. Williams was hit in the leg by a spent ball, receiving no injury. Considering our exposed position and the quite constant shelling we received from the several batteries that attacked us, our escape from a more severe loss was quite remarkable. Had a movement of the enemy upon our battery succeeded, we should have been captured, although they would have paid dearly for the prize. The movement referred to was when Meade's reserves were being driven back across the railroad, and were being hotly pursued by a victorious enemy. As they approached to within a hundred yards of our battery, we, with Livingstone's battery, opened upon them with canister, which was so annoying that they were determined to capture both batteries, and had deployed in line for that pur-

pose, but their designs being discovered, Robinson's brigade, which had just arrived upon the field at a double-quick, was ordered by Birney to form a line of attack and drive back the advancing foe. How successfully he accomplished his task, an extract from his report will tell :

"Entering the field at a double quick, I formed a line of battle in rear of Livingston's and Randolph's batteries, towards which the enemy was then moving, and were in danger of being captured. As soon as I had two regiments in line I pushed forward to meet him. These regiments, the One Hundred and Fourteenth Pennsylvania Volunteers (Collis's Zouaves), and the Sixty-third Pennsylvania Volunteers, advanced beautifully, delivered a galling fire into the face of the enemy, and charging at a double quick, drove him in confusion back to his works."

Sumner's attack upon the heights in rear of Fredericksburg was entirely independent of Franklin's on the left, and, as it had no bearing upon the movements of Battery E, I shall only very briefly refer to it. Sumner's command consisted of the Second and Ninth corps, being assisted by a part of Hooker's, whose forces were widely scattered with the object of supporting either Sumner or Franklin as occasion required. Sumner was expected to capture the main heights, which were held by the corps of General Longstreet, which natural position had been strongly fortified. The principal attack was made upon Marye's Hill, whose approaches were covered by a stone wall and rifle-pits, behind which was posted the first line of Longstreet's troops. About noon General French advanced his division to the attack, followed by Hancock's division, who were met by a storm of leaden hail, before which they soon recoiled. Battery A, of Rhode Island, commanded by our late lieutenant, now Captain Arnold, was engaged in this assault, and he maintained the reputation won in Battery E as a brave and energetic officer. Whipple's division relieved General Howard from the right, whose division now came to the front and soon became engaged with no better success. At two P. M. Hooker came upon the scene of action with Butterfield's Fifth corps, and was ordered to put in all his forces when Sykes's, Griffin's and Humphreys's divisions were advanced into action and suffered severely, most of the mounted officers being unhorsed, General Humphreys losing



two horses. These assaults were continued until night, resulting only in disaster to our brave troops. Sumner and Hooker had both entreated Burnside to desist in the attempt, but he persisted in refusing, and not until the next morning after going to the front and consulting with other generals, did he consent to countermand his orders to continue the assaults. In these daring efforts the artillery from both sides of the river gave their assistance, Hazard's battery (B, of Rhode Island,) losing sixteen men and twelve horses. The Seventh and Twelfth Rhode Island Infantry were engaged and received credit from their brigade commander. The Twelfth lost 108 and the Seventh 158, including its lieutenant-colonel, Welcome B Sayles and Major Babbitt. General Longstreet, after giving an account of these terrible assaults, says: "A sixth time they charged and were driven back, when night came to end the dreadful carnage, and the Federals withdrew, leaving the battlefield literally heaped with the bodies of their dead. Before the well-directed fire of Cobb's brigade the Federals had fallen like the steady dripping of the rain from the eaves of a house. Our musketry alone killed and wounded at least five thousand, and these, with the slaughter by the artillery, left over seven thousand killed and wounded before the foot of Marye's Hill. The dead were sometimes piled three deep, and when morning broke the spectacle that we saw upon the battlefield was one of the most distressing I ever witnessed."

On the morning of the 14th, the sun rose bright and cheerful alike on both armies, seeming to mock the hopeless expressions upon the faces of the one hundred thousand troops of the Federal army. The deadly assaults which so disastrously failed of success the day before, with the universal dissent of all the general officers against the continuance of the attempt to carry the impregnable heights, gave to the troops nothing upon which to expect success. It was with these feelings that we left our position in the rear of the road to resume our place, which we had vacated during the night previous.

As we approached the hill to retake our position all was silent save the occasional firing of our vigilant skirmishers. Was this to continue, or was it the foreboding of a forthcoming storm in which the army was again to be baptized in blood?

This was the spirit if not the actual line of thought which permeated the minds of the Army of the Potomac on this beautiful Sunday morning. It was not long before this silence was to be broken, as orders from General Birney were received to shell the wood in our front, which we at once proceeded to do. Our firing continued only a short time, and not eliciting any reply we were ordered to cease firing. After a short time we were again ordered back beyond the road, where we remained during the day. Nothing occurred to indicate that the battle would be renewed. Our dead were being collected and brought to the rear for burial, and the wounded cared for and sent to the hospitals across the river. An occasional shot was fired from along the whole line during the day, but otherwise all continued silent, and the same duties were continued during the Monday following. Our dead and wounded were all disposed of under a flag of truce. Our battery resumed its place at the front but fired no shots. About noon the battery again returned to the rear of the road, and after dark our horses were unhitched to give them a much-needed rest, after which we spread our blankets upon the ground and were soon forgetful of our deathly surroundings. Not over two hours passed before our sergeants were awakened and ordered to have their teams hitched up with as little noise as possible. No sooner had we hitched up than we were ordered to fall into a line of artillery and recross the river, the artillery and wagon trains taking precedence.

After reaching the river we were delayed in crossing, owing to the steep embankment, which was, because of constant use, in very bad condition. To prevent accident our wheels were chained, and by careful driving and the vigilant watchfulness of Lieutenants Jastram and Bucklyn, with the aid of numerous lanterns, we safely passed over the pontoons. Owing probably to the darkness, the left section, commanded by Lieutenant Bucklyn, became separated from the other sections after crossing, and, after an ineffectual effort to find them, it moved to the foot of the hill in front of Burnside's headquarters, and halted to await daylight. After the proper care of our horses, the tarpaulins were spread over the guns, and under them the weary detachments lay down to rest. They were not long allowed to enjoy their repose, for the rain, which had commenced soon after, caused streams of water to

run under the resting cannoneers. After being awakened by the intruding rivulets, the course of the water was changed by ditching, after which there was no further trouble. The other sections were more fortunate in their camping-grounds.

On the morning of the 16th, the sections of the battery were united and returned to their old camp, which was found to be in good condition. By noon all the troops of the Army of the Potomac were in their old camps except a portion of its artillery, which was left in position for awhile upon the range of hills in front of Fredericksburg. It was with mingled feelings of gladness and sorrow that the army resumed its daily routine of duties; glad to be relieved from the horrors of the battlefield, with all its attendant sufferings; but all this relief was more than cancelled by the thought that thirteen hundred of our comrades were silent in death and as many more suffering with serious wounds, perhaps to end in death, to say nothing of those wounded less severely. Nor was this all, for we must add the suffering thousands of wives, mothers and sisters at home, many of whom were dependent upon the fallen for support. This unveiled a picture sad enough, without adding the effect of a longer-continued struggle upon our enemies at home and abroad. Rhode Island was represented in this battle by the Fourth, Seventh, Second and Twelfth Regiments, and six batteries of artillery, A, B, C, D, G, and E.

From these several regiments and batteries Rhode Island has recorded upon her rolls of honor the names of three hundred and sixteen brave men who were killed or wounded.

Battery E, although not losing many, performed her part with honor, alike to itself and the State which it represented. It is safe to say that few commands ever had more respect for each other than did the officers and men of Randolph's battery. The cool self-possession of our captain gave confidence to his men, which was further increased by the faithfulness of the zealous Jastram, the brave and daring Bucklyn, who, with the honest and manly Sheldon, formed a trio of lieutenants of whom any company might well be proud. What our captain had to say about this battle will be found in the following report :

*Report of Capt. George E. Randolph, Chief of Artillery,  
First Division.*

CAMP PITCHER, VA., Dec. 17, 1862.

CAPTAIN: I have the honor respectfully to report the operations of the artillery of this division during the actions of the 13th, 14th, and 15th instants, as follows:

My two batteries, F and K, Third Artillery, and E, First Rhode Island Artillery, crossed the Rappahannock River about 10.30 A. M., December 13th, following the infantry of the division, and were almost immediately placed in position to support the line of General Reynolds, relieving the battery of Captain Ransom. The position was quite good, a ridge protecting limbers and caissons, and within easy range of the enemy's line of battle in the edge of the woods and on the railroad. Livingstone's battery, under First Lieutenant Turnbull, on right of the line occupied by the Pennsylvania reserves and mine, under Lieutenant Jastram, immediately to the left of Livingstone's. Our first action was to fire shell and spherical case shot into the edge of the woods, receiving in reply the fire of a rebel battery, which occupied a commanding position on a hill opposite the left of the line occupied by our division subsequently. I was soon compelled to cease firing any fuse projectiles, having found the fuses entirely unreliable, and that the use of them endangered our troops over which I was firing. Upon the repulse of the Pennsylvania Reserves, under General Meade, the enemy's line of infantry was pushed within canister range of our line under cover of a ridge, and opened fire upon our cannoners; but he was so cautious that we suffered little from his fire and we had not the opportunity of injuring him, which, if he had been a little bolder, we would have had. However, the battery opened with canister with *greater* effect than might have been supposed, especially from Livingstone's battery, which, from the formation of the ground in front, could see and reach the enemy most easily. The admirable firmness of our regiments prevented my fearing for the safety of the guns, and the manner in which they drove the enemy to the woods proved that my confidence was not misplaced, and that temerity on the part of the enemy would have caused his ruin. There was occasional firing between our batteries and those of the enemy during the entire day. Towards evening they opened fire from some ten guns upon General Doubleday, who was engaged to our left, but a well-directed fire from our batteries, including those of Captains Cooper and Leppien, soon silenced them. I was somewhat annoyed by an enfilading fire from a battery far to our left, but the great distance prevented its doing the harm at first apprehended. Both batteries were withdrawn at night behind the road. During Sunday, the 14th, I fired occasionally into the lines of battle along the railroad and the edge of the woods, using generally solid shot. In the afternoon Battery E was withdrawn by order of Major-General Franklin to the rear of the road. Embrasures were cut in the bank, enabling it, though protected entirely, to sweep the field should our first line be repulsed. On Monday we were not engaged. The batteries preceded the division and recrossed the river about midnight on the 15th and 16th. All the officers under my command behaved handsomely, and I was especially pleased with the manner in which Lieutenant Jastram handled my battery, of which he had been but one day in command. The batteries of Captains Cooper and Leppien, on my left, did good service. The practice of the

Fifth Maine (Captain Leppien) attracted my especial notice and admiration.

Following is a list of casualties: Battery E, First Rhode Island Artillery (Lientenant Jastram), 2 privates killed and 2 slightly wounded; 2 horses killed and 5 disabled. Batteries F and K (Livingstone's), Third Artillery, 5 privates wounded; 2 horses killed and 8 wounded. The loss in material was very slight. Ammunition expended, about 800 rounds.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE E. RANDOLPH,

*Captain First Rhode Island Artillery,*

*Chief of Artillery.*

## CHAPTER XIV.

December 17, 1862, to April 27, 1863.

CAMP PITCHER RESUMED—BURNSIDE'S SECOND FAILURE—  
WINTER QUARTERS—CAMP SICKLES.

DECEMBER 17, 1862, found us in our old camp preparing to build new quarters. Our new camp was built in a hollow, formed somewhat like a horse shoe, surrounded on three sides by table lands, which protected us from the cold winds and gave us the full benefit of the warm sun. The men's quarters were built on the west side and the officers' and quartermaster's tents were upon the north, all facing inward. The stables were built upon the south, being well protected from the storms by a frame work of poles, covered with pine boughs on the top and rear. The tents of the enlisted men were built partly into the embankment, the hill side being protected by split logs. The sides for about two feet in height, were also built of logs, the tops being canvas. Each tent had a fireplace, the chimney of which generally did good service, but when the wind was blowing very hard it would sometimes carry the smoke in the wrong direction. The new camp was completed in about one week, each detachment moving into its quarters as soon as finished. We began to construct our barn on the 6th of January, and finished it about the 15th.

On the 21st, another brave comrade by the name of Edwin A. Matteson, passed over the river. He joined the battery as a recruit Sept. 4, 1862, when near Alexandria, just after the second Bull Run defeat. He belonged in West Greenwich and was one of three sons of Jeremiah Matteson, who had enlisted in the service, the other two being in Battery B, one being wounded at Ball's Bluff and Gettysburg, and the other taken a prisoner at Ball's Bluff, but was exchanged and

served out his term. Edwin was taken to the hospital on the day the battery started for the battle of Fredericksburg, and died there. The evening after his death the writer made a long search to find Battery B to inform his brother George, but failed to succeed. Two days after his brother came to see him and was shocked to learn that his brother was dead and buried. Soon after his body was exhumed by a friend from home and taken to Rhode Island.

While we were building our tents and preparing our camp for comfort and convenience, the thought never occurred to us that another move would take place until spring, at least, but no sooner had we completed our military home than on the 26th an order came to keep on hand nine days' rations. This was not an agreeable indication, but we had experienced so many false alarms that we hoped this would be nothing more. Although no move was made it was learned subsequently that one was intended which was to cross the river about six miles below Fredericksburg and attack Lee in the rear. At the same time an extensive cavalry raid was to be put in motion by General Averill, who was to move around the rear of Lee's army and destroy bridges, telegraph lines, and canals, thereby severing Lee's communications. The movement was to commence on the 30th, but while these plans were being arranged Generals Newton and Cochrane went to the president and represented to him that the army was greatly demoralized, resulting from its want of confidence in General Burnside, and that the movement, if allowed to proceed, would result in certain disaster. The result was that the president telegraphed Burnside to make no move without his sanction. Burnside then hastened to Washington to see the president, when he learned the cause of the President's dispatch, although the names of the informing generals were not given. Not being able to convince the president that the movement would succeed, he returned to the army, being convinced that the two generals who went to see the president were the agents of generals much higher in rank than themselves.

The expected move having been countermanded the men settled down to camp life in good earnest, determined to get the best out of the poor surroundings. Our visits to Rhode Island regiments and batteries, which were now encamped near by, were continued, and return calls were always wel-

come. The indispensable army sutlers were again on hand, willing as ever to take the last dollar from the needy soldiers. Notwithstanding the exorbitant prices of sutlers' stores, it did not prevent them from having a ready sale. While it was to the disadvantage of the soldier's family at home, at least financially, they doubtless derived some consolation from knowing that the absent husband and son had something better than army rations. The following extracts from some of the diaries kept by the men in the battery seems at this distant day like reading a romance. The dates are omitted: "Had griddle cakes for supper." "Had sauce, bought flour, sugar and dried apples." "Baked beans and pork, cake for dinner, hot biscuit for breakfast." "Beef, onions, roast pig stuffed for dinner." "Had conglomerated stew." "Roast turkey with fixings for dinner." "Fried liver for breakfast." "Turkey supper again," etc. Besides the articles named there were pies, cakes, canned meats and fruit, and a score of other articles, all of which found their way into the soldier's tent, provided he had money or could borrow some, and for which he sometimes paid dearly. It became proverbial to offer "two for one pay day," sometimes three for one, but that was seldom.

December 31st, the battery was mustered for two months' pay.

Jan. 1, 1863, found the army well settled and hoping for a long rest. Encamped near us were our old brigades, between whom and our battery there had sprung up an unusual attachment. During the autumn a third division was attached to the Third corps, commanded by Gen. Amiel W. Whipple. It was a small division of only two brigades, composed mostly of New York and Pennsylvania troops. On the 29th of December Gen. John C. Robinson, who so long and well commanded the First brigade of Kearny's old division, was assigned to the Second division of the First corps, being superseded by Col. Samuel B. Hayman, of the Thirty-seventh New York. Hayman's brigade was now composed of the Twentieth Indiana, Sixty-third, Sixty-eighth, One Hundred and Fifth, One Hundred and Forty-first, and One Hundred and Fourteenth Pennsylvania regiments, the latter being a Zouave regiment. The Second brigade (Ward's) contained the Third and Fourth Maine, Thirty-eighth and Fortieth



New York, Fifty-sixth and Ninety-ninth Pennsylvania. The Fifty-fifth New York was consolidated, December 23d, with the Thirty-eighth, under command of Col. P. Regis De Trobriand.

The Third brigade was composed of the Seventeenth Maine, Third and Fifth Michigan, and the First and Thirty-seventh New York. The One Hundred and First New York was consolidated into the Thirty-seventh. The artillery of the division consisted of Battery E, First Rhode Island, Lieutenant Jastram commanding, and the Third United States, Batteries F and K, commanded by Lieut. John G. Turnbull. George E. Randolph was chief of artillery. Daniel E. Sickles commanded the Second division. His brigade generals were Joseph B. Carr, Joseph W. Revere, and Gershom Mott. This division had four batteries: B, First New Jersey, Captain Clark; Fourth New York, Lieutenant Harn; First United States, Battery H, Lieutenant Dimick; and Fourth United States, Lieutenant Bancroft. December 25th General Meade relieved General Butterfield in command of the Fifth corps. The day following General Sedgwick superseded General Couch in command of the Second corps. The above was the composition of the Third corps Jan. 1, 1863.

January 2d. Our division was reviewed by General Stone-  
man, and the next day followed a field drill by Lieutenant Jastram. On the 4th, the following privates were promoted to corporals: Albert A. Hopkins, John M. Battey, Herbert F. Bennett, John J. Mulhall, and Richard Alexander. The second was assigned to the sixth detachment, vice Butts, who had gone into the navy. Bennett went to the second detachment, vice Lord reduced for physical disability; Mulhall to the fourth, Alexander to the first, Hopkins to the third.

January 5th. Our corps was reviewed by General Burnside and staff, the reviewing ground being a large open field lying south of our camp. Twelve batteries and nine brigades were in line. The discipline of the corps was very satisfactory to General Burnside.

January 6th. Details of men from each detachment were sent to the woods to cut poles for a new barn. These details were continued daily until the barn was completed.

January 10th. Chaplain John A. Perry reported with fifteen recruits for the battery, all but two soon became desert-

ers. It was generally thought that they had some assistance in doing so. It certainly did not increase the reputation of some who were connected with the recruiting service, whether justly or not they alone can tell. The following is a list of their names: John Bradford, John Black, Charles E. Baker, William Chapman, James Clarke, John Cunningham, Patrick Graham, Nicholas Kenny, Edward Noyce, John Smith, William Riley, John Andrews, James Morrissey, Nicholas Currey, and Henry Nicholas. Only two of these did not desert, Charles E. Baker, who received a commission March 19th, and John Cunningham, who afterwards reached the rank of sergeant, serving until the battery was mustered out of service. Cunningham's true name was Hamilton. Being a southern man, he assumed the name of Cunningham to avoid identity should he be captured. It is more than probable that nearly all of these recruits assumed false names.

George W. Covill, who had some disease of the back, was discharged on surgeon's certificate. One year after he enlisted again in the Seventh Rhode Island Infantry, serving with it until the close of the war.

January 12th. Four more recruits arrived from the same source, and all deserted within a few days. Their names were Charles Morgan, Charles Frost, William F. Richie, and William Kirk.

January 13th. Lieutenant Jastram started for Rhode Island on a leave of absence of twelve days. The same day Second Lieut. J. Russell Fields reported to the battery, having been promoted from sergeant in Battery G, Rhode Island Artillery.

January 15th. Our anticipated quiet was disturbed by the movements of the pontoon train to the right, which was not lessened by an order received the next day to have three days' rations prepared and to be ready to move at short notice. On the 18th the order to move was postponed twenty-four hours, being repeated on the 19th. Corporal Simpson returned from the hospital, where he had been sick since Aug. 10, 1862.

On the 20th the order to move was repeated, and about noon the Third corps started for Banks's Ford, eight miles above Fredericksburg, Birney's division in advance, the corps being followed by the whole army. The advance halted, a

mile or so before reaching the river, in a large field of pine woods, it being the intention to await till morning before crossing the river. Although it was pleasant at noon, by night it began to rain, and continued almost constantly for thirty hours. It is needless to say to any one acquainted with the soil of Virginia, that any further attempt to advance or retreat was almost impossible. The artillery, the wagons and pontoons, were completely mired, and to await the coming of suitable conditions for an advance would be useless, as the enemy would be apprised and ready to dispute the crossing of the river. Nothing could be done but to tarry until the mud subsided and then return to camp, and an order to this effect was given the following day. So completely was the army stuck in the mud that no attempt was made to return until the 23d, although a detail from many regiments and batteries, including our own, was sent back the day before to guard the camp from the irrepressible stragglers. The two days of supreme misery in this camp of mud will long be remembered by every soldier participating. Officers and privates generally fared alike. Tents and provisions belonging to the officers of a large number of regiments were mud-bound in the rear, which was a great satisfaction to the grumbling soldier, whose greatest delight consists in having his superiors subjected to all the privations endured by himself. At noon on the 23d, Battery E started for its old camp, reaching it just before night, and finding it in better order than was anticipated. Our battery met with no loss save two of Perry's worthless recruits, by name Noyes and Andrews, who deserted on the 21st.

It was the intention of General Burnside to have forced General Lee from his entrenchments and to give battle elsewhere, but the elements were against him. This failure did not lessen the criticism which had been rife since the battle of Fredericksburg, and very many of his officers had openly declared against the movement. The criticisms were not confined to the army, but found their way to the War Department at Washington, where they were in some degree effective.

General Burnside was, at his own request, relieved from the command of the Army of the Potomac. The President then appointed General Hooker to succeed Burnside, which was announced by the following order :

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.  
CAMP NEAR FALMOUTH, Jan. 26, 1863. }

*General Orders No 9.*

By direction of the President of the United States the commanding general this day transfers the command of this army to Major-General Joseph Hooker. The short time that he has directed your movements has not been fruitful of victory, nor any considerable advancement of our lines, but it has again demonstrated an amount of courage, patience and endurance that under more favorable circumstances would have accomplished great results. Continue to exercise these virtues, be true in your devotion to your country, and the principles you have sworn to maintain. Give to the brave and skillful general who has long been identified with your organization, and who is now to command you, your full and cordial support and co-operation, and you will deserve success. Your general, in taking an affectionate leave of the army, from which he separates with so much regret, may be pardoned if he bids an especial farewell to his long and tried associates of the Ninth corps. His prayers are that God may be with you, and grant you continued success until the Rebellion is crushed.

By command of Maj. Gen. A. E. Burnside.

LEWIS RICHMOND,

*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

Ben. Perley Poore, in his *Life of Burnside*, says: "After being relieved from the command of the Army of the Potomac, Burnside went to Washington, where he formally tendered his resignation as a major-general of volunteers to the president, but Mr. Lincoln declined to receive it, quaintly remarking that he had 'other fish for him to fry.' General Burnside replied that he would willingly accept any command, he cared not what it was, but that he was extremely reluctant to wear a major-general's shoulder straps, and draw a major-general's pay, while doing nothing to earn his honor or his money. The genuine honesty, sincerity and unselfish patriotism of the man was everywhere understood, and his journey from Washington to Providence, accompanied by Mrs. Burnside, was a continuous ovation, the people assembling in crowds at the stations to do him honor."

On the 16th of March, 1863, Burnside was assigned to the Department of Ohio and assumed command on the 25th. In this large field of action he won imperishable honors.

It was but natural that Rhode Island troops should regret the departure of General Burnside. The limitations of our

State in territory and men, prevented us from sharing very many of the honors bestowed upon the Army of the Potomac. In the selection of a successor of our honored Burnside as commander-in-chief, no one could have been more welcome than Gen. Joseph Hooker. His long and brilliant services as general of division, and his success as corps commander at Antietam, with his well-known daring and intrepid movements in battle, had given him the name of "Fighting Joe Hooker." With such a commander we had every reason to hope for a speedy success in forcing General Lee from his fortifications behind Fredericksburg. His great popularity among the troops was not shared so universally by the officers, as his open manner and free criticism of others had made him some enemies. His opposition to the policy and methods of General McClellan, to whose removal he had given his approval, did not increase their love for him. There was, however, no disposition on the part of these officers to act otherwise than as duty demanded.

Now that the attempted battle was over and our new commander-in-chief installed, we again resumed our regular routine of camp duties. It now being quite evident that we should have no more of the "on to Richmond" during the winter, we set to work upon our tents, making them as comfortable as our means would permit, and those who had built no chimneys proceeded to do so. Further additions to our barn were made and everything arranged preparatory to a quiet winter.

There had been numerous changes during the last three months in the corps commanders. On the assumption of General Hooker there followed still another change. The grand divisions formed by General Burnside were abolished by Hooker on the 5th of February, 1863, and the following major-generals were assigned to commands, viz.: To the First corps, John F. Reynolds; Darius N. Couch to the Second, Daniel E. Sickles to the Third, George G. Meade to the Fifth, William F. Smith to the Ninth, Franz Sigel to the Eleventh, and Henry W. Slocum to the Twelfth. Gen. Stoneman, who had commanded the Third since October 30th, was assigned to the cavalry. Gen. Hiram G. Berry superseded Sickles in the command of the Second division of the Third corps. The Department of Washington was re-

created on the 2d of February, and its troops constituted the Twenty-second corps, with General Heintzelman in command. About the 10th of February the Ninth corps was transferred from the Army of the Potomac to Newport News, Va., where it remained idle until April, when two of its divisions, under Generals Wilcox and Sturgis, were sent to join Burnside at the West. The Third division, under General Getty, was sent to Suffolk, and it never again joined the corps. When Hooker assumed command, Generals Sumner and Franklin were relieved from duty with the Army of the Potomac. Having detailed the new commands let us again return to Battery E.

February 4th, seven more of Chaplain Perry's recruits deserted. Furloughs for ten days were now being given to the men. Quartermaster Charles A. Brown and James Sterling were the first to receive them in our battery, starting for home on the 5th, accompanied by a snow storm, which turned to rain at night.

Another visit from Chaplain Perry on the 7th, who reported that he had lost the bounty money due the recruits. Thomas H. Potter was discharged on surgeon's certificate.

On February 10th, Lieut. J. Russell Fields left on a leave of absence.

February 12th, soft bread was substituted for hard tack, which was a welcome change.

February 15th, Captain Randolph left for Rhode Island on a ten days' leave of absence.

February 20th, the next two fortunate men to receive furloughs were Sergts. J. F. Allen and C. S. Winslow.

February 22d, salutes were fired throughout the army in honor of Washington's birthday. It was a rare day in Virginia, as the snow was six inches deep, being also cold and windy.

The last week in February was a very quiet one with Battery E, and also throughout the Army of the Potomac, a few skirmishes by the cavalry being the only exception.

March opened with rain, followed on the 2d by pleasant weather. We had a company inspection for the first time in three weeks.

March 3d, our first field drill for many weeks. Received some boxes of vegetables from the citizens of Rhode Island, a rare treat for which we were grateful.

March 4th. Ward's and Robinson's brigades, owing to the scarcity of wood, were moved three miles towards the Potomac. The batteries, being supplied with horses, were better able to get their wood from a distance and were allowed to remain until later.

March 6th, we received orders to prepare for a corps review, but after hitching up the order was countermanded. March 5th, Sergt. William Millen received a furlough for ten days. March 6th, Lieut. J. Russell Fields returned from his leave of absence, and Private Benjamin N. Remington received a furlough. March 7th, Sergt. Charles P. Williams and Private George Lewis were granted a furlough, but owing to an accident did not reach Washington that night in time to take the boat to New York, which obliged them to remain in Washington until Sunday evening, greatly to their disappointment. Marvin M. Leavens also received a furlough, but his was a leave of departure to which there was no return. He died of fever in the Livingston Hospital. He was fifty-five years old, a man of quiet manner, and highly respected by all the battery. He enlisted at Providence July 30, 1862, and joined the battery near Alexandria on the 4th of September. He was by trade a painter, but had also been engaged in the livery stable and stage business in Providence, R. I. March 11th, Lieutenant Sheldon went home on a leave of absence. March 16th, Lieutenant Fields resigned and Charles H. Bogman joined the battery, being transferred from Battery G. March 9th, Sergt. Arthur W. Hargraves went home on a furlough. March 22d, Corp. J. A. Tanner received a furlough also. A few others received furloughs during the month, among them being Lowry Strait and our bugler, Thomas Waterhouse. The latter after reaching home deserted.

An order was issued from General Birney's headquarters for the selection of four men from each company who were to receive a medal after the next battle to denote their brave and soldierly conduct. Battery E selected William Torpy from the right section, John McAlees from the centre section, Albert N. Colwell from the left section. Martin Harvey was selected by a vote of the battery, the others by vote of the sections. The vote in the left section stood twenty for Colwell, ten for Harvey, four for Lewis, and one each for three

others whose names are not recorded. The names of those not selected in the right and centre sections and the number of votes they received, are not on record. The medals were presented later.

March 27th, there occurred a very successful review of Birney's division, the reviewing officers being Generals Sickles and Birney. Governor Curtin of Pennsylvania was also present.

The 27th of March will never be forgotten by the men of Birney's division, and no greater jollification ever occurred in the Army of the Potomac. It took place upon a large open field near Birney's headquarters. A large stand was erected, 120 feet long and 16 feet wide, which was occupied by fifty or sixty ladies. All the generals were invited and nearly all were present upon the stand. The amusements consisted of horse-racing of all kinds, many amusing incidents occurring, and several accidents; one, which was quite severe, happened to Colonel Salm Salm, who was thrown from his horse, breaking, it was said, some of his ribs. Other amusements followed of a more comical nature, in which privates were allowed to participate. The first, a foot race; with prizes of ten, five, and three dollars; next, climbing the greased pole; then a wheel of fortune, followed by other sports of various kinds. Governor Curtin and General Hooker were present and were highly pleased. After the close of these amusements a large number of invited guests gathered at General Birney's headquarters, where a merry-making time was enjoyed for several hours. These festivities were closed with an Ethiopian concert, the participants being members of Ward's brigade. The day was one of nature's best, which added greatly to its pleasures.

The next day the weather continued warm, ending with a thunder shower.

March 29th, orders came to turn in all of our blankets but one, which proved to be an unwise order, as two days after the ground was covered with three inches of snow. April 1st, was cold and cheerless. Reveille at 3.30 A. M., being caused by a false alarm, which proved to be an "April Fool" at our expense.

After three months of camping at this place the wood became so scarce that we had to draw it from a distance of







Lieut. Charles A. Brown.

several miles. To avoid this trouble it was decided to move Hayman's brigade to the locality occupied by the others.

April 2d, another cold day. Good fortune gave us an ample supply of wood from the vacated camp of the Thirty-seventh New York, but the hours were few in which we were allowed to enjoy its blessings, for at noon we, too, were ordered to break camp and accompany the infantry to their new camping-place. The spot selected for our battery was in the direction of Belle Plains, near Potomac Creek, about three miles distant from our old camp. Our new camp was upon a slightly elevated knoll, sparsely covered with pine trees. A few of these were cut down to make room to park the guns, those remaining gave the camp an agreeable shade during the occasional warm days which were quite frequent in Virginia as early as April. This camp was known as Camp Sickles. The next two days our camp was laid out and arranged in proper order, and, on the 5th, four or five inches of snow covered the ground.

April 7th, our guns were dismounted preparatory to painting, but the president's arrival at the army headquarters foreshadowed a review and they were remounted.

April 8th, hitched up to take part in the review, but the order for our attendance being countermanded, we again dismounted our guns and began painting the carriages; finishing them the next day. A review of the Second, Third, Fifth, and Sixth corps was, however, successfully carried out, being reviewed by the President, accompanied by his wife, son, and a host of generals with their staff officers.

April 10th, Birney's division was reviewed by the presidential party, and Generals Hooker, Sickles, and Birney, the men of Battery E without their guns, forming the right of the line, giving to the president nine hearty cheers as he passed their line.

April 11th, Quartermaster Charles A. Brown\* received a commission as second lieutenant, and was assigned to Battery B, of Rhode Island. He had been a very efficient officer since March 8th, 1862. He did not leave the battery, however, until the 19th.

April 12th, our guns were remounted and inspected by Captain Randolph, chief of the First division artillery. Lieutenant Bucklyn left for Rhode Island on a short leave of absence.

\* Mustered on the 14th.

April 14th, we were paid for four months, also ordered to turn in our knapsacks and hold ourselves in readiness to move at short notice. It was not generally known by the men of Battery E at this time that an effort was being made by Col. Charles H. Tompkins to have all the Rhode Island batteries in the Army of the Potomac transferred to his command. Colonel Tompkins was then colonel of the First Regiment Rhode Island Light Artillery, and chief of artillery in the Sixth corps. The following letter written by General Birney clearly explains the effort, and is one of which the men of Randolph's battery may well be proud :

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, THIRD CORPS. }  
April 16, 1863. }

COLONEL: I have yours of this date asking for information as to Randolph's battery and as to the request of Colonel Tompkins for its transfer to the Sixth corps. The battery was assigned to this division whilst it was under the command of General Heintzelman in 1861, and has served with it ever since, and has been in service with the division constantly under Generals Hamilton, Kearny, Stoneman, and myself, in all the engagements in which this command has participated. It was under my immediate eye and command at Malvern, Manassas, Chantilly, and Fredericksburg, and also behaved gallantly under General Hooker at Bristow Station (Kettle Run). The battery is perfectly identified with the division and is kept filled by anxious volunteers from the best men in our regiments.

Captain Randolph, in the division, has declined promotion fearing it might take him from this command, and the division could as soon part with its distinctive color as with Randolph's battery. No exchange would please us even if three batteries were sent for this one. The battery received special praise in General Orders, No. 18, Army of the Potomac, for its condition. It is a model battery in every respect, and I do not believe that any officer in the service is superior to Captain Randolph in keeping his batteries in admirable order. The battery has 136 men and three officers present. I would urge the necessity of not taking from this division at the commencement of the campaign this old battery so identified with its history.\*

(Signed),

D. B. BIRNEY,

*Brigadier-General.*

The following is an extract of General Orders, No. 18, referred to in Birney's letter :

The following regiments and batteries appearing from inspection reports to have earned commendation from inspecting officers, it is left to the discretion of the corps commanders to increase the leaves of absence

\* This letter was read to the Company in line on the 17th.

and furloughs of these commands for the fifteen days following the receipt of this order, to three instead of two enlisted men for every one hundred present for duty, and three officers instead of two as provided in General Order, No. 3, Jan. 30, 1863.

Among the list of ten regiments and fifteen batteries who earned the above high commendation from the inspecting officers were Batteries A, B, and E, of Rhode Island.

The battery would have been very sorry to leave the old gallant Third corps, and to General Birney is due the credit of keeping it in that honored command.

Upon the same date of this letter of Birney's the battery had orders to sew upon the crown of their caps a red diamond, to be known as the badge of the First division of the Third corps. To General Kearny belonged the credit of originating this badge during the Peninsular campaign. When General Hooker assumed command of the army, among many reforms introduced was the general use of these badges throughout the army. De Trobriand says in his *Four Years of the Army of the Potomac* :

"Thus during the campaign of the Peninsula, Kearny had contrived to render all the men of his division recognizable by a little red cloth sewed on their caps. . . . Hooker took up the idea and extended it to all the troops in his command. Each corps had its particular badge. The First corps the disc, the Second the trefoil, the Third the diamond, the Fifth the Maltese cross, the Sixth the Greek cross, the Ninth the shield, the Eleventh the crescent, the Twelfth the star. Each of these badges was red for the First division, white for the Second, and blue for the Third. Each staff also received a special flag, with its badge and distinctive color. It was square for the corps, oblong for the division, triangular for the brigade. In this way, whether on the march or in action, the generals were always easily found."

When Hooker took command the deserters reached an average of two hundred a day. The number absent was alarming. There were 2,922 officers and 81,964 enlisted men, the greater part being absent without known cause. General Hooker says : "My first object was to prevent desertions. When I had succeeded in that I turned my attention to bringing back the absent and to make the men present as

\* See De Trobriand, as above page 415.

comfortable as circumstances would permit. I made regulations as to furloughs and leaves of absence, so that every one could be away a few days in the course of the winter. Disloyal officers were dismissed the service."

Hooker also reformed the methods of inspections. Again Hooker says: "Convinced that idleness was the great evil in all armies, I made every effort to keep the troops busy, particularly at drill and manœuvres, as often as the weather permitted.

These and many other reforms were introduced, which brought the army to a degree of efficiency which it had never before reached.

For the efficiency and good discipline of Battery E more is due to Captain Randolph and his able lieutenants than to Hooker's reforms; of this no better evidence is needed than the testimony of General Birney in his reply to the request of Colonel Tompkins.

On the 19th of April, Second Lieutenant Benjamin Freeborn reported for duty, having been promoted from sergeant in Battery G. His promotion was to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Lieutenant Fields. Although the junior officer, he took charge of the right section.

We were inspected by Captain Randolph with grain and provisions on the caissons, being ready to move at short notice.

April 22d, Corp Albert A. Hopkins, at the request of Captain Randolph, consented to become company blacksmith. This was a severe loss to his detachment, as he was one of the best-drilled members and a competent officer. He had been officially honored as the best-drilled No. 1 in the division.

April 23d, Private Benjamin N. Remington was promoted quartermaster-sergeant, vice Charles A. Brown promoted; his appointment to date from April 14th.

Sunday, April 26th, another inspection by Captain Randolph. After the inspection he took leave of the battery, he having been appointed artillery chief of the Third corps, with a corps staff. Although we were glad of Randolph's deserved promotion, it was, nevertheless, with sad hearts that we witnessed his departure from us. It can be said without flattery that his ability as an officer had but few if any supe-

riors in the army; but what was more to us, his conduct as a man and gentleman was above reproach, and in all his dealings with the officers and men not one, I believe, ever questioned his motives as being otherwise than honorable and just. The staff of Captain Randolph was composed of the following officers: First Lieutenant Pardon S. Jastram, Battery E, First Rhode Island Light Artillery, acting assistant adjutant-general; First Lieutenant Rufus K. Case, Sixth New Jersey Volunteers, acting assistant quartermaster; Captain D. Tarbell, commissary of subsistence; Robert A. Stanton, ordnance officer; Surgeon William H. White, United States Volunteers.

On the 27th our corps was reviewed by Generals Hooker, Sickles, and Secretary of State Seward. After returning to camp orders came to be prepared to march the next day. This order, although received with some regrets, relieved us from the monotony of camp life.

## CHAPTER XV.

May, 1863,

## BATTLE OF CHANCELLORSVILLE — RETURN TO CAMP SICKLES.

GENERAL HOOKER was now about to commence a campaign against the most adroit and skillful general brought forth by the Rebellion, the discipline and bravery of whose troops had not been excelled in any modern war. That he would in his efforts be successful was the ardent hope of a loyal North, and the brave army who were expected to execute his will. How well that hope was realized has long been settled by the verdict of impartial history. No changes had taken place in the corps commanders since February 5th, except in the Eleventh corps, which was then under General Sigel, who was relieved by Gen. Carl Schurz on the 29th of March, who, in turn, was succeeded by Oliver O. Howard on the 2d of April. At the commencement of Hooker's campaign, the total force of the Army of the Potomac was 131,491, exclusive of the provost guard.

They were distributed as follows, viz.: First corps, General Reynolds, 16,908; Second corps, General Couch, 16,893; Third corps, General Sickles, 18,721; Fifth corps, General Meade, 15,724; Sixth corps, General Sedgwick, 23,667; Eleventh corps, General Howard, 12,977; Twelfth corps, General Slocum, 13,450; Cavalry corps, General Stoneman, 11,541; Artillery reserve, General Hunt, 1,610.

The following were the division commanders: First corps, Generals Wadsworth, Robinson, and Doubleday; Second corps, Generals Hancock, Gibbon, and French; Third corps, Generals Birney, Berry, and Whipple; Fifth corps, Generals Griffin, Humphreys, and Sykes; Sixth corps, Generals Brooks, Howe, and Newton; Eleventh corps, Generals Devens,



Schurz, and Steinwehr; Twelfth corps, Generals Williams and Geary; Cavalry corps, Generals Pleasonton, Averill, and Gregg. General Buford commanded a reserve brigade of cavalry.

The Confederates were commanded by Gen. Robert E. Lee. General Longstreet, who commanded the First corps, was absent with Rickett's and Hood's divisions in southeastern Virginia. His remaining two divisions of Anderson's and McLaw's were under command of the latter, and numbered 17,000. Jackson's (Second) corps consisted of A. P. Hill's division, numbering 11,000; D. H. Hill's division, commanded by General Rodes, 9,000; Trimble's division, under General Colston, 6,000; and Early's division, 7,400; Stuart's cavalry division, 2,700; artillery, 170 pieces, manned by 5,000; making a total of 58,100 troops. When Hooker commenced his movement General Lee's army occupied the height south of the Rappahannock from Bank's Ford above to Port Royal, below Fredericksburg, covering in a straight line about fifteen miles, all the approaches being strongly fortified and occupied by the hitherto unconquered army of Northern Virginia.

For the purpose of capturing or routing this army, Hooker had, during the first half of April, matured his plan to accomplish that object. It was designed by demonstrations below Fredericksburg to hold Lee at or draw him below the city, while he (Hooker), with his main force, was to cross above and move down the river to the vicinity of Banks's Ford, thereby forcing Lee to retreat or meet him upon his chosen ground. It was intended that if General Lee chose to meet him in battle above the city that the force remaining below the town would advance and capture the fortifications, after which it was to follow Lee and attack him in the rear, and between them to crush and destroy the Confederate army. But if he retreated the two wings of the Union army were to pursue him on different roads fighting him wherever circumstances dictated. In conjunction with the above plan, the cavalry was to cross at the upper fords and move to the rear of Lee's army and sever his communications, and to destroy such other property and stores as fell in its way. It was expected that this cavalry force of 10,000 troops would draw from Lee's army at least his cavalry, if not his infantry. To

this end the First, Third and Sixth corps received orders on Monday, April 27th, to place themselves in position ready to cross below Fredericksburg by 6.30 Wednesday afternoon, the artillery to be placed in position so as to cover the crossings whenever the troops attempted to pass over. On the 28th the above corps moved as directed except "Dimrich's, Lewis's and Randolph's batteries, which were in reserve between the railroad and the Lacy House," near Falmouth; (Sickles), Lieutenant Jastram commanding, the latter being temporarily absent in Washington, the battery was under command of Lieutenant Buckley until the return of Jastram on the 30th.

April 27th. The Eleventh, Twelfth and Fifth corps were ordered to march to Kelley's Ford, which they reached at four P. M. At six P. M. the pontoon bridge was begun, and at ten P. M. it was finished, over which the Eleventh crossed during the night, followed by the Twelfth the next morning. The Fifth corps crossed in rear of the Twelfth. As Kelley's Ford is some fifteen miles above the junction of the Rapidan with the Rappahannock, it became necessary to cross the former before reaching the battle ground. The Fifth corps crossed at Ely's Ford by wading. Humphreys's division remained until the trains had passed, after which he followed the column. Sykes's division, after crossing, marched to United States Ford and drove away the rebel force there, thereby shortening the route of the other troops which were to follow. Griffin's division marched direct to Chancellorsville. The Eleventh and Twelfth corps marched to Germania Ford, about ten miles up the Rapidan, a portion of the infantry wading nearly to their armpits. The bridge being soon completed, the remaining portion crossed over by the light of bonfires on the banks.

About two P. M., Thursday, April 30th, these two corps, under command of Slocum, reached Chancellorsville, and found a portion of the Fifth corps already in position. The Twelfth corps was deployed south of the plank road, with left at the Chancellor House and the right near Wilderness Church, which line the Eleventh corps prolonged to the vicinity of Hunting Creek." The right of the Fifth corps joined the left of Slocum, its left extending towards the river.

April 28th, General Couch was ordered to send two divisions of his corps to near Banks's Ford, and one brigade, with a battery, to United States Ford, one division (Gibbon's) being left in camp in front of Fredericksburg to perform provost and guard duty. The division at Banks's Ford, after repairing the roads and assisting in laying the pontoons, crossed over and reported at Chancellorsville at nine P. M. While these preliminary movements of the other corps were taking place, the Third corps remained in front of Fredericksburg until one P. M., Thursday, the 30th, when General Sickles received an order to report his command at the United States Ford by Friday morning, May 1st, not later than seven A. M. At 1.30 P. M. the corps started in three columns, marching over roads that were hidden from the view of the enemy, the artillery taking its place with its proper divisions. Battery E joined the column at about two P. M. Clark's Battery B, First New Jersey, which joined the First division the day before, entered the column about the same time. This battery was commanded by Lieutenant Sims, A. Judson Clark, its captain becoming chief of artillery on the day of his transfer to the First division. The head of the corps reached Hamet's, on the Warrenton road, about midnight, our battery not arriving until one P. M. At five A. M., May 1st, the corps started again, Birney in the advance, crossing the Rappahannock at seven A. M. as ordered, and was marched to near the "junction of the roads leading to Ely's and the United States Fords." Mott's brigade of Berry's division, Seeley's and Randolph's batteries were left at the ford temporarily to guard the trains that were parked there. Mott remained until seven A. M. the 2d. During Friday, May 1st, while Battery E was stationed at the United States Ford, the army at the front was preparing to make an advance to its chosen position in the more open country opposite of Banks's Ford. To this end General Sedgwick, who was in command of the Sixth and First corps at Fredericksburg, was ordered to threaten the enemy's position at Hamilton's Crossing at one P. M., but the order was not received until five P. M. Nevertheless, a display in force was made by Reynolds's First corps, supported by Brooks and Newton of the Sixth corps; but the order was soon countermanded, and the troops resumed their former position. In the meantime General

Meade was directed to move his corps "to a position to uncover Banks's Ford, with his left resting on the Rappahannock, the right extending to the plank road." That General Lee would, if possible, prevent Hooker from getting possession of this ford was self-evident. Its value to the Union army was of great importance, as it shortened the communication between its right and left wings fully six miles. General Meade says in his report that "these movements were commenced at eleven A. M. Sykes moved out on the old pike, and after proceeding over a mile met the enemy's skirmishers. He immediately deployed, and after a spirited engagement drove the enemy for a considerable distance. Finding the enemy in force and making disposition to outflank him on both flanks, without any communication either on the right or left with a supporting force, General Sykes reported the condition of affairs to the major-general commanding the army, and by him was ordered to withdraw. This he did in good order, returning to Chancellorsville. In the meantime, the column of Griffin and Humphreys proceeded on the river road, and had reached Decker's house, within view of Banks's Ford, without any opposition from the enemy, when the order of recall was received and the column returned to Chancellorsville.

In conjunction with Meade, General Slocum advanced down the plank road until he met the enemy's skirmishers about a mile from the Chancellor House, where he formed a line of battle and drove the enemy back towards the heights of Fredericksburg. Two hours after starting he received an order to return to his original line. The withdrawal of these columns of Meade's and Slocum's was a surprise to many of Hooker's generals at the time, and is now almost universally considered by competent military judges to have been a fatal error. As the open country east of Chancellorsville, where a better use of artillery could be had (to say nothing of its better communication with the left wing of the army), was Hooker's objective point, it was a strange procedure for "Fighting Joe Hooker." Had these columns been pushed forward without stopping at Chancellorsville the day before, the desired locality could have been reached without much opposition. The retreating of these advancing troops made it necessary to reform our lines, which was done during the

night, and the following morning they were arranged as follows, viz. : Meade's corps held the left from the Rappahannock to the White House ; Couch joined Meade's right, extending to Chancellorsville along the plank road, with Hancock's division thrown out in his front. From Chancellorsville to Dowdall's Tavern it is about one and a half miles west. Between these points our lines made a southern sweep outwards like a bow, of which the plank road was the string. The left of this bow was held by the Twelfth corps. Birney's division of the Third corps joined the right of the Twelfth, the Eleventh corps holding the extreme right, its line forming an obtuse angle. Whipple's division of the Third corps was in reserve at the north and right of Chancellorsville.

As before stated Battery E was left to guard the pontoons after crossing them, and remained in position until about dusk, when orders came to go to the front. The roads over which we had to travel were in such condition that it often became necessary to leave them and march through temporary roads where the ground was so soft that our wheels were often mired nearly to the hubs. After a continued struggle with the mud Battery E reached the front and went into park in the vicinity of the White House about midnight, some of the caissons not arriving until several hours after, having been mired in the yielding ground. After a few hours of rest without shelter, we were again ready to move, but made no change until about 11 A. M., when we advanced about one mile up the plank road to the rear of Birney's division and went into battery a little to the left of the plank road. The battery wagon and forge were left behind in charge of First Sergt. James F. Allen. Captain Randolph says in his report : "At the time of the alarm caused by the withdrawal of our lines about 2.30 P. M. of May 1st, Turnbull's and Clark's were put into battery in a second line parallel to and in rear of the plank road, and on the right of the Chancellor House. The other batteries of the corps had by this time reported to their divisions near Chancellorsville." This, of course, could not be true of Battery E, as we did not reach the front until as above stated. General Sickles makes a similar mistake when he says that Birney on

the morning of May 2d was making his dispositions with admirable discernment and skill with his division, Clark's, Randolph's, and Turnbull's batteries. Captain Clark, chief of Birney's artillery, says one section of his battery was placed in position about eight o'clock A. M. on the morning of the 2d, some two or three hours after Turnbull's, "and a short time after Jastram's (E, First Rhode Island Artillery) was placed in position near General Birney's headquarters in the open field near the woods." This agrees with the diary records kept by several members of the battery.

It was now evident that Hooker had concluded to take the defensive, and every hour of delay was improving General Lee's chances of success. Already one day had been lost and it seemed another was to follow. Lee's army was now, or supposed to be, in his front, and had by Hooker's delay chosen his own ground. Nothing but hard fighting could remove him, every hour of deferred action increasing the difficulty. The day was wearing away, and but little fighting had yet occurred. Colonel Miles, in front of the Second Corps, had been attacked in his rifle-pits, but with no evident intention of forcing a battle. Two regiments of Berry's division had been sent by Sickles, by order of Hooker, on a reconnoissance in front and to the left of Chancellorsville, towards Tabernacle Church. The rebel pickets and skirmishers were driven back upon his main line, but the enemy kept up a constant movement as though he intended to make an attack; otherwise all was quiet. The rebel cavalry had during the day been active in feeling our lines, especially in front of Howard on the right. To all appearances Generals Lee and Jackson were preparing for something decisive. The only indication pointing to its solution was that a continuous column of infantry, artillery trains, and ambulances of the enemy was moving towards our right, which movement was seen as early as eight A. M., and soon engrossed the attention and speculation of every officer who became cognizant of the fact. It was generally thought that the enemy was retreating towards Orange Court House, or it might indicate an attack upon our right. Soon after the discovery Birney ordered a section of Clark's battery to open upon the moving troops. Shortly after, the other two sections were ordered up, then opening an effectual fire upon the fleeing troops.

Birney about noon received orders from General Sickles to advance a force and attack the moving column and gain possession of the road over which it was crossing. The Twentieth Indiana advanced at once into the woods towards the enemy's column, followed by Colonel Berdan with his sharpshooters. The Twentieth Indiana soon drove in the rebel skirmishers, and Berdan with his command advanced towards where Clark's battery was in position, which was further to the left. Hayman's brigade followed and was ordered to attack the enemy if found. Graham's brigade was soon ordered forward, followed by Ward's, all the troops crossing Lewis's Creek or Scott's Run on hastily built bridges. Berdan's sharpshooters had advanced to the furnace, where they found a company of the enemy, who in the attempt to escape were captured. Birney having reached the furnace with his command, was attacked by a battery stationed at the Welford House.

Livingstone's battery was hastily brought forward, and, replying to the enemy's guns, soon silenced them. Having exhausted its ammunition it was relieved by Randolph's battery, which arrived at the furnace at about 6.30 P. M. Whipple's division, which had, until ordered to support Birney in the afternoon, remained in reserve near the Chancellor House, was now in supporting distance in the rear of Birney. Williams's division of the Twelfth corps was preparing to advance along the course of Lewis Creek, which ran parallel and to the left of Birney's advance. Barlow's brigade of Howard's corps was sent to support Birney's right. It was expected by Sickles that this force would be able to strike the enemy's flank, and, if successful, to capture a large force and possibly divide his army. About the time of the arrival of Battery E at the furnace Birney received orders from Captain Moore of Hooker's staff to "advance rapidly" and force the enemy, but he had to move cautiously, for a part of Anderson's division was posted upon the table-land bordering the valley on his left, into which Hayman's brigade had already advanced, and in his front were Wright's and Posey's brigades of the same division, supported by Mahone's brigade. On his right flank was the rear guard of the supposed moving column, which was then actually in front of Hooker's corps. He sent out scouts to protect his flanks,

Hayman's brigade leading the advance, followed by Graham's and Ward's brigades, the latter keeping open communication with the furnace.

Lieutenant Bucklyn was left at Welford Furnace with the left section of Randolph's battery to cooperate with General Whipple's infantry. Lieutenant Jastram commanding the right and centre sections, under Lieutenants Freeborn and Sheldon, was advanced about half a mile to near the railroad, where he opened a rapid fire upon the retreating enemy, which had been routed by the advance of Birney's division, which had preceded it. Bucklyn's section at the furnace was not engaged, although subjected to the fire of Anderson's sharpshooters. Just as Birney had captured the road over which the enemy had been seen to move, and as he was preparing to bivouac, he received news that the Eleventh corps had been routed, and that the enemy was already in his rear. This news was so surprising to General Sickles that he would not credit it until confirmed by an aide-de-camp of General Warren. The mysterious column was now solved, and what was surmised by the few before was now known by the many; the statements of captured prisoners that Jackson with his corps was moving to our right flank and rear, were confirmed. It subsequently became known that Jackson commenced this flank movement early on the morning of the 2d, and that his advance under General Rodes had reached Howard's rear as early as four P. M. The corps was formed in three lines of battle, the first under Rodes, followed by Colston and A. P. Hill. Colston says "orders to advance were received at six o'clock precisely and the troops moved on with enthusiasm against the enemy."

Many of our troops were at the time preparing for supper, with their arms stacked, and so sudden and unexpected was the attack that they had only time to seize their arms before the enemy's hosts were upon them, advancing with their peculiar yell and with such impetuosity that the whole corps became panic-stricken and fled before their pursuers almost without an effort to stop them. A few brigades and some of the batteries made an effort at resistance, but were overrun by the daring veterans of Jackson's corps. T. A. Dodge, in his *Campaign of Chancellorsville*, says: "Down the road towards Chancellorsville, through the woods, up



every side road and forest path pours a stream of fugitives, ambulances and oxen, pack-mules and ammunition wagons, officers' spare horses mounted by runaway negro servants, every species of the impedimenta of camp life, commissary sergeants on all-too-slow mules, teamsters on still harnessed team horses, quartermasters whose duties are not at the front, riderless steeds, clerks with armfuls of official papers, non-combatants of all kinds, mixed with affrighted soldiers whom no sense of honor can arrest, strive to find shelter from the thunderous fire. . . . Howard and his staff are in the thickest of the fray, endeavoring to stem the tide. As well oppose resistance to an avalanche. . . . In less than half an hour the last stand has been swept away and the Eleventh corps is in confused retreat down the pike towards headquarters or in whatever direction affords an outlet from the remorseless hail."

Just south of the plank road, in rear of Birney's position in the morning, and where the battery was first stationed after joining the division, Livingston's battery and the caissons of Randolph's battery, except two of its limbers, were stationed. With these caissons was the officers' wagon, in charge of Corp. John M. Battey, of the sixth detachment, the caissons being in charge of Corp. George Humphrey of the second detachment. Through this camp the fleeing and panic-stricken troops passed, accompanied by runaway army wagons, ambulances, and frightened batteries, with every conceivable conveyance attached to an army. The corporals in charge having no orders but to remain with the caissons, at first hesitated as to their duty, but when the exultant enemy had approached so near as to threaten their safety, they chose the wiser course and conveyed them to near the Chancellor House, leaving only the two caisson bodies, whose horses and limbers had been sent to supply Birney's advance with ammunition.

Levi Jackson, the colored servant of the officers in whose care the personal effects of Lieutenant Bucklyn (and perhaps other officers also) had been entrusted, came near being captured at the caissons during the panic. Being nearly surrounded by rebels, they cried "Stop, you d— nigger," but having been a slave long enough he chose to disregard the demand, and with a pair of fleet legs he soon distanced his pursuers, greatly to the satisfaction of Lieutenant Bucklyn.

As soon as the disaster became known Sickles ordered the advance under his command to return, leaving only two regiments on picket. When Birney had reached the opening from which he started at noon, it was quite dark. He soon learned that besides the disaster to the Eleventh corps the two divisions were really cut off from a direct communication with the rest of the army. Although Jackson had been checked by Pleasanton's cavalry and three batteries of Sickles', Clark's, Lewis' and Turnbull's, and a battery of horse artillery with only one regiment of infantry who had attacked the advancing enemy on the flank. It was not however until the return of Birney's and Whipple's divisions, which formed a line of battle in rear of the artillery, that order was restored. While Pleasanton and Sickles, with three small regiments of cavalry and twenty-two guns loaded with double canister, were dealing destruction to the daring foe, Berry, who was in reserve near the Chancellor House, hurriedly formed a line in front of Jackson's advance, and, by the aid of his artillery, who fired over the lines of his infantry, assisted largely in checking the enemy. The enemy still held the plank road in our now new front, covering the ground where our caissons' bodies were left, and, being exposed on every side, General Birney formed his division into a square with Battery E in the centre and awaited events.

In the meantime General Sickles now hastened to open communications with General Slocum on his right and with headquarters at Chancellorsville, with which he had not communicated since five p. m. For this purpose he sent Assistant Adjutant-General Hart with an escort of cavalry, who by following a ravine succeeded in reaching headquarters safely. Hart conveyed a request from General Sickles to General Hooker to permit him to make a night attack upon his front to regain Whipple's ammunition, (mule) train and several guns and Randolph's caissons bodies which lay between him and the plank road.

Hooker having consented and arrangements being made with Berry's division of the Third and Williams's division of the Twelfth corps for their support, General Birney was ordered to make the attack. Two lines were formed with Ward's brigade in front, and one hundred yards in the rear followed Hayman's brigade, all with guns uncapped and strict

orders not to fire a musket until the plank road and earthworks were reached." To the left of these lines Colonel Eagan with the Fortieth New York, Seventeenth Maine and Sixty-third Pennsylvania, was ordered to move in connection with the main lines. Ward says in his report: "The advance in the moonlight across the field was a brilliant sight. On arriving at the wood in which the enemy were lodged the command advanced most gallantly. They soon encountered the enemy in our old barricades, drove them out and occupied them, completely taking the enemy by surprise, who at once retired, permitting one of our batteries to advance up the plank road, but which in the darkness of the dense woods our troops took to be a battery of the enemy's and charged and captured it accordingly; but on learning the mistake of course relinquished it. In the meantime the Fortieth New York and the Seventeenth Maine advancing up the road on the left, recaptured two field pieces and five caissons from the enemy, taken by them that afternoon. The enemy were so completely surprised that they immediately fell back, thus opening our communication with the main body." Although Battery E during this brilliant charge made no advance, it was, however, "in battery," with guns loaded with canister and with cannoneers and drivers at their posts. Being nearly surrounded, and knowing that if our lines were repulsed we should have a lively time, we accordingly made every preparation for such a contingency, the fear of which was not lessened by a remark of Captain Randolph, who said that "he thought we were good for Richmond this time." First Sergeant Allen and Corporal Humphrey, who had not since the forenoon heard from the battery, found their comrades about midnight after a long search. They had previously heard that the battery was captured, and they were, of course, highly pleased to find the rumor was false. After receiving instructions they returned to the caissons near the Chancellor House. It was while we were caged up here that Stonewall Jackson was wounded and died eight days after of pneumonia. He had ridden out near the plank road to reconnoitre, and returning he was said to have been shot by his own men, who mistook him for a Union scout. This, however, is denied by historians of several regiments, who claim that their regiment fired the fatal shot, and among them is

the First Massachusetts. It is not sure but his death served the Union cause more than the defeat of the Eleventh corps injured it, for what disaster would have befallen us had he lived cannot be known. During the night a new line of entrenchments was thrown up across the plank road, about eleven hundred yards west of the Chancellor House, and about three hundred yards in rear of these field works for the artillery were erected. Behind these works Berry and Whipple, of the Third corps, were posted, Berry on the right of the road, Whipple in his rear. Williams's division of Slocum's corps was stationed on the left of the plank road, and at his left our lines formed an angle extending east, but curving inward until it reached the United States Ford, where it joined the Second corps. Meade and Howard covered the Mineral Spring road to the river, and Reynolds, who had arrived from Fredericksburg, was stationed along Ely's Ford road, forming our right and protecting our line of retreat from the right. Geary joined Williams at the angle and extending east, with Birney in their rear ready to support either line forming the angle. By order of Captain Randolph, Captain Clark, chief of our division artillery, placed Jastram with his left and centre sections behind the field works at the left of the plank road directly in rear of Williams's division of the Twelfth corps. On our left was Captain Hampton's Battery F, of Pennsylvania, with one or two other of the Twelfth corps batteries. Beyond these was Clark's Battery B of New Jersey; on the right of the road was four pieces of Lieutenant Dimmick's First United States Battery H; on his right Osborn's First New York Battery D; Birney's division and Battery E occupying the right centre, near the angle upon which Jackson's forces hurled his victorious troops. The right and left wings of our army were so situated that they virtually rendered no assistance. Meade's corps was nearly as useless, so that the Second, Third, and Twelfth corps had to meet an equal force of elated troops, whose success the previous day had given them the prestige of victory. It was near daylight when Battery E and Birney's infantry left Hazel Grove to occupy these new lines. Having to pass through a ravine where the roads were in a bad condition, our progress was somewhat slow, but we all safely reached our position with the exception of Graham's brigade and

Huntington's First Ohio, Battery H, who were attacked, but they soon repulsed the enemy and assumed their positions. On our front lay Jackson's corps, now commanded by J. E. B. Stuart; on our left flank Anderson's division lay in two lines of battle; on our east front McLaw's division lay across the old pike or plank road that leads to Fredericksburg.

The Union army was now awaiting the onset of the enemy. The men of Battery E were preparing for breakfast, having built several fires from the *débris* of a partly demolished house near by; some had succeeded in boiling their coffee, while others had scarcely commenced, when our attention being called by the rattle of musketry to the woods in our front not over five hundred yards away, we saw the enemy's skirmishers rapidly advancing through the woods in our front. Instantly the familiar voice of Lieutenant Jastram was heard ordering the cannoneers to their posts, which was promptly responded to by the men, although it caused a deferment of breakfast to a more convenient season, which the missiles of death prevented many from ever reaching. Almost immediately the rebels advanced in heavy columns, attacking the divisions of Williams and Berry, which attacks were met by Williams and the gallant Berry with equal valor, but after a stubborn resistance the troops of Williams gave way and were driven back, this being caused mainly by the giving way of the Third Maryland regiment of raw troops. Into this gap the enemy rushed rapidly, thus taking both Williams and Berry in reverse. Berry sent Mott's brigade to fill the gap, and then commenced a desperate hand-to-hand struggle, in which our troops were triumphant, recapturing the lost ground and taking nearly a thousand prisoners and eight battle flags. In no slight degree was this success due to Jastram's and other batteries, who hurled their shot and shell into the ranks of the charging enemy. Two brigades of the enemy had, in the meantime, attacked Berry on the north of the pike, but they were severely handled by Berry's veterans and driven back in confusion. Again they appeared with renewed energy, and for a moment gained possession of our works, but were again driven back to their first position. The struggle between Berry's veterans and Jackson's was terrible, but Berry held on tenaciously, as was his custom, Ward's brigade having been sent to reinforce him, but failed

to reach him. The enemy being reinforced, the contest continued with no abatement, the artillery continuing the terrible discharges of shell and shrapnel. The enemy was now nearly out of ammunition but Stuart stubbornly ordered them to hold on with the bayonet, and so determined was Jackson's troops that Sickles says in his report they "pressed forward in crowds rather than in any regular formation."

Again the enemy received reinforcements, this time three brigades who resisted the flank attack of Berry's troops. It was about seven o'clock but no cessation of the terrible contest in our front was visible. The line had wavered to and fro for two hours, nearly every brigade being engaged or holding important positions which could not be neglected, although there were two full corps who had not fired a shot. The vigilant Sickles and sturdy Slocum who had thus far done most of the fighting, having no voice in their control had only to continue the struggle as best they could. The reinforced rebels now renewed the contest, determined, if possible, to capture and hold the breastworks which they had twice taken and lost. In meeting this contest the gallant Berry fell mortally wounded and no greater misfortune could have fallen the division, as by his death we doubtless lost the position which he had so gallantly defended. General Revere now assumed command and almost immediately led nearly half of the division to the rear, for which he was relieved at once and Colonel Stevens put in command, but he soon fell leaving the division for a while without a leader. General Hays with his brigade from the Second corps who had arrived to the assistance of Berry was about the same time wounded and captured. Seeing the deplorable condition of Berry's division the enemy advanced and forced back the remaining portion of the division to the line where the artillery was stationed behind the field works. Williams, who was now nearly out of ammunition, although stoutly supported by Graham's brigade, being also flanked by the retirement of Berry's division, was also obliged to fall back in line with Berry's division which was now in command of General Carr. While this contest with Jackson's corps was going on Geary's division of the Twelfth corps, which was stationed near the angle at our left, although not seriously engaged, was subjected as we had been to a severe shelling from thirty pieces

of artillery, stationed at Hazel Grove. While Berry's division was stubbornly retiring before the enemy towards the line of artillery, of which we formed a part, we being nearly out of ammunition and taken in reverse by the enemy who were advancing through the wood on our right, were ordered to retire to the rear of the Chancellor House. The breastworks after being vacated by the artillery were almost immediately occupied by the enemy, but no sooner were they there than Colonel Sewell advanced with the Third brigade of the Second division and drove them out, immediately taking possession of and using them as a front line to a new position. Sickles in his report says: "The artillery retired towards Chancellorsville and took a new position. The infantry was then reformed under my own supervision and while being supplied with ammunition took up a second position on the plain in rear of Fairview, the front line occupying the artillery breastworks.

It was nearly nine A. M. when these lines were reformed. We had doubtless inflicted heavy losses upon the enemy. Sickles continuing says: "Their formation for attack was entirely broken up, and from my headquarters they presented to the eye the appearance of a crowd without definite formation, and if another corps had been available at the moment to have relieved me, or even to have supported me, my judgment was that not only would that attack of the enemy have been triumphantly repulsed, but that we could have advanced on them and carried the day."

Although Sickles had looked in vain for reinforcements and was being hard pushed by the enemy, he nevertheless continued the contest for the possession of Chancellorsville Clearing. Bravely and persistently did Franklin's and Mott's brigades struggle against the assaults of the exultant foe, and Sickles now finding himself without support on his right or left, was obliged to fall back to Chancellorsville. Here let Sickles testify. "Finally retiring to Chancellorsville I reformed in three lines on the right of Major-General Hancock of Couch's corps, Lewis's battery, four pieces of Seeley's, and a section of Randolph's under Lieutenant Bucklyn took position about half way between Chancellorsville and Fairview, and although exposed to a terrible fire were effectively served until not a round of ammunition was left. The severe loss of

men and horses now rendered the withdrawal of my batteries imperative." Chief of Division Clark further testifies: "Shortly after this the line of support commenced falling back, and, by order of General Birney, Jastram's battery was withdrawn from its position. A section of this battery under Lieutenant Bucklyn was, by order of Captain Randolph, placed in a position near the Chancellorsville House, with four guns of Seeley's battery (K, Fourth United States) to check the advance of the enemy as our line fell back to its new position. Here they gallantly maintained their position under a terrible fire, until their ammunition was exhausted. Many cannoneers had been killed and wounded and most of their horses killed. One gun could not be removed but was disabled by an axe before it was left."

The axe was in the hands of Corporal Chandler of the fifth detachment who had been detailed to serve as gunner on the sixth piece. Corporal Battey, its only non-commissioned officer at that time, was absent in charge of the officers' wagon.

In order to check the enemy's advance while our troops were being placed in their new position Captain Randolph says: "Lieutenant Lewis, of the Tenth New York battery, was placed in battery near and to the left of Chancellorsville, four pieces of Seeley's (K, Fourth United States Artillery) to the left of the plank road, about half way from Chancellorsville to Fairview, and two of Randolph's under Lieutenant Bucklyn on the road on the same line." These batteries were severely handled by the advancing foe. They had also planted batteries upon slightly elevated ground in front of our breastworks from which they severely shelled these batteries causing a great loss. Long range batteries were also throwing their unwelcome shots from Hazel Grove, half a mile away to the left. Randolph in his report continues: "These pieces were exposed to a terrible fire, but were gallantly and very effectively served until every round of ammunition was expended. The section of Randolph's had not previously been engaged." The word "not" should be omitted. Continuing, he says: "A large number of men and horses were killed and their withdrawal rendered necessary. The loss of horses in the sections of Randolph's had been so great as to compel Lieutenant Bucklyn to remove one piece by hand and abandon the other. He had only horses enough, after dismounting his



sergeants, to draw one piece. The abandoned piece was disabled before being left. Lieutenant Seeley, whose loss was as heavy, succeeded in removing his entire battery, having more horses. To prevent any injustice to Lieutenant Bucklyn, I call attention to the fact that while Lieutenant Seeley had four pieces and four caissons, with complete teams, Lieutenant Bucklyn had but two pieces and no caissons, and therefore could not, as did Seeley, draw his piece by reducing his caisson team. His section was on the road and his loss proportionately greater even than Seeley's. He deserves very great credit, however, in saving his battery entire, after such losses of men and horses as he had suffered."

The right section under Lieutenant Freeborn had not been in the morning's engagement, but had been left near the Chancellor House. He had, however, twice brought his section forward to join the other pieces, but for want of room Lieutenant Jastram sent him again to the rear, and, as his section was in the way of other troops, he was sent still further away by some officer in that locality.

When the battery was retiring from the breastworks, the writer, in assisting a severely wounded comrade from the field, became temporarily absent from the battery and therefore was not present when his section was ordered to retire.

A letter received in after years from an officer who was present states that "Lieutenant Bucklyn, although one of the sections had been engaged less than his, was ordered by Captain Randolph to return up the road in face of the enemy and check the advance. Lieutenant Bucklyn remarked, 'whoever goes up there will not live to return.' Captain Randolph replied, 'I think likely they will not; I must have some one who will stay.' Lieutenant Bucklyn called for volunteers and every man of his section volunteered although believing he was going to certain death."

Had Freeborn's section been present Lieutenant Jastram would have favored its return instead of Bucklyn's, and his men would have faced the danger with equal valor.

As this section had previously lost several men wounded, a detail from the other sections had been necessary to fill the required number. One of those detailed was Amasa A. Darling, of the third detachment, and was one of the unfortunates, being severely wounded in the foot, which probably

hastened his death,. Besides the piece referred to in Randolph's report as being abandoned, one caisson was lost by being overturned during the night of the 2d. The caisson bodies captured by Jackson's troops were recaptured by Birney's midnight charge. The caissons saved by Corp. George Humphrey rejoined the battery at the commencement of the battle at Fairview Sunday morning. The officers' light wagon, which was in the charge of Corporal Battey, was by some means separated from the battery and did not rejoin it until it had recrossed the river.

As to the fierceness of this morning's artillery engagement, let Captain Randolph testify: "Now began the hardest battle it has been my fate to witness. The five batteries were admirably posted and admirably served. Never had artillery a finer opportunity to do good service, and never was a better use made of favorable circumstances. Twice the columns of the enemy on the plank road were repulsed by the concentration of the fire from this line of batteries. The loss of the enemy must have been very heavy from this fire, and I am of the opinion that with a constant supply of ammunition and the woods held to the right of the road, this line of batteries could have defied the enemy's attack."

A short time previous to retiring of the Third corps infantry from the Fairview clearing, General Hooker was still at his place on the porch of the Chancellor House, when a cannon-shot struck the pillar against which he was leaning and knocked him down. It was at first thought he was killed. General Couch, who was next in command, says: "I was at the time but a few yards to his left, and, dismounting, ran to the porch. The shattered pillar was there, but I could not find him or any one else. Hurrying through the house, and finding no one, my search was continued through the back yard, all the time thinking 'If he is killed what shall I do with the disjointed army?' Passing through the yard I came upon him to my great joy, mounted, and with his staff also in their saddles. Briefly congratulating him on his escape (it was no time to blubber or use soft expressions) I went about my own business. This was the last I saw of my commanding general in front."

After Couch assumed temporary command there was some sharp fighting by General Geary's and Hancock's divisions,

who were being pushed by General Anderson and McLaws from the south and east of the Chancellor House. It was during these engagements that the Fifth Maine Battery was stationed in rear of the Chancellor House and lost forty-three of its horses. The guns were drawn off by hand by Meagher's Irish brigade. Captain Leppien was mortally wounded, and Lieutenants Stevens and Twitchell were severely wounded. Lieutenant E. Kirby, who was in temporary command, was also wounded; six men were killed and nineteen wounded. This was the battery that fought so bravely at our left at Fredericksburg. It belonged to the First corps.

Hooker late on the afternoon of the 2d sent an order to General Sedgwick, who was in command of the Sixth corps at Fredericksburg, to "take up his line of march on the Chancellorsville road and attack and destroy any forces he might meet," and added, that "he (Sedgwick) would probably fall upon the rear of Lee's forces and between them they would use Lee up." Sedgwick was ordered to be in the rear of Lee's army by daylight the next morning, but having to capture Fredericksburg on his way and being constantly attacked at every move thereafter, he was not able to comply with the orders in time to render any service at the time it was needed. In fact, he was only permitted to reach the vicinity of Banks's Ford where he was attacked by Anderson's and McLaw's divisions, which had been detached from Hooker's front late on the afternoon of May 3d for that purpose. During the 4th, receiving no assistance from Hooker, and after a hard-fought battle with the enemy, who were in position upon his front, rear, and flank, Sedgwick retreated across the Rappahannock at Banks's Ford. He captured five battle flags and fifteen pieces of artillery, bringing off nine and fourteen hundred prisoners. His loss was severe.

After the army retired from Fairview Sunday noon, it took up a position along two roads, one extending from the White House in a northwest course to Ely's Ford, the other running northeast from the same point along the Mineral Spring road, crossing the Mine road and continuing to a point on the river about one mile below the United States Ford, its general form being somewhat like a V, or as Birney defined it, "a flattened cone." On the right fork of this line for two miles

lay Reynolds's corps. At the apex lay Sickles and Couch. On the left branch of this line joining Couch was Slocum's Twelfth corps. From his left to the river lay Howard, his left resting on an inward bend of the Rappahannock, a distance of over two miles from the apex. Midway between these lines lay the road that runs to the United States Ford, in the protection of which rested the safety of the Army of the Potomac. For two days 60,000 men lay idle in this impregnable position, in whose front was only Jackson's corps of about 18,000 men.

Shortly after Battery E left the breastworks (after a temporary halt near the Chancellor House) the right and centre sections moved per order slowly towards the United States Ford, reaching there early in the afternoon, and immediately refilled their empty ammunition chests. The left section soon after its second engagement rejoined the others near the ford.

We lay at the ford until the 5th when, in company with other troops, we started on our return to our old camps, but before reaching them we were overtaken by a thunder storm accompanied by a heavy fall of hailstones. We arrived in camp just before sunset, thoroughly wet by the severe shower. Owing to the great fatigue of some, and an effort to escape the storm by others, quite a number of the men did not reach camp until the next morning. During the night of the 5th the entire army recrossed the river unmolested and reoccupied their old camp the next day.

The official loss in the battery was two killed, thirteen wounded and two missing. The killed were Elisha E. Potter and John Zinn. Potter was a driver in the sixth detachment, and was shot in the head at the time of the return of the left section. Zinn belonged to the third detachment and was shot through the bowels and died in the arms of Sergeant Hargraves, who made an ineffectual effort to carry his body to the rear. It was said he had sixty dollars about his body which was left for want of time to find it. The wounded were Corp. James A. Tanner, third detachment, in the thigh slightly; Michael Rhul, William McCommick and John Earl of the same detachment, slightly; James Sterling, fifth detachment, severely in arm and breast; Charles S. Huling, Charles H. Bogman, and George Lewis of the fifth detachment; Martin

Harvey, James McRoy, and Charles Moore, the latter severely and dying from its effects July 2d. Amasa A. Darling before referred to, was severely wounded. Two or three detailed men whose names are not remembered were slightly wounded. Sergt. George W. H. Allen had a narrow escape from a Minié ball which carried away his cap, grazing the top of his head. He had just at that moment dismounted from his horse, which possibly may have saved him from a more serious wound. Our loss in horses was twenty-four, not including the two lost by Captain Randolph. One of the horses of Randolph's was killed while Randolph was giving orders on the clearing at Chancellorsville, a cannon ball striking it in the rear and passing directly through it, coming out at the breast and killing it instantly. It was a valuable animal, being highly prized, and one that Captain Randolph had ridden almost from the formation of the battery. The other horse fell or was crowded from an embankment while traveling along the road running from the United States Ford to Chancellorsville.

Lieutenant Jastram also lost his horse by capture, which occurred during the evening after the battery had returned from the Furnace. Desiring to rest, he dismounted and turned his horse over to James Fitzpatrick to hold. Fitzpatrick had previously left his coat upon one of the caissons which had been left near the plank road, where we first halted in the morning. Not knowing that the rebels had captured that position he asked and obtained Jastram's consent to take the horse and go after his coat. He started and rode up the path leading to the caissons, when the rebels suddenly appeared and captured both. Captain Randolph and Lieutenant Bucklyn had also started to reach the caissons, and were not far behind Fitzpatrick, but seeing his capture they hastily changed their course and were soon out of danger.

John Jordan was the only deserter during this battle, from the battery. He said in after years that he received a premonition that he would be killed if he went into the fight, hence his desertion. He crossed the river and made his escape. He was kind-hearted but unbalanced.

By May 7th the whole army was again re-established in their old camps, minus the number indicated by the following figures. The loss of the Union army in this battle including its outpost skirmishers and cavalry raids was 17,287.

The loss of the First corps was only 135 ; that of the Fifth corps, 700 ; the Second, 1,925 ; the Eleventh corps, 2,412 ; the Twelfth corps, 2,822 ; the Sixth, 4,590 ; the Third corps, 4,119. The remaining loss of 618 was in detached bodies and the cavalry. The Sixth corps lost the greatest number, but the Third corps being one-quarter smaller, lost a much larger percentage. Birney's division, as usual, lost heavily, the number being 1,607. Berry's (Second) division also suffered severely, losing 1,429. The loss of Whipple's division was 1,082. The division being much smaller its percentage of loss was equal if not greater than either of the others. The artillery of the Third corps also suffered severely, losing 152 out of a total of 417 in the whole artillery. The Third corps lost two of its division commanders, Berry and Whipple. Berry was shot about 7 A. M., Sunday morning, and died a half hour later. His command fell upon General Carr. Whipple was mortally wounded on the morning of the 4th, dying four days after. General Graham became his successor. General Mott was also wounded. Rhode Island was represented in this battle by the Second regiment, Batteries A, B, C, E, and G, and the First Rhode Island Cavalry. The Second regiment lost 81 ; Battery C, 8, and Battery G, 23 ; cavalry, 5.





**John K. Bucklyn.**  
**1st Lieut. Commanding ;**  
**Capt. in 1st Regt. R. I. Light Artillery,**  
**January 11th, 1865.**



## CHAPTER XVI.

May—June—July—1863.

CAMPAIGN OF GETTYSBURG.

MAY 6th and 7th found us busy in remodeling our camp, although sad and weary from the effect of another unsuccessful battle. May 9th, twenty men were detached to us from the infantry, whose names are uncertain. We also drew ten new horses to replace those killed. Sergt. George W. H. Allen started for Washington after a new gun to replace the one lost in battle. May 11th the corps was reviewed by General Sickles and staff. Sergeant Allen arrived with the new gun and caisson, taking his place in the battery while on review.

May 14th, James Stirling, Amasa A. Darling and Martin Harvey started for Rhode Island having received furloughs on account of wounds, the former for thirty and the two latter for twenty days.

May 15th, Lieutenant Jastram was appointed acting assistant adjutant-general on Captain Randolph's staff. He had commanded the battery since Dec. 12, 1862, with great credit to himself and to the entire satisfaction of his superior officers, and the men of his command. It was with unfeigned regret that we saw him depart from us. Although sometimes seeming nervous, a condition necessarily belonging to a zealous and ardent temperament like his, he nevertheless was one of the best and most considerate of commanders. He carried with him the best wishes of his men and brother officers for continued success in his new and responsible position. From what we had known of the past history of Lieutenant Buckley, who succeeded Jastram in command, we had every reason to believe that the battery would continue to maintain its high reputation. How well he succeeded the future pages of this history will reveal.

May 21st, Corp. Herbert F. Bennett and Private Charles H. Bogman were granted furloughs, the latter on account of wounds, the former on account of sickness.

May 22d, Lieutenant Israel R. Sheldon resigned and took his departure for home. He had served in the battery since Jan. 31, 1862. Although not a brilliant officer, he performed his part with a conscientious fidelity to his conceptions of duty. The respect for Lieutenant Sheldon among the enlisted men was universal and sincere. His amiable disposition and gentlemanly demeanor will cause them always to hold him in high respect and esteem. George H. Burlingham was dropped from the company's roll as a deserter.

May 25th, our theatre performances were resumed, the building in which the plays were acted having been improved since the battle and some additional talent secured from infantry regiments adjoining us. The attendance from the surrounding regiments and corps headquarters was large and the entertainment was greatly enjoyed by all. During these pleasant May evenings every kind of amusement obtainable was sought, and it helped us greatly in passing the long, weary hours while waiting for more active duties.

May 27th, 456 meritorious and brave soldiers in Birney's division received the Kearny medal. A full account of the presentation can be found in the Appendix, which was kindly furnished the author by General Sickles. The men present from Battery E receiving the medals were Albert N. Colwell, William Torpy and John McAlees. Martin Harvey, who had been selected by the company to receive one of the medals, was absent on a furlough. When he applied to his commanding officer for his medal it could not be found. Subsequently it was replaced by a duplicate. Richard Russell also received one of these medals, which was given him later, either by Captain Randolph or Lieutenant Bucklyn. Russell was one of the bravest of soldiers, whose coolness and enthusiasm in battle, says his corporal, "greatly inspired his comrades." He never lost a day by sickness during the entire service of the battery.

Reference to their selection will be found under date of March 24, 1863. May 29th, there was another performance at the theatre. The play this time was more in the line of a negro minstrel show. At least one thousand persons were

present, including many officers in the several brigades of Birney's division. Second Corp. Edward A. Chandler, of the fifth detachment, was promoted to gunner of the sixth piece, the vacancy in the fifth detachment being filled by private George Lewis.

During the month of May our usual drills had been continued. Many of the tents were covered with pine boughs to protect the inmates from the heat, the officers' quarters in addition having ornamental arches of the same material, giving to the camp a home-like appearance. Since the departure of Lieutenant Sheldon we had but two commissioned officers, Sergts. J. F. Allen and Winslow serving as such for several days.

On June 4th, James S. Campbell started for home having been discharged on surgeon's certificate. He was a very worthy man, but too old to be a soldier. C. H. Bogman returned from his furlough. The Thirty-seventh and Thirty-eighth New York regiments started for home, their term of service having expired. These regiments had long been associated with our battery. June 5th, there were indications of a movement by the enemy. A part of the Eighth corps crossed on pontoons to feel the enemy, and orders were received to be ready to move at short notice. An extract from an order read in line is as follows: "One half shelter tent, one blanket for each cannoneer, one great coat for each driver, one jacket, one blouse, one pair trousers, three pair stockings, two pair drawers, two flannel shirts, one pair shoes or boots." May 6th, we turned in all surplus to comply with the order read the day previous. First Sergt. James F. Allen having received a commission, dated June 1st, was assigned to the left section.

June 7th, Sunday inspection, after which Sergt. Charles S. Winslow was promoted to first sergeant, vice J. F. Allen promoted. Sergt. Wm. Millen was ordered on detached service at Third corps artillery brigade headquarters, as ordnance sergeant. Millen was one of the oldest and most trusted sergeants from the formation of the battery, and a loyal and patriotic soldier. It would have pleased his friends had he been promoted to first sergeant, but a more desirable position was offered him, and he wisely accepted it. He assumed the duties of his new position with the best wishes of

his old comrades, with whom he had served so long and well. Corporal Beard took charge of Millen's detachment.

June 9th, field drill by Lieutenant Bucklyn, commanding. June 10th, Corp. George Humphrey, of the third detachment, was promoted to sergeant, and assigned to the Second detachment, vice Winslow promoted to first sergeant. This was an excellent and well-deserved promotion. Humphrey, although unassuming and modest, was one of our best-drilled non-commissioned officers. Perhaps no man in the company possessed more of the qualities of a true gentleman. His promotion was commended by all of his comrades as being an honor to himself and giving to his commander the credit of a wise selection.

In the evening we had one more play in the theatre. As it was expected to be the last, every effort was made to make it a success.

General Lee had begun to move his army from our front on the 3d. This had caused Hooker to be on the alert, and every preparation was being made to ascertain the purpose of Lee. Orders had been given to the army to be prepared to move at short notice. Many of the weak commands had been consolidated with others. The Third division [Whipple's] of the Third corps had been consolidated with the other two, the First commanded by Birney, the Second by Gen. Andrew A. Humphreys. The brigades of Birney's division were commanded (First) by General Graham, (Second) General Ward, and (Third) Col. Philip Regis de Trobriand. The artillery brigade of the Third corps was commanded by Capt. George E. Randolph, and consisted of the following batteries, namely, New Jersey Second battery, Capt. A. Judson Clark; First New York, Battery D, Capt. George B. Winslow; New York Fourth Battery, Capt. James E. Smith; First Rhode Island, Battery E, Lieut. John K. Bucklyn; Fourth United States Battery K, Lieut. F. W. Seeley. General Hancock assumed command of the Second corps on the 22d of May, relieving General Couch. General Pleasanton succeeded Stoneman on same date, as commander of the cavalry.

On the 30th of May General Lee had reorganized his army into three corps, the First under Longstreet, the Second under General Ewell, and the Third under Gen. A. P. Hill.

June 11th. Lee's cavalry had already reached the Shenandoah Valley, followed by the infantry on the next day. While this was taking place, Lieutenant Bucklyn was having a field drill, but it was of short duration, as at ten A. M. orders came to be ready to move in one hour. Such hasty orders necessarily caused more or less commotion; grain and rations must be put upon the caissons, quartermaster's stores had to be looked after, horses must at once be harnessed and hitched up, tents lowered and packed, officers' quarters disposed of, and besides all this, every man had his personal effects to pack up, his haversack and canteen to fill, and usually rations of sugar and coffee were to be dealt out in line, every man taking his turn; the picket rope had to be taken down—these and other minor matters had to be attended to, usually under pressure from the officers, high and low, to hurry up,—this, with the fretting of the irritated men and sometimes with no little swearing, causing a scene more comical than agreeable. The act having been played the curtain of forgetfulness soon hides it from our view, and all again is quiet. On the present occasion the scene was unusually lively, and although ready on time, it was not until three P. M. that we, in company with the Third corps, moved from our camp. It was not until eleven P. M. that we halted near Hartwood Church, a distance of fifteen miles. On June 12th we marched to within one mile of the Rappahannock, near Bealton Station, on the Orange & Alexandria Railroad, and parked about five P. M. June 13th, about noon, we went south two miles and encamped near the railroad. During the evening the right and centre sections went down to the river on picket and went into battery between the Rappahannock and Beverly Fords.

June 14th. Hitched up at daylight and moved back to Bealton Station, and waited until the absent sections returned, which was not until 1.30 the next morning. We then resumed our march and halted at Cedar Run, near Bristoe, at sunrise. Here we unhitched and fed our horses, and at nine A. M. resumed our march, passing through Bristoe Station to Manassas Junction, arriving just before night, then having to go two miles to water our horses. The weather was very hot and sultry, causing many sunstrokes in the regiments.

June 16th. Battery E and the corps remained at Manassas all day. The news that Lee's cavalry had reached Pennsylvania caused us some alarm.

June 17th. Moved with the corps to Centreville, reaching there at two P. M., where we remained until the 19th. On that date we moved at ten A. M. and marched to near Gum Springs. During the evening the darkness was so dense that guards had to be stationed at every corner and place of danger. We arrived at ten P. M., thoroughly wet by heavy showers. Here we remained through the 20th.

June 21st. We changed our camp to about one mile west. General Pleasanton's cavalry and one division of the Fifth corps had a sharp encounter at Aldie, about five miles to our left. The rebels were driven back to Ashby's Gap, in the Blue Ridge.

We remained here until the 25th. In the meantime we had one field drill.

June 25th. We moved from camp at seven A. M., and crossed the Loudon & Alexandria Railroad at Farmwell Station, six miles southeast of Leesburg; we then moved north through Frankville and Belmont to Edward's Ferry, crossed the ferry into Maryland about the middle of the forenoon. We passed to the left of Poolesville and marched to within two miles of the Monocacy River, reaching there at seven A. M. in a drenching rain. This had been the longest march since leaving Boscobel, near Falmouth.

June 26th. We left camp at six A. M. in the rain, crossed the Monocacy at its junction with the Potomac and marched through Lockville to Point of Rocks and encamped.

June 27th. Left Point of Rocks at eleven A. M., passed through the town of Jefferson to near Middletown. We were now passing through a splendid country, where the people seemed loyal, and for the first time since leaving home we seemed to be among friends.

Sunday, June 28th, we left camp at eleven A. M., passed through Middletown on to Frederick, reaching there at noon. Passing through the city, we halted one mile beyond at Wyman's Mills, until five P. M., and then resumed our march to Walkerville, a small village four miles north of Frederick. Through these small villages, says De Trobriand, "we marched by column of companies, music at the head and

flags flying. The national colors were in all the windows, cheers saluted our passage.

“At Frederick our march was almost triumphal. All the houses were draped, all the women were at the windows waving their handkerchiefs, all the men were at the doors waving their hats.” To this may be added that young ladies were stationed by the roadside and upon piazzas cheering us with vocal music, and bouquets were handed by young girls to the officers with their wishes for good luck. That these manifestations and loyal greetings gave to the troops an inspiring hope and courage hitherto unknown, no one who witnessed them will ever deny.

At Frederick, General Sickles, who had been absent several weeks, resumed command, relieving General Birney. At the time of Sickles's arrival the First corps was marching from Middletown to Frederick; the Second from Barnsville to Monocacy Junction; the Fifth lay at Ballinger's Creek; the Third was marching from Middletown to Woodsborough; the Sixth from near Poolesville to Hyattstown; the Eleventh from Middletown to near Frederick, and the Twelfth from Knoxville to Frederick. Two-thirds of the rebel army was now at and near Chambersburg, while Ewell's corps was already marching upon Harrisburg, reaching Carlisle on the 27th. From Carlisle General Ewell sent forward Jenkins's cavalry to reconnoitre the defences of Harrisburg, and was starting on the 29th for that place with his corps when General Lee, learning that the Federal army was rapidly approaching, ordered his return to Cashtown, near Gettysburg. The same day General Early occupied York. A portion of his command was sent forward to Wrightsville, where a bridge spans the Susquehanna, one and a quarter miles long. The bridge was defended by a force of militia, who, being unable to cope with the veterans of General Gordon, set fire to the bridge and retreated across the river. The rebels were now in a rich and fertile country, and were not slow in supplying themselves from its well-filled storehouses and granaries. Thousands of cattle and many horses were secured, and heavy requisitions were made for supplies of sugar, coffee, flour, bacon, salt, onions, shoes, and hats. In addition to this, demands were made upon the authorities of the larger towns for a large amount of cash. Long trains of cars were filled

with these bounteous supplies and sent back for the use of their army. It was at this juncture, when the two armies were concentrating for the terrible struggle about to take place at Gettysburg, that General Hardie, chief of staff of the secretary of war, reached Frederick, and, after much trouble, secured a buggy and driver, and after riding for several miles reached General Meade's headquarters. Rousing the general from a sound sleep he handed to him an order which read as follows :

WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, }  
WASHINGTON, June 27th, 1863. }

*General Orders, No, 194.*

By direction of the President, Major-General Hooker is relieved from command of the Army of the Potomac and Major-General George G. Meade is appointed to the command of that army, and of the troops temporarily assigned to duty with it.

By order of the Secretary of War,

E. D. TOWNSEND.

*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

General Meade was very much surprised at his appointment, and after realizing for a minute the situation seemed to be much agitated, and expressed a desire that the appointment should be given to General Reynolds, but being assured by General Hardie that the order was imperative, and that the situation would permit no further delay, he at once accepted the unwelcome task. Horses were then procured, and with an escort the party proceeded to General Hooker's headquarters, some miles distant, which they reached at a very early hour the next morning.

General Hooker, who had the day before asked to be relieved, on seeing who his visitors were, at once divined the object of their coming. After the usual formalities of friendship, General Butterfield, Hooker's chief of staff, was called in and the four officers at once proceeded to make the necessary transfers, which were completed during the afternoon. A confidential officer at headquarters says: "In the evening, standing in front of the commanding general's tent, General Hooker took leave of the officers, soldiers and civilians at-



tached to headquarters, and amid many a 'God bless you, general,' got into the spring wagon that was to convey him and General Hardie to the railroad station, the former *en route* to Baltimore, the latter to Washington. When all was ready for the start the throng about the vehicle respectfully drew back as Meade approached with uncovered head. The two men took each other by the hand, some words passed between them in a low tone, the wagon moved off and Meade walked silently into the tent just vacated by his predecessor."

General Meade accepted the command in an order which read as follows, viz. :

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, }  
June 28, 1863.

*General Orders, No 67.*

By direction of the President of the United States, I hereby assume command of the Army of the Potomac. As a soldier, in obeying this order, an order totally unexpected and unsolicited, I have no promises or pledges to make. The country looks to this army to relieve it from the devastations and disgrace of a hostile invasion. Whatever fatigues and sacrifices we may be called upon to undergo, let us have in view constantly the magnitude of the interests involved, and let each man determine to do his duty, leaving to an all-controlling Providence the decision of the contest.

It is with just diffidence that I relieve in the command of this army an eminent and accomplished soldier, whose name must ever appear conspicuous in the history of its achievements; but I rely upon the hearty support of my companions in arms to assist me in the discharge of the duties of the important trust which has been confided to me.

GEORGE G. MEADE,

*Major-General Commanding.*

General Hooker, in an order of the same date relinquishing the command of the army to Meade, says :

"I transfer the command to Maj.-Gen. George G. Meade, a brave and accomplished officer, who has nobly earned the confidence and esteem of this army on many a well-fought field. . . . The sorrow of parting with the comrades of so many battles is relieved by the conviction that the courage and devotion of this army will never cease nor fail; that it will yield to my successor, as it has to me, a willing and hearty support. With the earnest prayer that the triumphs of its arms may bring successes worthy of it and the Nation, I bid it farewell.

JOSEPH HOOKER,

*Major-General."*

The news of Hooker's removal was received by the army with great astonishment. That it should take place on the eve of an expected battle made it still more of a mystery. But then the rank and file had not seen behind the curtain, but to those who had it was not so much of a surprise. Hooker had in this movement thus far handled his army with success. The causes which led to his removal dated even back of his appointment. The loss of the battle of Chancellorsville had made him no friends. Halleck, if ever friendly, was less so now, and in the correspondence between him and Hooker there had always been a shadow of discord. Just previous to his removal Hooker had insisted that the force of ten thousand men under General French at Harper's Ferry should be added to his. To this Halleck would not consent. After further correspondence, Hooker receiving no concessions, sent the following dispatch, viz. :

"SANDY HOOK, June 27, 1863.

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

My original instructions required me to cover Harper's Ferry and Washington. I have now imposed upon me in addition an enemy in my front of more than my numbers. I beg to be understood, respectfully but firmly, that I am unable to comply with this condition with the means at my disposal, and earnestly request that I may at once be relieved from the position I occupy.

JOSEPH HOOKER,

*Major-General,*"

This request to be relieved was promptly accepted, as the above orders plainly show. If this change of commanders caused any change of movements it was unknown to us. The several corps continued their regular advances. Gen. George Sykes succeeded General Meade in command of the Fifth corps.

On June 29th, Battery E moved with the Third corps from Woodsborough through Ladiesburg, crossing Little Pipe Creek to Middleburg, then over Pipe Creek proper to Taneytown. In passing the town several ladies sang a few sweet melodies for which we were grateful, and would have listened to more with equal pleasure.

June 30th. Reveille at two A. M., but did not leave camp until three P. M. In the meantime we were mustered for two

months' pay. After starting we moved northwest, passing through Bridgeport and over several branches of the Monocacy, reached Emmetsburg in the rain at sundown, and encamped in a field of clover a short distance east of the town.

July 1st, hitched up at sunrise, and after waiting some hours in the rain moved through the town and encamped about a half mile beyond on the west side of the road leading to Gettysburg, a town ten miles north, having at that time about three thousand inhabitants. As no map of the battlefield accompanies this work, before proceeding further with this narrative let us give a brief description of the small town of Gettysburg, which is the natural centre of ten roads traversing this section of the country. At the north three of these roads soon separate, one northwest leads through Mummasburg to Shippensburg, the second runs north to Carlisle, and the third, north by northeast, leads to Harrisburg, the capital of Pennsylvania. As three roads run north, so three start south. First, the Baltimore pike, running south-southeast, crossing Cemetery Hill as it leaves the town, then continuing through Littleton and Westminster to Baltimore. The second bears a little to the east of south to Taneytown; then, like the former, it leads to Baltimore. The third from the south leads south, southwest to Emmitsburg. From the east one road extends northeast to Berlin, then eastward to York, another southeastward to Hanover.

Of the two roads that lead westward, the first runs west-northwest through Cashtown to Chambersburg, the other west-southwest through Fairfield to Hagerstown. The Hanover railroad approaches the town from the east, following the south bank of Stevens Run. It was not running beyond Gettysburg, but the work was begun, and followed nearly parallel on the north side of the Chambersburg pike, cutting deep trenches through two ridges which lay west of the town. The principal streams near Gettysburg are Willoughby Run and Rock Creek. They pursue a parallel course from north to south, Willoughby Run on the west and Rock Creek on the east of Gettysburg. The banks of these streams are covered with woods, those of Rock Creek bristling with rocks rising from 120 to 150 feet above the bed. Those of Willoughby Run are not as high nor as steep, and less wooded. Between these two streams lies the battlefield of Gettysburg.

The several hills and ridges associated with the battle of Gettysburg are: first, Seminary Ridge, which starts about one and a quarter miles northwest of Gettysburg, and is about two miles long. The north section of this ridge is called Oak Hill. At the west of the town it takes the name of Seminary Hill, deriving the appellation from a Lutheran Seminary upon its summit, from the belfry of which the whole country can be overlooked. This ridge was occupied by Lee's army July 2d and 3d. To the west of this is another ridge, but less elevated, which borders on Willoughby Run. It was here that the battle of July 1st was begun by General Reynolds. Cemetery Hill lies nearly south of Gettysburg, deriving its name from a cemetery which crowns its summit. Along the prolongation of the high lands extending south from this hill runs the Emmitsburg road. Upon this ridge the Union army was posted July 2d and a part of it July 3d. Three miles south and a little more than two hundred feet above the streets of Gettysburg is the hill known as Round Top. Little Round Top is five hundred and fifty yards nearer Gettysburg, and is only half as high, and about fifty yards further east. At the west base of these two hills, running southeast, is Plum Run. Near the west bank of this run and about one hundred yards west of Little Round Top is the Devil's Den. The bed of this stream is more than three hundred feet below the summit of Round Top. Culp's Hill is the eastern termination of Cemetery Hill, separated by a slight depression. It is very rocky and mostly covered with wood, and has very steep banks at the north. At its eastern base flows Rock Creek. On the opposite side is another high elevation known as Wolf's Hill. Two-thirds of a mile further south is an eminence called Power Hill, upon which a part of the Twelfth corps was stationed during the third day of the battle. The historic Peach Orchard is two miles from the centre of Gettysburg and half a mile less from the summit of Cemetery Hill. From the Peach Orchard to Little Round Top is a little less than a mile. Draw a line from the Peach Orchard to Little Round Top and half way between you will find the bloody wheat-field. Having detailed this imperfect description\* of the battlefield, let us return to the movements of the army corps. The First corps, on the morning of July 1st lay in position at Marsh Creek, which crosses the road about half

\*The above description is abridged from Comte de Paris Battle of Gettysburg.

way between Emmitsburg and Gettysburg. The Eleventh corps was with Battery E at Emmitsburg; the Twelfth was at Littleton on the Westminster road, ten miles south-east of Gettysburg; the Fifth at Union Mills, ten miles in the rear of the Twelfth; and the Sixth at Manchester, moving towards Hanover. General Reynolds was in command of the First, Third, and Eleventh corps. Such was the situation on the morning of July 1st. During the early part of the day, General Buford with the First division of cavalry being in the vicinity of Gettysburg, discovered the enemy's pickets advancing from the direction of Chambersburg and not more than four and a half miles distant. Seeing the necessity of holding the enemy back until the arrival of the First corps, he at once advanced and engaged them, and soon the two lines were in close conflict, both bringing their artillery into action, and for nearly two hours the contest was severe, from which Buford must have soon retired if he had received no assistance. Reynolds, on hearing the firing in his front, hurried forward to learn the situation. Just as he reached the seminary General Buford was descending from the tower, when, seeing his chief, he cried out to him, "The devil is to pay, but we can hold on until the arrival of the First corps." Both then hurried forward to the front, and, finding the position a good one, Reynolds seeing the importance of preventing the enemy from passing through Gettysburg and taking possession of Cemetery Hill (a position of vital importance to them), sent orders to the First and Eleventh corps to hasten forward.

Wadsworth's division of the First corps being in advance soon reached the field and at once deployed to meet the enemy, who were rapidly advancing to gain some strategic points. To prevent this, Cutler's and Meredith's Iron brigades rapidly advanced, and first gained the coveted points, but not without a severe struggle. The line of battle extended across the Hagerstown and Chambersburg roads. The division artillery was now brought into action. The infantry found itself engaged along the whole line, Cutler on the right, while Meredith, with his Iron brigade, continued the struggle with Archer's brigade, for the possession of McPherson's woods. It was at the beginning of Meredith's attack at these woods that Reynolds, who was advancing

with the brigade, which was under a severe fire at the time, and, while setting an example to his own soldiers, was fired upon by the enemy in ambush, who were not sixty paces distant, and was instantly killed by a ball striking him in the head. He expired without uttering a word. In the meantime the troops, all unconscious of the fall of their chief, pushed on into the woods with such daring as to astonish the enemy, breaking their lines and capturing more than a thousand prisoners, including General Archer. The balance of Archer's brigade was driven at the point of the bayonet across Willoughby Run. This was a good beginning on the left, but Cutler, on the right, was attacked by Davis's brigade, and not having any protection, being unable to hold his position, was driven back nearly to the suburbs of Gettysburg. A portion of Meredith's brigade, which was in reserve near the seminary, was hurried forward, and joining that portion of Cutler's brigade at the left of the railroad, attacked Davis's brigade on the flank, driving it into the railroad cut, and capturing nearly all of two regiments, with their colors. Thus far only two brigades on the Union side had been engaged, while two divisions of A. P. Hill's corps lay in his front, and another division in supporting distance. The enemy, after being driven back, reformed their lines, bringing forward two fresh brigades, under Pettigrew and Brockenbrough, and deployed them to the right. Doubleday, who was now in command, availed himself of the respite to strengthen his line. Meredith resumed his position at the McPherson woods, and Cutler returned to his former position. A horse battery was substituted for the division battery. Expecting the two other divisions to arrive soon, Doubleday patiently awaited their coming. Fortunately the enemy contented themselves with a useless cannonade until half-past eleven, when Rowley's and Robinson's divisions appeared upon the scene of action, one of which was at once placed in position. Stone, with his brigade of "Bucktails," on the right, and Biddle on the left. A portion of the corps artillery was brought forward and placed in position and the other division was left at the seminary, in reserve. No sooner were the Federals in position than the Confederates opened with their artillery. While Brockenbrough was trying to outflank our left and capture a reserve force, Pettigrew,

with his division, and Davis's brigade, made an impetuous assault upon the brigade of Stone's "Bucktails," who, when placed in position, said, "We have come to stay," and, adds General Doubleday, when afterwards narrating this incident of the battle, "they kept their word; for the ground was open, the position extremely exposed, and a large number of them fell upon the spot, never to leave it again."

General Hill seemed to hesitate in renewing the attack, but having brought up his ten reserve batteries, he opened fire with eighty pieces upon our troops, inflicting heavy losses. Howard had now arrived and assumed command. His corps, the Eleventh, arrived soon after, when two of its divisions were ordered to form on the right of Doubleday, who now resumed command of the First corps.

Steinwehr's division, with the corps artillery, was ordered to occupy Cemetery Hill. Affairs were now approaching a crisis. Ewell's corps, which had been menacing Harrisburg and other towns east of Gettysburg, was now discovered to be approaching from the north and northwest. This made the Confederate forces nearly double our own, they having in addition at least one hundred pieces of artillery; besides the Federal troops were now to be attacked both in front and flank, and that too by a superior force. Rodes's division entered the fight about noon, and shortly after two P. M. Early's division arrived and formed on Rodes's left, with his own left reaching across Rock Creek. It became evident that our right would be turned and that our troops must retire or be killed or captured. The battle had continued almost constantly since ten A. M. and our loss was heavy. General Howard had wisely ordered all the spare artillery to be posted on Cemetery Hill, and Steinwehr's division to be posted, with a view of supporting our retiring troops. They had not long to wait, as the heavy column of the enemy was pressing back our lines rapidly, and soon the contest was given up.

The First corps, for the most part, fell back through the southwestern outskirts of the town, and took position on the left and rear of Steinwehr. The Eleventh corps passed through the town and were hard pressed by the Confederates, who captured about two thousand five hundred prisoners. The portion not captured took position in front and on the

right centre of Cemetery Hill. The enemy made no attempt to attack us in our new position, but rested on their dearly-bought victory in the streets of Gettysburg. While our troops were retiring through Gettysburg, General Hancock arrived with an order from General Meade to assume command of the First, Eleventh, and Third corps, and was further instructed that if in his judgment the position was a good one, to arrange the troops in order to fight the battle at Gettysburg, instead of at Pipe Creek, as General Meade had previously designed. Finding the position a strong one he proceeded to establish the troops for the continuation of the battle the next day. General Hancock, in his report, says: "Between five and six o'clock, my dispositions having been completed, Major-General Slocum arrived on the field, and, considering that my functions had ceased, I transferred the command to him. About dark I started for the headquarters of the army, still at Taneytown, thirteen miles distant, and reported in person to General Meade. I then ascertained that he had already given orders for the corps in the rear to advance at once to Gettysburg, and was about proceeding there in person."

General Meade arrived at one A. M. on the 2d. In the meantime General Slocum had placed the First division of his corps (Twelfth) on the right, near Rock Creek. The Second division (Geary's), by order of Hancock, was posted on the extreme left. This division was moved in the morning to the right and placed in position upon Culp's Hill. At five A. M. the Fifth corps arrived and at eight o'clock it was placed with the First division of the Twelfth corps on the east side of Rock Creek.

Let us now return to Emmitsburg, where we lay with the Third corps on the morning of July 1st.. After the heavy showers in the morning, the sun shone out hot and scorching, and after waiting for moving orders until afternoon, our horses were unharnessed and led into a clover field, where they were grazed. Soon after we received orders to hasten to the assistance of the troops engaged at Gettysburg.

By three P. M., the First division, in advance, started and marched rapidly over the slimy soil, and as the afternoon was hot and muggy, and the troops were wet, it was an unusually slow march; nevertheless, the head of the division reached



the vicinity of Gettysburg about six P. M., Battery E arrived nearly an hour later, and, leaving the road, crossed the field about three-quarters of a mile to the east, and went into park in a rocky field north of a small tract of woodland. The Second division, after passing Marsh Run, by mistake took a road to its left, which brought them in contact with the enemy's pickets, and having to return to the main road it so delayed them that they did not arrive until after midnight. One brigade and one battery from each division was left behind at Emmitsburg.

De Trobriand, from the First, and Burlings, from the Second, both rejoined their commands during the next forenoon. At seven A. M. on the 2d, Birney's division relieved General Geary's division, which moved to the right and joined the other divisions of his corps.

At daylight our battery hitched up, and while the men were attempting to prepare breakfast we were ordered to move from our bivouac to a field nearer to the enemy, where we went into battery and awaited preparations for the coming struggle. In the meantime troops were being placed in such positions as the movements of the enemy made necessary. About noon General Birney sent out a reconnoissance to feel for the enemy's right. Advancing from the Peach Orchard on the Millertown road, they soon encountered the enemy moving in three columns towards our left. The troops sent by Birney were soon driven back by the enemy with a loss of about sixty. This discovery made it necessary to change our lines to the position which they held during the battle which soon followed, the position being as follows, namely: General Ward held the left of our line, resting on the western base of Little Round Top. De Trobriand joined Ward's right, connecting with Graham's brigade, which lay at and to the right of the angle at the Peach Orchard. It was with this brigade that Battery E was stationed, the One Hundred and Fourteenth, Fifty-seventh, and One Hundred and Fifth Pennsylvania being in our immediate rear, the Sixty-eighth Pennsylvania on our left, the Sixty-third Pennsylvania on our right, a little to the front; on our left, a short distance from the angle, lay the One Hundred and Forty-first Pennsylvania.

Humphreys's Second division of our corps was at the right of Birney's division, and connecting with the Second corps, to which Brown's and Arnold's Rhode Island batteries belonged. Captain Randolph, upon being notified by General Sickles that he proposed to advance the right of his line to the Emmitsburg Road, proceeded to place his batteries in position, Smith's Fourth New York being on the left, near the base of Little Round Top. On the right of Smith, after passing a belt of woods, was an opening, the wheat-field, in which was placed Winslow's First New York battery; next on his right was Bigelow's Ninth Massachusetts battery from the reserve; on his right was Clark's (B) New Jersey battery, and at the Peach Orchard was Captain Ames's First New York battery (G) also from the reserve.

Captain Randolph says: "All these batteries fronted toward Emmitsburg." On the right of the Peach Orchard was Battery E, commanded by Lieut. John K. Bucklyn; to the right of this was Seeley's (K) Fourth United States; still further to the right was Turnbull's (F. and K), Third United States. These three batteries fronted west. About three P. M. the Sixth corps began to arrive, having marched thirty-four miles. Our troops being now all up, let us restate the position of the corps. The general shape of the Federal line was somewhat in the form of a fish-hook, the point being the right, which was occupied by the Twelfth corps. Next came Wadsworth's division of the First corps on Culp's Hill. This corps was now in command of General Newton. On the left of this was the Eleventh corps on Cemetery Hill, and at the base of this hill were two divisions of the First corps. Joining the left of this was the right of the Second corps, and then came the Third corps. The Fifth corps, which had been at the extreme right, was, at the commencement of the battle, transferred to the extreme left. The Sixth corps was held in reserve in the rear of the Round Top. The Rebel army was divided into three corps. General Longstreet commanded the First, and was in position in front of our left, covering the Fifth and Third corps. Gen. A. P. Hill, Third corps, confronted our centre, while General Ewell, with the Second corps, held the lines in front of our right. It was General Meade's first intention to attack the Confederate left, but it being strongly opposed by some of his best com-

manders, it was given up, and he began to concentrate his troops on the rebel right, but before this could be accomplished, General Lee commenced the battle, and Meade had to assume the defensive.

Much has been written in relation to the position of Sickles at the angle. He claims that the position was discretionary, and that it was tacitly approved by General Hunt, who had been sent by General Meade to examine the position; but General Hunt was unwilling to assume the responsibility, and requested Meade to go and see for himself, which he did, and while he admitted that it had some excellent points, upon the whole he thought it not a good position. General Sickles then offered to withdraw further to the rear, but was told by General Meade that it was too late, as the woods in his front were full of rebels, who would not allow him to do so. In fact, the two divisions of Hood and McLaw's were already preparing to advance. Hood's division was on their extreme right, and was composed of Law's, Robertson's, Anderson's, and Benning's brigades. McLaw's division had four brigades, and was commanded by Kershaw, Barksdale, Semmes and Wofford. Barksdale's brigade, at the commencement of the fight, was stationed in the woods immediately in our front. In front of the woods at the right of Barksdale's brigade were the batteries of Parker and Taylor, and on their right extended a stone wall, which ran south for about one hundred and twenty-five rods. Behind this wall there were, besides the division artillery, Alexander's battalion of six batteries. To the left of Barksdale's brigade, and to the right of Battery E, were the batteries of Ross and Patterson, making thirteen batteries that had a good range upon our position at the Peach Orchard. It was between three and four P. M., that Kershaw's brigade arrived in front of our position, and immediately formed in line of battle behind the stone wall. Hood's division at the same time was moving to his rear, to form on his right. Hood was to commence the attack upon Ward's brigade, which formed the left of our line at that hour. It was supposed by Longstreet that the angle in our line formed the left of our position, and it was not until his advance had begun to move upon that point that they discovered the value of the Round Tops. Although an effort had been made by Kershaw and Hood to obtain Longstreet's permission to first

capture the mountains, that officer refused to change the order received from General Lee, who had hoped to be able to double our line back towards Gettysburg, thereby reaching our rear. There being no other course to pursue but to advance as first ordered, the movement was at once begun with their usual dash, driving in our skirmishers as they advanced. Winslow's and Smith's batteries at once opened upon the rebel line, but Ward ordered his infantry not to fire until the rebels were within two hundred yards. Ward says: "The enemy had now approached to within two hundred yards of my position in line, and *en masse*, yelling and shouting. My command did not fire a shot until the enemy came within the distance prescribed, when the whole command fired a volley. This checked the enemy's advance suddenly, which gave our men opportunity to reload, when another volley was fired into them. The enemy now exhibited much disorder, and, taking advantage of this circumstance, I advanced my right and centre with a view of obtaining a position behind a stone wall about one hundred and sixty yards in advance, and which the enemy was endeavoring to reach. While advancing, the rear columns of the enemy pressed forward to the support of the advance, who rallied and again advanced. This time our single line was forced back a short distance by the heavy column of the enemy. In this manner, for the space of one and a-half hours, did we advance and retire, both parties endeavoring to gain possession of the stone wall. In the meantime, I had sent to General Birney for reinforcements, who directed Colonel Eagan with the Fortieth New York to report. The enemy now concentrated his force on our extreme left, with the intention to turn our left flank through a gorge between my left and Sugar Loaf Hill. The Fortieth New York was dispatched to cover the gorge, which they did most effectually. Our men, now much exhausted, and nearly destitute of ammunition, were relieved by a portion of the Second and Fifth corps, when we retired and bivouacked for the night."

General Warren, who was on Meade's staff as chief engineer, had been sent to examine our position on the left. On reaching the summit of Little Round Top, which was, on his arrival, only being used as a signal station, he at once saw its great importance to our success, and seeing that the enemy

would soon occupy it if not prevented, he hastened down the steep slope, and meeting Barnes's division of the Fifth corps, which was *en route* to reinforce Birney's centre that was being hard pushed, hurriedly explained the situation. Detaching Vincent's brigade, he hastened it to the summit of Little Round Top, arriving just in time, for the enemy was rapidly advancing up the opposite slope. Weed's brigade and Hazlett's battery (regulars) were sent to reinforce Vincent. Now followed a hand-to-hand conflict, in which the Federals were victorious, but at a fearful loss, Colonel Vincent being mortally wounded. Colonel O'Rourke, of the One Hundred and Fortieth New York, was the first to arrive, and not having time to load, charged the enemy, and was himself killed. Hazlett, in bending over his friend to receive his last message, was shot and fell upon the body of his chief. The enemy failing to capture the hill by direct assault, sought to effect it by turning its left, which they partially succeeded in doing, but were finally driven back by the Twentieth Maine. In this struggle for the Round Top our loss was severe, but it doubtless secured to us the final victory of Gettysburg. Seventeen officers, 500 men and 1,000 stands of arms were secured by the Federals.

During the contest between Ward's brigade and the brigades of Hood's division, De Trobriand, who held the line near the angle, had sent the Seventeenth Maine and Fortieth New York to reinforce Ward, and his Third Michigan, which was near the Peach Orchard, between which and his brigade there was quite a distance. This left only the Fifth Michigan and the One Hundred and Tenth Pennsylvania to hold the centre of his line. Against this position, about five P. M., Kershaw's brigade of McLaw's division, and his brigade of South Carolina troops advanced, and vigorously attacked this weak line, but De Trobriand's heroic troops held on tenaciously, being hard pressed, but, with the aid of the artillery, which was posted near him, he held his ground. In the meantime, Sweitzer's and Tilton's brigades of Barnes's division of the Fifth corps arrived with reinforcements, and were posted on the right of the Third brigade. Burling's brigade from the Second division was also sent to render its services. Now followed one of the most desperate and courageous en-

counters of this or any other war, the artillery and infantry both alike being conspicuous for their daring.

This effort to capture the Peach Orchard from the left had been preceded by an hour of fierce artillery fighting, in which Battery E was conspicuously engaged, our troops receiving in return the fire of Alexander's battalion of six batteries and the four batteries of Cabel's battalion. Besides these ten, Major Henry's four batteries from the left, with those of Paterson's and Ross's from the right, were brought to bear upon the troops holding the angle at the Peach Orchard. In this attack Kershaw's Confederate brigade was supported by those of Semmes and Barksdale, the latter advancing soon after Kershaw, who had in his front, besides De Trobriand, the brigades of Sweitzer and Tilton. Kershaw having attacked Sweitzer, and having failed to gain any advantage, turned upon Tilton's brigade, which stubbornly resisted, but being poorly supported on the right, was obliged to fall back, thus leaving Sweitzer's flank unprotected, and compelling his brigade to follow Tilton's. This retreat also affected De Trobriand and Ward, the latter having, in the meantime, been severely attacked by Robinson and Benning upon both his right and left at the same time. Smith, who had been posted to support Ward, and had previously lost half of his battery, now barely saved the three guns left. Ward, now that Sweitzer and Tilton had failed to hold the ground at the right of the Devil's Den Hill, was obliged to yield his ground also. The Confederates now attacked the Seventeenth Maine in flank, and advanced through the wheat-field with the intention of capturing Winslow's battery, but the men of that battery made it a costly effort for the enemy before removing their guns to the rear. De Trobriand's left flank was now exposed, and at the same time was attacked in front by Anderson's brigade. Kershaw having driven Sweitzer and Tilton from his right, advanced to reach his rear, which forced De Trobriand to give ground also. It is not to be supposed that the Third Maine and the Third Michigan were idle during De Trobriand's vigorous contest with Kershaw's and Anderson's brigades. These two small but battle-scarred regiments were located at the right of the angle at the Peach Orchard, and in front of Ames's, Clark's and Bigelow's batteries. In the rear of these batteries were the One Hundred

and Forty-first Pennsylvania, Second New Hampshire and Seventh New Jersey. This was the only support that protected Battery E from Kershaw's brigade on the south. From these troops Kershaw's flank was constantly exposed when attacking De Trobriand's right, and from this annoyance, he ordered the Second, Third and Eighth South Carolina regiments to form at right angles to his main line and drive back these regiments. Maffett, who commanded the Third South Carolina regiment, says: "In this position the enemy advanced to within thirty yards of us, and for more than an hour we held him in check." The Eighth South Carolina now advanced against Clark's and Bigelow's batteries, but the One Hundred and Forty-first Pennsylvania came to their rescue and stopped their advance with a murderous fire. For a better protection these batteries were moved to the north side of the cross road, although it still more exposed De Trobriand's and Barnes's troops. So hard pressed were these troops that Hancock was ordered by Meade to send Caldwell's division to Birney's support, Cross's brigade, of this command, supporting De Trobriand, the other, under Kelly, going to support Ward. This was Meagher's Irish brigade.

Comte De Paris relates of this brigade: "It will fight with its wonted gallantry, for each soldier is ready to sacrifice his life, with the more readiness that he has been prepared to die as a Christian. As the moment is drawing near for marching against the enemy, all the ranks are kneeling, and the chaplain, mounted upon a rock, which affords him a natural pulpit, has pronounced a general absolution to the whole brigade in the midst of a religious silence only interrupted by the fire of the artillery. The command, 'Forward!' immediately follows the words of the priest, and the Irish have at once rushed into the thickest of the fight. They suddenly stop Anderson's brigade in its advance."

The fighting in front of Birney and extending to the Round Tops was general and severe. Birney placing himself at the head of a part of De Trobriand's and Cross's troops with those of Burling's regiments, led them against Kershaw and drove him back upon Semmes, who was in his support. In this attack General Cross was killed and his first line broken. Caldwell now sent in his second line, com-

posed of York's and Brooks's brigades, who drove back Semmes beyond the ravine and also forced back Kershaw's left. The enemy here fought with their usual stubbornness, not giving way until nearly surrounded, and then only to reform for a renewal of the contest. Says the author above quoted: "At last McLaws, seeing Semmes and Kershaw forced back in disorder by Caldwell, decides to attack the orchard. Sickles has given Graham the effectives of two brigades to defend it, but it would require strong intrenchments to cover a position so destitute of natural shelter on its two flanks. The Confederates slacken the fire of their artillery; the infantry is in motion. Barksdale advances against that one of those two flanks which lies opposite to the west. Wofford, placed in rear of his right, comes by a half-wheel to attack the south front by assisting some of the battalions of Kershaw's brigade which have not joined in the retreat. Graham, wrapped in a vortex of fire, sees his troops rapidly diminish around him. It is in vain that a regular battery comes to relieve that of Ames at the point most exposed, that Randolph (Bucklyn) has silenced some of the enemy's guns,—that all the Federal guns are firing canister into the ranks of the assailants, for the Confederate infantry penetrates into the orchard and takes possession of it; Graham is wounded and taken prisoner; his soldiers share his fate or are dispersed along the slopes of the hillocks, which they rapidly descend; Sickles hastens from the Trostle House, but a bullet breaks his leg and he is obliged to transfer the command to Birney. The batteries posted along the right on the Emmitsburg road abandon positions which it is no longer possible to defend. Those on the left continue to fire almost at short range, causing the guns after each fire to be drawn back a few paces; but nothing can prevent the defeat of Birney's division, which, out of scarcely five thousand men, has lost two thousand. Barksdale, followed closely by several batteries, rushes into the open breach between Humphreys's left and Barnes's right, and leaving to the troops that are to support him in the task of striking these divisions in the rear, he still pushes forward. The canister thins the ranks of his soldiers, but his example sustains their courage. On his right, Wofford, following his success, bears to the eastward to take in flank the enemy's regiments that are holding Kershaw in



check. It requires less than an hour for the Confederates to achieve this success, which changes the aspect of the combat. They have two hours of daylight to take advantage of it. In the centre, Hill, following strictly Lee's instructions, hastens to push forward in rapid succession Anderson's three brigades, commanded by Wilcox, Perry, and Wright, against Humphreys. The first-named commander, who has been shown by the general-in-chief himself since four o'clock what direction to take, inclines at first to the left in order to avoid meeting at the orchard McLaw's line running almost perpendicular to his own, then he faces to the right in line of battle for the purpose of attacking in front that portion of the Emmitsburg road occupied by Humphreys. The other two brigades form on his left."

It is now after six o'clock, at which time the Fifth, Third, and Second corps troops are struggling against seeming defeat. Ewell, who commanded the rebel left, had been ordered by Lee to attack the Federals in his front at the sound of Longstreet's guns, but for some reason failed to attack until near seven o'clock. In this attack the Eleventh and that part of the Twelfth corps which had not gone to support the left and a portion from the First corps were engaged. This attack was severe and persistent, and was continued until after nine o'clock P. M. The enemy captured a portion of our works, from which they were subsequently driven. Their charges upon our lines were desperate and their losses were severe. It is not proper in this brief history of Battery E to write in detail the battle of Gettysburg, but only to refer by way of connection to that part of the battle in which the battery was not engaged.

In this second attack by Kershaw and Semmes upon Birney's right centre, Barnes's two brigades of Sweitzer's and Tilton's were forced back, which uncovered De Trobriand's centre, his left having been penetrated to his rear so that the enemy crossed their fire behind him. This state of affairs made it necessary for him to retreat across the bloody wheat-field over which so many desperate charges had been made by himself and others. The loss of our position at the centre, with the approach of Barksdale upon our front soon after, made it necessary to retire in order to save the battery from capture, from which we had a narrow escape, if the report of

Captain Bowen, who commanded the One Hundred and Fourteenth Pennsylvania, can be relied upon, of which there is no reason to doubt.\*

This regiment was known as the Collis Zouaves, and during the first part of the battle was commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Cavada, who was captured about the time we fell back. The command then fell upon Captain Bowen, who says: "Captain Randolph, chief of artillery of the corps, at this moment rode up to the regiment and ordered us to advance, saying, 'If you want to save my battery move forward. I cannot find the general. I give the order on my own responsibility.' We then advanced, passing through his battery, which immediately limbered up and went to the rear, and the regiment crossing the road formed a line of battle; our line on the right joining the Fifty-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers."

After this an attempt was made to advance to the rear of the brick house (Sherfy's), but before that could be done the rebels had gained the road and flanked them throwing them into confusion. After this a portion of the regiment rallied around its colors and was taken to the rear. Captain Nelson reports for the Fifty-seventh Pennsylvania and says of the morning of the 2d: "We advanced to the right and rear of the Peach Orchard and remained about one hour; then advanced to the front and deployed, taking a position on the right of the One Hundred and Fourteenth Pennsylvania Volunteers near the brick house (Sherfy's) where we were exposed to a severe shelling for about two hours, when, at the request of Captain Randolph, we advanced to the brick house and met the enemy in force, who were advancing upon us in three lines. We engaged him about twenty minutes, but being overpowered by a superior force, we were obliged to fall back, the One Hundred and Fourteenth Pennsylvania Volunteers having done so already." Col. Calvin A. Craig, commanding the One Hundred and Fifth Pennsylvania Regiment, which formed on the right of the two former, says he remained after the One Hundred and Fourteenth and Fifty-seventh Pennsylvania regiments had retired, and slowly retired, fighting with the troops of Humphreys's division. These reports are referred to to show that the batteries at

\* The reader must not confound Anderson's division of Hill's corps with Anderson's brigade of Hood's division.

and near the orchard retired at least one-half hour before the infantry of Graham's command were forced back by Barksdale's brigade.

Humphrey's division, now that the orchard had been evacuated, found its left flank exposed and enfiladed by the rebel artillery, and being attacked in front by Wilcox's, Perry's and Wright's brigades of Anderson's division, he found it necessary to retire, so as to connect with a new line to be formed on his left. This he successfully accomplished by a backward march in line, fighting all the time the enemy, who were closely upon him. He held the enemy at bay, but his loss was fearful, both in officers and men, being two-fifths of his command.

Humphrey's division having given ground on the right of Birney's position at the angle near the Peach Orchard, left the troops of Sweitzer and Tilton, who had just driven Kershaw from his captured ground, still more exposed, as their rear was threatened by Barksdale and Wofford. The latter now attacked Tilton vigorously, who, after a determined resistance is obliged to give way. Kershaw now renews the attack against Sweitzer and York, who successfully resist his assaults. Kershaw is now reinforced by Semmes's brigade who succeed in forcing our troops out of the woods. Caldwell's Second corps, who have so bravely fought since coming to Birney's assistance, are now in turn attacked in front and flank, and likewise are forced to retire from the woods and the wheat-field, the bloody soil of which is covered with the dead, and dying. In this struggle General Zook is killed and our losses are enormous. Comte de Paris, in his history of the battle, says: "The Confederates, posted in the woods, command all its approaches; their artillery, descending the slopes of the hillock of the orchard, takes the Unionists in flank. Brooks charges with his brigade in vain; he is repulsed and seriously wounded. The Federal line is irrevocably broken, and all the forces which have until then held Longstreet in check on the left, are unable to reform it. Out of eight brigades brought into action by the commander of the First Confederate corps, six are making desperate attacks upon them. The Union troops, most of them in complete disorder, fall back on the wooded hillocks which line the left bank of Plum Run.

But Kershaw and Semmes, exhausted in their turn, have halted in the wood whence Barnes and De Trobriand have just been dislodged. Only two brigades have passed over the Millerstown road; on the left that of Wofford pushes forward in order to support Barksdale on the right; that of Anderson, who has just been wounded, occupies the wood beyond the road, bringing several of the enemy's guns, which it had captured back of the Trostle House, and even tries to cross Plum Run, but in vain.

In the meanwhile, Hancock, who, on the news of Sickles's wounds, has been entrusted by Meade with the command of the entire left, is endeavoring to unite the two parts of the Federal line. Humphreys has just completed his movements. Most of the guns attached to his division, having lost all their horses, have been abandoned in the patch of ground behind which he has posted himself, but they remain within the circle of his fire as a tempting prize for the enemy. Bigelow's battery having no longer a single soldier to support it, takes a position in front of the Trostle House and fires canister upon the Confederates, who are advancing from every direction against it. One after another the gunners fall near their wounded chief, their pieces being sacrificed; but they have succeeded in delaying the march of the enemy on the left. . . . Ayres, bringing the two regular brigades of Day and Burbank, has crossed Plum Run and occupies the crest of Devil's Den on the right bank with a portion of Ward's soldiers, who have not been dislodged from it. The retreat of Barnes and Caldwell uncovers his right flank, thus leaving him isolated in advance of the rest of the line; but although attacked on three sides by Hood's and McLaw's troops he forces a passage through their oblique fires. His regular troops once more justify their old reputation, not a single man has left the ranks, and they allow themselves to be decimated without flinching. Eleven hundred combatants only out of an effective force of two thousand are left standing, when, falling back gradually, they finally take position on the right of Weed, east of Plum Run, along the northern base of Little Round Top."

The left was now firmly posted on the east bank of Plum Run, its defenders being the troops of Sykes's Fifth corps. Although the sun was seemingly about to hide its face from

the cruel scenes being enacted upon this bloody field, the enemy, hopeful of further success, continued their attack upon Humphrey's division and the second corps. General Hunt brought to their assistance McGilvery's artillery reserve, consisting of some thirty pieces. Against this force Barksdale's and Wofford's brigades advanced with their comparatively fresh troops. Alexander's rebel artillery brigade advanced to a position in rear of where Bucklyn's battery had so bravely fought. To these rebel forces must be added the artillery of A. P. Hill's corps. The enemy fought with seeming intention of separating our left from the centre of the army, and had it not been for the unparalleled effort of our brave troops they would have succeeded. The closing half hour's struggle between the troops just named was severe and persistent, so much so that aid was called from the First, Twelfth and Sixth corps. Stannard's brigade of Vermonters, from the First corps, were conspicuous in recapturing the guns of a regular battery. The division sent from the Twelfth corps arrived too late to be of service, as the enemy had been checked before they reached the point of danger. As to the Sixth corps, Doubleday says: "As Crawford charged, two brigades of Sedgwick's corps, those of Nevin and Eustis, formed under Wheaton on the right and below Little Round Top. The sight of the firm front presented by these troops thoroughly discouraged Longstreet, who went forward to reconnoitre and he gave up all attempts at making any farther advance."

It was, then, to the Second, Third, and Fifth corps, that the honor belongs of saving the army from defeat.

The last effort of the enemy on the 2d, to which I shall refer, will be that which followed Humphrey's change of front obliquely across the ridge, to connect with Birney's division. In doing this he was followed up by the rebel brigades of Wilcox, Perry and Wright, of which it can be said the Confederates had no better material. Wright's alone, of these brigades, actually reached the crest of the hill, but after capturing a gun, his, with Perry's and Wilcox's brigades, were driven back with severe losses. In this encounter Willard's brigade of the Second corps came to Humphrey's assistance, his command being badly cut up and he himself killed. In regard to the left Doubleday says: "Meade

places himself at the head of Lockwood's soldiers. These two regiments penetrate into the wood situated north of the Millerstown road, on the other side of Plum Run, and attack Anderson's brigade. McCandless supports them so as to connect them with the rest of Sykes's troops."

Now let the French historian describe the closing scene of the second day's battle on the left and centre of the Federal army. After describing the scenes of the battle as witnessed by the rebel generals, from the summit of Seminary Hill, he says: "Wright, encouraged by the sight of the crowds that are encumbering the Baltimore road, and believing himself already master of the northern ridge of Cemetery Hill, fights with desperate energy; but in the space of a quarter of an hour he loses nearly two-thirds of his effective force and falls back before Gibbons's division, which is arrayed against him. Wilcox, taken in flank by McGilvery's artillery, instead of the retreating soldiers he was pursuing, meets Humphreys in good order on one side, and Hancock's reserves on the other, thus finding himself within a circle of fire, where he leaves five hundred men out of the sixteen hundred, which composed his command. Rather forsaken than vanquished, these two brigades strike once more the Emmitsburg road. The last effort of the Confederates against the Federals' left wing has failed. Twilight has come; the firing of musketry ceases, that of the artillery languishes; the smoke clears away, but in proportion as silence prevails there, the sound of the battle which is progressing along the opposite wing is more distinctly heard."

Having briefly detailed that part of the battle in which the troops with whom Battery E was associated took an active part, I will now describe the part taken by Battery E, more in detail. Previous to three P. M. the battery had remained in position in a line held by Birney's division on the morning of the 2d. About that hour, Acting Assistant Adjutant General P. S. Jastram, of Randolph's staff, arrived with an order for Lieutenant Bucklyn to move his battery to the front. The battery immediately and rapidly moved as ordered, and, as before stated, was placed in position under a heavy artillery fire from the enemy. Without a moment's delay we began firing, directing our shot upon the batteries of Alexander's battalion, and, more particularly, upon the batteries of Rhett and Moody,

which were in position behind a stone wall a little to the left of our front, although we occasionally had to turn our attention to the batteries of Parker and Taylor, which were posted more to our right. These two latter were more to the rear, and hidden from view by the wood in which they were posted. They also supported Barksdale's brigade when the command entered the fight later on. It was the intention of Longstreet to crush our lines at the angle with his formidable array of artillery, with the purpose in view of following up the disaster with his infantry. The enemy's guns, when this action commenced, were but 700 yards distant. Soon after the beginning of this action Colonel Alexander, who was in chief command of the several battalions of artillery, says: "The ground at Cabell's position gave little protection, and he suffered rapidly in both men and horses. To help him, I ran up Huger with eighteen guns and twenty-six of my own, to the Warfield House, within five hundred yards of the Peach Orchard, and opened upon it. This made fifty-four guns in action, and I hoped they would crush that part of the enemy's line in a very short time, but the fight was longer and hotter than I expected. So accurate was the Federals' fire, that two of my guns were fairly dismounted, and the loss of men was so great that I had to ask General Barksdale, whose brigade was lying down close behind in the wood, for help to handle the heavy twenty-four-pound howitzers of Moody's battery."

It was not only from the fire of the batteries in our front that we suffered, but the shots of those batteries which were firing upon the south front of the Peach Orchard passed through our battery. Not only these already named, but the two batteries of Ross and Patterson, who were in front of Humphrey's division, would occasionally fire a few shots in our direction. With these intruders, the left section, which was the right of our battery, exchanged a few shots, doing each other, probably, no harm. This artillery duel was continued from one-half to three-quarters of an hour, when, for a short time, there was but little artillery firing. During the interval the infantry of the enemy advanced to the front of its artillery, and no sooner had they uncovered its range than it again renewed its action, with more intensity, if possible, than before.

While Generals Kershaw's and Semmes's brigades were engaged with De Trobriand's and Barnes's brave troops at our left there was no cessation of artillery fighting. The enemy's guns were constantly in action, first upon one point, then upon another, wherever they thought its service would do the most good. During the greater part of our action the infantry in our front was kept under cover of the wood, and were, therefore, not visible, but as they were within range, we suffered none the less from the bullets of the skirmishers and sharpshooters who were almost constantly annoying us with their unerring fire. Many of our men and horses had already been wounded, but the worst had not come. It was not until the troops at our left centre had been driven back that we saw any serious danger menacing our position, but when the battle began to rage almost in our rear, with our front threatened by the advancing of Barksdale's brigade, we began to fear that the Army of the Potomac would have to resume its habit of retreating. It was about this time that Lieutenant Bucklyn moved his battery slightly to the right and rear, presumably to allow the infantry a better chance to manoeuvre in our front. This relieved the sixth piece from its more dangerous position which it occupied on the Emmitsburg road. Barksdale evidently intended to capture our battery, and, as he covertly approached, its supporting artillery seemed to redouble its fury upon us. Although our battery was severely crippled, it did not lessen, but rather increased its effort to maintain its position and drive the enemy back. Lieutenant Bucklyn, always brave and daring, now that death and destruction appeared almost inevitable, seemed, if possible, to show more daring as the danger increased. Freeborn, who commanded the right section, although undemonstrative, showed that quality which stays. Lieutenant Allen, in command of the left section, was equally cool and daring, and First Sergt. Charles S. Winslow, who commanded the centre section, exhibited that quality of a soldier, which, had he not been disabled by a severe wound, would doubtless have given him a commission. Notwithstanding the efforts of these brave officers, who had no less brave men to command, it was found impossible to continue the struggle much longer. Our rear being threatened, and our front about to be attacked by infantry, and there being no infantry of ours as yet in front, it



was considered best to withdraw the artillery and leave the field to our infantry. Accordingly, the Fifty-seventh, One Hundred and Fifth, and One Hundred and Fourteenth Pennsylvania regiments were ordered to advance to the front of our position, and the latter, as before stated, passing through our battery. These regiments were joined on their right by Carr's brigade of the Second division. The line of battle formed by these commands advanced as far as Sherfy's barn, where they promptly engaged Barksdale's advancing brigade, with the result before stated. During this movement Battery E was being severely shelled by the enemy's enfilading batteries on the left. From the front Barksdale's troops were advancing, their fire rapidly reducing us both in men and horses. Owing to the position of our infantry we could not reply to them. Already nearly one-half of our horses and one-third of our men were either killed or wounded. The left section, and probably the centre, also, had already retired to the crest of the hill by the use of the prolonge. It was at this juncture that Lieutenant Bucklyn received orders to retire his battery to the rear, but the battery being so severely crippled, its movement was not in unison, and each piece had to be retired as best it could. The battery was taken about three-quarters of a mile to the rear, with the exception of the third piece and the fourth caisson. The latter, after having its axle repaired by Albert A. Hopkins (our blacksmith), was sent to join the battery at the orchard, but was overturned on the way, and did not reach its destination. Sergeant Hargraves, who commanded the former, having lost eleven of his thirteen horses, including his own, was unable with only one serviceable horse to follow the battery, and he was at first supposed to have been taken prisoner, but his coolness and bravery, for which he was noted, enabled him, with one unwounded horse and a few severely wounded ones, to move his command to a place of safety. The next day, after several hours of search, he found and rejoined the battery.

The men, in leaving the field, were so widely scattered that it was not until the next forenoon that they were again united. It was feared that many of these absent comrades had fallen on leaving the field, or had been captured, and their safe return was a cause of rejoicing among their comrades. This,

however, did not cancel the sorrow which we felt for the many brave companions who had either given their lives, or were suffering from the brutality of war in our field hospitals. It would be a great satisfaction had the writer the means of recording the many incidents which took place relating to our men that bore such a brave part and suffered so much for the patriotic principles for which they were fighting ; but as many of those noble men are now dead, and most of the living are so far distant, or their residence unknown, it is impossible to obtain but a small portion of the many incidents that happened in connection with this unparalleled battle. We had upon the battlefield eighty-seven horses, and, according to the diaries of Sergt. Charles P. Williams, and of Dr. Lester S. Hill, who was gunner on the fifth piece, the loss was forty-one. The diary of the writer records seventeen killed and twenty-two wounded, while Hill says : "Twenty of the forty-one were killed."

The doctor probably included three that died soon after. Our loss in men, according to the writer's diary, was three killed outright, two mortally wounded, who died soon after, and twenty-six wounded who recovered, making a total of thirty-one. The record kept by Sergeant Williams gives thirty men killed and wounded. That of Sergeant Humphreys corresponds with the writer's. The monument erected on the battlefield in honor of Battery E has engraved upon it, "Three men killed, two officers and twenty-four men wounded." This makes only twenty-nine, being one less than the official records on file at the War Department at Washington. These variations are doubtless caused by not counting, in some instances, those slightly wounded. The killed were William Beard, Alvin Hilton, and Corp. Ernest Simpson. Beard belonged in Olneyville, R. I., where he left a wife. He will be remembered by his comrades as a very industrious and useful soldier. He was almost constantly employed in washing clothes for his companions, from whom he received compensation. Hilton was a detached man from one of our division regiments. Corporal Simpson, to whom reference has been made before, was more than an ordinary man, and had somewhat of a romantic history. Lieutenant Bucklyn, in a communication to the Providence *Sunday Star* of June 11, 1882, says : "Ernest Simpson was my com-

pany clerk, and had begged permission to go into the battle. I told him we would probably be killed, and he must settle my accounts with the government. During the fight he came to me and asked permission to take charge of a gun. I consented, and in a few minutes his head was shot off. He was a brave and noble soldier, who joined us at York, Pa., attracted by the great reputation of Rhode Island batteries. He had left home (Leipsic, Germany,) because his parents opposed a love affair, attempted to commit suicide in London, and joined us with the expectation of being killed. He said I was his only friend in America, and he made a will in my favor, which I now have."

The mortally wounded were Frank Martin and John Beadle, of whose history nothing is known, only that both were detached from the infantry. They lived only a few hours. The wounded officers were Captain Randolph, Lieutenant Bucklyn, Commanding Lieut. Benjamin Freeborn, First Sergt. Charles S. Winslow, Line Sergeants Arthur W. Hargraves and George W. H. Allen, Corporals Young, Tanner, and Alexander. Capt. George E. Randolph relates in his report: "A wound that I received in the shoulder early in the action prevented my being as active on the field as I desired, and, although I was able from time to time to ride along the line, and to keep informed of the progress of the battle in the various parts of the field where my batteries were stationed, I could not give the line the same personal attention I would, had I been stronger."

Capt. John K. Bucklyn, who was then lieutenant commanding, had two horses shot under him while the battery was in the first position near the Peach Orchard. When General Barksdale and his Mississippi soldiers were near the battery, General Graham, at the instance of Captain Randolph, moved to the front of the battery with his Pennsylvania troops, thus allowing the battery to fall back. While this movement was being executed, and after the infantry had renewed the fight, another horse was shot under him, and, at the same time, a shrapnel went through his left lung, rendering his left side useless and choking him with blood. Although anticipating that his wound would prove mortal, he persisted in going to the rear with the battery, desiring, should his wound be fatal, to die with his command. General Birney, who was then in

command of the corps, gave orders for the artillery officers to be sent to the rear, ordering, at the same time, Lieutenant Jastram to take temporary command of the battery.

Sergt. John Slocum writes that at the battle of Gettysburg, he "was acting as orderly for Lieutenant Bucklyn. After Bucklyn was wounded I went with him to a barn that was being used as a hospital, but there being so much groaning and suffering Bucklyn could not endure it. I then took him to a place beside a fence, and, obtaining some lint and bandages, dressed his wound the best I could. I then took off my jacket for a pillow, and gave him my blanket to keep him comfortable. In the morning I secured an ambulance and carried him, with Captain Randolph, to Westminster, where they took the train for Baltimore, and from there home."

Captain Bucklyn, writing about the events which followed his being wounded, says: "After leaving the hospital we went out by the roadside, and I told Slocum that if he could bring me milk I thought I could live. He feared to leave me, but did so, and returned probably about eleven o'clock with milk, which he fed to me at short intervals until morning. Slocum and our ambulance driver helped Randolph, Seeley, and myself to Westminster. He put me into a car on my cot. During the night a soldier put me on to some coffins and occupied my cot. I arrived in Baltimore, where I received a most cordial welcome, on Sunday. I arrived in Providence, Monday afternoon. George B. Jastram took me in his arms from the car and carried me to a carriage."

Second Lieutenant Freeborn, who commanded the right section, was slightly wounded, but did not leave the field. He had two horses wounded under him.

First Sergeant Charles S. Winslow, who was in command of the centre section, was severely wounded in the back. It happened while the battery was retiring from the field. He never returned to the battery, but was transferred to the Veteran Reserve Corps, Feb. 1, 1864. Previous to entering the Veteran Reserve Corps he received a commission as second lieutenant in the Fourteenth Regiment (colored), but failed to pass on account of physical disability. He continued in feeble health until his death, Dec. 30, 1873. He was one of the battery's best soldiers and was highly esteemed by

all his comrades. His wife was the sister of our comrade, Herbert F. Bennett. Two children were left to the care of their devoted mother. Sergt. Arthur W. Hargraves, of the third piece, was wounded in the left arm, and although obliged to carry his arm in a sling, he refused to be excused from duty.

George W. H. Allen, sergeant of the fifth piece, was hit in the head by a spent bullet, from the effect of which he nearly fell from his horse, but was assisted to his position by one of his drivers. Recovering soon from the shock, he resumed his duties without further trouble. Speaking of the event, he said that when he had partially recovered from the shock he put his hand to his head, and feeling a bunch on one side, he thought he had been shot through his head. To satisfy himself he put up the other hand to find the hole where the ball came out, but he soon realized he was acting under a delusion.

. Corp. James A. Tanner was wounded slightly over the eye; Corporals Richard Alexander and Luther L. Young were wounded slightly. The following privates were wounded: Crawford A. Sayles, severely; George H. Kelley, severely; Richard Rose, severely; Martin Brown, severely, and transferred to the Veteran Reserve Corps, Oct 31, 1863; Oliver Skinner, severely in arm; never returned from the hospital; Edmund M. Jackson, severely in leg; Luther Childs, quite badly; Albert Saunders, severely; Michael Ruhle, severely in back; Patrick Hogan, slightly; Gould E. Utter, slightly; William Kain, severely in side; John McKenna, slightly; Samuel Havens, slightly; Israel Riley, slightly; ——— Jewett, slightly; Lory Strait, severely, and transferred to Veteran Reserve Corps, Oct. 31, 1863.

Captain Randolph, in his report of the corps artillery, modestly refers to his own battery in these words: "Randolph's Battery E, First Rhode Island, was placed in position to counteract a cross fire from the woods in front of the Emmitsburg road upon Ames's battery, and the troops in the Peach Orchard were immediately engaged with the enemy, composed of infantry and a battery of twelve-pounders in front and a little to the left of its position. The very effective fire of the battery of six light twelve-pounders did great damage to our lines until it was silenced by the fire of Ran-

dolph's battery and a section of Ames's that had been turned upon it. Randolph's battery remained in this position, doing good service but greatly exposed, as the returns attest, until the withdrawal of its supports to strengthen the Peach Orchard, and the subsequent repulse of our troops in that position made its withdrawal a matter not only of prudence, but of necessity. Lieut. John K. Bucklyn, commanding, received a painful wound while endeavoring to take from the field a caisson, some of the horses of which had been killed.

. . . It is proper that I acknowledge here the valuable aid rendered me by Lieutenant Jastram, acting assistant adjutant-general of my brigade, whose duties were rendered more arduous by my own inability to keep the saddle, and who displayed the same energy, bravery, and good judgment that he had already given evidence of as a battery commander."

The following report of Lieutenant Freeborn is given entire :

NEAR WARRENTON, Va., }  
July 28, 1863. }

SIR: I have the honor to report the following as the part taken in the action near Gettysburg by this command: On the morning of July 2d the battery was in position in the second line of battle under the command of First Lieut. John K. Bucklyn, remaining there without firing until three P. M., when it was ordered to the front. We moved up and took a position near the Emmitsburg road under a heavy artillery fire from the enemy. Commenced firing immediately and succeeded in silencing several of the enemy's guns, but they soon opened from different points, and owing to the peculiar formation of the line we were at times exposed to a heavy cross fire. The right section was detached from the rest of the battery and operated on the road near a small house. We were somewhat annoyed by sharpshooters, who were in a barn in front of the section, but dislodged them by a shell or two. The enemy appeared to have massed their infantry on the left of the battery, and the fighting was severe there, so that our supports were either sent to that point or some other, as for twenty minutes before we left the battery was without any support, and nothing in front but a few sharpshooters. Some of them reported to me that the enemy was advancing in line in a ravine in front, probably with a view of charging on the battery. Nearly at the same time the artillery and infantry on our left fell back. It was deemed best to withdraw the battery, which was done, the enemy appearing within a few yards of us and delivering a heavy musketry fire, from which we suffered severely. We abandoned our caisson for want of horses, but regained it when our forces reoccupied the ground.

Lieutenant Bucklyn being wounded in coming off the field, the command devolved upon me, and the battery was ordered to the rear, and being badly cut up did not participate in any of the subsequent fighting.

The casualties were as follows, viz.: Two officers wounded, three en-

listed men killed and twenty-four wounded, seventeen horses killed and twenty-three disabled and abandoned.

Respectfully,

BENJAMIN FREEBORN,

*Second Lieutenant First R. I. Light Artillery, Commanding Battery*

LIEUT. P. S. JASTRAM,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Artillery Brigade, Third Army Corps.*

It is probable that Freeborn accidentally omitted to mention the two men mortally wounded, as they had been sent to the hospital, and doubtless died during the night or the next day. On a memorial of the battery they are recorded as dying on the day of the battle, and if so the battery really lost five killed. Freeborn refers to the right section as being detached from the rest of the battery. In this statement it is uncertain to which he refers, the left section, which was on the right of the line, or the right section, which was on the left of the line, both at times being thrown forward on the road. The distance in either case was only a few yards.

The non-commissioned officers in this famous battle were:

First piece, Sergt. Seth B. Darling and Corporals James Donnelly and Richard Alexander.

Second piece, Sergt. George Humphrey, Corp. Allen Gardner. Herbert F. Bennett, the other corporal on that piece, was absent on sick furlough.

Third piece, Sergt. Arthur W. Hargraves, Corporals James A. Tanner and Ernest Simpson.

Fourth piece, Corp. Thomas T. Beard, acting sergeant; Corporals John J. Mulhall and Luther L. Young; the latter may have served on the second instead.

Fifth piece, Sergt. George W. H. Allen, Corporals Lester S. Hill and George Lewis.

Sixth piece, Sergt. Charles P. Williams, Corporals Edward A. Chandler and John M. Battey.

Nearly all these sergeants were unhorsed either by their being wounded or their horses being turned over to the commissioned officers. Sergeant Allen's horse was ridden by Lieutenant Bucklyn at the time he was wounded. Sergeant Humphreys's horse was shot just as the battery was leaving

the field. Sergeant Hargraves's horse, as before stated, was also wounded. The great loss in officers' horses was due, in part, to so many of the officers not dismounting during the battle. This unnecessary exposure by the commanding officers may on some occasions be necessary, but the writer feels justified in saying that the men of Battery E needed no such example to stimulate them to the performance of the brave duties required in this battle. There were, doubtless, many examples of personal courage exhibited by the members on each piece. One illustration will give the spirit of all. During a lull in the firing the men were strongly advised to seek as much protection as possible. On the fifth piece the men had complied with this advice with the exception of William H. Phinney, who, as his battery comrades will remember, had a habit of folding his arms across his chest and at the same time rocking on his feet. At that time the bullets and exploding shells made it decidedly undesirable to cover any more space than necessary, but not so with Phinney, for when being remonstrated with by Corporal Hill for continuing his habit while exposed to the fire of the enemy, he replied in a cool and unconcerned manner, "O I am just as safe here as anywhere." In this case it may have been true, for only a minute or so after a rebel shell exploded directly over the piece behind which the cannoneers were sheltered, and although none were hit, all had a narrow escape from the flying missiles.

During the battle of the second day, the battery wagon, driven by John R. Brayton, the traveling forge, drawn by six mules, under the charge of Elias H. Mathewson, and the spare horses, were left in the rear, as usual during an engagement. The men on duty in this responsible part of the battery service were George I. Cole, harness maker, and Albert A. Hopkins, blacksmith, assisted by William S. Blair. The company stores and rations were looked after by Quartermaster Sergt. Benjamin N. Remington, and the extra horses were taken care of by Joseph D. Haney, farrier, assisted by Nelson Lovell, Albert M. Bennett, and others, whose names are not recalled. Usually this part of the battery service escaped the dangers of a battle, but at this action they were not as fortunate, as the rebel shots overreached our lines and passed through their camp. The next morning, while chang-



ing their position, they were still more severely shelled, but, fortunately, escaped unharmed from the unwelcome missiles.

Having detailed the honorable part borne by Battery E in the second day's fight, let us return to the scenes which subsequently followed that bloody struggle. It will be remembered that, at the closing of the second day's battle, the enemy had attacked our right, and had actually captured some of our works on Culp's Hill. General Geary, who had left the captured works the night before to reinforce the left, says Doubleday, "returned with his division about midnight, and was not a little astonished to find the rebels established in the works he had left. He determined to contest possession with them at daylight. . . . On the other hand, Ewell having obtained a foothold, swore he would not be driven out, and hastened to reinforce Johnson with Daniels's and O'Neill's brigades from Rodes's division."

At daylight our artillery opened upon them. To this, Johnson, having no artillery, could not reply, but promptly charged, with "Stonewall's" old brigade leading. "They were met," says the same author, "by Kane's brigade, of Geary's division, and a close and severe struggle ensued for four hours among the trees and rocks. Ruger's division of the Twelfth corps came up and formed on the rebel left, taking them in flank and threatening them in reverse. . . . At about eleven A. M., finding the contest hopeless, and his retreat threatened by a force sent down to Rock Creek, Johnson yielded, slowly and reluctantly, to a charge made by Geary's division, gave up the position, and withdrew to Rock Creek, where he remained until night."

This ended the struggle on our right. In the meantime both of these veteran armies were reforming their lines, and preparing for the supreme effort, which culminated in the great historic effort known as "Pickett's charge."

As the attacks upon our extremities had each failed, Lee had, after a careful survey of the situation, decided to make the supreme effort to break the centre of our line. The point selected was that held by the right of the Second corps, and directly in front of Brown's and Arnold's Rhode Island batteries, the distance being one mile to the right of the Peach Orchard. Pickett's division, which had not yet been engaged, and which was composed of the best of the Virginia troops, was

selected to make the supreme effort, which Lee hoped would give him a great victory and compensate for the loss sustained on the two previous days' battle. General Longstreet, to whose corps General Pickett's division belonged, was not in favor of this attack, and made an effort to persuade Lee that it would be better to renew the effort to turn the Federals' left. "No," Lee said, "I am going to take them where they are on Cemetery Hill. I want you to take Pickett's division and make the attack. I will reinforce you by two divisions (Heth's, under Pettigrew, and Pender's, under Trimble) of the Third corps."

"That will give me 15,000 men," Longstreet replied. "I have been a soldier, I may say, from the ranks up to the position I now hold, . . . and I think I can safely say that there never was a body of 15,000 men who could make that attack successfully." Longstreet said no more, and he writes: "I went to work at once to arrange my troops for the attack." At one o'clock all was ready, the signal of two guns was fired, and immediately, says Comte de Paris, "one hundred and thirty-eight pieces of cannon therefore obey Longstreet's signal."

Longstreet further writes: "The signal guns broke the prevailing stillness, and immediately 150 Confederate cannon burst into a deafening roar, which was answered by a thunder almost as great from the Federal side. . . . The thunder on Seminary Ridge and the echo from the Federal side showed that both commanders were ready."

To this fire the eighty guns posted by General Hunt responded, and for two hours the deafening roar was continued, which caused great suffering on both sides. At three P. M., General Hunt, in order to save ammunition and cool the guns, ordered the artillery to cease firing. The enemy, supposing that our guns had been silenced, at once ordered the advance of Pickett's command. While Pickett was forming his lines, General Hunt hastily withdrew the injured batteries, and supplied their places with others from the reserve artillery. No sooner had the enemy formed his lines than he emerged from the wood, where his troops were formed, and commenced that fatal movement which resulted so disastrously to his brave troops. De Trobriand, in writing of this grand movement, says: "It was a splendid sight. The skirmish-

ers, at regular intervals, advanced first, covering the whole front of the attacking body. Behind them Pickett's division formed in two lines, having on his left Heth's division, and on his right Wilcox's brigade, in column of regiments. They were fully fifteen to eighteen thousand men. They advanced towards us, and our men awaited their approach.

When they were within easy reach of case shot, our artillery opened on them a crushing fire, which mowed down their ranks, but did not stop them; on the contrary, they came on the faster, only obliquing to the left under the fierce play of projectiles on their right by eight batteries, under the direction of Major McGilvery. Our men still looked on them advancing, counting the gaps made in their ranks, and feeling that they were getting full revenge for Fredericksburg.

The first had arrived at about one hundred and fifty yards from the line of the Second corps when the front of Hay's and Gibbon's divisions burst into a sheet of flame and redoubled the carnage by a rolling fire, which was the signal for the Confederates to charge. Everything rushed forward. The ranks were melted together and formed, thenceforth, a raging mass of men, running, rolling and tumbling forward, and through which the cannon opened great lanes. The officers, with swords uplifted, marched in the front ranks; the colonels guided to the front their regiments torn by canister. Their yells were heard above the noise of the artillery and musketry, and they came on like waves against a rocky shore. It was their last effort.

They struck first on two regiments of Webb's brigade covered by a light stone wall. They threw themselves against the obstacles with great impetuosity, beating down the troops which defended them, and with a few bounds were amongst the guns. Our men, dislodged from the first line, ran to join the regiments of the second line, and turned with them against the assailants. During some minutes they fought there over the pieces with gunshots, with bayonets, with butts of muskets, and with ramrods, and the ground was literally covered with dead and wounded.

To the left of the point of attack Stannard was placed with a brigade of Doubleday's division. Profiting by his position, which was the most salient on that part of the line, he charged forward and opened a deadly fire on the right flank

of the assailants. Almost immediately the left of Gibbons made a similar movement ; then, under the direction of General Hancock, present in the action, the whole force threw itself on the enemy's column. It was the *coup de grace*. Attacked in their turn on one side, turned on the other and almost surrounded, the remnant of Pickett's division threw down their arms and surrendered.

Heth's division had not been able to break the right of the Second corps. It had been itself broken against the resistance of Hayes, and also left a multitude of prisoners in our hands.

All who thought they could get away took the backward course through a fire of canister, which brought down half of them to the ground. I saw places where, being crushed together, the dead were absolutely left piled one upon another.

Wilcox's Confederate brigade, which seemed to be held in reserve on the right of Pickett's division, then advanced in its turn, perhaps to protect the fugitives by a diversion, but the artillery fire was enough to stop it, and a last charge of two regiments of Stannard sufficed to disperse it and take from it a goodly number of prisoners.

This ended the effort of Lee to break through our centre. Previous to and during the progress of Pickett's charge, there was some severe fighting by our cavalry and artillery on our right and left flank. After Johnson had been driven from Culp's Hill in the morning, where Lee hoped he would be able to hold on, so that if our centre was broken by Pickett's troops, his position would give him an opportunity to harrass our fleeing troops, he failed to sustain his hold. The rebel cavalry under Stuart was sent to be used for that purpose instead. It was by that movement that our cavalry was brought into contact with Stuart's. During the afternoon Robertson's and Law's brigades advanced on the left against the two Round Tops to prevent reinforcements from being sent to meet Pickett's charge. Fortunately a portion of our cavalry, under Kilpatrick, appeared with the intention of capturing the rebel ammunition train, which was parked in that vicinity, and although they failed to capture the train, it doubtless prevented another attack upon the Round Tops, and also prevented reinforcements being sent to Longstreet's support. It was in this attack that the brave and daring

Farnsworth was killed, while making his famous charge with his Vermont cavalry.

The battle of Gettysburg was now ended, so far as fighting was concerned, but the consequences which followed will not end so long as history lasts. As the battle of Waterloo resulted in crushing Napoleon and the grinding despotism that he was exercising in Europe, so did the battle of Gettysburg, in checking the defiant army of the Confederates, whose purpose was to capture Baltimore and Washington, thereby dictating to us the most humiliating terms of peace. A defeat of Meade's army would, to say the least, have been followed by nothing less than the recognition of the South by the powers of Europe, thereby establishing upon the continent of America a nation founded upon the cruel and barbarous system of slavery.

Through the night of the 2d of July and during the following day, Battery E, being so badly crippled, was held in reserve in the rear. Early in the morning, the men who were scattered during the retreat of the day before, began to arrive, many of whom it was feared were either killed or taken prisoners. Two or three times during the day we changed our position, finally settled for the day a little distance in rear of Round Top. The centre section was temporarily consolidated with the other two sections, and this, with the addition of what serviceable spare horses we had, made it possible for us to have rendered some service had we been called upon. Some of the battery men visited the barns and orchard to which our wounded were carried, among whom were several of our battery comrades. The sufferings of the wounded and the horror attending the amputations which our brave men were undergoing, were almost unendurable.

July 4th, we hitched up at daylight and remained on the field all day. Early in the day rumors that the enemy was retreating, and as often contradicted, were in constant circulation, and reports that Longstreet and A. P. Hill were killed were rife, but were eventually disproved.

July 5th, we continued in the same place. It was now known that the rebel army had withdrawn its left from the town to beyond Seminary Ridge, and that the whole rebel force would soon be on the retreat was quite certain. A

ramble over the battle ground by many of our battery men revealed very forcibly the horrible sufferings which followed this battle. Large numbers of the dead were yet unburied, and sadder still was the fact that many of the wounded were waiting to be carried to the field hospitals. It was not until the 5th that Corporal Simpson and others of our battery were buried. The bones of these brave and beloved comrades lie now in the National Cemetery at Gettysburg. The Confederates continued their retreat, which they began on the night of the 4th, and reached Hagerstown on the 6th and 7th, on their way to Williamsport and Falling Waters, where they crossed on the 13th and 14th; Ewell's corps at the former, and Longstreet and Hill's at the latter. Lee's army was delayed in crossing the river for nearly a week on account of the high water, and while so doing was confronted by our forces, who intended to have attacked it on the 14th, but on advancing it was found that the enemy had crossed the river.

July 6th, the battery hitched up about six A. M., and moved up to the battle ground, where we fought on the second day, and remained during the day and night. Some of the non-commissioned officers and privates visited Gettysburg, and all had a survey of the rebel position in our front. A small house which stood near our location, but between the lines, was visited with much interest on account of its being occupied during the battle by the ladies living there. They told us that during the progress of the battle they retired to the cellar, and were not at all injured, although solid shot passed through the building. That their courage was superior to some of the soldiers that surrounded them will not be denied.

There were yet many unburied rebels lying upon the fields, and these neglected dead revealed one of the darkest pictures of the barbarity and cruelty of war, and confirmed the fact that our civilization is yet on a low plane. The losses in this battle were terrible, as the following figures, given by the official records, will show:

The loss of the 1st corps was	6,059;	of these, 2,079 were taken prisoners.
“ “ “ “ 2d “ “	4,369;	“ “ 365 “ “ “
“ “ “ “ 3d “ “	4,211;	“ “ 575 “ “ “
“ “ “ “ 5th “ “	2,187;	“ “ 210 “ “ “
“ “ “ “ 6th “ “	242;	“ “ 30 “ “ “
“ “ “ “ 11th “ “	3,801;	“ “ 1,448 “ “ “
“ “ “ “ 12th “ “	1,082;	“ “ 64 “ “ “
The cavalry loss was . . .	852;	“ “ 399 “ “ “
The artillery reserve loss was	242;	“ “ 12 “ “ “
The army headq'ters loss was	4;	
Total loss being . . .	23,049	5,182

Humphrey's Second division lost 2,092. Birney's old division lost 2,011; of these Graham's brigade lost 740, Ward's brigade, 781; De Trobriand's brigade, 490. The losses in Randolph's artillery brigade were: Clark's New Jersey battery, 20; Winslow's First New York battery, 18; Smith's Fourth New York, 13; Bucklyn's E, First Rhode Island, 30, and Seeley's Battery K, Fourth United States, 25. The official record of the Confederate losses are as follows, viz.:

Longstreet's 1st army corps, . . . . .	7,539
Ewell's 2d army corps, . . . . .	5,937
A. P. Hill's 3d army corps, . . . . .	6,735
Stuart's cavalry division, . . . . .	240
Total, . . . . .	20,451

Alexander's battalion of reserve artillery, composed of the following six batteries, Jordan's, Moody's, Parker's, Rhett's,\* Taylor's, and Woolfolk's, was stationed within range of Battery E and the Peach Orchard, and their total loss was 139.

The maximum strength of the Union army, June 30th, was 101,679. Its actual fighting strength was about 93,500. The maximum strength of the Confederate army, according to the best calculations, was 77,518. Its fighting strength, as computed by the best authorities, was about 70,000 of all arms. The total loss of officers, killed and mortally wounded, in the Union army was 338, among them being Generals Reynolds, Farnsworth, Weed, Zook, and Vincent. Among the Union wounded were Generals Hancock, Sickles, Birney, slightly, Barlow, and Graham, the latter being taken prisoner after he was wounded. Among the rebel generals killed and mortally wounded during this invasion of Pennsylvania were Barks-

\* The official records has it Gilbert's instead of Rhett's, but Batchelder's battlefield map gives it as above.

dale, Gannett, Armistead, Pender, and Pettigrew, the latter being killed on the retreat.

Rhode Island was represented by the Second regiment and Batteries A, B, C, E, and G. The Second regiment was only slightly engaged, losing but 7 men. Batteries C and G, although engaged, had no loss. Battery A lost a total of 32, and Battery B, 28. These figures are taken from the official records.

One of the lieutenants of Battery B, Joseph S. Milne, who was mortally wounded during this battle, will be remembered by the older members of Battery E as being one of its first sergeants. Just previous to the beginning of the Gettysburg campaign, he was detached to serve in Battery A; Fourth United States Artillery, better known as "Cushing's battery." During Pickett's charge, Lieutenant Milne was shot through the left lung, and died five days after, on July 8th, at Gettysburg. His body was taken to Fall River, where his parents then lived, under the charge of Lieutenant Lamb, of Battery A, Rhode Island.

An extract from the *Fall River News*, of July 17, 1863, says: "The funeral services over the remains of this gallant young officer took place this afternoon at the Baptist Temple. A large congregation assembled, and the exercises, conducted by the Rev. Charles A. Snow, pastor of the church, were very impressive. The choir sang the pathetic dirge, 'Put me down gently, boys,' founded on the words uttered by a captain of the Sixteenth Ohio, as his shattered body was taken to the rear, and he was laid in the shade of a tree to die. The body was dressed in the uniform of his rank, and upon the casket encasing it rested his sword and the flag wreathed with flowers. A few of his comrades-in-arms, among whom was Captain Randolph, were present at the funeral. . . . At an early age he entered the office of the *Glens Falls (N. Y.) Messenger*, a religious paper, published at that time by his father, the Rev. A. D. Milne. Subsequently, he removed to Fall River, and became a compositor in the *Daily News* office, where he was employed for about two years. Leaving here, he took a situation on the Providence *Daily Post*, which he held up to the breaking out of the war, when he joined Battery E, and was appointed sergeant."





Lieut. Joseph S. Milne.



The Providence papers referred to him in terms of high esteem and respect. The obituary in the Fall River *Daily News* was long, and paid to his memory the highest praise. Gen. John G. Hazard was then captain of his battery and chief of artillery in the Second corps, and in his report he tenderly refers to Milne in these words: "Lieutenant Joseph S. Milne, First Rhode Island Light Artillery, was mortally wounded on the afternoon of July 3d by a musket shot through the lungs. He survived his wound one week and breathed his last at Gettysburg on July 10th.\* In his regiment he was noted for his bravery and willingness to encounter death in any guise, while his modesty and manliness gained for him the ready esteem of his many comrades. His death is a loss to all, and we cannot but mourn that so bright a life should thus suddenly be veiled in death." His mother, in writing to the author, says that she hastened to Gettysburg immediately after the news of his being wounded was received, but she was too late, as his death occurred before her arrival. His only regret was that he could not live until his mother arrived. On being told that he could live but a few hours, he said to the lady who was attending him: "Comfort my mother when she comes, and tell her that I died doing my duty." At the time of his death he was only twenty years old. He was the only Rhode Island officer that was killed in the battle of Gettysburg.

July 7th, reveille at one A. M., preparatory to our departure from the battlefield. About daylight we moved up the road near to Sherfy's house, to which we paid a visit, finding it badly shattered from the effect of cannon shot. At about seven A. M. we bade a joyful farewell to the victorious field from which we believed great results would follow, but not without mingled emotions of sadness for the loss of our comrades left behind us. For their brave and gallant conduct the State of Rhode Island erected, on July 2, 1886, a suitable monument to commemorate the honorable part borne by them on that memorable day, an account of which will be found in the Appendix.

\* General Hazard is mistaken in the date. His mother upon arriving at Gettysburg learned that her son died on Wednesday, the 8th.

## CHAPTER XVII.

July 7 to November 1, 1863.

GENERAL LEE RECROSSES THE POTOMAC.—CAMP AT SULPHUR SPRINGS.—LEE PURSUED TO CULPEPPER.—  
MEADE IS FLANKED AND RETIRES TO  
FAIRFAX COURT-HOUSE.

**B**EFORE leaving the battlefield in pursuit of the retreating enemy, owing to a deficiency of officers, Sergeant Hargraves was acting lieutenant in command of the centre section. Sergt. Seth B. Darling was acting first sergeant, vice Winslow absent, wounded, and Corporal Donnelly was acting sergeant of first piece in Darling's place. After starting we crossed Marsh Creek, passing through Emmitsburg, and encamped eight miles beyond at Mechanicsville.

July 8th, left Mechanicsville and marched in the rain to Frederick City. Corporal Bennett, who had been on an extended sick furlough since May 21st, returned, looking well, and received the welcome greetings of his comrades. A spy was executed by hanging, and left on exhibition as a warning to others. Gen. A. A. Humphreys was appointed chief of staff of the Army of the Potomac, and was succeeded in command of the Second division by Gen. Henry Prince.

July 9th, marched to Middletown and encamped. Gen. William H. French, an old regular army officer, assumed command of our corps, his assignment dating July 7th. His appointment was a great disappointment to the Third corps troops, who were anxious that General Birney should be the successor of the gallant Sickles. French brought his command of some seven thousand troops with him, which formed a new Third division to the Third corps. This corps was now the largest, excepting the Sixth, in the Army of the Potomac. The army was moving on the flank of the retreating enemy, who were now at and near Williamsport.

July 10th, remained at Middletown. July 11th, left Middletown and passed over the South Mountain to Boonsboro, with the intention of striking the enemy's flank. Remained over night, and, with a portion of our troops, returned the next day to Middletown, where we staid until the 15th. There was only one regiment of nine months troops left with us at Middletown, whose term of service expired on the 16th. In the meantime the Confederates had recrossed the Potomac.

July 15th, left Middletown by way of Jefferson towards Harper's Ferry, reaching Petersville, about seven miles from the Ferry, and went into camp.

July 16th, left camp at six A. M., for Knoxville, from there to Sandy Hook, then up Pleasant Valley about two miles, and parked for the night. The country was beautiful and romantic. Our battery rejoined its corps July 17th. Left Pleasant Valley at nine P. M., in the rain, and marched all night, and only moved about two miles. Some of the men slept by the roadside during the intervals when halting. Resumed our march on the 18th, and passed through Sandy Hook to Harper's Ferry, and crossed about sunrise over the Potomac on pontoons, and the Shenandoah by bridge. As the troops and brigade bands passed the famous arsenal in which John Brown was captured, the former sang, and the latter played "John Brown's Body," etc., probably much to the disgust of the few remaining rebels; but to our troops it was a day long to be remembered. After marching about eight miles, we halted near a saw-mill for the night. Edmund M. Jackson, one of our wounded at Gettysburg, returned and resumed his duties.

July 19th, marched to within two miles of Snicker's Gap, and on the 20th resumed our march through Snickersville, then on through Uppersville near the mouth of Ashby Gap. Being in the advance, we had an opportunity of gathering all the blackberries we needed, which served as a very enjoyable dessert. The right section marched to-day with the Second division. Remained here through the following day.

July 22d, marched to Piedmont, a small hamlet on the Manassas Gap Railroad, some six miles from Manassas Gap, where there was skirmishing with the enemy, who were attempting to pass through.

July 23d, the Third corps was engaged in preventing the enemy from advancing through the Gap. The First and Second divisions were quite severely engaged and were successful in driving the enemy back, their loss being 105. Our battery advanced to near the Gap, but were not engaged. The writer, who had been sick since leaving Middletown and had ridden a part of the way in the ambulance, was advised by Dr. Smith to go to the hospital. Although unable to go any further, he did not wish to leave his comrades and go among strangers at the hospital. Our company ambulance had been sent forward to the scene of action, but by the kindness of the doctor he was put into an ambulance of some other command and permitted to remain with or near the battery. In the course of a few days he was able to care for himself. An incident occurred while riding in the ambulance in company with others, one of whom was Dr. William H. White. Thinking some blackberries would relish, the writer, during a halt, gathered a hatful, and fearing he might be left, ate none while picking them, and, after reaching the ambulance, thinking to please the sick doctor, the hat was passed to him, and, without thanking the donor he proceeded to eat them all, returning only the empty hat. The reader may judge for himself if the hat was transferred at the next filling.

July 24th, the enemy having retreated from the Gap, our troops with Battery E. moved back to near Piedmont, and remained until the next day, when the march was resumed, passing through Salem to within eight miles of Warrenton, where we went into camp.

July 26th, marched to Warrenton and went into camp two miles west of the town, remaining here until the first of August. Our horses having been without grain for several days and many of them being very much reduced, nineteen of them were turned in. During our stay here our carriages and harnesses were washed and a general cleaning up followed.

August 1st, left camp early in the forenoon and marched to within about three miles of Bealton Station.

August 2d, moved our camp about a half mile into some woods, in order to protect ourselves and horses from the excessive heat.

We remained in this camp until the 16th of August, and during that time the hot weather was constant, with frequent thunder showers. Our camp was arranged quite comfortably. On the 8th eighteen recruits arrived, a good percentage of them being Germans. As a whole they were good soldiers. The names of these recruits were Otto Wilder, Martin Brannan, Richard Clabby, Henry Gerber, Herman Greene, Emile Helfrich, William Long (his correct name was Albers), Joseph Payne, Charles Possin, William H. Paine, Henry Rang, Joseph Schult, Emile Thomas, Caleb B. Whitford, James Waters, George Black, William Whittemore, and one other whose name is not remembered. Four of these afterwards became non-commissioned officers. We had a few field drills while here, but the recruits were daily drilled at the manual of the piece by the sergeants and other officers of the company.

On the 13th we were inspected by Captain Randolph, who had returned to duty, having recovered from his wound received at Gettysburg.

August 16th, we were paid for two months, after which we moved, per order, to Sulphur Springs, where our division had preceded us. The day was excessively hot and muggy, and to the sick it was a severe trial. We first went into camp on the flats, near the town, but on the 18th our battery was moved to the high land lying about one mile southeast of the town. Anticipating remaining here some time, we proceeded to arrange our camp accordingly. Our guns were placed in battery, having a range which covered the town and a large territory surrounding it. General Birney took for his headquarters a part of the hotel of that once famous watering place. "Here," says Birney's biographer, "in the absence of more warlike amusements, the elegant young men of the staff make themselves agreeable by polite attentions to the ladies."

The Collis Zouaves were detached to do guard duty at these headquarters, whose band enlivened the camp with their strains of inspiring music. No encampment of headquarter veterans ever had a more enjoyable month of rest than did those of General Birney's command.

August 21st, we were happily surprised by the unexpected return of Lieutenant Bucklyn, whose severe wound, received

at Gettysburg, would have justified his remaining away a much longer period. Had all the wounded been actuated by the same patriotic spirit many thousands would have been added to the Army of the Potomac.

After our camp arrangements were about completed we resumed our field and manual drills, the latter nearly every day, more especially for the benefit of our recent recruits.

August 25th. For the better protection of our horses from the scorching sun a covering of pine and cedar boughs was erected over them, supported by poles resting upon crotches, we being assisted in this work by a detail from the Fourth Maine Infantry.

In the expectation of a prolonged stay here, our men were not long in writing home for supplies of good things to eat, to which prompt responses were generally received in the form of boxes filled with the articles sent for. In due time our camp was adorned with rows of cedar trees, which added very much to our comfort as they shielded us from the hot sun.

August 31st, we were mustered for two months' pay. The monthly returns for August reported that First Sergt. C. S. Winslow, Lance Corp. L. L. Young, and Privates Martin Brown, George H. Kelley, Bradbury Boggs, Richard Rose, John F. Keegan, and Crawford A. Sayles were in the hospital. Sergt. William Millen, Privates Hale, Polk, and John F. Simmons were on detached service, Sampson Burgess was discharged August 3d and Edward Bucklin, Jr., July 27th, both on surgeon certificates.

September 4th. George Lewis was promoted from a lance to a full corporal.

September 7th. Corps review at General French's headquarters, the reviewing officers being Generals Meade, French, Hunt and Pleasanton, with their staffs.

September 9th. Corporal Alexander, for an unlucky nap while corporal of the guard, was reduced to the ranks, and private William S. Blair was promoted to fill the vacancy.

September 13th. A division review by General Birney, after which our battery was reviewed by Lieutenant Buckley; this was followed by the reception of orders to be ready to move at short notice.



September 14th. Luther Childs and Albert Saunders returned, having been wounded at Gettysburg, both being detached from the Seventeenth Maine regiment.

At this time the army of General Lee occupied the south side of the Rapidan, his cavalry being the last to cross, driven over by our cavalry and the Second corps on the 13th.

September 15th. General Meade's army was now in motion following the enemy, with the intention of bringing on an engagement, should a favorable opportunity present itself. It was now known that two divisions of Longstreet's corps had been sent west, only Pickett's division, which was on the James River remaining. About five p. m., the order to join the forward movement reached the battery. Although a movement was looked for, this order caused quite a commotion in camp, and, having been pleasantly situated for so long a time, it was not easy to break camp in such hasty manner. By seven o'clock we bade farewell to this camp of a month or more of unusual pleasure, marched only about two miles, and then halted by the roadside until the next morning. At eight a. m. we resumed our march, crossed the Hedgeman's River at Freeman's Ford and continued our journey to the Courdyne or Aestham River, crossed it at Welford Ford, then marched to within three miles of Culpepper, and went into park.

September 17th. Hitched up at daylight, and so remained until noon, then started and moved one mile and parked the battery upon a knoll near a saw-mill, where we staid until the 8th of October. In the meantime our camp was duly arranged and comfortable quarters were built, in part of boards obtained from the adjoining mill. Our stay here was marked by nothing of special interest. The weather at times was cold, and not having any extra blankets the nights were not over comfortable.

October 8th, our battery moved one mile and encamped near General Birney's headquarters. Rumors were rife that General Lee was preparing for a movement of some kind, and, as the Eleventh and Twelfth army corps had been detached on the 24th of September to report to the Army of the Cumberland, it was not unexpected that General Lee would take advantage of their absence. It was therefore supposed that the rumored movement was for the purpose of moving

his army around our right with the intention of reaching our rear, cutting our communications and giving us battle at such points as would be to his advantage.

As soon as these rumors were known to be facts, General Meade at once decided to put his army in motion, and move to the vicinity of Warrenton, and "attack Lee while crossing the Hedgeman at the Waterloo and Sulphur Springs crossings." Our troops began to move from near Culpepper "at three o'clock on the morning of the 11th of October, and by night our troops were across the Rappahannock, extending from Freeman's Ford to Kelly's Ford and covering the railroad."

October 10th. Battery went into position near our camp, remaining until dark, and then went into park until morning. On the 11th, at eleven A. M., the battery marched for the Aestham River, and crossed at Welford's Ford, then marched to and crossed the Hedgeman River at Freeman's Ford, arriving there about midnight.

Twice during the day our battery went into position, once to assist General Buford's cavalry in driving the enemy's cavalry from an attack upon one of our columns of infantry. This affair occurred near Brandy Station.

October 12th. Remained with the Third corps near the Ford all day.

October 13th. Started early, and passed through German-town, crossing the Warrenton Branch Railroad at Three Mile Station. The Third corps was in advance, with Bucklyn's battery near the front. Towards three o'clock in the afternoon we were about to enter the hamlet of Auburn when the head of our column was suddenly attacked from the left front. Colonel De Trobriand, who commanded the Third brigade, says: "French, who marched with our division, had neglected to have the ground in front of our column reconnoitered by an advance guard. We were thus ignorant of what force confronted us. The First brigade, commanded by Colonel Colis, was rapidly formed to the right. Mine, which followed, was developed in two lines to the left, while a section of artillery (rebel) opened on the woods, from which a lively fire was maintained upon us.

These dispositions taken, the order was given to the first line to charge. This was briskly done. On my side the

Fifth Michigan and the First battalion of sharpshooters dashed forward on the run. The enemy had not time to give us a volley. We were upon him in an instant, and the woods were swept with little resistance. We found there only a brigade of dismounted cavalry. The rebels ran to their horses and disappeared, leaving in our hands only their dead and a few prisoners.

Birney's biographer relates: "The division was immediately formed, with Graham's brigade in the front line, the Sixty-third Pennsylvania, composed chiefly of conscripts, being in the advance. General Birney, seeing this regiment waver, rode up rapidly and cried out, "Come on, boys, go into them. Charge!" The regiment at once rallied and forced back the enemy. During this short, but stubborn encounter, the division lost eleven killed and forty-two wounded."

Battery E unlimbered and prepared for action, but no shots were fired. The Tenth Massachusetts battery was less fortunate, they having one man killed and some wounded.

October 14th. Hitched up at an early hour, and, about sunrise, moved rapidly towards Bristoe Station. Before leaving, the enemy had begun to annoy us with artillery, and, in order to hasten the movements of the corps, the troops moved in several columns through the open fields, leaving the road for the artillery, which moved off upon the trot. Our battery marched through Bristoe Station and Manassas Junction to Centreville, reaching there at about three p. m. The left and centre sections, accompanied by Lieutenants Bucklyn and Allen, were at once ordered back to Bull Run, where it went into battery, remaining there through the night.

After we had crossed Bull Run the Second corps, temporarily under the command of General Warren, was attacked by Hill's corps, which had approached from the direction of Greenwich, and a severe battle ensued, in which the sturdy Second corps was victorious. In this affair the young general won for himself great honors, as his command had less than half the number of Hill's. As soon as Meade saw the situation he ordered the Third and Fifth corps to Warren's relief. These two corps had previously moved forward, although they had been instructed not to do so until the Second corps had arrived. Had these corps remained a more decided victory would have been achieved. As it was, it virtually ended

the pursuit by Lee. The Second corps lost in this action over four hundred men, and the Confederates, here and at Auburn, seven hundred and eighty-two.

October 15th. Left Centreville with our corps for Fairfax Station, reaching there about noon. During our stay here a very pleasing affair occurred. General Sickles, thinking that a battle was imminent, came to ask that he might resume the command of his old gallant corps, but the commanding general thought him yet unable, as he could only walk with a crutch, and could not endure the pressure of an artificial leg. As soon as it became known that he was present all of his old regiments formed without arms along the route he must take to reach Birney's headquarters. Soon General Birney appeared with the maimed hero in a wagon drawn by four horses. "Their appearance," says De Trobriand, "was the signal for a thunder of acclamation such as I have seldom heard. The wagon passed at a walk from one end to the other of the line; explosions of hurrahs burst forth on the passage of the carriage, and were kept up long after it was at a distance. Caps were thrown into the air and the welcome was most enthusiastic. When the general had entered Birney's tent, surrounded by the brigade commanders, the men assembled around in throngs for a long time giving expression to their joy. The welcome given him by his two old divisions went far to console him for his disappointment."

October 16th. For the first time in the history of the Third corps a man was shot, having been convicted on five charges, the first for deserting, the second, third and fourth and the fifth for giving information to the enemy. The whole division was marched to the field of execution and formed into a hollow square with open ranks, between which the culprit was marched, guarded, being preceded by a band playing the Dead March. It was a solemn scene. His name was Henry Beardsley, and he belonged to the Fifth Michigan.

October 17th. Remained in camp. The Twentieth Indiana, one of our old admired regiments, returned from New York city, where it had been sent during the draft riots of July, 1863. We remained here until the 19th, when we started on our return in pursuit of the retreating enemy.

We moved down the railroad through Union Mills to near Bristoe and went into park.

October 20th, we marched through the pretty village of Greenwich and encamped two miles beyond for the night. Resumed our journey at eight A. M. next morning, passing Auburn, and went into park near Cattlett Station. The rebels, as they retreated, made a general destruction of the railroad, which our troops rapidly repaired.

October 22d. Moved battery into the woods near by and laid out our camp, thinking that we should remain for a short season. Samuel W. Austin reënlisted into our battery on the 23d. He was detached to us from the Third Maine Infantry in May, 1863. Here we remained until the 26th, when, at eleven P. M., we moved with Birney's division about one mile and again went into camp.

October 27th, the right and centre sections were ordered on picket duty at a crossing on Cedar Run, and they were joined by the left section the next day at the same place. This crossing was about one mile east of Catlett's Station, and it gave us a splendid view of the surrounding country.

We remained through the following day and were inspected by Captain Randolph.

October 30th. Hitched up at daylight, and, with the Third corps, moved to near Bealton Station and parked on the side of the Warrenton pike, where we remained eight days. In the meantime, we were mustered for two months' pay and also had several drills. Our quarters were made comfortable temporarily, some of us going so far as to build chimneys to our tents.

## CHAPTER XVIII.

November—1863.

BATTLES OF RAPPAHANNOCK STATION, KELLEY'S FORD  
PAYNE'S FARM, AND MINE RUN.

THE rebel army had now recrossed the Rappahannock and was in position on both sides of the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, General Ewell's corps on the right and General Hill's on the left, with their cavalry on each flank.

On November 6th, the railroad being completed and the army having been fully supplied, General Meade resolved to retake the offensive and force the passage of the Rappahannock at two points at once. For this purpose the Fifth and Sixth corps, under command of General Sedgwick, formed the right column, and they were ordered to move on the morning of the 7th to Rappahannock Station, force a passage, and advance towards Brandy Station. Major-General French was placed in command of the First, Second, and Third corps, which formed the left column, and was to move at daylight to Kelley's Ford, five miles below, effect a crossing, then march towards Rappahannock Station and assist Sedgwick by attacking the enemy in the rear, after which he was to advance with Sedgwick's column to Brandy Station. Our cavalry formed on both flanks, Buford on the right and Kilpatrick on the left. By noon the right column arrived within a mile and a half of the river and formed two lines of battle, and at once advanced a skirmish line, when the enemy's position was carefully examined, preparatory to an attack as soon as the left column had assured its co-operation by advancing upon the enemy's rear. At three P. M. the left column of this movement was aroused by the familiar reveille, and at

daylight the Third corps, in command of General Birney, left its camp, followed by the First and Second corps, and at 1 P. M. reached the vicinity of Kelley's Ford. While awaiting the order to advance the troops were massed in the woods upon the crest of the hills, near Mount Holly Church. When all was ready De Trobriand's brigade was rapidly advanced towards the river, accompanied by Randolph's battery, commanded by Lieutenant Bucklyn, and Sleeper's Tenth Massachusetts battery. Bucklyn placed his battery upon the high land in front of the village and at the right of the ford. The Tenth Massachusetts remained on the crest of the hill at the left of the church, both batteries at once opening upon the enemy. De Trobriand, who led the advance, says: "The attack was intrusted to my brigade, which, for that occasion, was reinforced by the Twentieth Indiana and the Second battalion of sharpshooters. We arrived on the wooded heights which command the river without giving the alarm to the enemy. It was not until they saw us descending to the river banks that they ran to throw themselves into the intrenchments which defended the ford, at the same time advancing a battery, but General Birney had already put some guns in position above a bend in the river, which took it while in motion and compelled it to turn away from them. Then it presented its side to some other guns in position on my right, which were only awaiting this opportunity to open fire. Assaulted from both sides at once, it was soon reduced to silence and compelled to retire.

"During the cannonade I had thrown forward the sharpshooters commanded by Colonel Trepp to the edge of the river, and behind them my other regiments, whom I held massed in rear of a roll in the ground near by. Colonel Trepp had improvised some protection for two or three of his companies on the most elevated part of the bank, from which they kept up so deadly a fire on the opposite intrenchments that the enemy did not dare to show himself, except occasionally for a chance shot. Profiting by this advantage, the rest of the battalion entered resolutely into the water. This was the signal. I pushed forward behind them, followed by the Fortieth New York, the Twentieth Indiana, the Third and Fifth Michigan, and the One Hundred and Tenth Pennsylvania. Even before I had reached the opposite bank my skir-

mishers, led by Lieutenants Aschmann and Garrison, had carried the first rifle-pits, and planted their flags on the parapets. The second line did not hold out long; then, without stopping, we advanced on the village on the run. The enemy, who did not expect us there so soon, offered little resistance, and surrendered with a good grace."

General Birney's biographer says of this action: "By two P. M., November 7th, the first division was massed, screened from observation in the rear of Mount Holly Church. . . . After taking a hasty survey of the ground and ascertaining where the ford was, General Birney ordered forward the First and Second regiments of United States sharpshooters, to drive the rebel pickets across the river, De Trobriand's brigade supporting, with orders to dash across close after the sharpshooters. In the meantime, quickly placing his artillery in position, he opened on the astonished rebels as soon as the sharpshooters got engaged. It was a complete surprise. Pratt's four-and-a-half-inch guns from the height near Mount Holly Church, and Randolph's light twelves at short range poured in such a fire as utterly confounded them. They sent forward a brigade to support their pickets, but it broke and ran, and our men plunged through the river, capturing between three and four hundred prisoners, and before three o'clock P. M., we had our first division in position on the south side, and pontoons were being laid for the artillery and the rest of the corps to cross."

The hour of our arrival at the church varies somewhat in the different accounts. General Humphreys's report says, at mid-day, Birney's biographer, at two P. M., the diary of Sergeant Tanner records it at about noon, Sergeant Humphreys's, at one P. M., and the author's at two P. M. As it was a half mile from the church to the river, and having to move cautiously while seeking a route as much hidden from view as possible, and also having to cross Marsh Creek on the way, it was doubtless at the last named hour that we went into battery upon the knoll about three hundred yards to the right of the ford. We immediately opened upon the enemy's line of battle, who soon broke and sought safer quarters.

No sooner had we begun to fire than the rebel troops sheltered under cover of the houses in the village across the river began to fire upon the battery, but we soon made it so



hot for them that they had to cease firing. While this action was in progress, Captain Massie's rebel battery commenced firing upon us from a distance in our front, which was soon silenced by a few solid shot from Sleeper's Tenth Massachusetts battery and our own. An amusing but dangerous incident occurred to Birney and his staff very soon after their arrival at the ford. The banks on the rebel side of the river were covered with a thick growth of brush, behind which the advanced pickets were hidden. When the sharpshooters were ordered to jump into the river, anticipating that a hidden fire was awaiting them, they very naturally hesitated to advance. At the same time a volley was fired upon Birney and his staff, who were grouped together near our battery. This so irritated Birney that he very forcibly ordered the line into the river, using, in doing so, superlatives that are not found in military tactics, or the church catechism. Nevertheless, they were effective in causing the line to plunge into the water, from which the pickets fled in haste across the open fields, receiving, by way of compliment, a few canister from our battery.

After having driven the enemy from the river; the pontoons were laid and the infantry began to cross, but it was not until after nine p. m. that Battery E followed, and went into park for the night. The infantry, after crossing, moved up to the railroad to secure the crossing at Rappahannock Station.

The casualties in French's column were forty-two killed and wounded, three of them being in our battery. It was the more sad because it occurred by a premature explosion, causing the death of Albert N. Colwell, one of our best and bravest cannoneers. He was in the act of sponging the gun when the accident occurred. It carried away both arms, and otherwise injured him. Martin Harvey had his thumb seriously wounded by the same accident, and Corporal Chandler, who was just stooping to sight the gun, was knocked down by the recoil of the gun and slightly bruised in the face.

Colwell belonged to the sixth detachment, and was the third man of the town of Scituate that had been killed in that detachment. He was one of the sturdy farmers of his town, and was the son of Asahel B. and Caroline Colwell. He was one of the original members of the battery, and one of its

best and most fearless men, and had previously received the Kearney medal of honor. As soon as his death was known at home, Mr. John Atwood was sent after the body, but as he was not allowed to enter our lines he had to return without it. About the 1st of April, 1864, he again made the attempt. After reaching the army he found the regular horse battery, to which the brother of the deceased belonged, who accompanied him to Battery E, where they were joined by Nelson Lovell and Corp. John M. Battey, two of the comrades who had buried the body. Mr. Atwood had brought with him a coffin which was placed in an ambulance, after which the party rode to our picket line at Kelley's Ford, who warned them of their danger of being captured by the enemy's scouts. They took the risk and hastily proceeded across the river to Mount Holly Church, near which the body was buried. There they were joined by a rebel who lived near by, and who cautioned them of their danger, and assisted them in exhuming the body and putting it into the ambulance. Without stopping to fasten down the cover of the coffin they hastily drove across the river to Brandy Station. The body was then put aboard the train and conveyed to North Scituate, R. I. The funeral services took place April 10th, in the Congregational Church of that place, and, after an appropriate discourse by the pastor, the body was buried in the cemetery near by.

At the Rappahannock Station there were several strong works which were manned by over two thousand rebel troops of Ewell's corps. It was about three P. M. when Sedgwick began the attack by placing his heavy guns in position and opening a severe fire upon the rebel works. This artillery duel was continued until night, when Russell's and Upton's brigades, led by Russell in person, dashed into the pits and forts, when there followed one of the most desperate hand-to-hand conflicts of the war. An eye witness says: "The fierce and savage conflict continued for about twenty minutes, but our supports were pouring in from every side, and the enemy, finding longer resistance useless, surrendered. One wild huzzah informed General Lee that we were successful, and, in a few minutes, the stars and stripes floated above the palmetto. Our loss was 419, that of the enemy, 1,674, mostly prisoners."

An extract from a report of our chief of Third corps artillery (Captain Randolph), reads :

"I placed Sleeper (Tenth Massachusetts Battery—3-inch guns) in position on the heights, close to the Rappahannock, and half a mile south of the ford. I placed Captain Pratt's battery of 4½-inch Rodman guns in battery on the road from Mount Holly Church to the ford, about a quarter of a mile from the church, on the south side of Marsh Run, covering the ford, and, from the long range of the pieces, commanding the heights behind Kelleysville, on the south side of the Rappahannock. Battery E, First Rhode Island (light 12-pounder,) commanded by Lieutenant Bucklyn, followed De Trobriand's brigade to the bluff on the north side of Marsh Run, overlooking Kelleysville, taking position in the angle formed by the river and a deep cutting. . . . Captain Sleeper first opened on the brick mill at the ford, where the enemy's picket was stationed. He had, however, fired but a few shots at it when he was attacked by a battery of the enemy in an earthwork on the hill in rear of Kelleysville. He replied to the fire, shooting excellently, and taking the rebel battery in front, while Lieutenant Bucklyn, with solid shot from his nearer position struck its flank, and their combined fire compelled the rebel battery to change position twice, and, finally, to retire. Lieutenant Bucklyn having, by a well-directed fire, prevented the strengthening of the enemy's force at the mill, fired into the town, from the houses of which the enemy kept up a brisk fire. When our skirmishers attempted to cross he threw a few rounds of canister into the enemy's rifle-pits with such excellent effect that our sharpshooters were enabled to cross with comparatively little resistance, as well as to capture a number of the enemy, who chose to remain rather than retreat across a hill and plain completely commanded and covered by Bucklyn's battery.

"The number and kinds of ammunition fired by Battery E were as follows: Solid shot, 80; spherical case, 72; shell, 24; canister, 5; a total of 181."

The following report is in full :

HEADQUARTERS, BATTERY E,  
FIRST RHODE ISLAND ARTILLERY, NOV. 10, 1863. }

SIR: I have the honor respectfully to submit the following report of the operations of my battery at the crossing of Kelley's Ford on Saturday, Nov. 7, 1863: Following our line of skirmishers, I took position on the bluff north of the river commanding the ford, about three hundred yards distant, the position assigned me by Captain Randolph. I immediately opened on a line of battle on the opposite hill, and shelled them until they broke and ran. I also threw a number of shots into Kelleysville to drive out the sharpshooters, who annoyed me considerably. I attacked a battery that was firing at Captain Sleeper, and, by our united efforts, we forced it to change position several times, and, finally, to withdraw. When our troops attempted to cross the river, the enemy, concealed in a rifle-pit on the opposite bank, opened a brisk fire upon them. I threw in a few rounds of canister, under cover of which our troops crossed and captured some prisoners. I am sorry to learn that one of my canister killed

one of our sharpshooters, but they were so nearly between me and the enemy, the accident could not have been avoided. I used 181 rounds of ammunition. I found my fuses very unreliable; some shell did not burst at all, while others burst soon after leaving the gun. I could place no dependence upon them. Private Albert N Colwell was killed. Corp. Edward A. Chandler and private Martin Harvey were wounded by the premature discharge of a piece. My officers and men, as usual, did their duty promptly, obeying my orders and those of my superiors.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN K. BUCKLYN.

First Lieutenant, P. S. JASTRAM,

*Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

Had Sedgwick failed to capture the works at the station, it was the intention of General Lee to have attacked the column that crossed at Kelley's Ford, but having been defeated he abandoned that design and withdrew during the night of the 8th to his former position south of the Rapidan River.

Meade's army went into position from Kelley's Ford through Brandy Station to Wellford's Ford on the Courdvine River. On the 9th General Meade issued an order of congratulation to his army, and especially mentioned the troops of General Russell and those of Colonel DeTrobriand's command.

On Sunday morning, November 8th, our battery hitched up at sunrise, and, after taking a survey of the destruction caused by our shot upon the houses in Kelleysville, we moved forward with the corps, making frequent halts, reaching Brandy Station, four miles distant, between four and five P. M.

November 9th, we remained at the Station. The weather was cold and squally, and we built fires to keep warm.

November 10th. Moved battery about a mile and a half to the northeast of Brandy Station, and settled in camp on the west side of some woods, which gave us a good view of the surrounding country to the west and south. Our camp was in a recess in the woods which afforded us protection from the north and east winds. There was plenty of wood for fires, and a good supply of water for our horses, and, for the next five and a half months (with the exception of a few days), it became a home long to be remembered.

William H. Bailey, who had long been absent, sick at the hospital, returned to duty. He was the shortest man in the battery, except Israel Riley, being only five feet and one-half inch in height, Riley being four feet and eleven inches.

November 11th. Commenced building tents with the expectation of staying, possibly through the winter. Chimneys and fireplaces were also constructed, the work continuing for several days before being completed. Here the men enjoyed many pleasant visits to the several Rhode Island batteries and other commands with whom they had friends.

November 12th. Our paymaster appeared, and paid us for September and October.

All was quiet until the 16th, when our artillery brigade was reviewed by General French and Captain Randolph, they being accompanied by the British Legation, who manifested much pleasure at the exhibition.

November 17th. Bradbury A. Boggs re-enlisted, he being the second to re-enlist under an order from the War Department granting a release from their unexpired term of service, and dating their second term from the date of re-enlistment. He was followed by Robert Weidle on the 20th, and Uriah Griffin on the 23d. The two latter were detached from the infantry regiments, but they were now enrolled as members of Battery E.

November 22d. Orders to be ready to move with fifteen days' rations were received.

November 24th. Reveille at four a. m. Hitched up and moved a few rods, but on account of the rain the orders were countermanded for two days, and we returned to camp.

November 26th. National Fast Day, which we kept by a fast march, in pursuit of the enemy, who were entrenched on the south side of the Rapidan River, extending from Barnett's Ford, about five miles above the railroad crossing of the Rapidan, down to Morton's Ford, a distance of about twenty miles. To protect his right flank General Lee had constructed an entrenched line from near Morton's Ford, and running south about five miles to Bartlett's Mill on the Mine Run. Bartlett's Mill is about half way from the Rapidan to Robertson's Tavern. The latter place, sometimes called Locust Grove, is on the turnpike from Fredericksburg to Orange Court House, about sixteen miles from the latter place." Ewell's corps held the right of this line, and that of A. P. Hill's the left. It was General Meade's intention to cross the Rapidan, surprise General Lee, and attack his forces in detail. With this object in view, the Second corps crossed

Germania Ford just at night on the 26th, but, owing to delays, it did not reach Robertson's Tavern that night, as was intended, they going into camp about three miles beyond the river. The Fifth and First corps (except one division of the latter, which was left to guard the railroad), crossed at Culpepper Ford. The Third and Sixth corps infantry crossed at Jacob's Ford, but the artillery of these two corps, owing to the steep banks at the latter place, moved down to Germania Ford "and joined their corps by an almost impassable road along the river bank." Our battery had moved with the infantry to Jacob's Ford, and then marched nearly two miles to Germania Ford, crossing on a pontoon bridge 230 feet long. The roads being in a very bad condition our horses became nearly exhausted, and, in ascending the steep bank on the south side, we had to treble them in order to reach the high ground, which, in many places, was 100 feet above the river. We did not cross the pontoon until night, and it was five A. M. before we rejoined our infantry near Jacob's Ford.

General Humphreys says: "As a consequence of these delays the heads of the columns, instead of reaching the vicinity of Robertson's Tavern by the night of the 26th, had only advanced from two to four miles from the river. Orders were issued for the columns to continue the movement the next day, as previously directed, the Second corps to advance on the pike as far as Old Verdiersville, about six miles beyond Robertson's Tavern, the Third and Sixth corps to close upon the Second, the Fifth corps to New Verdiersville on the plank road, about six miles beyond New Hope Church, and the First corps to close up on the Fifth, Gregg's cavalry division to move on the plank road in advance of the infantry."

General Lee, in the meantime, had moved his troops out of his lines, and had marched them to the vicinity of Robertson's Tavern, where he encountered the Second corps, about ten A. M., when his skirmishers were driven back by Warren's troops towards Raccoon Ford, taking some prisoners, who reported that two divisions of Ewell's corps were in front of the Second corps. At this time the Third and Sixth corps had not appeared, being several hours behind the time appointed for their arrival. At this time both commanders were waiting for the arrival of additional troops.

General Meade, becoming impatient on account of the two absent corps, at eleven A. M. sent a dispatch to General French as follows: "General Warren is at Robertson's Tavern. Considerable force of the enemy in his front. Move forward as promptly as possible and send word to General Sedgwick." This was followed by another fifteen minutes later, still more urgent. Let General Humphreys be quoted again: "Let us now see what had become of the Third corps. On the night of the 26th its leading division, General Prince commanding, halted at Roche's Farm, about two miles from the river, where a road comes in from Morton's Ford. On the morning of the 27th the division, after moving a mile, was halted at the forks of the road at Morris's and the two branches were examined. General Prince concluded the left hand fork was the one to follow, as it really was. General French was of the contrary opinion, and the corps remained halted. Had the column moved promptly by either road the Third corps followed closely by the Sixth, would have arrived at Robertson's Tavern at the same hour as the Second corps, and these three corps, consisting of 2,344 officers and 37,819 enlisted men of infantry, with an ample supply of artillery, would have encountered Ewell's corps, consisting of 1,321 officers and 15,650 enlisted men, and at a time when Hill was too far off to be available, and when the Fifth and First corps were advancing on the plank road to meet him."

At half-past eleven a dispatch was received from General French, saying, "The head of my column is near the plank road and waiting for General Warren." This was dated 9.20 A. M. To this General Meade sharply replied, "What are you waiting for? No orders have been sent you to wait for General Warren anywhere upon your route."

Again French was ordered forward promptly. At about twelve M. General French sent another dispatch informing Meade that the enemy was upon his right flank and that he was making preparations to meet him, to which General Meade replied: "The major-general commanding directs that you attack the enemy in your front immediately, throwing your left forward so as to connect with General Warren at Robertson's Tavern." During this correspondence between Generals Meade and French no other battery besides ours had arrived, and when our troops were advanced in line of

battle about noon the right section moved with it and soon became engaged, firing probably about twenty-five rounds. In this line of battle General Prince's division was on the right of General Carr, whose troops were made up largely of men who had not before been under fire. The fighting was not severe at first, but gradually increased in severity as the afternoon wore away. About four in the afternoon the centre section relieved the right, Battery K, Fourth United States, going to the front soon after. The battle began vigorously on both sides, and, as the attack centered on Carr's raw troops, they, after a prolonged contest, began to retire in such large numbers that a line of veteran troops was formed behind them, and they again renewed the struggle. At this time every regiment present belonging to the Third corps was severely engaged, while the centre section of Bucklyn's battery and Battery K, United States, were dealing destruction to Johnson's daring troops. So severely were our troops attacked that at one time our lines were driven back to the edge of the woods, but Lieutenant Bucklyn, whose section was stationed on the right, so persistently dealt them with canister that with the aid of Birney's veteran troops which had now arrived, the enemy, although reinforced by Doles's brigade, was again driven back into the woods. The right and left sections followed Birney's troops to the front, but were not engaged. During the severe contest two divisions of the Sixth corps arrived upon the field, being received by the hard pressed troops with prolonged cheers. A portion of these deployed in line of battle, but the enemy having nearly ceased firing, they were not ordered into action. It had now become dark and the battle was ended. During the close of this encounter the centre section was on the right and further advanced than the other sections. It was here that Corporal Tanner, of the centre section, was wounded, and the writer was sent to take his place as gunner on the third piece. After waiting some two hours, and the enemy making no further demonstrations, the cannoneers of the centre section lay down behind some fallen timbers and remained until daylight, when it was found that the enemy had retreated during the night.

Besides Corporal Tanner none were injured except the officers' little boy, "Tommy," who was wounded while in a



tree, where he had climbed in order to see the battle. After a few weeks of absence he returned a wiser boy from his experience of reckless daring. Private Richard Alexander was reported wounded, but his wound was caused by a pistol shot in the foot while foraging.

General Humphreys says in his history of this campaign that "with three times the force of Johnson, and having besides the whole of the Sixth corps, equal in numbers to his own, near at hand, General French remained on the defensive." Had General Sickles been in command of the Third corps it is safe to say that the results of this campaign would have been very different.

General French reported the loss of 881 men killed and wounded and 71 missing. Johnson's division had a total loss of 498, among them being two colonels, who were killed. This action is officially known as the battle of Payne's Farm, and was about one and a half miles north of Locust Grove, by which name it is more generally known.

While the Third corps was fighting at Payne's Farm Warren had remained at the Robertson Tavern skirmishing with the enemy. The First and Fifth corps were on his left, the latter at New Hope Church, the former at Parker's store. Late in the afternoon the First corps arrived at Warren's position and during the night the Sixth corps also arrived. The Third corps lay under arms on the battlefield until near daylight, at which time our battery moved with the corps and joined with the Fifth corps, marching in the rain in support of the First, Second, and Sixth corps, which moved soon after daylight along the pike in line of battle, "but found only the pickets of the enemy. Meade advancing, found that Lee had taken up a strong position on the west side of Mine Run, which he entrenched." Our battery, after crossing the pike at Robertson's Tavern, took a southwest course, and did not reach our position in front of the enemy, owing to the constant halts, until night.

On the evening of the 28th Meade called a council of war, when it was decided that as the enemy was so strongly fortified it was not advisable to make an attack in front, but instead it was determined that General Warren should, with the Second corps, Terry's division of the Sixth corps, and 800 cavalry, move to Lee's right flank, and, if possible, to turn it.

To this end Warren moved from the enemy's front during the night of the 28th and proceeded towards the point designated. On the 29th Sedgwick's corps held the right; to his left was Sykes with the Fifth; then came Newton's First, which joined the right of French's Third corps. Our battery moved up to the front early in the morning, going into battery upon a ridge, on which, during the night, we threw up breastworks in front of our guns. A short distance in front of us was a ravine; just beyond this upon rolling ground lay our skirmish line, being separated only a few rods from that of the enemy's. A slight elevation of the hill between them being the only protection for either, and as the temperature was below freezing point, their suffering was severe, some being frozen to death, and many more having their hands and feet frozen.

But there was no relief for them, for not one of them could raise his head without receiving a shot from the enemy. During the day the corps commanders had critically examined the enemy's position in their front. "Towards evening, General Wright, commanding the First division, Sixth corps, reported to General Meade that he had discovered a point on the enemy's extreme left where an assault was practicable with inconsiderable loss. At the same time Captain Michler, of the engineers, reported that an assault in front of the Third corps, though hazardous, was not impracticable, and Major Ludlow, aide-de-camp to General Meade, who had returned from Warren, stated . . . that the conditions there were favorable to an attack. Generals Newton and Sykes, commanders of the First and Fifth corps, reported an attack from their front impracticable." Upon receiving this information General Meade first proposed to attack at three points, the right, left and centre. Later in the evening General French reported against an attack upon the centre by the Third and First corps. Meade then modified his plan of attack, and decided that the right and left only should be the points of assault. To this end, the Fifth and Sixth corps were massed during the night upon the right. The divisions of Generals Prince and Carr, of the Third corps, were sent to reinforce General Warren at the left. General Birney's division and the First corps were left, "to make demonstrations

in their front and unite in the attack if it proved successful on either flank."

Meade's chief of staff says: "General Warren was to assault at eight o'clock, and, at the request of General Sedgwick, the artillery of the First, Third and Fifth corps was to open at that hour and continue their fire until nine o'clock, when General Sedgwick was to assault with the Fifth and Sixth corps."

Promptly at the hour appointed the artillery opened its fire, our battery being one among them, and for one hour our artillery fired quite lively, but received no reply. Our skirmishers now advanced and crossed Mine Run, and drove back the skirmish line of the enemy. During the firing of the artillery, "Captain Roebing, of General Warren's staff, arrived, bringing a dispatch from him, informing General Meade that he had suspended his attack until further orders, as he had found the enemy's works so formidable that he could not succeed; during the night their lines had been reinforced with all the infantry and artillery it could hold, and their intrenchments completed with abatis."

After receiving this dispatch General Meade ordered General Sedgwick, who was then about to advance, to suspend the assault. General Meade then rode to Warren's position, and found that he was justified in not making the attack. The Third and Sixth corps troops with General Warren were now sent back to their corps, and the Fifth and Sixth corps, as soon as night set in, returned to their former position.

During the artillery firing on the morning of the 30th, the weather was very cold, from which we suffered severely, but as we were not disturbed by the enemy's shots, we thought ourselves fortunate. While the cannonading was in progress our position was being closely scanned by a group of general officers and their staffs from behind some breastworks in our front. Lieutenant Buckley, observing them, ordered his battery, beginning with the right piece, to open fire upon them, and, after two or three of his guns had fired, the right elevation was found, and the remaining shots were dropped into the group, dispersing them in apparent haste. Soon after our battery was relieved by the Tenth Massachusetts, with ordnance guns, whose long range could better reach the enemy's lines.

After being relieved we went back about one and a-half miles, where we were joined by our caissons which had been left a short distance in the rear during the action. Our horses were now unharnessed and given a chance to rest after having been several days in the harness.

After the decision on the morning of the 30th not to make the assault on the strong works of the enemy, several other plans were proposed, one among them being to move the whole army to the rebels' right flank, but as this would necessitate the abandonment of our base, and as winter had apparently set in, it was decided to recross the Rapidan and return to our former position.

December 1st. Before daylight we hitched up, and, with three other batteries from each corps, under General Tyler, marched to Culpepper Ford, and, crossing over a pontoon bridge 150 feet long, we went into camp along the north side to cover the crossing of the army which was to follow during the night of December 1st, which crossing was successfully accomplished without the knowledge of the enemy. While our army was recrossing the Rapidan, General Lee was concentrating the forces of Anderson's and Wilcox's divisions in front of Warren's position, with a view of forcing an attack the next morning, but the morning light revealed to him that our army had withdrawn during the night. A portion of Lee's army started in pursuit, but they soon learned that our army was across the Rapidan, and the pursuit was abandoned, although some three hundred stragglers were picked up in the pursuit. During these two engagements the battery fired 111 solid shot, 21 shell, 28 spherical case, and 12 canisters; a total of 172 rounds.

Although this worse than useless campaign was attributed to the failure of General French to comply with his instructions, it in no way lessened the merit of the Third corps, and if the corps had been commanded by General Birney it was then believed that the results of the campaign would have been crowned with success. General French had no qualities that the fighting Third corps had learned to admire; his self-conceit, to say nothing of his reported habits, did not bring to him that admiration which his troops had bestowed upon the generals who had formerly commanded them.

Our battery remained unhitched in the pine woods where we encamped after recrossing the Rapidan, until night, when we harnessed up, and so remained until noon the next day, when we marched over badly cut up roads some ten miles, and again went into camp just north of Mountain Run.

December 3d. Hitched up and started at daylight, arriving at nine A. M. at the camp which we had left one week before. During this campaign the Union army lost 173 killed, 1,099 wounded, and 381 captured, a total of 1,653. The Confederates lost 98 killed, 610 wounded, and 104 missing, a total of 812.

Captain Randolph, in his report of this campaign, says :

“ When the skirmishers and leading regiments of General Prince’s division had cleared the way, Lieutenant Bucklyn put a section (right) in position supporting the line, firing slowly where the enemy appeared in greatest force, and rendering great assistance to the infantry engaged. About five P. M. he relieved that section (the right) by a fresh one (the centre,) and, at the same time, Lieutenant Roder, (K,) Fourth United States, in compliance with an order from General French in person, placed his battery, six light pounders, on the left of Bucklyn. About ten minutes after the enemy charged our lines, driving our infantry and advancing within one hundred yards of the guns. Roder and Bucklyn loaded with canister, and immediately their front was clear of our men, opened upon the enemy, driving him back in confusion. He reformed, however, and charged a second time, but only to be again repulsed, with great loss. . . . The four remaining pieces of Bucklyn’s battery were brought up, but they were not used. . . . Lieutenants Roder and Bucklyn deserve special mention for the manner in which they fought their batteries. The latter reports that he was ordered by General Prince to advance a section in a line with the skirmishers. His own good judgment prevented his obeying and losing his guns.”

These extracts from Captain Randolph’s report relate only to the action at Payne’s Farm, November 27th.

Lieutenant Bucklyn, in a report to Brig.-Gen. E. C. Mearns, adjutant-general Rhode Island, dated Dec. 4, 1863, says :

“ Thursday, November 26th, I broke camp at daylight and reported to General Birney commanding First division. I marched with the First division to Jacob Mills on the Rapidan, but this ford being deemed impracticable for artillery, Captain Randolph ordered me to move down the river to Germania Ford, and move upon the other side and rejoin the division. This gave me a long, tedious march, and I did not come up with the division until reveille. The other batteries of the corps did not come up until several hours after. Friday morning I reported to General Prince commanding Second division, and marched near the head of his

column to a place called Locust Grove (Payne's Farm). Here I took position and fired slowly at the enemy massed in front of me. About four o'clock the enemy charged our lines with such impetuosity that he quickly drove our infantry from the woods. With the peculiar rebel yell they came on until they reached the edge of the woods about thirty yards in my front, when I gave them canister shot, spherical case and shell as fast as I could load and fire. Those that escaped fell back in confusion, and our troops immediately occupied the field. Early yesterday morning I reported to General Birney and marched past Robertson's Tavern to a position near Mine Run. Here I remained, watching the enemy and firing occasionally, until Tuesday. I reported to Captain Robinson early Tuesday morning, and marched with the artillery reserve across Culpepper's Gold Mine Ford, and returned to my old camp near Brandy Station, December 3d. My casualties are Corp. James A. Tanner, wounded in the breast; private Richard Alexander, wounded in the foot.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN K. BUCKLYN,

*First Lieutenant Commanding Battery.*

## CHAPTER XIX.

December, 1863, to May, 1864.

WINTER QUARTERS AT BRANDY STATION.—RE-ENLISTMENTS.—CHANGE OF BATTERY OFFICERS.—PREPARATION FOR SUMMER CAMPAIGN.

**D**ECEMBER 4th. The army was now mostly settled, although rumors of the enemy's crossing the Rapidan were quite frequent for several days. In consequence of these rumors we hitched up on the 5th, but made no move.

Sunday, December 6th. Captain Randolph inspected the battery, and expressed himself well pleased with its condition.

December 7th. We had now begun to build our barn for the horses, which was continued for ten days or more before being completed. It was built in the form of a hollow square, and covered on its sides and top with pine and cedar boughs, thereby giving the horses good protection against the cold winds and storms. Our tents were also arranged for winter quarters and provided with the proper facilities for warming and cooking, the latter being essential, as every man was to do his own cooking, or in messes, if preferred.

All was quiet until the 10th, when every available man was ordered to work on the barn.

December 11th. Corp. Lester S. Hill received an order to report at Washington and appear before the Casey Board, to be examined for a commission. Sergt. George W. H. Allen and Corp. Allen Gardner were sworn into the service again, they having re-enlisted on the 7th. Private Samuel W. Austin was promoted to corporal, and assigned to the third piece. Private Joseph McCarty re-enlisted.

December 14th. Corp. James Donnelly and private Polk, and one of the Crothers brothers left for home on a ten

days' furlough. Privates Almy M. Brownell, Adelbert A. Fairbanks, and John McAlees, and artificer Henry C. Wightman re-enlisted and were sworn into the service for three years. Lieutenant Freeborn left on the following day on a ten days' leave of absence.

December 18th. An order from the War Department was read in line, which stated that if three-fourths of the men would re-enlist the battery would be allowed to go home in a body immediately, and remain thirty days, and that a bounty of \$402 from the government, besides a bounty of \$300 from the state, would be given to each man that re-enlisted. The result following the discussion of this appeal was the re-enlistment of the following members of the battery: Quartermaster-Sergt. B. N. Remington, Sergt. George Humphreys, Corporals Blair and H. F. Bennett, privates Lord, Brayton, Hooper, Hale, Lovell, Marble, Morse, Russell, Taber, Torpy, Watson and Wingler. All of the above are on record as having re-enlisted on the 21st of December, except Sergeant Humphreys and Corporal Bennett, who re-enlisted on the 24th. These veterans, with others who had re-enlisted under a former order, received their furlough and left for home on the 29th.

The very day on which these veterans started for Rhode Island, "Capt. George E. Randolph resigned and was honorably discharged, per special order No. 338, Headquarters A. of P., dated Dec. 29, 1863, to take effect Jan. 5, 1864."

Although Randolph was chief of the corps artillery, he was still nominally the captain of the battery. This caused a vacancy, which was generally expected would be promptly filled by the deserved promotion of Lieutenant Bucklyn. It had already been told, in fact, to Bucklyn's friends at home, that he was to be Randolph's successor, and they so informed him, and, at the proper time, it was made known to the members of the battery as an inducement for them to re-enlist. Had this promise been promptly fulfilled, as nearly every member of the battery desired and expected, there is every reason to believe enough would have re-enlisted to have assured the battery's return home to recruit.

During the absence of these sergeants on furloughs Corporal Tanner had charge of the second detachment, Corporal







Lieut. Lester S. Hill.

Lewis of the Fifth, and Corp. John M. Battey acted as quartermaster-sergeant.

Corp. Lester S. Hill returned from Washington on the 15th. After passing a critical and satisfactory examination, he was granted a second lieutenant's commission, dated Dec. 15, 1863, and was signed by Edwin M. Stanton, secretary of war. He was assigned to Company F, Fourteenth Regiment, Rhode Island Heavy Artillery (colored), the name being afterward changed to Eleventh United States Heavy Artillery.

Lieutenant Hill is the son of Jerah Hill and Amy Whipple Ormsbee, both of whom were of more than ordinary intelligence, and were highly esteemed by a large acquaintance. His mother is now (1891) living at the venerable age of eighty-five years. Lester was born Dec. 19, 1843, in the town of Foster, R. I. His early youth was spent upon the farm, where he worked eight months of the year, attending the usual term of four months at the district school. Upon the outbreak of the Rebellion, he became imbued with the patriotic spirit which pervaded the youth of the land, and, although but seventeen years old, and not having attained the age required by law to enter the army service, he resorted to the common method of telling the recruiting officer that he was older, was allowed to enter, and was assigned to Battery E, First Rhode Island Light Artillery, into which he was mustered Sept. 30, 1861. His history in Battery E does not need to be repeated here, for all his living comrades well remember that he was behind none in the faithful performance of the duties of a patriotic soldier. Those who read these pages will never fail to find that he was always at his post whenever duty called. From the many competent men of which his battery was composed, the unerring judgment of his young captain, as early as Aug. 1, 1862, selected him to be one of its corporals. Soon after he became gunner on the fifth piece, and as such he served with his comrades in all the battles in which Battery E was engaged previous to his departure to another field of duty. His relations with his comrades were always of the most cordial nature. His conduct and bearing was always that which becomes a man of honor. On the 27th, Lieutenant Hill, after receiving many congratulations from his friends upon his promotion, and with

the best wishes of the officers and comrades with whom during two years he had formed a friendship long to be remembered, he took his departure for Rhode Island. After spending a few weeks among his friends, he joined his battalion, and sailed on the 22d of January in the transport *Daniel Webster*, for New Orleans, where he arrived Feb. 3, 1864. Soon after this battalion (the Second,) was ordered to Fort Plaquemine, 160 miles above New Orleans. "Here it was engaged in putting the fort, which had been begun by a former garrison, in a state of defense, and in guarding the town by a long line of pickets. This line of pickets extended as far as Indian Village, twelve miles back. Frequent skirmishes occurred between the battalion and the guerillas under the notorious Captain Scott, of Plaquemine Parish. At one time they dashed down upon the outposts and captured four or five men whom they murdered as they retreated through Indian Village."

Lieutenant Hill being familiar with the light artillery service, was selected to drill a company of that arm which was attached to this battalion. The battalion remained here until after the close of the Rebellion, when it joined the First battalion at Camp Parapet, La., where the regiment was mustered out Oct. 2, 1865.

After the war Lieutenant Hill was a school teacher for a time, while preparing for his medical course, which he commenced in the University of Vermont at Burlington, and finished in the University of New York City, graduating from the latter with the degree of M. D. in March, 1873. He immediately located in the city of Providence, where he has since been engaged in his profession, and has acquired a successful and extensive practice. He is located at 573 Broad Street, where he owns two substantial residences. Dr. Hill was married in 1872 to Elinora E. Remington, daughter of Thomas M. Remington and Cynthia Tillinghast, they having been neighbors from childhood. She is a woman of fine culture, and was, also, before her marriage, a school teacher. Mrs. Hill was graduated from the Providence Conference Seminary in 1871, is one of the Board of Managers of the Prisoners' Aid Society, and is deeply interested in humanitarian and educational movements. Three bright and promising children have been born to Dr. and Mrs. Hill, in whose

mental and moral training they are deeply interested. To his old comrades the doctor always extends a hearty greeting, and to his home they are always welcome.

Dr. Hill has been prominent in society matters, holding membership in the Grand Lodge of Masons of Rhode Island and also in the Grand Chapter. He has been Grand Master of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of Rhode Island and has occupied the position of Grand Representative to the Sovereign Grand Lodge of the United States for six years. He has been Grand Patriarch of the Grand Encampment of Rhode Island. He is also a member of the Knights of Honor, being the State Medical Examiner at the present time (1891), having held that office for nine consecutive years. In 1872 and 1873 he represented his native town in the General Assembly of Rhode Island. He has been for eleven years a member of the School Committee of the city of Providence.

He is connected with the Rhode Island Medical Association. The doctor takes a deep interest in all public questions of importance. He makes no claims to oratory, yet he can speak well and forcibly, and never fails to interest his hearers. Financially the doctor is in comfortable circumstances, which enables him to travel quite extensively, in which he takes great delight. He is now and has been for several years a director in two of the city banks. In 1872 he joined Prescott Post, and in 1873 was elected its post surgeon, which office he held for four years in succession. He was elected medical director of the department in 1876, and occupied that position for three years. In 1889 he was unanimously elected president of the First Rhode Island Artillery Veteran Association, among the members of which he is very popular.

Jan. 1, 1864, opened warm and muddy, followed by a cold wave during the night. Lieutenant Bucklyn and Captain Randolph were on their way homeward. The former, it was thought at the time, had gone to look after his claims for promotion, which may have been true in part, but learning a few days after that he had been married, we came to the conclusion that the first-named object was only secondary.

Lieutenant Freeborn, in the absence of Lieutenant Bucklyn, was in command of the battery, but so many men were

away on furloughs that he had only a few drills and an occasional inspection.

On January 2d, William Owens and Leonard Steamer re-enlisted.

On the 4th Chandler Lindsey was enlisted as a recruit by Lieutenant Bucklyn. He had previously been employed by the government as wagon maker in the quartermaster department. He was an excellent soldier and was a native of Sandy Creek, N. Y.

January 5th being the date upon which Captain Randolph's resignation took effect, it may not be out of place to give a brief biographical sketch of his life. His ancestors descended from the first settlers of Virginia and were among the foremost and most prominent leaders of the affairs of the state. Richard K. Randolph, the grandfather of Capt. George E. Randolph, was a nephew of ex-President William H. Harrison, thereby making the subject of this sketch a third cousin of Benjamin Harrison, now President of the United States. The *Biographical Dictionary of Rhode Island*, in speaking of Richard K. Randolph, says: "The family residence of his father, who was a wealthy tobacco planter, was at Wilton on the James River, about six miles from Richmond. From an obituary notice published in the Newport (R. I.) *Mercury* and copied into the *Providence Journal* of April 2, 1849, a copy of which has been kindly furnished the writer by Miss Katherine H. Austin, of Providence, we quote:

"Richard K. Randolph was born in 1781. He entered Harvard College in 1798. His college vacations were spent in Newport, R. I. He married a daughter of Judge Daniel Lyman, of Rhode Island, and returned to Virginia, where he studied law. In 1810 he returned to Newport, where he lived until his death in 1849. One of the most memorable trials in which he was engaged was that of Rev. Ephraim K. Avery, who retained him as one of his counsel, and who was largely indebted to him for his acquittal. For several years he represented Newport in the General Assembly. He was also one of the commissioners to adjust the boundaries between Massachusetts and Rhode Island. In the Dorr War he occupied an important position as one of Governor King's counsel. He was distinguished for his great integrity of character, and commanded the homage and respect of his fel-

low citizens wherever he was known. In his profession he stood among the foremost lawyers of the state, and not unfrequently practiced in the United States Supreme Court at Washington. He had ten children. His son, John R. Randolph, married Miss Betsy Engs, daughter of Lieut.-Gov. George Engs, of Newport."

John R. Randolph, the father of Capt. George E. Randolph, was born Feb. 3, 1811. He was the father of seven children, four sons and three daughters, Richard K., George E., John, Peyton H., Sally Engs, Lucy B., and Mary L. All four of these sons were in the United States service. Richard K. was in the Twelfth Illinois regiment, of which he was an officer. John was a non-commissioned officer in the First Rhode Island regiment and the Twenty-second New York Militia. Peyton H. was in the First Rhode Island Infantry and also in the navy. Sally died April 10, 1890. She was widely known among the real reformers of Providence. She was for many years an officer in the "Union for Christian Work," and was one of the founders of "The Flower Mission." In all that related to the advancement of woman she was ever a foremost worker. Lucy, in spirit, was like her sister, but for many years was a sufferer from poor health. She died a few weeks before her sister. Mary L., the youngest child, married Richard C. Lake, and now (1891) lives in Rapid City, South Dakota, where her husband is president of the National Bank. She was in every way worthy of her sisters, and sympathized in the spirit of their good work. The mother of these children died April 15, 1851, at the age of thirty-seven years.

Mr. Randolph at an early age entered as a cadet the United States Military Academy at West Point, where he remained some two years. Choosing, then, to become a lawyer, he entered the law office of his father, and in due time was admitted to the bar. He followed his profession for many years, and in May, 1865, he was appointed judge of the Court of Magistrates of Providence, which office he held for ten years. He is now living at the ripe age of seventy-nine years, having outlived all of his children except two sons, George and John, and his daughter Mary. He has a large acquaintance, by whom he is highly esteemed. He is a man

of marked intelligence and positive convictions and possesses a high sense of honor.

Capt. George E. Randolph, the subject of this sketch was born in Quincy, Ill., March 29, 1840. His parents moved to Newport, R. I., in 1846, and remained two years, when they moved to Providence, R. I. In the meantime George attended the public schools at the several places in which he lived. In 1851, at the age of eleven, he entered the High School at Providence. Soon after leaving his studies he entered into the service of E. C. Thayer, as clerk in the shoe and leather business, where he remained, giving perfect satisfaction to his employer, until the breaking out of the Rebellion. Being prompted by a spirit of loyalty to his country, as soon as the recruiting of Battery A commenced, he enlisted as sergeant-major, and was sworn into the United States service June 6, 1861. The rank of that office being declared illegal, he became first sergeant, and served in that capacity during the first battle of Bull Run, where he was wounded in both legs, just above the ankles. It is said by his comrades who were with him at the time that he showed the same self-possession that so distinguished him while in the command of more responsible positions later in the war. August 14th, he received a second lieutenant's commission, and served with that rank in the same battery until the 13th of September, when he was assigned to Battery C, with the rank of first lieutenant. His rapid promotion, although deserved, was, nevertheless, remarkable, he being so young, and not having had any experience in military affairs before enlisting. But this was not final, for hardly had he reached his new command when another commission, giving to him the rank of captain, was received, which bore the date of Sept. 28, 1861, and assigned him to Battery E, of which he assumed command on the 11th of October following. The successful career of Captain Randolph as commander of Battery E and chief of artillery having been already recorded upon the previous pages of this work, only reference to the dates of his advancement will be noticed before passing to his life as a civilian. On the 12th of December, 1862, the day before the commencement of the battle of Fredericksburg, he assumed command of Birney's division artillery, which command he held until the 26th of April, 1863, when he was assigned to



the chief command of the Third corps artillery, of which corps General Sickles was then commander. This position he held during the remainder of his service in the army, which, as before stated, ended Jan. 5, 1864. Although it had been seven months since Randolph had made his headquarters with the battery, it was, with unfeigned sorrow that we learned of his departure from the army. His noble qualities as a man, and his high standing as an officer in the artillery service, had contributed largely to make the good reputation which his battery had won in the Third corps, and, notwithstanding that we had in Lieutenant Bucklyn all the qualities of a brave and noble soldier (upon whom the command of the battery had previously fallen), the officers and men will ever be proud of having belonged to Randolph's old battery.

After his return from the army, Captain Randolph was breveted major, lieutenant-colonel, and colonel. In consideration of Captain Randolph's services while in the army, General Sickles recommended him for appointment as brigadier-general. In a letter from Colonel Randolph, dated Dec. 3, 1888, he writes of his connection with Battery E, in which the modest and unselfish nature of the man is revealed. He says: "I thank you sincerely for your kind words. Allow me to make one suggestion. Much of the best work of Battery E was done under Bucklyn, and yet the name "Randolph's Battery," somehow sticks to it, and I think in this way, after I became chief of artillery, I got credit for some of Bucklyn's work. The lettering of the Gettysburg monument also tends to leave Bucklyn in the background, and, therefore, I hope that you will see, in making permanent record, that Bucklyn has the place he is entitled to."\*

On the 7th of July, 1864, Colonel Randolph was married to Hattie Porter, of Taunton, Mass. Mrs. Randolph is a woman of fine culture and intelligence. She is the daughter of John Porter, a well-known and highly-esteemed citizen of Taunton. They have no children living. Soon after his marriage he resided in New York City, where he was an agent for several companies. In October, 1864, he moved to Central City, Col., where he was an agent for a mining and milling company, which position he held until 1883. Colonel

\* Randolph's letter referred to the inscription, "Randolph's Battery," on the base of the monument, to which has since been added, "Lieut. J. K. Bucklyn commanding."

Randolph was no less successful in civil pursuits than he was in military life, and soon became very popular and widely known as a man of superior ability and having the capacity not only for business, but also the qualifications for public matters. Although not by nature a politician, he was, however, deeply interested in all that pertains to a good government, and, though not seeking the office, he was, in 1872, elected mayor of Central City, and was also, the same year, a member of the Territorial Legislature and one of its most useful members. In 1883 he moved to Denver City, becoming the general manager of the Denver City Cable Railway Company. He still (1891) holds that position, giving entire satisfaction to the company which he so faithfully serves. As Colonel Randolph is now only fifty-one years of age, it is hoped by all of his old comrades and friends that he may enjoy the blessing of many useful and happy years.

On the 6th, the time allowed for re-enlisting expired.

January 13th, Lieutenant Bucklyn returned from his leave of absence. The term for re-enlistment being extended, Lieutenant Bucklyn made another effort to induce the men to re-enlist, and again assured them that he had, while in Providence, been promised the captaincy of the battery, and that no changes should take place without his consent. At this time there were many more seriously considering the question of re-enlisting, but the delay in not making the appointment as expected, caused many to hesitate, until it was too late to do so. General Birney was very anxious about these re-enlistments, as the following extract will show :

“The major-general commanding the division appeals to the officers and men, and hopes that all will volunteer to remain until the war for the Union is closed. So far, this division has led all others in the army of the United States in re-enlistments, evincing its desire to stand by the colors, and the commander wishes to have the honor of saying that all the regimental organizations led by him during the past campaign remained unbroken until the last armed rebel had disappeared, . . . and hopes that every officer and man wearing the Kearney patch will at once volunteer for the war. . . . This order will be read to each regiment of the command at dress parade this day.

D. B. BIRNEY,

*Major-General Commanding Division.*

Our camp had now been arranged in good order, each tent having from two to four occupants, and furnished with a good fire apparatus, which made our quarters comfortable during the cool weather. At first plenty of wood was near the camp, but later it had to be drawn from a distance. Sometimes the changes in infantry camps left us a supply of fuel.

During the latter part of January a board roof was built over the horses which completely protected them from the rain. The sides of the stable enclosure were also covered with additional boughs of cedar, which made the stables quite comfortable for the horses, and for the men while grooming them.

Many boxes of eatables were received from friends at home, and with the supplies bought from the sutlers, we were well furnished with all that was necessary for our comfort in the way of rations. The officers' quarters were pleasantly arranged for comfort, and, having good cooks and plenty of money, it was their fault if they failed to enjoy themselves.

Shortly after being settled for the winter the non-commissioned officers were required to recite lessons in artillery tactics to the commissioned officers, which, if not desirable, was very useful to both.

January 15th, Lieutenant Allen received a leave of absence for ten days.

On the 21st, we were inspected by Captain Robinson, of the Fourth Maine battery, who was now acting as chief of artillery.

January 26th, the Soldiers' Memorial, which had been subscribed for by quite a large number of the battery men, arrived. It was finely engraved, and will ever be highly prized by all who received it. It gave a roster of the battery by detachments, and also a list of deceased members, and those killed and discharged, etc.

February 1st. Corporals Edward A. Chandler and George Lewis, and private Albert M. Bennett, after a month of reflection, decided to re-enlist, and they were sworn into the United States service for three years by Lieut. James A. Walker. Martin Harvey returned from the hospital, having been wounded at Kelley's Ford, Nov. 7, 1863.

February 3d. Sergt. George Humphrey, Corporals Gardner and Bennett, with most of the others who had re-enlisted,

returned from home, having been on furloughs as veterans. On the 5th, Sergt. George W. H. Allen also returned as a veteran. Sergeant Allen and Corporal Bennett had been before the Casey Board while at Washington, for commissions, to which future reference will be made.

February 6th. Applications for veteran furloughs were sent in for Corporals Chandler and Lewis, private Albert M. Bennett and others. On this day there was considerable skirmishing towards the Rapidan by the cavalry. We also received orders to be ready to move at short notice.

February 7th. Reveille at four A. M. Hitched up at daylight and moved soon after sunrise, went through Culpepper, then marched towards Raccoon Ford, passed Pony Mountain, and halted about four miles from the Rapidan. There we fed our horses, and, after remaining an hour or two, orders came to return to camp, where we arrived at eleven P. M., the horses and men being much fatigued by marching over muddy roads. This movement was made at the request of General Butler to General Sedgwick (who was then in temporary command of the army in the absence of General Meade) who desired to make a move against Richmond. Of this event General Humphreys says: "Under the orders of General Butler, General Wistar, with 4,000 infantry and 2,200 cavalry, left Williamsburg on Saturday morning, the 6th of February, to make a dash on Richmond, and release the military prisoners there. He arrived at Bottom Bridge, on the Chickahominy, about thirteen miles from Richmond, on the morning of the 7th, and found the enemy there in force, and constantly receiving reinforcements by railroad. As it was evident that the enemy had been made aware of the designs against Richmond, . . . General Wistar withdrew."

The First, Second, and Third corps took part in this movement. The First and Second corps moved on the 6th. Demonstrations were made by our cavalry at the fords on the Rapidan on the 6th and 7th. The Second corps crossed the river and Hay's division was engaged, and lost about two hundred men killed and wounded.

February 8th, the welcome pay-rolls were signed. Sergt. Charles P. Williams was promoted to first sergeant. Corporals James A. Tanner and Edward Chandler were promoted to lance sergeants, the former being assigned to the sixth





Lieut. Herbert F. Bennett.

piece and the latter to the fifth. Corp. George Lewis was promoted to gunner of the fifth piece, vice Corporal Hill promoted to lieutenant. Privates Jerahmeel Dexter, John Slocum, Charles W. Robbins, and Nathan P. Taber were promoted to corporals.

February 9th, our paymaster made his welcome visit. The veterans not having been paid, received besides their regular three months' pay (which for corporals was \$14 per month and for privates \$13), one month in advance, \$13, bounty down (\$60), and bounty due at discharge (\$100), making a total for privates of \$212. This for an enlisted soldier seemed like a large sum, yet it would only pay a good mechanic for about three months' work.

February 11th, Corp. Herbert F. Bennett departed for Rhode Island, he having been commissioned as second lieutenant and assigned to Company L, Fourteenth Rhode Island Heavy Artillery. Bennett was the second corporal that had left the battery to accept promotion within two months, and both were under twenty years of age at the time of receiving their commissions. His ancestors on his father's side descended from good old Connecticut stock. His grandfather, Reuben S. Bennett, was born in Killingly, Conn., Aug. 4, 1793, his grandmother, Anna Hicks Bennett, in Uxbridge, Mass., June 16, 1791. His father was Bela W. P. Bennett, who was born in Cranston, R. I., April 3, 1819, and during the early part of his life carried on the wheelwright business in company with his father in the town of Hopkinton, R. I. About 1850 he moved to Providence, where for many years he has been engaged in the jewelry and die cutting business. He has been a deacon of the Stewart Street Baptist Church since its organization in 1851. His mother was Clarissa G. Brown, daughter of Christopher Brown and Nancy A. Pendleton (daughter of General Pendleton, of Westerly, R. I.) This excellent mother died when Herbert was a lad of nine years. Herbert has one own sister living, there being also two half sisters and two half brothers, his father having married again in January, 1855. Herbert F. Bennett was born in the town of Hopkinton, R. I., March 18, 1844. When he was about six years old his parents moved to Providence, where he attended the public schools until he enlisted in Battery E, First Regiment Rhode Island Light Artillery. He was mus-

tered in Sept. 30, 1861. No one then thought that one so modest and having such a youthful face would so soon be wearing an officer's insignia. But time revealed that he possessed the qualities for an officer, and was promoted to corporal Jan. 4, 1863, at Camp Pitcher, near Falmouth, Va. An incident occurred when he was a lead driver on the caisson which showed his proficiency in battery movements. While out on field drill an order was given that required an unusual movement of the caisson, and in which every caisson driver except Bennett made a mistake, which resulted in the teams of his section being completely entangled. For this supposed mistake the lieutenant of that section very severely reprimanded him. Captain Randolph, hearing this, rode to the spot and said, "One moment, lieutenant." Then turning to young Bennett said, "I congratulate you upon being the only one that has executed the movement correctly." This, of course, was very gratifying to him, but not so to the lieutenant, who felt keenly the rebuke given him by the captain. Corporal Bennett was in all the battles in which his battery participated previous to his promotion except that of Gettysburg, he then being absent on sick furlough. He re-enlisted Dec. 23, 1863, and was sworn into service on the 24th. All who then re-enlisted were entitled to a furlough of thirty-five days, and he, on his return from his furlough, stopped at Washington and was examined before a board of officers, of which General Casey was president, and, after an exacting examination, received his commission as second lieutenant, which was dated Feb. 3, 1863. After a short tarry in Providence he reported to his battalion at Dutch Island for duty. On the 3d of April he sailed with the battalion, under command of Lieutenant-Colonel Viall, in the transport *America* for New Orleans, which place he reached April 15th. After his arrival he was detailed as an assistant to Capt. Samuel Farnum, engineer in charge of the fortifications at Camp Parapet, La. Company L, to which he belonged, was detailed to take charge of Fort Banks, La., on the west side of the Mississippi River, where it remained until mustered out, which was on Oct 2, 1865. The final muster out was at Providence, R. I., October 28th.

One year after the war he moved to Bristol, and was employed as conductor on the Providence and Bristol Railroad,



which position he held until 1882, when he was elected Town Clerk of the town of Bristol, R. I., which office he now (1891) holds. He was elected a member of the General Assembly from the town of Bristol during the years of 1881-2, and was a quiet but valuable member. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, and was commander of Babbitt Post during the years of 1888, 1889, and 1890. He is also a member of the First Rhode Island Light Artillery Veteran Association. Oct. 19, 1870, Lieutenant Bennett was married to Emma S. Gilmore, daughter of the late Capt. John Gilmore, of Providence, who was a sea captain in the merchant service between Boston and Europe. Mrs. Bennett is a most excellent woman, possessing fine ability, and was educated in the public schools of Providence and at the private academy in Walpole, Mass. Lieutenant Bennett has one child, a daughter.

In concluding this sketch it should be said that Lieutenant Bennett never failed to resist the many temptations which beset every soldier, and his conduct in the army, as it had been before and since, was such as to give satisfaction to his friends, besides being a high honor to himself.

February 17th, the writer's diary reads as follows: "Left camp with Sergeant Chandler, privates Bennett, Steamer, and John and David Riley, for home on a furlough. Left Brandy Station at ten A. M., went to the War Department and got transportation papers. Left Washington at eight P. M., and reached New York about ten A. M. on the 18th. Left New York near midday on the Shore Line route, and reached home at 9.30 P. M.

After remaining in Rhode Island during the term of our thirty-five days' furlough, our time, with that of all the other Rhode Island soldiers who were on furlough, was extended until after the state election, which was on the 6th of April, thus giving us fifty days' furlough."

For the incidents in the history of the battery during this absence I am indebted to Lieutenant Humphrey, and to the families of our late comrades Sergeants Williams and Tanner, and to Sergeant Hargraves, who kindly loaned to me their diaries kept by them during their service in the battery.

February 18th, Quartermaster-Sergt. Benjamin N. Remington and private John McAlees were ordered to Rhode Island

on recruiting service, and Sergeant Humphrey was ordered to act as quartermaster during Remington's absence.

February 19th. Sergt. Seth B. Darling and Corporals Thomas T. Beard and John J. Mulhall were reduced to the ranks.

Darling was reduced at his own request. He had served faithfully from the beginning of the service of the battery, was one of the original corporals, was promoted sergeant Oct. 7, 1862, and had acted as first sergeant from July 3 to Feb. 8, 1864. It is supposed that on account of the promotion of Sergeant Williams over him he chose to be reduced, rather than to continue sergeant. Perhaps he acted unwisely, and had better continued, although he may have been unjustly served. Privates Otto Wilder, William Torpy and George H. Pierce were promoted to corporals, and Corporal Austin was transferred from the third to the fourth detachment.

February 21st. James Fitzpatrick, who was taken prisoner at Chancellorsville May 2, 1863, returned to the battery, having been awhile in the invalid corps after being exchanged.

February 26th. Corp. Jerahmeel Dexter and private Nickerson and James Fitzpatrick were sworn into the service as veterans.

During the last few days of February the "battery" was painted and put in prime order. On the 28th the battery was under marching orders with three days' rations. This order was to assist another move upon Richmond to liberate the prisoners, and, if possible, to march them within our lines. The Sixth corps moved on the 27th. If necessary, the Third corps was to follow on the 28th, and, if required, the whole army was to follow. It was in this daring raid under Kilpatrick that the brave and intrepid Colonel Dahlgren, in an effort to enter Richmond from the south, lost his life.

During the first week in March but little of interest transpired, only the regular routine duties. The "men" had, however, commenced to build a theatre in which much enjoyment was anticipated. As the company was short of officers, First Sergeant Williams acted for a while as officer of the day, while Sergeant Hargraves acted as first sergeant.

March 8th. Lieutenant Freeborn received a leave of absence for fifteen days. Sergt. George W. H. Allen started for Rhode Island, he having received an order for his dis-





1st Lieut. Geo. W. H. Allen.

charge, to accept promotion, and ordering him to report to Rhode Island for assignment. This order should have been received a month sooner, but it had been sent by mistake to Battery F, which was doing service in another department.

Sergeant Allen was born May 25, 1842, in the town of Scituate, R. I. He was the youngest of six children, there being three daughters and three sons. His father was the Rev. Reuben Allen, a widely known pioneer minister in the Free Baptist denomination, and who married, for his first wife, Alice A. G. Sanborn, who died about one year after, leaving no child. In 1824 he married, for his second wife, Phebe Leonard, the only child of Ichabod Leonard, well known in Taunton, Mass. Mrs. Allen was a worthy and intelligent woman, and a devoted wife, being always deeply interested in the welfare and happiness of her family. Mr. Allen organized several churches, and preached in New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, and in a large number of towns in Rhode Island, and was pastor of the North Scituate Church for nearly twenty years. He died May 30, 1872, at the age of seventy-seven years. During his ministerial life he baptized about fourteen hundred persons and attended nearly sixteen hundred funerals, and married 500 couples. It was while he was pastor of the Scituate Church that the subject of our sketch was born. In his early life Sergeant Allen worked at farming. He was educated in the district schools of his town and at Smithville Seminary, afterwards known as Lapham Institute, which he entered at the age of thirteen, and from which he graduated in the autumn of 1857. Soon after leaving the seminary he entered the employ of his brothers who were manufacturers of jewelry in Providence. He remained with them until the spring of 1861, when he returned to his father's home at Scituate, and staid until the following September. At that time Battery E was being recruited, and quite largely from the country towns, and from none was there a more desirable class than those enlisting from the town of Scituate. One of these was George W. H. Allen, and he was mustered into the service with the battery Sept. 30, 1861. This engagement was for three years, or during the war. But it must not be forgotten that between the dates of his enlistment and muster he entered also into another engagement. The latter was limited

to no term of years, but was to be for better or worse, and to continue during life. The other party to this contract was an amiable lady by the name of Anna L. Lake, daughter of Alexander and Abbie (Hancock) Lake, of Providence. Mrs. Allen is an intelligent and highly-esteemed woman, and has the happy faculty of winning the friendship of all with whom she comes in contact. Three children have been born to them, two boys and one girl. The daughter, a bright and promising young lady, is the only one living.

Mr. Allen enlisted as a private, but, two months after, was promoted to second corporal. On July 1, 1862, he was complimented by Captain Randolph for meritorious conduct at the battle of Charles City Cross Roads the day before, and, at the same time, he was advanced to gunner of the fifth piece, and served as such at the battles of Malvern Hill, Harrison's Landing, Second Bull Run, and Chantilly.

Nov. 21, 1862, he was promoted to sergeant in place of Sergeant Milne, who was assigned to Battery B as second lieutenant. As sergeant he served with distinction at the battles of Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Kelley's Ford, Payne's Farm, and Mine Run. In after years Lieutenant Buckley, in writing of his non-commissioned officers at Gettysburg, mentions Sergeant Allen as one of several who had the "ability to command a battery," the truth of which his subsequent history has fully proved.

In the promotion of Sergeant Allen Battery E lost one of its best and most popular men. He was especially liked by the men for his social and jovial nature, and for having always a pleasant greeting for his comrades whenever met. But few, if any, were better posted in the battery drill, and, having a remarkable memory, he seldom hesitated as to the move to make in the execution of an order. Although possessing a social nature he never failed to maintain proper discipline, not by severe measures, but, rather, by the respect which he won from the men in his detachment. As before stated, Sergeant Allen left the battery on the 8th of March, expecting to receive his commission upon his reaching Rhode Island, but, for some cause, there was a delay of nearly two weeks. It had been made out and dated Feb. 4, 1864, and sent to the headquarters of the Fourteenth Rhode Island Regiment. In due time he learned of its whereabouts, and,

upon its reception, he was mustered into the service on the 23d of March. Lieutenant Allen had passed the Casey Board as captain, and was to have been assigned to some regiment not from Rhode Island. Preferring to serve his native state, and there being no vacancy there as captain, he accepted a first lieutenant's commission and was assigned to Company L, Fourteenth Regiment Rhode Island Heavy Artillery (colored).

On the 3d of April Lieutenant Allen, with the Third battalion under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Viall, sailed upon the transport *America* for New Orleans, which place it reached on the 15th, and was ordered to Camp Parapet. Here Lieutenant-Colonel Viall assumed command of the post, which left the command of the battalion upon Captain Farnum. "Immediately after encamping at Fort Parapet, fatigue parties were organized to work on the fortifications, and, for two months the battalion furnished details for the swamps and slashings on the right."

Lieutenant Allen remained with the battalion but a small portion of his time. He was detailed as aide-de-camp on Col. (afterwards General) Robert Wilson's staff; April 21, 1864, relieved from duty as aide-de-camp and appointed adjutant of Third battalion July 5, 1864.

When Lieutenant-Colonel Viall assumed command of the district of Carrollton in January, 1865, Lieutenant Allen was appointed acting assistant adjutant-general of the district, and served until May 12, 1865.

When Colonel Jones, of an Indiana regiment, assumed command July 1, 1865, he was ordered to Columbus, Miss., in charge of the remaining portion of the Sixteenth Indiana Regiment, to be sent on transports or by water and consolidated with the Third Indiana. He returned July 12th, and on the 29th was detailed as a member of General Court Martial Department of Louisiana and Texas, from which he was relieved Sept. 6, 1865, to be mustered out of the department, which occurred Oct. 2, 1865.

On the 7th, the Fourteenth Rhode Island Regiment sailed for Rhode Island, and reached Providence on the 21st, being received by a salute fired by the Marine Artillery. The regiment was marched to Old City Hall where a bountiful collation was served by L. H. Humphreys, after which the regi-

ment was reformed and marched to Exchange Place, where a dress parade took place in presence of Governor Smith and staff. After marching in review by the governor at his headquarters it embarked for Portsmouth Grove, where, on the 28th, the final muster out occurred.

Soon after his muster out Lieutenant Allen entered the employ of the Gorham Manufacturing Company, on North Main Street, Providence, R. I., remaining there about one year. He then went to Waltham, Mass., worked about six years in the Waltham Watch Factory, and then returned to Providence and began business for himself as an engine turner, in which business he still (1891) continues. Lieutenant Allen takes a deep interest in several orders, and when at Waltham, joined the Order of Odd Fellows, of which he is a past grand. He was one of the charter members of Rhode Island Council in the Order of United Friends, is a past grand councillor and a member of the Imperial Council of that order. In June, 1887, he became a member of Burnside Council, being one of its charter members, and is still one of its most active members. He was for two years deputy of Tecumseh Council. He is a comrade of Slocum Post, Grand Army of the Republic, and a member of the Rhode Island Light Artillery Veteran Association. He is also secretary of the National Fraternal and Beneficial Union, which was organized in May, 1890, and of which he was one of the most active founders.

March 9, 1864, General Grant received his commission as lieutenant-general and was assigned to the command of the armies. On the 10th he visited General Meade at his headquarters near Brandy Station, Va., and announced to him his intention of making his headquarters with that army. This was not to interfere with General Meade's continuing as immediate commander of the Army of the Potomac.

March 12th, Lieutenant Jastram, who was on detail service at brigade headquarters, returned from a leave of absence.

During the pleasant days of March the battery resumed its field drills and inspections were frequent, sometimes by Lieutenant Bucklyn, and occasionally by Captain Robinson, acting chief of artillery.

On March 16th, the troops of the grand old Third corps were reviewed as a corps for the last time, Generals French, Sedgwick and others being present. Battery E was present



with Sergeant Humphrey as chief of left section. The corps presented a fine appearance, but the day being wet and chilly, it was not a very agreeable time. Had it been known that it was a farewell to the Third corps it would have been still more unpleasant.

March 17th, we dedicated the company "theatre" by a negro concert. These entertainments, with variations, were repeated several times during the month.

March 18th, the rebels made a threatening movement—hence marching orders.

March 22d. Inspection by Captain Robinson, which was followed by a fall of snow some eight or ten inches in depth.

March 23d. By the previous recommendation of General Meade, an order was issued by the War Department for the consolidation of the five infantry corps of the Army of the Potomac into three, the Second, Fifth, and Sixth corps to be retained, and the divisions of the First and Third transferred to the retained corps. But their corps and division badges were to be retained. The new Second corps consisted of the old Second formed in two divisions and the First and Second divisions of the old Third corps. The First corps was consolidated with the Fifth. The Third division of the Third corps, with Battery E, of Rhode Island, was transferred to the Sixth corps, its infantry forming the Third division. An order to this effect was issued by Meade March 24th. The artillery of the Third corps continued, however, to draw its rations from the old Third Corps Artillery brigade until its supplies on hand were exhausted, which was about the 6th of April. Our separation from the Third corps was by no means agreeable. No other corps had excelled it in discipline and courage on the many battlefields under the command of such brave and gallant generals as Heintzelman, Stoneman, and Sickles. Among its division commanders were the peerless Kearny, the dashing Hooker, and the no less brave and steadfast Birney, Berry, Humphreys, and Whipple. Generals Ward, Robinson, De Trobriand, and Graham, who were among its brigade commanders, were also brave and gallant officers, of whom any corps might be proud.

March 24th, General Grant arrived at headquarters for a permanent stay. The battery was hitched up, expecting to

be reviewed, with other troops, by General Grant, but we were disappointed.

On March 27th, James Macoon, Hiram Brant, and one or two other recruits arrived.

The last week in March and the first week in April were rainy and disagreeable, and but little of interest occurred.

On April 4th, Albert Saunders, Luther Childs, and Standish P. Read were returned to the Seventeenth Maine Regiment, from which they were detailed probably May 9, 1863. During the night of the 4th or early in the morning of the 5th some malicious persons cut and otherwise injured quite a number of bridles and nose bags, but for what reason it was never divined. Lance Sergeants Edward A. Chandler and James A. Tanner were promoted to sergeants April 6th.

On the 6th of April Lieutenant Jastram having previously resigned, bade farewell to his many army comrades and started for Rhode Island. At the outbreak of the Rebellion Jastram was clerk in the banking house of Clapp, Fuller & Brown, of Boston, Mass. When the call for seventy-five thousand troops was issued by the President on the 15th of April, 1861, he immediately resigned his position, returned to Providence, and was one of the first to enlist in the First Rhode Island Regiment, serving as private during its three months' service. He passed unharmed through the first battle of Bull Run and was mustered out Aug. 2, 1861. Oct. 16, 1861, he received a first lieutenant's commission, and was assigned to Battery E as junior officer, vice George C. De Kay, who declined his commission. After Bucklyn's promotion Jastram commanded the left section. Upon Lieutenant Arnold's being disabled near Hampton, Va., on the 28th of March he was assigned to the right section, and commanded it at the siege of Yorktown and battle of Williamsburg, being relieved by Lieutenant Arnold, who returned June 24, 1862. He then returned to the left section, relieving Lieutenant Bucklyn. On the 12th of December, 1862, the day before the battle of Fredericksburg, he assumed command of the battery, and fought his command with marked ability at the battles of Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville. May 15, 1863, he was appointed acting assistant adjutant-general on Captain Randolph's staff, which position he held until the duties relating to the consolidation of the Third corps were

completed. He resigned March 29, 1864, taking his departure from the army on the 6th of April.

Lieutenant Jastram's great grandfather was a Frenchman. His grandfather, Mawney Jastram, was a grain merchant of Providence, who married Mary Bacon, also of Providence. His father, George Bacon Jastram, was born in Providence, R. I., Aug. 21, 1813, and for awhile was associated with his father in the grain business. He was teller in the old Providence Bank from 1841 to 1858, was also secretary of the Providence Institution for Savings, was for four years City auditor; also treasurer of the First Baptist Society, an active member of the Light Infantry, and a member of the School Committee, a member of the Historical Society, and of the Society of Domestic Industry. From 1858 to about 1868 he was in the banking business. After this he went to St. Louis and again entered the banking business, where he remained only two or three years. Later we find him in the same business in Georgetown, Col., where he died Dec. 2, 1879. Lieutenant Jastram's mother was Abby Maria Bigelow, of Providence, R. I., daughter of William Bigelow, an old sea captain, who died when his daughter was four years old.

Mrs. Jastram died six days after her husband at the age of sixty five years. George B. Jastram had two children, Pardon S., the subject of this sketch, and one daughter, who married Richard Kidder Randolph, a brother of Col. George E. Randolph. She died in 1875, leaving one daughter who is now married.

Pardon S. Jastram was born Nov. 15, 1838, in the city of Providence, and was educated at the public schools and at Brown University. He entered the latter institution in September, 1856, graduating in 1860.

After leaving the army he went into the banking business with his father, remaining with him until 1866, when he went to California, where he was engaged in mining for about eighteen months. Returning to Rhode Island he became clerk for the Neptune line of steamers, in which position he remained for a year or two. In 1871 he entered the service of the Union Oil Co., as bookkeeper, where, for twenty years, he has faithfully performed the usual duties of a secretary of such association.

Lieutenant Jastram for many years has been a member of the Massachusetts Commandery of the Loyal Legion of the United States, is a member of Slocum Post, No. 10, G. A. R., of Providence, R. I., and is an active member of the Soldiers and Sailors Historical Society of Providence. Dec. 14, 1869, he was united in marriage to Julia A. Brown, the accomplished daughter of William Whipple and Maria (Perkins) Brown. Mrs. Jastram was educated in the public schools of Providence, entering the High School in 1856. But few are more social and entertaining in manner than Mrs. Jastram. Mr. and Mrs. Jastram have a pleasant home, and are blessed with two bright and promising children, a son and a daughter. The son is now (1891) a student at Brown University. Mr. Jastram, although not belonging to many societies, is, nevertheless, very popular and has a host of friends, among whom none are more welcome to his home than his old army comrades.

April 8th. Corporal Lewis returned from furlough, and on the 9th was ordered to act as lance sergeant of the fourth detachment. This was Sergt. William Millen's old detachment which had been commanded by Corporal Beard during Millen's absence at the Third corps artillery headquarters. After the affairs of the corps were closed up, Millen, on the 12th of April, returned to the battery and acted, during the remainder of that month as chief of the left section.

Had there been no change in the commanding officer of the battery he probably would have been commissioned as second lieutenant, as he should have been long before. As it was, he preferred to be commissary sergeant of the Sixth corps artillery brigade, and assumed the duties of that position on the 3d of May, 1864. He faithfully performed that important trust until his term of service expired in September, 1864.

Sergeant Chandler, privates Hughes and Steamer returned from furlough on the 9th.

April 12th. Privates A. M. Bennett and Wingler returned from furloughs. Quartermaster Remington also returned from recruiting service, bringing with him four recruits, Malachi Gunning, Francis O'Meara, Simon W. Keene and John E. Johnston. We were paid off by Major Webb, and had an inspection by Lieutenant Bucklyn, having also a field drill.

On this day we received information that Captain Rhodes was to be our commanding officer.

April 14th. The writer received an order to report to Washington for examination before the Casey Board for commission in colored regiment, but a leave of absence for that purpose was refused by General Sedgwick, as no more applications for that object were to be granted by orders from army headquarters. It was the writer's intention to have appeared before the Board while returning from his furlough, and made an application to do so while in Washington, but without waiting for an answer, returned to the battery.

April 15th. Two more veterans, Corp. J. Dexter and private Fitzpatrick left for home on furloughs. On the 18th, the Sixth corps was reviewed by Generals Grant, Sedgwick, Meade and others, but, owing to the uneven ground, the review was not a success. While returning to camp one of Sergeant Humphrey's horses dropped dead.

April 19th and 20th. Our camp was remodeled and moved a few feet to the west.

April 21st. The battery was taken across the Hazel River for the purpose of target practice.

April 22d. Artillery brigade reviewed by Colonel Tompkins and staff. Seven batteries passed in review. Two of our men, Hallison P. Hale and Andrew J. Brown, preparing to leave for the navy.

April 23d. Capt. William B. Rhodes and First Lieut. Ezra K. Parker arrived in camp, having been assigned to duty in Battery E. An inspection of camp and clothing by Col. Charles H. Tompkins, chief of Sixth corps artillery.

April 24th. Sunday inspection by Lieutenant Bucklyn, accompanied by the new officers. Corporal Gardiner sent to the hospital sick.

April 26th. Had a field drill by Captain Rhodes, who assumed command to-day. These drills were continued daily for several days.

Ten recruits were received from the Fourth New York Heavy Artillery on the 27th, but their stay was only temporary.

April 28th. Field drill by sections by Lieutenants Parker, Freeborn and Allen. Lieutenant Bucklyn was, to-day, and

had, for several days, been engaged in transferring the battery and ordnance stores to Captain Rhodes.

April 30th. We were mustered for pay by Capt. Richard Waterman, of Battery C, of Rhode Island.

May 1st. Every indication of a movement. Burnside's Ninth corps had arrived near Brandy Station, and orderlies and staff officers were on the alert conveying orders to the various commands throughout the army.

May 3d. Captain Rhodes called together his chiefs of pieces, telling them that in the future he should hold each of them responsible for the conduct of the men in their detachments, and punishment, if needed, must be administered by their authority. Orders also came to be ready to move on the morrow.

Our tents were taken down and our tarpaulins were pitched for a substitute. We were not sorry to leave this camp, although we had been there since the 10th of November last and had enjoyed many hours of pleasure during that interval of nearly six months. The Rebellion could not be crushed by the troops remaining idle in their camps. That we had a severe campaign before us the character of General Grant gave us no reason to doubt. We did, however, regret that Lieutenant Bucklyn was not to remain with us, for we had learned that he was to leave us to-day, as he had been appointed upon Col. Charles H. Tompkins's staff, who was chief of the Sixth Corps Artillery. Bucklyn was to have charge of the ammunition train and such other duties as the exigencies of the campaign might require.

Captain Randolph had shortly before resigned, and he was followed by Lieutenant Jastram, which vacancy was filled by First Lieut. Ezra K. Parker, from Battery D. Now Lieutenant Bucklyn was to leave us also, and, besides, we had also been assigned to another corps. With all these changes it seemed too much like breaking up housekeeping.

Captain Rhodes had done honorable service in Battery G and D as first lieutenant, and although highly recommended by his friends for the captaincy of Battery E, still, however excellent an officer he may have been, it is no reflection upon him to say that Lieutenant Bucklyn should have been captain instead of Rhodes,

Lieutenant Bucklyn had proved himself an able and honorable commander. The men in his battery were almost unanimously in his favor, and, as Governor Smith had promised the command to him, and had so stated to Bucklyn's friends, it was not justice nor wise policy to do otherwise than as he had promised. That the Governor saw his mistake is evident, as he subsequently apologized to Bucklyn for not keeping his promise. The following endorsements are alone sufficient evidence for Bucklyn's appointment :

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS, }  
Dec. 30, 1863.

Having been major of the First Regiment, Rhode Island Artillery, Army of the Potomac, for more than a year, I feel competent to recommend to the Governor of Rhode Island First Lieut. J. K. Bucklyn, Battery E, for promotion to the captaincy of said battery, vice George E. Randolph, resigned.

ALEX. S. WEBB,

*Brigadier-General Commanding Division.*

The following is from an officer whose indorsement is equal, if not superior, to any other officer in the Army of the Potomac :

ARTILLERY HEADQUARTERS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.

*To His Excellency* JAMES Y. SMITH, *Governor of Rhode Island:*

SIR: I have respectfully to recommend to Your Excellency the promotion of Lieut. John K. Bucklyn to the captaincy of Battery E, First Rhode Island Artillery, made vacant by the resignation of Capt. G. E. Randolph. Lieutenant Bucklyn has served with the battery from its organization and through all the campaign of the army from Yorktown to Gettysburg. In the last named battle he commanded the battery with ability and proved his competency for the position. His character as an officer stands high, and I am certain that he will justify his promotion, if made, in the future, as he established his claim to it in the past.

I have the honor to be

Your obedient servant,

HENRY J. HUNT,

*Brigadier-General, Chief of Artillery, A. P.*

Although keenly disappointed, Lieutenant Bucklyn carried to his new field of labor the same enthusiasm and loyalty that he had ever manifested in previous commands. It can be said of equal truth that the men of Battery E were determined, under their new captain, to maintain the good reputation of the battery which it had won under its former excellent commanders, and if it failed to do so it should be no fault of theirs.







Brevet Major Wm. B. Rhodes.

## CHAPTER XX.

May—1864.

## BATTLE OF WILDERNESS.

AT the commencement of General Grant's campaign the officers of Battery E were Capt. William B. Rhodes, First Lieut. John K. Bucklyn (on detached service), First Lieut. Ezra K. Parker, right section; Second Lieut. Benjamin Freeborn, left section; and Second Lieut. James F. Allen, centre section. The chiefs of pieces were Sergt. James Donnelly, first piece; Sergt. George Humphrey, second piece; Sergt. Arthur W. Hargraves, third piece; Lance Sergt. George Lewis, fourth piece; Sergt. Edward A. Chandler, fifth piece; Sergt. James A. Tanner, sixth piece.

Lieutenant Bucklyn writes "that warrants were previously made out by him for these non-commissioned officers, but Colonel Tompkins delayed the signing of them until he (Bucklyn) received his commission as captain, but as he did not then receive it the warrants were not given." Owing to the many changes in the corporals it would be useless to attempt to place them in the detachments to which they belonged, but the following is a list of them at that time. They are given in the order of their appointment: Allen Gardiner, John M. Battey, William S. Blair, Samuel W. Austin, John Slocum, Charles W. Robbins, Nathan P. Tabor, John Cunningham, Jerahmeel Dexter, Otto Wilder, William Torpy, George H. Pierce, Chandler Lindsey, and John Harrihan. Several of these were lance corporals.

Corporal Gardiner had previously passed the Casey Board as second lieutenant and was awaiting his assignment.

On the 4th of May General Hancock was again in command of the Second corps, the corps then having four divis-

ions which were commanded by Generals Barlow, Gibbon, Birney, and Mott, in the order named. Birney's and Mott's division was composed of the old Third corps troops. "On the 13th of May," says Birney's biographer, "the Fourth (which was the Second division of the Third corps) was consolidated with the Third division, so that by this arrangement, General Birney had under his command all that remained of the old Third corps. Birney's brigades were commanded by Brigadier-Generals J. H. Hobart Ward, Alexander Hays and Gershom Mott." Two Rhode Island batteries, A and B, were in this corps. General Warren, who had commanded the Second corps during Hancock's absence since the battle of Gettysburg, was now in command of the Fifth corps, his divisions being in command of Generals Griffin, Robinson, Crawford and Wadsworth.

The Sixth corps, to which our battery was assigned, was commanded by Maj.-Gen. John Sedgwick. This corps had but three divisions, which were in command of Generals Horatio G. Wright, George W. Getty, and James B. Ricketts. The artillery of this corps was composed of the Fourth Maine, First Massachusetts; First and Third New York; Fourth New York Heavy Artillery, First Battalion; Fifth United States, Battery M; and Batteries C, E, and G, of the First Rhode Island Light Artillery. The Second Rhode Island Regiment was also in this corps. This artillery brigade was commanded by Col. Charles H. Tompkins, of Rhode Island.

The cavalry corps was under Maj.-Gen. Philip H. Sheridan. Its three divisions were commanded by Generals Torbert, Gregg, and Wilson.

The Ninth corps was commanded by Gen. Ambrose E. Burnside, who received his orders direct from General Grant until the 24th of May, when it became a part of the Army of the Potomac. Its four divisions were commanded by Generals Stevenson, Potter, Wilcox, and Ferrero. This last division was composed of colored troops. The Rhode Island batteries, D and H, belonged to this corps.

The effective force of the army on May 4th was (including the Ninth corps) about 120,000 men and 274 guns. The Army of Northern Virginia, under General Lee, was composed of three infantry corps, the First being commanded by Lieut.-Gen. James Longstreet, the Second by Lieut.-Gen. Richard

S. Ewell, and the Third by Lieut.-Gen. Ambrose P. Hill. The cavalry corps was under the command of Maj.-Gen. James E. B. Stuart. The effective force of this army was about 62,000 men, and about 224 guns.

Two corps of Lee's army, previous to Grant's movement, had been encamped on the south side of the Rapidan, Ewell's corps near the river above Mine Run, Hill's on his left, higher up the stream, and Longstreet's at Gordonville, Lee's headquarters being near Orange Court House. It was General Grant's intention to move his army across the Rapidan and march it to the open country near Spottsylvania before offering battle to the enemy. This was a similar movement to Hooker's at Chancellorsville, but Hooker had reached the Wilderness before Lee was aware of his presence, and had he moved promptly forward he would have reached the open country and could have fought the battle there, instead of fighting it where he did. This movement of General Grant the enemy saw from its beginning, and no time was given the Union army to reach its intended battlefield. The order for this movement was issued on the 2d of May, and, at midnight on the 3d, the army commenced to move. The Second corps, preceded by cavalry, crossed at Ely's Ford and moved to Chancellorsville. The Fifth and Sixth corps, preceded by Wilson's cavalry, crossed at Germania Ford. The head of the Sixth corps halted about three miles beyond the ford. The trains crossed at Ely's and Culpepper Mine Ford. They were covered by the cavalry and 1,200 infantry from each corps. The Second corps arrived at Chancellorsville about noon on the 4th, and the Fifth reached its position by two P. M. The Sixth corps did not reach its halting place until later. Three divisions of the Ninth corps crossed on the 5th, and the Fourth division (colored) crossed on the morning of the 6th.

Battery E broke camp about four A. M., marched to Brandy Station, and there awaited the corps to pass, then moved through Stevensburg to Germania Ford, crossing over on pontoons between three and four P. M., then marched between one and two miles and parked for the night on Smith's Plantation.

During the night of the 4th a portion of each army had encamped within three miles of each other, both being ignorant

of each other's near presence. On the morning of the 5th the Fifth corps resumed its forward movement towards Parker's store. Ewell's and Hill's corps at the same time advanced upon two parallel roads, and at an early hour struck Warren's corps (Fifth) in its centre and brought its movement to a halt. Then the battle commenced with great vigor on both sides. The enemy was at first repulsed and driven back, but being re-enforced, it again advanced with a heavy force, and drove Warren's unsupported corps some distance back. Hancock, who had already advanced beyond Chancellorsville, was ordered to return and form on Warren's left. For several hours the two forces were feeling for each other in the almost impenetrable woods. In the meantime Wright's and Rickett's divisions of the Sixth corps were in position on the right of the Fifth, and were soon hotly engaged, and repeatedly repulsed the assaults of the enemy.

Hill with his rebel corps, in the meanwhile, was moving down the pike to assault Hancock before he could reach the contested ground, and, if possible, prevent his assisting the Fifth corps. Getty's division of the Sixth corps was sent to meet this move. On reaching the junction of the pike and Brock's road the two forces met and a sharp engagement commenced. Although being greatly outnumbered Getty's troops held on firmly until Hancock formed his corps in line of battle along the Brock's road. "The battle now," says Woodbury, "became general, and continued with great severity until eight o'clock in the evening, when darkness stopped the fight.

"Up and down the forest paths, among the underbrush, the contest was waged, but with no decisive results on either side. General Getty, with his division, fought with distinguished bravery, but with no notable advantage; even Hancock, with characteristic energy, delivered with his corps repeated and desperate assaults. It was a fierce grapple, and when the night fell the exhausted combatants were glad to rest. Getty was wounded and General Neill succeeded to the command of the division." Our battery was not engaged in the conflict on the 5th, as no good location, owing to the density of the woods, could be found to place a battery in position. We had left camp on the Smith Plantation at seven A. M., and soon after, Captain Rhodes received orders to drop out of line

his battery wagon, forge, and forage wagons, and be prepared to go into action. After reaching the Wilderness the battery went into park with the Sixth corps artillery, near the headquarters of Generals Grant and Meade, where we awaited, with anxiety, through the sleepless night, the result of the next day's battle.

On the morning of the 6th the battery was aroused from its attempted slumbers at three A. M., but made no movement until later in the day. Before sunrise the two armies renewed the slaughter with greater fury than before. It was like no other battle. The men fought, as it were, by feeling their way. No precision was possible through the network of dwarf trees and shrubbery which covered the ground upon which the battle was fought. It was with difficulty that colonels could see the length of their regiments, and in the brigades it was difficult for the right to know what the left was doing, and the troops were obliged to approach each other to within a few yards before they could be seen. So confused and intermixed were the lines, it was said that some of our wounded were taken prisoners by a rebel regiment that had lost its way and wandered to our rear.

Burnside's Ninth corps arrived during the morning, but it only cancelled Longstreet's corps which had arrived during the night. The fight commenced about five A. M. by an attack upon Sedgwick's right, and gradually extended the whole length of the line. Twice during the forenoon Sedgwick repulsed the enemy's left and drove his lines back some distance.

The enemy continued almost constantly to attack our lines first at one point, then at another.

Hancock on the left had pushed Hill's corps back over one mile, and took many prisoners, but his success was brought to an end by the arrival of Longstreet's corps, when, after a continued contest, Hancock was forced back to his former position. Some of Burnside's troops now came to aid Hancock; Longstreet in turn was forced back, and in doing so was severely wounded and carried from the field. In this encounter General Wadsworth, one of the bravest and best in the army was mortally wounded and died on the 8th.

During this time the battle was in progress on the right and centre, but not so severely, for the objective point of

attack by Lee was on our left, by which Lee hoped to force our army back toward the Rapidan. After Longstreet was wounded it is said General Lee himself took command of the First rebel corps, and with that of Hill's hurled them against Hancock, who at that time was supported by a part of the Fifth and Sixth corps.

Says De Trobriand "The assailants were stopped at first, by a fierce fire, caught in the woods; the wind carried the smoke and flames against the end of our line, which was soon enveloped. The enemy took advantage of the accident to charge home at that point. Then they literally fought in the midst of the fire, the flames licking the legs of the combatants.

"The Confederates were successful in forcing the intrenchments when the prompt arrival of a brigade commanded by General Carroll repulsed them with so much vigor that the attack was abandoned, after having cost the assailants heavy losses, as evidenced by the number of dead and wounded left on the ground."

The battle ended as it had begun on the right. General Humphreys in his Virginia campaign says, "Gordon's brigade was formed in some open ground near the edge of the woods, and Johnson's in rear of it. The advance was then made a short time before sunset. Shaler's brigade was partly engaged building breastworks when the attack came, and was struck in flank, and rolled up and thrown into confusion and several hundred prisoners captured from it, including General Shaler. Seymour's brigade was also disordered, and toward the end of the attack he was captured, though not many prisoners were from his brigade."

Gordon's troops soon became disordered, and, darkness coming on, he made no further attempt to advance. General Wright now reformed his lines, and during the night General Sedgwick formed an entire new line of the Sixth corps, and the Fifth corps changed its line and conformed to it.

Our battery, while the battle of the 6th was in progress, had remained on the ground near the headquarters of Lieutenant-General Grant.

Soon after sunset, by order of Colonel Tompkins, the right section was sent under Lieutenant Parker, accompanied also by Captain Rhodes, to the right; to assist in checking the



stampede of a portion of the Sixth corps. General Sedgwick in person urged forward the section to its position on the plank road down which the fleeing troops of Shaler and Seymour were fleeing. Here Lieutenant Parker, with his section, awaited the pursuing enemy, but they did not come within its range, and its powder was saved for use a few days later. Captain Rhodes, after the section was placed in position, returned to the sections left near the headquarters. Soon after his return he received orders to move the left and centre sections<sup>9</sup> to a position about one-half a mile farther to the left, being joined by the right section about ten P. M.

An incident occurred during the battle worthy to be mentioned. William H. Phinney, a member of our battery, who a short time before had been detached for service in the ambulance corps, after being nearly exhausted from a hard day's labor as stretcher bearer, went a short distance into the woods to find a quiet place to sleep. Upon finding one, he spread his blanket and soon fell asleep, and, being very tired, he slept soundly until morning. When he awoke he discovered that a comrade was apparently sleeping at his side. Believing it time that his companion should be awake, he gently touched him with his hand, when he discovered that his comrade was dead. This so startled him that he raised himself up, and, on looking to his right and left, he was still more startled to discover that he had been sleeping in a line of thirty dead heroes. They had been taken there during the night by the stretcher-bearers, who doubtless thought that Phinney was also dead.

At three A. M. on the 7th, the battery was aroused from its few hours of rest. The horses were unharnessed and groomed, after which the men ate their rations of hard tack. Soon after Captain Rhodes received orders to move his battery to the front, at the right of the plank road, and park it in rear of Captain McKnight's regular battery, and be ready to relieve him should it be necessary. Shortly after, by order of Colonel Tompkins, the battery was relieved and placed in another position more to the front, except the centre section which, under Lieutenant Allen, was ordered into position on the high ground to the left of the plank road. Trees and shrubbery had to be cut down to enable the guns to reach the position they had been ordered to take. "Just as I had got

everything fixed right," says Captain Rhodes, "I was ordered to relieve Captain Harn, Third New York Battery on my left, near General Sedgwick's headquarters."

The battery remained in these positions until after dark, when it was ordered back to near the parking ground it occupied the day before.

On the morning of the 7th, reconnoissances were made of the enemy's lines which were found to be well fortified, and artillery was placed at the open ground and in other positions also. General Grant did not think it wise to continue the attack upon these works so unapproachable by the network which covered them. After a consultation with Meade, it was decided to withdraw the army after dark and continue its movement by the left flank, and force a battle upon more open ground.

Official authority gives the total losses in this battle as being 2,246 killed, 12,037 wounded, and 3,383 missing, a total of 17,666. Capt. Frederick Phisterer, in his statistical record, gives the Confederate loss as about 11,400. Among our killed were Generals Wadsworth and Alexander Hays, the latter commanding the old brigade of De Trobriand, who was now a brigadier-general commanding the troops in and around New York City. Our wounded were Generals Hancock, Getty, Gregg, Owens, Bartlett, Webb and Carroll. Among the rebel killed were Major-Gen. Sam Jones and Gen. Albert G. Jenkins.

Their wounded included Generals Longstreet (disabled for months), Stafford (mortally), Pegram, George E. Pickett, and Hunter. No losses occurred in Battery E, and only a few stragglers entered her domain.

The artillery in this battle was comparatively a silent partner; to this it was doubtless due that the Union army had no better success. The inability to use the artillery more was, of itself, a great loss, but its inaction seriously affected the infantry, who are always perceptibly inspired by its assistance.

## CHAPTER XXI.

May, 1864.

## BATTLE OF SPOTTSYLVANIA.

AT three P. M. the trains were set in motion so as to make room for the troops. Between eight and nine in the evening the troops began to move, General Warren going towards Spottsylvania Court House. At nine P. M. he was followed by the Sixth corps, which took the road leading to Chancellorsville. Our battery moved at nine P. M., one section in the advance with Russell's division, marching all night over dusty roads, making many halts by the way, and reaching the old battlefield of Chancellorsville at five A. M. the next morning.

The night being hot and sultry, and having been without rest for several nights, we were somewhat weary. We continued our march to within a few miles of Spottsylvania Court House, where General Warren had already encountered Longstreet's corps, which was now in command of Gen. R. H. Anderson. A sharp encounter ensued between the Fifth corps and the enemy, in which Gen. John C. Robinson was severely wounded, the rebels being driven back upon the heights where they had just taken position.

Later in the day the Fifth corps renewed the attack, being supported by the Sixth corps, in which some severe fighting was done, but it was too late in the day to be advantageously pursued, and both armies remained silent during the night. Our battery was not engaged, and remained during the night where we had encamped after coming up to the front. An incident happened during the day which was more amusing to the comrades of the writer than it was to himself. We had just been brought to a halt by the enemy in our front, when Captain Rhodes gave an order to unhitch and water our

horses at a mill pond near by. We had nearly completed the order when the writer, after seeing that his teams were watered rode his horse into the pond to let him drink. He had ridden further in than the rest, and in turning to go out, his horse backed into a hole of quicksand and sank nearly under water, throwing his rider into the pond. Both, however, succeeded, after a struggle, in reaching the shore. The writer had, upon the pommel of his saddle, a four-dollar cap, which had just been purchased, which was washed away and lost. But few generals ever received more hurrahs than did the writer in this battle with the waves. As the day was very hot the baptism was not so disagreeable as the hilarity of the thousands of troops who saw the amusing, but dangerous, accident.

Another amusing affair occurred the night before. Just as the army was leaving the battlefield, the bands struck up the familiar air, "Ain't you glad to get out of the Wilderness?" which caused prolonged cheers from the troops.

There were no active operations on the 9th. Our lines were strengthened, intrenchments thrown up, and the artillery was put in position. The skirmishers and sharpshooters were very active on both sides. Battery E was situated in a large open field in which there were many stumps and more or less shrubbery covering the field. The rebel lines ran along the south front of this field and were confronted by Sedgwick's corps. It was in placing these troops that Gen. John Sedgwick, the idolized commander of the Sixth corps, lost his life. The general, accompanied by some of his officers, was giving instructions about the positions of his troops, when he was shot in the cheek, just below the eye, fell into the arms of General McMahan, and without speaking, expired immediately. He had just been warned not to approach that position, and in a pleasant way replied that "they could not hit an elephant at that distance."

General Wright now assumed command of the corps, General Russell that of the First division. General Eustis was assigned to Russell's brigade, and Colonel Edwards took command of Eustis's brigade.

Our lines extended from the southeast to the northwest, with Hancock on the right, and to his left was Warren's Fifth

corps. Burnside's was on the extreme left, and between him and Warren was the Sixth corps.

Beyond a strip of woods in our front lay the rebel lines, behind well-constructed breastworks. To our rear, upon higher ground, our artillery was posted so as to fire over our lines. About sunset, Captain Rhodes moved his battery further to the left and the enemy being comparatively quiet, our horses were unhitched and allowed to have a much needed rest.

At three A. M. on the 10th, we harnessed up, and at daylight moved further toward the left, going into battery in some open woods. As there was no underbrush and the trees being far apart and the limbs high, our protection was no better than an open field. In our front the woods were quite dense, beyond which was our wily foe.

Hancock the day before had crossed the Po River with the intention of turning the enemy's left, but during the forenoon of the 10th, he was ordered by General Meade to return and assist Warren in an attack that had been arranged to commence at five P. M. General Wright had been correspondingly instructed, and Warren notified that Hancock, by virtue of seniority, would command both corps.

Skirmishing had been almost constant during the forenoon along the whole line. Our battery commenced firing about ten A. M., and continued at intervals while waiting the intended assaults which were hourly expected. One hour before the time appointed, our troops commenced moving forward to attack the waiting enemy, and it was not long before the hills and valleys were reverberating with a continuous roar of artillery and musketry. Our artillery had ample room in which to display its terrible work, as though it desired to repay its want of service at the Wilderness.

Dr. Stevens, in his three years' history of the Sixth corps, says: "It was the terrible cannonading of Malvern Hill, with the fierce musketry of Gaines' Mills combined, that seemed fairly to shake the earth and skies."

Thus far only the Second and Fifth corps had been engaged. It remained for the Sixth corps to finish the terrible fighting, which at first promised us a splendid victory, but for want of timely support and the approaching darkness, resulted only in a great loss of life without commensurate advantage. It

was between five and six p. m., that the Sixth corps was ordered to be divested of every incumbrance and prepare for a charge. Colonel Upton, who commanded the second brigade of the first division, was ordered to select twelve regiments from the corps and march them to an open space which was covered by a narrow strip of woods in front of the enemy's lines. After advancing into these woods, three lines were formed of four regiments each.

These regiments were supported by other troops in their corps, and Warren and Hancock held their corps in readiness to rush in, should the charging column be successful.

Again let us quote Dr. Stevens : " At six o'clock all things were ready, and the artillery from our eminences in our rear opened a terrific fire, sending the shell howling and shrieking over the heads of the charging column and plunging into the works of the enemy. This was the signal for attack, and Colonel Upton's clear voice rang out, ' Attention, battalions ! Forward, double-quick ! Charge ! ' and in an instant every man was on his feet, and with tremendous cheers, which were answered by the wild yells of the rebels, the column rushed from the cover of the woods. Quick as a flash of lightning, a sheet of flame burst from the rebel line, and the leaden hail swept the ground over which the column was advancing, while the canister from the artillery came crashing through our ranks at every step, and scores and hundreds of our brave fellows fell, literally covering the ground. But nothing daunted, the noble fellows rushed upon the defences, leaping over the ditch in front and mounting the breastworks. The rebels made a determined resistance, and a hand to hand fight ensued, until, with their bayonets, our men had filled the rifle-pits with bleeding rebels. About two thousand of the survivors of the struggling surrendered, and were immediately marched to the rear under guard.

" Without halting for breath the impetuous column rushed towards the second line of works, which was equally as strong as the first. The resistance here was less stubborn than at the first line, yet the grey occupants of the rifle-pits refused to fly, until forced back at the point of the bayonet. Our ranks were now fearfully thinned, yet the brave fellows passed on to the third line of defences which was also captured. It was but a shattered remnant of that noble column that rushed

from the woods against the hostile works, that reached the advanced point, and now, finding that re-enforcements were reaching the enemy while our column was every moment melting away, a retreat was ordered." The retreat, says Humphreys, was not undertaken until darkness made it safe. Colonel Upton states that his loss was about 1,000 in killed, wounded and missing, and that he took between 1,000 and 1,250 prisoners and several stands of colors.

For this daring charge, Colonel Upton was immediately promoted to brigadier-general, so also was Colonel Carroll of the Second corps,

The Third division of our corps was with our battery near the left centre of the Union lines. The fighting was to our right. The early firing of our guns was doubtless to prevent the enemy in our front from re-enforcing the right. Our battery was by turns supported by the one hundred and tenth Ohio and the Second Rhode Island regiment.

Battery E had continued to fire at short intervals, sometimes by battery, until the twelve picked regiments were about to commence the fearful assaults when, says Colonel Tompkins in his report, "Cowan's, McCartney's, and Rhodes's batteries fired with all rapidity for nine minutes."

We expended 286 shot, 68 shell and 176 spherical case. This is corroborated by the report of Captain Rhodes, in vol. 36, part 1st, page 770, of the *Official Rebellion Records*, which reads: "We fired 530 rounds of ammunition." Our loss, owing to the distance of the enemy and the slight breast-works in our front was but one man (Benjamin Judd), slightly wounded, and one horse killed. After the firing had ceased, General Ricketts sent an aide and complimented Captain Rhodes for the able manner in which his battery had been served during this day's battle. About ten P. M., Captain Rhodes was ordered to take his battery back to the caissons, which had remained at our camping ground the night before.

The Union loss on the 10th of May was about 4,100; that of the Confederates about one-half as many. General Rice, of the Fifth corps was mortally wounded, and General Stevenson of the Ninth corps killed.

May 11th. This was a day of constant moving for Battery E. After reveille we were relieved by McKnight's battery, then moved back nearly two miles and occupied a

position near to where we were when General Sedgwick was killed on the 9th. Here we unharnessed, groomed and grazed our horses, and refilled our ammunition chests. About two P. M. we were relieved by another battery and moved under the guide of Major Tompkins in the direction of Alsops, but getting lost in the woods, we had to return some distance and went into park near the Second corps hospital. While here we unhitched and watered our horses. In doing so we had to pass the field hospitals where the surgeons were amputating the shattered limbs and probing the cruel wounds of the suffering and dying heroes of the battlefield. It was a sight not desirable to witness.

The agonizing groans of the suffering, and the bleached faces of the dead and dying, were enough to sicken even old veterans of the war, and some of our men were so affected by the sight that they nearly fell from their horses from faintness.

We remained near the hospital until night, and then returned to near where we started in the morning. Until nearly night the day, as it had been the day before, was hot and dusty, but towards evening heavy showers cooled the air, thereby relieving somewhat the sufferings of the wounded. In the meantime, the Union forces were being prepared for another movement on the morrow. Hancock's corps was to move from the right, passing by the rear of the Fifth and Sixth corps, and was to mass between the latter and Burnside's corps. Warren at the same time was to extend his troops so as to occupy his own and the ground left by Hancock.

Two divisions of Wright's corps were held to support Hancock and Burnside, while the Third division of that corps was to hold the intrenchments when vacated by the First and Second divisions. After dark, the above movement was executed, and the hour of four A. M. of the 12th was set for the attack to commence, but owing to the dense fog, the advance did not move until half an hour later. Before being aware of our presence, our troops had almost reached the enemy's line; then with wild cheers they rushed through the obstructions which were in front of the rebel works, and without halting before the sharp fire of the foe, scaled the breastworks, capturing, says General Hancock, "nearly 4,000



prisoners of Ewell's corps, twenty pieces of artillery, with their caissons, horses, etc., several thousand stands of small arms, and upward of thirty colors. Maj.-Gen. Edward Johnson and Brig.-Gen. George H. Stewart were among the prisoners. Our troops, after the capture of the intrenchments, pursued the enemy through the forest, in the direction of Spotsylvania Court-House, until they encountered a second formidable line of earthworks."

Before the second line our forces were compelled to halt, and were soon driven back by the accumulating forces of the enemy. The fight now centred along the angle which was continued for many hours with a persistence never before experienced since the war commenced. "The fight had," says the French brigadier, "become general along the whole line, but in spite of the attacks of Warren on one side and Burnside on the other, Lee, protected by his intrenchments, was able to continue to strip one part of his front, to mass the reinforcements on the principal points, and to re-establish his lost position at all hazards. Meade understood this, and on his side hastened to strongly sustain the Second corps. Wright arrived first to Hancock's aid, followed by two of Warren's divisions.

The battle continued during the whole day, on the one side to retake, and on the other to hold this corner of the works contested with unparalleled desperation. Five times the Confederates returned to the charge. One assault repulsed, they rallied at a short distance, reformed with new troops, and again rushed on the double intrenchments, where our men received the shock with an unshaken firmness."

Russell's division of the Sixth corps, says Stevens, "held the centre of the line of the corps at a point known as 'the angle.' Whoever could hold the angle would be the victors, for with the angle, either party could possess themselves of the whole line of works. Hence, the desperate efforts to drive us from this position. The First division being unable to maintain the position alone, the Second division was sent to its aid. And now, as the boys of the Second division took their places in the front, the battle became a hand-to-hand combat. A breastwork of logs separated the combatants. Our men would reach over this partition and discharge their muskets in the face of the enemy, and, in return, would re-

ceive the fire of the rebels at the same close range. Finally, the men began to use their muskets as clubs, and then rails were used. The men were willing thus to fight from behind the breastworks, but to rise up and attempt a charge in the face of an enemy so near at hand and so strong in numbers required unusual bravery. Yet they did charge, and they drove the rebels back and held the angle themselves."

Thus the battle went on, if possible, with increased fury until nearly eleven p. m. The second line was finally captured, and the rebels retired behind other lines.

In this battle of the 12th, Battery E bore an honorable part. It was a day long to be remembered as one of the most memorable in our history. It rained hard during the entire day and mud was everywhere. We were aroused at three a. m., and waited events in the drenching rain until about nine a. m. We then moved towards the left over rough roads, passing, in doing so, an open space within range of the rebel artillery, which opened upon us a rapid and vigorous fire of iron hail through which we had to pass. It was a dangerous passage but somewhat amusing, as the field between us and the rebels was dotted with rebel huts, in which the irrepressible skedaddlers had taken refuge. Through these huts the rebel shots were hurled, regardless of its occupants, whose exit, accompanied by the flying boards of which they were built, although dangerous, was, altogether, an exciting scene. Some of them were doubtless wounded, but we had more important duties awaiting us, and we left them to care for themselves.

After reaching our destination we remained a short time, then we were ordered back some distance to relieve Captain McKnight's battery which was in position on the left of our corps. Here our battery fired 67 shot, 10 shell, and 39 spherical case, having one horse killed. During this action it rained in torrents, and it was with difficulty that we kept our ammunition dry. About five p. m. we ceased firing and again moved towards the left, encamped at a late hour, and attempted to get a few hours of rest. This was the eighth day that our army, or some portions of it, had been fighting, and nearly every night these troops were on the move preparing for the next day's fighting. It was what the Army of the Potomac had not before been used to, and we saw no

immediate relief from its continuance. Only the day before, Grant had sent his dispatch ending with the memorable words, "I propose to fight it out on this line if it takes all summer." Our loss in this day's battle was about 6,000 killed and wounded, and about 800 were taken prisoners.

General Humphreys estimates the Confederates loss between 9,000 and 10,000. Among our wounded were our Corps commander and Generals Webb and Carroll. Beside the two rebel generals captured Generals Daniel and Perrin were killed and Generals Walker, Ramseur, R. H. Johnston, and McGowan were severely wounded.

Our attempt to get rest on the night of the 12th, proved a failure, for at 1 A. M. on the morning of the 13th, we were ordered further to the front into the breastworks, remaining there during the day. In the meanwhile another flank movement was planned. Warren was ordered to cross the Ny river after dark and move south on a line parallel with the river, then "re-cross the Ny, form on the left of the Ninth corps, and attack on the Fredericksburg road at four A. M. on the 14th." The Sixth corps followed the Fifth, starting at three A. M. on the 14th, and, after some fighting, assisted by Warren, he formed on Warren's left.

During the movement of the two corps, the rain was almost constant, the roads and fields over which it had to march being almost impassable on account of the mud.

The darkness says Humphreys, "was intense, so that literally you could not see your hand held before your face." The fatiguing march through the mud and darkness, made the movement slow, many hundreds losing their way, and becoming exhausted, lay down and waited for daylight to reveal the way. At the hour appointed for the attack it was found that the troops being so badly scattered, the attack was postponed. In this new position, Hancock held the right whose left was joined by Burnside's right; then came Warren's corps extending to Wright's which held the left. The general course of the Union army lay north and south except Hancock's corps which curved to the right. Behind Meade's army was the Ny river whose general course was to the southeast.

It was unfortunate that our army was not in condition to attack on the morning of the 14th, as General Lee was not

aware that the right of our army had been moved to the left, until the afternoon of the 14th. During the 15th 16th and 17th says Humphreys "the Fifth and Sixth corps advanced their intrenched lines, established batteries, opened roads, examined the country and roads leading southward, and on the 17th the Fifth corps prepared an intrenchment to be held in connection with an operation to be undertaken on the morning of the 18th." A few thousands of re-enforcements had arrived during the last few days, but these were offset by the regiments whose terms had expired. It was owing to these retiring regiments and the heavy losses in Mott's division that caused its consolidation with that of Birney's on the 13th. This, as before stated, gave to Birney the command of all the old Third corps troops.

Battery E had remained in breastworks during the whole of the 13th. At nine P. M. we were ordered further to the left, marching over rough and muddy roads in the rain. We moved but a few miles and halted on the road until morning. Several times during the night owing to the deep holes and mud in the road our horses had to be removed and the pieces drawn out by the cannoneers.

At daylight on the 14th we started and reached the vicinity of the Ny river about noon, where we remained until evening, moving then one mile further towards the left and went into position beyond some large fields known as Anderson's Farm. Several other batteries were on this farm. Among them being batteries C and G, of Rhode Island, Kimball's Fourth Maine and Harn's Third New York. Here we found our corps with the exception of Upton's brigade, which had crossed the river to occupy the high land at Gayles, where it was attacked by the rebel cavalry and Mahone's infantry, and driven back. Warren sent Ayres's brigade to his support, who drove away the enemy. The balance of the Sixth corps crossed the river and relieved Ayres.

Sunday, May 15th. We awoke quite refreshed having for the first time since crossing the Rapidan, had a good night's sleep. We remained here until about night, when we were relieved by Captain McCartney's First Massachusetts Battery returned to the Anderson Farm. Whiskey was issued to such portions of the men as desired it. This doubtful practice was seldom resorted to.

May 16th. Remained in camp until night, then relieved a battery at the front, but returned in the morning. During the day our men passed the time in writing to friends at home, many of whom had not done so since leaving Brandy Station. On the morning of the 17th an order arrived to turn in two of our guns but retain the caissons and horses. This order applied to all six-gun batteries in the army. Two days later the reserve artillery was broken up and its ninety-two guns were sent to Washington, but the caissons were retained to carry the reserve ammunition.

Four more batteries reported to Colonel Tompkins for duty. They were the Fourth Maine, Capt. G. T. Stevens; A, First New Jersey, Captain Hexamer; H, First Ohio, Captain Dorsey; and Battery M, Fifth United States, Lieutenant Brinckle commanding. This made twelve light batteries in the Sixth corps artillery brigade. They were formed into two divisions; First division, composed of rifle guns, were commanded by Lieut.-Col. J. Albert Monroe, who reported for duty to-day; the Second division, smooth-bores, commanded by Maj. John A. Tompkins.\*

Our centre section was selected as the one to go, and Sergeant Hargraves, who commanded the third piece, was detailed to deliver them to Belle Plain. About noon he started, reached his destination at noon the next day, and rejoined the battery about four P. M. on the 19th. The cannoneers who had lost their guns were divided among the other detachments.

After the departure of our two guns, we remained quiet until about night when we hitched up, moved back on the same road towards the right, then marched about three miles and halted in the road until morning. This move was made in connection with an effort of the Second and Sixth corps to turn the enemy's left. These two corps had, on the night of the 17th, marched to the battle ground of the 12th, and on the morning of the 18th, attacked the Confederates, but after several efforts it was found unwise to continue the attacks longer. They had been assisted by the Ninth and Fifth corps, who made demonstrations upon the enemy in their front, and were likewise unsuccessful. The Sixth corps returned at once to its position occupied the day before. Three divisions of the Second corps moved to the left of the Sixth corps near Anderson's Mill, on the east side of the Ny River,

\* Brother to Colonel Tompkins.

and during the same night (18th) Burnside moved his corps to the left of the Sixth corps, resting his left near the Po River. The right of the enemy, at the same time, was resting on the Po River, near Snell's Bridge. Our battery was not engaged in this attack, but had marched with the troops on the morning of the 18th toward the right centre, and when the fighting was over, moved back with the corps and encamped near army headquarters on the Anderson Farm, where we remained during the night of the 18th.

On the 19th, General Lee, believing that our army was moving to turn his right, sent Ewell's corps to meet the expected attack. In doing so Ewell encountered Keating's brigade and Tyler's division of untried troops who were on our right, guarding the Fredericksburg road. These troops, although not before having been under fire, rendered a resistance which would have done credit to veterans of many battles. To Tyler's support Warren sent a Maryland brigade, and afterwards sent a division. Hancock ordered up Birney's division, who advanced two brigades into action on Tyler's right. This continued until after dark, when Ewell retreated across the river, leaving behind him 400 of his troops as prisoners, besides losing heavily.

During the night of the 19th, General Russell's division of the Sixth corps was massed near the scene of action, and early the next morning relieved Birney's and Tyler's divisions, which returned to their corps near Clark's Mill.

Our battery crossed the Ny River at nine A. M. on the 19th, and went into park. Although our camping ground was not the best, yet, as we had been three nights without much rest, we derived a great benefit from its occupation. Our mail, the first since crossing the Rapidan, arrived on the 19th, and it added greatly to our happiness. Those who desired it had a change of clothes, which, with the much needed ablution of water, greatly improved both our mental and physical condition. We remained here during the day and night of the 20th.

Here virtually ended the desperate conflicts which began on the 8th, known as the battle of Spottsylvania. The losses in our army during these series of battles were 2,725 killed, 13,416 wounded, and 2,258 missing, making a total of 18,399. That of the enemy was probably about half as many.

## CHAPTER XXII.

May—June, 1864.

CROSSING THE NORTH ANNA.—MARCH TO HANOVER TOWN.  
BATTLE OF COLD HARBOR.

ON the night of the 20th, Hancock was ordered to move his corps through Guinney's Station and Bowling Green to Milford Station about twenty miles distant. About noon of the 21st he had reached his destination with some opposition, and was intrenched on the south bank of the Mattapony River. It was the hope of General Grant that General Lee would be deceived by this movement of the Second corps, and in consequence leave his intrenchments to meet what he supposed to be the Army of the Potomac.

Hancock was to engage the enemy, and hold him until the other corps could reach the battlefield, when they were expected to attack Lee before he could intrench himself. But the wily chief of the Confederate army was not so easily deceived, and the movement had to take the form of another flanking operation. On the night of the 21st, the other corps commenced to move to connect with Hancock. They withdrew in silence, to quote Dr. Stevens, "first throwing the right corps in rear of the rest of the army and to its left, as at the Wilderness, the troops marched rapidly all night, halting for a few moments for breath once or twice, and then pressing forward again. During the next forenoon a halt of some hours occurred at Quincy Station. Then the march was renewed and continued until dark. The Fifth and Sixth corps reached the banks of the North Anna on the evening of the 23d, and was soon followed by the Second and Ninth corps.

Again the enemy, aware of our intentions, and having the shortest line, confronted us, and disputed the crossing; but,

after considerable artillery practice, the Fifth corps succeeded in throwing across their pontoon bridges and obtaining a position on the south bank.

The enemy now attacked the corps with great vigor, but were repulsed with equal slaughter. The Sixth corps followed at four o'clock in the morning, and a little later the Second and Ninth corps also joined us. Strong breastworks were thrown up, and parties were sent to the front to reconnoiter the position."

Captain Rhodes by order on the 21st, detailed Sergeant Hargraves and fifty cannoneers to relieve a force of infantry in throwing up breastworks which were facing to the rear. It was unusual to take artillerymen for this purpose, but knowing well the severe trials that our foot comrades had to bear, but little or no protest was offered to this undesired service. At about noon this detail was relieved. During the remainder of the day we were moved from place to place without apparent purpose. Just at night the Sixth corps pickets were attacked and quite a sharp encounter occurred between the rebel troops under General Wilcox and those of our corps. During the evening we moved in connection with our corps and were on the road all night, but owing to the many halts did not make much headway. About eight o'clock the next morning, we reached Guinney's Station and halted near McGuinney's House.

To this house General Jackson was carried after being wounded at Chancellorsville one year before, and here also he died on the 10th of May, 1863. The house in which he died had now become historic, and a visit to it by many of our men forcibly suggested the question,—would the Army of the Potomac have reached here had Jackson lived to have commanded one of Lee's corps?

At 4 p. m. we continued our march about six miles and went into camp on Pleasant Hill, near Parker's store. Here we unharnessed, groomed our horses, and during the night enjoyed a refreshing sleep.

May 23d. We again resumed our forward movement with our corps towards the North Anna River. About six p. m. Warren's corps, which before our arrival had crossed the North Anna at Jericho Mills, was attacked by Hill's corps, which, after a stout resistance, succeeded in breaking our



right held by General Cutler, and were pursuing our troops when they were driven back by the artillery. Griffin in the centre, had in the meantime, strongly attacked in his front and repulsed the enemy who retreated to his line on the Virginia Central Railroad. At the commencement of the fight, the head of the Sixth corps was at Mount Carmel Church, about three miles from where Warren had crossed, and the corps was hurried forward to his support, but after arriving at the river, it was thought not to be necessary to cross the river that night.

Our battery had reached to within one mile of the river, and about 9 P. M., on the 23d, went into park. Although the men were weary from the constant marching they were, nevertheless, enabled to do a successful business at foraging as the good supply of pigs, chickens, and turkeys testified.

Although we needed the few hours given us at night for rest, we did not fail to find time to cook our harvest of fowl and swine. About noon on the 23d, Hancock arrived to within about one mile of the crossing of the Fredericksburg Railroad over the North Anna River, and formed a line with his left across the railroad, the right being held by Birney, the centre by Barlow, and the left by Gibbon. The enemy at this time still had a force on the north side of the river upon which General Hancock directed Birney's division to make an attack. This proved successful, leaving in his hands a quantity of prisoners. The enemy after crossing, attempted to burn the bridge but only partially succeeded. Burnside having arrived, was placed in position on Hancock's right near Oxford which was then held by the enemy, who were protected by a strong line of works on the south side of the river.

During the night of the 23d, the enemy retreated from his front lines in front of Hancock. Early on the morning of the 24th Hancock moved across the river and occupied their abandoned works.

Burnside had also been ordered to cross on the 24th at Oxford, but the strength of the enemy's line not warranting the effort, only one division crossed above at Quarle's Mill and was there joined by General Crawford's division of the Fifth corps. These two divisions advanced down the south

bank of the river and attacked the enemy, but they failed to drive them from their works.

The Sixth corps had crossed the river before the others, except the Fifth, and had taken position on the right, remaining there until near night when a portion of the corps was thrown forward to the Virginia Central Railroad. At daylight, on the 24th, our battery marched to the river, groomed and grazed the horses, and remained on the north side until sunset, when we crossed on canvas pontoons and encamped about one mile south of the crossing. General Warren, on the morning of the 25th, with the Fifth and Sixth corps, and one division of the Ninth, made an advance by a half wheel to the right and moved to within a half mile of the enemy's intrenchments which were found to extend from Oxford on the North Anna to Anderson's Mill on Little River, a distance of three miles. The works were found to be so formidable that our commanding chiefs decided not to make any further advance upon them, but to continue the movement by another flanking operation. Our battery on the 25th made no movement with the corps, but unharnessed at dark and remained near the river until about one A. M. the next morning, when we hitched up and returned to Jericho Mills, recrossed the river before light and halted for an hour or so. We then marched in the rain southeast to Chesterfield Station on the Richmond and Fredericksburg Railroad, and remained until night. Our horses were unharnessed, groomed and rested, preparatory for the long and rapid march which was to follow.

During the 25th and 26th our troops were ordered to destroy portions of the Central and Fredericksburg Railroad, and on the latter date, Wilson, with his division of cavalry, was sent across the North Anna to assist in destroying the Central Railroad. It was also intended that its movement should impress General Lee with the idea that our army contemplated a movement around his left flank. It will be noticed that Sheridan's cavalry corps had taken no part in the battles since that of the Wilderness. On the 8th of May Sheridan was ordered by Grant to move the next day upon his famous raid around the Confederate Army, in which he four times defeated the enemy's cavalry and recaptured 400 prisoners taken at the Wilderness. He burnt the rebel

trains and locomotives, destroyed a large amount of army supplies, consigned to the flames a million and a half of rations, and destroyed many miles of railroad.

During all these operations he was constantly harrassed by the enemy's cavalry. At Yellow Tavern General Stuart, who commanded the rebel cavalry, attacked him with his whole force, but after a severe battle was defeated. General Stuart was mortally wounded and Gen. J. B. Gordon was killed. After this battle Sheridan moved straight on the works around Richmond, upon which Custer charged with his brigade and captured the first lines, secured a few prisoners and a section of artillery. Being unable to carry the second line he retired across the Chickahominy, and, after a rest at Haxall's Landing, where he received supplies from General Butler, he started for the Army of the Potomac, which he joined near the North Anna River on the 24th of May. Besides the great amount of damage he had done to the rebel army in this raid he had kept a large part of their cavalry from constantly annoying our flanks.

During the night of the 26th the army, under cover of the darkness, was withdrawn to the north bank of the North Anna with the intention of crossing the Pamunkey River near Hanover Town, about thirty-three miles from the position then occupied by the army.

During the evening of the 26th, Russell's First division of the Sixth corps and two divisions of Sheridan's cavalry were massed at Chesterfield Station on the Fredericksburg Railroad. With these troops our battery and Dorsey's First Ohio were to make a rapid march to Hanover Town on the Pamunkey River, in order to hold the position until the arrival of other troops which were to follow.

After firing the buildings at the station we started at nine o'clock and marched all night, sometimes mounting the cannoneers and moving at a trot. A few short halts were made, when our men would throw themselves upon the ground to get a few moments of rest. At about six A. M. the next morning we halted and fed our horses, supplied ourselves with hard bread and coffee and then resumed our hurried march, reaching Hanover Town at noon on the 27th, having marched over thirty-three miles since nine o'clock the night

before. Immediately after our arrival we crossed the river on pontoons and went into park about a mile beyond the river. Here we unharnessed, fed our horses, and remained until the next day. Although the men were extremely tired they could not resist the favorable opportunity to forage a supply of eatables, among which was some fresh pork, which was seen traveling about on four legs.

During the forenoon of the 28th Lieutenant Allen was sent out for forage, and returned with a wagon-load. On the afternoon of the 28th, the remaining portion of the Sixth corps arrived, having crossed at Huntley's, four miles above Hanover Town. The Second corps followed the Sixth, both taking position about one mile from the crossing. The Fifth and Ninth corps crossed at Hanover Town, taking position on the left of the Sixth corps, but leaving a gap of one mile between them.

The enemy having the shorter route was again between our army and the rebel capital, his right on Beaver Dam Creek, his left on Totopotomoy Creek. This position completely covered the many approaches to Richmond over which our army must pass to enter the city from the north and east. About two P. M., on the 28th, Captain Rhodes moved his battery about two miles in advance and halted at some crossroads. Here we remained through the next day and night.

An unusual amount of time on the 29th was passed in grooming and grazing our horses, for what reason we could not divine. In the meanwhile the corps were directed to make reconnoissances in their front, our corps in the direction of Hanover Court-House and Hancock's and Warren's on the roads leading more direct to Richmond. Our cavalry were on our flanks. Wright met no enemy save a few cavalry.

Hancock found the enemy in force at the crossing of the Totopotomoy with the Richmond road.

On the 30th, our infantry advanced close to the enemy's position except the Sixth corps which was ordered to move at daylight to the extreme right, form on Hancock's right and to attack the enemy's left flank, but before reaching Hancock's right it became so badly entangled in the swamps that it arrived too late to be of service. Hancock during Wright's delay, had opened his artillery and silenced the enemy's

batteries, capturing some of their pickets. Further to the left, Burnside and Warren had skirmished all day. Warren toward night was attacked by Rode's division of Early's corps and drove Crawford back quite a distance, but re-enforcements arriving, Warren, after a sharp encounter, forced the enemy to retire, with a loss of three colonels.

Our battery moved with the corps and marched in a north-west course until we struck the Central Railroad about nine A. M. at Beaver Station. It was said at the time that we were on the wrong road. However that may have been, we remained until afternoon. During our stay we went between the picket lines and foraged corn for our horses, as they badly needed it, we having left camp in the morning without feeding them.

It was here that some of the men in the battery came near being shot by the enemy's sharpshooters. A house stood half way between our lines where we went to obtain something more desirable to eat than hard tack. Plenty of bacon, corn meal and other articles were found, to which we helped ourselves, notwithstanding the earnest pleadings and tears of the ladies who occupied the dwelling.

Whether the rebels wanted to save the bacon for themselves or were moved at our unmanly intrusion we cannot say, but they opened a sharp fire upon the intruders, who without waiting to thank the unwilling donors, hastily retreated from the grounds. About three P. M. in company with Captain Harn's and McKnight's batteries, we returned back on the same road over which we came, about two miles, when Captain Harn's battery was ordered into action a short distance to our left. McKnight's battery and our own marched to near a place called Hickoryville, on Dr. Shelton's plantation, where we remained during that night and the day following.

During the 31st, our infantry corps lay in front of the enemy and kept up a constant skirmish firing, but no action of any account occurred. While this skirmishing was in progress, Sheridan finding Fitzhugh Lee's division of rebel cavalry at Cold Harbor attacked him during the afternoon, drove him back and held the position until night, when an infantry brigade from Hoke's division came to Lee's support. Sheridan fearing he could not hold the ground against the re-

enforced opposition, contemplated a withdrawal but Meade ordered him, as it was an important point to us, to hold the position at all hazards. Previous to Meade giving this order to Sheridan, he had decided not to attack the enemy behind their strong works, but instead had concluded to send two corps to Sheridan's aid and hold that important centre. To this end, General Wright was ordered to move his corps during the night of the 31st and make every effort to reach Cold Harbor early in the morning, but the distance over undefined and narrow roads made it impossible, and he did not reach the vicinity until near noon of June the 1st.

We hitched up at midnight and started at three A. M. with the corps by way of Salem Church and old Church Tavern, reaching the vicinity of Cold Harbor about eleven A. M. General W. F. Smith arrived a few hours after with one division of the Eighteenth corps and two divisions of the tenth corps making a force of about 13,000, but over 2,000 of these were left at the White House Landing, where they had arrived the day before.

These troops had been sent from General Butler who was then in command of the army of the James. With us they were known as the Eighteenth corps. During the forenoon Sheridan had been attacked by two brigades of Kershaw's, but they were repulsed by the fire of repeating carbines and his artillery. These attacks were repeated, and the enemy again was repulsed. As soon as the Sixth corps had all arrived, the cavalry was relieved and ordered towards the Chickahominy to protect our left flank. Our arrival had been observed by the enemy who at once proceeded to form their lines accordingly. Ewell's corps was on their left, and was still confronted by Hancock and Burnside. Longstreet's corps, now commanded by R. H. Anderson, joined Ewell's right and extended to our left beyond Cold Harbor, confronting our corps and that of the Eighteenth.

By two o'clock, the Sixth corps was all up, covering all the important roads running through that locality. The Eighteenth corps was on our right, with its left joining the right of the Sixth corps near Cold Harbor. Rickett's Third division held the right of our corps, Russell's First division held the centre, and Neill's Second division held the extreme left of the whole line.

In front of our line there was an open space fully one-half a mile in width, and, beyond this, in a strip of woods, were the rebel intrenchments occupied by a strong force. About five P. M. our skirmishers began to advance, and soon the familiar rattle of musketry made it known that our veteran foe had accepted the challenge. At this time the artillery of the Sixth corps was hurried into position. Our battery advanced rapidly and went into battery upon a slightly elevated and open field, a few hundred feet directly to the rear of the old Cold Harbor Tavern (Jones's), about fourteen hundred yards from the enemy, and immediately commenced a vigorous fire upon the enemy's lines. Our infantry now formed in line of battle. "The First and Third divisions of the Sixth corps, in heavy columns," says Dr. Stevens, "rushed across the field, cleared the abatis, and seized the rebel works, while the Second division, on the left, discovering a strong force of enemy planting a battery on our flank, engaged them and forced them back. Smith's command, also by a desperate charge, seized nearly the whole line in the front, that on the extreme right, in front of Brooks's command, alone remaining in the hands of the rebels. The whole line thundered with the incessant volleys of musketry, and the shot and shell of the artillery shrieked and howled like spirits of evil.

"The sun was sinking red in the west, and the clouds of dust and smoke almost obscured the terrible scene. Hundreds of our brave fellows were falling on every side, and stretcher bearers were actively engaged in removing the wounded from the field. The First division, after a stubborn resistance of a few minutes, was forced to give up the line of works it had captured and fall back. Only the Third division held its ground. The others had advanced as far, but the ground was unfavorable, and in spite of the most determined efforts to hold the line they were forced to swing back."

During this terrible slaughter of our brave comrades, Captain Rhodes continued, with his battery, to fire upon the daring enemy showers of iron hail, and receiving in return a no less shower of shot and shell. After our infantry had failed to capture the rebel works, we continued to fire slowly until night set in. Again, says Dr. Stevens: As darkness came on, the conflict still raged, and sheets of flame rolled from one end of the line to the other as the discomfited rebels strove

desperately to regain their lost ground. But as the sound of battle died away at nine o'clock, the advantages gained by us were still held, and our men set to work to strengthen the works they had captured from the enemy, and to throw up new ones.

Again and again the rebels rushed against the Union lines, hoping to regain their lost ground, but without success.

After quiet had been restored, Captain Rhodes was ordered to move the battery behind some breastworks about five hundred yards in front of the enemy's lines. We had fired all of our ammunition except the canister. The caissons, late in the evening, were taken to the supply train and the ammunition chests refilled. The battery fired during this day's engagement 583 rounds of ammunition, or about one hundred and forty-six rounds from each of the four pieces present. We had been almost constantly for four weeks on the march, night and day, sometimes over rough roads which often became, by the hot weather and constant travel, like a bed of ashes.

Such was the march preceding this battle, and when at midnight, we were relieved from our guns, although the bullets fired by the watchful foe in our front were constantly dropping in the midst of us, we lay down upon our blankets and slept as soundly as though we were upon our beds at home.

Captain Rhodes and Lieutenant Parker, our new officers, had not before had so good an opportunity to show their valor as at this battle. In our engagements during this campaign we had been covered from the view of the enemy by woods and breastworks in our front, but in this engagement we had no cover or protection whatever. Captain Rhodes, although possessing a nervous temperament, was everywhere directing the actions of his battery in a manner that revealed the qualities of a veteran. Lieutenant Parker was as ever cool and self-possessed, showing a valor that in every way was an honor to himself and a credit to the battery. Lieutenants Freeborn and Allen were, as in former battles, brave and efficient officers. Sergeants Humphrey, Chandler, Tanner, and Donnelly, who had guns to command, were, as ever, conspicuous in the performance of their duties. Hargraves and Lewis the other chiefs of pieces having had their guns turned



in acted wherever their services were most needed. Sergeant Hargraves who was always cool and reliable in battle, would, had he not been deprived of his piece, have rendered the battery still more service.

The corporals and privates in this, as in previous battles had performed their duties with their usual fidelity and bravery.

The battery wagon, in charge of George I. Cole (harness maker), the forge which was driven by Elias H. Mathewson accompanied by Albert A. Hopkins, the blacksmith, together with the men in charge of the spare horses were sent about half a mile to the rear as usual during an engagement. Hopkins had previously been a corporal, but owing to there being no other person qualified for service as blacksmith he was taken for that purpose. This was a misfortune, as no man in the battery had showed more coolness and bravery, and had it not been for this change he would probably have been a sergeant before the end of his term of service. Fortunately our loss was unaccountably small, as only one man, Martin Brannan, was slightly wounded in the back.

About two A. M. on the 2d, our caissons arrived with their chests refilled with ammunition. About this time, Sergeant Humphrey was sent in search of water for our horses but none was found, and we had, I believe, to get it from a well at Jones's Tavern in our rear. Our horses, by strict orders of Colonel Tompkins, had not been unharnessed during the night. In fact they had been in harness a large portion of the time since the 4th of May, many of them having sore backs and all of them badly used up by the long and severe service of the campaign.

In the morning, Warren's corps was moved slightly to his left so as to unite with the Eighteenth corps between which there was a gap. Burnside, who was on Warren's right, was ordered to withdraw and mass his troops in Warren's right to protect his flank, and if necessary to support him if attacked.

Hancock, who held the right of our line, early on the night of the 1st began to withdraw, and between seven and eight A. M. on the morning of the 2d, was in position, on the left of the Sixth corps. In his front was Hill's corps and the divisions of Breckinridge. It was intended to have made an

attack early this morning, but for prudent reasons it was postponed until half past four on the morning of the 3d. Birney's division during the morning was sent to support the Eighteenth corps, while changes in that corps were being made, returning to his corps in the afternoon.

The withdrawal of our right being observed by General Lee, he ordered an attack upon our right flank by a portion of Ewell's corps which brought on a sharp engagement which lasted until night, neither side gaining any advantage, although Burnside lost a large number of prisoners and Warren a few of his skirmishers. The Confederates lost one of their best officers, Brigadier-General Doles, who was killed.

Late in the afternoon the hot and sultry air was somewhat cooled by a shower which was a great blessing to the wounded, who lay between the line where no aid could reach them. During the 2d both armies were at work strengthening their lines for the coming conflict. At daylight we were aroused from our slumbers, and after a hasty breakfast were at our guns waiting for the fight to commence. Promptly at the hour appointed the Second, Sixth and Eighteenth corps, says Humphreys, "advanced to the attack, under heavy artillery and musketry fire, and carried the enemy's advanced rifle-pits. But then the fire became still hotter and cross-fires of artillery swept through the ranks from the right of Smith to the left of Hancock. Notwithstanding this destructive fire, the troops went forward close up to the main line of intrenchments, but not being able to carry them, quickly put themselves under cover, and maintained the positions they had gained, which in some places were but thirty, forty, and fifty yards from the enemy's works."

The loss in officers and men was heavy, and especially so in brigade and regimental commanders, who are the leaders in action. The greater part of the fighting was over in an hour or less, though attacks were renewed after that time. The killed and wounded of these three corps in that time exceeded 4,000.

Including the Fifth and Ninth corps, the total number killed and wounded was over 5,600. The same author continues to say, "The Sixth corps advanced to the attack, with Russell's division on the left, Rickett's in the centre, Neill's (Getty's) on the right. The advanced rifle-pits were carried

on the right, and then the assault on the main line was made, but was repulsed with heavy loss. Yet positions were gained and held close to the works, at some points only thirty or forty yards from them.

"During all this time, besides the direct fire, there was an enfilade artillery fire that swept through the ranks from the right and from the left. The casualties of the corps were some 800 killed and wounded, among the number valuable officers."

On the right, Burnside had captured the enemy's advanced lines in the morning and held them awaiting the hour of one P. M., when it was hoped that our successes on the left would be such as to give hope of success on the right. Just as Burnside was about to advance to the attack upon the enemy's main line, orders came from General Meade "suspending all further offensive operations, and directing corps commanders to intrench the positions they held, and make reconnoissances with a view to moving against the enemy's works by regular approaches from the advanced positions they held."

After the reception of this order Burnside was attacked by Early, which brought on a sharp engagement in which Warren was also concerned. The contest did not stop until night. The losses in these two corps was about 1,200 killed and wounded. Birney's division was sent to Warren's aid, but hostilities had ceased before he advanced his lines. Birney remained here until the 5th, then returned to his corps, and, taking a position on its left, extended it to the Chickahominy. In this engagement Battery E opened fire in concert with the corps, about four and a half A. M., firing at first rapidly, sometimes by battery. After the assaults were made and failed, we slackened our fire, but continued it by intervals for some three hours. After firing sixty solid shot and thirty-two case shot we ceased firing. Shortly after discontinuing our fire General Ricketts sent for Captain Rhodes, who upon reporting was ordered to report to Colonel Horn. On reporting he was requested to examine a position to place a battery. "It was found to be," says Captain Rhodes, "way out on the skirmish line, and in a low swamp covered with brush so thick that we could not see five paces in front, and within thirty yards of the enemy's sharpshooters, and having

a rebel battery on the right, within good canister range to fire on my right flank.

"I reported to General Ricketts, and described the position to him, and said that I was willing to go in there if he thought it desirable. He said he did not, and ordered me to return to my command and await further orders."

Judging from the description, it is doubtful, had we been sent to that position, that any one belonging to the battery would have lived to write or read its history. Previous to this engagement breastworks had been thrown up in front of the guns, mostly by our own men. At least they had been strengthened during the day before, so that we were quite well protected from the infantry firing, but from the sharpshooters we had but a poor shelter, as they were firing from the tree tops in our front. It was from these or from the artillery that Sergeant Humphrey was severely wounded between seven and eight o'clock in the morning. The wound was upon the left arm just below the shoulder, the ball or piece of shell passing directly across the arm and then extending downward leaving the wound in the form of a right angle. Just how the wound received its shape, has never been satisfactorily settled. Captain Rhodes, who had a moment before been speaking with him, says that he heard the whizzing sound of a shell which exploded in their midst, and he has no doubt that the wound was caused by a piece of this exploding shell.

Humphrey was assisted to the rear, remaining there until morning, when he, with other wounded men, was carried to White House Landing. At night he boarded a steamer for Washington, arriving the next evening and was placed in Lincoln hospital, remaining there until the 11th when he was sent to Patterson hospital near Baltimore, where he remained until the 27th of June, and then receiving a furlough, started for his home in Tiverton, R. I.

Joseph McCarty was also slightly wounded on the 3d, and one horse was killed. Several others had narrow escapes, one of these being Captain Rhodes, who a short time after the fighting had ceased, was standing with Captain Harn, of the Third New York Battery, under a tree, and just as both had stepped away a solid shot struck the tree and cut it down. Captain Harn, observing the narrow escape,

quaintly remarked, "Captain Rhodes, that's just the place for us, for lightning strikes but once in a place."

During the evening of the 3d, the rebels made a sudden dash upon the left of the Sixth Corps and the right of the Second, a very determined effort being made to enter our lines, but the rebels were repulsed. No more fighting at Cold Harbor occurred, except by sharpshooters and skirmishers, although two attempts were made by Lee on the 6th and 7th to attack our right flank, but both proved a failure, as his troops became entangled in the swamps in that vicinity.

June 4th. Sergeant Hargraves now took charge of Humphrey's second detachment. Since the 17th of May, when two of our guns were turned in, Hargraves had only his caisson with its horses and drivers to care for, but these were now turned over to Lance Sergeant Lewis, who now had charge of what remained of the third and fourth detachment. Our horses were taken one mile to the rear and grazed, greatly to their benefit. During this and nearly every evening for a week after, the skirmishing was lively, sometimes accompanied by brisk artillery firing. Never were the men who occupied the front lines in so much danger as at Cold Harbor. The most trifling movement would bring on a brisk firing. Breastworks were built at the angles to cover our movements. Trenches were dug through which our men could go after water and whatever else was necessary. Yet with all the precaution taken not a day passed but that scores were either killed or severely wounded.

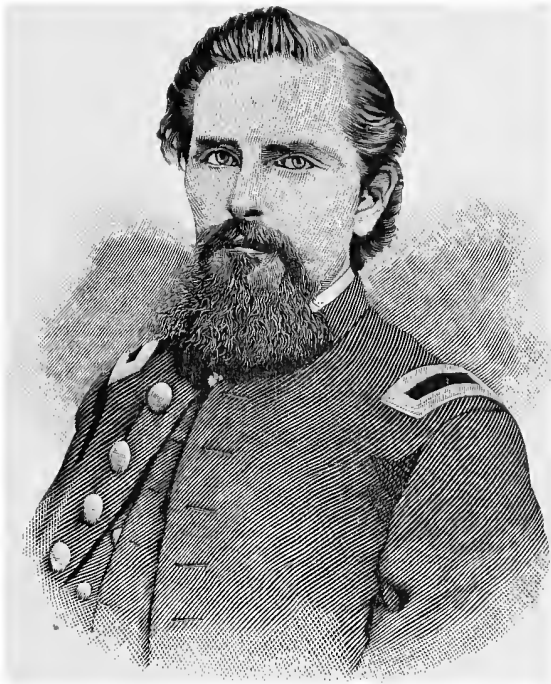
"The whole plain occupied by our army," says Stevens, "was dug over. General officers had their tents erected in deep excavations surrounded by embankments of earth, and special duty men had each prepared for themselves burrows in the ground. One was reminded in riding over the plain, of the colonies of prairie dogs with their burrows and mounds."

The sufferings and privations of our men in the intrenchments were severe, but what shall be said of the hundreds that fell wounded between our lines during the fight of the first and third day. Here they lay uncared for until the 7th, when a flag of truce brought relief to those who had not been relieved by the angel of death. A few of these wounded had been brought in at night by their comrades,

but many had died before relief reached them. This is but a miniature picture of the barbarities of war, yet we claim for ourselves a high degree of civilization. What a burlesque!

June 5th. Turned out at 3 A. M. as usual. Our troops busy to-day digging covered roads, and cutting driveways through the woods on our left. The cannoneers were constantly at their guns, but the drivers were more at liberty. Besides their usual care of the horses they had to take them daily to the rear to graze.

Corp. Allen Gardiner, one of the original members, took leave of the battery, having been discharged on the 4th to accept a commission as second lieutenant. Gardiner enlisted in September, 1861, was mustered into the service on the 30th of the same month as a corporal. On the 14th of March, 1862, he was promoted to sergeant and assigned to the first piece, which position he held until the 7th of October following, when, owing to a physical inability to ride horseback, he was at his own request reduced to a corporal, serving as such during his remaining service in the battery. As before stated, Gardiner passed the Casey board on the 2d of February, 1864, as second lieutenant. After his arrival in Rhode Island from the army, he passed his time among his friends until the 24th when his commission reached him, bearing the date of May 11, 1864. He was instructed to report to Beaufort, South Carolina. On the 27th he left Rhode Island for New York, and sailed from there in the *Star of the South* on the 3d of July, reaching his destination on the 8th, and was at once assigned to Company F, Twenty-sixth Regiment of United States Colored Troops. He served in this regiment until the 21st of June, 1865, when he was transferred to the Forty-sixth Regiment (also colored), serving until Aug. 28, 1865, when he resigned. A letter written by Mrs. Mary A. Clarke (his half sister), dated Jamestown, Rhode Island, Aug. 12, 1890, says, "Allen was married Dec. 28, 1869, to Mary Kate Carr, daughter of Peleg C. Carr and Catherine W. Weeden, his wife, both of Jamestown, Rhode Island. The second year after the war Lieutenant Gardiner went south and took a plantation in Christ Church parish, near Charleston, South Carolina, and planted cotton for a number of years; he returned to Jamestown with his family in 1875. His health after his return began to fail steadily.



Lieut. Allen Gardiner.





In 1882 he went to Florida for his health, returning in July of the following year, and lived about six weeks, and died Sept. 14, 1883, of consumption.

His ancestors were of more than ordinary note. His grandparents on his mother's side were Samuel D. Allen and Joanna (Eldred) Allen. He was a farmer and a man of great dignity of character and held the office of sheriff of Washington County, Rhode Island, for many years, dying in office in 1828. His grandfather on his father's side was the Honorable Benjamin Gardiner, of Middletown, Rhode Island, a man of wealth and large influence. He was an influential vestryman in Trinity Church, Newport, for over thirty years and is honorably mentioned in the "Annals" of that church. He also was a farmer.

His father's name was John H. Gardiner, of Middletown, Rhode Island, and his mother was Lucy A. Allen, of North Kingstown, Rhode Island. He, too, was a farmer and a man of marked ability and influence. Although often solicited to take office he always refused. He died Nov. 7, 1873. His mother died Jan. 2, 1887. The subject of this sketch was born in Sherburn, Chenango County, New York, March 14, 1839. He was educated in the district schools and the academy at East Greenwich, R. I., attending the latter in the years of 1857 and 1858. In 1859 he attended the academy at Alfred Center, New York. Returning to Rhode Island he entered the Normal School (then at Bristol), to prepare himself for teaching, but, failing in health, he had to leave the school, and went to Charleston, South Carolina, and spent the winter. Then, returning to Rhode Island, he took a course of studies in Eastman's Commercial College, returning the next year to Charleston, where he entered the service of D. Otis Clarke (his half sister's husband), as book-keeper in a wholesale grocery store, serving at the same time as correspondent of the *Providence Press*. He remained here until the Rebellion made it necessary for him to return north. In 1866 and 1867 he was elected to serve his town in the General Assembly.

He was an influential member of the Grand Army of the Republic and of the Royal Arcanum, but he never sought to be an officer in either. Lieutenant Gardiner had a genial and social nature and was well versed on all general sub-

jects. Although not physically strong, he nevertheless performed the duties belonging to the service very commendably. His departure was regretted by every member of the company, by whom he was highly esteemed for his manly and gentlemanly conduct. Allen left a widow and four children, two boys and two girls. His father married twice (two sisters). By the second wife, Allen was the only child. By the first, he had one son and one daughter. To the latter, who is a woman of fine ability and of most excellent character, I am indebted for many facts relating to her half brother's history.

June 6th. Our breastworks were built higher, leaving port-holes for our guns. The enemy fired a few shot across our flank causing quite a commotion for a short time.

Eighteen condemned horses were sent to the White House Landing, and ten new horses were drawn. Fourteen detached men were returned in charge of the writer to their regiments, their term of service having nearly expired. Some of these men were among our best, and had served in our battery since July, 1862. Several of them were from the Fortieth New York (Mozart), some from the Fourth Maine, and others from Pennsylvania regiments. It was not until the afternoon of the next day, that some of these regiments were found, and some of them were so near to the enemy's intrenchments that we were not permitted to reach them, the men having to wait in the rear for night to cover their approach.

June 7th. Rather quiet to-day. Our camp was policed and Captain Rhodes had another tent pitched for the officers. Our teams were brought up from the rear. Between six and eight p. m., under a flag of truce, our dead were buried. During the time a more friendly intercourse was held between the lines, the men exchanging papers and resorting to other friendly acts not unusual at such times. Shortly after, Meade issued orders that in the future such intercourse should cease.

June 8th and 9th all remained comparatively quiet.

June 10th. A good supply of clothing was received from the White House Landing. Private George H. Kelly, who had been severely wounded at Gettysburg, returned to the battery from the hospital.

June 11th. The day opened with unusual quietness, although it was observed that headquarters orderlies were more

than usually active. Rumors were afloat that no more attacks would be made at Cold Harbor. To do so, would have, in the opinion of every competent judge, resulted only in another useless slaughter, which had been according to Phisterer's Statistical Records, 1,905 killed, 10,570 wounded and 2,456 missing, making a total of 14,931. Add to these the 3,000 sick sent north to the general hospital, and we have in round numbers a loss of nearly 18,000. By adding to the loss at Cold Harbor, the losses in the Army of the Potomac and that of the James since crossing the Rapidan, we have the frightful number of over 61,000 a number equal to the army commanded by General Lee at the commencement of this campaign.

June 12th. The eighteen detached men, still serving in the battery, were returned to their regiments under charge of the writer. Like those who were returned on the 6th, they were among our best men and their departure was sincerely regretted. The places of these men were filled by a detail of twenty-five men from the Ninth and Second New York Heavy Artillery, the latter being from the Second corps.

## CHAPTER XXIII.

June, 1864.

CROSSING THE JAMES RIVER.—ASSAULTS UPON THE  
INTRENCHMENTS OF PETERSBURG.

GENERAL GRANT, from the beginning of the campaign had decided, should he fail to beat Lee's army north of the James, to throw his army south of that river and attack Richmond from the south. In accordance with that intention, orders were issued for the movement to commence on the night of the 12th. On the 9th General Meade had ordered a new line of works to be built in rear of our lines at Cold Harbor. Behind this line the Second and Sixth corps moved after dark on the night of the 12th, and they were to hold it until the roads were cleared by the other troops for their withdrawal. Warren was to cross the Chickahominy at Long Bridge. The Eighteenth corps was to return by way of White House Landing to Bermuda Hundred on transports. The Sixth and Ninth corps were to cross at Jones's Bridge, and the Sixth, after crossing the Chickahominy, was to take the road leading to Charles City Court-House. While waiting for the hour of starting, five men from each detachment were detailed to level the works in our front. After dark it was promptly done, after which we moved behind the new works just finished in our rear, but before moving leather washers were put on the wheels in order to lessen the noise in moving. It was about midnight when the forward movement of our corps began. Our battery marched in the rear of General Neill's Second division, until six o'clock the next morning, when we halted about six miles from Bottom's Bridge on the farm of Dr. Allen. Here we fed our horses and got our breakfast and then resumed our march passing

Providence Church and Baltimore Cross Roads. We crossed the West Point Railroad at Summit Station, reaching the Chickahominy at Jones's Ford, crossed on pontoons about six P. M., and went into camp just beyond the river on a beautiful plantation said to have been owned by the rebel general Anderson. It was here that we staid on the night of the 15th of August, 1862, when retiring from the Peninsula. Jones's Ford is twenty miles below Cold Harbor, Long Bridge fifteen miles, Bottom Bridge eight miles, and Windsor Shades, at the head of navigation where our long trains crossed, was twenty-four miles below. The bridges at these places had been destroyed previous to our arrival. To protect us while crossing the fords, Warren, with a portion of his corps crossed Long Bridge and moved out to White Oak Bridge, with the intention of impressing General Lee with the idea, that General Meade proposed moving directly towards Richmond. The strategy was more successful than was anticipated and Lee did not fully comprehend Meade's intention until the 17th. The other corps promptly marched as ordered, the Second corps reaching the vicinity of Wilcox Landing just before night on the 13th. The Second was followed by the Sixth, Ninth and Fifth, who arrived within a few miles of the James River on the 14th. Battery E hitched up at three A. M., left park at six, marched to within three miles of the James River and halted upon the estate of Ex-President John Tyler. The house was visited by large numbers. It was a charming spot to every lover of the beautiful. The house had been almost stripped of everything, the cabinet had been taken away, the library robbed of its choicest volumes and sheets of music and books lay in wild confusion upon the floor. It was no credit to the perpetrators.

After halting, Captain Rhodes was told that we should probably remain two or three days, and for that reason he had the camp arranged in good order. Harness poles were put up and the picket line was stretched in the woods in rear of the battery. Our horses grazed in a clover field, after which we ate our rations and then at ten o'clock we turned in to get a much desired rest. It was seldom that the troops were marched so far and so constantly as they had been in this movement. The roads were very dusty, the men not having

been allowed their usual rations of coffee, were almost suffocated with dust, and, being extremely weary, they were soon asleep.

The pontoon bridge across the James River was between Windmill Point and Fort Powhattan, the river at that point being 2,100 feet wide, and its depth in mid-channel was from twelve to fifteen fathoms. There were one hundred and one pontoons. Vessels were anchored in the channel, to which the pontoon boats were fastened. The bridge was begun at four P. M. on the afternoon of the 14th, and finished at midnight. It was built by Major Duane and General Benham, its construction being commenced at both ends and finished in the middle. As soon as it was completed the Ninth corps trains and artillery commenced crossing, followed by the trains and artillery of the Fifth and Sixth corps. The troops of the corps crossed in the same order. Battery E hitched up on the morning of the 15th at three A. M., and the four gun detachments moved from the park soon after sunrise, arriving near the bridge about eight A. M., and halted to await its turn. The two extra caissons, battery wagon, forge, and other attachments, were left in charge of the writer to cross later. At nine o'clock the battery fell into line, crossed the bridge in safety, marched to the high tablelands and halted about one mile beyond the river, where it remained all day and through the night,

During the afternoon of the 15th my detachment of caissons with the battery wagon and forge, and with a like command from the other batteries, accompanied by several regiments, were ordered forward with orders to keep well closed up, and allow no troops to pass through the column. We had proceeded about one mile when a regiment approached the column from an oblique direction and made an attempt to pass through the line. For a few minutes it looked as though we should have a battle of our own. At first, only high words were used, but when the head of the regiment attempted to force its way through, sabres were drawn and whips and spurs were freely used upon the horses, which the troops resisted by using the butts of their guns upon the bodies of our horses, threatening at the same time to use the bayonet if we did not give way. But horse power proved too much for footmen and the victory was ours, although the

poor horses carried their wounds for several days. We continued the march to within one mile of the river, halted upon the Kittiquan plantation and remained all night. The next morning we hitched up, moved forward a short distance and unhitched, remaining so until near night. We had been left without extra rations and our commissary train had crossed the river, but the kindness of a sergeant in the First New York Battery, who loaned us a box of bread, relieved our hunger.

Towards night our horses were ridden to a river for water. While there the drivers desired to bathe in the river, but while so doing orders came to hitch up and the men had to hastily dress themselves and hurry back to the caissons. In an hour or two we moved forward, crossed the pontoons in the darkness, and after an hour or so found the rest of the battery about two miles beyond the river.

Previous to the building of the pontoon bridge a large fleet of vessels and boats was gathered at that point. It was by these boats that Hancock's corps crossed during the day and night of the 14th. On the 15th three ferry boats arrived, and by these his trains and the artillery, which had not before crossed, were rapidly conveyed to the south bank. During the evening of the 15th Hancock received orders from General Meade to move his corps towards Petersburg as soon as his rations arrived from City Point, which place was now our new base of supplies. General Smith as before stated, had returned to Bermuda Hundred, arriving there during the 14th. As soon as the Eighteenth corps arrived General Butler ordered General Smith to move the corps across the Appomattox and advance upon Petersburg. In addition to his own corps, he had to assist him 2,500 cavalry under Kautz and 3,500 colored infantry under Hinks. The works protecting Petersburg ran from the Appomattox east one mile; then south three miles to a point one-half mile below the Norfolk Railroad, then west four miles to a point one mile west of the Weldon Railroad, then north two miles to the Appomattox River. Redans were built at intervals along this line of works, all being connected by well built rifle-pits. The line was about two miles from the city. General Beauregard had command of these works, and at that time less than three thousand troops occupied them. After spending nearly

all the day in reconnoitering, about seven P. M. Smith assaulted the works with Hinks's colored troops, and in two hours had captured five of the redans with the rifle-pits connecting them. These redans were defended with artillery, all of which were captured and over 200 prisoners taken. Our colored troops alone lost 507 killed and wounded. Hancock came up but was too late to render any assistance, except to relieve Smith's troops.

"The next morning" says Grant in his *Memoirs*, "Hancock himself was in command and captured another redan. Meade came up in the afternoon and succeeded Hancock, who had to be relieved temporarily from the command of his corps on account of the breaking out afresh of the wound he had received at Gettysburg."

Later in the day, Birney, then in command of the corps, was ordered by Meade to make an assault with the Second corps, and two brigades from both the Ninth and Eighteenth corps. The attack was made at about six P. M., and resulted in the capture of three more redans, "together with their connecting lines and the driving back of the enemy along the whole line. The attacking force suffered severely. The heavy fighting ceased at dark, but several vigorous attempts were made by the enemy during the night to retake their lost ground." During the fighting in the daytime our battery had not moved from its camp on the south bank of the James, where we were awaiting the crossing of the infantry of our corps, which was the last to cross, under protection of the armored ships and gunboats anchored in the river.

We drew five days' rations while waiting, which fact in connection with the rapid movements of the troops towards Petersburg and the heavy cannonading in the same direction indicated, that we, too, should soon be engaged in the conflict. At ten P. M. we hitched up and marched all night in company with the Second division of our corps. The First and Third divisions had been sent on transports to re-enforce Butler at Bermuda Hundred. We halted early on the morning of the 17th and had breakfast, groomed our horses, then hitched up again, moved on towards Petersburg, reaching within about four miles of there, and then went into park at five P. M. The day was extremely hot and we were almost



suffocated by the clouds of dust arising from the roads which had become like an ash heap.

During our march we met Battery F of our regiment, and were surprised to find in its ranks Edward Austin, one of our best men, who had been sent to the hospital at Harrison's Landing in July, 1862. He was sent from the hospital by mistake to that battery, when it lay at New Berne, N. C. He was pleased to rejoin his old battery.

At daylight on the 17th, we were listening to the heavy artillery firing in our front which we soon learned was caused by General Potter's division of the Ninth corps, who attacked the lines in his front, capturing four guns, five colors, 600 prisoners, and 1,500 stands of arms. In making these captures Griffin's and Curtin's brigades were formed under cover of a ravine and moved with fixed bayonets close to the enemy's lines, when the command "forward" was passed along the line in whispers, and without firing a shot they charged over the enemy's works, capturing many of them while they were asleep. Others ran away without firing a shot, and the remainder surrendered without resistance. "Their lines were swept," says Griffin, "for a mile." The retreating enemy were followed up and driven into their new lines on the west slope of Harrison's creek. Later in the day these new lines were attacked by the Ninth corps, who succeeded in capturing a portion of the line and a few prisoners. Our troops who captured the lines being out of ammunition were driven out in the evening by Gracie's brigade which took many prisoners. General Barlow of the Second corps and Crawford of the Fifth corps supported Burnside in this attack. Our losses were severe. The enemy's new line now extended from the Appomattox River to the Norfolk Railroad. On the 17th General Smith with two divisions of the Eighteenth corps returned to Butler at Bermuda Hundred. Martindale's division alone remained, which, with the Second division of the Sixth corps, held the lines vacated by the Eighteenth corps.

At an early hour on the morning of the 18th an advance was made upon the enemy's lines by the Second, Fifth and Ninth corps. Upon reaching the lines it was found that the enemy had fled during the night, leaving behind many of their killed and wounded. On finding the line vacated Gen-

eral Meade ordered the three corps again to advance before re-enforcements could arrive, which, as was learned from the prisoners captured, were on the way. Twelve o'clock was the hour set for the assault. Birney being nearer the enemy's position made the assault at that hour, but he was repulsed, losing heavily. Burnside finding that the enemy had to be driven from the Norfolk Railroad Cut before reaching near enough to make an assault, was not able to join in the attack at that hour. Warren likewise encountered difficulties in his way; besides having an open field to cross he was exposed to the fire of the enemy's artillery. Meade being unable to obtain a concert of action, ordered each corps to assault as soon as possible with its whole command. Late in the afternoon all the corps assaulted, but no substantial advantage was gained. The losses were considerable.

Further to the right Martindale's division of the Eighteenth corps advanced and captured some rifle-pits. The Second division of the Sixth corps advanced on the left of Martindale, but not so far. Our division loss was slight.

Our battery hitched up at daylight, and at nine A. M. moved one mile nearer to Petersburg and went into park upon the high land near the Beatty House. Upon our right and front ran the waters of the Appomattox. We had not long to wait before a twenty-pounder battery commenced firing upon our position. This battery was beyond our range upon the north bank of the Appomattox River. The fire was slow, but it was nevertheless very annoying. After noon the four guns of the battery were ordered to take a position half a mile or more to the front where it was to support the advance of Martindale's and Neill's divisions. The battery wagon, forge, two caissons and the spare horses remained in the camp in charge of the writer. After the right and left sections had left us the twenty-pounder battery continued at intervals to fire shots through our defenceless camp. A few rods to the north of the camp there was a large mound which had apparently been thrown up for some purpose, and behind this our caissons and horses were moved. This protected us from the ricochetting shots, but not from those of a higher range. No one was hurt, although some very good line shots passed through the camp.

When the battery moved to the front by order of Colonel Tompkins it was placed in works from which some rebels were driven on the 16th. The position was about three hundred yards from the enemy's lines. The cannoneers of the battery immediately set to work to strengthen the earthworks in their front. It was at this time that Martindale's and Neill's divisions drove the enemy's heavy skirmishing line back upon their main works. Captain Rhodes was ordered to advance further towards the enemy, leaving our position to be occupied by Captain McKnight's Fifth United States Battery. This order was soon countermanded, as it should have been, for our men were not willing to build breastworks for other batteries, who could as well build their own.

"Soon after this," says Captain Rhodes, "Lieutenant Ewing, of Colonel Tompkins's staff, came and wanted that I should go with him and find a new position for the battery. We went up (to the right) towards Petersburg, and found a position within a mile of the city. General Hunt came up and soon after Colonel Tompkins, and they ordered me to take up my battery on the gallop. I took up the right section (Parker's) first, got it in position on the right of our lines, and opened on the enemy. Then up came Lieutenant Ewing with the left section and I put it on our left. Captain Dorsey followed with the First Ohio and took position on our right and rear. Our lines charged and we opened on the town as also did Dorsey. Soon after the enemy brought a battery on our right flank and shelled us briskly with shrapnel we could not bring our guns to bear on them, but Dorsey could, so we had to stand and take it. I lost five men wounded and six horses in about three minutes. After they opened I got some contrabands and had a traverse thrown up to protect my flank, keeping them at work all night. Here I fired the first shot into Petersburg."

In selecting the position on the right Lieutenant Parker's account differs somewhat from that of Captain Rhodes. Lieutenant Parker says: "By permission of Captain Rhodes I was sent to the extreme right of our lines on the high river banks to examine for a new position. I found that by placing our guns on the high bluffs we could easily shell the town. I reported this to Captain Rhodes. He asked permission of

Colonel Tompkins to take the battery to the bluffs. After much entreaty the colonel consented that the captain should send out a section, claiming that the enemy had batteries across the river in easy range that would silence us and thereby cause us a loss which would exceed the gain. I was detailed to take the right section to the position and slowly open fire. I did so, and believe that we threw the first shot into Petersburg. It was nearly a mile range and we fired mostly solid shot. After awhile as no guns replied to us except rifles, the rest of the battery was brought up and I think fired a number of rounds also. An Ohio battery (Dorsey's) was placed on our right facing across the river at right angles to our front. We ceased firing for a time as there appeared to be no enemy of any force in our front. Suddenly a spirited infantry fire was opened upon us, and we resumed firing with shot, shell and case. By a premature discharge, owing to imperfect sponging of one of the guns of my section (2d piece) four men were severely wounded. William E. Hooper lost a large portion of his hand. The other men who were wounded being William Crothers, George H. Kelley, and Thomas Noland. This caused a temporary confusion in the detachment, but only for a few minutes, for the firing from this gun was resumed as before the accident. As my attention has been called to the allegation that the men would not stand to their posts at that time, I have deemed it pertinent particularly to describe the above incident, as it may all have arisen from that. I certainly did not hear Captain Rhodes make such complaint. The battery had quite an extended front, and I am free to say that I am not good authority for what transpired in any other section but my own. The firing continued until orders were given to cease."

These two accounts vary in no essentials except as to who selected the position on the right. But the fact that Lieutenant Parker gave his account from memory a quarter of a century after the event, and Captain Rhodes's account was from his diary kept at the time the events occurred, the latter must necessarily be considered the most trustworthy.

Besides the four men wounded by the explosion, one man, Emil Thomas was severely wounded by a rebel shell in the hand, which nearly destroyed the use of it. He belonged to Sergeant Chandler's piece (fifth). Thomas was a German and

joined the battery as a recruit, Aug. 8, 1863, and was a most excellent soldier. He never returned to the battery but was sent from the hospital to the Veteran Reserve corps, April 17, 1865. The battery fired in this day's action eighty-four solid shot, thirty-two shell, and seventy case shot.

June 19th. The men of the battery were up at daylight, tired and exhausted. They had been kept at work upon the breastworks until after midnight. Although there was no regular engagement on this day, we kept up a slow fire at intervals, sometimes firing upon a steamer at the wharf in Petersburg and at the pontoon and railroad bridges over the river near the city. Sometimes the railroad buildings were objects that drew our fire. The sharpshooters were very troublesome, firing at every moving object within their range, one of their victims being Lieutenant Freeborn's horse, which was killed, and two or three other horses were wounded. Seventy-two solid shot, twenty-three shell and seventy-two case shot were fired by Rhodes's battery. The two divisions of the Sixth corps sent to re-enforce Butler returned to the Army of the Potomac on the evening of the 19th.

June 20th. The battery remained in the same position. A hundred men had been detailed the night before to throw up a traverse in rear of the battery to protect us from the fire of a rebel battery that was placed on the banks of the river, which at this point was bent somewhat in the form of the letter S, and extended nearly to our rear. These men had worked all night upon the traverse and had not quite completed it when a terrible fire was opened upon us from the batteries, one from the rear and one from the right and rear, and the third directly from our front. "This fire," says Sergeant Slocum, "was the most terrible that I was ever under, and every man was ordered to lay low." "This fire," says Captain Rhodes, "was kept up some two hours or more, but our works were so good that only one man was hurt." After enduring the fire for awhile Captain Rhodes ordered the guns to open a slow fire upon these batteries. The contest, although unequal, was continued until the enemy ceased firing. We fired ten solid shot, eight shell, and eight case shot.

The men on detail throwing up the traverse immediately fled when the enemy's shot began to fall among them. The

officers at headquarters with glasses were anxiously watching the result of the fire from our triple enemy, and in describing the affair afterwards said the many shells exploding above and around the battery looked like corn popping. Several staff officers called during the day, among them Captain Holmes, son of Oliver Wendell Holmes, he being on the corps staff. One of these staff officers informing Captain Rhodes that his battery would be relieved at dark, was requested to say to Colonel Tompkins that it was not his wish to be relieved; but his desire was not granted, and at the time named we were relieved by Brinckle's Battery E Fifth United States and moved back to the rear about one mile, opposite Fort No. 6. In the meantime the caissons had remained at the same place. During the 20th a large crowd had gathered near the Beatty House to witness the hanging of a colored man for rape. The confederates were evidently watching the strange proceedings with their glasses, and whether they thought we were hanging a rebel spy or not was never known, but they opened a sharp artillery fire upon the assembled crowd, wounding a few men, but none of the official actors were hit. The scaffold was directly in line between us and the rebel battery, and for a few minutes the position was anything but agreeable.

When the gun detachments moved to the rear, the extra caissons, battery wagon and forge joined the column and moved with it.

Humphreys, in his *Virginia Campaign*, says: "It was now determined to invest Petersburg partially by a line of intrenchments directed towards the Lynchburg (Southside) Railroad. These intrenchments were to consist of redoubts connected by lines of infantry parapets with ditches and entanglements of slashing or abatis, which the army might be withdrawn from at any time, leaving a sufficient force to hold them and move to intercept the railroads and attack Lee's army in unexpected quarters south or even north of the James."

The first move towards this investment was begun on the 21st. Burnside extended troops to the right covering the ground held by the Second and Fifth corps. The Fifth corps moved to the left of the Ninth, and by the evening of the 21st the left of this corps rested on the Jerusalem plank

road where Fort Sedgwick was afterwards built. The Second and Fifth corps were moved towards the left and were to attempt the capture of the Weldon Railroad on the 22d. During the 21st our battery lay in camp, and put up shades with the expectation of remaining some days. In the meantime orders came to follow our corps. At 11 P. M. we left camp, and marched all night, but the movement being slow we covered only four miles by daylight the next morning, when we halted, fed our horses, and prepared breakfast for ourselves. We remained here until afternoon when the battery moved a mile further towards the enemy's lines. At this time Captain Rhodes was sent for to report to Colonel Tompkins at the line of battle. After reporting he was ordered to report to General Ricketts. The general being present, assigned to him his position, and also gave orders to have a detail sent to throw up some earthworks for the battery, behind which we soon took position.

In the meanwhile the Second corps connected its right to the left of the Fifth and swung forward his left towards the enemy's lines. The Sixth corps was ordered to move towards the Weldon Railroad and form its lines at right angles with the Second corps. In the movements of these corps an interval had been left unguarded by some oversight of Birney's, who was still in temporary command of the Second corps. Into this gap Gen. A. P. Hill, who had moved down the Weldon Railroad to protect it from Meade's threatened attack, threw Mahone's and Johnson's divisions. This attack was so sudden and unexpected, that Birney's troops were driven back in some confusion to the place from which they started in the morning. After the attack General Hill returned to his intrenchments taking with him about 2,000 prisoners and four field pieces. During the evening the Second corps again advanced a short distance and halted until morning, when it made another advance to the point from which it had been driven the day before. "The Sixth corps," says Humphreys, "formed on its left, thrown back facing the Weldon Railroad, and about a mile and a half from it, its picket line close to the road."

After our battery was in position an aid informed Captain Rhodes that the attack would soon be made by our troops, never once dreaming that General Hill had something to say

as to who should open fire. The sudden change of program doubtless prevented our battery from being brought into action.

On the 22d William H. Bailey was again sent to the hospital on account of illness. He never returned to the battery. He was a good soldier and sustained an excellent character. The severe strain of the service was more than his sensitive nature and diminutive form could endure. He died Oct. 18, 1864, aged about thirty years.

June 23d, the enemy was seen moving towards our left and we waited for an attack, but none came. Wright was anxious to attack, but Meade telegraphed him not to do so. Our camp was now prepared for as much comfort as the extreme hot and dry weather would permit. It had not rained since the 3d of June; the surface water had dried up and the small streams had disappeared, making it necessary to dig wells for water with which to water our horses. One of these wells had been opened before our arrival and the water had to be drawn by buckets, a process which was somewhat slow and tedious. As several batteries had to be supplied from this well, it sometimes happened that one had to wait for another. For this reason the batteries vied with each other for the first supply. No ill will, however, was manifested by the beaten contestants.

It was on the 23d that Israel Riley and Joseph F. Devens were sent by Lieutenant Freeborn, who was officer of the day, to City Point after a horse and some luxuries. Both had horses with full equipments, including two navy revolvers. On their return they stopped at a farm-house about one hundred yards from the road to purchase food and were kindly treated, being furnished with milk, honey, and biscuits, for which they paid. The people at the house seemed anxious to retain them. This fact aroused their suspicions so they started to go away, and just as they were mounting their horses five of Mosby's guerrillas made their appearance, firing five shots at them, but which failed to hit them, although the bullets whistled around their heads. Riley drew his revolver but had no chance to fire before he was covered by five revolvers. At this point Devens remarked, "Why didn't you ask us to surrender before firing at us like cowards?" To which they replied by threatening to blow out his brains.



At first they were taken to the woods and told that they were to be hanged. The few old men living in the vicinity had gathered to witness the execution, but after being questioned and finding that they had been civil and had paid for what they had received, the guerrillas decided not to hang them. After this they were taken to the house of Dr. Morgan and from there to Petersburg; having but one horse to ride, they took turns in riding on the way. Here they were



**Israel Riley.**

*(Familiarly known as "Dad.")*

taken to some general's headquarters and questioned, after which they were sent to Castle Thunder. Three days after they were transferred to Richmond and placed in the Templeton building, opposite Libby prison. From there they were sent to Belle Island, kept there about a week, then transferred by cars to Lynchburg, and from there to Danville. The road having been destroyed by Wilson's cavalry, they had to walk a distance of seventy-five miles. They reached Danville on the 4th of July in a nearly starved condition. Riley here sold his vest for four dollars, taking his pay in mouldy corn bread. Devens stole a pocket-knife from the rebel guard and traded it for a pie which gave them one good meal. On the 5th of July, they, with other prisoners, were packed into cars like hogs and started for Andersonville, arriving there about two days later. They were kept in Andersonville prison about three months, sharing all the horrors of that brutal prison.

When the safety of the prisoners at Andersonville was threatened by the Union forces, they were put on board the cars for Augusta. When near that city they jumped from the train while passing through some woods. For two weeks they hid in the woods during the daytime, procuring their food at night from the slaves along their route. They were finally betrayed by some supposed friendly negroes, hunted

down by bloodhounds in the swamps, were captured and taken to a prison at Augusta. Later on Riley was sent to another prison in South Carolina, where he was paroled with the sick and sent through Charleston to Savannah, from which place with other paroled prisoners was carried down the bay in a tug-boat, put on board a United States vessel on the second day of December, 1864, and sailed for Annapolis, Md. Here he received a furlough of thirty days. Before starting for Rhode Island he found Devens, to whom he gave some money, and then departed for home. The story of these two brave boys, were it given in detail, would make an interesting narrative, but the limits of these pages will not permit what in justice belongs to them. As soldiers they had but few equals in the battery. Riley, especially, because of his diminutive form, and his good-nature and generosity, became one of the pets of the battery.

From the 23d to the 29th we lay quietly in camp. The weather continued to grow hotter, if possible, causing much suffering to those whose duties compelled them to be exposed to the hot sun. A better supply of rations began to arrive; we also received some extra luxuries from the Sanitary Commission. Captain Rhodes had the tents of the officers pitched and shaded with boughs. Captain McKnight's battery, the Fifth United States, was on our right, and Captain Harn's, Third New York, was near by. Both of these commands had been closely connected with us during this season's campaign, their officers and ours becoming quite intimate.

Our cavalry had not been idle during the commencement of the investment of Petersburg. Sheridan had made his great raid on the Virginia and Central Railroad, and had fought a brilliant battle with Hampton and Fitzhugh Lee at Trevilian Station, about eight miles southeast of Gordonsville, returning by way of the White House, where he conveyed a train of nine hundred wagons across the James River, not, however, without fighting another battle with Hampton and Fitzhugh Lee on the 24th of June.

On the 22d of June, Wilson with 5,000 cavalry set out by order of General Meade, "to cut the Weldon and South Side railroads and to continue the work of destruction until driven from it by such attacks of the enemy as you can no

longer resist." Humphrey's account says of Wilson: "Crossing the Weldon Railroad at Reams's Station, which was destroyed, he reached the Lynchburg Railroad about fourteen miles from Petersburg. From this point to the crossing of the Danville Railroad at Burkesville, thirty miles of the Lynchburg Railroad was destroyed and the command then turned to and moved along the Danville Railroad, destroying it as they advanced, until they reached the Staunton River, by which time about thirty miles of this road also was destroyed."

Wilson had been attacked by Gen. W. H. F. Lee's cavalry division at Nottoway, but he failed to prevent the destruction of the road. At Staunton River bridge he was confronted by a force of militia and artillery, and at the same time he was attacked in the rear. Unable to advance further he determined to return by way of Christiansburg and Greenborough, and by noon of the 28th he reached the double bridges over the Nottoway River. From this point Wilson moved directly toward Reams's Station, believing that place was in our possession. Gen. W. H. F. Lee, who had closely followed Wilson, had kept General Lee well posted as to Wilson's route. General Lee, learning that Wilson would attempt to reach Reams's Station, had on the 27th sent Hampton to Stony Creek depot, ten miles south of Reams's Station. Fitzhugh Lee followed Hampton as far as Reams's Station, where two of Mahone's brigades with artillery were posted.

When Wilson arrived near these forces he was attacked by Hampton and a severe fight commenced, which lasted until night. Wilson, upon finding so strong a force in his front attempted to move westward by way of the Halifax road, and sent Kautz's division in advance, but before his own division was ready to follow he was again attacked by Butler's and Rosser's brigades on his flank, and at the same time was attacked by Hampton's other troops in his front, which was driven to the rear. This caused a separation of Wilson's command. Hampton now turned back and attempted to head Wilson off but only succeeded in reaching the rear of his division. Kautz moved forward, reached Reams's Station on the morning of the 29th, where he at once fortified himself and awaited assistance from Meade's

infantry. To get this assistance Wilson sent one of his staff who dashed through a weak point of the enemy's lines and reached Meade's headquarters at about half past ten A. M. General Wilson finding himself unable to reach Meade's lines by the north and being nearly surrounded, issued all his ammunition and destroyed his trains and caissons. He then turned south, crossed the Nottoway River, moved eastward to Jarrett's Station, and then on to the Blackwater. After crossing he burned the bridge which he himself had to build before crossing. Here the enemy halted, and Wilson's own command reached the Army of the Potomac July 2d, having been gone ten days. Kautz was more fortunate. Finding that he could not fight his way around the enemy's right, he moved to the left of the enemy and succeeded in reaching the inside of our lines on the evening of the 29th.

It was to assist Wilson out of this entanglement, that at three P. M., on the 29th of June, our battery with the Sixth corps, were ordered to march in haste to Reams's Station. The day was hot, and before receiving marching orders we had been kept quite busy, having moved back our tents thirty paces, and remodeled our camp, besides having been inspected by General Wright in the morning. We moved as ordered, and reached the railroad at Reams's Station about eleven P. M. The march was about twelve miles from our camp and we were quite weary upon our arrival. The enemy having withdrawn before the arrival of our troops, we had nothing to do but to return to our camps. Before returning the infantry again destroyed the railroad for miles to the right and left of Reams's Station. The rails were laid across burning piles of sleepers, causing them to bend in such a manner as to become unfit for future use. The water tank and the depot buildings were also burned. The next morning we were up early awaiting events. During the morning we were mustered for two months' pay. At nine A. M. we received orders to build earthworks in front of our pieces, not knowing but the enemy would return and attack us. After waiting until night, we were ordered to start on our return, but only marched about seven miles and halted in a cornfield near the Jerusalem plank road. We marched behind General Getty's division. Getty had been absent, wounded since the battle

of the Wilderness, and had resumed the command of his division on the 28th.

July 1st. We remained in position all day and night, facing towards Reams's station, but no enemy appeared.

July 2d. We hitched up early, and after sending a detail for some new horses, we started on our return to the camp we had left on the 29th of June, marching in rear of Captain Stevens's Fifth Maine battery. We reached camp at ten A. M., and found Captain Sleeper's Tenth Massachusetts battery occupying our camp, but they immediately moved out and we resumed our position. Our tents were at once pitched thirty yards in rear of the works, shaded with trees, and the camp was put in excellent condition as we expected to remain for some time. In the afternoon the detail returned with thirteen new horses.

July 3d. Officers' quarters being shaded, Lieutenant Allen went to City Point, after stores from the Sanitary Commission. Our officers had several callers, among them were Captain Waterman and T. Fred Brown, of batteries C and B of Rhode Island.

## CHAPTER XXIV.

July—August, 1864.

EMBARKED FOR WASHINGTON AND RETURN.  
THE MINE EXPLOSION.

**J**ULY 4th. The social calls continued among the several battery officers in honor of our national anniversary. Captain Rhodes and his lieutenants treated the men with punch. Although the act was well intended and the motive appreciated by those who desired it, it was nevertheless a very questionable method of improving the troops.

July 5th—8th. The weather continued excessively hot and dusty. Because of this we kept ourselves as quiet as our daily duties would permit. Taking care of our horses and keeping the camp well policed was about all we had to do, spending the remainder of our time in the shade, writing to friends and engaging in such pastimes as were agreeable to us. During this time, General Hunter, who was in command of the Union troops, was being driven from the Shenandoah Valley, and, on the 4th of July, Harper's Ferry was evacuated by our troops, who were followed on the 5th and 6th by the rebel troops under General Early. Washington was now undefended except by a force of untried men who were then under the temporary command of Gen. Lewis Wallace. It was to meet this danger that the Third division of the Sixth corps, under General Ricketts, was sent to Baltimore, where it arrived on the 8th. We did not then suppose that our services also would soon be required to aid in repelling the threatened danger.

On July 8th, the twenty-five men detached from the Ninth and Second New York Heavy Artillery for service in our battery were returned to their regiments in the evening, under the writer's charge. There is no record of their names.

July 9th. The day passed quietly with us. Captain Waterman and Lieutenant McMillan, of Battery C, called upon our officers and remained until after supper. They had been gone but a short time, when orders came to pack up and be ready to move at a moment's notice. This order came at about nine P. M., and at 10.30 o'clock we were on our way to City Point, accompanied by the First and Second divisions of the Sixth corps. It was between eight and nine o'clock the next morning when we reached the vicinity of City Point. The night was very hot and the roads were covered almost ankle deep with dust, which was very suffocating to the thirsty and weary troops. It was not known to us then why the hasty move was made, but the next day we learned of General Wallace's defeat on the banks of the Monocacy, and also that our troops were retreating towards the defences of Washington. The infantry arrived at City Point before us, and by noon they were aboard the transports and were on their way to Washington, where they arrived and landed the following day at about nine o'clock. The people of Washington were overjoyed now that the veteran Sixth corps had arrived, and still more were they pleased when the Nineteenth corps, which had fortunately just come up from New Orleans, landed upon the wharves of the capital city.

While the infantry were being put aboard the transports at City Point, the batteries belonging to the corps were parked near by, except that of Captain Harn's Third New York and our own, which went into camp on the north side of a strip of woodland near the Appomattox River, about two miles from the landing. Batteries C and G, of our regiment, McCarty's First Massachusetts, Dorsey's (H) First, of Ohio, and McKnight's (M) Fifth United States, were put upon the transports on the 11th, and followed their corps to Washington.

July 12th. Our tents were pitched temporarily, and some of us built a shade of boughs over our tents to break the rays of the hot sun. The officers' tents were pitched in the shade of the woods in front of the battery. In the morning our guns and caissons were washed and our harnesses cleaned. Nineteen horses were condemned and twenty-three new ones were drawn. For the first time the sergeants were ordered to tent together, and they built pleasant quarters expecting to remain

some days. Captain Rhodes sent to the landing and procured a large quantity of eatables from the Sanitary Commission, and distributed a good portion of it in the battery, an act greatly appreciated. A supply of clothing was also received and given out to those who were in need.

July 13th. The day opened hot, but pleasant. A slight shower on the 11th had laid the dust and made our condition more agreeable. As usual when encamping near where liquors could be procured, we were annoyed by a few men who made beasts of themselves by getting drunk, but they were exceptions. Several of them had to be tied up and otherwise punished.

The sergeants had been at work improving their quarters, and had nearly covered them with green boughs, when orders came to pack up and move at once to the landing. In less than an hour we were on the way, and, on reaching the wharf, at once commenced loading the guns upon the ferry-boat *Eagle, No 2*. The cannoneers and a portion of the horses were upon this boat in charge of Lieutenants Freeborn and Allen. The drivers, with sixty-five horses, the chiefs of pieces, Lieutenant Parker and Captain Rhodes, were upon the steamer *Guide*. We left the wharf at 9.30 P. M., moved into the stream, and, for some unknown reason, waited until about eleven o'clock, when we sailed as far as Windmill Point, and then anchored under the protection of two United States gunboats.

At daylight on the 14th, we hove anchor and reached Fort Monroe at eleven A. M. After a short stop we moved up the Chesapeake Bay to the Patapsco River, up which we sailed to Baltimore, reaching there with the steamer *Guide* about sunrise on the morning of the 15th. We remained at anchor until near night, when we moved up to the wharf and unloaded, remaining on the dock all night. The *Eagle, No 2*, being a slow boat and heavily loaded, was not able to keep up, and, besides, she sprung a leak, and was obliged to stop at the mouth of the Rappahannock for repairs. She resumed her sail at sunrise on the 15th, and reached Baltimore at midnight.

Early on the morning of the 16th, we unloaded the *Eagle, No. 2*, after which Captain Rhodes marched us to the Soldiers' Home, where we received a good breakfast. We then



hitched up and marched to Hampton Station, where we loaded the battery upon the cars for Washington. At eleven A. M. we started and reached the capital at three P. M. We at once unloaded and were ordered to the barracks at Camp Barry, where Captain Rhodes reported to Major Hill. Upon our arrival we learned that Early, after defeating the small force under General Wallace, had moved on toward the defenses at Washington, met the Sixth corps, and that a sharp engagement had taken place in front of Fort Stevens. This fort lies north of the city, and is about five miles from the capitol building. President Lincoln had witnessed the battle from the fort. He stood upon the parapet watching, with great interest, the movements of the troops before him. "Bullets came whistling around," says the Sixth corps historian, "and one severely wounded a surgeon who stood within three feet of the President. Mrs. Lincoln entreated him to leave the fort, but he refused; he, however, accepted the advice of General Wright to descend from the parapet and watch the battle from a less exposed position." He so persistently refused to go, General Wright says, "I told him I should have to remove him forcibly. The absurdity of the idea of sending off the President under guard seemed to amuse him." The battle of Fort Stevens had been fought before our battery left City Point. Why we were sent is known only to those who were then in command. It is more than probable that we were sent with the intention of keeping us with our corps, and that a change of program was made after our arrival at Washington. However that may have been, we were allowed to remain in Camp Barry only one night. It was a very pleasant place and its quarters were exceedingly comfortable. Too much red tape, however, was in vogue there for us. We spent the day in writing home to friends. Those who had the means supplied themselves with luxuries, eating what they could, and stowing away the balance for future use.

About five P. M., on Sunday, the 17th, orders came to return to City Point. At six o'clock we left camp, marched to the wharf, and loaded the battery upon the steamers *Guide* and the *Eagle, No. 1*. At ten P. M. we sailed down the river about twenty-five miles and anchored until daylight, when

we continued our sail, passing Fortress Monroe about dark and anchoring some twenty miles up the James River.

At daylight on the 19th, we were again on our way, the *Guide* reaching City Point about noon, followed by the *Eagle* two hours later. The battery immediately disembarked and reached the camp that we had left on the 13th, late in the afternoon. The last day of our sail was a disagreeable one, as it commenced raining early in the day, continuing until after we reached camp. This was the first rain that had been beneficial since the 3d of June, a period of forty-six days.

We continued at this place until the 26th. During this time we received plenty of sanitary supplies by orders signed by our officers. Some of the men unwisely obtained an additional quantity by forged orders. The sergeants lived like royalty, for they had a mess fund and paid for what they ate. Their bill of fare included the following dishes: Ham and eggs, apple sauce, canned beef, whortleberries, tomatoes, fresh meat, potatoes, pork and beans, strawberries, mutton soup, onions, apples, turkey soup, pies, and a variety of canned fruits and pickles.

Our camp was put in good order, some of the men shading their tents. A new system of guard mounting, patterned after the regulars at Camp Barry, was established.

All kinds of rumors were floating around, concerning our return to Washington, and some half dozen other places, but we were well satisfied to remain where we were and hoped all the rumors unfounded. But, alas, we were doomed to disappointment, for, at noon on the 26th, orders came to move to the lines around Petersburg. At two P. M., the command, "By piece from the left—front into column—march," was given, and we were on our way to the front, where we arrived just at night, taking possession of a vacated camp of a Second corps battery. This camp had been fitted up with excellent taste, being shaded with green boughs, also having arches of the same material to adorn its front. For three days we enjoyed this camp unmolested. In the meantime we had one manual drill, and after that we had only to enjoy the shade of our camp and listen to the incessant rattle of picket firing and the booming of cannon and mortars in the intrenchments about a mile to the front. It was here that we first learned of General Birney's appointment to the command of

the Tenth corps. The date of assignment was July 23, 1864. General Mott succeeded Birney in the command of the veterans, formerly of the old Third corps.

General De Trobriand, who had been in command of the troops in New York City since the 2d of May, was relieved from that command on the 27th of June, and, on July 13th, he was assigned to the brigade formerly commanded by General Ward, who had left the army at Spottsylvania. General Ord, on the 21st of July, was assigned to the command of the Eighteenth corps, relieving General Smith. The two corps of General Butler were now commanded by Generals Birney and Ord, their corps forming the right wing of the armies investing Petersburg. Active preparations for an attack upon Petersburg had, for several days, been going on. This attack was to be preceded by the explosion of a mine, which had been excavated by the Forty-eighth Pennsylvania regiment, commanded by Lieut.-Col. Henry Pleasants, who had formerly been a mining engineer. The regiment was composed mainly of miners from the coal regions of Pennsylvania. Lieutenant-Colonel Pleasants first suggested the possibility of running this mine under the rebel works to General Potter, his division commander. General Potter conveyed the suggestion to General Burnside, who at once approved the plan. The next day (the 25th of June) the work was begun. Although General Meade passively consented to the movement, he did not approve or give any aid for its completion. In fact, the only officers of high rank who gave it any confidence were Burnside and Potter. The dirt had to be removed in old cracker boxes, bound with iron hoops taken from old fish barrels. No wheelbarrows or mining picks were allowed. Instruments to make the proper surveys were denied, although the necessary instruments were at the army headquarters. But General Burnside sent to Washington for an old theodolite, with which the surveys were made.

By the 23d of July the mine was completed, which, with proper tools and instruments, could have been done in less than half that time. Only 8,000 pounds of powder were allowed, 14,000 pounds being the amount asked for. The mine was about one and a-half miles south of the Appomattox River, and about the same distance from Fort Sedgwick, generally known by the name of "Fort Hell." It was on a line

running east from the south part of Petersburg, and about one mile from the suburbs of the city. The main gallery was 511 feet in length, the left lateral gallery 37 feet, and the right lateral gallery 38 feet. In these lateral galleries were eight magazines each containing 1,000 pounds of powder.

On the 26th, Burnside had, at the request of General Meade, submitted a plan of attack, which was, in substance, to spring the mine just at daylight in the morning, or at five P. M. The two brigades of his colored troops were to advance as soon as the explosion occurred, and, after reaching a proper distance, the leading regiment of one brigade was to wheel to the right, the other to the left, and at once to move down the enemy's works. The remaining columns were to move as rapidly as possible toward Cemetery Hill; this once gained and held, the city would be at the mercy of Meade's artillery. For the execution of this movement Burnside had ordered General Ferrero, who commanded his colored division, to drill his troops with the view of acting upon this plan. To insure a better success in the attack following the explosion, General Grant had determined to lessen the number of the enemy in his front as much as possible. To this end he ordered the Second corps and two divisions of cavalry to the north bank of the James River. After crossing at Deep Bottom, the cavalry were to make a dash upon Richmond, if the chances were favorable, otherwise they were to destroy the two railroads from that city. These commands crossed the river on the 26th and 27th. The Second corps soon met the enemy on the New Market road, and a battery of four twenty-pounder Parrott guns were captured by Barlow's division. Sheridan's cavalry also encountered Kershaw's troops and was driven back some distance. Sheridan then dismounted his men, and, forming them behind the crest of a hill, attacked the enemy with his repeating carbines and drove them back in confusion, capturing some two hundred and fifty prisoners. To meet this attack, nearly one-half of Lee's forces had been sent from Petersburg, which left only three divisions to defend the city. Having now accomplished his designs, General Grant ordered the return of Hancock and Sheridan to assist Burnside in the attack upon Petersburg.

The time for the springing of the mine was at 3.30 A. M. on the 30th. The order to that effect was given on the 29th,

it reaching our battery on the same evening. It expressed in detail what every commander was expected to do. Burnside was to form his troops for the assault in time to move at the hour appointed; General Warren was to reduce his troops holding the intrenchments to the minimum, and concentrate on his right to support Burnside; General Mott was ordered to relieve the Eighteenth corps, which was to form in rear of the Ninth corps, ready to support the assault. All of these corps were to be accompanied by pioneers to open passages for artillery. The troops were supplied with ample intrenching tools, with which to hold the positions when gained. Hancock was to form after his return from Deep Bottom, in rear of General Mott's division, and hold his corps in readiness to follow up the assault, if successful.

The same day that this order was issued, the plan of General Burnside, allowing his colored division to lead in the assault, was overruled by General Meade, and sanctioned by General Grant. The manner of procedure after passing through the rebel lines was somewhat changed. General Burnside was greatly disappointed by this unexpected change, but he at once sent for his three white division commanders and allowed them to "pull straws" for the honor of leading the assault. Unfortunately it fell upon General Ledlie, who had commanded his First division only six weeks.

During the night the troops assumed their allotted positions and anxiously awaited the appointed hour for the explosion. When the time arrived the fuse was lighted and every man stood ready to move forward when the command was given. The hour came and no report was heard. Four o'clock came and still all was silent. It was thought the fuse had gone out, but who was to enter the gallery to see? It was not long before two brave men volunteered their services. These two men were Sergt. (afterward lieutenant) Henry Rees and Lieutenant Jacob Douty, of the Forty-eighth Pennsylvania regiment. Rees first entered the mine and found the fuse had died out. He cut the fuse and returned for material, and was accompanied on his return into the mine by Douty, who helped in making a new splice. Both returned unharmed. "At precisely sixteen minutes to five o'clock," says Woodbury, "the mine exploded. Then ensued a scene which beggars description. The ground heaved and trem-

bled. A terrific sound, like the noise of great thunders, burst forth upon the morning air. Huge masses of earth, mingled with cannon, caissons, camp equipage, and human bodies, were thrown up. It seemed like a mountain reversed, enveloped in clouds of smoke, sand and dust, upheaved by the explosion of four tons of powder."

After the smoke and dust had subsided it was found that all that remained of the great fort at Elliott's salient, with a six-gun battery, including the garrison of over two hundred men, was a crater 170 feet long, sixty feet wide, and from twenty to thirty feet deep. No sooner had the sound of the explosion reached the ears of our artillerymen than they opened fire from nearly two hundred guns and mortars. It was a scene never to be forgotten by those who were fortunate enough to witness the magnificent display. The effect upon the rebel troops was astounding. To the right and left of the debris they fled, through fear of other explosions which they expected would follow.

Had our troops promptly advanced as they had been ordered, they could have reached the crest of Cemetery Hill with but little or no opposition. Instead of advancing to the right and left of the crater as was intended they should, they descended into the crater, and, finding themselves protected, concluded to remain, although a portion occupied the vacated lines to the right and left of the mine. What was still worse, General Ledlie, who commanded the division, instead of accompanying his troops, remained behind in the bomb-proof. Potter's Second division soon became mixed up with the First, but after a delay, they extended their line to the vacated works of the enemy on the right. Only one brigade advanced beyond the rebel lines. This brigade soon became entangled in the rebel covered ways and trenches, and, being attacked by the enemy's artillery, and seeing no support at hand, it was compelled to fall back. General Wilcox's division followed the First, one brigade going into the crater, his Second moving into the trenches on the left of the crater, meeting with some opposition while doing so. Later on he attempted to form his troops and advance to Cemetery Hill, but the enemy had then brought such fire to bear upon him that he was unable to go forward.

"Time was flying," says De Trobriand, "the opportunity was fast escaping us; the chances of success were disappearing as we were looking on. Nothing could force the troops, crowded together in the crater or lying down behind the intrenchments, to leave their position. . . . Towards seven o'clock the colored division received orders to advance in its turn. The blacks advanced resolutely, passed over the passive mass of white troops, not a company of whom followed them, and, although their ranks were necessarily broken by the obstacle, they charged under a deadly fire of artillery and musketry which reached them from all sides at once. They even reached the enemy, took from him 250 prisoners, captured a flag, and recovered one of our own taken by him. But they were not sustained. They were driven back by a countercharge, and returned, running in confusion to our lines where, by this time, a large number of the white troops were eager to return with them."

The Confederates at first only attempted to hold the hill, but observing the confusion of our troops, they threw forward their troops to retake the abandoned trenches. Their artillery soon covered the ground occupied by our troops at the crater. To advance under this fire seemed impossible, and it was nearly as difficult to withdraw. General Meade, believing that any further effort would be useless, at ten o'clock gave the order to retreat. Upon the reception of this order, General Burnside immediately sought the commanding general and earnestly requested that the order be rescinded. Instead, he desired that the supporting corps should open upon the enemy and draw their fire from his troops. If this was done he thought the crest could be carried. While this controversy was in progress, the enemy appeared in still larger force, moving forward to attack. Our troops now attempted to withdraw in order, but being hotly pressed, they were not able to do so, and the retreat ended in some confusion. Many were killed on the retreat, and over one thousand were taken prisoners, General Bartlett and Lieutenant-Colonel Buffum, of the Fourth Rhode Island regiment, being among the latter number. "Thus passed away," says De Trobriand, "the finest opportunity which could have been given us to capture Petersburg since the day when Gen. W. F. Smith had pre-

sented himself in front of it, before the arrival of General Lee."

As before stated, at the time when the fort was sprung, the troops not occupying the trenches were held in readiness to advance as soon as the opening was cleared by the Ninth corps. Captain Rhodes had, the night before, received orders to take his four guns to the front and report to J. Albert Monroe, who was then chief of the artillery of the Ninth corps. It was just after dark when these guns started, the two sections being in command of Lieutenants Parker and Freeborn. Lieutenant Allen remained in charge of the camp, in which were the gunless detachment (two caissons), the spare horses, and the artificers' teams. The guns went to the rear of the Ninth corps. It being dark when they arrived, there was some delay in finding the position they were ordered to take, which was just in rear of our lines, opposite the fort which had been mined. It was not until near midnight that our cannoneers lay down to get a few hours of rest, not knowing but that it would be their last.

At three P. M., on the morning of the 30th, the battery was hitched up, and, in common with the other troops, awaited the explosion. After the time set for the upheaval every minute was counted. Soon it was four o'clock and no explosion. What is the matter? Why do they not fire the mine? Has any accident occurred? Has the order been countermanded? These, with other impatient questions, were continually asked, when at once the trembling earth seemed to vibrate under our feet. In an instant after an enormous mass sprang into the air, mounting skyward like a wingless mountain. Then it returned to earth, as though a shower of cannons, timbers, rocks, mingled with human bodies, was falling from endless space. What followed has already been briefly stated. Its importance deserves a fuller notice, as the results expected would have been far-reaching, as much so, perhaps, as those of any other battle during the war; but instead it proved a cruel failure. It was not only discouraging to the officers and men in the army, but its effect upon the Northern people was more than serious. It gave renewed effort to the half disloyal element in the loyal states to cripple the government in its continued struggle for the suppression of this uncalled for and wicked rebellion.



General Meade attributed the failure of this affair largely to Burnside, and demanded his removal from a command in the army; but General Grant, believing the charges against him were frivolous, declined to remove him. A double investigation followed, one by a Congressional committee, the other by a court of inquiry. The conclusions of these two bodies were quite different. The former, composed of the more disinterested men, declared that the disastrous results following the explosion should mainly be attributed, to borrow the words of De Trobriand, "to the fact that the plans and suggestions of the general (Burnside), who had brought the project of mining the enemy's works to a favorable issue, and who had chosen and drilled his troops with care, to assure every advantage which could be drawn from the explosion of the mine, had been completely put aside by a general (Meade) who had shown no confidence in the work while it was going on, who had given it no assistance or declared approval, and who had assumed entire direction and control of it only when it had been completed, and the time arrived to reap all the advantages which could be derived from it."

The court of inquiry was composed of General Hancock, president, and Generals Ayres and Miles. The judge advocate was Colonel Schriver, attached as inspector-general to the army staff.

To be brief, this court reported that the failure resulted, "First, from the want of judgment in the formation of the troops to advance, the movement having been made mostly by flank instead of by the front; second, the stopping of the troops at the crater instead of advancing to the crest, although at the time the fire of the enemy was of no importance; third, the poor use made of officers of pioneers, of working parties, and of materials and tools for their service in the Ninth corps; fourth, certain portions of the assaulting column were not suitably led; fifth, the lack of a competent leader of high rank on the scene of operations to order matters according as circumstances demanded.

If failure had not resulted from the above causes, and if the crest had been occupied, success would still have been put in jeopardy from not having prepared in time in the lines of the Ninth corps suitable debouches for the troops, and

especially for the light artillery, as prescribed by the orders of General Meade."

In conclusion, the court of inquiry ascribed the direct responsibility of the failure to General Burnside commanding the Ninth corps, Generals Ledlie, Ferrero and Wilcox commanding the first, fourth and the third divisions, and Colonel Bliss (Seventh Rhode Island Volunteers) commanding the first brigade of the second division, specifying the portion of blame and the responsibility attaching to each.

The limits of these pages will not permit a recital of the evidence given before the two bodies whose verdict has been stated above, except an extract from that of General Grant, who, before the Congressional committee ; said, "General Burnside wanted to put his colored division in front, and I believe if he had done so it would have been a success." This was the testimony of General Grant five months after the affair happened, and such I believe, will be the verdict of impartial history. Two weeks after the explosion, General Burnside was relieved from the command of the Ninth corps, his successor being Gen. John G. Parke. Soon after he tendered his resignation to the President who refused to accept it, saying, "that he might want to entrust him with an important command in the Fall."

Soon after Lee's surrender, Burnside again tendered his resignation to Lincoln, which was later accepted by President Johnson.

For the honor of General Burnside let no Rhode Island soldier, who may read these pages, fail to read the defence of Burnside at the mine, by Rev. Augustus Woodbury in his book entitled, *Burnside and the Ninth Army Corps*.

The losses resulting from the battle of the mine as given by a revised table to be published in the official records, were 504 killed, 1,881 wounded, and 1,413 missing; total, 3,798. 1,101 of the missing were captured in the crater. The loss of the enemy was about 1,200.

Our battery did not return to camp until five P. M. They had carried no extra rations to the front with them, it being sent there from the camp. Although the men of the battery had no service to perform, their situation was by no means agreeable. The day had registered over 90°, and some of the wounded whose sufferings did not add to our comfort, had

been left near the guns, when the order came to return to camp, it was received with great relief. Our battery was one of those selected to advance through the rebel lines had the movement been a success.

Late in the evening after our return, the battery which had built and occupied the camp before we had taken it returned and demanded the camp. Captain Rhodes did not dispute their claim, although when he took possession, he was not aware that they would come back. However, we occupied the camp until the next morning.

August 1st. Before leaving the camp, Major Allen, the paymaster, arrived and paid us for four months' service, beside the first installment that was due the re-enlisted veterans. After our financial affairs had been settled, the battery was hitched up, marched two miles or more to the rear and went into camp in a place selected by Captain Rhodes about half a mile in rear of General Meade's headquarters. It was in the woods, which were partly cleared to make room for the tents and for picketing our horses. The guns were parked upon a hill joining our camp on the north. There being no stream of water near by, two wells were dug in the camp, from which plenty of water was obtained for ourselves and our horses. This camp would have been pleasant had not the hill at the north prevented somewhat our receiving a supply of air from that direction.

Here we remained until the 15th. Only a few incidents of much importance occurred during this time. On the 2d of August Captain Rhodes reduced First Sergeant C. P. Williams to the rank of line sergeant. This was a surprise to us all, for we had not known but that he had given satisfaction as first sergeant. Doubtless Captain Rhodes felt justified in reducing him, but in that, I am confident no enlisted man agreed with him. It was rumored at the time that Captain Rhodes thought him too amiable for that position. The captain now denies this, and thinks it was for disobedience of some orders, but does not remember what the orders were.

The respect for Sergeant Williams was not lessened, but rather, increased by his reduction. Had the cause of his reduction been of a criminal nature, he would probably have been reduced to the ranks, but instead, he was assigned as

sergeant to the first detachment, taking the place of Sergt. James Donnelly, who was promoted to first sergeant. Donnelly, at the time of his promotion, was sick, and did not enter upon the duties of first sergeant until the 8th. Sergeant Williams, in the meantime, continued to act in that capacity.

We had either a field or manual drill about every alternate day. Several of these were by Lieutenant Parker, Captain Rhodes having been thrown from his horse, and, in consequence, was off duty.

On the 9th we were startled by the sound of a heavy explosion in the direction of City Point. Soon after we learned that the ordnance boat at that place had blown up, killing 53 and wounding 126 of the colored troops who were there on guard duty.

On August 14th the battery had a Sunday inspection by Captain Rhodes. Soon after orders came to be ready to move at a minute's notice.

## CHAPTER XXV.

August—September, 1864.

BATTLES OF DEEP BOTTOM RUN, WELDON RAILROAD,  
REAMS'S STATION, AND FORT RICE—THIRTY-THREE  
MEN RETURN HOME.

ON the 15th, Captain Rhodes called at headquarters, and, while there, received orders to report the battery to Col. J. Albert Monroe, who, in turn, ordered him to report to General Potter, commanding the Second division of the Ninth corps. About noon the battery started towards the left, reaching the Norfolk Railroad about four P. M. Here, for some reason, we were halted for an hour or two. Just before reaching the railroad there commenced a terrific thunder storm, and the rain fell in torrents, causing the low lands in our front near the railroad to be flooded, several feet deep. The camps, in many places, were also submerged, causing great inconvenience to the troops occupying them. Those of us who had no rubber coverings were, of course, thoroughly wet through. In this condition we moved forward, fording the deep water in our front, which barely escaped reaching our ammunition chests. After going about one mile further, we halted three-quarters of a mile beyond the Fifth corps headquarters, where we remained until morning.

Early on the 16th the battery was moved a short distance west, and went into camp on the edge of some woods not far from Fort Sedgwick, better known as "Fort Hell."

For two days the men were kept busy in policing the grounds, digging a large well, and in putting our camp in comfortable order. The officers' quarters were pleasantly arranged for a permanent stay.

On the evening of the 17th we retired to our bunks, hoping to enjoy a night of quiet rest. We were permitted to do so until about two A. M., when we were awakened by solid shot crashing through the branches of the trees over our heads. To add to the terror, bullets straying from the rebel guns overreaching our lines, came and mingled with their more formidable, but not less destructive ally. No bugle call ever brought us from our slumbers quicker than did these unwelcome intruders. Not knowing what was to come, Captain Rhodes ordered the battery to hitch up, which was done in haste, yet I venture to say no ten minutes ever seemed longer to our excited drivers. This unexpected visitation lasted over an hour. Owing to the camp being set with numerous trees, behind which the men found shelter, only one man was wounded, his arm being broken near the shoulder, while sitting in his tent. His name was Frank O'Meara, our battery tailor. Captain Rhodes sent for an ambulance, and he was conveyed to the hospital, from which he was discharged Feb. 6, 1865, on surgeon's certificate.

August 19th. Another shower of shot from the enemy about two A. M. One of these shots passed through a tarpaulin which was stretched as an awning over the front of the battery wagon, which was in charge of George I. Cole, our harness-maker. He had a narrow escape.

About three A. M. orders came for Captain Rhodes to take his guns and relieve the Seventh Maine battery (Captain Twitchell) in a fort a little to the right and front of Fort Warren. One gun of this battery was dismounted by the enemy just before our battery relieved them. This battery belonged to the Ninth corps, and had been relieved to move with that corps to assist the Fifth corps in an effort to capture the Weldon Railroad, which was at this time in progress. General Mott's division had, on the 18th, been recalled from Deep Bottom to relieve a portion of the Ninth corps. It was to this division that Captain Rhodes was ordered to report. After so reporting, he was ordered to have the horses, with their drivers and the sergeants, returned to camp. Fort Warren is situated about a quarter of a mile south of the Norfolk and Petersburg Railroad, and lies southeast of the city of Petersburg. The rebel fort in front of our battery was about

three hundred yards distant, and their picket line about one hundred yards.

August 20th. Sergeant Williams was officer of the day.

We also received another shelling, but no damage was done. Just before noon, by order, our camp was moved to the north side of the Norfolk Railroad, and three-quarters of a mile to the northeast of Fort Warren. This camp had just been vacated by Griffin's United States battery. A shade of boughs over the stables remained, under which our horses were sheltered.

For two weeks after the mine fiasco, the army remained comparatively idle. On the 13th of August a movement was commenced, which, it was hoped, would enable Sheridan (who had succeeded Hunter August 7th) to drive the Confederate army, under General Early, from the Shenandoah Valley, by causing the return of re-enforcements, which had been sent to Early. An effort was also to be made to extend our lines further to the left, across the Weldon Railroad. It was desired that the enemy's lines in front of Petersburg should be weakened as much as possible by drawing their troops north of the James River. To accomplish this, the Second corps was marched, on the 13th, to City Point. After dark it embarked on board of steamers, and, as a ruse, it sailed down the James River a few miles, then reversed its course, and, on the 14th, was landed upon the north bank of the James, at Deep Bottom, a distance of ten miles from Richmond. Hancock, after landing his troops, moved out towards the right, with the intention of flanking the enemy at Bailey Creek, while General Barlow, with two divisions, was sent to strike the enemy's flank and rear, and General Mott's division threatened them in front.

The next morning (the 16th), our cavalry, with Miles's brigade, moved up the Charles City road to draw the rebel troops from the front of Birney's Tenth corps. In this our troops were successful, driving the rebel cavalry within seven miles of Richmond. During this advance the rebel general, Chambliss, was killed.

At ten A. M. one division (Terry's), of Birney's corps, one brigade of Mott's division, and one brigade of colored troops under Gen. William Birney, attacked the enemy's works near Fussell's Mill, and, after a sharp engagement, carried them,

capturing three colors and over two hundred prisoners. Four guns were previously taken by General Mott's division.

Owing to the non-arrival of re-enforcements our troops were soon forced to yield the ground captured. Neither side gained any material advantage as the result of several days of fighting. Our loss was about three thousand and that of the Confederates not over eleven hundred; among the latter killed were Generals Chambliss and Cheradic.

The Second and Tenth corps having succeeded in drawing a portion of Beauregard's troops from the lines of Petersburg, the movement for the capture of the long coveted Weldon Railroad was commenced. For this purpose Warren had previously withdrawn his corps (the Fifth) from the intrenchments, and the Ninth corps extended its left to occupy the place vacated by the Fifth. On the 18th Mott's division of the Second corps, as before stated, relieved the Ninth. The other divisions of that corps remained north of the James. The object of this was to retain the rebel troops there, that they might not interfere with Warren's movement on the Weldon Railroad.

The Fifth corps, as directed, moved on the 18th and reached the Globe Tavern near Six Mile Station unmolested, and Griffin's division began the destruction of the railroad, which was guarded only by a small force of rebel cavalry. Ayres's and Crawford's divisions moved at once up the railroad toward the city, while Cutler's division remained in the rear as support. General Beauregard, when he learned of this, sent General Heth's division, supported by the brigades of Davis and Walker, down the Vaughan road, and, about two P M., attacked Ayres's left, which was driven back. Ayres soon rallied his troops, and, in turn, drove back the enemy, who left his dead and wounded on the ground. Warren's loss was 544 killed and wounded, and his missing numbered 392. The enemy's loss was probably equally severe.

On the 19th Cutler's division was sent to the right of Ayres's division, and attempted to connect with the picket line of the Ninth corps. This was a difficult task as the country was covered with dense woods and underbrush through which it was almost impossible to penetrate. General Lee, learning from Beauregard the condition of affairs, sent back from his left the division of Mahone's infantry and his



own cavalry to Petersburg. Our troops were also re-enforced by three divisions of the Ninth corps. These divisions were relieved by the Eighteenth corps being extended to its left, filling the places of the three divisions withdrawn. In the afternoon Gen. A. P. Hill, with Davis's and Walker's brigades under General Heth, and three brigades under Mahone supported by Lee's cavalry and Pegram's artillery, moved down the Vaughan Road to attack Warren. Soon after four P. M. the enemy advanced to the attack. Mahone who commanded the rebel left, being familiar with the thick woods, succeeded in reaching the rear of Crawford's division and forced it to fall back in the utmost confusion, taking with it a part of Ayres's right. Heth's division at the same time attacked Ayres's left and center which bravely held its ground. Warren quickly reformed the broken troops, advanced again to attack Mahone who was driven back, losing some prisoners. In this attack Warren was ably supported by the three divisions of the Ninth corps present, General Wilcox on the right of the line facing that of Mahone's. The divisions of Generals Potter and White reached the field later formed at Warren's center, charged the enemy's lines and restored the lines which were in danger of being overpowered. After repeated attempts to drive our troops from the railroad, the enemy retired, leaving the Weldon Railroad in our hands, and which we continued to hold. The new lines extending east from the railroad to the left of the Second corps near the Jerusalem Plank Road, was now occupied by the Ninth corps.

Warren's loss in this affair was 382 killed and wounded, and 2,518 missing, 1,805 of the latter being those captured from Crawford's division. Among our captured was General Hayes. The enemy's loss was severe. On the 20th Warren reformed his lines on more favorable grounds a mile or two further to the rear, where his artillery could be of more service.

On the 20th, Hancock's remaining divisions were withdrawn from the north side of the James River, and returned to share in the unsettled affairs created by the captured of the Weldon Railroad.

General Lee, finding that the Second corps had been withdrawn, decided to make another attempt to retake the

captured railroad. Accordingly, General Hill, with his own corps and a part of Hoke's division, and Lee's cavalry opened upon Warren's front and right flank with thirty guns, and at ten A. M. assaulted our troops with his infantry, but was promptly repulsed. Later on Mahone assaulted Warren's left flank, but before our lines were reached his line of infantry was broken by the severe fire of our artillery. General Potter's division of the Ninth corps assisted in repulsing the enemy's assaults. The enemy's loss was considerable, he losing by capture alone five hundred and seventeen men and six flags. Among his killed was General Saunders. Warren's loss was three hundred and one. Colonel Dushane, of the Maryland brigade, was killed, and General Cutler was wounded. This affair of the 21st involved the artillery as far as the Norfolk Railroad.

As early as two A. M. the rebel artillery and mortars opened upon our battery in a lively manner, to which we promptly answered, firing twenty-six rounds. Some narrow escapes were experienced by our men. One of their shells burst so near to Captain Rhodes that the powder burnt his face. Another shell, a thirty-two-pounder, came crashing through the parapet and also struck near the captain, but as it failed to explode it harmed no one.

At nine A. M. orders came to open fire rapidly, which was at once obeyed by firing sixteen rounds. This made a total of twenty-four solid shot, seven shell and eleven case shot that we fired on that day. During the day the writer had an exciting experience. He was ordered to deliver some ammunition to the guns from the camp. In doing this a space of several hundred yards had to be passed over upon which the enemy's guns had a good range. A trusty pair of horses were hitched to a limber containing the ammunition, and William Owens, a brave man, was selected as driver. When all was ready we started, and, after reaching the plain, as was expected, a rebel battery opened a brisk fire upon us, but by the use of spur and whip we passed unharmed through the shower of shot and shell, reaching safely the covered way that ran in front of our battery. The firing continued some minutes after we reached a place of safety. Soon after the cannoners came out of the fort and carried the supply to their guns. On our return a few more shots were fired, but

we escaped unharmed. Although the danger was considerable, it was, nevertheless, more enjoyable than otherwise.

On the 22d, our battery fired three shots, two solid and one case shot. The rebels were seen mounting heavy guns on the right of our battery, and Captain Rhodes reported the fact to General Mott, requesting that a detail of men be sent to throw up a traverse to protect the battery against their fire, which request was granted. The Seventh Maine battery returned, two of their pieces were placed in the fort with ours, the other four in Fort Warren in our rear. There had formerly been eighteen guns in our fort, but they had been reduced to four. Perhaps they had been withdrawn on account of rumors that the fort was being mined by the enemy. The fact that a shaft was being sunk in the fort showed that some credence was given the rumors, but no mine was discovered.

At the camp nothing of importance occurred except that private Henry Gerber was severely kicked by a horse. It was thought at first that he would die. He was carried to the hospital by William H. Phinney, our ambulance driver, but he soon recovered.

August 23d. The large guns mounted by the enemy the preceding day opened fire at night before the detail of men had finished the traverse. One of the shot smashed a wheel and ammunition chest in Corporal Robbins's gun detachment, but otherwise did no damage. Private William Whitemore, who had been absent on clerical duties at Sixth corps artillery brigade headquarters since May, 1864, reported to the battery for duty.

August 24th. Our camp, with those of the other brigade batteries, moved three-quarters of a mile to the right, taking with us our caissons. Our tents were pitched where they could be seen by the enemy. This was to give the enemy the impression that we had received re-enforcements. We had, in fact, only troops enough in our intrenchments to make a good picket line. This was owing to the fact that Mott's division was under orders to march to the left to re-enforce the other division of his corps, which had, for three days, been engaged in destroying the Weldon Railroad between our lines and Rowanty Creek.

Five shots were fired to-day by our battery, and two the day before.

By night on the 24th, Hancock had accomplished the destruction of the Weldon Railroad as far south as Malone's Cross Road, three miles below Reams's Station. This made it necessary for the Confederates to haul supplies from Stony Creek Station to Dinwiddie Court House, thence to Petersburg over the Boydton plank road, a distance of thirty miles. The road was too important as a means of supply to be given up without a struggle.

On the morning of the 25th, the enemy, who had been seen the day before moving down the Halifax and Vaughan roads, was reported to be approaching in force upon Hancock's left, which was held by Gibbon's division, while General Miles, with the First division, held the right of the line, both being behind breastworks which were thrown up by our troops that went to Wilson's relief in June, 1864. The troops that threatened Hancock proved to be Hill's corps, Anderson's brigade of Longstreet's corps, and Hampton's two cavalry divisions.

At about two P. M. the enemy attacked Miles with great fury, but was met with equal courage, and the enemy for awhile retired. In the meantime, Meade had sent Wilcox's division of the Ninth corps and Mott's veterans, formerly the old Third corps, to Hancock's assistance, but before they reached Reams's Station where the fight was in progress, Hill had again attacked a portion of our lines with a large force. After a stout resistance, parts of our lines, composed of new recruits, gave way in confusion, leaving three batteries in possession of the enemy. Hancock now ordered the Second division to retake the guns and the lost position, but that division being composed largely of raw troops, they could not be induced to continue the fight, and fell back after a feeble attempt at resistance. Miles now rallied a portion of his First division at right angles with the breastworks, attacked the enemy, and recaptured Capt. George F. McKnight's Twelfth New York battery and a part of his lost line.

Hampton, with his dismounted cavalry, now attacked Gibbon's division, who fled from the breastworks without much resistance. Hampton, pressing on after the fleeing troops, was met by our dismounted cavalry with a heavy flank fire

which brought him to a halt. Again Hampton advanced, this time upon Gregg's cavalry, who were forced by superior numbers to retire behind a new line, which Gibbon's defeated troops had hastily thrown up, where they found shelter.

General Miles held the lines of retreat until after dark, checking every effort of the enemy to advance beyond the works which they had captured. Soon after our troops withdrew and the enemy made no attempt to follow them.

The two batteries not recaptured were Sleeper's Tenth Massachusetts and Battery B of our regiment. The loss of Battery B in killed, wounded, and missing, was 52, besides 50 horses, and all their guns.

Lieutenant Perrin had his leg shattered. Lieutenants Chace and Spencer, with Perrin, all of Battery B, were taken prisoners.

Hancock and Gregg lost 140 killed, 529 wounded, and 2,073 missing. Total, 2,742. Nine guns were also lost by capture. The Confederate loss was 720

August 26th. The unfortunate affair at Reams's Station being ended and there being no further use for a scarecrow, by consent of General Hunt we returned with the tents and caissons to camp.

During the remainder of the month very little of interest occurred. On the 20th, Lieutenants James F. Allen and Benjamin Freeborn were ordered on detached service, the former as assistant-quartermaster, the latter as judge-advocate. Allen returned to the battery about the middle of September, but Lieutenant Freeborn continued to make the battery his headquarters.

Our battery during this period fired a few shots nearly every day, and nightly the guns and mortars on both sides displayed their wrath over the heads of the troops who so faithfully held the lines around the city. The mortar shells arching their course through the air were a beautiful sight, sometimes reaching to sublimity, and to the guard on duty in the still hours of the night they were always welcome.

On the 30th, by order of General Hunt, Captain Rhodes inspected Battery A, First New Jersey, the First Ohio, and the First New York Independent Battery. On the 31st, the two former batteries, and Brinckle's E, Fifth United States, were mustered by Captain Rhodes for two months' pay.

The news of General McClellan's nomination for the presidency had now reached the battery, causing quite a sensation, especially among his few admirers in the battery.

On the 31st, our battery was mustered for pay. This was the last muster for the old members not re-enlisting before returning home. Only one more month of service and they would be free men, and it must be admitted that, on hearing the pleasures of returning home talked about, we who had re-enlisted almost regretted, at times, that we had done so.

The first three days of September were unusually quiet along the lines.

On the 2d, a man was shot for desertion in rear of our camp. As usual, a division of troops was formed to witness the execution. The victim had deserted at Gettysburg from Battery K, Fourth United States Artillery.

On the 4th, Corporals Samuel W. Austin and William S. Blair, who had remained in camp, were ordered to report to the fort for service on the guns.

September 5th. Captain Rhodes was ordered to celebrate the evacuation of Atlanta by firing a shotted salute of thirty-three guns at midnight. The other batteries along the line joined in the celebration.

Such a shower of shot and shell coming so suddenly upon the rebels caused a great excitement among them. "We could hear them turning out and the officers giving orders," said Captain Rhodes. After our lines ceased firing the rebels opened fire upon us, but no serious damage was done by them.

September 6th. The military railroad being built along the rear of our lines passed so near our camp that our caissons had to be moved a few feet to the rear so as to give room for the tracks to be laid. This road branched from the Petersburg and City Point Railroad. It was begun on the 4th of September, and was completed as far as the Weldon Railroad on the 12th. Later on it was continued about a mile and a half further. The road was only graded over swampy lands and the higher hills. It expedited the moving of troops from one point to another greatly, and hastened the moving of the wounded from the field to hospitals, thereby lessening their sufferings in a great degree.

At midnight our guns were taken from the front line and placed in Fort Warren, which was just in rear of the position that we had vacated. Eighteen days later the name was changed to Fort Rice, so named in honor of Brig.-Gen. James C. Rice, who commanded a brigade in the Fifth corps, and who was mortally wounded at the battle of Spottsylvania. The fort was one of the best along the line, having bomb-proofs and a magazine, the latter, however, not being finished until September 15th, and soon after filled with ammunition.

On the 9th, Alfred B. Ramsdell, one of our most worthy men, was wounded in the head while eating dinner in the fort. He had a narrow escape from instant death. After a few days he returned to duty. The battery was inspected to-day by Captain Harn, who was temporarily in command of the artillery brigade during the absence of Major Tompkins. The chief of artillery (Col. Charles H. Tompkins) was absent with the Sixth corps in the Shenandoah Valley. The firing to-day was more than usual, our battery firing seventeen rounds.

The 10th of September was the most exciting for several days. The acting chief had notified Captain Rhodes to be prepared for action precisely at one o'clock A. M., when our picket line would be advanced. The object of this was, first, to push back the rebel pickets who were so near our lines that in case of an attack our artillery would have trouble in working their guns; second, to break up a custom which the pickets on both sides had formed of meeting each other almost every night in a little ravine near a spring, and freely trading their coffee for tobacco, besides indulging in the more dangerous traffic of exchanging New York for Richmond papers. It was said that at one of these meetings one of our battery men was supplied with a rebel suit, and that he went in this disguise to Petersburg, remaining a portion of the night, and safely returned before morning.

To advance our lines of pickets and stop these meetings was first proposed by General De Trobriand to General Mott, and, being approved by Hancock, it was decided to execute the movement at the hour above named. The troops selected for this daring feat were the Twentieth Indiana, Colonel Meikel; the Second battalion of sharpshooters, and the Ninety-ninth Pennsylvania, Colonel Biles. At the proper

hour these regiments were moved to near the point of attack, and there awaited the hour of the assault. "The moon had been down for an hour," says De Trobriand, "the darkness was profound, there was complete silence along the whole line, and the fires of the enemy's pickets were gradually being extinguished. Soon a black mass in motion was dimly seen in front of the fort. Suddenly a shot, followed by twenty others, lighted up the rifle-pits. A dull sound of the feet of men charging on the run, a clamor formed by a thousand cries, voices threatening, furious, frightened, mingling with the crackling of musketry fire, confused sounds of fighting hand-to-hand, the thunders of artillery above all the rest; all this filled the air at once. It was an affair of a quarter of an hour. The enemy surprised, overwhelmed by the human torrent which rushed upon him, gave way, and abandoned to us not only the section attacked, but still more of his line; both to the right and to the left. The works were quickly turned by the companies provided with picks and shovels, and we were solidly established in the rifle-pits, which the enemy was not able to recapture."

Precisely at the hour named our battery, with others, opened upon the terrorized enemy, who doubtless supposed we were about to charge their works. Although the infantry fighting was mostly over in a short time, the firing of our battery was continued some time after. We fired fifty-five rounds during this action. The young and brave officer, Colonel Meikel, was killed. We captured some two hundred of the enemy's pickets. After this much less traffic was carried on between the pickets.

No further movements of the Army of the Potomac took place until the latter part of the month. Picket firing as usual, continued unabated, and more or less of artillery and mortar firing was kept up.

The cars were now running over the lately finished military railroad which passed between our camp and the fort in which our guns were stationed: Upon these trains the rebel guns were almost daily turned, although the writer does not remember of any damage being done. Some of the more exposed parts of the road were covered by embankments. This doubtless prevented some damage.



Previous to this we had detached to us for service eighteen men from the First Delaware Cavalry, who were returned to their regiment on the 14th. To replace these, eleven men were detached from the Fourth New York Heavy Artillery. Among them were some excellent soldiers who remained with the battery during its unexpired term of service. Their names can be found in the roster.

On the 16th, William H. Phinney, a most excellent man, who had been detailed as a driver in the Sixth corps ambulance train, was sent to the hospital, being disabled by a felon on his hand. It first appeared on the 22d of August, and it soon became so bad that fears were entertained that he would lose the use of a part of his hand, which he afterwards did. After two days in the brigade hospital, he was sent to the City Point Hospital, then to Emery Hospital at Washington, and from there to Portsmouth Grove Hospital, Rhode Island, where he arrived on the 28th of September. Here he remained until the battery returned home, when he rejoined it and was mustered out of service with the battery.

Crawford A. Sayles, an ambulance driver with Phinney, was also sent to City Point Hospital on the 26th of August, being sick with fever. He died Aug. 27, 1864, and was buried at the Depot Field Cemetery at that place. He was a good soldier and excellent citizen. He left a family in Rhode Island to mourn his loss.

It was on the 16th that the rebels made a raid and captured over two thousand cattle, the Thirteenth Pennsylvania Regiment, with their arms, wagons and camp equipage, at Sycamore Church, near City Point. This was one of the boldest raids of the war. After this the rebel pickets would, at every opportunity, tantalize our men by raising the cry of "Beef! Beef! Beef!"

September 17th. Two men belonging to the battery were slightly wounded by sharpshooters, but their names are not recalled.

September 18th. Captain Rhodes was ordered to place one section of his battery to the right of the fort. The left section was so placed, but in about an hour it was found that Lieutenant Sawin, who brought the order, had made a mistake. It should have been carried to a rifle battery instead. The guns were at once returned to the fort.

September 19th. General Sheridan attacked the rebels near Winchester, and after a hard fought battle, gained a decided victory, taking twenty-five hundred prisoners, five guns, and nine colors. In this battle the Sixth corps took a prominent part. General David A. Russell, who commanded the First division, was killed, and Upton was wounded. At daybreak on the 21st, Battery E joined the artillery of the Army of the Potomac, firing a shotted salute in honor of that victory.

September 22d. The battery fired ten rounds. An attempt was made by the officers to get an informal expression of the men's preferences for president, but it proved a failure as only a portion would vote, the men at this time being more deeply interested in going home than in making presidents.

September 24th. Another salute was fired by our battery in honor of Sheridan's second great victory at Fisher's Hill. The Confederate works at that place were carried by assault, the enemy routed and sixteen pieces were captured.

Sunday, September 25th, was a pleasant day, especially so to the old members who had not re-enlisted, as it was the last Sunday for them before going home. It was well that they should be happy, for not only were they about to meet dear friends and companions at home, from whom they had been separated by three long years of hard service, but they also carried with them a faithful record of which they might well be proud. A few shots were fired, the last that were fired by the old members before leaving us. It was their farewell salute.

September 26th. Captain Rhodes had an application made out by the company clerk to have the men whose term of service had expired relieved from further duty. It was first taken to Captain Harn, then to Generals Hunt and Williams, and finally to Captain Sanders, the chief mustering officer, all of whom approved the application. Captain Rhodes had a few days previous applied for a leave of absence of twenty days. This was promptly granted and he was told that his papers would be ready for him to accompany the men, who would at once be relieved and ordered home in the morning. Captain Rhodes returned to camp and immediately ordered Charles H. Bogman, the company clerk, to complete the muster out rolls. In order to finish them he had to work all night. At night the men were relieved from further duty. The

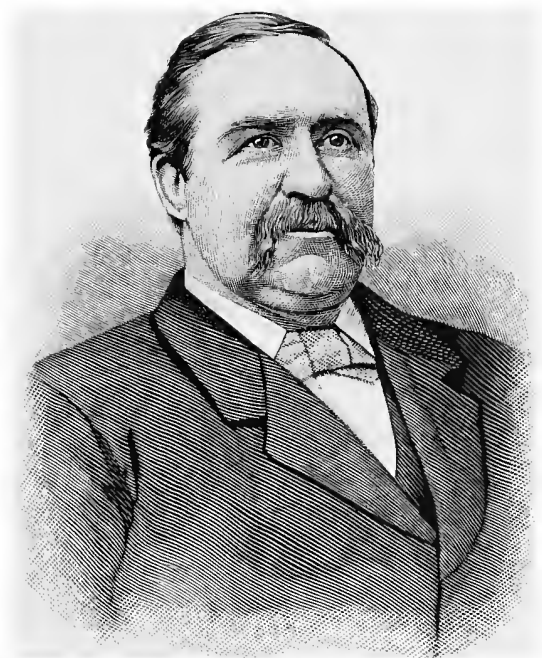
names of the men relieved were as follows, viz.: First Sergeant, James Donnelly. Line Sergeants, William Millen, Charles P. Williams, James A. Tanner, and Arthur W. Hargraves. Corporals, John M. Battey and George H. Pierce. Artificers, Albert A. Hopkins and Joseph D. Haney. Privates, Silas A. Brown, Seth B. Darling, Thomas T. Beard, John J. Mulhall, John McKenna, John Crothers, William Crothers, John W. Hollahan, Bartholomew Fitzgerald, Elias H. Mathewson, Jeremiah Potter, William H. Polk, Alfred B. Ramsdell, John Ryan, Edward Austin, John F. Simmons, Thomas W. Simmons, Palmer B. Taylor, Charles E. White, Gilbert A. Weaver, Albert B. Wilson, and Edson Walcott. Besides these thirty-three named who were relieved from the front, about half a dozen were discharged from the hospitals, and thirty-three had previously been discharged for disability and wounds. Seven had been discharged to accept promotion, three had entered the service of the navy, and twenty-one had been killed or died of wounds or disease, making a total of one hundred and one men. The names of those not given above will be found in a roster to accompany this work. Nearly all of the above enlisted at the time of the formation of the battery, or soon after. There may be some slight errors in the number of those absent and discharged for disability.

Tuesday, September 27th. Captain Rhodes having received orders to take the men home they were up early, hastily ate their last army breakfast, and, after a hearty good bye to their old comrades, started at six A. M. upon the cars, accompanied by Captain Rhodes, for City Point, arriving there in time to take the mail boat *Charlotte Vanderbilt* for Washington. They left City Point at ten A. M., and reached the capitol city at seven A. M. the following morning. After a few hours stop in Washington they took the cars at 11.15 A. M. for New York, arriving there at 11.30 P. M. They passed the night at the New England Soldiers' Home, and, on the morning of the 29th, they marched to the depot and took the train that left at 8.11 A. M., for Providence, where they arrived at about 4 P. M. the same day, being received by a salute fired by the Marine Artillery. After this they were marched to the Marine Artillery armory on Benefit Street, where a collation was served to them, after which Captain Rhodes dismissed the battery until nine o'clock the next morning. The men

were not mustered out until the the 3d of October. Owing to an error in the pay rolls, which had to be corrected, a delay in their payments was caused, which did not occur until Thursday, October 6th. After receiving their pay the hardy veterans wished each other a long and happy life and departed for their several homes.

All of the sergeants who returned at the end of three years were non-commissioned officers from the organization of the battery except Sergeant Donnelly. Sergeant Millen who had been on detached service over fifteen months, was the only sergeant that went out as such with the battery. His fidelity to duty and his sterling patriotism deserves special mention. His parents, Rev. John Millen and Mary G. (Cameron) Millen, were born in Scotland and came to the United States and settled in New York City, where the subject of this sketch was born Nov. 16, 1836. He was educated in the public schools of that city. After leaving school he worked in a bakery for awhile, and afterwards in a book bindery. Desiring more active employment he gave up the book bindery business and went to Pennsylvania and engaged in the lumber business. He afterwards came to Rhode Island, and for a short time worked in the town of Exeter. Then he came to Providence and entered a paper box manufactory, where for a time he served as cutter. It was while here that the slaveholders' Rebellion attempted to dismember the Union. Being imbued with an ardent and patriotic spirit, he early entered the military service, and was one of the first to enlist in the First Rhode Island Battery as a private, in April, 1881. The battery returned to Rhode Island after three months of service and was mustered out Aug. 6, 1861. After a few weeks of rest, he enlisted in Battery E, and was mustered again into the service with the battery, Sept. 30, 1861.

Immediately after joining the battery he was appointed one of its sergeants, and was active in drilling the men for service in the battery. He was assigned to the Fourth detachment, which he bravely commanded at the battles of Yorkstown, Williamsburg, Fair Oaks, Glendale, Malvern Hill, Harrison's Landing, Kettle Run, Second Bull Run, Chantilly, Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville. June 8, 1863, he was ordered on detached service in charge of the Third corps artillery ordnance train. After the consolidation of that



**William Millen.**  
**Ordnance Sergt. 3d Corps Artillery Brigade.**



corps, he returned to his battery April 12, 1864, and for about three weeks acted as lieutenant in charge of the left section. On the 3d of May, 1864, he was again ordered on detached service as commissary sergeant in the Sixth corps artillery brigade, serving in that capacity until the expiration of his term of service. After the close of the war he resumed his business as paper box cutter for about two years. In 1867, he went into the house furnishing business on North Main Street, Providence, R. I., having as silent partner Dea. John L. Barber, of Exeter. About 1875 he bought out his partner and has since continued the business alone, being at present located in the Wayland Building, 130 North Main Street. Although not wealthy, he has by prudence and strict adherence to business principles, accumulated a moderate competence. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity, the I. O. O. F., and is one of the most active and influential members of Prescott Post, No. 1, G. A. R., being at one time quartermaster-general on the department commander's staff. He is a member of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Historical Society, and in 1889 was elected colonel of the Veteran Marine Artillery Association. He has been for many years an officer in the First Rhode Island Light Artillery Veteran Association and for several years has been member of the First Baptist Church. Millen has been an ardent believer in the principles of liberty advocated by the Republican party, has many times been a delegate to its conventions, and has served also on the City Committee. In November, 1889, he was nominated and elected to represent the Fourth Ward in the City Council of Providence, and was twice re-elected to serve for the years 1891 and 1892. He was appointed on a committee by the Veteran Association with Lieut. P. S. Jastram and Capt. John K. Bucklyn, of which he was chairman, to superintend and erect a monument in honor of Battery E, which was erected on the battlefield of Gettysburg July 2, 1886.

Millen is a plain, straightforward, outspoken man in his dealings with his fellow men, and has no sympathy with shams and hypocrisy. Aug. 20, 1891, he married Abbie M. Dye, of Providence, R. I., the estimable daughter of Thomas P. and the late Deborah (Kenyon) Dye, of Hopkinton, R. I.

Although he never married until passing middle life, he has, nevertheless, always been a lover of social and domestic life. He is held by an extensive social and business acquaintance as an intelligent, upright, and honorable man.

Sergt. Charles P. Williams, like Sergeant Millen, was a man of more than usual merit. His father was Charles Williams, who married Sally Phillips, both then living in Scituate, R. I. Charles P. was born in that town Jan. 30, 1831. He was educated in the public schools and was an adept pupil, adding greatly to his knowledge by extensive reading. He was endowed with a strong love for public improvements, and aspired to a worthy social standing. He possessed a good degree of musical talent, both instrumental and vocal, and for many years was organist of the Baptist Church in Phenix, R. I.

In early manhood he joined the Kentish Artillery, located at Apponaug, in Warwick, R. I., of which he early became its captain. When the war broke out he took his company to Providence to enlist in the First Regiment in a body, but the regiment being full the company had to return home. He then enlisted as a private in that regiment for three months, serving in the first Bull Run battle, and was mustered out Aug. 2, 1861. In September he enlisted in Battery E, was mustered in Sept. 30, 1861, and appointed one of its first corporals. He served in that rank with distinction until Aug. 6, 1862, when he was promoted to sergeant and assigned to the sixth detachment.

As a sergeant he showed unusual merit, for which he was promoted to first sergeant Feb. 8, 1864. For some unknown cause he was reduced to line sergeant again Aug. 2, 1864, and continued such until he was mustered out Oct. 3, 1864.

Previous to the war he married Miss Ann M. Davis, daughter of William and Susan Davis, by whom he had two children, a daughter and a son. The son, Charles H. Williams, is a well known manufacturer of jewelry in Attleboro, Mass. Annie May, the daughter, married William Henry Cole, a cotton mill superintendent, well known in the Pawtuxet Valley.

After the war he designed to return to Virginia and go into business, but the death of his wife on the 18th of October, 1864, changed his plans, and he engaged himself to take



charge of the weaving department at Harrisville, Coventry, R. I. While living here he joined the Grand Army of the Republic, becoming commander of McGregor Post at Phenix, R. I., and being a few years later elected junior vice-commander of the Department of Rhode Island. For his second wife he married Martha H. Boyd. In 1879 he moved to Attleboro, Mass., and engaged in the jewelry business, where he continued until a few years before his death.

After the death of his second wife he lived with his son until his death, which occurred Aug. 30, 1889. His funeral was in charge of the William A. Streeter Post, of which the deceased was a member and past adjutant. The *Attleboro Advocate*, in referring to him, said: "The post formed and marched to the house. . . . When they were seated a quartette sang the touching soldier's song, 'The Vacant Chair,' the Rev. A. McCord, of the M. E. Church, read selections of Scripture and made an appropriate and feeling memorial address, alluding to the valuable services of the deceased in the hour of his country's peril. He was followed by Dr. Lester S. Hill, of Providence, an intimate friend and army comrade of Mr. Williams, who paid a touching tribute to the high character and nobility of the man of whom he had so close a knowledge. The tribute was a glowing and eloquent one as to the purity and integrity of character always displayed by his dead comrade in spite of the temptations and wickedness of army life." The following day his remains were taken to Rhode Island and buried near Washington Village, in the town of Coventry.

Sergt. Arthur W. Hargraves was born in Bolton, England, July 4, 1837. He was the son of Robert Hargraves and Elizabeth (Farnsworth) Hargraves, who emigrated to the United States when Arthur was about two years old. They first settled in Providence, R. I., where the subject of this sketch attended school until he was about eleven years old. His parents then moved to the Crompton Mills in Warwick, R. I., where young Arthur began work in the print works, becoming, in the course of a few years master of the art of bleaching. After this he served an apprenticeship at carpentering, at which trade he worked until the breaking out of the Rebellion in April, 1861.

After the president's first call for troops, he promptly enlisted in the First Rhode Island Regiment, serving faithfully in Company H, under Captain Day. He participated in the first battle of Bull Run, July 21, 1861, in which his regiment bore an active part. He returned home with the regiment and was mustered out Aug. 2, 1861. Being too patriotic to remain at home when his country was in danger, he again enlisted in Battery E, which left the state for the seat of war Oct. 5, 1861. Because of his former service and his apparent ability he was almost immediately promoted to a corporal, and was assigned to the fourth detachment, in which he served with ability in the battles of Yorktown, Williamsburg, Fair Oaks, in front of Richmond, Glendale, Malvern Hill, Harrison's Landing, Kettle Run, Second Bull Run, and Chantilly. During these battles he displayed the merits of a brave soldier and was reputed to be one of the best shots in the battery.

Nov. 14, 1862, he was promoted to sergeant, and was assigned to the third detachment, which he commanded in the battles of Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg (where he was wounded), Payne's Farm, Mine Run, Wilderness, and Spottsylvania. At Cold Harbor, after Sergeant Humphrey was wounded, he assumed command of the second detachment, which he commanded during the engagement before Petersburg. He was mustered out of service Oct. 3, 1864.

On the 15th of November 1864, he was married to Isabella, daughter of Robert and Mary Shannon, of Warwick, R. I., by whom he had three children, two of whom are now living. After his marriage he remained at Crompton Mills for ten years, and then moved to Pawtucket, R. I., remaining there also ten years, working meanwhile at his trade. In May 1884, he moved to Providence where he had previously engaged himself, first as carpenter, but afterwards as machinist in the Rhode Island Bleaching and Dyeing Works on Eddy Street, where he is at present (1891) employed.

Sergeant Hargraves was never connected with any orders or societies except the Grand Army of the Republic, being at one time the commander of Ballou Post, No. 3, at Central Falls, R. I. He is now a member of Slocum Post, No. 10, of Providence.





1st Sergt. James Donnelly.



1st Sergt. Charles P. Williams.



Sergt. James A. Tanner.



Sergt. Arthur W. Hargraves.

Hargraves has more than an ordinary mechanical ability, and has always been considered by his employers as an especially useful and intelligent mechanic.

Sergt. James A. Tanner was the son of Barton B. Tanner and Patience C. (Briggs) Tanner, of Coventry, R. I., in which town he was born May 9, 1833. He was educated in the public schools of that town, and at the "Aldrich School," at River Point, Warwick. He began work in the Harrisville Mill, in his native town, remaining there until old enough to learn a trade; he then went to Providence and served an apprenticeship with a firm of carpenters and builders, at the head of which was the now well known lumber dealer, A. B. Rice. After a few years of faithful service with this firm, he returned to his native town and continued to work at his trade, building in the meantime a fine residence for the superintendent of the Harris Mills, of which he had charge. May 8, 1858, he was married to Miss Margaret M. Gibney, who has proved to be a most faithful wife and a devoted mother of two sons and one daughter. She was the daughter of Thomas and Mary Gibney.

Soon after the war broke out, being endowed with a love for the free institutions of his country, he enlisted September, 1861, and was assigned to Battery E, which was then in course of formation. He was at once appointed one of its corporals, and served with honor in all the battles in which his battery was engaged previous to the campaign of 1864, being wounded at the battle of Gettysburg and at Payne's Farm. Feb. 8, 1864, he was promoted to sergeant, being transferred from the third to the sixth detachment. During the battles of the Wilderness, Spottsylvania, Cold Harbor, and in front of Petersburg, he commanded his detachment with credit to himself and to the battery. He was mustered out of service Oct. 3, 1864. In January, 1865, he moved to Cranston, and for nearly five years was in the employ of the A. & W. Sprague Manufacturing Company. In the autumn of 1869 he moved to Providence, and entered the service of the Gorham Manufacturing Company as carpenter. Next we find him as ship carpenter for the Neptune Steamship Company, running between Providence and New York. Jan. 19, 1873, he was appointed upon the police force, serving until May 27, 1880, when he resigned. After this he was

employed on repairs at the Delaine and Riverside Mills, at Olneyville, R. I. It was while employed at the last named mill that his death occurred, Dec. 25, 1888.

He belonged to Westminster Lodge, I. O. O. F., of which he was a past noble grand, and to Providence Lodge, No. 182, Knights of Honor, in which he was insured for two thousand dollars.

In his early life he connected himself with the Methodist Church, at Phenix, R. I., of which he was an exemplary member at the time of his death.

First Sergeant James Donnelly was born in Scotland, February, 1844. His father, Peter Donnelly, of Ireland, married Miss Grace Dunn, of Scotland. When James was eighteen months old, his parents emigrated to the United States, and soon after settled at Crompton Village in the town of Warwick, R. I. James, after attending the usual terms in the public school of that place, was sent to the "Aldrich School," at River Point. After completing his studies at that school he was employed at the print works in that village until September, 1861, when with several of his village comrades, all of whom became excellent soldiers, enlisted in Battery E, which was then being organized. He served faithfully as a private until Aug. 1, 1862, when he was promoted to a corporal, continuing as such until the day after the battle of Gettysburg, when, owing to his sergeant becoming acting first sergeant, he took charge of the first detachment Feb. 19, 1864, his sergeant (Seth Darling) at his own request, was reduced to the ranks, and Donnelly, then, the writer claims, was promoted to a sergeant. This Donnelly doubts, and thinks he only continued to act as such. However that may be, he continued in charge of that detachment until Aug. 2, 1864, when he was promoted to first sergeant and was mustered out Oct. 3 1864, his term of enlistment having expired. That he was a brave and true soldier none can deny. He served unharmed in all the battles in which his battery was engaged. Soon after returning home he went into the employ of the Hartford, Providence and Fishkill Railroad, now the New York and New England Railroad. By his faithful service he won the confidence of his employers, who advanced him to brakeman in 1866, and to conductor in 1872. He is

now (1891) conductor on the Hope Branch of the New York Providence and Boston Railroad. He remains unmarried.

This biographical sketch of Lieutenant Brown should have appeared on the page following an account of his promotion to lieutenant.

Charles A. Brown was born in Ironston, Mass., Aug. 10, 1837. His grandfather, John W. Brown, was a British soldier, and was taken prisoner during the Revolutionary War. After taking the oath of allegiance to the United States he was for a while clerk for Gen. George Washington.

His parents were Elisha and Pelthira (Hall) Brown. At an early age his parents moved to Rhode Island, and, after residing in several towns settled in Providence, where Charles at the tender age of seven years was put to work in a cotton mill. His schooling was mostly in the towns of Burrillville and Providence, finishing his education at Scholfield's Commercial College. Early in life he learned the business of house and carriage painting. He was a member of the City Horse Guards before the war, and was one of the first to enlist in Battery E, being mustered as corporal in the battery Sept 30, 1861. In March, 1862, he was promoted to quartermaster sergeant, serving in that capacity until April 14, 1863, when he was mustered as second lieutenant and assigned to Battery B, of Rhode Island. He was in command of the famous Gettysburg gun, now stationed in front of the state house. In both of these batteries he served with credit, and was at all the battles in which those batteries were engaged previous to his being captured by Mosby's guerrillas, May 18, 1864. He was captured while on his return from Belle Plain to Warrenton Junction, having been sent there to turn in captured guns and condemned horses. After capture he was deprived of his uniform and sent to Richmond, Danville, and Macon, Ga. Here he made his escape, but after twelve days of liberty he was recaptured and returned to Macon, where he was placed in a dungeon, and, after six weeks of confinement, was taken with others to Charleston, S. C., where they were placed under fire of the Union artillery that were shelling that city from Morris Island. Here they remained until the severity of the yellow fever caused their removal to Columbus, S. C., where they were kept in an open field without shelter until Nov. 4, 1864, when with

about twenty other prisoners he made his escape. After five weeks of tedious travel through woods, swamps, and over the mountains covered with snow, they reached the summit in a bewildering snow storm. After the storm had ceased they discovered a distant settlement, to which all but Brown and three others voted to go for food. After reaching the settlement it was found to be an unfriendly tribe of Cherokee Indians, who hanged the two guides that accompanied them and returned the escaped soldiers back to prison. Brown and his companions after a weary march reached Knoxville, Tenn., December 4th.

After remaining a few weeks in the hospital, he was sent to Washington, D. C. Here he learned that he had been commissioned first lieutenant and assigned to Battery G., of Rhode Island. As his term of enlistment had expired he declined to accept the promotion and was mustered out of service, Jan. 31, 1865. After the war Lieutenant Brown served two years on the police force in Providence. He then resumed the business of house painting, in which he is still (1891) engaged. He has been financially successful, having accumulated considerable property. He belongs to several orders, among them being North Star Lodge, No. 25, I. O. O. F., Ruth Lodge, Daughters of Rebekah, No. 8, Minnehaha Encampment, No. 16, and is captain of Canton Providence, No. 4, Patriarchs Militant. He is also a member of Providence Council, No. 41, order of the American Fraternal Circle, and Garfield Lodge, No. 7, K. of P., to Branch No. 457 Order of Iron Hall, and to the Order of the American Protection League, Rhode Island No. 1, also to the New England Order of Protection. Jan. 2, 1859, he married Elizabeth Reynolds, daughter of William H. and Asenath (Goddard) Reynolds. Mrs. Brown is a woman of fine appearance and excellent culture, being also possessed of some wealth. Two sons have been born to them, of whom only one (Charles H.) is living. They have also an adopted daughter.



## CHAPTER XXVI.

September 26th to December 20th, 1864.

BATTERY RE-ORGANIZED.—HATCHER'S RUN.—SOUTH SIDE RAILROAD.—DEATH OF GENERAL BIRNEY.—PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.—CAPTAIN RHODES ON SICK LEAVE.—LIEUTENANT PARKER IN COMMAND.

LET us now return to what remained of Battery E, now temporarily commanded by Lieut. E. K. Parker. On the day of the departure of the three year's men, Lieutenant Parker ordered the men in camp to fall into line when the following assignments were read, viz.: Sergeant Chandler assigned to First detachment, vice C. P. Williams ordered home; Lance Sergeant Lewis assigned to the second in place of Sergeant Hargraves to be discharged; Corporal Slocum to the third, and Corporal Wilder to the fourth. The last two named detachments were really the fifth and sixth, but since the guns of the center section had been turned into the War Department, they had, for convenience, been oftener called the third and fourth. Corporal Slocum on duty at the fort was ordered to return to camp to take command of his detachment. Corporals Blair and Cunningham were ordered to the fort to act as gunners in place of Corporals Slocum and Battey. Corporal Robbins was ordered to act as first sergeant.

The sergeants' mess, which by the departure of the old sergeants was broken up, was reformed on the 28th, and consisted of Sergeant Chandler, Acting First Sergeant Robbins, Sergeants Slocum, Wilder, and Lewis. Each paid into the mess fund five dollars. With what could be purchased with this money, in addition to the army rations, they were able to live quite sumptuously.

On the evening of the 28th, the firing on our front was continuous. This was owing, doubtless, to the Tenth and

Eighteenth corps having captured Fort Harrison, with sixteen guns and some prisoners, among them the commander of the fort. This fort was about one mile north of the James River, and one of the most formidable built for the defense of Richmond. Its capture cost our army the loss of 2,272 men, and the enemy a loss of 2,000 men and twenty-two guns.

While the movement was in progress north of the James River, as usual another movement was set in motion on the left to aid its success, and, if possible, at the same time to extend our lines still further towards the South Side railroad. This movement was under General Warren, assisted by the two divisions of the Ninth corps. Besides these, all the corps commanders were under orders to send, if required, all their troops except a small force, to hold the intrenchments, to the aid of Warren. Our battery, in connection with this movement, was ordered to be ready to move at three A. M. on the morning of the 29th. We accordingly hitched up and so remained all that day and the next. In the meantime Generals Warren and Parke had reached the point of attack on the left. On the 30th, Warren advanced with Griffin's and Ayres's divisions against the enemy's works and captured them with a gun and a few prisoners. Parke on the left of Warren was less successful, being driven back by Hill's troops, who captured many prisoners. The next day Mott's division, which held the intrenchments along the line where our guns were stationed, arrived on the left to reinforce our troops. The following morning (October 2d) Parke again advanced, and without resistance established a new line of intrenchments about a mile from the enemy. This line was firmly connected with the works already built across the Weldon Railroad. Our loss in this movement was over two thousand, nearly fifteen hundred of this number being taken prisoners. The loss of the enemy was about one thousand.

Meade's headquarters were now moved further towards the left. After this, the army was comparatively quiet for the next four weeks. We were paid for the months of July and August on the 29th.

On the 3d and 4th of October we were again hitched up, expecting that the enemy would attempt to retake the ground lost on the left.





1st Lieut. Benj. Freeborn.

October 5th. The limbers at the fort were withdrawn in the evening, taken to the camp, and parked with the caissons, the ammunition being stored in the magazine at the fort.

October 6th. Our camp was moved about two hundred yards. We also received ten new horses.

October 8th. Lieutenant Freeborn was ordered on detached service at the Sixth corps artillery brigade as ordnance officer. He never returned to the battery for duty.

Lieutenant Freeborn was born in Providence, R. I., on the 3d of January, 1835. His father was Jonathan Freeborn, who belonged to the Society of Friends, and was noted for his manliness and strict integrity. His mother was Lydia (Read) Freeborn, a lady of good culture and most excellent character, who died when Freeborn was young.

Freeborn received his education at the Friends' School in Providence. After leaving school he went to Chicago and afterward to St. Louis, being engaged in the transportation business on the railroad. Returning to Rhode Island in 1861 we find him in December of that year a private in Battery G, First Regiment Rhode Island Light Artillery. The following June he was promoted to sergeant, serving as such until March 17, 1863, when he received a commission assigning him to Battery E as second lieutenant. He commanded the right section in the battles of Chancellorsville and Gettysburg, being slightly wounded in the latter.

He commanded the battery while Lieutenant Buckley was absent wounded, until his return to duty on the 21st of August. He served in Battery E, evincing always a remarkable coolness and bravery, until he received a commission as first lieutenant dated Oct. 21, 1864, which again assigned him to duty in Battery G.

After his return to Battery G he was appointed acting assistant-adjutant general in Sixth corps artillery brigade, where he served until near the close of the war, when, being senior officer, he assumed command of his battery, and was soon ordered to take his command to Providence, R. I., where they were mustered out June 24, 1865. After the close of the war he returned to St. Louis and resumed his former occupation in the railroad service.

June 30, 1870, he married Miss Clara W. Leigh, daughter of Dr. Edwin and Susan S. Leigh, of St. Louis.

On the 19th of May, 1874, while riding with a friend, he was thrown from his carriage, striking upon his temple, from the effects of which he died the following day.

During the second week in October nothing of importance occurred, except that our camp was again moved a few rods to the east.

On the 14th, Second Lieut. James F. Allen received his discharge and left the army the next day for home. Lieutenant Allen went out with the battery as a sergeant.

On the 6th of October, 1862, he was promoted to first sergeant, remaining as such until June 1, 1863, when he received a commission as second lieutenant. The bravery of Lieutenant Allen was conspicuous upon many battlefields. He was somewhat brusque in manner, seeming at times severe; nevertheless, at heart he was a kind officer, as shown on many occasions.

Lieutenant Allen was born in Providence, R. I., in 1825. He was educated in the public schools of Providence and in the private schools of Providence and New York City. His grandfather was Dr. Samuel Allen, of Seekonk, or Rehoboth, Mass. His grandfather on his mother's side was Colonel (afterwards General) William Barton of Providence, R. I., who won national fame by the capture of the British general, Robert Prescott, between Newport and Bristol Ferry.

General Barton married Rhoda Carver, daughter of Governor Carver, of Massachusetts. Their daughter, Sarah Carver Barton, married Capt. Herman B. Allen, the father of Lieutenant Allen. In 1840 Lieutenant Allen left Providence, R. I., and, for several years, lived in New Orleans and Mobile. He then went to New York, sailing from there in March, 1849, on schooner *James L. Day* for California, becoming pilot of steamboat on Sacramento River. Owing to sickness he returned to New York in 1852. In 1853 we find him on the steamer *Central America* on Lake Nicaragua, cruising from San Carlos to Virgin Bay. After this he returned home, and in 1856 he was married to Frances L. Smith, daughter of Jacob Smith, of Bridgeport, Conn., and Jane Henderson, of Staten Island, N. Y., by whom he has

\*After her husband's death Mrs. Freeborn established a Home School for Girls which is spoken of as one of the best schools of its kind in the West, which continues very successful.

several children. In 1859 or 1860, he sailed from New York for Matanzas, Cuba, being employed by an English firm in the ice business. After leaving Matanzas he came to Rhode Island, where he enlisted in Battery E, becoming one of its sergeants.

In 1868, he was marshal of New Brighton, Staten Island. He was deputy sheriff, deputy United States marshal for the southern district of New York under Generals Barlow, Harlow, and Sharpe. Since then he has been engaged in the ice business.

Lieutenant Kellogg, of Captain Harn's battery, was temporarily detached for service in Battery E, and reported for duty the same day on which Lieutenant Allen left.

Corp. Charles W. Robbins was also promoted on same date to first sergeant vice James Donnelly discharged. Robbins was ordered to act as lieutenant and the writer to act as first sergeant. The promotion of Robbins was to date from October 1st. At this time Lieutenant Parker was the only commissioned officer present for duty belonging to the battery. It was for this reason that Lieutenant Kellogg was ordered to the battery, and First Sergeant Robbins to act as lieutenant. Captain Rhodes had not returned from his leave of absence, and Lieutenant Bucklyn was still on detached service upon the staff of Colonel Tompkins, doing yeoman service with the Sixth corps in the Shenandoah Valley. Since the discharge of the old members we were as deficient in enlisted men as in officers.

Some of the other Rhode Island batteries were nearly as deficient as Battery E, and there was much talk of consolidating our battery with one of the others. So imminent did this appear that Lieutenant Parker did not think it safe to await the return of Captain Rhodes before making an effort to prevent, if possible, that undesired result. At first he sought the consent of Major Hazard that the remaining veterans of the Second Rhode Island, who had asked to be detached to our battery, be permitted to do so. To this Major Hazard would not consent, saying that it was partially arranged for the battery to be consolidated with one of the other Rhode Island batteries. Other efforts were made to obtain men, but all proved futile.

"Consolidation," says Lieutenant Parker, "seemed inevitable." Meeting Captain Parsons, of Battery A, First New

Jersey, he made known to him his wants, to which Parsons replied by saying that he had more men than he needed, and he could have all the men he (Lieutenant Parker) desired. Arrangements were immediately made for the transfer of sixty-two men. This being reported by Lieutenant Parker to the adjutant-general of Rhode Island, nothing more was heard of consolidating Battery E with another command.

To Lieutenant Parker belongs the gratitude of Battery E for his persistent and successful efforts in preventing the battery from losing its identity.

Captain Parson's New Jersey battery was formerly Captain Hexamer's, which so distinguished itself during the early period of the war. Thirty-three of these detached men reported to the battery on the 16th, twenty-three on the 20th, and six on the 22d. One-half, if not more, of these men were Germans, the remainder being Irish and Americans. Among them were many bounty jumpers and deserters under assumed names. One of them boasted of getting seven bounties. Soon after his arrival he was kicked by a horse in the knee, and sent to the hospital, where, it was reported, his leg was amputated, from the effects of which he died. Nevertheless, the larger portion were excellent men who did good service in the battery.

On the 18th, Captain Rhodes returned from his leave of absence, being accompanied by Judge Duncan, of Buffalo, N. Y. He remained over night with the captain, who generously allowed him to occupy his bed, while the captain slept on the ground, being rewarded with a severe cold.

The 19th of October, 1864, was a sad day to the former veterans of the old Third corps, who now formed Mott's division of the Second corps. The cause of this sorrow can best be revealed by quoting an order of General De Trobriand, who, at the time, was temporarily in command of Mott's division :

" HEADQUARTERS, THIRD DIVISION,  
SECOND ARMY CORPS, Oct. 19th, 1864. }

*General Orders No. 64.*

It is with profound regret that the Brigadier-General commanding has to convey to this command the sad news of the death of Maj. Gen. J. B. Birney after a brief illness in Philadelphia. Nowhere will such a lamentable loss be more deeply felt than in this division, the glorious records of which are so much identified with the gallant services of the worthy successor of Kearny and Hooker.



He died before the end of the struggle in which he took such a noble and conspicuous part, but his devotion to his country, his fidelity to duty, his gallantry in action, and his brilliant efforts for the triumph of the Union will remain among us as an example to follow, while his personal qualities will endear his memory among all those who served with him or under him.

By order of Brigadier General DE TROBRIAND,

S. P. FINKELMIER,

*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

No general officer in the army was more loved by the original members of Battery E than General Birney, except perhaps General Kearny. His friendship for our battery was excelled by none, and had been manifested in many ways, as the pages of this book will testify. At the time of his death he commanded the Tenth corps in the Army of the James, then under General Butler. His health had for some time been broken, but he persisted in remaining with his command. As late as October 7th, although for several days he had been unable to leave his tent, on learning that a movement was being made by the enemy, his strong will enabled him to mount his horse upon which he was only able to sit until noon. Even then he refused to leave the field, insisting upon riding in an ambulance, until the enemy was beaten. He then returned to his headquarters where he remained until the morning of the 10th, when, by imperative orders from General Butler, he left for Philadelphia by special train, arriving there on the afternoon of the 11th. Although the best medical talent was called to his aid, he rapidly failed and died of malarious fever on the 18th of October, 1864. His last intelligible words, spoken about an hour before he died, were, says his biographer, "Keep your eyes on that flag, boys!" He then fell back upon his pillow from which he had risen, and died soon after.

General orders were also issued announcing his death, by General Butler, General Terry, who succeeded him in command of the Tenth corps, and by Col. J. W. Moore who commanded Birney's sharpshooters (Two Hundred and Third Pennsylvania Volunteers). Editorial notices of his death appeared in all the leading journals of the North. The City Council of Philadelphia passed resolutions of sympathy and tendered the use of Independence Hall so that his remains

might lie in state. His funeral was one of the most impressive ever witnessed in Philadelphia. During the funeral many houses were draped in mourning and flags were at half mast. His remains were followed to the cemetery by a long line of military and civic bodies, in which were many of his old comrades-in-arms including General Sickles, and many officers from the armies of the Potomac and the James.

General Birney was born in Alabama, May 29, 1825. His father was the Hon. James G. Birney, who was the candidate of the Liberty party for president in 1844. General Birney studied law with his father, after which he practised in Philadelphia until the beginning of the war. He then raised the Twenty-third Pennsylvania Regiment, and with it reported for duty to the Army of the Potomac. His subsequent history is well known to the readers of military history,

October 19th was also the day on which the Army of the Shenendoah Valley was surprised and flanked by the rebels under General Early, who routed and put to flight a portion of Sheridan's command which was temporarily commanded by General Wright while Sheridan was absent in Washington. Sheridan on his return had reached Winchester, when hearing of the disaster which had befallen his army, he made his famous historic ride reaching his shattered troops at the front, who had already checked the exultant foe. Here his presence so inspired the returning confidence of his troops that before night he not only routed the enemy and captured twenty-four guns, but re-took his own eighteen guns which were captured in the morning. It was in this battle that Lieutenant Bucklyn so distinguished himself that he was made brevet captain on the field.

After the return of Captain Rhodes the list of promotions were completed, and were read in line on the 20th. Lance Sergeant George Lewis was promoted to sergeant to date from October 4th, and was assigned to the second piece, with instructions to continue acting as first sergeant. Corporals John Slocum, Otto Wilder, and John Cunningham, were promoted to sergeants, also to date from October 4th. First sergeant Charles W. Robbins and Sergt. Edward A. Chandler were ordered to continue acting as lieutenants. Privates Edson S. White, Philip A. Dexter, Jeremiah Bucklin, Charles, S. Huling, Bradbury Boggs, Samuel Havens, Michael Pender-

grast, and Emory W. Marble, were promoted to corporals. The latter not wishing to serve, was, at his own request, the next day reduced to the ranks, and William Cook, one of the detached men from the Fourth New York Heavy Artillery was promoted in his place. Cook and Pendergrast were, not long afterwards, for some misdemeanor, reduced to the ranks. Chandler Lindsey who had been lance corporal since April 9th, was promoted on the 24th. to corporal.

General Grant was now ready for another move, as an extract from an order written to General Meade on the 24th will show, "Make your preparations to march out at an early hour on the 27th to gain possession of the South Side Railroad, and to hold it and to fortify back to your present left." In connection with this, Butler was also instructed to make a demonstration on the north side of the James River.

I will give no description of the battle, save to add that the Second and Fifth corps did most of the fighting, Hancock losing nearly 1,500 men, Warren less than 300, for which no adequate results were gained. In this movement Mott's division was withdrawn from the lines occupied by us, being relieved by General Miles's division which alone with the artillery held the lines from the Appomattox River to half way between the Jerusalem Plank Road and the Weldon Railroad. This as will be plainly seen, left only a skirmishing line to protect the artillery and hold the lines along a distance of over six miles.

Fearing that the enemy would attack us while the troops withdrawn were engaged on the left, an order was given to have all the caissons, limbers, forage teams, etc., sent back to the rear breastworks near City Point. In connection with this movement Captain Rhodes received orders on the evening of the 25th that one of his guns would be placed on the right of the fort, near the railroad, under command of Captain Parsons, and that three guns of Parsons were to take position in Fort Rice. One regiment of infantry and another battery were placed in our fort to remain during the expected danger. These were all under the command of Captain Rhodes, who received instructions "to hold the fort to the last, and be taken prisoner or killed if necessary."

This clearly revealed our danger, or such desperate orders would not have been given. Fifty more rounds of ammunition

to each guns were ordered to the fort and placed in the magazine. Captain Rhodes had received orders to be ready to move his caissons as above indicated at ten A. M., on the 26th, but it was four P. M. before we moved. First Sergeant Robbins was in command of our caissons, that of the brigade was under Lieutenant Perrigo, of Captain Dorsey's First Ohio Battery. It was not until long after dark that we arrived in rear of the breastworks. It rained at intervals and the darkness hid everything from our view, and it was only when near some camp-fire that one could tell who belonged to the infantry and who to the gunless artillery. Rumors of every description were circulated. That which most disturbed us, was a report that we were to be supplied with muskets, and were to hold the lines should the enemy break through and reach our breastworks. Think of a line of breastworks being defended by caissons, limbers, battery wagons, forges, army wagons, ambulances, spare horses, mule teams, and worse than all artillerymen without arms, many of whom perhaps had never loaded or fired a musket, and we have a picture of what was stationed behind the works at City Point.

During the 27th, while Warren and Hancock were fighting on the left at Hatcher Run, we remained here awaiting events. At Fort Rice all was quiet until about nine P. M., when the enemy made an attack on our lines in front of our guns. Captain Rhodes promptly responded with his guns and fired until ordered to cease by General Miles. After having stopped firing his own guns, Captain Rhodes says, "I sent word to Parsons's guns (those in Fort Rice) and from his reply he did not seem to know he was under my command. I sent to see him again about some orders, but he had gone to his own fort. I then put Lieutenant Parker in command of Parsons's guns. Soon after Parsons returned and said he was in command of his own battery. I then went and asked him if he did not understand that I commanded his guns. He replied, "No, Captain Harn told him he would command his own guns while there." I told him I was in command and ordered his guns to stop firing. He again said he should command his own guns. I then sent an orderly to Captain Harn for instructions, and Captain Harn sent to me a written order to the effect that I was

in command of all the artillery in Fort Rice. I showed this to Captain Parsons and he became angry and said then that I had nothing for him to do here. I said, "No, Sir!" He then remarked that he would return to his fort, and did so. Soon after the battle of words with Captain Parsons the enemy again opened upon our lines and for about an hour the roar of artillery and the rattle of musketry was continuous. In this attack our troops made a charge and captured the fort that was blown up in July by Burnside, capturing two colonels and twenty-two men. One brave but reckless colonel refusing to surrender was killed. Again in this action Captain Parsons disputed the authority of Lieutenant Parker who had been sent by Captain Rhodes to order the battery not to fire until receiving orders from him. The trouble was not settled until the next day, when Captain Harn, acting chief of the artillery, called the parties together, when the matter in dispute was talked over. After hearing the statements of both sides, Captain Harn decided that Captain Parsons was wholly in fault. In this affair, Captain Parsons, although an excellent officer made a mistake in allowing his temper to control his usual good judgment.

During the 27th Sergeant Slocum, with four men, was detailed for permanent guard to the headquarters of the Sixth corps artillery brigade. The men were Robert Snow, Rudolph Juker, Joseph Miller, and Louis J. Morgan. These men remained, until they returned to their battery in May, but Sergeant Slocum returned to his battery November 8th.

The caissons remained in the rear breastworks until the 29th when they were returned to their old camp, which was found somewhat damaged. Sergt. Edward A. Chandler found awaiting his return a commission as second lieutenant, bearing the date of October 25th, and assigning him to battery E. This was not entirely unexpected, as a short time before Captain Rhodes had recommended him for that position.

October 30th, Captain Rhodes sent Lieutenant Parker to City Point after two new guns to replace those turned in on the 17th of May. Having obtained them, he telegraphed back to camp for men and horses to bring them to camp. Sergeant Cunningham was sent in charge of these, returning with them the next day. These guns remained in camp until

the 4th of November, when they were sent to Fort Rice, relieving two of those belonging to Captain Parsons.

October 31st, the battery was inspected and mustered for two months' pay by Captain Dorsey, of the First Ohio Battery.

November 1st. Nothing disturbed us to-day, except that the dead, killed on the night of the 27th still lay unburied in front of our fort. Soon after they were removed under a flag of truce.

A diary record of November 2d, says: "Corp. Jeremiah Bucklin, was thrown from and kicked by a horse, and his ankle dislocated. He was sent to City Point Hospital." But Bucklin says he was sent to the hospital on account of an accidental pistol wound in the foot.

On November 4th, Lieutenant Chandler was mustered and ordered to Fort Rice, relieving Lieutenant Parker, who was ordered to report for duty at the camp, a much plesanter place and less exposed to danger. Being now supplied with a full battery it became necessary to rearrange the non-commissioned officers. This was done on the 5th of November. Sergeant Slocum was assigned to the second detachment; Sergeant Lewis, to the first; Sergeant Wilder, to the fifth; Sergeant Cunningham, to the sixth. Corp. William S. Blair was promoted to a sergeant and assigned to the third; Corp. Philip A. Dexter was assigned temporarily to the fourth. The latter assignment was due to Sergeant Humphrey's absence in the hospital. On the following day private Uriah Griffin was promoted to lance corporal. Griffin was detached from a Pennsylvania regiment, but had re-enlisted into Battery E, Nov. 23, 1863. After the departure of the three years' men John E. Johnston became farrier, and Malachi Gunning, blacksmith, assisted by Richard Russell.

About midnight on the 5th, the enemy charged on our lines and captured four of our picket posts. This brought on a sharp engagement between Hampton Legion of South Carolina troops, and MacAlister's brigade of Mott's division. Battery E joined in the attack and for a short time the lines were lighted up by the flashing fires of the batteries engaged, and the mortars streaked the heavens with a seeming shower of falling stars. The Legion were promptly repulsed with a loss of over one hundred and fifty, one half of the number



Lieut. Edward A. Chandler.





being prisoners. An extract from Captain Rhodes's diary of November 6th, says: "I was aroused at 7 A. M. by a great concussion in the fort from mortar shells. One came very near the cabin and exploded throwing dirt all over the shanty. I got up in haste and going out found the cannoners all at their guns. I ordered the guns to be loaded with solid shot and after firing twelve rounds I ceased firing." Soon after the enemy also ceased firing.

Edward McCaffery died of chronic diarrhœa at City Point Hospital on the 28th of October. He was an excellent soldier.

November 8th being election day and we being allowed to vote by a special law enacted by the Legislature of Rhode Island, we proceeded to do so. It was only the men of Rhode Island who would have been qualified to vote had they been at home that were allowed to cast a ballot. As only a few of that class remained in the battery the vote was necessarily small, numbering only 27, of which number 15 were cast for Lincoln, and 12 for McClellan. The votes were witnessed by Lieutenant Chandler and Sergeant Lewis, sealed in their presence, and, as the law required, they were sent to Rhode Island to be counted. The party vote was much more equal in our battery than it was in the whole army, in that Lincoln had over three to one for McClellan. The soldier vote in the state where they could be distinguished, was, for Lincoln, 119,754, for McClellan, 34,291.

It may as well be said here that the season for active operations having passed, the duties of the battery were henceforth somewhat monotonous, being confined almost exclusively to services in the intrenchments.

It was now apparent that no more general movements would take place until after the winter had passed; for this reason the troops had begun to build winter quarters. The quarters of Battery E, which were built of small logs were commenced on the 10th. They were located a few rods to the south of our summer quarters and faced towards the north, the cracks between the logs were plastered, as usual, with mud. The tents were covered with canvas, and, with the addition of fire-places, were made quite comfortable even in the coldest weather.

November 11th. Three recruits arrived from Rhode Island, whose names were Albert O. Bates, Charles E.

Mowry and Herbert A. Ballou. They came from the town of Scituate. The former although very young, proved to be a most excellent soldier, and, in after years, became a well known and highly esteemed citizen of the town of Johnston, R. I. Ballou was only fifteen years old, and, at the request of his father, he was discharged Jan. 14, 1865, by the war department. Mowry proved to be a good soldier, also, and remained until the close of the war. Second Lieut. Hezekiah Potter, was mustered and reported for duty on the 11th. Potter came from Battery H being commissioned from quartermaster-sergeant, Oct. 21, 1864. He filled the place made vacant by the assignment of Lieutenant Freeborn to Battery G.

November 13th and 14th, Captain Harn inspected both the camp and the fort. After the inspection Captain Harn complimented Captain Rhodes upon the very excellent condition of his entire battery.

On the 15th and 16th, working parties of the enemy were shelled by our battery. This brought on quite a spirited artillery duel for a short time, resulting only in a waste of powder.

On the 17th, Captain Rhodes received a notice, that he was appointed to act as president of a court-martial to try a man for striking a sergeant in Captain Harn's battery. The court convened at Captain Rhodes's quarters on the 21st. The members of the court-martial were Captain Rhodes, president; Captain Parsons, Lieutenant McLain, Lieutenant Parker, Lieutenant Chandler, and Lieutenant Perrigo. After hearing the evidence the man was pronounced guilty and sentenced to forfeit one half of two months' pay and to do police duty for a month.

On the 22d, Lieutenant Parker was granted a leave of absence of fifteen days.

November 24th. This was the ever welcome Thanksgiving, and to none was it more welcome than to the soldiers composing the Armies of the Potomac and the James. Cargoes of provisions of every kind were received from the different states. Every soldier, doubtless, had his fill of these good things sent by generous donors. Fifteen turkeys out of this mountain of supplies were given to Battery E, one of

them going to the sergeants' mess, the remainder to the Company. It was a day long to be remembered.

On the day following Thanksgiving it was the writer's turn to command a section drill on an open field in full view of the enemy. It was but a short time before the enemy's guns began to take part in the manœuvres, and I am frank to say that the bursting shells upon the field had more to do with the caisson's movements than the sergeant in command. But happily the officer of the day saw the danger, and ordered the recall to be sounded, much to the joy of the sergeant and drivers.

November 25th. Corporal Pendergrast was reduced for absence without leave, and Lance Corporal Griffin was promoted to fill the vacancy. Private Richard T. Beard was promoted to lance corporal. Beard was a man at least fifty years old. He had been in the regular army over thirty years and was wearing six service stripes.

November 26th. General Humphreys took command of the Second corps, succeeding General Hancock. "General Hancock," says his successor, "was called to Washington by the secretary of war to organize the new First army corps, which, it was expected would be ready to take the field in the spring."

November 28th. Fifteen new horses and harnesses for the new center section, were drawn. Our battery was now again complete. The Seventeenth Maine, which for several weeks had supported our battery in Fort Rice, was relieved by the Thirty-sixth Massachusetts.

December 1st. Charles H. Bogman, the company clerk, received his discharge and started for home, his term of service having expired. He had served as a private in Company D, First Rhode Island Regiment. Afterwards he enlisted in Battery G of our regiment, where for a while he was sergeant. Being transferred to Battery E he soon after the battle of Gettysburg became company clerk, in which capacity he served until mustered out. After the war he studied medicine, and is now (1891) practicing his profession in Zanesville, Ohio.

Dr. Wolfe, of the brigade headquarters, and Dr. Coleman of the Thirty-sixth Massachusetts, called to see Captain Rhodes who was suffering quite severely from inflammation

of the bowels and they advised him strongly to go home on a leave of absence, Dr. Wolfe stating that his life greatly depended upon his so doing. Captain Harn, and, in fact, all his friends advised him to follow the counsel of his physicians. After due consideration he consented, and the request was sent to headquarters. After a delay of two days a leave of twenty days' absence was granted, but owing to the absence of Lieutenant Parker and feeling slightly better he concluded to postpone his departure a few days. In the meantime Captain Rhodes sent an application to headquarters for the return of Lieutenant Bucklyn\* to duty in the battery, and also a recommendation to Governor Smith for the promotion of Sergeant Lewis to a lieutenant. The withdrawal of the Second corps troops on the 28th of November, left the artillery under the command of Colonel Tidball, chief of the Ninth corps artillery. He inspected the lines on the 1st of December, after which he complimented Captain Rhodes on having his battery in better order than any other under his command.

December 3d. The Twenty-fourth corps was organized from the white troops of the Army of the James, and the Twenty-fifth corps from the colored troops of that army, to which Ferrero's colored division of the Ninth corps was added. General Ord was in command of the Twenty-fourth corps, and General Weitzel of the Twenty-fifth. The Tenth and Eighteenth corps were discontinued.

The campaign in the Shenandoah Valley having been closed by the defeat of Early at Cedar Creek, the Sixth corps was ordered to return to the Army of the Potomac where it began arriving on the 4th of December, followed by the other divisions before the 16th. The Sixth corps upon its arrival was placed in position at the south of Petersburg across the Weldon Railroad.

About the 1st of December the Second corps was moved to the extreme left, its left resting near Hatcher's Run. The Ninth corps was moved to the right of the line, its right resting on the Appomattox River, with its left extended beyond Fort Sedgwick.

Pennsylvania had enlisted quite a number of regiments to serve for one year, which arrived about the first of December. Six of these regiments were organized into the third division under command of General Hartranft, and assigned to the

\* Had Lieutenant Bucklyn returned he would have been in command of the battery, and probably its captain after Captain Rhodes resigned.

Ninth corps, taking the place of the third division of colored troops taken from that corps.

The first week in December was quite a busy one for the battery. There was more than the usual amount of firing by the rebels upon Fort Rice. That on the 3d instant being quite severe from the enemy's mortars, whose shots damaged the fort quite materially. The embrasure in front of the second piece was badly shattered.

The Sunday inspection of December 4th, owing to the continued illness of Captain Rhodes, was made by Lieutenant Potter. Other inspections were had, one of them being by Lieutenant Freeborn, now of Battery G, who had been appointed inspector-general of the artillery brigade. His report confirmed that of Colonel Tidball made a few days before. During the week a fence was built around the camp, and it was otherwise improved. To the sergeant's tent was added a cooking and dining apartment, and private Robert Weidle was detailed to act as cook for its mess. The officers' quarters consisted of a wall tent and a nice lodge made of timber hewed and planed on three sides, and laid closely together one upon another, being firmly held in place by dove-tailed corners. The roof was made of nice canvas. The camp was considered by all to be a model arrangement, besides being pleasant and healthy. But no sooner had we prepared these agreeable winter quarters than signs of disappointment began to appear. As our corps had returned from the Shenandoah Valley and taken a position some distance to our left it was feared that we should be ordered to join them. These fears were increased by orders received on the 7th to draw eight days' rations. During the 6th and the 7th Captain Rhodes had become so much worse, he concluded it would not be safe for him to wait longer for the return of Lieutenant Parker. He therefore decided to start on the morning of the 8th.

When that time arrived he was so weak it was with difficulty that he could dress himself. Captain Harn kindly offered Captain Rhodes the use of the headquarters wagon to take him to the railroad station. This offer he gratefully accepted. He was accompanied by Quartermaster Ephraim C. Morse, of the Seventh Rhode Island Regiment. On arriving at City Point the physician there insisted upon his stop-

ping at the hospital, but he finally yielded to the persuasion of Captain Rhodes and allowed him to proceed. He was assisted on his way home by his friend Morse, reaching Providence on the evening of the 9th nearly exhausted, Lieutenant Parker not having returned from his leave of absence the command of the battery fell upon Lieutenant Potter.

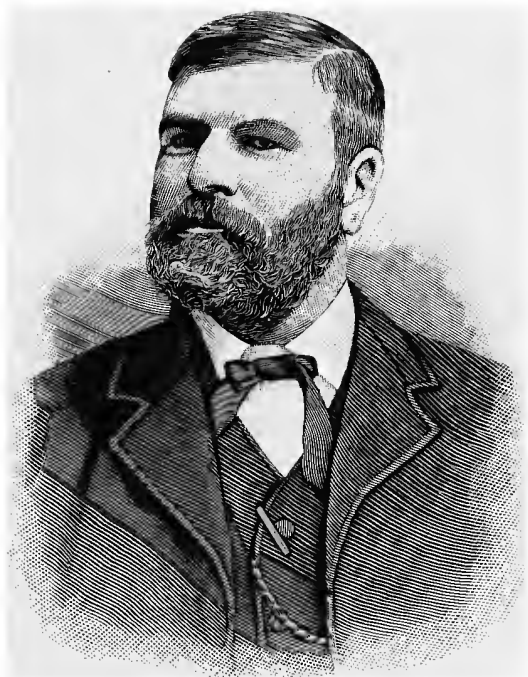
During the 8th orders came to report our caissons with horses, to Lieutenant McLain of the Third New York Battery. They were so reported by Sergeant Lewis. Accompanying them were Sergeants Cunningham and Slocum, and Corporal Austin. These, with the exception of Sergeant Slocum, who was left in command of the line of caissons, were ordered to return to their camp.

The day was cold and bleak, and so continued during the next day, followed by a night of snow and sleet which covered the ground with ice. The suffering of the men and horses was severe as they had no shelter from the storm. It was not until the afternoon of the 10th that the caissons were ordered back to camp. It was soon learned that the caissons in connection with the guns of the Third New York Battery had been held in readiness to cooperate with the Fifth Corps and Mott's division, which had marched on the 6th to destroy the Weldon Railroad beyond Nottoway court-house, and which they succeeded in doing as far as Hickford's. This increased the difficulty of the rebels in getting their supplies from the Weldon Railroad, having now to haul them more than twenty miles further.

Lieutenant Parker returned on the 10th and assumed command. The next day he ordered the commencement of a barn for the horses. As poles and brush had to be cut and drawn from the woods some distance away, it was not until the 16th that the barn was finished.

On the 15th our battery fired a number of shots, being replied to by the enemy's guns.

The next day several shots of the enemy struck near our camp, doing no harm. After the Sunday morning inspection on the 18th we were surprised to hear the firing of artillery in our rear, which proved to be a salute in honor of the victory of General Thomas over the rebel General Hood, near Nashville, Tenn., at which time the enemy lost 15,000 men. This was very satisfactory news, but the enjoyment of the



**Ezra K. Parker, 1st Lieut. Commanding.**





victory was very much lessened by an order just received, instructing us to take our guns from the fort and park them at the camp. Although not wholly unexpected it was an unwelcome order. We realized that our work in preparing our beautiful winter quarters was labor lost.

The next day, as ordered, the guns were taken to camp, with instructions to be ready to move early the following morning. While moving out the enemy fired a few shots at the battery, but, doing us no harm,—it answered, however, as a parting salute from the enemy.

## CHAPTER XXVII.

December 20, 1864, to March 26, 1865.

FORT WADSWORTH—WINTER QUARTERS—WELDON RAIL  
ROAD—LIEUTENANT BUCKLYN AND CAPTAIN  
RHODES RESIGN.

AT 8 A. M., on the 20th, we broke camp and started for Fort Wadsworth, four miles south of Petersburg. The fort was built a few feet west of the Weldon Railroad, and half a mile north of the Globe, or Yellow Tavern. It was one of the strongest works along the line of our intrenchments. Within its enclosure was a large bomb-proof and a well-filled magazine. We arrived near the fort about noon and found it still occupied by the Fifth Battery (D) of the regular army, which did not move out until the 22d. In the meantime we pitched our shelter tents upon a side hill. The night after our arrival a severe rain storm set in, and soon the ground was ankle deep with mud, and small streams of water coursed through our tents. In this condition we passed the night as best we could. The next day the storm was no less severe, but most of the men had found shelter in the bomb-proof, and were comparatively comfortable.

On the 22d we took possession of the fort. We had now to go to work and build over again our winter quarters. There was one lucky man who escaped that unpleasant duty, Martin Harvey, whose term of service expired on the 22d. Harvey was one of the bravest of soldiers, and had more than once distinguished himself in battle, references to which have before been made.

One recruit, John B. Dryley, arrived. Three months later he deserted.

December 23d. As our camp was now closely connected with the fort, Robbins resumed his duties as first sergeant, relieving Sergeant Lewis, who again took charge of the First detachment, relieving Corporal Griffin. Sergeant Blair was sent with a detail into the woods to cut logs for tents, and Sergeant Wilder with another detail to the old camp after a portion of our old quarters, in securing which they were in part successful, but not without having quite a skirmish with some of the men in the Ninth Massachusetts Battery, who were occupying our old quarters. Had our men been of equal force there might have been more serious trouble, for both parties doubtless believed they had a claim upon the quarters. However, no blood was spilt, but one of our men returned with a blackened eye. The next day Lieutenant Parker sent a formal request for the desired articles, which were promptly delivered.

On Christmas day all the sergeants and the cannoneers were sent some two miles to cut logs for their quarters—quite a contrast to eating Christmas turkey. These logs were from eight to ten inches in diameter, and were split in two, after which they were hauled to camp. In so doing we used the limbers with the ammunition chests removed. As soon as a sufficient quantity of material had reached camp, a portion of the men began the construction of their quarters. The split logs were laid edgewise to the height of about four feet, and were fastened together by being notched at the corners. The ends were built to the peak with logs, upon which rested a ridge-pole. The roof, as usual, was made of canvas. A suitable fire-place was built, with a chimney lined with mud. These quarters were from ten to twelve feet square, with a double row of bunks around the sides. The sergeants' quarters were somewhat larger and had only one row of bunks, which were thickly covered with green boughs, upon which blankets were spread, making a very comfortable bed. The quarters for the men were finished about the 29th of December, those of the sergeants and quartermaster a few days later.

On the 30th, Sergeant Cunningham, with six men, was detailed to go to the woods and split out shingles for the right section of our barn.

December 31st. The battery was mustered for two months' pay. The day opened with rain and snow, but in the evening the storm ceased, and at midnight the sky was clear, and the new year opened with starlight greetings.

Soon after the beginning of the new year the rebels in our front charged upon our picket line and captured some of our pickets. This caused, for a little time, considerable excitement in our camp. The picket line was nearly a mile to the front of our fort. Between it and Fort Wadsworth the land was low and marshy, and thickly covered with brush, so much so that it was deemed unnecessary for the cannoneers to remain at their guns in the fort. When this charge was made, the cannoneers, who were asleep in their quarters, were unable at first to find their clothes, and they had to go to their guns only half dressed. When they reached the fort the firing had ceased. Ever after that the cannoneers laid their clothes where they could readily be found.

The officers' quarters were the same as at the camp in rear of Fort Rice. The camp here was not as pleasant as the one we had just left, but as it was immediately in rear of Fort Wadsworth, in which our guns were in position it was upon the whole more convenient. Furthermore, the enemy's lines on our immediate front, upon which forts Lee and Walker and battery Pegram were built, were more than two miles distant. Occasionally the long range guns in those forts fired their shots across our camp, but otherwise we had but little to molest us.

The right section of our barn was begun on the 2d of January, 1865. That being finished, the other sections followed, the one for the spare horses being the last to be erected. It was not until the 22d that the barn was entirely completed. The structure was firmly built. Strong, heavy crutches were set in the ground for posts, upon them rested the girders and plates, securely fastened with pins. These supported the roof which was covered with shingles. Lengthwise through the center of the barn a trough dug out of some large logs was strongly fastened. Along the edges of this trough were laid some iron rails taken from the track of the Weldon Railroad, and through the top of the troughs under the rails holes were bored, into which the halter straps were tied. The north

side and the two ends of the barn, were thatched with cedar boughs. This, so far as the writer knows, was the best constructed barn in the Army of the Potomac, and although there was fault finding among some of the men about the amount of labor bestowed upon it, it was none the less creditable to the heart of Lieutenant Parker, who ordered its construction.

After the army had gone into winter quarters the granting of furloughs was resumed. The first to receive them in Battery E, were Sergeant Cunningham, Corporal Beard and private Kinder on the 11th of January. They were selected from the right section as their section of the barn had been completed. The shingles were split out under charge of Corporal Austin, whose previous experience in Maine had qualified him for that work. The necessary quantity being completed they returned to camp on the 18th. On the 20th First Sergeant Robbins again begun acting as chief of the center section and Sergeant Lewis again as first sergeant. On the 23d and 24th heavy firing was in progress on the right.

The barn and camp being completed on the 22d we had occasionally a field drill, but the men were drilled almost daily at the manual of the piece in the fort. The sergeants began to recite lessons in artillery tactics before leaving Fort Rice, and were now ordered to resume their recitations. These exercises, although useful, excited but little interest.

On the 26th of January we were ordered by Lieutenant Parker to begin company cooking, taking for that purpose the guard-house, a new building being erected for the guard. Several times company cooking had been tried, but it always fell into disuse. This time it came to stay. The men detailed as cooks were Charles James, Marshall D. Watson, and James O'Brien.

Sergeant Cunningham and his comrades returned from their furloughs on the 29th. The next fortunate trio were Sergeants Slocum and Lewis, and Artificer Wightman. Slocum's furlough was for twenty days, the others for fifteen days. They started at sunrise on the 31st. Sergeant Lewis returned to camp on the 15th of February, Wightman on the 16th, and Sergeant Slocum not until the 20th. During the absence of Sergeant Lewis Sergeant Cunningham acted as first sergeant. While they were absent nothing of importance

occurred in the battery, except that Corporal Samuel W. Austin was promoted to a lance sergeant and first sergeant. Robbins was discharged on the 7th of February. The enlistment of First Sergt. Charles W. Robbins was credited to the town of Foster, R. I. Of his antecedents the writer knows nothing. He enlisted Feb. 8, 1862, and joined the battery on the 28th, at Artillery Camp near Fort Lyon, Va. He was promoted to corporal Feb. 8, 1864, and to acting first sergeant September 28th, and promoted to that rank October 15th to date from Oct. 1, 1864. Robbins sustained an excellent character. He was extremely neat in his person and dress, and in battle he bore the part of a brave and true soldier. Having never seen or heard any thing about him since the war I am unable to give more of his history.

After the destruction of the Weldon Railroad to Hickford early in December, the rebels were obliged to haul their supplies from that place up the Meherrin River to the Boydton plank road, and then over that road to Petersburg, a distance of forty miles. In order to break up that route of supplies General Gregg was ordered on the 5th of February to take his division of cavalry by way of Reams's Station to Dinwiddie Court-House and endeavour to capture the supply trains moving over that road. General Warren was ordered to cross Hatcher's Run south of the Vaughan road and post his command on that road. General Humphreys was ordered to cross Hatcher's Run at its junction with the Vaughan road, then move a portion of his Second corps to Armstrong's Mill and hold those two positions. About five p. m. Humphreys' troops near the Armstrong Mill were attacked by a portion of Hill's and Gordon's corps, but the enemy was soon driven back to his intrenchments. During the night Hartman's division of the Ninth corps and Wheaton's of the Sixth corps arrived and were posted on Humphreys's right. Warren and Gregg in the meantime had moved back and formed to the left of the Second corps, Gregg being on the extreme left at Gravelly Run to guard that flank. During the afternoon of the 6th, Gregg was attacked by Pegram's division, but with Griffin's support, Pegram's troops were driven back. Crawford's division also became engaged with a portion of the same division, drove it back to Dabney's Mill, where the enemy

received support, and in turn Crawford's left was driven back. Three brigades now came to Crawford's support; at the same time the enemy was reinforced by Mahone's division. The whole line now advanced and for a short time the battle was severe, but a portion of Warren's troops being new, they were not able to cope with Lee's veterans, and they fell back in confusion. General Wheaton, of the Sixth corps, sent a brigade to support Warren and the enemy was checked. Our loss was about 1,500; that of the enemy was about 1,200, among their killed being General Pegram. Our line was now extended to Hatcher's Run at its junction with the Vaughan roads. The Second corps held the new lines on the left, the Sixth corps joining their right near the signal tower. The Fifth corps was massed in rear of the left.

Sergt. George Humphrey, who had been absent in the hospital since being severely wounded at Cold Harbor, arrived in camp about sunset on the 20th. The battery being deficient in officers he was ordered the next day to act as lieutenant.

It was hoped by the veterans in the battery that on the return of the Sixth corps from the Shenandoah Valley, Lieutenant Bucklyn would, as Captain Rhodes had previously requested, be returned to duty in the battery, but it was otherwise ordered, and his old comrades were doomed to disappointment. Bucklyn soon after rejoining the Army of the Potomac, owing to the severe sickness of his wife, resigned on the 5th of February and returned home. The good record of Lieutenant Bucklyn as a former commander and his distinguished bravery which he had shown upon many battlefields deserves more than a passing notice. John Knight Bucklyn was born in the town of Foster, R. I., March 15, 1834. His father was Jeremiah P. Bucklyn, an esteemed citizen of his town. His mother was Abby Potter, a woman of good ability and most excellent character. His grandfather was a soldier of the Revolution. His father, who inherited the military spirit of his parent, was at one time a captain in the Rhode Island militia. John K., in his younger years, attended the public schools of Providence and Warwick, where he was a promising pupil. After leaving school he learned the machinist's trade, in which he accumulated some property. His active spirit not finding full

scope in that limited but useful field of labor, in the spring of 1854 he entered the academy at East Greenwich, remaining there until winter. He then taught school, and in the spring of 1856 he again entered the academy and continued his studies until late in the year, when he entered the Smithville Seminary, from which he graduated in 1857, taking the valedictory of his class. The same year he entered Brown University, from which he graduated with honor in 1861, receiving the degree of A. M. After his graduation he became a teacher at a salary of about one thousand dollars per year. Feeling that the urgent call of the government for volunteers demanded his services, he threw up his position as teacher. Although offered a commission he preferred to earn his promotion, and declined it, and enlisted about the first of September, 1861, as a private in Battery E, First Regiment Rhode Island Light Artillery. Upon reporting for duty he was ordered to act as quartermaster-sergeant. Upon the appointment of the non-commissioned officers of the company he received a warrant to continue in that capacity. On the first of March, 1862, he was promoted to second lieutenant, and Dec. 31, 1862, to first lieutenant. Upon Lieutenant Jastram's appointment as acting assistant adjutant-general on Randolph's staff on the 15th of May, 1863, Lieutenant Bucklyn became commander of the battery. His distinguished ability and bravery as a commander having already been recorded need not be repeated here. He commanded the battery until being relieved by Captain Rhodes on the 26th of April, 1864. Lieutenant Bucklyn, early in May, 1864, was appointed upon the staff of Colonel Tompkins, who commanded the Sixth corps artillery, where he distinguished himself in the battles of Grant's campaign and in the battles in which the Sixth corps was engaged under Sheridan in the Shenandoah Valley. The endorsements of his superior officers for promotions are a credit to him, and showed that those most competent to judge were desirous that he should be promoted, as he was, to brevet captain on the 19th of October, 1864, "For gallant and meritorious and oftentimes distinguished service before Richmond and in the Shenandoah Valley." Some of the testimonials read as follows, viz.:



HEADQUARTERS FIRST RHODE ISLAND LIGHT ARTILLERY, }  
December 9th, 1864.

*Sir, His Excellency, James Y. Smith, Governour of Rhode Island.*

GOVERNOR: I have the honor hereby to most respectfully recommend First Lieutenant John K. Bucklyn of this regiment for promotion. Lieutenant Bucklyn is one of the senior officers of his grade in the regiment, and has well earned promotion by long and faithful service. He commanded his Battery (E) during the entire period that Captain Randolph acted as chief of artillery of the Third Corps. He has participated in almost every engagement of the Army of the Potomac, and greatly distinguished himself at Chancellorsville and Gettysburg, in which latter battle he was severely wounded. In the opening of the present campaign in May last, Lieutenant Bucklyn was assigned to duty as aide-de-camp upon my staff, and has served in that capacity since then, participating in the battles of the Wilderness, Spottsylvania, Cold Harbor, Petersburg and the Shenandoah Valley displaying, wherever occasion offered, great bravery and gallantry, and at all times performing his duties to my entire satisfaction. Promotion could not be bestowed upon a more worthy officer, and I sincerely trust that it may be awarded him.

I remain very respectfully your Excellency's obedient servant,

C. H. TOMPKINS,

*Colonel First Rhode Island Light Artillery.*

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH CORPS, }  
Dec. 9th, 1864.

I take pleasure in adding my testimony to that of Colonel Tompkins in behalf of Lieutenant Bucklyn, and expressing the hope that it may be in the power of His Excellency the Governor of Rhode Island, to bestow upon him the promotion his services have so well merited. [Here follows a repetition.] He is a man of high order of intelligence and knowledge of his own of the service, and will, I am sure, do credit to any position to which he may be advanced.

H. G. WRIGHT,

*Major-General Commanding Sixth Corps.*

I take great pleasure in endorsing the remarks of Major-General Wright.

P. H. SHERIDAN,

*Major-General Commanding. [Army.]*

In addition to the above, Lieutenant Bucklyn had received the cordial recommendation of every immediate commander, and every brigade, division, and corps commander under whom he had served. Jan. 11, 1865, Bucklyn was promoted from brevet to captain, and served until Feb. 5, 1865, when, owing to the illness of his wife, he resigned

and returned home, leaving behind him a record of which he may well be proud. In 1865 he went to Mystic Bridge, Conn., and taught the public school for three years and a half. In 1868 he founded the Mystic Valley English and Classical Institute, of which he has since been the principal. In this school Professor Bucklyn has met with success, both financially and otherwise. Besides attending to the duties of the institute, he has also been engaged in the brokerage of money and property. In religious matters Professor Bucklyn takes much interest. Although not an ordained minister, he often supplies the pulpit when called upon to do so. He has given some public readings and many lectures upon various subjects. He has traveled in nearly every state and territory in the Union, and to some extent in Europe. Professor Bucklyn is a frequent contributor to the press and is financially interested in a local paper published near his home. In January, 1864, he married Mary McKee, daughter of Edward N. and Amanda Young, of Providence, R. I. Mrs. Bucklyn has proved to be a wise and affectionate companion, and being possessed of a good degree of culture has added much to the happiness of their home.

Professor Bucklyn has two sons. The oldest was born in 1865, and is a prominent physician in Mystic Bridge, Conn. The youngest was born in 1867. He is a graduate of the New Jersey Medical College.

February, 21st, a salute of one hundred guns was fired for the capture of Columbia and Charleston, S. C. The fall of these two places on the 17th and 18th respectively, seemed to be the signal for renewed activity on the part of the rebel pickets in our front. Their activity and the rumors that General Lee's army was about to attack our lines, caused a corresponding vigilance on our part. The first result of this was an order that one detachment should remain at their gun during the night. On the 23d, at three A. M., an attack was expected. The guns were manned and the battery hitched up, but in a few hours unhitched.

Thirteen new horses were received on the 23d. Battery G of our regiment rejoined the brigade from Camp Berry near Washington.

February 24th. Another salute was fired along our lines for the fall of Wilmington, which was captured on the 22d.

February 25th. James M. Durfee, our guidon, a worthy soldier, was discharged, his term of service having expired. John H. Hall succeeded him. The battery hitched up at three o'clock on this and the following morning. The guns were also manned.

February 27th. We received our pay for four months, an unusual length of time. Sergeant Humphrey was promoted to first sergeant, vice Robbins whose term of service expired on the 7th. He continued, however, to act as lieutenant and Sergeant Lewis as acting first sergeant, Lance Sergeant Austin was promoted to sergeant and assigned to the fourth detachment. Lance Corp. Richard T. Beard was promoted to corporal and Private Ira Vosburg to lance corporal.

February 28th. We were mustered for two months (January and February), by Lieutenant Parker. He also inspected the other batteries of the brigade. The cannoneers were again at their guns, but no enemy appeared.

March 1st. Sergeant Blair and Leonard Steamer the bugler, received furloughs, the former for twenty-five days, and the latter for fifteen. The first week in March was uneventful, only a few drills at the manual of the piece. Two drills were had at dismounting and mounting of pieces, and changing of wheels, one of these being by Acting Lieutenant Humphrey. The health of Captain Rhodes who was still absent although somewhat improved, was far from good. Being advised not to return to the army, he resigned on the 8th of March, 1865.

Brevet-Major William B. Rhodes was born at Spring Green, Warwick R. I., Aug. 30, 1834. He was educated in the public schools of his native town. Among the ancestors of Major Rhodes was Governor Benedict Arnold, the first under the Royal Charter. His great great grandfather, William West, was deputy-governor from 1780 to 1781. He was also a brigadier-general before the Revolution, and afterwards State senator and representative to the Assembly, and also one of the judges of the Supreme Court from 1787 to 1790, and colonel of the Third Rhode Island Regiment in the War of the Revolution.

His great grandfather, William Rhodes, and his grandfather, James Rhodes, were both large ship-owners.

His father, Col. Richard U. Rhodes, married Louise Battey, sister of General Battey, an officer in the War of 1812.

After graduating from the Plainfield Academy in Connecticut, he settled on his farm at Spring Green, in Warwick, R. I. He was commissioned, captain, major, and colonel of the Pawtuxet Artillery, by Governor John Brown Francis, and served the State during the Dorr War. He was appointed Inspector of United States Customs by President Taylor, and continued in office during President Filmore's administration. He was appointed to the same office by President Lincoln, being continued in that position under the administrations of Presidents Johnson, Grant, and Hayes. He now lives (1891) at his home in Pawtuxet, R. I., at the venerable age of seventy-eight years.

Before the breaking out of the civil war, Major Rhodes was engaged in the manufacture of jewelry. He began his military service in September, 1861, with Battery E, which was then forming in "Camp Greene," upon his father's farm, in Warwick. After the camp was moved to near Mashapaug Pond, in Cranston, he was sent by Governor Sprague with a section of artillery through several country towns, a march of several days, to stimulate recruiting. He was afterwards ordered by Governor Sprague to take a section to Conimicut Point, Warwick, to try General James's rifle ammunition.

He was commissioned first lieutenant by Governor Sprague to date from Oct. 2, 1861, and assigned to Battery G, same regiment.

"Early in December," says Major Rhodes, "Lieut. C. D. Owen took the first detachment to Washington, and Lieutenant Rhodes, the second soon after. Later he took another detachment with all the horses and ordnance wagons to Camp Sprague, Washington."

Jan. 3, 1862, his battery left Washington, and during the winter was in camp at Poolesville and Edward's Ferry. In March it was at Bolivar Heights and Warrington, and then returned to Washington, and joined the Army of the Potomac under General McClellan. He was in all the battles of the Peninsular Campaign before Richmond, and in the several battles on the retreat to Harrison's Landing, the battle of Antietam, and at Fredericksburg under General Burnside. Dec. 26, 1862, he was transferred to Battery D, same regiment, Ninth corps. In March, 1863, he went to Kentucky with the Ninth corps under Burnside. Was in the pursuit

and capture of General Morgan on his raid in 1863, and battles of Blue Springs, Campbell Station, siege of Knoxville, assault on Fort Saunders by General Longstreet. Returned to Providence, R. I., with the battery on re-enlistment in the spring of 1864, was commissioned captain April 7th, by Governor Smith, to date from Jan. 5 1864, and assigned to Battery E, same regiment, then in camp near Brandy Station, Virginia. He was in twenty-three engagements, besides the siege of Yorktown, Knoxville, and Petersburg. He was breveted major by the president and approved by the Senate for gallant and meritorious services in the battles of the Wilderness, Spottsylvania, Cold Harbor, and before Petersburg, to date from Aug. 1, 1864. He was honorably discharged March 8, 1865, for physical disability, from sickness contracted at Petersburg. Since the war his occupation has been that of a cotton broker. He is a member of the Providence Board of Trade, and New York Cotton Exchange, also of the First Light Infantry Veteran Association, the Military Order of the Loyal Legion, a member of the Warwick Town Committee from 1880 to 1888, past master of Harmony Lodge, A. F. and A. M. No. 9, a member of the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island, Warden of Trinity Chapel, Pawtuxet, and treasurer and moderator of School District No. 1, of Warwick, R. I., for the past eleven years. He is also a member of the Sons of the Revolution. His brother, Robert Rhodes, was first lieutenant in the navy, and second in command of the United States steamer *Clinton*, and was at the capture of New Orleans and Port Hudson. He was killed in the attack on Sabine Pass, Texas. His brother, George H. Rhodes, was captain in the First Rhode Island Cavalry, and was in all the battles of that regiment, also in the First Rhode Island Infantry, with Robert, at first Bull Run.

Major Rhodes was married April 4, 1861, to Eleanor F. Hicks, daughter of William Hicks and Huldah (Colwell) Hicks. Her father was of the firm of Richardson & Hicks, manufacturers of jewelry. She is a woman of worth and fine ability. Six children have been born to them, four of whom are living.

From the 8th to the 15th, the uneventful period continued. On the 12th, Lieutenant Chandler started on a leave of absence. By the middle of March spring had fairly set in,

although high winds and plenty of dust were prevalent ; there were, however, a few warm and pleasant days when we usually had a field drill by Lieutenant Parker. During Lieutenant Chandler's leave of absence, whenever we had a field drill the left section was commanded by Acting Lieutenant Humphrey, and the center section by acting first sergeant Lewis.

On the 14th, Lieutenant Parker received an order to turn in one section and have the battery ready to move at short notice. The order in relation to turning in a section was revoked the next day. The weather was now such as to allow of a movement soon, and other signs pointed in the same direction, among them being the sending away of the sick to the general hospitals, two of whom, George H. Kelley and William Wells, were sent on the 15th from our battery. The sutlers were also preparing to go to the rear. This usually precedes an active movement.

An alarm that the enemy was advancing occurred on the 15th, and our cannoneers hurried to their guns. The infantry also hastened to support the artillery, but the report proved to be false.

March 17th, being St. Patrick's Day, it was as usual devoted to sports, which our Irish comrades in particular, enjoyed. Patrick Station to our left was chosen as the headquarters for these sports, horse racing and athletic games being the principal amusements of the day.

March 18th. Three recruits were received, John W. Smith, Michael McGrath, and David A. Carpenter. Sergeant Wilder and Privates Benjamin Nickerson, William Mings, and Joseph Kellner, were detailed for duty in the ambulance train, where they remained until the battery was ordered home.

Sunday, March 19th, occurred the monthly inspection by Lieutenant Simmons, who expressed himself as being well pleased with the good condition of the battery.

March 20th. The First and Second divisions of the Sixth corps were reviewed in the presence of Admiral David Porter.

March 22d. Farrier John E. Johnson and privates John R. Brayton and Simon W. Keene received furlough for fifteen days.

March 23d. The wind reached almost a hurricane, the dust blowing in clouds. Tent roofs were torn from their fastenings, and in some places trees were uprooted and leveled to the ground. Notwithstanding the battle of wind and dust, Battery E shook off its lethargy and had a field drill, which, if doing us no other service gave us the benefit of a good airing.

March 24th. We received our second "Soldiers Memorial," which gave the names of the officers and men who formed the battery after the first three years' men had been discharged. It was not so finely engraved as the first memorial, but its design was more ornamental.

March 25th. At four A. M., we were awakened by violent cannonading and heavy musketry firing upon our right. In an instant we all sprang from our bunks. The officers and men not already at their posts hastened to their guns. The continued roar of the artillery and the flashing of light from burning powder showed too plainly that a heavy attack was being made upon our lines. The truth was soon revealed. The enemy had massed a heavy force under General Gordon in front of Fort Steadman, and, taking advantage of the privilege allowed prisoners of coming into our lines with arms in their hands, squads of the enemy under that pretense rushed upon our pickets and captured our picket posts. "These," says General Parke, "were followed by a storming party, who, with a rush overpowered the trench guard, broke the main line between Batteries 9 and 10, turned to the right and left, gained Battery 10, overpowering the garrison of Fort Steadman after a spirited resistance, captured the greater part of it and then turned its artillery, four twelve-pounders, and the guns of Battery 10 against Willcox's troops; but not until they had been effectually used by the garrison." Space will only allow me to say that after a severe struggle by the troops of Hartranft and Willcox and the artillery to the right and left of the captured forts, our lines were retaken, 1,949 prisoners were captured, including seventy-one officers and nine stands of colors. The loss of the enemy in killed and wounded was estimated to be at least one thousand more. General Parke's loss in the Ninth corps was 1,017. Thinking that General Lee had weakened his right to strengthen the attack upon Fort Steadman, Meade ordered an attack

upon our left by the Second and Sixth corps. This was promptly executed in the afternoon, which resulted in the capture of a part of the rebel picket lines in front of those two corps. Although the enemy made repeated attempts to recapture the lines taken, they were held and aided materially in our future success. During the action in the afternoon the battery was hitched up and everything packed for moving, should it be necessary to do so. Several shots were fired by our battery, although it was doubtful if we could reach even our own picket line. The loss in the afternoon of the Second corps was 690, and that of the Sixth corps about 400. The Sixth corps captured 574 prisoners. The enemy's loss was supposed to be about 1,000 during the afternoon.

While the fighting on our left was in progress, we were surprised to see approaching our camp from the rear an unusual body of horsemen, but were more surprised a few minutes later, to see the tall form of President Lincoln, accompanied by his wife and his little son "Tad," Generals Grant and Meade with their staffs, also several ladies and other distinguished guests, ride into our camp and halt in front of our quarters. After dismounting, the president, with an escort and his little son, entered the fort, and, mounting the parapet, stood for several minutes watching the progress of the battle which was in full view on our left. Never while life lasts can we forget that sad and careworn face when the President, bending over to reach the hand of his little son, pointed out to him the scene before them. It was a picture well worthy to be placed upon canvas to adorn the walls of every loyal home. Little did we then think that the great soul of that unparalleled statesman would so soon be laid upon the altar of his country by the hand of an assassin.

The attack upon Fort Steadman was really the beginning of General Lee's attempt to escape from the net which he foresaw General Grant was weaving around him. With General Sherman approaching him from the south, and with the armies of the James and the Potomac closing around him, he could but see that if he made his escape he must do so without delay; in fact a plan to abandon the defenses of Petersburg and Richmond had been decided upon since early in March. The attack upon our right on the 25th, was made with the



view of drawing the left of Grant's army to the defence of his right, thereby improving his chance of retreat as soon as the weather would permit. Grant, anticipating that Lee would attempt to retreat, join General Johnston and crush Sherman, determined as early as the middle of March to forestall such a movement. Grant accordingly issued his orders to commence operations on the 29th of March. While waiting for the time to arrive, General Grant ordered General Ord, who had commanded the Army of the James since the retirement of General Butler in January, to move secretly with two divisions of the Twenty-fourth corps, the colored division of General Weitzel's Twenty-fifth corps, and a division of cavalry, and mass them in rear of the Second corps, on the evening of the 28th.

General Sheridan left Winchester on the 27th of February, and moved up the Shenandoah Valley to Staunton, thence to Charlottesville, destroying the railroad on his way; advancing then to the right and left, he destroyed the railroad in the direction of Gordonsville, and then towards Lynchburg. He then moved towards Richmond, destroying a portion of the James River canal on his route, joining the army of the Potomac on the 26th of March. Sheridan had, early in August, 1864, been appointed to the command of the Army of the Shenandoah Valley, where he had proved himself to be one of the most able commanders in the service. Besides defeating General Early, one of the most efficient of the Confederate commanders, and nearly annihilating his army, "he had," says his historian, "between Aug. 1, 1864, and March 1, 1865, captured from the Confederates 13,000 prisoners, 101 field guns and 49 battle flags, with many thousand small arms, besides recapturing 24 Union guns. During that time he had lost 1,938 killed, wounded 19,893, and missing 3,421, a total of 22,252."

None had borne a more conspicuous part in that campaign than the old veteran Sixth corps, which had preceded Sheridan in rejoining the Army of the Potomac, and which were now about to exhibit the value of their training in the final struggle under Sheridan in the Valley. Two days after Sheridan's return he received orders from General Grant to move with his two divisions of cavalry on the morning of the 29th and cross Hatcher's Run, and then move by way of Dinwiddie Court House to the rear and right of Lee's army.

## CHAPTER XXVIII.

March 26th to April 9th, 1865.

RICHMOND AND PETERSBURG SURRENDERED—PURSUIT AND  
CAPTURE OF LEE'S ARMY.

**D**URING the initiatory movement for the capture of Petersburg, Battery E lay unconscious of the near approach of the great and final collapse of the slaveholders' rebellion. The regular routine of daily duties was continued as though no important event was near at hand.

On Sunday, the 26th, Lieutenant Parker inspected the battery. The next day the pieces and carriages were cleaned, and the park policed. Sergeant Blair returned from his furlough.

March 28th, the battery was hitched up at half past three A. M., on account of an expected attack. The rebels were evidently very much alarmed and were on a sharp look out. Although portions of the Twenty-fourth and Twenty-fifth corps were passing by the rear of our camp indicating that something was on foot, it did not prevent our commanding officer from having a field drill.

March 29th. Again we hitched up early, but remained so only a short time. The Army of the James was still passing by towards our left. Extra rations were drawn by Acting Lieutenant Humphrey. Lieutenant Chandler returned from his leave of absence. All were now present for duty except three men on furlough, the absent sick in the hospitals, and a few who were on detached service. Late in the evening all hands were routed from their slumbers on account of heavy firing in front of Fort Rice and Fort Sedgwick. Sheridan advanced up the Boydton Plank road and the Second and Fifth corps crossed Hatcher's Run, the former marching up

the Vaughan road, and Warren going up the Quaker road to near Gravelly Run where his leading brigade (Chamberlain's) came in contact with Wise's and Wallace's brigades of Anderson's command, when a sharp engagement followed, in which the enemy was forced to retreat into his intrenchments on the White Oak road, with a loss of 200 prisoners, besides leaving his wounded on the field. Warren's loss was 367, all in Griffin's division.

March 30th. Battery E hitched up at daylight, but soon unhitched. It began raining early and continued through the day, which seriously hindered the movements taking place at the left ten miles away. General Humphreys advanced with the Second corps and drove the enemy into his intrenchments along Hatcher's Run. Warren advanced up the Boydton and Quaker roads as far as the Dabney Mill road, and occupied a line covering the Boydton road as far as Gravelly Run. General Sheridan advanced his cavalry divisions on two roads leading towards Five Forks. He encountered the enemy's cavalry on both these roads, when heavy skirmishing ensued. Night set in and Sheridan halted his command near J. Boisseau's, at the junction of the Adams and Dinwiddie roads.

March 31st. Harnessed up early as usual, the rain continuing during the forenoon. On account of the bad condition of the roads and the swollen streams, the corps commanders were notified that there would be no movement of the troops that day; but General Lee decided otherwise, and moved out of his White Oak intrenchments and attacked the Fifth corps, a severe engagement being the result. The Fifth corps being hard pushed Humphreys sent a portion of his Second corps to its relief, which in turn became hotly engaged. The contest did not end until night and resulted in our troops falling back to the position held the day before. The loss in the Fifth corps was 1,406, that in the Second 374. General Ord, who had relieved the Second and Fifth corps in their intrenchments on the night of the 28th, pushed up his lines during the battle of the 31st and captured many prisoners, but lost considerably in so doing. The battle of the 31st was known as the battle of White Oak road.

Before proceeding further it may be well to add, that the corps at this time were located as follows, viz.: On the north

side of the Appomattox and across the James, and extending along the works in front of Richmond lay a portion of the Twenty-fifth and Twenty-fourth corps, now under the temporary command of General Weitzel. From the Appomattox to Fort Davis the line was held by the Ninth corps, and from the Ninth to the left of Fort Welch, a distance of about five miles, was the Sixth corps. To the left of the Sixth was a portion of the Twenty-fourth and Twenty-fifth corps under General Ord. Then came the Second, and on its left was the Fifth, Sheridan's cavalry being on the extreme left. Fort Wadsworth was about midway on the line held by the Sixth corps. One thousand yards west of Fort Wadsworth stood a small work called Fort Keene, and five hundred yards west of this was Fort Tracy. Northwest of this fort and half a mile from Fort Wadsworth was Fort Urmston. From the last named fort our lines ran in an oval form, the points of departure and return being at Fort Urmston, its shorter diameter being about half a mile. Near its center stood the Signal Tower. On the north face of this oval form was a large work known as Fort Fisher, and on its left face was Fort Welch. From the signal tower the general course of our lines ran southwest nearly to Dinwiddie Court House, a distance of about thirty miles from the junction of our lines with the Appomattox River.

April 1st. The battery was again up early. Our duties were performed as usual, with the exception that we had to polish our guns. This, we thought unnecessary. Perhaps it was for an "April fool." We were more anxious to tarnish them by assisting Sheridan who was fighting with the Fifth corps and his cavalry at Five Forks, twelve miles or more to our left. Sheridan, who had been driven from that position back to Dinwiddie Court House on the 31st of March, renewed his advance early on the first of April, driving the enemy's line near Five Forks under the command of General Pickett. The Fifth corps had been placed under Sheridan's command, and, after an unsatisfactory delay, reached the vicinity of the battle which had been in progress some hours, the cavalry alone being engaged. At four P. M. Warren was ordered by Sheridan to form upon his right. "Ayres's division which was nearest to the enemy," says De Trobriand, "immediately changed front, and, after having driven in the pickets,

came upon the intrenchments, forming a right angle with the principal line for a distance of more than a hundred yards. The division immediately charged with the bayonet and carried the works, capturing more than a thousand prisoners." The charge of Ayres made an interval between himself and Crawford into which Griffin's division promptly moved and captured fifteen hundred more prisoners. The enemy was now virtually being attacked on three sides, and were obliged to lay down their arms. A part of the enemy's line was still held upon his right. Warren, upon coming up charged these with the bayonet and made its defenders prisoners. The remaining force of the enemy now scattered in all directions, pursued by Merritt's and McKenzie's cavalry, and were mostly captured. As the number of prisoners varies with different accounts from three to six thousand, the correct number is quite uncertain. The Union loss was about 800, that of the enemy killed and wounded being about the same.

General Grant, says in his *Memoirs*, after learning the condition of affairs on night of the first of April, "I issued orders for an assault by Wright and Parke at four o'clock on the morning of the 2d. I also ordered the Second corps in command of General Humphreys and General Ord with the Army of the James on the left, to hold themselves in readiness to take any advantage that could be taken from weakening in their front. . . . I notified Weitzel on the north side of the James River, to keep close up to the enemy and take advantage of the withdrawal of troops from there to promptly enter the city of Richmond."

Let us now return to Parker's battery whose guns we had left so nicely polished. During the afternoon of the 1st, it was comparatively quiet, and we retired as usual after "tattoo." We had scarcely fallen asleep, when an orderly came in haste with an order for Lieutenant Parker, to open fire immediately, and also have his command ready to move at short notice. The order was promptly obeyed and by ten o'clock our guns fired the first shots along the lines over the heads of the astonished pickets. This firing we afterwards learned was intended to prevent the rebels from attempting to retreat from their works under cover of the extreme darkness. Half an hour after our guns had commenced firing the battery

was packed up and ready to move. The continued firing provoked an attack from the rebels at about eleven o'clock, upon Fort Rice, the firing being mostly by the artillery. About two o'clock on the morning of April 2d, the right and center sections of our battery, under Lieutenant Parker and Chandler, were ordered to take a position in Fort Urmston, and await the hour for the assault upon the enemy's intrenchments. In the meantime, the Sixth and Ninth corps, who were to lead in the assault, were being prepared for the decisive action. The account of the Sixth corps charge will be best given by the use of General Wright's language in the narrative, so far as it applies. He says: "On the evening of the 1st of April I was directed to make an attack at four A. M. the next day. The works to be attacked were those extending from the Jones House to a point opposite the left of the Sixth corps. The point chosen for assault was selected . . . upon personal examination and the reports of a large number of officers. It was in front of Fort Fisher and Fort Welch. The ground to be passed over was perfectly cleared of trees, and offered few natural obstacles except the marshes with which the front of the enemy's lines were intersected. The point was near the left of the corps line. . . . The enemy's parapets had high relief and deep ditches, preceded by two lines of abatis, well constructed, with a fraise between them. Every few hundred yards were batteries well supplied with artillery. But for the capture of the enemy's intrenched picket line on the 25th of March, the attack on the 2d of April could not have succeeded. The position then gained was indispensable to the operations on the main lines, it affording a place for assembling the assaulting columns within striking distance of the enemy's main intrenchments. The troops were drawn out of the intrenchments, leaving the smallest garrison possible in the forts, and very few men in the connecting lines. The three divisions were formed for the assault just in rear of the picket line; the first division on the right, the Second in the center, the Third on the left, the center division being in advance of the others. All were formed by brigade with regiment fronts. Every precaution was taken to insure success. There were pioneers in front, and artillerymen

provided with implements so that captured guns might be turned on the enemy, were with the column.\*

Careful instructions were given to guide the movements of the troops when they captured the works. There was not light enough to see until 4.40 A. M. Then the men could see to step although nothing could be distinguished at a distance of a few yards. Then the signal, the firing of a gun at Fort Fisher was given. The columns moved promptly at the signal, broke over the enemy's picket line, meeting little resistance, and poured in masses over the main defenses, under a musketry fire from the parapets and a heavy artillery fire from the batteries. Abatis were cut away and through the openings thus made, and through those made by the enemy for his convenience of access to the front, the works were gained. A brief but sharp conflict occurred which resulted in giving us the possession of the whole front of attack. In the ardor of the attack some troops from each division crossed the Boydton road and reached the South Side Railroad. Reforming the lines, the troops moved down the works to Hatcher's Run, capturing all the artillery and a very large number of prisoners. . . . On reaching Hatcher's Run the Sixth corps faced about and moved towards Petersburg. At the request of General Gibbon, commanding the Twenty-fourth corps, he was allowed to pass the Sixth, which followed on his right and left, and halted in front of the enemy's lines, closing on the Appomattox near the Whitworth house. General Wright's troops were so exhausted, having been eighteen hours under arms, that it was considered unadvisable to attack until the next morning."

The left section of our battery and the other two sections at Fort Urmston had fired slowly throughout the night. Upon the firing of the signal gun at Fort Fisher all the sections opened with renewed vigor, especially the sections at Fort Urmston, which were within easy range of the enemy's lines. The firing was continued without abatement until the retreat of the enemy, not far from five o'clock A. M.

\* The artillerymen selected were from Battery G, of Rhode Island. They were Capt. George W. Adams, Sergt. Archibald Malbone, Sergt. John H. Haveron, Corp. Samuel E. Lewis, Corp. James A. Barber, Corp. Henry Griffith, Corp. Charles D. Ennis. Privates, George W. Potter, Germon Potter, Henry Randall, Henry C. Seamans, Carl Guhl, Henry Krull, Horace B. Tanner, James Callahan, John Corcoran, Cornelius Ryan, John P. Kornke, William F. Short, James Taft, Luther Cornell. Twelve of these men were members of Battery C previous to its consolidation with Battery G. Dec. 23, 1864.

“General Parke,” says General Humphreys, “kept up the fire of all his infantry until one o’clock A. M., on the 2d of April, reopening it at four o’clock, when General Willcox made a demonstration against the enemy’s works opposite Fort Steadman. . . . The columns of assault were formed between his intrenchments and his picket line at three A. M., storming pioneer parties, carrying axes, being placed in front. At half-past four o’clock the assaulting columns went forward, the pioneers cut away abatis and chevaux-de-frise and under a heavy musketry, gun and mortar fire, the enemy’s works were captured with twelve guns, some colors and 800 prisoners. Turning to the right, Miller’s salient was captured; turning to the left, the intrenchments were found to be heavily traversed, and the fighting went on from traverse to traverse. But a rear line of works remained in possession of the enemy, which General Parke endeavored to carry, but without success. His loss in officers was severe. Among the wounded was General Potter. The position gained by General Parke extended four hundred yards on each side of the Jerusalem Plank road, and included several forts and redans. Frequent attempts were made by General Gordon during that day to retake the works, but he was unsuccessful. The firing continued all day and into the night.”

General Humphreys, upon hearing of the success of the Sixth and Ninth corps, although he had been instructed not to attack the redoubts in his front with his Second corps, ordered Generals Hays and Mott to assault at once. The attack was a success, and the greater part of the garrison and all their artillery was captured.

The rebel army was now divided. That portion in front of the Second corps, after being driven from the works, retreated toward Sutherland Station. General Miles followed, and, on coming up with the enemy, attacked them near that place, and after a severe engagement, in which he was at first repulsed, he finally attacked the enemy’s left and was successful in capturing 600 prisoners and two guns. The main body, being defeated by General Miles, retreated towards Amelia Court House, arriving there at noon on the 4th. That part of Lee’s army which had not retreated westward, retired to the inner lines of works around Petersburg. These lines were, on an average, about a mile from the outskirts of



the city, extending from the Appomattox River to the east and west of the town. Upon the west side of these lines, south of the railroad, there were some advanced works, upon which Forts Whitworth and Gregg were built. Upon the arrival of the Sixth and Twenty-fourth corps before these works, Foster's division of Gibbon's corps (Twenty-fourth) was ordered to assault them, and they moved forward under a murderous fire of artillery and musketry. Foster's division was supported by two brigades under General Turner. "The enemy," says General Gibbon, "made a desperate resistance, and it was not until Fort Gregg was nearly surrounded, and his men had succeeded in climbing upon the parapets under a murderous fire, that the place was finally taken by the last of several determined dashes with bayonets."

General Harris, of the same corps, had in the meantime attacked Fort Whitworth and was equally successful. Fifty-five dead were found inside Fort Gregg alone. Two guns and 300 prisoners were taken. The loss in Gibbon's corps was 714.

General Lee, seeing that all further resistance would only result in the capture of his army resolved to prepare immediately to evacuate the city. He had, in fact, a few hours after General Wright's success in the morning, notified Jefferson Davis that he would be compelled to abandon his lines during the coming night. Mr. Davis, who was in church at the time of receiving the message, immediately left the house and at once took measures to remove his personal effects, and the archives of the doomed Confederate government from Richmond over the Danville railroad.

At three o'clock in the afternoon General Lee issued his orders for the retreat to begin at eight o'clock in the evening. At that hour the troops began to move, the artillery in advance, followed by the infantry. The trains and troops crossed to the north side of the Appomattox River and moved over the several roads leading towards Amelia Court House, where the larger portion arrived during the 4th and 5th of April. The abandonment of Petersburg and Richmond not being then known, General Grant during the night of the 2d issued orders for an assault to be made at six o'clock on the morning of the 3d. By four o'clock it was discovered that both cities had been evacuated during

the night. The formal surrender of Richmond was made to General Weitzel at 8.15 A. M.. The United States flag was first raised upon the capitol at Richmond by Captain Loomis L. Langdon and Lieutenant Johnson L. de Peyster, both of Weitzel's staff.

The Ninth corps troops were the first to enter Petersburg. "Colonel Ely's brigade," says Woodbury in his *History of the Ninth Corps*, "was the first to pass the enemy's works, and Colonel Ely himself received the formal surrender of the city. At half past four A. M. the First Michigan Sharpshooters, raised their flag upon the Court House, and Petersburg at last was ours. General Willcox announced the surrender, and at five o'clock the gratifying intelligence was communicated to General Meade."

The losses suffered by the capture of Petersburg, according to Phisterers's statistics, were, in the Union Army, 3,361; and in the Confederate, 3,000. Among the killed in the latter, was General Ambrose P. Hill, one of Lee's ablest corps commanders.

The loss of the Sixth corps alone was, according to General Wright's statement to General Humphreys, 1,100, all of which occurred within the space of fifteen minutes.

Battery E was not permitted to share in the honor of pursuing Lee's fleeing troops, to whose flight and capture I shall before proceeding with the record of Battery E briefly refer.

It was evident that Lee would attempt to reach Danville or Lynchburg, and then march to form a junction with the army of General Johnston in North Carolina.

The two armies started on the race on April 3d, Grant on the roads south of the Appomattox and Lee on the roads north. Sheridan, who had remained near Five Forks took the lead, followed by the Fifth corps. The Second corps moved early in the morning upon the river road, followed soon after by the Sixth corps. General Ord followed with a portion of the Army of the James along the line of the Lynchburg Railroad, which the Ninth corps was instructed to protect behind him. The army, it will be seen, was moving in two columns, the Army of the James towards Burkesville, while Meade's army moved to strike the Danville Railroad at Jetersville. Sheridan who led the advance with

his own and the Fifth corps reached Jetersville on the 4th, and halted for the Second and Sixth corps to come up. These corps did not arrive until the afternoon of the 5th. Lee's army was still near Amelia Court House, being quite destitute of rations, his soldiers had spent the 5th in seeking provisions. During the night of the 5th the Confederates fearing to remain longer, started on the road, hoping to reach Farmville and cross the Appomattox before their pursuers arrived. At daylight on the morning of the 6th the Union army was in motion. Sheridan and the Sixth corps moving on the flank parallel to the enemy's column. Griffin, in command of the Fifth corps, moved past Amelia Court House upon the enemy's left flank, while Humphreys followed closely upon their rear. Ord in the meantime, was pushing rapidly to reach Farmville in order to destroy the bridge at that place, which he knew Lee with equal haste, was striving to cross before being attacked. By nine o'clock skirmishing was begun by the Second corps and the enemy's rear guard. It soon became known that the enemy had made a stand with their rear guard to protect their train, which was being hurried forward to a place of safety. The skirmishing continued with increasing vigor on both sides, one to protect the trains, and the other to capture them. Twenty-eight wagons and five guns had already been captured by Mott's division and also many prisoners. Mott had been severely wounded and his command fell to De Trobriand, who continued the fight with good success. The head of the enemy's column had reached Sailors' Creek, and had taken a position to resist the pressure which they knew would soon be upon them. While Humphreys was devouring the enemy's rear guard by piecemeal, Sheridan was advancing along their flank with his cavalry. No sooner had one division attacked the rebel column, and the enemy halted to resist the attack, than another passed on to attack at another point, and then a third division in like manner. In the meantime the train moved on, but it had been broken into sections, and had lost a large portion of the guard detailed to protect it. Sheridan, ever vigilant, had hurried on his cavalry, struck the train with his three divisions and captured four hundred wagons and sixteen pieces of artillery, also a large number of prisoners.

"Between Sheridan in front," says De Trobriand, "and Humphreys in rear, was Ewell's Confederate corps, delayed by incessant cavalry charges, whose object was to gain time for the Sixth corps to arrive. Wright, was indeed, not far away, and soon his first division, commanded by General Seymour, struck the rebel force before along the road, while the Second, commanded by Wheaton, extended around the left flank of the enemy's column. The latter made frequent and vigorous attacks in reply, but when it had to halt before the fire, assailed on all sides at once, crushed as in a vise between the cavalry and the infantry, it had no other resource but to lay down its arms. This great haul of the net brought in six to seven thousand prisoners, General Ewell and five or six other general officers among them."

This battle is generally known by the name of Sailors Creek.

"To the Sixth corps," to use the words of General Wright, "had fallen the opportunity of striking the decisive blows, not only at Petersburg on the 2d of April, but at Sailors Creek on the 6th." During the night after the battle and early on the morning of the 7th, the commands of Longstreet, with Heth, Wilcox, and Fields, marched to Farmville, crossed the Appomattox and leaving a force to delay pursuit, moved with the main body out on the road, passing through Appomattox Court House to Lynchburg about ten miles beyond. At Farmville 80,000 rations had been left for them which were distributed to the weary and hungry troops. General Gordon's corps and Johnson's division crossed at High Bridge, a few miles northeast of Farmville, and were followed a few hours after by Mahone's division. The armies of Meade and Ord immediately commenced the pursuit. The Second corps reached High Bridge and found it on fire. The enemy's rear guard also attempted to burn the road bridge, but were driven away by Barlow's advance, and the Second corps immediately crossed and continued the race. Barlow soon overtook Gordon and at once attacked him, capturing and burning a large number of his wagons. In this attack General Smith of Barlow's division was killed. General Humphreys with Miles's and De Trobriand's divisions, which had moved more to the right, came upon the enemy at about one o'clock near the Lynchburg road. It was

soon found that nearly the whole of Lee's army was in position there. Disposition was at once made for an attack and the skirmish line was advanced to feel the enemy's position. Barlow's division was now sent for by Meade, but it was delayed at Farmville on account of the burned bridges. In the meantime Miles had attacked Mahone's division, but was not successful. Barlow arrived about night, but too late to be of service. The loss of the Second corps during the day was about six hundred.

While the Second corps and Clarke's division of cavalry were skirmishing with the enemy on the north side of the Appomattox, Sheridan ordered Merritt's cavalry division to move on a parallel line with the enemy on the south side of the river through Prince Edwards Court House to intercept Lee's column, should it move in the direction of Danville. General Griffin was sent with the Fifth and General Ord with the Twenty-fourth corps to co-operate with Merritt's cavalry. Sheridan, after having reached Prince Edwards Court House with his command, learned that seven trains of provisions for Lee's army were near Appomattox Station. He at once prepared to make a forced march and capture them, and notified General Grant to that effect. This, with other information previously received, prompted General Grant to open correspondence with General Lee relating to the surrendering of his army. The following note was the result :

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES, }  
April 7, 1865, 5 P. M. }

*Gen. R. E. Lee, Commanding C. S. A. :*

The results of the last week must have convinced you of the hopelessness of further resistance on the part of the Army of Northern Virginia in this struggle. I feel that it is so, and regard it as my duty to shift from myself the responsibility of any further effusion of blood by asking of you the surrender of that portion of the Confederate States Army known as the Army of Northern Virginia.

U. S. GRANT,

*Lieutenant-General.*

A reply was received at about eight o'clock in the evening, which read as follows :

April 7, 1865.

*General:*

I have received your note of this day. Though not entertaining the opinion you express on the hopelessness of further resistance on the part of the Army of Northern Virginia, I reciprocate your desire to avoid useless effusion of blood, and therefore before considering your proposition ask the terms you will offer on condition of its surrender.

R. E. LEE,

*General.*

To General Lee's note General Grant replied the next day more at length in which he said: "In reply I would say that peace being my great desire, there is but one condition I would insist upon, namely, that the men and officers surrendered shall be disqualified for taking up arms against the government of the United States until properly exchanged."

During the night of the 7th the enemy in front of the Second corps had retreated as was expected, towards Appomattox Court House. The pursuit was resumed at half-past five on the morning of the 8th, by the Second corps, followed by the Sixth, which had crossed the Appomattox at Farmsville during the night. The Sixth corps, after a few miles' march, moved more to the right, and, after marching about seventeen miles, halted to await the conference going on between Generals Grant and Lee. The Second corps marched twenty-six miles and halted about midnight within three miles of the enemy. The two columns of troops moving south of the Appomattox had continued their march on the 8th. The Fifth and Twenty-fourth united at Prospect Station under the command of Generals Ord. Sheridan moved rapidly, and had, as he intended, captured four of the rebel supply trains, the other three having been run back. After capturing the trains the cavalry moved on to the vicinity of Appomattox Court House, and threw themselves across the roads in front of Lee's army. The infantry, after three hours of rest at Prospect Station, resumed its march, reaching the roads in rear of Sheridan's troops on the morning of the 9th, and immediately deployed in rear of Sheridan's cavalry, and awaited the result of the negotiations for surrender. We will now recross the river to where we left the Second and Sixth corps at midnight in line of battle.

While General Humphreys's corps had halted to rest at dark on the 9th, General Lee's answer to General Grant's second letter was received. "This letter," says General Grant, "was for a different purpose from that of surrendering his army, and I answered him as follows :

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES, }  
April 9, 1865.

*Gen. R. E. Lee, Commanding C. S. A.:*

Your note of yesterday is received. As I have no authority to treat on the subject of peace, the meeting proposed for ten A. M. to-day could lead to no good. . . . The terms upon which peace can be had are well understood. By the South laying down their arms they will hasten that most desirable event, save thousands of lives and hundreds of millions of property not yet destroyed. . . .

U. S. GRANT,

*Lieutenant-General.*

During the morning of the 9th, and before the terms of surrender had been accepted by Lee, one more and the last effort was made by the Army of Northern Virginia to sunder the coil of bayonets that had been thrown around them by the Union army. Supposing that only cavalry was in their front, the enemy attacked with a heavy force of infantry and cavalry at sunrise and drove back Crook's cavalry. Custer was brought up and he in turn was also driven back. At this juncture let General Ord speak for himself: "I was barely in time on the morning of the 9th, for in spite of General Sheridan's attempts the cavalry was falling back in confusion before Lee's infantry; but we soon deployed and went in, Gibbon on the left at double-quick, with Foster's and Turner's divisions in beautiful style, and the colored troops also at the double-quick under these commanders, with the Fifth corps under Griffin, when a white flag met us at the Fifth corps front with request for a cessation of arms until General Lee could meet General Grant and confer on the terms. As I knew that a surrender had been called for and terms asked for and made known, I knew that this second request meant acceptance, and the bugles were sounded to halt."

During the term of suspension a message was on its way by a courier to General Grant which read as follows:

April 9, 1865.

*General:*

I received your note of this morning on the picket line, whither I had come to meet you, and ascertain definitely what terms were embraced in your proposal of yesterday, with reference to the surrender of this army. I now ask an interview in accordance with the offer contained in your letter of yesterday for that purpose.

R. E. LEE,

*General.*

Lieut. General U. S. GRANT.

To this General Grant replied by a note from which an extract reads as follows :

“ I will push forward to the front for the purpose of meeting you.”

General Grant, soon after reaching the front, was conducted to the residence of Mr. McLean, where he found General Lee with Colonel Marshall, one of his staff, awaiting him. After some general conversation about former times in the old army, the two famous chieftains proceeded with the business for which they had met. The terms of surrender being completed, General Lee sat down and wrote the following letter :

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA, }  
April 9, 1865.

*General:*

I have received your letter of this date containing terms of surrender of the Army of Northern Virginia as proposed by you. As they are substantially the same as those expressed in your letter of 8th inst., they are accepted. I will proceed to designate the proper officers to carry the stipulations into effect.

R. E. LEE,

Lieut. General U. S. GRANT.

*General.*

The business having been completed General Lee took his departure for his own lines and both armies went into bivouac. Soon after Lee's departure General Grant telegraphed the following to Hon. E. M. Stanton, Secretary of War :



General Lee surrendered the Army of Northern Virginia this afternoon on terms proposed by myself. The accompanying additional correspondence will show the conditions fully.

U. S. GRANT,

*Lieut.-General.*

According to the records of the War Department the number of officers and men surrendered by General Lee was 2,862 officers, 25,494 enlisted men, making a total of 28,356.

The casualties in the Union army from the 29th of March to the 9th of April were 8,268 killed and wounded, and 1,676 missing, making a total of 9,944.

The morning reports of the Army of the Potomac just before the evacuation of Petersburg and Richmond give present and equipped, 77,882 officers and men, and 243 guns. That of the Army of the James was 36,345 officers and men, and 120 guns, making a total of 114,227 officers and men and 363 guns.

Gen. U. S. Grant was commander-in-chief of all the armies of the United States, his headquarters being with the Army of the Potomac. March 31, 1865, Gen. George G. Meade commanded the Army of the Potomac and Gen. Edward O. C. Ord, the Army of the James. Gen. Andrew A. Humphreys commanded the Second corps, Generals Miles, William Hays, and Mott commanding its divisions. The latter was severely wounded on the 6th of April, and General De Trobriand assumed command. This division contained the remnant of the old Third corps which never dishonored the memory of that grand old command.

Gen. Gouverneur K. Warren commanded the Fifth corps, being relieved by Sheridan after the battle of Five Forks, when he was appointed by General Grant to command the defenses at City Point, and Gen. Charles Griffin succeeded him. Its divisions were commanded by Generals Bartlett, Ayres, and Crawford. The Sixth corps was commanded by Gen. Horatio G. Wright. Its divisions were commanded by Generals Frank Wheaton, Getty, and Seymour. The artillery of this corps, owing to the sickness of Brevet Brig.-Gen. C. H. Tompkins, while in pursuit of Lee, was commanded by Capt. Andrew Cowan, of the First New York Battery.

The Ninth corps was commanded by Gen. John G. Parke, whose three divisions were in command of Generals Willcox, Potter, and Hartranft. The cavalry was an independent command under General Sheridan.

The Twenty-fourth corps was commanded by Gen. John Gibbon, and the Twenty-fifth by Gen. Godfrey Weitzel. The Army of the Shenandoah, which had joined the Army of the Potomac, was in command of Gen. Wesley Merritt, of which Generals George A. Custer and Devin were division commanders.

## CHAPTER XXIX.

April—May—June—1865.

CAMP NEAR CITY POINT.—MARCH TO ALEXANDRIA.—  
RETURN HOME AND MUSTER OUT OF SERVICE.—  
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

LET us now return to our battery which we left on the 2d of April engaged with the Sixth corps in its attack upon the defenses of Petersburg. After the retreat of the rebels, the left section remained unpacked in camp until the next morning when it was joined by the other two sections, which had remained at Fort Urmston. During the morning of the 2d, the battery fired sixty-four rounds of ammunition. On the morning of the 3d, we awaited with glad hearts for orders. In the meantime some of the officers and men went to the front to view the captured works. Among the number was First Sergeant Humphrey, who mounted his horse and did not stop until he had entered the captured city. On his return he met Generals Meade and Grant, who were just entering the town.

About the middle of the day Lieutenant Parker received orders to report to the defenses near City Point, and we soon after started, taking with us six captured guns, consisting of 12-pounder ordnance guns, and one 24-pounder howitzer. We arrived near City Point about dark, and parked inside the defenses, where we remained until the 5th. A large number of the batteries were sent back with us to City Point, and to designate them from the reserve artillery, they were brigaded and called the Artillery Reserve. We were at first put into the Fourth brigade, commanded by Captain Eaton. On the 5th, an order was received to move outside of the lines. This was obeyed just at night, and the next day we

fixed up our camp expecting to remain some time. It was in this camp on the 6th of April that First Sergeant Humphrey and Sergeant Lewis received their commissions as second lieutenants, both being dated March 31st. They immediately signified their acceptance and wrote to General Tompkins for an assignment, but that officer was, unknown to them, absent sick, resigning April 21st. The lieutenant-colonel being on detached service in the middle department, the command of our regiment fell upon Maj. John G. Hazard. It was some days before he was heard from. We then found he did not know where the vacancies existed. We waited until the 24th of April and then went to Burkesville, sixty miles away, to see the major. We found him the next day, and learned he was still ignorant as to the vacancies, but he promised to push the matter, and we returned to camp having learned nothing satisfactory. We had, however, the pleasure of riding over the Southside Railroad and seeing some of the places made famous by the pursuit and capture of Lee's army. It was not until the army had been marched to the vicinity of Washington that we had an opportunity to see or hear from Major Hazard again. After several visits to his headquarters at Bailey's Cross Roads, we received our assignments on the 29th of May, Humphrey to Battery D, First Regiment Rhode Island Light Artillery, and the writer to Battery H, of the same regiment. We immediately asked to be discharged to enable us to be mustered, which request was approved by all the officials until reaching General Meade, who returned it with the following endorsement :

This application cannot be granted as the artillery has been ordered to be mustered out of the service.

By command of

MAJOR-GENERAL MEADE.

After so long a delay the ending was fortunate, as we would have lost the balance of our unpaid bounty had we been mustered.

April 9th. Inspection by Major Miller commanding the Artillery Reserve. Privates Brayton and Keene, and Farrier John E. Johnson returned from furlough. The surrender of

Lee's army was announced. Great cheering followed, and a salute was fired for the realization of the long-hoped for event. A more general salute followed the next day.

On the 12th the writer rode to Petersburg. While there the six or seven thousand prisoners captured on the 6th, passed through the city. Other bodies of prisoners were met on the way, among whom were Generals Ewell, Kershaw, and G. W. C. Lee.

Sunday, April 16th. It became known that President Lincoln had been assassinated by J. Wilkes Booth. The excitement was intense, and our indignation knew no bounds. At night our camp guard was doubled and at midnight the writer was called to Lieutenant Parker's headquarters and when reporting was ordered to make a mounted detail, armed with pistols and sabres, who were to report to some officer for the purpose of guarding the banks of the James River. This was to assist in the capture of the assassin of President Lincoln, who it was thought would attempt to escape across the James River and seek safety among his Southern friends. These precautions were repeated on the night of the 17th.

During the 17th fifteen horses were ordered to be sent to the Sixth corps artillery, which had not yet returned from the pursuit and capture of the enemy. The horses were in charge of Lieutenant Chandler, Sergeant Austin and Corp. J. Dexter. Twenty-six horses had been sent on the 13th to the same command under charge of Sergeant Blair. Throughout the 17th minute guns were fired on account of the death of the President.

April 18th. Our camp was moved to the inside of the line of breastworks into the camp just vacated by the Fifteenth New York (Engineers). The location was pleasant, but devoid of natural shade, but an artificial one was soon after substituted. A small building standing in the camp, which had been used by the quartermaster of the engineers, was taken possession of by Lieutenants Humphrey and Lewis, Quartermaster Remington, and the company clerk (Whittemore). This was fitted up with good bunks and other conveniences added, which made their quarters very comfortable.

The officers' quarters were also very pleasantly situated, and the whole camp was quite an agreeable abode.

We were now assigned to the Fifth brigade, which was commanded by Captain Start, Major Miller having a few days before been relieved by Gen. William Hays.

April 19th. Minute guns were fired during the hours of the funeral service over the remains of our lamented President, which was being held at the President's mansion in Washington.

April 20th. We witnessed the execution of a colored soldier in front of our camp. He had threatened or tried to shoot his captain. The officiating troops were all colored, including the chaplain.

April 21st. We received fifty new horses from the quartermaster of the Artillery Reserve.

April 22d. Sixty-six recruits arrived from Rhode Island. These, with others previously received, made seventy-four since the middle of March. We had now on our company roll over one hundred and ninety enlisted men, all but twelve being present for duty. These included the detached men.

April 26th. The remains of President Lincoln, which had been lying in state at Albany, N. Y., were being carried to Springfield, Ill. General Grant had issued an order to be read in every command in the army, and our brigade of batteries was marched to brigade headquarters where the order was read. It enjoined all officers to wear crape for six months on their left arm and on their sabres, and minute guns were ordered to be fired at every half hour during the day.

During the remainder of the month we had several field drills by Lieutenant Parker. The recruits were drilled every day at the manual drill, but they seemed, however, to care but little about learning. Many of these men had probably enlisted for their bounty, believing that the war would soon be ended it was but natural that they should be indifferent. The men were usually drilled on the gun by Lieutenant Chandler, but occasionally by Lieutenant Humphrey.

April 28th. Corporal P. A. Dexter was reduced to the ranks for some slight disobedience of orders. As his time was so near out a less punishment would have been wiser. He was a good soldier. Lance Corporal Gerber was promoted to fill the place made vacant. Private William Freedman was promoted to lance corporal. A salute of 100 guns

was fired for the surrender of General Johnston, which occurred on the 26th. The next day we received the news that the assassin Booth had been shot by Boston Corbett, of the Sixteenth New York Cavalry. The rejoicing over this was equal to that over a victory on the battlefield.

April 30th. We were mustered for pay for March and April by Brevet Major Phillips. Two more recruits were received from Rhode Island, David Casey and Francis Elwood. William Johnson, one of the late recruits, was sent to the hospital.

May 1st. It was rumored that the artillery was to march to Alexandria by the overland route. This was indeed a bright spot in the heavens, as it indicated that the storm of war was about to give way to the clear sky of peace. Two more fortunate men received furloughs for twenty days, William Owens and John H. Schneider.

May 2d. The rumors of the preceding day began to be realized. Our ammunition and chests were sent to City Point to be transported to Alexandria by water. Lieutenant Potter and Corporal Boggs and twenty-one men were detailed to accompany the ammunition.

Orders came to march early in the morning with all the Artillery Reserve to Alexandria. P. A. Dexter and M. McKain were sent to the General Hospital in Washington. Dexter, after a few weeks, was sent to Portsmouth Grove Hospital in Rhode Island, where he remained until he rejoined his battery at Providence. This was a happy night for the men of Battery E. Our impatience for morning made it seem long, but it came at last, and with it a pleasant day.

At four o'clock on the 3d, the bugle call awoke us from our slumbers. We quickly fed and groomed our horses and took down and properly disposed of our tents. Our breakfast was soon over, and, all being in readiness, at the command, "By piece, from the right front into column, march," we moved forward and took our designated place in the column. At eight o'clock the line started, crossed the Appomattox and James Rivers and encamped near Aiken's Landing.

May 4th. We left camp at six A. M. and marched into Richmond at nine o'clock. It was just one year before that we left Brandy Station with the army to capture Richmond

and Lee's army. We had succeeded, but at what a fearful cost. On our march through the city we were not halted and had but little opportunity to see the seat of the rebellion, but passed on through Mechanicsville and went into camp at two P. M., two miles beyond.

May 5th. We broke camp at six A. M., and started in the advance over bad roads, marching until two o'clock in the afternoon, and halted one mile beyond Hanover Court House, near the Pamunkey River.

May 6th. The pontoons not being laid until night, we had to wait until then, when we crossed, and halted one mile beyond for the night.

May 7th. Reveille sounded at half-past one. We started at five A. M., and marched rapidly over good roads, crossing the Mattapony River at Milford Station, then on to Bowling Green, where we remained over night.

May 8th. Left Bowling Green early and marched to Fredericksburg, encamping upon the battle ground where we fought on the 13th, 14th, and 15th of December, 1862.

May 9th. Reveille sounded at about two A. M. Started two hours later, marched all day through the rain, over hilly and muddy roads, passed through Fredericksburg, crossed the Rappahannock River, thence on through Stafford Court House, to Aquia Creek, five miles beyond, and halted at three P. M. for the night.

May 10th. Broke camp at six A. M., and traveled five miles beyond Dumfries and went into park. Charles H. James quite sick with the measles. This was the first case that had occurred in the battery.

May 11th. We started at five A. M., crossed Wolf Run Shoals on the Occoquan, passed Fairfax Station and Fairfax Court House and marched a few miles beyond, encamping between Annandale and Fall's Church. Our march was about thirty miles. The long marches of the week had used up quite a number of our horses; one belonging to the ambulance died. Heavy showers disturbed our rest at night.

May 12th. We remained in camp all day. The weather was cold but pleasant. The company clerk and the writer straightened out the company records and the morning reports covering the period of our overland march.



May 13th. Our camp was vacated at ten A. M. We marched past Bailey's Cross Roads to within two miles of Alexandria and went into camp about a quarter of a mile north of Fairfax Seminary, and our overland march of eleven days was ended. Upon the whole it had been more pleasant than otherwise. Soon after our arrival our comrade who was sick with the measles, with John Watson and John McKenna, was sent to the hospital. The several corps of the Army of the Potomac, except the Sixth, reached the vicinity of Washington and Alexandria about the same date as that of our battery, and encamped on the west side of the Potomac. These troops selected pleasant localities and fitted up comfortable but not elaborate camps, and awaited their long-desired discharge, which the artillery was the first to receive.

May 14th. We had a Sunday inspection, by Lieutenant Parker commanding, after which comfortable quarters were fitted up for both men and officers. Company cooking was resumed. The first good news to reach us after our arrival was the capture of Jefferson Davis by Lieutenant-Colonel Pritchard, of the Fourth Michigan Cavalry.

May 15th. The limber chests which had been sent on transports were brought to camp from Alexandria, accompanied by the detail that had been sent with them. It is probable that two guns were turned in before we left City Point, which fact is supported by an extract from my diary under date of May 3d, which reads, "had charge of extra caissons, battery wagon, forge, spare horses, ambulance, etc." It is still further confirmed by another extract dated May 20th, which says, "went with Lieutenant Potter to the arsenal at Washington to turn in two caissons and twelve single sets of harnesses."

But little more service was required of the men before being sent home. Once the harnesses were oiled and the battery washed. Several foot drills and a few at the manual of the piece were had. These were mostly by Lieutenants Humphrey and Lewis. Permission was freely given the men to visit Alexandria, Washington, and other points of interest, of which Mount Vernon was one.

May 20th. Sergt. William S. Blair received a commission as second lieutenant, assigning him to Battery F, but he was not permitted to be mustered.

May 21st. James Smith, Jeremiah Devine alias (Donovan) and Charles Walters detached men from Battery A New Jersey, were reported to the provost marshal at Alexandria. These men claimed the benefit of the President's proclamation pardoning deserters on condition of their returning to their regiments. The writer handed their papers to the marshal, who, after reading them said, their claim was not covered by the proclamation, as they had enlisted again after deserting and the men were ordered under arrest to be tried as deserters. The men felt badly, but there was no appeal.

On May 23d occurred the Grand Review of the Army of the Potomac, excepting the Sixth corps and the Artillery Reserve. The Sixth corps on the 23d of April had hurried south to Danville to assist in capturing General Johnston's army. Owing to this it did not arrive in time to take part in the review. Twenty men from our battery were given passes to witness the magnificent spectacle. The next day followed the review of Sherman's army, composed of the Fourteenth, Fifteenth, Seventeenth, and Twentieth corps. The reviewing stand was in front of the President's mansion, and was occupied by distinguished persons from all parts of the country and the officials of every department of the government. One of the pleasing features in the review of Sherman's army was the following after each brigade of the "foragers," known as "Sherman's Bummers." "They appeared," says General Slocum, "in their native ugliness, as they appeared on the march through Georgia and the Carolinas. Their pack mules and horses with rope bridles or halters, laden with supplies such as they carried on the march, formed part of the column."

The Sixth corps after we had left for home was reviewed alone at Washington on the 8th of June. It was of course, not so large a review as the others, but it was a successful affair. The corps made a splendid appearance and was heartily cheered by large and enthusiastic gatherings. These reviews were probably never surpassed on the American continent.

May 25th. An order was read in all the regiments and batteries announcing the discharge of all the men whose term expired before Oct. 1, 1865. Following this in the evening was the most beautiful sight that we ever saw. As

far as could be seen the regiments and batteries had lighted bonfires, composed of every material that would burn, besides thousands of candles had been bought, lighted and set along the ridge-poles of the tents. The air was full of smoke arising from the innumerable fires and the din of cheers from the delighted soldiers was deafening. It was a scene that will never be forgotten so long as memory serves. In this display of rejoicing our battery bore its part with equal ardor, which was continued long after the usual hour of taps.

On the 26th and 27th our fervor was somewhat lessened by a chilly rain-storm. On the latter date privates Teague, P. Sullivan, and Judd, whose time had expired, were taken to a mustering officer and mustered out of service. Eleven horses were turned in at the corral at Washington, and Corporal Ira Vosburg, privates D. Torpy and David Vanness were returned to their regiments (Fourth New-York Heavy Artillery), having been recalled to be discharged.

Sunday May 28th, we had an inspection by Lieutenant Parker, the last by that faithful officer. David A. Carpenter and Henry Binns returned to duty, having been on guard at artillery headquarters.

May 29th. As previously stated, Lieutenants Humphrey and Lewis, by order of Governor Smith, were assigned to duty in other batteries, but not being mustered they asked and obtained permission of Brevet-General Hazard to remain and return home with their old battery. Seeing that we had not donned our official insignia, the general ordered us to do so at once. For what reason unless it was to keep us from getting rusty, our commanding officer ordered the battery to be drilled at the manual of the piece, and this was repeated the following day. These were the last and least interesting gun services ever performed by the members of Battery E.

As has been stated in the biographical sketch of Captain Rhodes, he left the battery Dec. 8, 1864, and was mustered out March 8, 1865. Since the former date Lieutenant Parker had commanded the battery with great credit to himself and to the battery. Lieutenant Buckley, who was the ranking officer in the battery, having resigned also, we had looked for the promotion of Lieutenant Parker to the captaincy of the company, but it was ordered otherwise. The honor fell upon Brevet-Capt. Jacob H. Lamb, of Battery G, of our regiment.

He arrived at our battery on the 30th, and was mustered as captain the same date, taking command June the 3d.

First Lieut. EZRA K. PARKER was born Dec. 29, 1832, in the town of Scituate, R. I. His father was Joseph Parker. His mother was Mary (Knight) Parker, daughter of Darius and Hannah (Stone) Knight. His father having purchased a farm near Summit Station, in Coventry, R. I., moving there in 1836. In connection with the care of the farm his father carried on the business of a blacksmith. Here his son Ezra began the battle of life, by assisting his father on the farm and in the shop. He punctually attended the public school of his district, in which, at an early age, he manifested a marked degree of scholarship. At the age of fifteen he began teaching. At eighteen he entered the Smithville Seminary at North Scituate, R. I., and afterwards the University Grammar School at Providence, R. I., taking the valedictory at the latter upon graduation.

Soon after this he entered Dartmouth College, where he graduated in 1857, ranking first in scholarship in a class of sixty-five. During his vacations and after his graduation, he taught school in several districts of his native State, Massachusetts, and Virginia.

In 1859 he went to Portsmouth, Va., and studied law with Virginius O. Carroll, returning to Rhode Island in 1860. July 12, 1859, he married Mary H. Hopkins, daughter of Hon. David Hopkins, of West Greenwich, R. I., widely known in business and political circles as a man of high honor and sterling integrity.

Lieutenant Parker enlisted as a private in Battery D, First Rhode Island Light Artillery, Sept. 4, 1861. Three days later he was commissioned second lieutenant and mustered as such September 9th. He served with valor in his battery during the arduous campaign in Virginia, and at one time was Assistant Adjutant-General, Artillery Brigade, First Corps, Army of the Potomac.

He served under Burnside in Kentucky and Tennessee, where his battery suffered from its long and rapid marches, and deficiency of clothing and rations. After completing his service at the west, Lieutenant Parker returned east with his battery, which had reënlisted as veterans. April 8, 1864, he was commissioned first lieutenant, and assigned

to Battery E, reporting to that battery April 23d, then near Brandy station, and mustered in the next day. As section commander he took part in the battles of the Wilderness, Spottsylvania, North Anna River, Cold Harbor and in the intrenchments before Petersburg. After the departure of Captain Rhodes he commanded the battery from Dec. 10, 1864, to June 3, 1865, being then relieved by Captain Lamb. He was mustered out of the service June 14, 1865. He then returned to his home and managed his farm during the summer and taught school in the winter until 1881. We next find him reading law with the Hon. Henry J. Spooner and Augustus J. Miller. In 1883 he was admitted to the Rhode Island bar, and a few months later to the bar of the United States. Although residing a portion of the time in Cranston he still claims his residence in Coventry, R. I., in which town he has held many civil offices, among them being that of school committee and superintendent of schools for twelve years, also a member of the State Board of Education six years, and president of the Town Council one year. His counsel has been sought by the leading men of his town for many years, upon all questions pertaining to the welfare of the town and State. His sound judgment and ripe scholarship have secured for him a large measure of personal esteem.

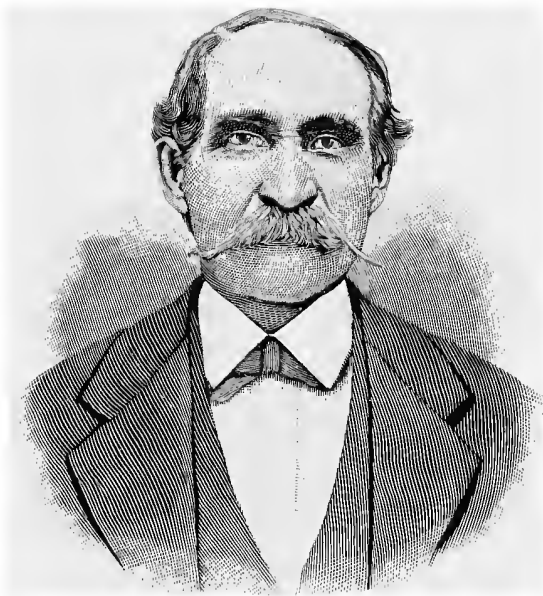
He has two children, a son and a daughter. The son has represented his town for several terms in the legislature. The daughter is a graduate of the Boston University.

Capt. JACOB H. LAMB was born Jan. 6, 1818, in Granville, Vt., and was the son of Warren and Fear (Huntington) Lamb. He received a limited education in his native town. During his early life he engaged in farming. Jan. 18, 1840, at the age of twenty-two, he enlisted at Whitehall, N. Y., as a private in the United States army, and was assigned to a light artillery company then stationed at Plattsburg, near Lake Champlain. In June, 1842, his battery was ordered to march to Fort Adams, R. I., and reached there July 2d. On Feb. 1, 1843, he was promoted to corporal, serving as such until mustered out of service at Fort Adams, Jan. 18, 1845. After his discharge he learned the carpenter's trade. About 1847 he went to Pawtucket, R. I., working there at his trade a few years, then returned to Newport, remaining there until about 1854. He then went to California, returning to Newport

in the spring of 1860. Early in September, 1861, he enlisted as a private in Battery E, First Regiment Rhode Island Light Artillery. Upon reporting for duty he was ordered to act as sergeant, and was promoted to that rank upon the appointment of the company's officers. March 14, 1862, he was promoted to first sergeant. He served in this capacity in the battles of Yorktown, Williamsburg, Fair Oaks, Glendale, Malvern Hill, Harrison's Landing, Second Bull Run, and Chantilly. While at Arlington Heights he received a commission as second lieutenant, dated Oct. 1, 1862, which assigned him to Battery A, of the same regiment. In this battery he served with distinction, participating in the battles of Fredericksburg, Va., Dec. 13, 1862, and Marye's Heights, May 3, 1863. At the famous battle of Gettysburg he was severely wounded in the hand, on account of which he received a leave of absence of twenty days. He was with his battery in its engagement at Bristoe Station, October 14th. Nov. 6, 1863, he was commissioned first lieutenant, and was mustered into Battery C, of Rhode Island, on the 11th. In this command he shared the perils and fatigue of the memorable campaign of General Grant in the summer of 1864. In July his battery accompanied the Sixth corps to Washington and the Shenandoah Valley. Captain Waterman and Lieutenant Fiske being mustered out of service early in September the command of the battery devolved upon Lieutenant Lamb, who commanded it from September 9th to its consolidation with Battery G, Dec. 23, 1864.

At the battle of Cedar Creek, October 19th, he handled his battery with conspicuous bravery, for which he was breveted captain, to date from October 19th. Nov. 5, 1864, he was commissioned captain in the First Regiment Rhode Island Light Artillery. He was not, however, assigned to, or mustered into, any other battery, but continued to command Battery C as first lieutenant and brevet captain until its consolidation. In February, after his transfer to Battery G, he received a leave of absence. On his return he took with him his only son, Albert H., as an attendant, he being only fifteen years old, and who remained with his father until the close of the war.

About the 20th of March Battery G left "Camp Barry," near Washington, where it had been in winter quarters since



**Capt. Jacob H. Lamb.**





December, and joined its corps (the Sixth) in front of Petersburg, arriving there on the 23d of March, 1865. Captain Lamb took part in the assaults upon the enemy's intrenchments around Petersburg April 2d, and was also in the battle of Sailors Creek April 6th. After Lee's surrender his battery went to Danville, remaining there until after the surrender of General Johnston. On May 30th he reported to Battery E by the authority of the following order :

*Special Orders No. 111.*

May 23, 1865.

First Lieutenant and Brevet Captain Jacob H. Lamb, Battery G, First Rhode Island Artillery, will proceed at once to Alexandria, Va., for the purpose of being mustered in as captain of Battery E, First Rhode Island Artillery, now at that place.

By command of Major-General Wright.

[Signed] C. W. WHITTLESEY,  
*Acting Adjutant-General.*

As elsewhere stated, he arrived near Alexandria May 30th, where Battery E was then stationed, and was mustered as captain the same date. He assumed command June 3d by instructions of the following order :

HEADQUARTERS ARTILLERY RESERVE, A. OF P., }  
June 2, 1865.

*Special Orders No. 58.*

[Extract.]

Third Captain Jacob H. Lamb, First Rhode Island Light Artillery, will assume command of Battery E.

By command of Brigadier-General Hays.

SAMUEL CHAPIN,  
*Lieutenant and A. A. A. G.*

After his battery was mustered out Captain Lamb resumed his business as a carpenter. In the spring of 1866 he went South for the purpose of building a residence for J. N. A. Griswold, of Newport, R. I. In the autumn of 1867 he returned to Rhode Island and built a house in Pawtucket for himself, moving into it in May, 1868. He continued his

business in Pawtucket and Providence until late in 1879, when he found employment in the Atlantic Mills at Olneyville, R. I., where he remained until his death, which occurred after one week's illness at his son's residence, Feb. 6, 1880.

Captain Lamb was married, Nov. 9, 1846, to Harriet Gardner of Newport, R. I. He had one son and two daughters, his son, Albert H., being the only child now (1891), living. He was a member of Embury Street, M. E. Church at Central Falls, R. I. Captain Lamb was also a member of St. John's Lodge of A. F. and A. M., at Newport, R. I., and Tower Post, No. 17, Grand Army of Republic, Pawtucket. He had been first lieutenant and captain of Tower Light Battery, of Pawtucket.

His funeral was conducted by Union Lodge of Masons, Waldo Trescott, W. M., and Tower Post, G. A. R., Vice-Commander E. W. Greene. The church was densely crowded with friends and relatives. After the sermon by Rev. G. W. Ballou, his body was borne to Mohassuck Cemetery and interred with Masonic honors.

His former associates of Tower Light Battery and Tower Post kindly volunteered to pay the expense of the excellent likeness accompanying this sketch.

May 31st, forty-seven of the detached men from Battery A, New Jersey, who had served with Battery E since the three years men had been discharged, were ordered to report to that battery. Seven others were also returned to the Fourth New York Heavy Artillery. The names of these men will be found in the battery register.

A lieutenant from Battery C and I reported to Lieutenant Parker with an order permitting him to select seven saddle horses for use in that consolidated command. The horses were selected with due care, among them being those of Lieutenants Humphrey and Lewis. They were glad to know that the faithful animals to which they had become greatly attached, were to be continued in the service.

June 1st. It was now known that we were soon to be ordered home, and we awaited with impatience that happy hour. An inventory of the ammunition had been taken on the 30th, and we were awaiting orders to turn in the battery and horses. In the evening the artillery had another illumination, in which Battery E shared as before.

June 2d. Our battery and horses were turned in on this date, the former into the arsenal at Washington and the horses into the corral at Criesboro, three miles south of Washington City. Lieutenants Parker and Potter, and the writer, with forty-five men, went to deliver the property. Lieutenants Parker and Potter, having horses, returned by way of Washington, the men and the writer returned by boat to Alexandria, walking from there to camp, which we reached at night.

June 3d. The men were inspected by Captain Lamb who assumed formal command, although Lieutenant Parker continued to perform the acting duties to the day of muster out, except the signing of documents and such other duties as only the commanding officers could legally perform.

Sunday June 4th. The last reveille was sounded at half past two A. M. Immediately our tents were struck, the few articles needed were packed, and after our appetites had been appeased by a charge upon the last army breakfast, we broke camp at five o'clock, marched to Washington, where we arrived two hours later. Here we waited until after six P. M. for transportation, passing the time as best we could. At that hour we started for Baltimore where we arrived at eleven P. M. At two A. M., on the 5th, the train for Philadelphia moved from the station, arriving at the "Quaker City" at eight A. M. Here we were taken to the Soldiers' Association Rooms, and served with an ample breakfast. In the afternoon we boarded the cars for New York, arriving in that city about midnight. Upon our arrival, by invitation, we marched to the Soldiers' State Home, corner Messer and Howard Streets, where the larger portion remained all night. Quite a number, however, sought lodgings elsewhere. We remained all day in New York waiting for the evening boat. At four P. M. as ordered, we marched to the wharf, and, at five o'clock, the steamer *Galatea* with the officers and men of Battery E on her deck, sailed for Providence. As many of us as could hired staterooms or berths, and had a comfortable night's rest. We awoke early with the thought of meeting our loved ones at home, and long before reaching the wharf the forward deck was crowded with the anxious veterans watching, if perchance some dear friends were waiting to receive them.

At fifteen minutes past six on the morning of the 7th of June, the *Galatea*, amidst the booming of the Marine Artillery, landed at Fox Point with the veterans of Battery E. Forty-four months and a half before the battery had left the same wharf under the firing of a like salute. The history of those long eventful months has been portrayed within the pages of this narrative, with what success it is for the reader to judge. What followed after the landing can best be told by quoting from the evening papers, the report of our arrival :

“ THE RETURN OF BATTERY E.

“ Another of our batteries arrived home this morning in the *Galatea*. The battery left Washington Sunday night. It numbers one hundred and forty men and is officered as follows : Capt. Jacob H. Lamb ; Lieutenants E. K. Parker, E. A. Chandler and H. Potter. Lieutenants George Humphrey, George Lewis, and William S. Blair, accompany this battery. They originally belonged to it but were assigned to other batteries. The sudden close of the war, however, leaves them with their old comrades. Battery E went into the field September, 1861, and has been in nearly all the battles of the Army of the Potomac since. Only about twenty-five [22] of the original men returned. These noble veterans present an unusually hardy and robust appearance. They were received at Fox Point by a salute from the Marine Artillery and escorted by the Burnside Zouaves to Washington Hall where a bountiful collation was spread by Humphreys, after which they were dismissed until Saturday morning.”

The names of the twenty-two original members referred to above are as follows : Capt. Jacob H. Lamb, Lieutenants Edward A. Chandler, Geo. Humphrey, Geo. Lewis, and Wm. S. Blair ; Quartermaster-Sergt. Benj. N. Remington, Corporals Wm. Torpy, Jerahmeel Dexter and John McAlees ; Artificer Henry C. Wightman ; Privates, Geo. F. Lord, Philip A. Dexter, Henry Binns, Almy M. Brownell, Adelbert A. Fairbanks, Wm. Smith, Richard Russell, John Riley, Emory W. Marble, Nelson Lovell, Michael C. Hughes, and John R. Brayton.

After our dismissal most of the men went home and remained until the 10th. On that date they reported as ordered, but the roll not being completed the company was again dismissed until Wednesday the 14th. In the meantime, the muster-out rolls were being completed by Wm. Whittemore, the company clerk, Quartermaster Remington, Corporal Gerber, the writer, and others. At the appointed time the company again assembled and were formally mustered out

of service at the City Hall. The pay rolls not being ready the men were dismissed, for the third time, until Friday, the 16th, to meet at the Fall River Iron Works building on South Main Street. Promptly meeting on that day as ordered, the members of the battery received their pay. Then followed the farewell greetings and hearty good-byes and the men separated, many of whom were never to meet again on earth.

The battery was in the United States service three years, eight months, and fourteen days.

It is no more than just that the following biographical sketches should be added to complete the history :

WALTER OTIS BARTLETT was one of our first lieutenants. He was the son of Otis and Waity (Allen) Bartlett, and was born Oct. 18, 1836, in Smithfield, R. I. He was educated at the Friends' School in Providence. He learned civil engineering and was for some time with Henry M. Walling. He enlisted in the First Light Battery of Rhode Island, April 18, 1861, and was mustered as quartermaster-sergeant May 2d. He served through the term of that battery, and was mustered out Aug. 6, 1861.

Sept. 28, 1861, he was commissioned first lieutenant in Battery E, commanding the right section until January 31st, when he received a commission dated Jan. 24, 1862, which assigned him as captain to Battery B, of Rhode Island. He commanded that battery in the siege of Yorktown and the battles of Fair Oaks, Peach Orchard, Savage Station, and Malvern Hill. He resigned Aug. 19, 1862. After leaving the army service he was, for a while, a partner with W. A. Griswold in the Providence Lead Works. "After this," writes his sister, Mrs. John D. Brown, "Captain Bartlett was for some years in commercial business in San Domingo, but left that place on account of the unsettled state of the government and went into Belize in British Central America, where he engaged in the business of raising tropical fruits, and where, after two years, he fell a victim to the fever of the country, and died June 24, 1883. His remains were brought to this country and interred with those of his ancestors in North Smithfield, R. I.

He was married at Puerto Plata, San Domingo, Oct. 2, 1875, to Sophie Pickwood, daughter of Robert William Pickwood, magistrate in the island of St. Christopher, under the British government, and Louisa Pickwood, daughter of Cecil Theodore Northman, solicitor of Huntingford, Hertfordshire, England. Walter had three older brothers, Dr. Elisha Bartlett, professor in the College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York; George Bartlett, for some years editor of the *Scientific American*; and William Bartlett, a distinguished lawyer in New York. He also left two sisters, Mrs. John D. Brown and Mrs. Isaac Brown, both of Providence, R. I.

WILLIAM ALBERT ARNOLD was born in Cranston, R. I., Sept. 4, 1830. His father, John W. Arnold, was a blacksmith and farmer. His mother was Hannah P. (Waite) Arnold, sister to the wife of Gen. Charles T. James, formerly United States senator from Rhode Island. When he was about ten years old his mother moved to Newburyport, Mass., where he was a pupil in the public and a private school. After living a few years in Gloucester, N. J., and Reading, Pa., he returned to Rhode Island, where he had charge of the spinning department in the Atlantic Delaine Mill at Olneyville.

In 1858 he became bookkeeper for the Gorham Manufacturing Company on North Main Street, Providence. July 31, 1851, he married Eliza A., daughter of William and Eliza Jewett. He had six children, of whom three are living. Early in September, 1861, he offered his services to Governor Sprague, who promptly assigned him to Battery E, as first lieutenant, and was prominent in the battery during its early history. He was severely injured March 28, 1862, near Hampton, Va., by his horse rearing and falling backward upon him. From the effect of this he was absent in the hospital and elsewhere until June 24th, rejoining the battery in front of Richmond. He participated in the battles of Glendale and Malvern Hill, and was specially mentioned for distinguished bravery in those battles by Captain Randolph in his report of these engagements. He was also in the battles of Harrison Landing, Second Bull Run, and Chantilly.

Dec. 6, 1862, he was commissioned captain of Battery A, and assumed command on the battlefield of Fredericksburg December 12th, and in that battle and that at Marye's



Capt. Wm. Albert Arnold.



Lieut. James F. Allen.



Lieut. Hezekiah Potter.





Heights, May 3, 1863, he handled his battery with skill and bravery. At Gettysburg his command again distinguished itself and lost heavily in both men and horses.

The action of this battery is a conspicuous feature in the famous cyclorama of the Battle of Gettysburg. Captain Arnold was in the subsequent battles at Bristoe Station, October 14th, and Mine Run, Nov. 28, 1863. In the battles of the Wilderness, Spottsylvania, North Anna, and Cold Harbor, he maintained his reputation as a commander of high order. He returned home with the original three years' men whose term had expired, and was mustered out of service June 18, 1864. August, 1865, he went to Colorado, where he engaged in mining and in the public service. In 1886 he went to Montreal, where he has since been engaged as bookkeeper in the insurance business.

LIEUT. ISRAEL R. SHELDON was the eldest of eleven children, and was born in Providence, R. I., April 7, 1827. His father was Pardon Sheldon, a sea captain, who, soon after Israel's birth, moved to Pawtuxet, R. I., which place was his home during his many sea voyages. His mother was Rebecca W. (Aborn) Sheldon, daughter of Jonathan Aborn, of Scituate, R. I. Lieutenant Sheldon received his education in the public school of Pawtuxet and at a private school. At the age of seventeen, with the consent of his father, he shipped aboard a merchant vessel on a voyage to Russia, but was shipwrecked on the coast of Scotland. The vessel went to pieces and the crew were obliged to travel on foot to Liverpool, from which place they were sent home by the American consul. After this experience he learned the jeweler's trade, and, soon after, formed a partnership with George Turner, under the name of I. R. Sheldon & Co. After this firm dissolved he was associated for a while with A. A. Wightman in the same business. Jan. 9, 1862, he was commissioned second lieutenant and assigned to Battery E, First Regiment Rhode Island Light Artillery. He joined the battery near Alexandria on the 31st of January. He participated in the battles of Yorktown, Williamsburg, Fair Oaks, Glendale, Malvern Hill, Harrison's Landing, Kettle Run, Second Bull Run, Fredericksburg, and Chancellorsville. On the 22d of May, 1863, he resigned his commission and returned home.

After the war he was commissioned captain by brevet. Soon after the war he resumed the jewelry business in company with Nathan Mathewson and W. C. Greene, continuing in the same until his death, which occurred March 5, 1885.

Nov. 4, 1855, he married Alma D. Carder, the only child of Judge W. Carder, of Pawtuxet. Mrs. Sheldon was educated in the public schools of Pawtuxet, and at the Warren Ladies' Seminary. She was a woman of more than ordinary ability and culture. One child was born to them, William H. Sheldon, who is also a jeweler.

Lieut. HEZEKIAH POTTER was born at Pawtucket, R. I., July, 1834. He was the son of Christy and Lucy (Smith) Potter, who for many years were well known in Providence, as citizens of worth and ability.

Lieutenant Potter was educated in the public schools of Providence. Before the war he was engaged in the wholesale grocery business, first with his brother in Syracuse, N. Y., and afterward managing the same business for A. & W. Sprague with marked success for about five years. Later he was connected with William Sheldon in the same business.

He was mustered into Battery H as a private, August 1862, afterwards reaching the rank of quartermaster-sergeant. In that battery he shared the fatigues of its constant changes until receiving a commission as second lieutenant Oct. 21, 1864. He was assigned to Battery E, reaching it November 11th, and was mustered in the same day. He proved to be an excellent officer. He was a man of few words and rather exclusive, but not unapproachable to the most humble private.

His conduct in the service was dignified and courteous. Under fire he manifested no bravado, but was cool, self possessed and reliable. He participated in the almost daily conflicts in the intrenchments before Petersburg, and at the final and successful assaults on the enemy's line, April 2d, 1865. He was mustered out at Providence June 14, 1865.

After the close of the Rebellion he was employed for several years with Hubbard & Aldrich, wholesale grocers, in Providence, and since has been employed by several firms, some of them in other kinds of business.

In April, 1855 he was married to Abbie H. Thornton, a woman of sprightly intelligence and energy. She was the

daughter of the well-known marketman, Solomon W. Thornton. Three daughters was the result of this marriage, only two are now (August, 1891,) living, one of whom is married. Carrie married Charles H. Eddy long connected with the Standard Oil Company. She died July 3, 1891.

Second Lieutenant EDWARD A. CHANDLER was born in the town of Warwick, R. I., about 1834. He was the son of Allen and Rebecca (Buffington) Chandler. He received the ordinary advantages of the district schools of the town of Scituate, to which place his parents moved during his early years. After his school days he learned the machinist trade at Lamphear's Machine Works at Harrisville, Coventry, R. I. Here he became an expert workman, being employed in his later service as one of the section overseers. In September, 1861, he responded to the call for loyal soldiers and enlisted as a private in Battery E and joined that company when in camp near Mashapaug Pond. He accompanied the battery to the seat of war, where on the 27th of November, when in camp near Alexandria, he had a severe attack of inflammatory rheumatism, with which for more than two months he suffered severely. Improving somewhat by the middle of February, he went home on a furlough of twenty-eight days, which was extended to a month longer. After its expiration he rejoined the battery when near Yorktown, Va., on the 15th of April, 1862.

For faithful service he was promoted to the rank of corporal on the 21st of November, 1862. At Kelley's Ford, November 27th, he was slightly wounded in the face by the recoil of his gun when sighting it.

Feb. 1, 1864, he re-enlisted, and eight days after he was promoted to sergeant, serving with distinction through General Grant's memorable campaign. October 29th he received a commission as second lieutenant bearing the date of Oct. 25, 1864, assigning him to his own battery. During the siege of Petersburg he was always prompt and efficient in performing his duties. He was mustered out of service with the battery June 14, 1865, having well earned the honored rank which he had received. After the war he resumed work with the same firm he left before he enlisted, where he continued until his sudden death which occurred June 5, 1867, while

overseeing the setting up of some machinery, at Anthony Village, in Coventry, R. I.

In 1856 he was married to Louisa Williams, a sister of Prof. Alonzo Williams, of Brown University, and daughter of Thomas and Lydia (Hathway) Williams. They had two children, both dying young. His widow a few years after his death married J. Russel Pike, of Providence. Lieutenant Chandler belonged to Hamilton Lodge, No. 15, A. F. and A. M., located at Clayville, in the town of Scituate, R. I.

In his manner he was plain and direct, never given to flattery or pretense. He was warm hearted and generous to the deserving. He was a kind neighbor and affectionate husband, and as a citizen he was highly respected.

Lieut. GEORGE HUMPHREY was born in Tiverton, R. I., Dec. 29, 1839. His father was George Washington Humphrey, who was a native of Tiverton, where he passed his life. He was a successful farmer. He held various town offices, and, for several terms, represented his town in the State legislature. He was a man of sound judgment whose advice was always respected. His mother was Mary Durfee, whose family was a representative one of Tiverton. His grandfather, Maj. William Humphrey, served through the Revolutionary War in Colonels Angell and Olney's Rhode Island Regiment, and, in 1775, accompanied the command of Benedict Arnold on his expedition to capture Quebec, being himself captured and held a prisoner for nine months. He was a member of the Society of the Cincinnati.

The subject of this sketch, like the most of farmers' sons, worked upon the land during the farming season, and attended the public school during the winter term. Soon after the breaking out of the civil war, although surrounded by the comforts of a beautiful home his patriotism and love of country demanded the sacrifice of these blessings. After mature reflection he decided to enter the artillery service, and enlisted early in September, 1861, in Battery E, then recruiting at the armory on Benefit Street, Providence. His youthful appearance and quiet, modest demeanor, hid, at first, his real merit, but good conduct and faithful service soon revealed his worth, and, on the 1st of August, 1862, he was promoted to corporal, serving as such until June 10, 1863, when he was promoted to sergeant and assigned to the second



Lieut. George Humphrey.



detachment. During the battles of Gettysburg, Kelley's Ford, Payne Farm, Mine Run, the Wilderness, Spottsylvania, and Cold Harbor, he commanded his gun with judgment and bravery. In the last named battle he was severely wounded in the arm, and was sent to Pennsylvania. His wound proved slow and difficult to heal, and it was not until the next February that he was sufficiently recovered to return to his battery, which he joined at Fort Wadsworth on the 20th of that month. One week after his return he was promoted to first sergeant, but owing to a deficiency of officers he was ordered to act as chief of section, and so continued to act (except for a few days) until receiving his commission as second lieutenant on the 6th of April, 1865. He was not mustered in, however, as the regimental commander, owing to the scattered condition of the several batteries, which made it impossible to ascertain where the vacancies existed in time for him to do so before the artillery was ordered to be mustered out of service.

Soon after his discharge in June, 1865, he went west, remaining only two months, then returning to Rhode Island, and, after a course of studies, he graduated from Schofield's Commercial College. In March, 1866, he entered the employ of Henry T. Root as bookkeeper and salesman in a house-furnishing establishment, where he remained until June, 1879. In October following he started the same business on his own account, first in Music Hall building on Westminster Street, then, in March, 1882, he moved to Hoppin Homestead building on same street, where he still (1892) remains, doing a large and successful business.

On the 17th of December, 1868, he was married to Harriet Webber Dawley, of Fall River. One son was born to them in January, 1873, but died in the following August. This happy union continued until the 4th of September, 1875, when this devoted companion died. In January, 1877, he married, for his second wife, Mrs. Elizabeth (Gardiner) Shattuck, daughter of the late Hon. Peleg Gardiner, a widely known and worthy citizen of Providence. Mrs. Shattuck was the widow of Warrell Shattuck, of the late firm of Potter & Shattuck, jewelers. She is possessed of considerable wealth and is highly esteemed for her many excellent qualities. Mr. Humphrey has become widely known as a prudent and suc-

cessful business man, possessing the qualities of a true gentleman. He has the best wishes of all his old comrades and friends for a long and successful future.

It was not at first the author's intention to have inserted a biographical sketch of his uneventful life, but the Publication Committee and other members of the battery not approving of its omission, the following sketch appears :

GEORGE LEWIS was born near Summit, in the town of Coventry, R. I., Nov. 1, 1831. His grandfather was Benjamin Lewis, well known to the citizens of Coventry as a successful miller and farmer. His second son, Benoni E., the father of the subject of this sketch, in early life was a farmer, but afterwards became a carpenter and builder, doing business mainly in the villages of Phenix, Harrisville, Quidnick, and Anthony. The excellent mother of George Lewis was Sarah Hawkins, the only daughter of the Hon. George and Martha (Stone) Hawkins. Martha Stone was a graduate of an academy, and was sister of the late venerable Rev. Richard C. Stone, "who, with each of his nine children," says the Bunker Hill (Ill.) *Gazette*, "have taught yearly in high schools, colleges, and universities, from two to thirty-one years each."

His grandfather Hawkins in early life passed through the subordinate military ranks till he held a major's commission. He was a representative in the General Assembly from 1819 to 1829, and senator from May, 1829, to 1831. For over forty years he was deacon in the Rice City Christian Church, of Coventry, R. I.

In early youth Mr. Lewis attended the public schools at Rice City, in Coventry, and at Sterling, Conn. In March, 1841, his parents moved to the Crompton Mills, in Warwick, R. I. Here George, at the age of nine years, entered the cotton mill as a back piecer in the mule room, at one dollar per week, working from sunrise until sunset in summer, and until eight p. m. in winter. From these long and cruel hours of labor he was relieved in the spring of 1842, going then to live with his Uncle Philip P. Hawkins, in Coventry, with whom he lived one year, working in the meantime in his uncle's shingle mill and on his farm, except in the winter months, when he attended the public school.



In 1843 he lived with his grandfather Lewis, working during the farming season, and attending the winter term of school. In April, 1844, his parents having moved to the town of Johnston, R. I., he returned home, and, during eight months of the following three years he was employed in the print-works then owned by Abbott & Bliss, the latter being the father of Col. Zenas R. Bliss, of the Seventh Rhode Island Regiment. During the winter months of these three years Lewis again attended school at Rice City, boarding with his grandfather, with whom he remained during the farming season of 1847. The following winter he boarded with his Aunt Rice upon an adjoining farm, attending the same school.

About the first of April, 1848, at the age of sixteen years, Lewis was apprenticed for three years to his uncle, Jason Lewis, then of Phenix, to learn the carpenter's trade. He was to have besides his compensation, four months' schooling during each winter. After serving about one-half of his time he left his uncle's employ and entered that of his father, who had commenced the same business, continuing with him most of the time until the summer of 1852, working mainly at Harrisville, Quidnick, and Anthony villages. During the winter following the first season of apprenticeship, Mr. Lewis attended his last term at school, boarding again with his Aunt Rice.

In September, 1852, he moved to Providence, and worked for several firms until the spring of 1854. He was then employed by Cyrus T. Eddy & Company, with whom he continued the greater portion of the time until September, 1861.

Mr. Lewis being a radical Abolitionist, although deeply interested in the success of the Union army, did not choose to enlist until convinced that the war would result in the overthrow of the brutal slave system. When being convinced of that probable result he promptly enlisted, choosing for his comrades the brave men of Battery E. He entered the service as a private, Sept. 24, 1861, reaching the rank of second lieutenant, and was mustered out of service June 14, 1865, having served in all the battles in which his battery was engaged.

After the close of the war Lieutenant Lewis resumed work for the same firm with whom he was employed when

enlisting, continuing with them until February, 1866. He then went to Worcester, Mass., where he was employed as foreman in the carpenter shop of the "Earle Stove Company." That company not succeeding in business closed their works on the 24th of June, 1869. On the 14th of July following, Mr. Lewis entered the employ of Spicers & Peckham, the widely known and successful stove founders of Providence, R. I., with whom he still (1892) remains, having had charge of their carpenter shop for over twenty-two years.

Lieutenant Lewis was married Nov. 9, 1851, to Sarah, sister of the late Daniel and Alexander Tonge, the well known musicians of Rhode Island. Mrs. Lewis in her younger years possessed some musical talent, being at one time a chorister of the church choir at Quidnick Village, Coventry, R. I. She has been a faithful wife and devoted mother. Three sons have been born to them: the youngest, Wendell W., born July 6, 1858, dying in infancy. The oldest, Everett Channing, was born Sept. 10, 1853. He is an excellent mechanic and designer, and at present is head draughtsman in the Wardwell Sewing Machine Works at Woonsocket, R. I. He is also a singer and reader of some note. He married M. Emma Cole, a woman of fine culture, by whom he has had a daughter and one son, both of whom are bright and promising children.

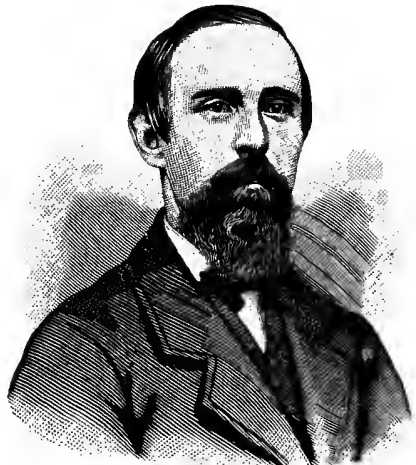
Myron Seaver was born Feb. 3, 1855. After he and his brother left the High School of Providence, he learned the book-binding business, but for many years he has been a casemaker at Gorham Manufacturing Company, of Providence, R. I. He married Mrs. Laura B. Wood, a very excellent woman, who died June 8, 1889, leaving a babe three months old named Myron W. Lewis. This lovely babe, the pet of its grandparents, with whom it lived, died at the age of eighteen months and twenty-three days. Two daughters of his wife by a former husband died also. The first, Addie L. Wood, died Jan. 7, 1888, aged thirteen years; Viola D. Wood, died June 18, 1889, ten days after her mother, aged seventeen years, making four deaths in his family within two years and nine months. Myron is a vice-commander and prominent member of the Sons of Veterans. Both of the sons are highly respected by a large circle of friends.



Lieut. George Lewis  
(AT CLOSE OF WAR)



Lieut. Wm. S. Blair.



1st Sergt. William E. Bowen.



Lieutenant Lewis at the age of eighteen joined the Order of the Sons of Temperance, in which he is a Past Worthy Patriarch, being also a member of the Grand Division. He is also a member of Burnside Council of the Order of United Friends, of which he is Chief Counselor.

He belongs to Slocum Post, No. 10, Grand Army of the Republic, and is also a member of Hope Lodge, No. 49, of the Order of Tonti, of Providence. During the early history of the Republican party, he was an active and zealous worker in that party, sympathizing strongly with its prohibition element, being occasionally a delegate to its conventions. He held no office except that of city committee. Lieutenant Lewis has been a constant reader of books and the general literature of the age, and is deeply interested in all reformatory and humanitarian movements.

In early life he joined the Orthodox church, and was a zealous defender of its tenets. But after years of anxious study and the reading of many authors he became a rationalist. He was one of the first to join the Free Religious Association of the United States, and was one of the original members of the Free Religious Society of Providence, being for many years a member of its executive committee, and since 1879 has been its treasurer. He is also connected with the Religious Society of Bell Street Chapel. He was Chairman of the Executive Committee of the National Liberal League of America for the State of Rhode Island while that organization was under the presidency of Francis E. Abbot, from July, 1876, to 1879. He belongs also to the Woman Suffrage Association, having been a believer in its claims from early manhood. He is a member of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Historical Society of Rhode Island, and a vice-president of the First Regiment Rhode Island Light Artillery Veteran Association. Lieutenant Lewis was selected by his comrades to write a history of Battery E. That he has labored faithfully to accomplish that object to the best of his ability no one cognizant of his persistent labors will deny.

Lieut. WILLIAM S. BLAIR was the son of James and Isabella (Biggar) Blair, of Scotland. William was born April 15, 1843. When he was four years old his parents came to the United States and settled in Providence, where

he attended the public schools, leaving the High School about 1859. His first employment was assisting his father at blacksmithing. He enlisted in Battery E as a private in September, 1861. He served as assistant blacksmith from April 6th to September, 1863. His faithful services earned for him a corporal's rank Sept. 9, 1863. He re-enlisted Dec. 21, 1863. Nov. 5, 1864, he was promoted to sergeant, serving until May 20, 1865, when he received a second lieutenant's commission dated May 16th, upon which was endorsed "promoted for meritorious mention as best soldier in the brigade." Two weeks after he was assigned to Battery F, of Rhode Island. Owing to an order for the artillery to be mustered out of service he was not able to be mustered in. By permission of Brevet-General Hazard he was allowed to remain in his old battery and returned home with it. He was mustered out of service, June 14, 1865.

After being mustered out he entered the employ of the Burnside Rifle Works for a short time, and afterwards engaged in the grocery business until about 1868. For several years after this he was not located permanently but finally settled in Portsmouth, N. H., where he is the proprietor of a large boarding hotel. He married Mary A. Grover, by whom he has had three children.

First Sergt. WILLIAM E. BOWEN was Born in Rehoboth, Mass., March 2, 1834. His parents were William Bradford Bowen and Hannah Boyd Miller, the mother being the daughter of Amos Miller. About 1838 his parents moved to Providence, R. I., where William received his education in the public schools and worked his way through Brown University, graduating in the class of 1859. After leaving college he engaged in the refining business, the firm being Burt & Bowen, but owing to ill health he was soon obliged to give up that business. Soon after he went to Racine, Wis., being engaged there as principal in the High School, where he continued until the summer of 1861, when he returned to Rhode Island. September, 1861, he enlisted as first sergeant in Battery E, First Regiment, Rhode Island Light Artillery, serving with marked ability and patriotism until his health again failed him, and he was discharged March 14, 1862, on surgeon's certificate. After remaining

at home a short time he went to Chicago and engaged in mercantile business for a few years, then returned home and studied law with the Hon. Benjamin N. Lapham of Providence. Just as he was ready to be admitted to the bar he was offered the position of Assistant Professor of Ethics and English studies at the United States Naval Academy, at Annapolis, Md., which he accepted April 9, 1868. Here he remained for a few years when his health failed him; he again returned home where he remained until his death, Aug. 20, 1886. He was brother to Amos M. Bowen, the well known insurance president and highly esteemed citizen of Providence, R. I.

Quartermaster Sergt. BENJAMIN N. REMINGTON was born in Cranston, R. I., April 12, 1825. His father was Daniel T. Remington. His mother's maiden name was Alice Stevens. He received his education in the Cranston district schools, in which he was more than an average scholar. During the early years of his manhood he worked mostly at farming. May 1, 1849, he entered the employ of Earl Carpenter, the well known ice dealer, with whom he remained until the summer of 1861, when he enlisted as a private in Battery E, and was mustered into the United States service Sept. 30, 1861.

For the first twenty months he served as a private, generally as a driver, but his unusual ability marked him for a higher rank, and when Quartermaster Sergt. C. A. Brown received his commission Remington was promoted over all the non-commissioned officers to fill the vacancy. His warrant bore the date of April 14, 1863. He re-enlisted Dec. 21, 1863, and continued to act as quartermaster sergeant until the close of the war, except for a few weeks in March and April, 1864, when he was on detached service in Rhode Island as recruiting officer.

Quartermaster Remington was very efficient in his duties. In battle he was always brave and showed the valor of a true soldier. After the battery returned to Providence he was largely relied upon by Captain Lamb to adjust his accounts with the government. These being completed he was mustered out of service June 14, 1865. For four or five years after his discharge he was employed at various kinds of work. After this he was employed for about four years by

the Union Ice Company. He then began business on his own account as a house and carriage painter. In 1846 he married Eliza Larose, daughter of Thomas and Sarah (Johnson) Larose. Four children were born to them, of which only one son and one daughter are now (1892) living. He has never been connected with any societies or orders, and has passed his time mostly at home with his family.

First Sergt. CHARLES S. WINSLOW was born in Taunton, Mass., Jan. 13, 1838. When he was two years of age his parents moved to Foxboro, Mass., then to Providence in 1860. His parents were Simmons and Ruth Tabor (Bennett) Winslow. After devoting several years to his education he became teamer for John D. Cranston, of Providence, working for him until September, 1861, when he enlisted as a private in Battery E, then recruiting at Providence. Being a teamer he was made a driver at first, but showing qualities for a higher rank he was promoted to a corporal March 14, 1862, and to sergeant in October following. June 1, 1863, he was promoted to first sergeant. He was in all the battles in which his battery was engaged, manifesting always the qualities of a good soldier. At the great battle of Gettysburg he commanded the center section. While the battery was leaving the field he was severely wounded in the back and was sent to the hospital where he remained until he was transferred to the Veteran Reserve Corps at Washington, D. C., Feb. 1, 1864. Previous to being sent to the Veteran Reserve Corps he had been granted a furlough to visit his home at Providence. While there he was commissioned second lieutenant by the governor and assigned to the Fourteenth Rhode Island Regiment of colored troops. On presenting himself for examination at Washington he failed to pass on account of physical disability, hence his assignment to the Veteran Reserve Corps. He was mustered out Sept. 30, 1864. After the war he was bookkeeper for the Providence and Worcester Railroad Company at their freight depot, where he remained until failing health compelled him to give up work. He died of consumption Dec. 30, 1873. His death was hastened, doubtless by the wound received at Gettysburg. A few years before the war he married Cornelia Anna Bennett, daughter of Bela W. P. and Clarissa G. (Brown) Bennett,





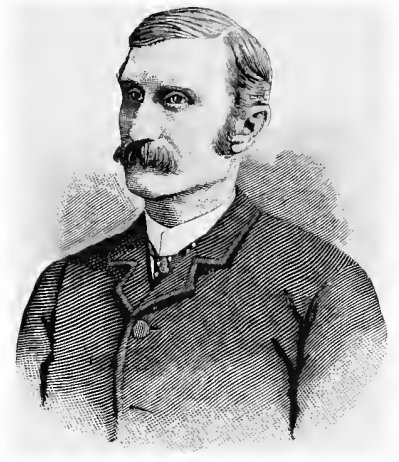
**1st Sergt. Charles S. Winslow.**



**Quartermaster Sergt.  
Benj. N. Remington.**



**Sergt. John Slocum.**



**Corpl. Francis B. Butts.**



and sister of Lieut. Herbert F. Bennett. They had four children, of whom only two daughters are living. Both are married. Sergeant Winslow belonged to Mount Vernon Lodge, No. 4, A. F. and A. M., and to the Odd Fellows of Kinderhook, N. Y.

Sergt. JOHN SLOCUM was born Nov. 30, 1838, in North Kingstown, R. I. His father was Rev. William R. Slocum, a well-known Baptist clergyman in Kent County, ; R. I. His mother was Harriet K. Capron. Before he was nine years old he was put into a cotton mill, but later he worked on a farm. What schooling he received was at irregular periods, mostly in Exeter, to which place his parents moved in 1847. At the age of eighteen he was married to Susan Pratt, daughter of Amasa and Elizabeth (Wright) Pratt. August, 1862, he enlisted in Battery E, and was mustered in on the 13th. He joined the battery when it was near Alexandria, Sept. 4, 1862. He soon won the confidence of his commanding officer and the esteem of his comrades. His coolness in battle was remarkable. At the battle of Gettysburg he was mounted orderly for Lieutenant Bucklyn, and when that gallant officer was wounded he found in Slocum a trusted and faithful friend. To his watchful care during the night after the battle Lieutenant Bucklyn is more indebted for his speedy recovery than to any other cause, and for this he has often expressed his gratitude.

Feb. 8, 1864, he was promoted to a corporal, and acted as gunner during the summer of Grant's campaign. Oct. 20, 1864, he was promoted to sergeant to date from October 4th. He served as sergeant during the remaining months of the war and was mustered out of service June 14, 1865.

Notwithstanding his limited education, by making life a study he has acquired much valuable information and is looked upon as a man of more than ordinary ability and judgment. Since the war he has devoted himself mostly to farming. He has held various offices in the town of Exeter, among them being town councilman ; town sergeant ; constable, overseer of the poor, and other offices of less note. He is highly esteemed by his townsmen as an officer and worthy citizen.

Sergt. JOHN CUNNINGHAM enlisted from Philadelphia and was mustered into the service Jan. 1, 1863. He, with four-

teen others, reported to the battery January 10th, under Chaplain John A. Perry. All deserted with the exception of Charles E. Baker and Cunningham. Cunningham was a southern man by birth, and, for more security, should he be taken prisoner, he assumed this name, his correct name being Hamilton. Nothing is known of his history before or since the war, save that he was last known to be in Fall River. He was a man of good ability and a brave and reliable soldier.

Sergt. OTTO WILDER was mustered into the service July 6, 1863, and joined the battery August 8th, when it was near Bealton Station, Va. He was a born soldier and had served in the Prussian army before coming to the United States. He was made a corporal Feb. 19, 1864; a sergeant Oct. 20, 1864, to date from October 4th.

He was on detached service as sergeant in the ambulance corps from March 18, 1865, to June 4th, when he returned to the battery. He was mustered out of service June 14, 1865. He was a brave, loyal, and generous soldier.

Sergt. SAMUEL W. AUSTIN was detached from the Third Maine Regiment in May, 1863. He re-enlisted into Battery E Oct. 23, 1863; was promoted to corporal December 11th, and to sergeant Feb. 27, 1865. He was a faithful and brave officer. Since the war he has married and settled as a farmer in Aroostook County, Maine.

AMASA A. and SETH B. DARLING were both sergeants in the battery, the latter acted as first sergeant for more than seven months, when, by his own request, he was reduced to the ranks. They were brothers, and both were worthy to have been continued as sergeants. They, like many other excellent soldiers, were the victims of circumstances and of their own peculiar traits of character, which in no way invalidate their merits as worthy soldiers.

They were the sons of Artemus and Lorinda (Taft) Darling. Both were born in Millville, Mass. Amasa A., May 20, 1835; Seth B., in February, 1837. They received their education in the public schools of their native town. Before the war Amasa worked at the Gorham Manufacturing establishment, Providence, and after the war at the Waltham Watch Company, Waltham, Mass., until his health failed. The

latter part of his life was passed at the Soldiers' Hospital, Charlestown, Mass., where he died Nov. 30, 1888. He was never married. His merit as a soldier has been referred to elsewhere and need not be repeated here. He was a social and genial comrade and will long be remembered by a host of friends as an upright and esteemed citizen.

Seth was by trade a jeweler, and worked before and after the war at North Attleboro, Mass. In 1866 he married Orinda Sweet. About two years after his marriage, he died of a disease of the brain in the Insane Hospital at Taunton, Mass. His death occurred Sept. 15, 1868. Seth was unlike his brother Amasa, being less social and more reserved. He was, however, a good soldier and honored citizen.

Space will not permit the insertion of the many deserved biographical sketches of the corporals, but the active interest manifested by Corporal Butts in the battery and his participation in all that pertains to the welfare of Rhode Island soldiers, as well as his general usefulness as a citizen, demands that a brief sketch of his life should be given.

FRANCIS B. BUTTS was born in Providence, Jan. 27, 1844. He was the son of John W. Butts, the well known hat merchant of Providence. His mother was Mehitable (Wentworth) Butts. Frank, as he is familiarly called by his comrades, is of the ninth generation from the emigrant Thomas Butts, a member of the Plymouth Colony. At the breaking out of the Rebellion Francis was a pupil in the public schools of Providence, and although but seventeen years of age he was one of the first to enlist in Battery E, First Regiment Rhode Island Light Artillery, being mustered as a corporal Sept. 30, 1861. He participated in the siege of Yorktown, where he received his first baptism of fire. He was present at Williamsburg and Fair Oaks, where his battery was in position. In front of Richmond, Charles City Cross Roads, Malvern Hill, and Harrison Landing, he served his gun with valor. While in the Peninsula, he, with many of his brave comrades, became victims of the malarial fever, and on the 6th of August, 1862, he was sent to the field hospital, and later to a general hospital in Philadelphia. During his stay at the latter, permission was granted to recruit the navy from the soldiers in the army. This opportunity he accepted,

and enlisted as a seaman Oct. 5, 1862. He was promoted through several grades and participated in several naval engagements, and was one of the survivors of the famous Ericsson battery *Monitor* foundered at sea near midnight Dec. 30, 1862. He was mustered out of service June 17, 1865, having been in the United States service about forty-five months.

Dec. 25, 1866, he married Helen, daughter of Horace and Adeline (Work) Battey, of Scituate, R. I. A promising son, Frank H., born May 17, 1873, died Dec. 30, 1891. Alice, born Jan. 8, 1870, alone remains to comfort them in their advancing years. Since the war he has been engaged in provision and manufacturing business, excepting for a period from 1878 to 1887, when he held the government position of Deputy Collector of Internal Revenue. He was appointed postmaster of East Providence by President Harrison, Oct. 1, 1891.

He is the author of several valuable papers, some of which have been read before the Soldiers' and Sailors' Historical Society, of Providence, and published in its archives.

He is a member of several army and naval societies, in which he has held many responsible positions, and for the last ten years has been secretary and treasurer of the First Rhode Island Light Artillery Veteran Association, in which he has labored earnestly to preserve its war history.

During the larger portion of his life he has lived in Providence, and East Providence, and is widely known as an honorable citizen.

## APPENDIX.

THE following table is compiled from the roster of the battery. It is probable that more than seven died of wounds, as the diseases with which some of the men died may have been caused by their wounds :

Killed,	10
Died of wounds,	7
Wounded once,	45
Wounded twice,	4
Died of poison,	1
Died of disease,	12
Discharged on surgeon's certificate,	53
Deserted,	38
Resigned,	5
Discharged to accept promotion in other commands,	11
Transferred to Veteran Reserve Corps,	10
Transferred to other batteries,	7
Promoted from other batteries,	6
Joined from infantry,	9
Transferred to navy,	3
Transferred from other batteries,	2
No record of muster out,	10
Discharged by war department,	2
Dropped from rolls,	4
Enrolment belonging to battery,	377
Detached men on permanent service in the battery,	108.
* Detached men on temporary service, names unknown,	43
Total number of men serving in battery,	528

The following members of the battery, besides those given elsewhere, have died since being discharged :

Corp. William Torphy died in New York city, Nov. 19, 1883.

Corp. Jerahmeel Dexter died Jan. 20, 1874.

Corp. Samuel Havens died suddenly March 31, 1889.

Lance Corp. Luther L. Young died June 1, 1876.

Henry C. Wightman, artificer, died Nov. 16, 1874.

\* Twenty-five of these were from the Second and Ninth New York Heavy Artillery and eighteen from the First Delaware Cavalry.

George F. Lord died Sept. 9, 1880.

Jeremiah Bennett died after discharge, April 2, 1864.

Thomas H. Potter died after discharge, May 11, 1863.

Bartholomew Fitzgerald, no date of death found.

Michael C. Hughes died Oct. 21, 1872.

Stephen W. Corp died Dec. 24, 1866.

Squire B. Tucker died May 28, 1882.

Henry Allen, no date of death given.

Samuel Hanney, Jr., died Nov. 13, 1887.

Nathan J. Coon, no date of death given.

John Jordan died 1887.

Thomas Nolan died April 23, 1879.

Adelbert A. Fairbanks killed by train on railroad, Aug. 11, 1887.

Richard Rose, no date of death given. His name is on the tablet in memorial building in Bristol, R. I.

John Ryan, no date of death given.

James Mulligan died Feb. 24, 1889. At the time of his death he was postmaster at Central Falls.

Samson Burgess died April 16, 1886.

William C. Winslow, brother of Sergeant Winslow, died June 24, 1876.

Lance Corp. John McAlees died July 14, 1889.

John F. Keegan died in the Rhode Island Hospital Feb. 13, 1891.

William H. Bailey died after term expired, Oct. 18, 1864.

Frederick L. Burden died Feb. 23, 1890. He enlisted in Battery E, Sept. 30, 1861, at the age of fourteen years, and was discharged for disability March 6, 1862. May 26, 1862, he was mustered into the Tenth Battery and was mustered out with that battery Aug. 30, 1862. He then studied medicine, graduating from the Harvard Medical School at the age of twenty-one, and settled in North Attleboro, Mass., gaining a large practice. In 1883-4 he was State senator. In 1885 he was chosen a member of the State Central Committee, becoming its chairman in 1886, which he held for three years. He was a candidate for nomination to Congress but was defeated by a few votes. He was chosen a delegate to the convention at Chicago which nominated Harrison for president, and afterwards became a candidate for collector of the port of Boston. During the contest he was



stricken with an attack of apoplexy which made it necessary for him to withdraw from the contest. He was prominent in the Orders of Masons and Odd Fellows, and a member of Whiting Post 192, Grand Army of the Republic, of North Attleboro. His funeral was attended by many distinguished persons from all over the State.

Undoubtedly there are many more whose death and whereabouts are unknown.

The Soldiers' and Sailors' monument erected upon Exchange Place, Providence, R. I., and dedicated Sept. 16, 1871, has engraved upon it the names of the following thirty members of Battery E, who were killed or died of disease during the war :

Lieut. Joseph S. Milne, Corps. John B. Mathewson, Albert H. Trescott, Lemuel S. Greene and Ernest Simpson. Privates William Beard, John Brannan, William H. Bailey, Jeremiah Bennett, Albert N. Colwell, John Colvin, George W. Fisk, Edward Galvin, Joseph Harrop, George Higgins, William H. King, Marvin M. Leavens, Charles Moore, William Mason, Edward McCaffrey, Lewis A. Medbury, Edwin A. Matteson, Malon H. Morris, James F. Pratt, Elisha E. Potter, Richard Rose, Crawford A. Sayles, John Slavin, Robert Sutcliffe, and Cornelius Sullivan.

Besides these there were four detached men killed and mortally wounded whose names are not on the monument. Their names were Alvin Hilton, John Beadle, Frank Martin, and John Zinn. Lieutenant Milne had, before being mortally wounded, been promoted to another battery.

The names of Thomas H. Potter and Thomas Shaw are not, but should have been, upon the monument.

The following list of remarkable losses is taken from the work of William F. Fox, entitled *Regimental Losses*. It embraces every instance in which a battery lost twenty or more killed and wounded in any one action during the last war, the mortally wounded being included with the wounded. The missing in these batteries, ranging from one to fifty-four, are omitted. To this list is added batteries losing less than twenty, but it is not claimed they are the only ones losing an equal number.

<i>Synonym.</i>	<i>Battery.</i>	<i>Battle.</i>	<i>Killed.</i>	<i>Wounded.</i>	<i>Aggregate.</i>
Sands',	11th Ohio,	Iuka,	16	35	51
Seeley's,	*K, 4th U. S.,	Chancellorsville,	7	38	45
Campbell's,	*B, 4th U. S.,	Antietam,	9	31	40
Cushing's (A H),	A, 4th U. S.,	Gettysburg,	6	32	38
Stewart,	B, 4th U. S.,	Gettysburg,	2	31	33
Sanger's,	E, 3d U. S.,	Olustee,	11	22	33
Burnham's,	H, 5th U. S.,	Chickamauga,	13	18	31
Arnold's,	*A, 1st R. I.,	Gettysburg,	3	28	31
Wood's,	A, 1st Ill.,	Shiloh,	4	26	30
Burrows',	14th Ohio,	Shiloh,	4	26	30
Parsons',	I, 4th U. S.,	Chaplin Hills,	10	19	29
Randolph's,	*E, 1st R. I.,	Gettysburg,	3	26	29
Leppien's,	†5th Maine,	Chancellorsville,	6	22	28
Stevens',	5th Maine,	Cedar Creek,	2	26	28
Rickett's,	*I, 1st U. S.,	First Bull Run,	12	15	27
Adams',	*G, 1st R. I.,	Cedar Creek,	4	23	27
Brown's,	B, 1st, R. I.,	Gettysburg,	7	19	26
Rorty's,	B, 1st N. Y.,	Gettysburg,	10	16	26
Bigelow's,	9th Mass.,	Gettysburg,	8	18	26
Langdon's,	M, 1st U. S.,	Olustee,	4	22	26
Dillon's,	6th Wis.,	Corinth,	5	21	26
Kern's,	*G, 1st Penn.,	Manassas,	3	23	26
Houghtaling's,	C, 1st Ill.,	Stone River,	5	20	25
Woodruff's,	I, 1st U. S.,	Gettysburg,	1	24	25
Turnbull's,	F and K, 3d U. S.,	Gettysburg,	9	14	23
Bush's,	4th Ind.,	Stone River,	5	19	24
Adams',	G, 1st R. I.,	Fredericksburg.	5	18	23
Edgerton's,	E, 1st Ohio,	Stone River,	3	20	23
Cowan's,	1st N. Y.,	Cedar Creek,	6	17	23
Cooper's,	*B, 1st Penn.,	Manassas,	4	19	23
Bridge's,	Illinois,	Chickamauga,	6	16	22
Cushing's (H C),	H, 4th U. S.,	Chickamauga,	5	17	22
Knapp's,	Penn., four guns,	Wauhatchie,	3	19	22
Smith's,	I, 4th U. S.,	Chickamauga,	1	21	22
Zickerick's,	12th Wis.,	Allatoona Pass,	6	15	21
Dimick's,	H, 1st U. S.,	Chancellorsville,	3	18	21

<i>Synonym.</i>	<i>Battery.</i>	<i>Battle.</i>	<i>Killed.</i>	<i>Wounded.</i>	<i>Aggregate.</i>
Simonson's,	*5th Ind.,	Stone River,	3	18	21
Seeley's,	K, 4th U. S.,	Gettysburg,	2	19	21
Rickett's,	F and G, 1st Penn.,	Gettysburg,	6	14	20
Haley's,	1st Maine,	Cedar Creek,	3	17	20
Watson's,	I, 5th U. S.,	Gettysburg,	1	19	20
Tompkins',	A, 1st R. I.,	Antietam,	4	15	19
Nims's,	2d Mass.,	Sabine X Roads,	1	18	19
Kern's,	G, 1st Penn.,	Gaines' Mill,	7	12	19
Cooper's,	B, 1st Penn.,	Seven Days,	4	15	19
McKnight's,	M, 5th U. S.,	Cedar Creek,	2	17	19
Woodbury's,	M, 1st N. Y.,	Chancellorsville,	5	13	18
Harris,	19th Ind.,	Chickamauga,	2	16	18
Monroe's,	D, 1st R. I.,	Manassas,	6	12	18
Belger's,	F, 1st R. I.,	Drewry's Bluff,	3	14	17
Griffin's,	D, 5th U. S.,	First Bull Run,	4	13	17
Mann's,	Missouri,	Shiloh,	3	14	17
Standart's,	B, 1st Ohio,	Stone River,	5	12	17
Rogers',	19th N. Y.,	Spottsylvania,	7	9	16
Stevens',	5th Maine,	Gettysburg,	3	13	16
Goodspeed's,	A, 1st Ohio,	Chickamauga,	2	14	16
Bainbridge's,	A, 1st U. S.,	Port Hudson,	3	13	16
Lamb's,	*C, 1st R. I.,	Cedar Creek,		16	16
Andrews',	F, 1st Mich.,	Richmond (Ky.),	6	9	15
Simonson's,	5th Ind.,	Chaplin Hills,	2	13	15
Sutermiester's,	11th Ind.,	Chickamauga,	3	12	15
Jastram's,	E, 1st R. I.,	Chancellorsville,	2	13	15
Weeden's,	C, 1st R. I.,	Malvern Hill,	4	11	15

The losses in C, Rhode Island, are taken from the Adjutant General's report of that State:

\*Appears twice.

†Appears three times.

The following list of fourteen volunteer light batteries, taken also from Fox's *Regimental Losses*, gives the largest number of killed and dying of wounds during the war :

Cooper's, B, 1st Penn., First Corps, . . . . .	21 men.
Sands', 11th Ohio, Seventeenth Corps, . . . . .	20 men.
Phillips', 5th Mass., Fifth Corps, . . . . .	19 men.
Weeden's, C, 1st R. I., Fifth and Sixth Corps, . . . . .	19 men.
Cowan's, 1st N. Y., Sixth Corps, . . . . .	18 men.
Stevens', 5th Maine, First Corps, . . . . .	18 men.
Rickett's, F, 1st Penn., First Corps, . . . . .	18 men.
Randolph's, E, 1st R. I., Third and Sixth Corps, . . . . .	17 men.
Kerns', G, 1st Penn., First Corps, . . . . .	17 men.
Easton's, A, 1st Penn., First Corps, . . . . .	17 men.
Pettit's, B, 1st N. Y., Second Corps, . . . . .	16 men.
Bigelow's, 9th Mass., Reserve Artillery, . . . . .	15 men.
Bradbury's, 1st Maine, Nineteenth Corps, . . . . .	15 men.
Wood's, A, 1st Ill., Fifteenth Corps, . . . . .	15 men.

The loss in the Eleventh Ohio Battery occurred almost entirely in one action, nineteen of its men having been killed or mortally wounded at Iuka in a charge on the battery. In the other batteries, however, the losses represent a long series of battles in which they rendered effective service, and participated with honor to themselves and the arm of service to which they belonged.

Among the light batteries of the Regular Army, equally heavy losses occurred in the following famous commands :

- B, 4th U. S., known as Gibbon's, or Stewart's.
- K, 4th U. S., known as De Russey's, or Seeley's.
- I, 1st U. S., known as Ricketts', Kirby's, or Woodruff's.
- D, 5th U. S., known as Griffin's, or Hazlitt's.
- C, 5th U. S., known as Seymour's, Ransom's, or Weir's.
- H, 5th U. S., known as Gunther's, or Burnham's.
- A and C, 4th U. S., known as Hazzard's, or Cushing's, or Thomas's.

Among the infantry regiments having the largest percentage of loss in killed and mortally wounded are the following commands, which served with Battery E in Kearny's or Birney's division :

Third, Fourth, and Seventeenth Maine.

Fortieth New York, Fifty-seventh, Sixty-third, Ninety-ninth, One Hundred and Fifth, and One Hundred and Forty-first Pennsylvania, and Twentieth Indiana.

"The Rhode Island troops," says Fox, in his *Regimental Losses*, "became prominent by reason of the fine regiment of light artillery furnished by the State. The batteries of this command were remarkable for their efficiency, and the conspicuous part assigned them in all the battles of the Army of the Potomac. As a whole, they were unsurpassed, and they made a record which reflected credit on their State. A comparison of their losses in action with those of other batteries tells plainly the story of the dangers which they braved."

The same author gives the following as the losses in deaths of the Rhode Island troops during the war of 1861-5:

	<i>Killed and Died of Wounds.</i>	<i>Died of Disease.</i>	<i>Totals.</i>
Battery A, . . . . .	13	5	18
" B, . . . . .	14	15	29
" C, . . . . .	19	8	27
" D, . . . . .	10	12	22
" E, . . . . .	17	12	29
" F, . . . . .	10	17	27
" G, . . . . .	10	18	28
" H, . . . . .	2	10	12
1st Cavalry, . . . . .	17	79	96
2d " . . . . .	4	31	35
3d " . . . . .	8	139	147
1st Regiment, . . . . .	17	8	25
2d " . . . . .	120	76	196
3d " H. A., . . . . .	41	94	135
4th " . . . . .	73	67	140
5th " H. A., . . . . .	9	110	119
7th " . . . . .	90	109	199
9th " 3 months, . . . . .		4	4
10th " 3 " . . . . .		3	3
11th " 9 " . . . . .		8	8
12th " 9 " . . . . .	12	45	57
Totals, . . . . .	486	870	1,356

If we add to these figures the three killed and the 326 dying of disease in the Fourteenth Rhode Island (Colored) Regiment, we have a total of 1,685 deaths in the Rhode Island regiments and batteries.

The following figures, also from the same author, give the number of light batteries from each State serving in the Union army, with their total killed and dying of wounds and diseases :

(Fractions of less than one-half are omitted in average of losses.)

<i>State.</i>	<i>Number of Batteries.</i>	<i>Number of Batteries having Losses.</i>	<i>Killed and Dying of Wounds.</i>	<i>Average Losses.</i>	<i>Death from all other causes.</i>	<i>Average Losses from Diseases.</i>	<i>Total Deaths in State.</i>
Maine,	7	7	62	9	150	21	212
New Hampshire,	1	1	6	6	6	6	12
Vermont,	3	2	4	2	125	41	129
Massachusetts,	16	13	82	6	336	21	418
Rhode Island,	10	8	95	12	99	10	194
Connecticut,	3	2	6	3	43	14	49
New York,	45	36	245	7	914	20	1,159
New Jersey,	5	5	27	5	91	18	118
Pennsylvania,	20	14	131	9	270	13½	401
Delaware,	1	1			6	6	6
Maryland,	4	4	12	3	62	15½	74
West Virginia,	8	8	33	4	131	16	164
Ohio,	36	31	189	6	923	26	1,112
Kentucky,	5	4	19	5	78	16	97
Indiana,	26	22	130	6	528	20	658
Illinois,	31	26	152	6	577	19	729
Michigan,	14	11	50	5	384	27	434
Wisconsin,	13	10	55	5½	248	25	303
Minnesota,	3	2	14	7	53	18	67
Iowa,	4	3	16	5	119	30	135
Kansas,	3	3	7	2	60	20	67
Missouri,	†38	37	*243	6½	404	11	647
Regular,	60	60	364	6	574	10	938
Totals,	‡356	310	1,942	6½	6,181	17½	8,123

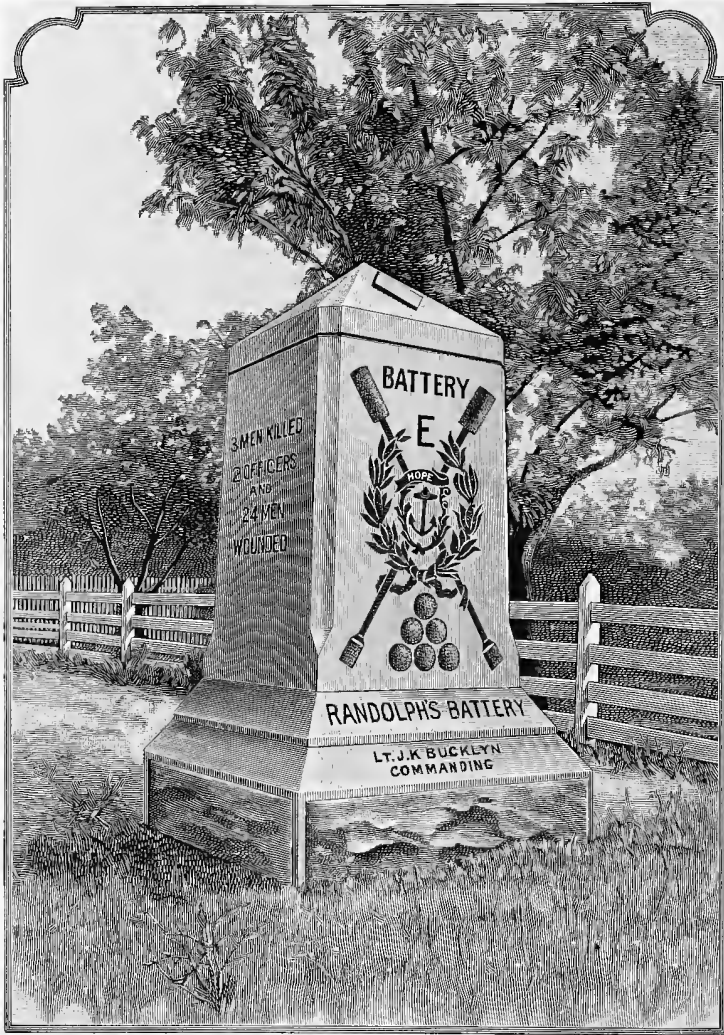
\* Part of this loss was while serving as infantry.

† The number of Union batteries serving from Missouri is furnished by the Adjutant-General of that State.

‡ Different authors vary as to the total number of batteries in the Union army.

Tennessee had no Union artillery.





Battery E Monument,  
GETTYSBURG.



DEDICATION OF BATTERY E MONUMENT, FROM  
THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL, OF  
JULY 7, 1886.

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THE GETTYSBURG MONUMENTS.

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THE subject of erecting monuments to the Rhode Island heroes who fell at Gettysburg, when first conceived, was that the State should erect one stately monument on the field of battle in honor of all the Rhode Island soldiers who fell there; but the committees of the legislature, to which the matter was referred, after investigation and discussion of the subject with old soldiers, concluded that it would be better to erect a special monument for each regiment and battery from the State engaged in the battle, and upon the report of this committee the sum of \$500 for each organization was appropriated for this purpose.

The monument of Battery E was the first in position. The Veteran Association of that organization decided that the occasion of the reunion of the Third corps, July 2, 1886, would be a proper one for the dedication, as the battery formed a part of the artillery brigade of that corps, and they considered it to be the more appropriate time, from the fact that Captain Randolph of the battery commanded the brigade at the time of the action. The committee appointed by the Veteran Association, consisting of Sergt. William Millen, Lieut. Pardon S. Jastram, of this city, and Capt. John K. Bucklyn, of Mystic, Conn., to provide the monument, left here last Wednesday evening, June 30th, for Gettysburg, for the performance of that duty. They arrived at Gettysburg on Thursday, and immediately made an extensive examination of the field, looking over old locations that in a day, as it were, became familiar to them. Captain Randolph, the former battery commander, was present, and he met with a right hearty reception. Friday, the 2d, proved to be a rainy day, and General Sickles gave up the out-of-door exercises that he had planned, but the members of Battery E had traveled all the way from Rhode Island to dedicate a monument on that day, and they were not turned aside from their

purpose by the rain. The One Hundred and Fourteenth Pennsylvania, old comrades and fast friends of the battery, was present also to dedicate a monument, and its position was only a short distance from that of Battery E. The dedicatory exercises of the battery were as follows: Sergeant William Millen, chairman of the committee, called the meeting to order, and a short prayer was offered by Captain J. K. Bucklyn. Lieutenant Jastram read a very interesting report of the services of the battery at the battle of Gettysburg, written by Captain Bucklyn who was lieutenant commanding on that occasion, Captain Randolph being on duty directing the movements of the several batteries of the brigade. It may be stated here that Lieutenant Bucklyn was severely wounded at Gettysburg, on account of which he made no report of the battery's part in the action.

The report was carefully prepared, and was received with great pleasure. It gave the number of killed and mortally wounded as five, and over one-third of the officers, men and horses as wounded, which attested to the severity of the ordeal through which the command passed. Captain Bucklyn read an original poem which abounded in telling points and thrilling incidents which were frequently applauded. The committee, through Chairman Millen, by authority vested in it by the State of Rhode Island, then turned the monument over to the keeping of Col. George E. Randolph, who, as the speaker said, "was the first and best beloved commanding officer Battery E ever had." Colonel Randolph accepted the trust in a speech\* brimming over with tender and kind words to the men who fought under him and to men of other organizations who supported the battery in all of the hard fought battles of the Army of the Potomac. He was frequently and enthusiastically applauded, particularly as he dwelt upon the gallant part performed by Lieutenant Bucklyn as commanding officer of the battery at Gettysburg, which service he thought ought to have been recognized in the inscription on the monument. He closed his speech with a feeling allusion to the kindly interest all the men of the First division of the Third corps always manifested in the battery, and expressed his pleasure at meeting so many of them there to grasp by the hand. Colonel Randolph then turned the

\* It is regretted that no copy of Captain Randolph's speech could be found for publication.

monument over to the Gettysburg Battlefield Association, a representative of that body promising in its behalf to care for it in the future. Chairman Millen closed the exercises by thanking those present for the close attention they had given all through the drizzling rain, alluding incidentally to the close friendship that existed between Battery E and the One Hundred and Fourteenth Pennsylvania, who became such a target to the rebels when they advanced to the support of the battery at Chancellorsville.

The Rhode Island delegation then joined the One Hundred and Fourteenth Pennsylvania in the dedication of its monument, and listened to a stirring and eloquent address by Gen. Charles H. T. Colliss.

#### BATTERY E MONUMENT.

The material used is Westerly granite. The body of the monument is two feet ten inches diameter and five feet high, and is square in form with a slight basis on each side. The corners have a chamfer about four inches wide, which terminates at the apex of the sloping roof. The principal ornament occupies nearly all the front of the die, and represents the shield of the State of Rhode Island at the intersection of two crossed sponge staffs, and surrounded by a wreath of laurel. The space below is occupied by a stack of cannon balls. All the work is slightly raised and polished on its surface. The inscription in sunken letters on the right hand side is as follows: "Battery E, First Rhode Island Light Artillery, Artillery Brigade, Third Corps, July 2, 1863." On the opposite or left side as follows: "Three men killed, two officers and twenty-four men wounded."

The single base which is four feet square and two feet high, has two steep washes cut on upper part, while the part nearest the ground is left rough or quarry surface. The wash on front has "Randolph's Battery" in large sunk letters, and on the lower wash is added "Lieutenant Bucklyn commanding." The Third corps badge in the form of a lozenge is raised in bold relief on the front side of the roof.

The following original poem by Captain John K. Bucklyn, was read by him at the dedication of the monument.

Twenty-three years of pleasures and pains—  
 Twenty-three years of sunshines and rains:  
 Pushing for gains and meeting some losses,  
 Hoping for triumphs and bearing some crosses,  
 From time to eternity quickly have fled,  
 Since here on this field we buried our dead.

You remember the storm of shrapnel and shell,  
 That screamed through the air making music of hell—  
 It was there that we saw the bright bayonets shine  
 When Longstreet's battalions charged up to our line.  
 Just there you remember their banners were seen,  
 As they hurried across yon meadows of green.  
 Then we were boys, prepared for the fray—  
 Now we are men, old, stubborn and gray.

Does it seem to you comrades that bullets like rain  
 Once fell on this field now covered with grain?  
 Does it seem that these hills ever echoed the roar  
 Of three hundred cannon, perhaps even more?

Before we have finished the labors of life,  
 And forever retired from its turmoil and strife,  
 It seems well to pause for a day, does it not?  
 Before the great facts of this fight are forgot,  
 And with words for our weapons, the battles fight o'er  
 Which with musket and cannon we fought here before;  
 And inquire if our comrades Will, Thomas and Ned  
 Work with the living or sleep with the dead?  
 And for such a meeting what place could be found  
 Like that which your valor made classical ground;  
 Where the wave of rebellion was exalted on high,  
 And hope of the Union seemed ready to die.  
 It was high water for them when the first warning gun  
 Proclaimed to the world that the fight had begun;  
 But low was their tide—their hope must have fled  
 When routed they abandoned their dying and dead.  
 As the Punic descended the high Alpine wall,  
 Before him the Roman, behind him the Gaul,  
 So Lee led his army o'er that mountain height  
 And marshaled them yonder, prepared for the fight.  
 If he won, at his feet the whole world would lie—  
 If he lost! If he lost! It were better to die.

Well might he hope the great battle to gain,  
 When he saw his divisions push out on the plain.  
 It seemed that no soldiers were near to withstand  
 The march of his army which covered the land.  
 The great central cities and the Capitol then  
 Trembled before the march of his men.

Like the rush of a torrent that speeds to the main;  
 Like the burst of an earthquake that buries the plain;  
 Like the roar of the ocean when tempests are high,  
 And the sailor discovers no light in the sky.  
 So, on came the foe, breathing fury and scorn,  
 And backward, still backward our soldiers were borne,  
 But they knew how to fight, and they fought not in vain,  
 For they left the green fields covered thick with the slain.

Some things are too high to pay for the buying;  
 Some things are too hard to pay for the trying.  
 Lee won all the ground where the loyal men stood,  
 But he reddened each foot with Confederate blood.  
 The army he shattered in that fiery hour  
 Cannot be restored by Confederate power,  
 Unless they make soldiers from each shrub or tree,  
 They'll never bring back the grand army of Lee.

Well may the future writer say,  
 That Battery E upon that day,  
 Amid the battle's steady blaze,  
 From bravest men won words of praise:  
 For tell me comrades, if you can,  
 Where is there now a living man,  
 Within this grand old "Keystone State;"  
 Within this nation, strong and great—  
 In Prussia, England, gallant France—  
 Within this whole world's broad expanse,  
 Who can tell of men more brave,  
 More prompt to die their homes to save,  
 In any time; in any land;  
 Than those who died where now you stand.

Their ashes moulder with the clay,  
 And yet they may be here to-day.  
 For who shall say that soldier tried,  
 Who poured his blood a crimson tide,  
 Who recked not of the gaping wound  
 That stretched him helpless on the ground.  
 Provided that his flag could wave  
 Above his low and unmarked grave,  
 May not come back from home afar,  
 To greet his comrades in the war.

A pleasant thought for you and me  
 Is this: that if our eyes could see  
 What may be hid from mortal men,  
 And yet be known to other ken,  
 Perhaps ten thousand airy forms,  
 Secure from battle shocks and storms;  
 Of those who battled by our side  
 When raged the contest far and wide,  
 When shell and shrapnel filled the air,  
 When muskets flashed and blades were bare,

Might now be seen around this place,  
 With well remembered form and face.  
 Perhaps the lost of Battery E,  
 May smile this monument to see.  
 Perhaps the lost around us stand,  
 Although we may not grasp their hands,  
 Yet some kind influence may be shed,  
 Upon the living by the dead.

Comrades, if your souls can know  
 What we to-day would speak of you,  
 The deep emotion of each breast,  
 The thoughts that cannot be expressed—  
 You know that every thought of ours,  
 That every fraction of our powers;  
 That every aspiration high,  
 If born to live, or doomed to die—  
 We use your deeds to magnify,  
 We give to place your names on high.

Around the granite chiseled here  
 We stand and drop the silent tear,  
 And pray that to all future time,  
 This stone may tell of deeds sublime—  
 The product of a valor tried  
 On many a field before you died.

Rest warriors, rest! and know no care;  
 Your comrades often breathe this prayer.  
 If we a little longer wait,  
 We trust to find at heavens's gate  
 The souls we knew in other days;  
 The souls whom we delight to praise.  
 For greater love hath no man shown,  
 On earth below or round the throne,  
 Than his who in the deadly strife  
 Freely bartered home and life.  
 That here might be a guiding star,  
 For those oppressed in lands afar.

GEO. E, RANDOLPH, CHIEF OF ARTILLERY.

I've said that Battery E was brave,  
 None were more prompt to dare or do,  
 Every soldier here to-day  
 Can testify that this is true.

They never straggled by the way,  
 Nor tarried till the fight was won—  
 They promptly took the forward way,  
 When ere they heard the signal gun.

And why is this? perhaps you ask,  
 Why did these soldiers so excel?  
 To me it is a pleasant task,  
 The why, in plainest words to tell.

You've seen the little mountain rill  
 Go speeding onward in its course,  
 But have you seen its waters rise,  
 To higher level than its source?

You've seen the teacher, day by day,  
 Lead his students high and higher,  
 And point to honors on the way,  
 To which the humblest may aspire.

You've seldom seen the student's think,  
 Much better than the teacher thought;  
 You've seldom seen the student's work,  
 Much better than the teacher wrought.

Hence any man can quickly see,  
 If not to prejudice a slave,  
 Why it is true, that Battery E  
 Was of the bravest of the brave.

Look at the men who taught them how  
 A soldier's duty should be done,  
 From the first day they entered camp,  
 In eighteen hundred sixty-one.

Randolph you knew, you've seen him ride,  
 The fairest mark for rebel shot:  
 His ready hand and flashing eye,  
 By you can never be forgot.

He was a man and soldier true,  
 As any living man, or dead.  
 What else could any soldier do,  
 Than follow whither Randolph led.

GENERAL PHIL. KEARNY.

LIKE a bolt of destruction from out a clear sky,  
 Like a flash of a meteor that brightens to die,  
 With the head of McDonald and dash of Murat,  
 In preparing so cautious, so dashing in war,  
 With a mind to conceive and a hand that was strong,  
 To encourage the right and beat back the wrong;  
 Relying on Hooker as one who was sure,  
 Well knowing his lines were always secure;  
 Phil. Kearny was known a hero, as true  
 As ever drew sword for the red, white and blue.  
 Whatever deep plans the foe had devised,  
 He learned that Phil. Kearny could not be surprised.

A touch of his hand, a glance of his eye,  
 Would send any soldier to conquer or die.  
 We forgot we were starving; forgot our despair,  
 When Kearny was present, our dangers to share.

GENERAL JOE HOOKER.

Not a wreath would we snatch from the brow of another,  
 Not a word would we say to injure a brother,  
 But the truth should be told, whether pleasant or not,  
 And the deeds of the bravest must not be forgot.

With an eye like an eagle's, to watch and to ward,  
 To catch the right moment to strike or to guard,  
 The pride of the soldier, a prince in command,  
 The peer of the bravest and best in the land,  
 Was our own gallant Hooker, the peerless in might,  
 Who never came up too late for the fight.  
 Palsied the hand that would take from his fame,  
 Palsied the tongue would belittle his name.  
 How often our souls to valor were stirred,  
 When Hooker rode out on the lines of the Third.

GENERAL D. E. SICKLES.

As a peer of these heroes, another we name,  
 A worthy successor and friend of the same,  
 Who loved the old corps as one loves his own,  
 The flesh of his flesh and bone of his bone,  
 Who certainly won brightest laurels that day,  
 When our guns at the Peach Orchard held Longstreet at bay,  
 Whose flag floated proud in midst of the slaughter,  
 Who poured out his blood as freely as water,  
 Whose wisdom saved Gettysburg, say what you will,  
 By posting his corps out here on the hill:  
 Daniel E. Sickles; you're proud of the name,  
 No weak words of mine can add to his fame.

GENERAL BIRNEY.

I KNOW your souls will gleam with flame  
 If I but mention Birney's name.  
 No better friend we ever knew  
 Than General Birney tried and true,  
 None gave us greater words of praise,  
 None helped us more in many ways,  
 None better knew what we could dare,  
 And hence he always placed us where  
 The road to honor shone most bright,  
 Up through the thickest of the fight.

With teachers in the army school,  
 Such as I've mentioned now and here,  
 What wonder that our battery fought  
 Like men devoid of doubt and fear.



All praise to leaders staunch and true,  
 Who quickly every danger saw;  
 Not less of praise perhaps is due  
 The private soldier in the war.

Without the men no mighty deeds  
 By bravest general could be done,  
 Though oft forgotten in our song,  
 His word of praise was nobly won.

No better men were ever led,  
 No men who sought a brighter goal,  
 Than those whom Sergeant Lamb addressed,  
 Each morning as he called the roll.

—*John Knight Bucklyn.*

The following letter and speech of General Sickles with an account of the presentation of the Kearny medals to Birney's division will be read with interest by the surviving members of Battery E :

23 FIFTH AVENUE,

NEW YORK, APRIL 4, 1891.

MY DEAR CAPTAIN JASTRAM :

In compliance with the request made in your letter of the 2d instant, I have great pleasure in handing to you for the use of Mr. Lewis a brief account of the presentation of the "Kearny Medals," taken from Gen. T. J. Rodenbough's volume called "The Bravest Five Hundred," which is a record of the officers and men who have received the United States Medal of Honor. This work has been published during the present year by G. W. Dillingham of New York, successor to G. W. Carlton & Co., and should be found in every military library—in truth, in every American library. In it I find a reference to "Kearny Medals," which I enclose, as copied by my Secretary; but for this book I would have been unable to send you a copy of my speech, as I had no memorandum of it among my papers.

With best wishes for yourself and for all the survivors of Randolph's Rhode Island Battery, which had no superior in our armies, I am, dear Captain,

Sincerely yours,

D. E. SICKLES.

#### THE KEARNY CROSS.

Soon after the great battle of Chancellorsville, on May 27th, 1863, General Birney presented a few of his soldiers with the Cross of Honor, called the "Kearny Cross," as follows :

The Brigadier-General Commanding Division announces the following names of meritorious and distinguished non-commissioned officers and privates, selected for their gallantry, as recipients of the "Kearny Cross," the division decoration. Many deserving soldiers may have escaped the notice of their commanding officers, but in the selection after the next battle they will doubtless receive this honorable distinction.

This cross is in honor of our old leader, and the wearer of it will always remember his high standard of a true and brave soldier, and will never disgrace it.

An official copy of this order will be given to each soldier entitled to wear the Cross.

D. B. BIRNEY,

*Brig.-Gen. Vols. Commanding Division.*

The following order was also issued :

HEADQUARTERS, FIRST DIVISION, THIRD CORPS,

MAY, 26, 1863.

*General Orders, 51.*

The division will be paraded to-morrow for the presentation of the medals at three o'clock P. M. A staff officer from each brigade will report at these headquarters at half-past two o'clock P. M., for instructions as to the ground. Every available man will be turned out, and particular attention will be paid to dress and accoutrements of the troops. The brigade band of First brigade will be present, and report at two o'clock to Captain Briscoe, acting-assistant adjutant-general. The drum corps of brigades will be consolidated.

By command of

MAJOR-GENERAL BIRNEY, etc."

The occasion drew together a large assemblage of soldiers and civilians, in addition to the regular force of the division, and the distinguished officers present by particular invitation.

The first division, to members of which only the medals were awarded, was drawn up in hollow square on a beautiful meadow in the valley of the Potomac Creek. The distinguished officers present occupied the centre of the square.

When Major-General Sickles rode into the square the whole assemblage of soldiers broke into the wildest cheering. An attempt was made at "three times three," but the response was more like nine times nine. It was a continuous roar for several minutes.

As soon as the party were all present, the several brigade commanders were directed to call the Roll of Honor of their

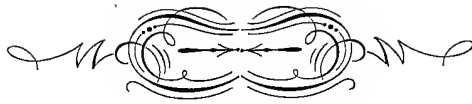
several commands, and the parties designated in the above order stepped to the front. They were quickly formed in three ranks by brigades, the representatives of each regiment carrying the regimental colors, and the brigade colors being placed in front of each rank.

At the request of General Birney, General Sickles made the presentation address. He spoke as follows :

“ Soldiers : Your General of Division has confided to me the most pleasing of duties,—the decoration of brave men with Medals of Honor. These medals are the gift of your fellow countrymen; they are such tokens of appreciation as a martial people should bring to the camp of their defenders.

You have earned these proud emblems of constancy and valor,— more precious than riches, more honorable than office,—they are legacies for your kindred, which neither time nor change can impair. You are volunteers, the noblest type of an army. You have offered your lives for the preservation of a Government,—alone among nations,—of which it has been gracefully said that its blessings, like the dews of heaven, descend alike upon all. Your power is in your bayonets. Bayonets have dethroned kings, created nations, opened avenues to civilization and religion. The sun which now gilds yours, never lighted holier paths than those you follow to battle. The steel which destroys the enemies of a good cause is consecrated. It is this, and because you know how to use your arms, which makes you invincible. On the day after the attack upon Fort Sumpter, April 13, 1861, I had the honor to be accepted by my late lamented friend, Colonel Vosburg, as a volunteer in the ranks of the Seventy-first Regiment of New York Militia. Like yourselves a citizen soldier, my military services began with the Rebellion; and, if spared so long, will end when the rebels are put down. Peace, while the Rebellion breathes is dishonor. Never since Cæsar led his legions to conquest; never since Rienzi, last of the tribunes, fell with the last fragments of the Roman Republic; not in the armies of Napoleon, where marshals rose from the ranks; never in any army, has promotion so generally and so surely followed merit as in ours. The genius which challenges victory, even from adverse fortune, will, sooner or later, find its place at the head of the column. Let your motto be “ Excelsior,”—the emulation of the brave for the commendation of the good. You are the soldiers of Kearny,—that electric commander, disdaining death, whose sword yielded at last only to the Supreme Conqueror. These medals bear his honored name. When I add that Birney is his fit successor, and that you are worthy of both, I hope that nothing is left unsaid which the occasion demands. The medals will now be delivered to commanding officers of regiments, who will decorate the men of their commands named in the order.”

The names of the men in Battery E receiving the medals are recorded on page 178.



## ROSTER AND BATTERY INDEX.

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THE names are recorded in the order of the highest rank while on service in the company. The missing dates and residences are owing to the unfinished records, now being completed at the Adjutant's-General's office of Rhode Island. The name of the state is given only to those enlisting from other states.

### Captains.

**GEORGE E. RANDOLPH.** Providence. First sergeant, Battery A, June 6, 1861; wounded July 21, 1861, at first battle of Bull Run, Va.; second lieutenant, Aug. 14, 1861; first lieutenant, Battery C, Sept. 13, 1861; captain, Battery E, Sept. 28, 1861; chief of Birney's division artillery, Dec. 12, 1862; chief of Third corps artillery, April 26, 1863; wounded severely July 2, 1863, at Gettysburg, Pa.; resigned Dec. 29, 1863, to take effect Jan. 5, 1864; breveted major, lieutenant-colonel, and colonel, after being mustered out of service.

Mentioned on pages: 3, 10, 11, 19, 20, 30, 33, 37, 43, 46, 47, 60, 64, 65, 66, 69, 71, 79, 80, 83, 88, 89, 90, 93, 98, 99, 101, 102, 103, 106, 110, 111, 112, 113, 118, 122, 127, 130, 131, 132, 135, 136, 137, 141, 146, 149, 150, 152, 153, 156, 157, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 169, 170, 171, 172, 174, 175, 177, 178, 180, 194, 200, 202, 206, 211, 212, 213, 214, 223, 224, 229, 235, 237, 238, 241, 243, 251, 253, 254, 255, 257, 270, 271, 274, 275, 278, 279, 466, 467, 471, 472, 473, 476, 477, 479.

Biographical sketch, 258.

**WILLIAM B. RHODES.** Warwick. First lieutenant, Battery G, Oct. 2, 1861; transferred to Battery D, Dec. 26, 1862; captain, Battery E, April 7, 1864, to date from Jan. 5, 1864; brevet major, to date from Aug. 1, 1864;

absent on sick leave Dec. 8, 1864; discharged on account of physical disability March 8, 1865.

Mentioned: 277, 278, 281, 286, 287, 288, 289, 291, 293, 302, 306, 309, 310, 313, 314, 315, 318, 321, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 334, 338, 340, 341, 348, 351, 352, 353, 354, 358, 359, 361, 362, 363, 365, 366, 367, 381, 382, 384, 385, 386, 387, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 402, 403, 437, 439.

Biographical sketch, 405.

JACOB H. LAMB. Newport. Sergeant, Battery E, Sept. 30, 1861; first sergeant, March 14, 1862; second lieutenant, Battery A, Oct. 1, 1862; wounded at battle of Gettysburg, Pa., July 3, 1863; first lieutenant, Battery C, Nov. 6, 1863; commanded Battery C, from Sept. 9 to Dec. 23, 1864; transferred to Battery G, Dec. 23, 1864; brevet captain Oct. 19, 1864; captain, Nov. 5, 1864; never mustered as such until mustered as captain of Battery E, May 30, 1865; assumed command, June 3; mustered out June 14, 1865.

Mentioned: 4, 12, 32, 34, 47, 110, 111, 112, 224, 437, 439, 467, 479.

Biographical sketch, 439.

#### First Lieutenants.

WALTER O. BARTLETT. Providence. Quartermaster sergeant, First Light Battery, May 2, 1861; mustered out Aug. 6, 1861; first lieutenant, Battery E, Sept. 28, 1861; captain of Battery B, Jan. 24, 1862; resigned, Aug. 19, 1862.

Mentioned: 4, 10, 12, 28, 29.

Biographical sketch, 445.

WILLIAM ALBERT ARNOLD. Providence. First lieutenant, Sept. 28, 1861; captain of Battery A, Dec. 6, 1862; brevet lieutenant-colonel; mustered out June 17, 1864.

Mentioned: 4, 10, 12, 17, 29, 36, 39, 51, 59, 65, 77, 83, 86, 93, 103, 112, 113, 114, 118, 119, 120, 127, 132, 274, 465, 466.

Biographical sketch, 446.

JOHN A. PERRY. Coventry. First lieutenant, Sept. 28, 1861; appointed chaplain First Regiment Rhode Island Light Artillery, Jan. 13, 1862; resigned, Oct. 17, 1863.

Mentioned: 4, 10, 18, 21, 24, 27, 28, 30, 39, 47, 50, 141, 143, 146.

**GEORGE C. DE KAY.** Providence. First lieutenant, Sept. 28, 1861; declined commission. He was afterwards an officer on Gen. Thomas Williams's staff and was mortally wounded at Grand Gulf, Mississippi, May 26, 1862.

Mentioned: 10, 12, 85, 274.

**PARDON S. JASTRAM.** Providence. Private Company C, First Rhode Island Infantry, May 2, 1861; mustered out Aug. 2, 1861; first lieutenant Battery E Oct. 16, 1861; commanded Battery E from Dec. 12, 1862 to May 15, 1863; acting assistant adjutant-general third corps artillery brigade from May 15, 1863, to resignation March 29, 1864; left the army April 6, 1864.

Mentioned: 12, 30, 38, 43, 47, 51, 57, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 88, 103, 110, 127, 134, 135, 136, 137, 141, 142, 153, 156, 160, 162, 166, 167, 170, 171, 175, 177, 206, 212, 214, 215, 272, 278, 369, 402, 467, 471, 472, 479.

Biographical sketch, 274.

**JOHN K. BUCKLYN.** Providence. Quartermaster sergeant, Sept. 30, 1861; Second lieutenant, March 1, 1862; first lieutenant, Dec. 31, 1862; commanded Battery E from May 15, 1863, to April 26, 1864; wounded severely at battle of Gettysburg, Pa., July 2, 1863; on detached service sixth corps artillery brigade as A. D. C., and A. A. A. General on Colonel Tompkins's staff May 4, 1864; brevet captain, Oct. 19, 1864; captain in First Regiment Rhode Island Light Artillery, Jan. 11, 1865; resigned Feb. 5, 1865.

Mentioned: 4, 12, 30, 38, 43, 44, 47, 51, 66, 103, 108, 124, 134, 135, 147, 156, 162, 163, 169, 170, 171, 175, 177, 178, 180, 181, 194, 200, 205, 206, 208, 209, 212, 214, 215, 223, 229, 232, 233, 237, 241, 242, 246, 249, 251, 252, 254, 257, 258, 261, 262, 272, 274, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 369, 381, 384, 392; 437, 471, 472, 473, 474.

Biographical sketch, 401.

**EZRA K. PARKER.** Coventry. Second lieutenant, Battery D, Sept. 7, 1861; First lieutenant, Battery E, April 8, 1864; reported for duty April 23, 1864; commanded Battery E, from Dec. 10, 1864, to June 2, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.

Mentioned: 277, 278, 281, 286, 287, 310, 327, 328, 340, 352, 377, 381, 382, 386, 387, 388, 390, 392, 393, 394, 397, 399, 405, 408, 412, 416, 429, 431, 432, 437, 442, 443.

Biographical sketch, 438.

HEZEKIAH POTTER. Providence. Private Battery H, Aug., 1862; corporal and quartermaster sergeant in same battery; second lieutenant, Battery E, Oct. 21, 1864; mustered in November 11th; first lieutenant, June 12, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.

Mentioned, 390, 393, 394, 433, 435, 443.

Biographical sketch, 448.

REUBEN H. RICH. Providence. First lieutenant, Battery E, June 12, 1865; never reported but remained in. Battery G until mustered out June, 24, 1865.

#### Second Lieutenants.

ISRAEL R. SHELDON. Warwick. Second lieutenant, Jan. 9, 1862; resigned May 22, 1863.; commissioned brevet captain after returning home.

Mentioned: 28, 29, 47, 59, 99, 103, 112, 135, 147, 178, 179

Biographical sketch, 447.

BENJAMIN FREEBORN. East Greenwich. Private Battery G, Dec. 4, 1861; sergeant, same battery, June 9, 1862; second lieutenant, Battery E, March 17, 1863; reported for duty April 19; slightly wounded at Gettysburg, Pa., July 2, 1863; first lieutenant, Battery G, Oct. 21, 1864, A. A. General artillery Brigade, sixth corps; in command of Battery G when returning home; mustered out June 24, 1865.

Mentioned: 152, 162, 171, 208, 211, 212, 214, 215, 254, 257, 268, 277, 281, 310, 329, 332, 340, 348, 361, 379, 390, 393.

Biographical sketch, 379.

J. RUSSELL FIELD. Providence. Quartermaster sergeant, Battery G, Dec. 2, 1861; second lieutenant, Battery E, Dec 31, 1862; resigned, March 16, 1863.

Mentioned: 142, 146, 147, 152.

JAMES F. ALLEN. Staten Island, N. Y. Sergeant, Sept. 30, 1861; first sergeant, Oct. 1, 1862; second lieutenant, June 1, 1863; mustered out Oct. 14, 1864.

Mentioned: 13, 25, 111, 146, 165, 179, 208, 277, 281, 287, 306, 310, 337, 340, 348, 361.

Biographical sketch, 380.



**EDWARD A. CHANDLER.** Coventry. Private, Sept. 30, 1861; corporal, Nov. 21, 1862; wounded slightly, Nov. 7, 1863; lance sergeant, Feb. 8, 1864; sergeant, April 6, 1864; second lieutenant, Oct. 25, 1864; mustered out June 14, 1865.

Mentioned: 14, 27, 39, 122, 170, 179, 215, 239, 242, 263, 264, 267, 274, 276, 281, 328, 377, 384, 387, 388, 389, 390, 407, 408, 412, 416, 431, 432, 444.

Biographical sketch, 449.

**GEORGE HUMPHREY.** Tiverton. Private, Sept. 30, 1861; corporal, Aug. 1, 1862; sergeant, June 10, 1863; re-enlisted Dec. 24, 1863; wounded severely at Cold Harbor, June 3, 1864; eight months absent on account of wounds; first sergeant, Feb. 27, 1865; second lieutenant, March 31, 1865; assigned to Battery D, May 29, 1865; never reported or mustered as such; mustered out June 14, 1865.

Mentioned: 13, 25, 44, 80, 163, 165, 172, 180, 210, 215, 238, 254, 263, 267, 268, 273, 277, 281, 310, 311, 314, 315, 388, 401, 405, 408, 412, 429, 430, 431, 432, 435, 437, 442, 444.

Biographical sketch, 450.

**GEORGE LEWIS.** Providence. Enlisted as private, Sept. 24, 1861; mustered Sept. 30, 1861; wounded slightly May 3, 1863, at Chancellorsville, Va.; lance corporal, May 29, 1863; corporal, Sept. 4, 1863; re-enlisted Feb. 1, 1864; lance sergeant, April 9, 1864; sergeant, Oct. 20, 1864, to date from Oct. 4; second lieutenant, March 31, 1865; assigned to Battery H, May 29, 1865; never reported or mustered as such; mustered out June 14, 1865.

Mentioned: 14, 21, 25, 27, 62, 110, 119, 147, 174, 179, 210, 215, 228, 230, 246, 255, 263, 264, 265, 267, 276, 277, 281, 289, 290, 310, 315, 319, 322, 377, 384, 387, 389, 391, 392, 394, 397, 399, 405, 408, 430, 431, 434, 435, 437, 442, 443, 444, 479.

Biographical sketch, 452.

WILLIAM S. BLAIR. Providence. Private Sept. 30, 1861 ; corporal, Sept. 9, 1863 ; re-enlisted Dec. 21, 1863 ; sergeant, Nov. 5, 1864 ; second lieutenant, May 16, 1865 ; assigned to Battery F, May 29, 1865 ; never reported or mustered as such ; mustered out June 14, 1865.

Mentioned : 13, 216, 230, 254, 281, 362, 377, 388, 397, 405, 412, 431, 435, 444.

Biographical sketch, 455.

#### First Sergeants.

WILLIAM E. BOWEN. Providence. Enlisted Sept. 30, 1861 ; discharged on surgeon's certificate March 14, 1862.

Mentioned, 12, 31, 32.

Biographical sketch, 456.

JACOB H. LAMB. [See Captain.]

JAMES F. ALLEN. [See Second Lieutenant.]

CHARLES S. WINSLOW. Providence. Private, Sept. 30, 1861 ; corporal, March 14, 1862 ; sergeant, Oct. 6, 1862 ; first sergeant, June 1, 1863 ; wounded severely July 2, 1863, at Gettysburg, Pa. ; second lieutenant, Oct. 14, 1863, assigned to Fourteenth Rhode Island Colored Regiment, Oct. 16, 1863 ; rejected on account of physical disability ; transferred to veteran reserve corps, Feb. 1, 1864 ; mustered out Sept. 30, 1864.

Mentioned : 13, 18, 32, 80, 111, 146, 179, 180, 208, 211, 212, 230, 351.

Biographical sketch, 458.

CHARLES P. WILLIAMS. Warwick. Private, Company I, First R. I. Infantry, May 2, 1861 ; mustered out Aug. 1, 1861 ; mustered as corporal in Battery E, Sept. 30, 1861 ; sergeant, Aug. 6, 1862 ; first sergeant, Feb. 8, 1864 ; sergeant again, Aug. 2, 1864 ; mustered out Oct. 3, 1864.

Mentioned : 12, 14, 21, 25, 32, 43, 61, 63, 64, 81, 131, 147, 210, 215, 264, 267, 268, 355, 367, 377.

Biographical sketch, 370.

JAMES DONNELLY. Warwick. Private, Sept. 30, 1861 ; corporal, Aug. 1, 1862 ; acting sergeant from July 3, 1863, to Feb. 8, 1864 ; sergeant, Feb. 19, 1864 ; first sergeant, Aug. 2, 1864 ; mustered out Oct. 3, 1864.

Mentioned: 13, 80, 111, 215, 226, 253, 281, 310, 352, 367, 368, 374, 381.

Biographical sketch, 374.

CHARLES W. ROBBINS. Foster. Mustered as private, Feb. 8, 1862; joined battery Feb. 28; corporal, Feb. 8, 1864; first sergeant, Oct. 15, 1864, to date from Oct. 1; mustered out at Fort Wadsworth, Va., Feb. 7, 1865.

Mentioned: 30, 265, 281, 359, 377, 381, 384, 397, 399, 400.

GEORGE HUMPHREY. [See Second Lieutenant.]

#### Quartermaster Sergeants.

JOHN K. BUCKLYN. [See First Lieutenant.]

CHARLES A. BROWN. Providence. Mustered as corporal, Sept. 30, 1861; quartermaster sergeant, March 8, 1862, to date from March 1; mustered as second lieutenant of Battery B April 14, 1863; taken prisoner between Belle Plain and Fredericksburg, Va., May 18, 1864; escaped from prison at Macon Ga., Nov. 4, 1864; first lieutenant, Battery G, Oct. 21, 1864; never reported or mustered as such; mustered out at Washington, D. C., Jan 31, 1865; final discharge June 5, 1865.

Mentioned: 4, 12, 13, 30, 87, 121, 122, 146, 149, 152, 375, 376.

Biographical sketch, 375.

BENJAMIN N. REMINGTON. Cranston. Mustered as private, Sept. 30, 1861; company clerk, Nov. 1862; quartermaster sergeant, April 14, 1863; re-enlisted Dec. 21, 1863; mustered out June 14, 1865,

Mentioned: 14, 147, 152, 216, 254, 267, 268, 276, 431, 444.

Biographical sketch, 457.

#### Sergeants.

JACOB H. LAMB. [See Captain.]

JAMES F. ALLEN. [See Second Lieutenant.]

WILLIAM MILLEN. Providence. Mustered as private in First Rhode Island Light Battery May 2, 1861; mustered out Aug. 6, 1861; mustered as sergeant in Battery E Sept. 30, 1861; on detached service in third corps artillery brigade as ordnance sergeant from June 7, 1863, to April 12, 1864; on detached service in sixth corps artillery brigade as commissary sergeant, May 3, 1864, to Sept. 26, 1864; mustered out Oct. 3, 1864.

Mentioned: 4, 13, 39, 49, 66, 68, 147, 179, 230, 276, 367, 369, 471, 472, 473.

Biographical sketch, 368.

JOSEPH S. MILNE. Tiverton. Mustered as sergeant Sept. 30, 1861; second lieutenant, Battery B, Nov. 11, 1862; detached to Battery A, Fourth U. S. [Cushing's], during the Gettysburg campaign; mortally wounded at Gettysburg July 3, 1863; died July 8, at Gettysburg, Pa.

Mentioned: 4, 14, 64, 120, 122, 465.

Death and burial, 224, 225.

AMASA A. DARLING. Providence. Mustered as sergeant, Sept. 30, 1861; reduced to ranks Nov. 8, 1862; wounded severely in foot at Chancellorsville, Va., May 3, 1863; discharged by war department Dec. 23, 1863.

Mentioned: 4, 13, 39, 118, 119, 171, 175, 177.

Special reference, 460, 461.

GEORGE E. WILLIAMS. Scituate. Mustered as sergeant, Sept. 30, 1861; discharged on surgeon's certificate, Aug. 5, 1862.

Mentioned: 14, 63, 64, 81.

ALLEN GARDINER. Jamestown. Mustered as corporal, Sept. 30, 1861; sergeant, March 14, 1862; reduced to corporal at his own request, Oct. 7, 1862; re-enlisted Dec. 7th and mustered as veteran, Dec. 11, 1863; discharged to accept promotion as second lieutenant in Twenty-sixth U. S. Colored Regiment June 4, 1864; [Com. dated May 11th]; transferred to Forty-sixth U. S. Colored Regiment June 21, 1865; resigned Aug. 28, 1865.

Mentioned: 12, 21, 25, 32, 111, 215, 253, 263, 274, 281.

Biographical sketch, 316.

CHARLES P. WILLIAMS. [See First Sergeant.]

CHARLES S. WINSLOW. [See First Sergeant.]

SETH B. DARLING. Providence. Private, Sept. 30, 1861; lance corporal, Oct. 11, 1861; corporal, Nov. 1, 1861; sergeant, Oct. 7, 1861; acting first sergeant from July 3, 1863, to Feb. 8, 1864; reduced to ranks at his own request, Feb. 19, 1864; mustered out Oct. 3, 1864.

Mentioned: 12, 111, 215, 226, 268, 367.

Special reference, 460, 461.

ARTHUR W. HARGRAVES. Warwick. Private, Company H, First R. I. Regiment, May 2, 1861; mustered out Aug. 2, 1861; private in Battery E Sept. 30, 1861; lance corporal, Oct. 11, 1861; corporal, Nov. 1, 1861; sergeant, Nov. 14, 1862; wounded slightly July 2, 1863, at Gettysburg, Pa.; mustered out Oct. 3, 1864.

Mentioned: 12, 13, 30, 68, 119, 147, 174, 209, 211, 213, 215, 216, 226, 267, 268, 281, 299, 302, 310, 311, 315, 367, 371, 372, 373, 377.

Biographical sketch, 371.

GEORGE W. H. ALLEN. Scituate. Private, Sept. 30, 1861; corporal, Nov. 18, 1861; sergeant, Nov. 21, 1862; wounded slightly at Gettysburg, Pa., July 2, 1863; re-enlisted Dec. 7th, and mustered as veteran Dec. 11, 1863; first lieutenant, Fourteenth R. I. Colored Regiment, Feb. 4, 1864; left the Battery to join his regiment March 8, 1864; A. D., C., on Colonel Wilson's staff, April 21, 1864; adjutant third battalion, July 5, 1864; A. A. A. General of District of Carrollton, La., Jan., 1865; member of General Court Martial Department Louisiana and Texas, July 29, 1865; mustered out Oct. 2, 1865.

Mentioned: 8, 14, 21, 28, 64, 66, 80, 122, 159, 175, 177, 211, 212, 215, 253, 263, 264, 268.

Biographical sketch, 269.

GEORGE HUMPHREY. [See Second Lieutenant.]

EDWARD A. CHANDLER. [See Second Lieutenant.]

JAMES A. TANNER. Coventry. Mustered as corporal, Sept. 30, 1861; wounded slightly at Gettysburg, Pa., July 2, 1863; and at Payne's Farm, Va., Nov. 27, 1863; lance sergeant, Feb. 8, 1864; sergeant, April 6, 1864; mustered out Oct. 3, 1864.

Mentioned: 12, 13, 147, 174, 211, 212, 215, 238, 246, 252, 254, 264, 267, 274, 281, 310, 367.

Biographical sketch, 373.

GEORGE LEWIS. [See Second Lieutenant.]

JOHN SLOCUM. West Greenwich. Private, Aug. 13, 1862 ; arrived at battery Sept. 4, 1862 ; corporal, Feb. 8, 1864 ; sergeant, Oct. 20, 1864, to date from Oct. 4th ; mustered out June 14, 1865.

Mentioned : 107, 212, 265, 281, 329, 377, 384, 387, 388, 394, 399.

Biographical sketch, 459.

JOHN CUNNINGHAM. Philadelphia, Pa. Private, Jan. 1, 1863 ; arrived at battery Jan. 10 ; corporal [probably], Feb. 8, 1864 ; sergeant, Oct. 20, 1864 ; to date from Oct. 4 ; mustered out June 14, 1865.

Mentioned : 142, 281, 377, 384, 387, 388, 394, 397, 399. Special reference, 459.

OTTO WILDER. Germany. Private, July 6, 1863 ; arrived at battery Aug. 8 ; corporal, Feb. 19, 1864, sergeant, Oct. 20, 1864, to date from Oct. 4th ; on detached service as sergeant in ambulance corps, March 18, 1865 ; mustered out June 14, 1865.

Mentioned : 229, 268, 281, 377, 384, 388, 397, 408. Special reference, 460.

WILLIAM S. BLAIR. [See Second Lieutenant.]

SAMUEL W. AUSTIN. Maine. Detached from Third Maine Infantry May, 1863 ; re-enlisted into Battery E, Oct. 23, 1863 ; corporal, Dec. 11, 1863 ; sergeant, Feb. 27, 1865 ; mustered out June 14, 1865.

Mentioned : 235, 253, 268, 281, 362, 394, 399, 400, 405, 431.

Special reference, 460.

#### Corporals.

FRANCIS B. BUTTS. Cranston. Mustered as corporal Sept. 30, 1861 ; in hospital Aug. 6, 1862 ; entered the naval service from hospital Oct. 5, 1862 ; mustered out of the naval service June 17, 1865.

Mentioned : 4, 9, 12, 30, 64, 81, 122.

Biographical sketch, 461.

CHARLES A. BROWN. [See Quartermaster Sergeant.]

ALBERT H. TRECOTT. Providence. Mustered as corporal, Sept. 30, 1861; died of fever at Harrison's landing, Va., July 28, 1862.

Mentioned: 12, 13, 80, 465.

JAMES A. TANNER. [See Sergeant.]

JOHN B. MATHEWSON. Nayat, Barrington. Mustered as corporal Sept. 30, 1861; died of fever near Alexandria, Va., Jan. 22, 1862.

Mentioned: 12, 14, 16, 17, 28, 465.

CHARLES P. WILLIAMS. [See First Sergeant.]

ALLEN GARDINER. [See Sergeant.]

ARTHUR W. HARGRAVES. [See Sergeant.]

SETH B. DARLING. See Sergeant.]

GEORGES H. BURLINGHAM. Warwick. Private, Sept. 30, 1861; lance corporal, Oct. 11, 1861; corporal, Nov. 1, 1861; taken prisoner at Charles City Cross-Roads June 30, 1862; paroled in hospital soon after; reduced to the ranks, Nov. 21, 1862; dropped from rolls as deserter from hospital May 22, 1863.

Mentioned: 12, 14, 28, 64, 66, 80, 122, 178.

GEORGE F. LORD. Coventry. Private, Sept. 30, 1861; lance corporal, Oct. 11, 1861; corporal, Nov. 1, 1861; reduced to the ranks for physical disability, Jan. 4, 1863; re-enlisted Dec. 20, 1863; detached to ambulance corps April 24, 1864; mustered out June 14, 1865.

Mentioned: 12, 13, 254, 444, 464.

HALLITON P. HALE, New York City. Private, Oct. 28, 1861; corporal, Nov. 1, 1861; reduced to the ranks Nov. 18, 1861; re-enlisted Dec. 21, 1863; transferred to navy April 24, 1864, near Brandy Station, Va.

Mentioned, 15, 21, 230, 254, 277.

GEO. W. H. ALLEN. [See Sergeant.]

ERNEST SIMPSON. Germany. Private, Oct. 7, 1861; corporal, Jan. 26, 1862; in hospital from Aug. 10, 1862, to Jan. 19, 1863; company clerk, Feb. 1863; killed at Gettysburg, Pa., July 2, 1863.

Mentioned: 14, 28, 80, 142, 210, 215, 222, 465.

WILLIAM H. POLK. Coventry. Private, Sept. 30, 1861; corporal, March 8, 1862; reduced to the ranks July, 1862, and detached as assistant in hospital serving from July, 1862, to March, 1864; mustered out Oct. 3, 1864. His name was formerly spelled Pooke.

Mentioned: 14, 30, 80, 230, 259, 367.

CHARLES S. WINSLOW. [See First Sergeant.]

LESTER S. HILL. Foster. Private, Sept. 30, 1861; corporal, Aug. 1, 1862; second lieutenant, Company F, Fourteenth R. I. Heavy Artillery (Colored), Dec. 15, 1863; left the battery to join his regiment Dec. 27; mustered out Oct. 2, 1865.

Mentioned: 14, 21, 23, 25, 76, 77, 80, 122, 210, 215, 216, 253, 265, 371.

Biographical sketch, 255.

GEORGE HUMPHREY. [See Second Lieutenant.]

JAMES DONNELLY. [See First Sergeant.]

LEMUEL A. GREENE. Scituate. Private, Sept. 30, 1861; corporal, Aug. 7, 1862; killed at battle of Kettle Run, Aug. 27, 1862.

Mentioned: 14, 81, 89, 91, 465.

THOMAS T. BEARD. Warwick. Private, Sept. 30, 1861; corporal, Nov. 14, 1862; reduced to the ranks at his own request, Feb. 19, 1864; mustered out Oct. 3, 1864.

Mentioned: 13, 119, 180, 215, 268, 276, 367.

EDWARD A. CHANDLER. [See Second Lieutenant.]

WILLIAM H. STEERE. Smithfield. Private, Sept. 30, 1861; company clerk, Sept., 1862; left the battery on sick furlough, Oct. 8, 1862; lance corporal, Nov. 21, 1862, while absent sick: Portsmouth Grove Hospital R. I. Jan. 10, 1863; transferred to veteran reserve corps, Sept. 1, 1863; in commissary department, in hospital, until spring of 1864, then clerk for provost guard at Providence; mustered out Sept. 30, 1864.

Mentioned: 13, 111, 122.

JAMES MULLIGAN. Warwick. Private, Sept. 30, 1861; prisoner, Aug. 30, 1862, at battle of Second Bull Run; pro-



moted corporal, Nov. 21, 1862, while absent as paroled prisoner; was in several hospitals including that at Portsmouth Grove, R. I., where he remained as hospital steward until mustered out Oct. 12, 1864.

Mentioned: 12, 122, 464.

**JOHN M. BATTEY.** Scituate. Private, Sept. 30, 1861; corporal, Jan. 4, 1863; mustered out Oct. 3, 1864.

Mentioned: 14, 141, 163, 170, 172, 215, 240, 255, 281, 367.

**JOHN J. MULHALL.** Warwick. Private, Sept. 30, 1861; corporal, Jan. 4, 1863; reduced to the ranks, Feb. 19, 1864, mustered out Oct. 3, 1864.

Mentioned: 13, 141, 215, 268, 367.

**ALBERT A. HOPKINS.** Scituate. Private, Sept. 30, 1861; corporal, Jan. 4, 1863; blacksmith, April, 22, 1863; mustered out Oct. 3, 1864.

Mentioned: 14, 61, 63, 141, 152, 209, 216, 311, 367.

**HERBERT F. BENNETT.** Bristol. Private, Sept. 30, 1861; corporal, Jan. 4, 1863; re-enlisted, Dec. 23, and mustered as veteran Dec. 24, 1863; second lieutenant, Company L, Fourteenth Rhode Island Heavy Artillery (Colored), Feb. 3, 1864; mustered out Oct. 2, 1865.

Mentioned: 13, 141, 178, 213, 215, 226, 254, 263, 264. Biographical sketch, 265.

**RICHARD ALEXANDER.** Foster. Private, Feb. 17, 1862; corporal, Jan. 4, 1863; wounded slightly at Gettysburg, Pa., July 2, 1863; reduced to the ranks, Sept. 9, 1863; accidentally wounded in foot while foraging near Mine Run, Nov. 28, 1863; discharged on surgeon's certificate, May 16, 1864.

Mentioned: 30, 141, 211, 212, 215, 230, 252.

**GEORGE LEWIS.** [See Second Lieutenant.]

**LUTHER L. YOUNG.** Foster. Mustered as private, Feb. 17, 1862; lance corporal about June, 1863; wounded slightly at Gettysburg, Pa., July 2, 1863; discharged on surgeon's certificate Oct. 6, 1863.

Mentioned: 30, 211, 212, 215, 230, 463.

**WILLIAM S. BLAIR.** [See Second Lieutenant.]

SAMUEL W. AUSTIN. [See Sergeant.]

JOHN CUNNINGHAM. [See Sergeant.]

JOHN SLOCUM. [See Sergeant.]

CHARLES W. ROBBINS. [See First Sergeant.]

NATHAN P. TABOR. Detached from Third Maine Infantry in May, 1863; re-enlisted into Battery E, Dec. 21, 1863; corporal, Feb. 8, 1864; mustered out June 14, 1865.  
Mentioned: 254, 265, 281.

JERAHMEEL DEXTER. Private, Sept. 30, 1861; corporal, Feb. 8, 1864; re-enlisted Feb. 25, 1864; mustered out June 14, 1865.  
Mentioned: 13, 265, 268, 431, 444, 463.

OTTO WILDER. [See Sergeant.]

GEORGE H. PIERCE. East Greenwich. Private, Sept. 30, 1861; corporal, Feb. 19, 1864; mustered out Oct. 3, 1864.  
Mentioned: 14, 114, 268, 281, 367.

WILLIAM TORPY. Providence. Private, Sept. 30, 1861; bugler, re-enlisted, Dec. 21, 1863; corporal, Feb. 19, 1864; mustered out June 14, 1865.  
Mentioned: 13, 147, 178, 254, 268, 281, 444, 463.

JOHN HARRIHAN. Detached from infantry; lance corporal, April, 9, 1864; date or cause of leaving battery unknown.  
Mentioned: 281.

CHANDLER LINDSEY. New York; enlisted from government employ as wagon maker, Jan. 4, 1864; lance corporal, April 9, 1864; corporal, Oct. 24, 1864; mustered out June 14, 1865.  
Mentioned: 258, 281, 385.

CHARLES S. HULING. West Greenwich. Private, Aug. 13, 1862; arrived at battery Sept. 4; wounded May 3, 1863, at Chancellorsville, Va.; corporal, Oct. 20, 1864; mustered out June 14, 1865.  
Mentioned: 107, 174, 384.

SAMUEL HAVENS. Coventry. Private, Aug. 14, 1862; arrived at battery Sept. 4; wounded slightly at Gettysburg, Pa.;

- July 2, 1863; corporal, Oct. 20, 1864; mustered out June 14, 1865. Mentioned: 107, 213, 384, 463.
- BRADBURY A. BOGGS. Maine. Enlisted into Fourth Maine Regiment, June 15, 1861; detached from Fourth Maine Infantry May, 1863; re-enlisted into Battery E, Nov. 17, 1863; corporal, Oct. 20, 1864; mustered out June 14, 1865. Mentioned: 230, 243, 384, 433.
- JEREMIAH BUCKLIN. Warwick. Private, Aug. 14, 1862; arrived at battery Sept. 4; corporal, Oct. 20, 1864; wounded by accident Nov. 2, 1864; in hospital; re-joined battery at Providence where he was mustered out June 14, 1865.  
Mentioned: 107, 384, 388.
- PHILIP A. DEXTER. Smithfield. Private, Sept. 30, 1861; re-enlisted Dec. 21, 1863; corporal, Oct. 20, 1864; mustered out as private June 14, 1865.  
Mentioned: 14, 103, 274, 281, 384, 388, 432, 433, 444.
- EDSON S. WHITE. Foxboro, Mass. Private, Aug. 14, 1862; corporal, Oct. 20, 1864; mustered out June 14, 1865.  
Mentioned: 107, 384.
- MICHAEL PENDERGRASS. Detached from Fourth N. Y. Heavy Artillery, Sept. 14, 1864; corporal, Oct. 20, 1864; reduced to the ranks Nov. 25, 1864; recalled to his regiment May 31, 1865.  
Mentioned: 384, 385, 391.
- WILLIAM H. COOK. Detached from Fourth N. Y. Heavy Artillery, Sept. 14, 1864; corporal, Oct. 21, 1864; reduced soon after; recalled to his regiment May 31, 1865.  
Mentioned: 385.
- URIAH GRIFFIN. Detached from Pennsylvania regiment; re-enlisted into Battery E Nov. 23, 1863; lance corporal, Nov. 6, 1864; corporal, Nov. 25; mustered out June 14, 1865.  
Mentioned: 243, 388, 397.
- RICHARD T. BEARD. Detached from Fourth N. Y. Heavy Artillery, Sept. 14, 1864; lance corporal, Nov. 25, 1864; corporal, Feb. 27, 1865; on pass to Washington, D. C., May 18, 1865, and never returned.  
Mentioned: 391, 399, 405.

HENRY REHFELDT, *alias* GERBER. Germany. Private, July 2, 1863; arrived at battery Aug. 8; lance corporal, Feb. 8, 1865; corporal, April 28, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.

Mentioned: 229, 359, 432, 444.

IRA VOSBURG. Detached from Fourth N. Y. Heavy Artillery, Sept. 14, 1864; lance corporal, Feb. 27, 1865; recalled to his regiment May 27, 1865.

Mentioned: 405, 437.

MARTIN BRANNAN. England. Private, July 7, 1863; arrived at battery Aug. 8; corporal [probably] in March or April, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.

Mentioned: 229, 311.

WILLIAM FREEDMAN. Detached from N. J. Light Battery A, Oct., 1864; lance corporal, April 28, 1865; recalled to his battery May 31, 1865.

Mentioned: 432.

CHARLES POSSIN. Germany. Private, July 7, 1863; arrived at battery, Aug. 8; corporal, May, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.

Mentioned: 229.

JOHN MCALEES. Pawtucket. Private, Sept. 30, 1861; wounded May 3, 1863, at Chancellorsville, Va.; re-enlisted Dec. 14, 1863; lance corporal, May, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.

Mentioned: 13, 147, 178, 254, 267, 444, 464.

WILLIAM OWENS. Brooklyn, N. Y. Detached from infantry; re-enlisted into Battery E Jan. 2, 1864; lance corporal about June 1, 1865; mustered June 14, 1865.

Mentioned: 258, 433.

#### Artificers.

JOSEPH D. HANEY. Providence. Farrier; mustered Sept. 30, 1861; mustered out Oct. 3, 1864.

Mentioned: 216, 367.

DAVID H. COLVIN. Woonsocket. Blacksmith; mustered Sept. 30, 1861; discharged July 20, 1862, on surgeon's certificate.

Mentioned: 14, 79.

- OTIS B. JENCKS. Cranston. Blacksmith ; mustered Sept. 30, 1861 ; reduced to the ranks ; discharged March 22, 1863, on surgeon's certificate.  
Mentioned : 14.
- ASA WILSON. Warwick. Harness maker ; mustered Sept. 30, 1861 ; discharged March 23, 1863, on surgeon's certificate.  
Mentioned : 14.
- NATHAN C. LAZELLE. Providence. Carriage maker ; mustered Sept. 30, 1861 ; discharged Feb. 9, 1862, on surgeon's certificate.  
Mentioned : 14.
- JOHN H. CARNEY. Woonsocket. Harness maker ; mustered Sept. 30, 1861 ; taken prisoner at Charles City Cross Roads, Va., June 30, 1862 ; exchanged, returned to battery Sept. 26, 1862 ; in hospital Dec., 1862 ; dropped from rolls for long absence, Aug., 1863.  
Mentioned : 14, 64, 110.
- HENRY C. WIGHTMAN. East Greenwich. Private, First R. I. Infantry May 2, 1861 ; mustered out of First Regiment Aug. 2, 1861 ; private in Battery E Sept. 30, 1861 ; appointed carriage maker in Feb., 1862 ; re-enlisted Dec. 14, 1863 ; mustered out June 14, 1865.  
Mentioned : 14, 254, 399, 444, 463.
- ALBERT A. HOPKINS. Blacksmith. [See Corporal.]
- JOHN E. JOHNSTON. Providence. Mustered as private, Feb. 15, 1864 ; farrier soon after ; mustered out June 14, 1865.  
Mentioned : 276, 388, 408, 430.
- GEORGE I. COLE. Scituate. Mustered as private, Aug. 8, 1862 ; arrived at battery Sept. 4 ; harness maker soon after ; mustered out June 14, 1865.  
Mentioned : 107, 216, 311, 354.
- MALACHI GUNNING. Providence. Private, Feb. 26, 1864 ; blacksmith, Sept. 26, 1864 ; it is claimed by some he left the battery about the 8th of May, 1865, with farrier Johnston's horse to forage and never returned. Others say he returned without the horse and received a pass to Washington, May 16th, and was never heard from afterwards. He had been honorably discharged from a New York reg-

iment before being enlisted by Quartermaster Sergeant Remington into Battery E.

Mentioned: 276, 388.

#### Musicians.

JOHN MCKENNA. Providence. Mustered as bugler, Sept. 30, 1861; slightly wounded July 2, 1863, at Gettysburg, Pa.; relieved as bugler, Sept. 1862; mustered out Oct. 3, 1864.

Mentioned: 15, 103, 213, 367.

THOMAS WATERHOUSE. Warwick. Mustered as private, Sept. 30, 1861; bugler; deserted while on furlough in March or April, 1863; dropped from rolls Sept. 22, 1863.

Mentioned: 12, 147.

THEOPHILUS ABIENISTE. Detached from Fifty-fifth N. Y. Infantry as bugler, probably in summer of 1863; recalled to regiment June 12, 1864.

LEONARD STEAMER. South Kingstown. Mustered as private, Jan. 12, 1862; re-enlisted Jan. 2, 1864; bugler; mustered out June 14, 1865.

Mentioned: 27, 258, 267, 276, 405.

WILLIAM TORPY. Bugler. [See Corporal.]

#### Privates.

EDWARD AUSTIN. Scituate. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861; sent to hospital sick at Harrison's Landing, in July, 1862; transferred to Chester Hospital, Pa., Aug., 1862; then to Distribution Camp; then by mistake to Battery F at Newbern, N. C.; rejoined Battery E near Petersburg, Va., June 17, 1864; mustered out Oct. 3, 1864.

Mentioned: 14, 325, 367.

JOHN ANDREWS. Augusta, Maine. Mustered Jan. 2, 1863; deserted Jan. 21, 1863.

Mentioned: 142, 143.

STEPHEN E. ALDRICH. Cranston. Mustered March 15, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.

SILAS A. BROWN. Providence. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861; mustered out Oct. 3, 1864.

Mentioned: 4, 12, 367.

**WILLIAM H. BAILEY.** Westerly. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861 ; in hospital Aug., 1862 ; returned to battery Nov. 7, 1863 ; in hospital again June 22, 1864 ; never returned to battery.

Mentioned : 14, 242, 332, 464, 465.

**JOHN R. BRAYTON.** Cranston. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861 ; re-enlisted Dec. 21, 1863 ; mustered out June 14, 1865 ;

Mentioned : 15, 216, 254, 408, 430, 444.

**HENRY BINNS.** Warwick. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861 ; wounded severely in arm July 1, 1862, at Malvern Hill, Va. ; sent to hospital at Washington, D. C., and then to Portsmouth, Grove, R. I. ; then to Convalescent Camp at Alexandria, Va., from which he was discharged March 6, 1863 ; enlisted second time April 5, 1864 ; on detached service at artillery brigade sixth corps from Dec. 21, 1864, to April, 1865 ; mustered out June 14, 1865.

Mentioned : 13, 72, 437, 444.

**JEREMIAH BENNETT.** Providence. Mustered in First Rhode Island Infantry May 2, 1861 ; discharged from infantry May 31, 1861, on surgeon's certificate ; enlisted in Battery E Sept. 30, 1861 ; discharged on surgeon's certificate Aug. 7, 1862.

Mentioned : 15, 464, 465.

**FREDERICK L. BURDEN.** Scituate. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861 ; discharged March 6, 1862, on surgeon's certificate. In after years he became a distinguished citizen of Massachusetts.

Mentioned : 14.

Special reference, 464.

**ALMY M. BROWNELL.** Portsmouth. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861 ; re-enlisted Dec. 14, 1863 ; mustered out June 14, 1865.

Mentioned : 13, 254, 444.

**MARTIN BROWN.** Providence. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861 ; wounded slightly at Fredericksburg, Va., Dec. 14, 1862 ; wounded severely at Gettysburg, Pa., July 2, 1863 ; transferred to veteran reserve corps Oct. 31, 1863 ; mustered out Sept. 30, 1864.

Mentioned : 12, 131, 213, 230.

CHARLES H. BOGMAN. Providence. Mustered in First Rhode Island Infantry May 2, 1861; wounded first battle Bull Run, Va., July 21, 1861; mustered out of infantry Aug. 2, 1861; mustered as sergeant in Battery G Dec. 2, 1861; transferred to Battery E as private, March 7, 1863; wounded at Chancellorsville, Va., May 3, 1863; company clerk from July, 1863, to muster out Dec. 1, 1864.

Mentioned: 147, 174, 178, 179, 366, 391.

ALBERT M. BENNETT. Foster. Mustered Feb. 14, 1862; re-enlisted Feb. 1, 1864; mustered out June 14, 1865.

Mentioned: 30, 216, 263, 264, 267, 276.

SAMPSON BURGESS. Foster. Mustered Feb. 20, 1862; discharged Aug. 3, 1863, on surgeon's certificate.

Mentioned: 30, 230, 464.

GEORGE H. BURGESS. Foster. Mustered Feb. 20, 1862; discharged on surgeon's certificate, Nov. 5, 1862, at Providence.

Mentioned: 30.

EDWARD BUCKLIN, JR. Warwick. Mustered Aug. 14, 1862; discharged July 27, 1863, on surgeon's certificate, at Providence, R. I.

Mentioned: 107, 230.

JOHN BRADFORD. Boston, Mass. Mustered Dec 22, 1862; dropped from rolls as deserter, March 22, 1863.

JOHN BLACK. Boston, Mass. Mustered Dec. 26, 1862; deserted Feb. 15, 1863.

Mentioned: 142.

JOHN BUELL. North Kingstown. Mustered Oct. 17, 1862; no other record of him.

JOHN BRANNAN. Seekonk, Mass. Mustered June 11, 1862; killed at battle of Kettle Run, Va., Aug. 27, 1862.

Mentioned: 89, 91, 465.

WILLIAM BEARD. Olneyville, R. I. Mustered Aug. 6, 1862; killed July 2, 1863, at Gettysburg, Pa.

Mentioned: 210, 465.

CHARLES E. BAKER. Concord, N. H. Mustered Jan. 2, 1863; commissioned second lieutenant and assigned to a regiment from another state.

Mentioned: 142.



- GEORGE BLACK. Germany. Mustered, July 1, 1863; mustered out June 14, 1865.  
Mentioned: 229.
- ANDREW J. BROWN. Residence and date of muster not known; transferred to navy, April 24, 1864.  
Mentioned: 277.
- HIRAM BRANT. Scituate. Mustered, Feb. 22, 1864; arrived at battery April 9, mustered out June 14, 1865.  
Mentioned: 274.
- GEORGE W. BARBOUR. Warwick. Mustered Sept. 22, 1864; transferred to Battery F; mustered out June 27, 1865.
- JOHN BRAND. Coventry. Mustered Sept. 25, 1864; discharged on surgeon's certificate Nov. 18, 1864.  
Mentioned: 274.
- ALBERT O. BATES. Scituate. Mustered Oct. 17, 1864; mustered out June 14, 1865.  
Mentioned: 389.
- HERBERT A. BALLOU. Scituate. Mustered Oct. 17, 1864; discharged Jan. 14, 1865, by war department.  
Mentioned: 390.
- EDWIN BLISS. East Providence. Mustered March 15, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.
- CHARLES BURNS. Long Island, N. Y. Mustered March 23, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.
- CHARLES E. BANTEM. Germany. Mustered March 20, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.
- WILCOX BARBER. Exeter. Mustered March 21, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.
- ALBERT A. BRADFORD. Smithfield. Mustered March 14, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.
- ALBERT F. BROWN. Residence not given; mustered March 13, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.
- JESSE BICKNELL. Warwick. Mustered March 21, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.
- ASA BENNETT. Warwick. Mustered March 23, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.
- GEORGE H. BAXTER. Providence. Mustered March 21, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.

- WILLIAM J. BURNS. Milford, Mass. Mustered March 15, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.
- FREDERICK BORDEN. Fall River, Mass. Mustered March 21, 1865, mustered out June 14, 1865.
- GUSTAVUS B. BURLINGAME. Cumberland. Mustered March 22, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.
- ELLERY BURBANK. Providence. Mustered March 23, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.
- THOMAS BURNS. Massachusetts. Mustered March 13, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.
- ALBERT N. COLWELL. Scituate. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861; killed by premature explosion at battle of Kelly's Ford, Va., Nov. 7, 1863.  
Mentioned: 14, 147, 178, 239, 242, 465.
- JOHN CROTHERS. Warwick. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861; mustered out Oct. 3, 1864.  
Mentioned: 12, 367.
- WILLIAM CROTHERS. Warwick. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861; mustered out Oct. 3, 1864.  
Mentioned: 13, 328, 367.
- ISAAC COOK. Warwick. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861; officers' cook; discharged July 20, 1862, on surgeon's certificate.  
Mentioned: 15, 79.
- SYLVESTER CARNAVAN. Warwick. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861; reported as paroled prisoner, Dec., 1862; dropped from rolls as deserter, Aug. 31, 1863.  
Mentioned: 13.
- RICHARD CONLEY. Pawtucket. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861; reported as paroled prisoner, Dec., 1862; dropped from rolls for long absence, Aug. 31, 1863.  
Mentioned: 12.
- JOHN CARR. Providence. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861; in hospital, Aug., 1862; dropped as deserter, Aug. 31, 1863.  
Mentioned: 12.
- GEORGE W. COVILLE. Warwick. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861; discharged Jan. 9, 1863 on surgeon's certificate; re-enlisted into Seventh R. I. Regiment Jan. 26, 1864; mustered out July 13, 1865.  
Mentioned: 13, 142.

JOHN COLVIN. Scituate. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861; died in ambulance on retreat from front of Richmond June 30, 1862.

Mentioned: 14, 465.

WILLIAM H. CARTWRIGHT. Smithfield. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861; discharged on surgeon's certificate, Dec. 14, 1861.

Mentioned: 13.

STEPHEN W. CORP. Foster. Mustered Feb. 19, 1862; wounded severely at Malvern Hill, Va., July 1, 1862; sent to hospital and dropped from rolls Sept., 1862.

Mentioned: 30, 72, 464.

HENRY O. COLLINS. Foster. Mustered Feb. 19, 1862; discharged June 18, 1862, at Fort Monroe, Va., on surgeon's certificate.

Mentioned: 30.

CHARLES CHAPMAN. Berlin, Conn. Mustered Feb., 1862; discharged on surgeon's certificate, at Hammond General Hospital, Point Lookout, Md., Nov. 1, 1862.

Mentioned: 30.

JAMES CLARK. New York, City. Mustered Dec. 22, 1862; deserted Feb. 26, 1863.

Mentioned: 142.

NICHOLAS C. CURRY. No residence given. Mustered Dec. 26, 1862; deserted Feb. 26, 1863.

Mentioned: 142.

WILLIAM CHAPMAN, New York City. Mustered Dec. 20, 1862; deserted, Feb. 15, 1863.

Mentioned: 142,

RICHARD CLABBY. Ireland. Mustered July 1, 1863; on detached service sixth corps artillery brigade as officers' orderly from Aug., 1864, to muster out June 14, 1865.

Mentioned: 229.

CHARLES H. COTTRELL. West Greenwich. Enrolled Aug. 18, 1862; deserted June 30, 1863, at Frederick, Md.

DAVID A. CARPENTER. Residence not given. Mustered Feb. 18, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.

Mentioned: 408, 437.

CHARLES F. CUSHING. Residence not given. Mustered March 9, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.

- DAVID CASEY. Milford, Mass. Mustered March 20, 1865 ;  
mustered out June 20, 1865.  
Mentioned: 433.
- CHARLES CAVANAUGH. Boston, Mass. Mustered March 14,  
1865 ; musterred out June 14, 1865.
- CHARLES CUMESKY, JR. Massachusetts. Mustered March 21,  
1865 ; musterred out June 14, 1865.
- JOHN COYLE. Cranston. Mustered March 21, 1865 ; mus-  
tered out June 14, 1865.
- JAMES S. CAMPBELL. Exeter. Mustered June 9, 1862 ; dis-  
charged on surgeon's certificate, June 1, 1863.  
Mentioned : 91, 179.
- DANIEL J. CANTY. Residence not given. Mustered March  
9, 1865 ; musterred out June 14, 1865.
- JAMES H. CONLEY. Ireland. Mustered March 17, 1865 ;  
musterred out June 14, 1865.
- THOMAS CARR. Residence not given. Mustered March 24,  
1865 ; musterred out June 14, 1865.
- PETER F. CARROLL. Warwick, Mustered March, 24, 1865 ;  
musterred out June 14, 1865.
- EDWIN CARROLL, JR. Warwick. Mustered March 24, 1865 ;  
musterred out June 14, 1865.
- JOHN J. CAMPBELL. Residence not given. Mustered March  
18, 1865 ; musterred out July 8, 1865.
- HENRY H. COLVIN. Johnston. Mustered March 22, 1865 ;  
musterred out June 14, 1865.
- JOSEPH F. DEVENS. Warwick. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861 ;  
captured June 23, 1864 by Mosby's guerrillas while for-  
aging near Petersburg, Va., prisoner ; relieved at Savan-  
nah, Ga., Dec. 10, 1864, musterred out Feb 8, 1865.  
Mentioned : 13, 332, 333, 334.
- CHARLES DUFREE. Warwick Mustered Sept. 30, 1861 ;  
discharged Dec. 14, 1861, on surgeon's certificate.  
Mentioned : 15.
- JAMES M. DAVIDSON. Providence. Mustered Feb. 11, 1862 ;  
in hospital July, 1862 ; discharged Oct. 31, 1862, at  
Washington, D. C.  
Mentioned : 30.

- JAMES M. DURFEE. Foster. Mustered Feb. 26, 1862; mustered out Feb. 25, 1865.  
Mentioned: 30, 32, 405.
- MICHAEL DILLON. Ireland. Mustered May 22, 1862; deserted en route to battery.  
Mentioned: 91.
- THOMAS DEMSTER. Bristol. Mustered Oct., 14, 1862; transferred to Battery A, and afterwards to Battery B.
- WILLIAM DRYSDALE, North Kingstown. Mustered Oct. 1862; no record of discharge.
- LEMUEL A. DODGE. Providence. Mustered March 11, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.
- GEORGE W. DEAN. Residence not given. Mustered March 8, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.
- EDWIN DERWIN. Providence. Mustered March 14, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.
- JOHN B. DRYLY. Joined battery Dec, 21, 1864; deserted March 20, 1865.  
Mentioned: 396.
- FRANCIS ELWOOD. Providence. Mustered March 22, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.  
Mentioned: 433.
- OSBORNE EDDY. Cranston. Mustered March 23, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.
- GEORGE W. EDDY. Providence. Mustered March 23, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.
- GEORGE W. FISK. Coventry. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861; died of fever June 27, 1862, in front of Richmond, Va., buried in the field by his comrades.  
Mentioned: 14, 51, 55, 56, 465.
- BARTHOLOMEW FITZGERALD. Providence. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861; company cook; mustered out Oct. 3, 1864;  
Mentioned: 13, 367, 464.
- ADELBERT A. FAIRBANKS. Warwick. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861; wounded slightly at Fredericksburg, Va., Dec. 13, 1862; re-enlisted Dec. 14, 1863; mustered out June 14, 1865.  
Mentioned: 12, 131, 254, 444, 464.

HIRAM R. FERRIS. Newburg, Ohio. Mustered into Battery D, July 15, 1862; in veteran reserve corps; transferred to Battery E Jan. 14, 1864; detached on guard duty at sixth corps artillery brigade, Jan. 14, 1865.

JAMES FITZPATRICK. Boston, Mass. Mustered Feb. 18, 1862; captured May 2, 1863, at Chancellorsville, Va., exchanged; transferred to first regiment invalid corps, Oct. 4, 1863; returned to battery Feb. 21, 1864; re-enlisted Feb. 24; groom at sixth corps artillery brigade headquarters; mustered out June 14, 1865.

Mentioned: 30, 175, 268, 277.

HUGH FINNEGAN. North Kingstown. Mustered Oct. 10, 1862; His name does not appear on the rolls at war department after muster in.

CHARLES FROST. New York, City. Mustered Dec. 23, 1862; deserted Feb. 27, 1863.

Mentioned: 142.

GEORGE F. FRANKLIN. Johnston. Mustered March 22, 1865; discharged May 10, 1865.

CHRISTOPHER FITZSIMMONS. Ireland. Mustered March 24, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.

GAMALIEL B GOFF. Cranston. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861; discharged Jan. 29, 1863, on surgeon's certificate.

Mentioned: 13.

EDWARD GALVIN. Providence. Mustered Dec. 26, 1861; mortally wounded at second battle Bull Run, Va., Aug. 29, 1862; died on the 30th.

Mentioned: 95, 99, 465.

JOHN GROVES. Olneyville, R. I. Mustered May 27, 1862; deserted en route to battery.

Mentioned: 91.

PATRICK GRAHAM. New York City. Mustered Dec. 22, 1862; deserted March 19, 1863.

Mentioned: 142.

GEORGE W. GLEASON. North Kingstown. Mustered Oct. 14, 1862; mustered out June 14, 1865.

Mentioned: 119.

- HERMAN GREENE. Germany. Mustered July 7, 1863; absent without leave Oct. and Nov., 1863; supposed to have deserted.  
Mentioned: 229.
- JAMES GILLESPIE. Ireland. Mustered March 21, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.
- THOMAS W. D. GODFREY. Smithfield. Mustered March 16, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.
- PARMENUS W. GLEASON. Cranston. Mustered March 23, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.
- JOHN W. HOLLAHAN. Warwick. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861; sent to hospital July 16, 1862; returned to duty May 26, 1864; mustered out Oct. 3, 1864.  
Mentioned: 14, 367.
- MICHAEL C. HUGHES. Cranston. Mustered Sept 30, 1861; re-enlisted Feb. 9, 1864; mustered out June 14, 1865.  
Mentioned: 13, 276, 444, 464.
- JOSEPH HARROP. Warwick. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861; killed July 1, 1862, at battle of Malvern Hill, Va.  
Mentioned: 14, 68, 465.
- ALBA HOPKINS. Coventry. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861; discharged April 5, 1862, on surgeon's certificate.  
Mentioned: 14.
- JOHN HILTON. Warwick. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861; discharged March 14, 1862, on surgeon's certificate.  
Mentioned: 15, 31.
- JOHN HOLLY. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861; discharged March 6, 1862, on surgeon's certificate.  
Mentioned: 12.
- WILLIAM E. HOOPFR. Providence. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861; re-enlisted Dec. 21, 1863; lost part of hand by premature explosion, June 18, 1864, in front of Petersburg, Va.; discharged Oct. 17, 1864.  
Mentioned: 13, 254, 328.
- SAMUEL HANNEY, Jr. Providence. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861; discharged on surgeon's certificate March 5, 1862.  
Mentioned: 14, 464.

- HENRY S. HOLLOWAY. Charlestown. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861; discharged on surgeon's certificate May 28, 1862.  
Mentioned: 14.
- MARTIN HARVEY. Cranston. Mustered Dec. 23, 1861; wounded, May 3, 1863, at Chancellorsville, Va.; wounded in hand Nov. 7, 1863, at Kelley's Ford; mustered out Dec. 22, 1864.  
Mentioned: 27, 61, 63, 147, 174, 177, 178, 239, 242, 263, 396.
- JAMES A. HOPKINS. Foster. Mustered Feb. 10, 1862; discharged June 18, 1862, on surgeon's certificate.  
Mentioned: 30.
- JAMES P. HAMSTON. Providence. Mustered June 10, 1862; discharged, Dec. 9, 1862, on surgeon's certificate.
- GEORGE HIGGINS. Canterbury, Conn. Mustered May 19, 1862; died Nov. 21, 1862, of sabre wound accidentally inflicted.  
Mentioned: 91, 121, 122, 465.
- THOMAS G. HAYNES. Providence. Mustered Oct. 23, 1862; deserted.
- EMILE HELFRICH. Germany. Mustered July 7, 1863; deserted from general hospital at Fairfax Seminary, Va., Nov. 23, 1863.  
Mentioned: 229.
- ELIJA HOPKINS. Warwick. Mustered Sept. 22, 1863; transferred to Battery F.
- JAMES HANDLEY. Ireland. Mustered March 21, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.
- THOMAS A. HARRINGTON. Warwick. Mustered March 24, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.
- CHRISTIAN L. F. HOFFMAN. Germany. Mustered March 10, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.
- GEORGE HILL. New Bedford, Mass. Mustered March 24, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.
- CHRISTIAN HAAS. Germany. Mustered March 20, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.
- THOMAS JOSLIN. Smithfield. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861; discharged on surgeon's certificate, March 14, 1862.  
Mentioned: 14, 45.



- BENJAMIN JUDD.** Richmond. Mustered May 14, 1862; wounded slightly May 10, 1864, at Spottsylvania, Va.; mustered out May 27, 1864.  
Mentioned: 91, 437.
- JOHN JORDAN.** East Greenwich. Mustered Jan. 12, 1862; deserted May 1, 1863.  
Mentioned: 28, 175, 464.
- CHARLES H. JAMES.** West Greenwich. Mustered Aug. 13, 1862; mustered out June 14, 1865.  
Mentioned: 107, 399, 434, 435.
- WILLIAM JOHNSON.** Canada. Mustered March 23, 1865; absent in general hospital, May 3, 1865; no further record.  
Mentioned: 433.
- WILLIAM J. KELLERS.** Providence. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861; discharged, Sept. 25, 1862, on surgeon's certificate.  
Mentioned: 12.
- JOHN F. KEEGAN.** Warwick. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861; missing at battle of Chancellorsville, Va., May 3, 1863; in hospital June and July; transferred to veteran reserve corps Aug. 13, 1863; credited as a deserter but the charges of desertion are removed and he was mustered out at Providence Oct. 12, 1864.  
Mentioned: 15, 78, 230, 464.
- THOMAS KEENAN.** Warwick. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861; hospital Aug., 1862; discharged for disability at Camp Banks, Alexandria, Va., Jan. 25, 1863.  
Mentioned: 14.
- GEORGE H. KELLY.** Providence. Mustered May 23, 1862; wounded severely July 2, 1863, at Gettysburg, Pa.; rejoined battery from hospital June 10, 1864; wounded slightly in foot June 18, 1864, by wheel; mustered out June 14, 1865.  
Mentioned: 91, 213, 230, 318, 328, 408.
- WILLIAM H. KING.** North Providence. Mustered May 23, 1862; died in hospital at Point Lookout, Md., Sept. 5, 1862.  
Mentioned: 91, 465..

- THOMAS KINDER. Olneyville, R. I. Mustered Aug. 6, 1862 ;  
mustered out June 14, 1865.  
Mentioned : 107, 399.
- WILLIAM KIRK. New York City. Mustered Dec. 23, 1863 ;  
deserted Feb. 17, 1863.  
Mentioned : 142.
- NICHOLAS C. KENY. Providence. Mustered Dec. 26, 1862 ;  
deserted Feb. 15, 1863.  
Mentioned : 142.
- SIMON W. KEENE. Providence. Mustered into second regi-  
ment, June 5, 1861 ; discharged June 10, 1862, on sur-  
geon's certificate ; musterred into battery E March 31,  
1864 ; musterred out June 14, 1865.  
Mentioned : 276, 408, 430.
- ALONZO E. KENNEDY. Massachusetts. Mustered March 31,  
1865 ; musterred out June 14, 1865 ;
- HENRY M. KINGSLEY. Rhode Island. Mustered March 11,  
1865 ; musterred out June 14, 1865.
- THOMAS LEVER. Providence. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861 ;  
discharged June 23, 1863, on surgeon certificate.  
Mentioned : 13.
- NELSON LOVELL. Scituate. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861 ; re-  
enlisted, Dec. 21, 1863 ; wagoner ; musterred out June 14,  
1865.  
Mentioned : 14, 216, 240, 254, 444.
- MARVIN M. LEAVENS. Providence. Mustered July 30, 1862 ;  
died of fever in Livingstone's Hospital March 7, 1863, near  
Falmouth, Va.,  
Mentioned : 107, 147, 465.
- MORRIS LYMAN. North Kingstown. Mustered Oct. 10, 1862 ;  
no further record.
- WILLIAM LONG. [Albers,] Germany. Mustered July 7, 1863 ;  
officers' cook in battery and at sixth corps artillery bri-  
gade ; musterred out June 14, 1865.  
Mentioned : 229.
- CHARLES LEHMAN. Austria. Mustered March 16, 1865 ; mus-  
tered out June 14, 1865.
- EVERETT LUTHER. Somerset, Mass. Mustered March 23,  
1865 ; musterred out June 14, 1865.

- JOSEPH LANGDO. Mustered March 9, 1865; Mustered out June 14, 1865.
- GEORGE LAWTON. Mustered March 23, 1865; Mustered out June 14, 1865.
- ELIAS H. MATHEWSON. Johnston. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861; mustered out Oct. 3, 1864.  
Mentioned: 14, 121, 216, 311, 367.
- MICHAEL MCKENNA. Providence. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861; discharged Jan. 7, 1863, on surgeon's certificate, brother to John the bugler.  
Mentioned: 13.
- EMORY W. MARBLE. Providence. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861; re-enlisted Dec. 21, 1863; mustered out June 14, 1865.  
Mentioned: 13, 254, 385, 444.
- GEORGE MAXFIELD. Warren. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861; discharged Dec. 1, 1861, on surgeon's certificate.  
Mentioned: 15.
- JOHN MARTIN. Warwick. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861; deserted Aug. 24, 1862.  
Mentioned: 13.
- DAVID H. MACOMBER. Portsmouth. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861; deserted July 8, 1862, and enlisted in navy under name of John Smith.  
Mentioned: 14, 78.
- WILLIAM H. MULICK. Providence. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861; discharged on surgeon's certificate Dec. 1, 1861.  
Mentioned: 15.
- CHARLES A. MULICK. Providence. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861; discharged Nov. 15, 1861, on surgeon's certificate.  
Mentioned: 13.
- WILLIAM MASON. Warwick. Mustered Feb. 25, 1862; mortally wounded Dec. 13, 1862, at battle of Fredericksburg, Va.; died the following day.  
Mentioned: 30, 131, 465.
- CHARLES MOORE. Pawtucket. Mustered Jan. 12, 1862; wounded severely May 3, 1863, at Chancellorsville, Va.; died July 2, 1863, at Armory Square Hospital, Washington, D. C.  
Mentioned: 27, 175, 465.

- JOHN McCANN. Mustered July 22, 1862; transferred to Battery D.
- EDWARD McCAFFREY. Moosup, Conn. Mustered June 16, 1862; died at City Point, Va., Oct. 28, 1864.  
Mentioned: 91, 389, 465.
- EDWIN A. MATTESON. West Greenwich. Mustered Aug. 13, 1862; died Dec. 21, 1862; in hospital near Falmouth, Va., of fever.  
Mentioned: 107, 138, 139, 465.
- MALON M. MORRIS. Mustered July 30, 1862; died March 8, 1863.  
Mentioned: 465.
- EDWARD MALLETT. South Kingstown. Mustered Oct. 9, 1862; mustered out June 14, 1865.
- JAMES MAGUIRE. Providence. Mustered Jan. 12, 1862; discharged March 14, 1862, on surgeon's certificate.  
Mentioned: 27, 31.
- ALEXANDER MARCHANT. Providence. Mustered Jan. 12, 1862; discharged July 20, 1862, on surgeon's certificate.  
Mentioned: 27, 79.
- JAMES MORRISSEY. New York City. Mustered Dec. 26, 1862; deserted March 3, 1863.  
Mentioned: 142.
- THOMAS MALNA. North Kingstown. Mustered Oct. 17, 1862; his name does not appear upon the company's rolls at war department, in Washington.
- GEORGE MOFFETT. Mustered Oct 9, 1862; no record of discharge.
- JOSEPH McCARTY. Winfield, N. Y. Detached from Fortieth New York, July 14, 1862; re-enlisted into Battery E, Dec. 17, 1863; mustered out June 14, 1865.  
Mentioned: 79, 253, 314.
- JOHN C. MORSE. Warwick. Enrolled and mustered at Brandy Station, Va., Dec., 21, 1863; mustered out June 14, 1865.  
Mentioned: 254.
- CHARLES MORGAN. Philadelphia. Mustered Jan. 2, 1863; deserted Feb. 15, 1863.  
Mentioned: 142.

- JAMES MACOON. Tiverton. Mustered Jan. 25, 1864; mustered out June 14, 1865.  
Mentioned: 274.
- LEWIS A. MEDBURY. Scituate. Mustered Feb. 22, 1864; died March 30, 1864, at Camp Barry, Washington, D. C.  
Mentioned: 465.
- CHARLES E. MOWRY. Scituate. Mustered Oct. 17, 1864; mustered out June 14, 1865.  
Mentioned: 390.
- WILLIAM M. MINKLES. Mustered March 9, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.
- MICHAEL MCKAIN. Mustered March 9, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.  
Mentioned: 433.
- EDWARD MOORE. Providence. Mustered March 10, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.
- FRANK MILLARD. Mustered March 10, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.
- JOHN MCKENNA. Enrolled in Second R. I. Regiment, March 11, 1862; deserted March 27, 1862; apprehended for desertion Dec. 14, 1864; transferred to Battery E by special order, Dec. 27, 1864; mustered out June 17, 1865, at hospital.  
Mentioned: 435.
- HENRY S. MARSH. Douglas, Mass. Mustered March 16, 1865; mustered out probably from hospital July 27, 1865.
- JAMES F. MORROW. Ohio. Mustered March 20, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.
- JAMES MURRAY. Mustered March 17, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.
- PATRICK McCABE. Ireland. Mustered March 21, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.
- JAMES MATHER. Mustered March 21, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.
- MICHAEL McGRATH. Ireland. Mustered Feb. 24, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.  
Mentioned: 408.

THOMAS NOLAN. Providence. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861; wounded in leg by handspike in front of Petersburg, June 18, 1864, caused by premature explosion; mustered out Oct. 3, 1864.

Mentioned: 13, 328, 464.

BENJAMIN NICKERSON. Augusta, Maine. Mustered Jan. 14, 1862; re-enlisted Feb. 24, 1864; detached to ambulance corps, March, 18, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.

Mentioned: 27, 268, 408.

EDWARD NOYCE. Boston, Mass. Mustered Jan. 2, 1863; deserted Jan. 21, 1863.

Mentioned: 142, 143.

WILLIAM A. NYE. Providence. Mustered March 10, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.

MICHAEL NELLIGAN. Mustered March 20, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.

HENRY NICHOLAS. Mustered Jan., 1863; deserted Jan., 1863.

Mentioned: 142.

WILLIAM O'BRIEN. Westerly. Mustered Oct. 9, 1862; deserted Oct., 1862.

FRANCIS O'MEARA. Providence. Mustered Feb. 1, 1864; wounded severely in arm Aug. 18, 1864; mustered out Feb. 6, 1865, on surgeon's certificate. Company tailor.

Mentioned: 276, 354.

GEORGE F. ORMSBEE. Providence. Mustered March 9, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.

JOHN J. O'DONNELL. Scotland. Mustered March 15, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.

HIRAM A. OLNEY. Providence. Mustered March 23, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.

WILLIAM H. PHINNEY. Smithfield. Mustered Aug. 14, 1862; in hospital from Sept. 16, 1864, to muster out June 14, 1865.

Mentioned: 107, 215, 287, 359, 365.

ELISHA E. POTTER. Scituate. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861; killed May 3, 1863, at battle of Chancellorsville, Va.

Mentioned: 14, 174, 465.

JEREMIAH POTTER. Scituate. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861; mustered out Oct. 3, 1864.

Mentioned: 14, 78, 110, 367.

- THOMAS H. POTTER. Scituate. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861 ; discharged Feb. 7, 1863, on surgeon's certificate.  
Mentioned : 13, 146, 464.
- RICHARD POYNTON. Warwick. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861 ; prisoner June 30, 1862 ; exchanged ; returned to battery Sept. 26, 1862 ; discharged Dec. 19, 1862, on surgeon's certificate.  
Mentioned : 12, 64, 110.
- JAMES F. PRATT. Providence. Mustered Aug. 29, 1862 ; died Dec. 2, 1862, from overdose of morphine, at Camp Pitcher, near Falmouth, Va.  
Mentioned : 107, 124, 465.
- ROBERT POYTEREN. Providence. Mustered Oct. 4, 1862 ; transferred to Battery H ; deserted, Nov. 2, 1862.
- JOSEPH PAYNE. England. Mustered June 24, 1863 ; in hospital April 30, 1864 ; discharged from hospital Oct. 31, 1864.  
Mentioned : 229.
- WILLIAM H. PAINE. Wrentham, Mass. Mustered July 6, 1863 ; mustered out June 14, 1865.  
Mentioned : 229.
- JOHN PLUMB. Gloucester. Mustered March 10, 1865 ; mustered out June 14, 1865.
- EUGENE PHIPPS. Massachusetts. Mustered March 16, 1865 ; mustered out June 14, 1865.
- AUGUSTUS S. PAINE. Pawtucket. Mustered March 16, 1865, mustered out June 14, 1865.
- JAMES M. PIKE. Providence. Mustered March 15, 1865 ; mustered out June 14, 1865.
- ABNER L. PHILLIPS. Mustered March 19, 1865 ; mustered out June 14, 1865.
- GEORGE POTTER. Mustered March 20, 1865 ; mustered out June 14, 1865.
- LUTHER M. PIERCE. Mass. Mustered March 21, 1865 ; mustered out June 14, 1865.
- REUBEN POTTER. Burrillville. Mustered March 30, 1865 ; mustered out June 14, 1865.

ALFRED B. RAMSDELL. Scituate. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861 ; wounded in the head Sept. 9, 1864 ; mustered out Oct. 3, 1864.

Mentioned : 14, 363, 367.

RICHARD RUSSELL. Providence. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861 ; re-enlisted Dec. 21, 1863 ; assistant blacksmith Oct., 1864 ; mustered out June 14, 1865.

Mentioned ; 12, 178, 254, 388, 444.

ISRAEL RILEY. Warwick. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861 ; wounded slightly at Gettysburg, Pa., July 2, 1863 ; captured June 23, 1864, by Mosby's guerrillas while foraging near Petersburg, Va. ; prisoner ; relieved at Savannah, Ga., Nov. 30, 1864 ; mustered out Feb. 8, 1865.

Mentioned : 13, 213, 242, 332, 333, 334.

RICHARD ROSE. Bristol. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861 ; wounded severely July 2, 1863, at Gettysburg, Pa. ; discharged Oct. 14, 1863, on surgeon's certificate.

Mentioned : 13, 213, 230, 464.

JOHN RILEY. Cranston. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861 ; re-enlisted Feb. 9, 1864 ; mustered out June 14, 1865.

Mentioned : 13, 267, 444.

JOHN RYAN. Scituate. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861 ; mustered out Oct. 3, 1864.

Mentioned : 13, 367, 464.

THOMAS ROGERS. Warren. Mustered Jan. 12, 1862 ; deserted June 18, 1862.

Mentioned : 27.

DAVID P. RILEY. Roxbury, Mass. Mustered Jan. 12, 1862 ; re-enlisted Feb. 9, 1864 ; mustered out June 14, 1865.

Mentioned : 27, 267.

DAVID RONAN. Ireland. Mustered May 19, 1862 ; deserted en route to battery.

Mentioned : 91.

WILLIAM RILEY. New York City. Mustered Dec. 17, 1862 ; deserted Feb. 15, 1863.

Mentioned : 142.

WILLIAM F. RITCHIE. Centre County, Pa. ; mustered Jan. 2, 1862 ; deserted Feb. 15, 1863.

Mentioned : 142.



HENRY RANG. Germany. Mustered July 6, 1863; deserted July 17, 1864, at Washington, D. C., by the advice of his friends; he had some good qualities but was useless as a soldier.

Mentioned: 229.

THOMAS W. D. REYNOLDS. Mustered March 9, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.

JOHN RILEY. Providence. Mustered March 14, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.

WILLIAM ROSE. Providence. Mustered March 14, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.

EDWIN P. ROSE, Providence. Mustered March 22, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.

JAMES RILEY. Mustered March 21, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.

FREDERICK H. RUSSELL. Mustered March 18, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.

ARTHUR REYNOLDS. Mustered March 22, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.

EDWIN A REDDING. Olneyville. Mustered March 24, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.

JAMES STERLING. Providence. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861; wounded severely May 3, 1863, at Chancellorsville, Va.; transferred to veteran reserve corps Sept. 1, 1863; mustered out Sept. 30, 1864.

Mentioned: 14, 146, 174, 177.

LORY STRAIT. Coventry. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861; wounded slightly July 2, 1863, at Gettysburg, Pa.; transferred to veteran reserve corps Sept. 30, 1863; mustered out Sept. 31, 1864.

Mentioned: 14, 147, 213.

JOHN F. SIMMONS. Scituate. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861; wagoner; mustered out Oct. 3, 1864.

Mentioned: 14, 230 367.

THOMAS W. SIMMONS. Scituate. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861; mustered out Oct. 3, 1864; brother to John F., see above.

Mentioned: 14, 367.

ROBERT SUTCLIFFE. Warwick. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861; died of fever June 27, 1862, in front of Richmond, Va.;

Mentioned: 12, 51, 55, 465.

WILLIAM SMITH. Tiverton. Mustered Sept 30, 1861, in hospital sick and on duty in hospital from Dec. 23, 1861, to Jan., 1864; re-enlisted Feb. 9, 1864; on furlough and in hospital until June, 1864; rejoined battery near Reams' Station, Va., July 1, 1864; mustered out June 14, 1865.

Mentioned : 13, 444.

WILLIAM M. STRAIGHT. Warwick. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861; discharged Sept. 19, 1862, on surgeon's certificate.

Mentioned : 15.

ADOLPHUS STRAUSMAN, Fall River, Mass. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861; deserted Jan. 31, 1862; afterwards enlisted in the cavalry.

Mentioned : 12.

THOMAS SHAW. Providence. Mustered Jan. 12, 1862; died in hospital, Aug. 29, 1863; buried at the Asylum Cemetery, D. C.

Mentioned : 27, 465.

JOHN SLAVIN. Providence. Mustered Jan. 12, 1862; died Aug. 23, 1862, in hospital, Pa.

Mentioned : 27, 465.

DARIUS A. SWEET. Foster. Mustered Feb. 10, 1862; dropped from rolls for long absence, Oct., 1862; deserted.

Mentioned : 30.

JOHN B. SAUNDERS. Rhode Island. Mustered May 21, 1862; discharged Aug. 6, 1862, on surgeon's certificate.

Mentioned : 91.

JAMES SMITH. Exeter. Mustered Oct. 10, 1862; transferred to Battery H.

JOHN SMITH. New York City. Mustered Dec. 20, 1862; deserted Feb. 15, 1863.

Mentioned : 142.

JOSEPH SCHULTZ. Switzerland. Mustered July 7, 1863; dropped from rolls for long absence, Oct., 1863.

Mentioned : 229.

CORNELIUS SULLIVAN. Providence. Mustered May 27, 1862; killed Dec. 13, 1862, at battle of Fredericksburg, Va.

Mentioned : 91, 131, 465.

- CRAWFORD A. SAYLES. Gloucester. Mustered Oct. 31, 1862; wounded severely July 2, 1863, at Gettysburg, Pa.; detached to ambulance corps, April 24, 1864; died of fever at City Point Hospital, Aug. 27, 1864; interred at City Point, Va.  
Mentioned: 213, 230, 365, 465.
- PATRICK SULLIVAN. Boston, Mass. Mustered May 27, 1862; mustered out May 27, 1865.  
Mentioned: 91, 437.
- STEWART SMITH. North Kingstown. Mustered Oct. 17, 1862; no record of him at war department after muster in.
- JOHN W. SMITH. Canada. Mustered March 2, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.  
Mentioned: 408.
- FREDERICK SCHISWOLD. Germany. Mustered Oct. 14, 1864; mustered out in hospital July 15, 1865.
- THOMAS W. SHERMAN. Mustered March 23, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.
- WALTER B. SMITH. Providence. Mustered March 24, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.
- PALMER B. TAYLOR. Scituate. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861; mustered out Oct. 3, 1864.  
Mentioned: 13, 367.
- SQUIRE B. TUCKER. Scituate. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861; company cook; in hospital Aug. 30, 1862; transferred to veteran reserve corps Sept. 30, 1863; re-enlisted in veteran reserve corps; mustered out Nov. 15, 1865.  
Mentioned: 14, 464.
- EDWARD TEAGUE. Providence. Mustered May 16, 1862; mustered out May 27, 1865.  
Mentioned: 91, 437.
- EMIL THOMAS. Prussia. Mustered July 3, 1863; wounded severely in hand June 18, 1864, in front of Petersburg, Va.; transferred to veteran reserve corps April 17, 1865.  
Mentioned: 229.
- WILLIAM TUCKER. Smithfield. Mustered March 13, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.
- ROBERT T. TAYLOR. Pawtucket. Mustered March 15, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.

- AMASA P. TABOR. Providence. Mustered March 15, 1865 ;  
mustered out in hospital March 10, 1865.
- CHARLES E. WHITE. Cranston. Mustered Sept 30, 1861 ;  
wounded slightly at battle of Glendale Va., June 30,  
1862 ; mustered out Oct. 3, 1864.  
Mentioned : 4, 12, 72, 367.
- GILBERT A. WEAVER. Scituate. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861 ;  
mustered out Oct. 3, 1864.  
Mentioned : 14, 367.
- ALBERT B. WILSON. Warwick. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861 ;  
mustered out Oct. 3, 1864.  
Mentioned : 13.
- HENRY WILLIAMS. Warwick. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861 ;  
discharged on surgeon's certificate, Dec. 1, 1862.  
Mentioned : 13.
- EDSON WALCOTT.\* North Kingstown. Mustered Sept. 30,  
1861 : mustered out Oct. 3, 1864 ; died at Eddington, Me.,  
Jan. 15, 1878, leaving a wife and four children.  
Mentioned : 13, 367.
- JAMES H. WALSH. Providence. Mustered Sept. 30, 1861 ;  
in hospital Sept. 11, 1862 ; transferred to veteran re-  
serve corps, Aug. 13, 1863.  
Mentioned : 14, 78.
- MOSES L. WIGGLEWORTH. Newburyport, Mass. Mustered  
Jan. 12, 1862 ; discharged Nov. 15, 1862, on surgeon's  
certificate.  
Mentioned : 28.
- WILLIAM C. WINSLOW. Foxboro, Mass. Mustered Aug. 14,  
1862 ; in hospital Dec., 1862 ; leg broke by kick from  
horse ; transferred to veteran reserve corps, Oct. 9,  
1863 ; discharged from Carver General Hospital, Feb.  
20, 1865.  
Mentioned ; 107, 464.
- CALEB B. WHITFORD. Fairhaven, Mass. Mustered July 6,  
1863, mustered out June 14, 1865 ;  
Mentioned : 229.

\* His death was not known when page 463 went to press.

- WILLIAM N. WHITTEMORE.** Richmond, Va. Mustered June 20, 1863; clerk at headquarters sixth corps artillery brigade, from May to Aug. 23, 1864; company clerk from Dec. 1, 1864, to muster out June 14, 1865; he enlisted in the regular army in 1866 under his correct name William N. Hutchinson where he still remained (1892), being stationed in 1892 at Fort Canby, State of Washington. He ranks as commissary sergeant.  
Mentioned: 229, 359, 431, 434, 444.
- JAMES WATERS.** Lowell, Mass. Mustered Aug. 3, 1863; mustered out June 14, 1865.  
Mentioned: 229.
- EDWARD WHITING.** Attleboro, Mass. Mustered Aug. 22, 1864; transferred to Battery F.  
Mentioned: 107.
- ROBERT WEIDLE.** Detached from Pennsylvania regiment; re-enlisted into battery Nov. 20, 1863; mustered out June 14, 1865.  
Mentioned: 243, 393.
- JOHN WINGLER.** Detached from One Hundred and First New York Infantry; re-enlisted into Battery E Dec. 21, 1863; mustered out June 14, 1865.  
Mentioned: 254, 281.
- MARSHALL D. WATSON.** Pennsylvania. Detached from Pennsylvania Infantry; re-enlisted into Battery E Dec. 21, 1863; mustered out June 14, 1865.  
Mentioned: 254, 399.
- EDWARD M. WHIPPLE.** Pawtucket. Mustered March 9, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.
- JOHN WATSON.** Providence. Mustered March 14, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.  
Mentioned: 435.
- ALBERT WIGHT.** Woonsocket. Mustered March 14, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.
- ALBERT T. WAY.** Westerly. Mustered March 14, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.
- JEROME N. WEAVER.** Warwick. Mustered March 21, 1865; mustered out June 14, 1865.

FRANK A. WALKER. Pawtucket. Mustered March 21, 1865 ;  
mustered out June 14, 1865.

GEORGE W. WHIPPLE. Pawtucket. Mustered March 15,  
1865 ; musterred out June 14, 1865.

GEORGE G. YOUNG. Vermont. Mustered March 14, 1865 ;  
mustered out June 14, 1865.

The following men were detached from the infantry regiments of other states for service in Battery E, most of them remaining until recalled to be mustered out with their regiments :

HENRY ALLEN. Fortieth N. Y. ; recalled June 12, 1864.  
Mentioned 79, 464.

JULIUS BAKER. Fortieth N. Y. ; recalled June, 1864.

ABRAHAM DAVIS. Fortieth N. Y. , recalled June, 1864.

ROBERT JOST. Fortieth N. Y. ; recalled June, 1864  
Mentioned : 79,

JOHN LYON. Fortieth N. Y. ; recalled June, 1864.

JOHN McALLISTER. Fortieth N. Y. ; recalled June, 1864.  
Mentioned : 79.

RICHARD MANLEY. Fortieth N. Y. ; recalled June 6, 1864.  
Mentioned : 79.

WILLIAM McCORMICK. Fortieth N. Y. ; recalled June 6, 1864 ;  
slightly wounded at Chancellorsville, Va., May 3, 1863.  
Mentioned : 174.

JOHN ROBINSON. Fortieth N. Y. ; recalled June, 1864.  
Mentioned : 79.

GOULD E. UTTER. Fortieth N. Y. ; recalled June 6, 1864.  
Mentioned : 79, 213.

The above men came to the battery detached service, on  
July 14, 1862.

JOHN ABRAMS was a member of the Thirty-eighth and Fortieth N. Y., and was on detached service in Battery E, from May or June, 1863, to June, 1864.

EDWIN CLEVELAND, Thirty seventh N. Y. ; recalled June  
12, 1864.

ALBERT PHELPS, regiment uncertain ; recalled June 12, 1864.

- AUGUSTUS KIMBALL, regiment uncertain; recalled June, 1864.
- THEOPHILUS ABEINISTE, see Musicians, page 500.
- JESSE DRAKE; detached from Fourth Maine, July 14, 1862; recalled June 6, 1864.  
Mentioned: 79.
- LUTHER CHILDS. Seventeenth Maine, wounded severely at Gettysburg, Pa., July 2, 1863; recalled April 4, 1864.  
Mentioned: 213, 230, 274.
- ALBERT SAUNDERS. Seventeenth Maine; wounded severely at Gettysburg, Pa., July 2, 1863; recalled April 4, 1864.  
Mentioned: 213, 230, 274.
- STANDISH P. REED. Seventeenth Maine; recalled April 4, 1864.  
Mentioned: 274.
- JOHN BEADLE. Pennsylvania regiment, probably detached to battery, May 9, 1863; mortally wounded at Gettysburg, Pa., July 2, 1863.  
Mentioned: 210, 465.
- FRANK MARTIN. Pennsylvania regiment, probably detached to battery May 9, 1863; mortally wounded at Gettysburg, Pa., July 2, 1863.  
Mentioned: 210, 465.
- OLIVER SKINNER. One Hundred and Forty-first Pennsylvania; wounded severely in arm at Gettysburg, Pa., July 2, 1863, never returned to battery from hospital.  
Mentioned: 213.
- EDMUND M. JACKSON, probably Fifty-seventh Pennsylvania; wounded at Gettysburg, Pa., July 2, 1863; recalled June 12, 1864.  
Mentioned: 213, 227.
- OWEN MCGRAPH, probably Fifty-seventh Pennsylvania; recalled June 12, 1864.
- ALVIN HILTON, Pennsylvania regiment; killed at Gettysburg, Pa., July 2, 1863.  
Mentioned: 210, 465.
- JEWETT, regiment uncertain; wounded severely at Gettysburg, Pa., July 2, 1863; never returned to battery.  
Mentioned: 213.

WILLIAM KAIN, Ninety-ninth Pennsylvania ; wounded in side at Gettysburg, Pa., July 2, 1863.

Mentioned : 213.

JOHN ZINN, regiment uncertain ; killed at Chancellorsville, Va., May 3, 1863.

Mentioned : 174, 465.

PATRICK HOGAN, regiment uncertain ; wounded at Gettysburg, Pa., July 2, 1863.

Mentioned : 213.

JOHN HARRIHAN, see corporals, page 496.

LAWRENCE MARTIN, regiment uncertain.

FRANKLIN ESTES, regiment uncertain.

JOHN WAGENER, regiment uncertain ; recalled June 6, 1864.

JAMES McROY, regiment uncertain.

Mentioned : 175.

MICHAEL RHULE, regiment uncertain ; slightly wounded at Chancellorsville, Va., May 3, 1863.

Mentioned : 174, 213.

JOHN EARL, regiment uncertain, slightly wounded at Chancellorsville, Va., May 3, 1863 ; deserted.

Mentioned : 174.

JOHN EAGAN, regiment uncertain ; deserted.

—— BUTLER, regiment uncertain.

The following men were detached from the Fourth N. Y. Heavy Artillery, Sept. 14, 1864.

JOHN H. HALL. Guidon ; recalled May 31, 1865.

Mentioned : 405.

IRA VOSBURG, see corporals, page 498.

MICHAEL PENDERGRASS, see corporals, page 497.

WILLIAM COOK, see corporals, page 497.

RICHARD T. BEARD, see corporals, page 497.

MICHAEL BOLAND, recalled May 31, 1865.

THOMAS McDONOUGH ; recalled May 31, 1865.

JOHN RILEY ; recalled May 31, 1865.

HENRY WILDER ; recalled May, 31, 1865.



DANIEL TORPY ; recalled May 27, 1865.

Mentioned : 437.

DAVID H. VANNESS ; recalled May 27, 1865.

Mentioned : 437.

The following sixty-two men were detached from Battery A, New Jersey Light Artillery [Captain Parsons], for permanent duty, thirty three reported Oct. 16, 1864, twenty three on the 20th and six on the 22d :

WILLIAM FREEDMAN, see corporals, page 498.

HENRY ATKINSON, recalled May 31, 1865.

THOMAS CALLON,	"	"	"
PATRICK CARROLL,	"	"	"
ANDREW CLARK,	"	"	"
RICHARD CURRY,	"	"	"
JAMES DAVIS,	"	"	"
WILLIAM EMERSON,	"	"	"
LOUIS FAUSAL,	"	"	"
GEORGE FRANCIS,	"	"	"
PATRICK FAGAN,	"	"	"
FRANK GRAW,	"	"	"
FRANTZ GOWLING,	"	"	"
OTTO GROSSE,	"	"	"
DANIEL HARNETT,	"	"	"
HENRY HENDRICKSON,	"	"	"
EDWARD JONES,	"	"	"
CONRAD KURTZ,	"	"	"
GEORGE KNOBLE,	"	"	"
LEONARD KERLER,	"	"	"
FREDERICK KRESBACH,	"	"	"
GEORGE LURICK,	"	"	"
DANIEL MCGEE,	"	"	"
WILLIAM MCKAY,	"	"	"
THOMAS MCGOVERN,	"	"	"
WILLIAM READLE,	"	"	"
WILLIAM STEEVE,	"	"	"
ABRAM STILLWELL,	"	"	"
HENRY SCHULTZ,	"	"	"
CHRISTOPHER STOETZEL,	"	"	"
JOHN H. SCHNEIDER,	"	"	"

Mentioned : 433.

CHRISTIAN SCHULTZ,	recalled	May, 31, 1865,
JOHN C. SANFORD,	"	" "
NOBLE TRACY,	"	" "
EDWARD WOLCH,	"	" "
JOHN WELDON,	"	" "
JACOB WILDE,	"	" "
JOSEPH WILLMAN,	"	" "
CHARLES A. WEISE,	} Twins.	" "
CHARLES E. WEISE,		" "
LAURENCE WATERS,	"	" "
JOHN WEINMAN,	"	" "
THEODORE WILHELM,	"	" "
MAX YAGER,	"	" "

JOSEPH MILLER, detailed Oct. 27, 1864, as permanent guard at sixth corps artillery brigade headquarters.

Mentioned : 387.

RUDOLPH JUKER, detailed same as Miller.

Mentioned : 387.

ROBERT SNOW, detailed also same as Miller.

Mentioned : 387.

LOUIS J. MORGAN, detailed same as three preceding.

Mentioned : 387.

JAMES O'BRIEN, detailed April 29, 1865, as guard to Headquarters artillery reserve Army of the Potomac.

Mentioned : 399.

OTTO WILL, detailed same as O'Brien.

THEODORE WHITE, detailed also same as O'Brien.

WILLIAM HANAN, detailed same as three preceding, was also previously detailed to some headquarters as guard while at Fort Wadsworth, Va.

WILLIAM MINGS, detailed to ambulance corps, March, 1865.

Mentioned : 408.

JOSEPH KELLNER, detailed same as Mings.

Mentioned : 408.

NATHAN J. COON, sent to hospital Oct. 27, 1864.

Mentioned : 464.

FREDERICK SCHISWOLL, sent to N. J. hospital, no date.

BATTEY H. ROWAN, sent to hospital, Dec. 16, 1864.

WILLIAM WELLS, sent to hospital March 15, 1865; he was in poor health and was employed as company tailor.

Mentioned: 408.

JOHN C. DOW, disabled by kick of horse soon after joining battery, and sent to hospital and discharged March 14, 1865.

JEREMIAH H. DEVINE, [*alias* Donevan], transferred May 21, 1865, to provost marshal at Alexandria, Va., as deserter.

Mentioned: 436.

CHARLES WALTERS, same as Devine.

Mentioned: 436.

JAMES SMITH, same as two preceding.

Mentioned: 436.

The three last named deserted before enlisting in the Jersey battery. Three of these on detailed service at headquarters returned in time to accompany those recalled on the 31st of May, 1865.

This battery was mustered out of service at Trenton, N. J., June 22, 1865.



## RHODE ISLAND TROOPS MENTIONED.

- 
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## ERRATA.

The reader is requested to make the following corrections :

- Page 14 for Lazelle, harness-maker, read carriage-maker.  
Page 14 for Carney, carriage-maker, read harness-maker.  
Page 14 for Elisha Potter, read Elisha E. Potter.  
Pages 14-147 for Lowry Strait, read Lory Strait.  
Page 22 for Merrill, read Morell.  
Page 22 for Stahl's, read Stahel's.  
Page 22 for Frisbie, read Frisby.  
Pages 33-37 for Morrell, read Morell.  
Pages 33-58 for Nagle's, read Naglee's.  
Pages 42-48 for Hobart Ward, read J. H. Hobart Ward.  
Page 47 for Colton, read Colston.  
Page 60 for Colwell, read Caldwell.  
Page 105 for Mindell, read Mindill.  
Page 109 for Chace, read Chase.  
Pages 111-215-263 for Gardner, read Gardiner.  
Page 115 for Ashley's Gap, read Ashby's Gap.  
Pages 132-163 for Livingston's, read Livingstone's.  
Page 141 for Lieut. Harn, read Lieut. Nairn.  
Pages 146, 346, 350, 357 for Wilcox, read Willcox.  
Page 155, for Rickett's, read Pickett's.  
Pages 156-166 for Dimrick's, read Dimick's.  
Page 165 for Eagan, read Egan.  
Page 179 for Eighth Corps, read Sixth Corps.  
Page 197 for Col. Rourke, read Col. Rorke.  
Pages 200-203, for Brooks's, read Brooke's.  
Page 200 for York's, read Zook's.  
Page 203 for York, read Zook.  
Page 213 for Ruhle, read Rhule.  
Pages 215-238 for Sergt. Humphreys's, read Humphrey's.  
Page 254 for Sergt. Humphreys, read Humphrey.

Pages 203, 207, 223 and 335 for (Gen.) Humphrey's read Humphreys's.

Page 219 for Hay's, read Hays's.

Page 220 for Hayes, read Hays.

Page 254, the name of (J. C.) Morse appears among those re-enlisting ; he was enrolled and mustered instead.

Pages 240-262 for Kearney, read Kearny.

Page 264 for Edward Chandler, read Edward A. Chandler.

Page 286 for Johnson's, read Johnston's.

Page 288 for Owens, read Owen.

Page 297 for R. H. Johnston, read R. D. Johnston.

Page 298 for Fourth Maine, read Fifth Maine.

Page 300 for Keating's, read Kitching's.

Page 359 for Fourt, read Fort.

Page 368 for April, 1881, read April, 1861.

Page 380 for June 30th., read June 22d.

Page 422 for Gen. Smith, read Gen. Smyth.

Page 386 for Lieut. Perrigo of Capt. Dorsey's First Ohio Battery, read Lieut. Perine of L First New York Battery.

Page 423 for Clarke's, read Crook's Cavalry.

Page 465, for Malon H. Morris, read Malon M.

The asterik (\*) following the word doubt on page 202 should follow the word succession on page 201, and the foot note to which it refers should be on page 201.

Page 473 for batis read batter.

For William Whittemore, read Wm. N. Whittemore wherever found.

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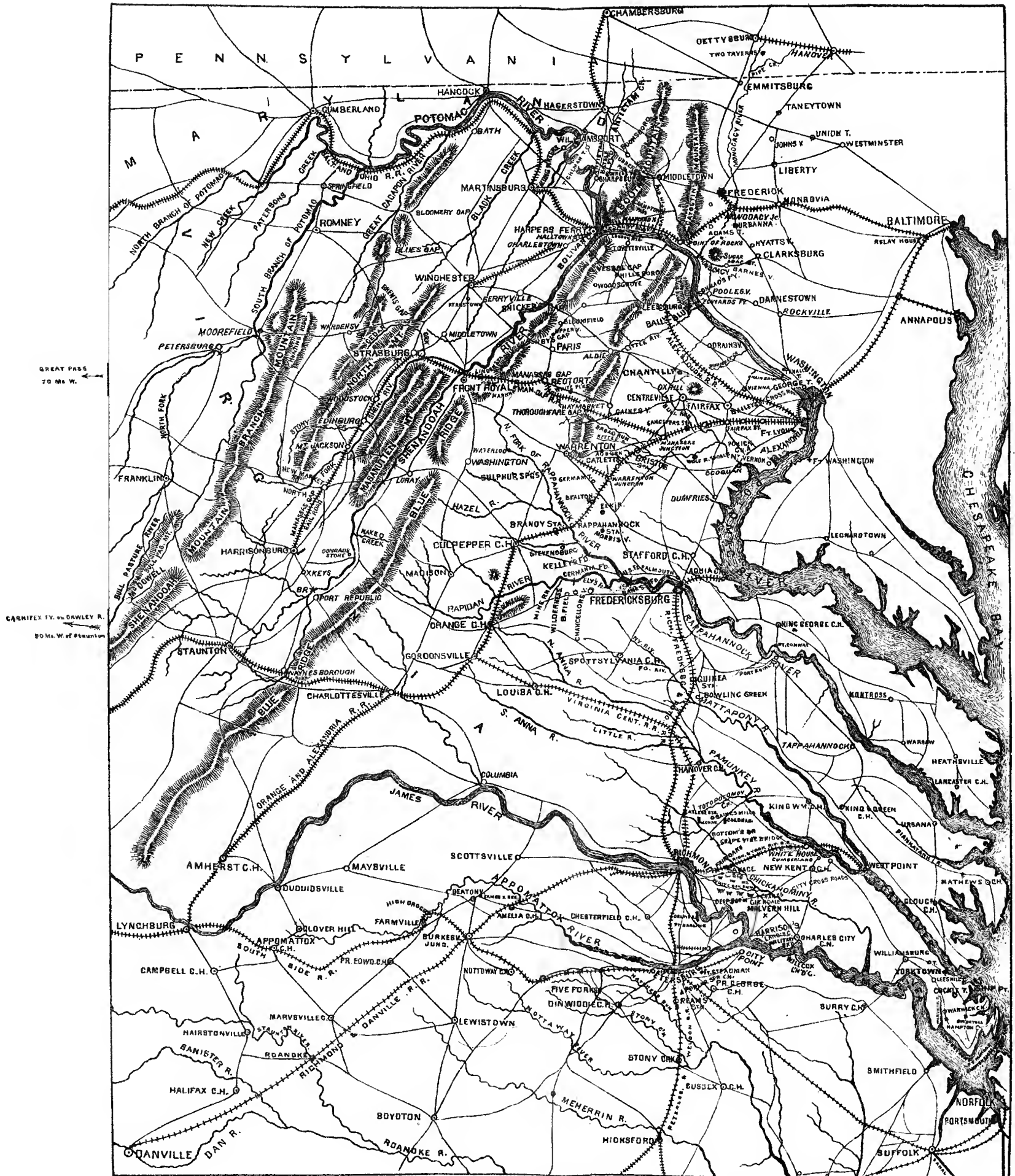
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MAP of VIRGINIA.

FROM MAP BY THEO. A. DODGE, U. S. ARMY, WITH ADDITIONS.

